

# SUPREME PREAN

● FRIENDLY HOTELS  
BRITISH LEAGUE

● WOOLWICH JUNIOR LEAGUE

● ALL THE NEWS!

INSIDE...

ENGLAND  
SEE **RED!**

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SONG

Page 12



# Table Tennis

NEWS



ISSUE 230  
APRIL 1995

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THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE ENGLISH TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION

# CAPTAIN'S LOG

Fantastic! That's the good news in this month's issue of Table Tennis News, that the most popular and well known player Desmond Douglas is back!

Yes, Douglas will put on the new England shirt when he plays for our country in the World Championship in China.

For full team selection for the World's and Commonwealth's in Singapore, see Alan Ransome's report in 'From the Chair' pages 4 and 5.

April's issue was over subscribed with copy for the space available, so this month I have dropped 'Chatterbox' to accommodate reports from Cambridge and Warwick Universities, see 'University Table Tennis' page 4.

The front cover and pages 12, 13, 14 and 15 features this season's English Senior National Championships, which were held in Kings Lynn, where Carl Prean stole the show, with a fabulous performance to take the Men's Singles crown, whilst Angela Holt confirmed her No1 ranking by winning the Women's Singles title.

Pages 8 and 9 report on the highly successful Thake Transport Kent Junior 2 star, where English players brushed aside the challenge from overseas juniors.

The next issue which will be published on 1st June 1995 will include reports from Saudi Arabia, China, Singapore and Israel.

On page 22 appears an advertisement announcing the Corporate Games in Peterborough and Geneva. In June John Holland will defend his Men's Singles title in the 3rd UK & Ireland Corporate Games. In September the beautiful and historic Swiss city of Geneva will feature TT in the 8th World Corporate Games. Full reports in TTN.

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● **COMMONWEALTH CHAMPIONSHIPS - SINGAPORE**

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The ETTA would like to thank the following companies for the support they give to English Table Tennis.



# TOP MARKS *for* OXFORD

OXFORD UNIVERSITY  
BECAME THE FIRST  
RECIPIENTS OF THE NEW  
KIPPING TROPHY WHEN  
THEY DEFEATED  
CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY  
7-3 IN THE 52ND ANNUAL  
VARSITY MATCH, AT  
FENNER'S, CAMBRIDGE, ON  
THE 18TH FEB '95 **WRITES**  
**PHIL HAYCOCK** (CAPT OF  
CAMBRIDGE 92 & 93).

**T**heir victory was thoroughly deserved, with all four of the team playing positive table tennis with a far greater will to win than their Cambridge counterparts. Daniel Delbourgo, a former top Australian Junior, proved Cambridge's only singles victories, beating Lukas Kratochvil and Lukas Erne from the Czech Republic and Germany respectively easily in straight games. Andrew Kennard, a former Welsh Junior, and Adam Twiss beat Alex Piggott and Jason Chin in one of the doubles sets to provide Cambridge's other point. Maybe the match result would have been different had Martin Haycock, the Cambridge No. 1 from the previous two years, not been controversially dropped from the team the night before the match.

Earlier the Cambridge second team easily beat the Oxford second team 8-2 to continue their success in recent years. The Women's Varsity match was drawn 5-5 but only after Cambridge were awarded three sets because Oxford had fielded an ineligible player.

## BUSA INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

On the weekend of the 11th/12th February, the British Universities Sport Association (BUSA) individual table tennis championships were held at Warwick University. The event is open to all students studying in the UK, often the top names do not enter. This was no exception with the likes of Matthew Syed and Chris Sladden not attending.

Last year, the men's event was won by Steve Ward (the Welsh number 1), but this year he is no longer qualified for entry **WRITES GRAHAM FALKNER.**

Far from reducing the quality of the men's competition, the absence of these top players appeared as if it might add to it, with eight or so players looking capable of winning the competition.

The first event to start was the men's doubles. One semi-final saw Goh Yong Hua (an ex-Singapore international who plays with a penholder grip) and E. Thielemann from University of London playing the defending champions of Matt Brown and Kevin Green. Hua and Thielemann won convincingly 21-13, 21-11; their big forehands being too good for a Warwick pairing who seemed out of touch. This set up a final on the Sunday evening against Jack Boulton and Oliver Schultz of Nottingham, who had come through their half of the draw without any problems. The final was very tight with Thielemann and Hua eventually winning in the third.

One of the first big matches in the singles competition was in the third round with Kevin Green beating Jack Boulton and gaining revenge for a defeat in the BUSA team event earlier in the week. In the quarter-finals Green faced David Atkinson, a Luxembourg national junior who had earlier brushed aside Ian McLean (the Scottish no. 6) with his deceptively lazy-looking defensive game. This game went to three, but Atkinson eventually won convincingly 21-9 in the third. Atkinson, who is so far undefeated representing Sussex University in the BUSA team competition this season, then played the other Warwick player of M. Brown in the semi-final. Brown looked like he might be heading for victory at one game up and with his opponent suffering from cramp, but Atkinson fought back well to win 21-14 in the decider.

In the bottom half of the draw, G Hua beat Kieron Dabbs of Loughborough in the quarter-final, also in three games. This set up a seemingly simple semi-

final against T Frum, who had come through a quarter that was made easier by the shock defeat of Richard Smith (last year's runner-up) by Yap Kian Yee of UMIST in the group stage. The result appeared more in doubt, however, when Frum won the first game 21-17; but Hua did pull through as expected, winning the third game 21-12.

The final looked interesting on paper, with Hua's strong attack against Atkinson's defence. To add to the equation, both men were suffering from tiredness after a long weekend's competition. Atkinson showed that he was also capable of strong attacking strokes when he felt the and won the first game 21-15 with a great counter hit played back from the table. Hua lifted his game to take the second 21-17 and set up an exciting decider. The third game was very close with it being impossible to predict who would win. Atkinson eventually won it 21-19 when Hua put a forehand into the net.

The women's competition in recent years has been dominated by Loughborough. This year appeared as if it might be an exception, however, with the entry of Sarah Seaholme from Nene, Claire Marshall from Crewe & Alsager (the England No. 4 lady), Joanna Roberts from Leeds, and Natasha Williams, who is the Welsh No. 1 lady, from Cheltenham & Gloucester. Williams beat Loughborough's Samantha Marling easily in her semi-final, while Marshall beat Seaholme in two straight games in the other. The final turned out to be a one-sided affair with Williams winning 21-10, 21-12. Claire Marshall commented afterwards. "She's just too good!"

The Loughborough women were probably pinning their hopes on the women's doubles, but their pairing of S Marling and H Arnold lost the final 21-18, 21-18 to Joanna Roberts and Caroline Watt of Leeds.

Loughborough's final hope rested in the mixed doubles with S Marling and K Dabbs reaching the final against Barbara Smallwood and Kevin Lau of Liverpool. In the semi-finals, Smallwood and Lau had performed well to beat G Hua and S Geok. However, in the final they found themselves outclassed and lost 21-17, 21-8 to the Loughborough pair.

There were many close matches over the weekend, particularly in the men's singles.

## ANNUAL VARSITY MATCH

The annual match between Oxford University and Cambridge University has a long - but little unknown - history. The earliest records are a little uncertain, but the first match was probably the one played in 1992, no doubt on the initiative of Ivor Montagu who was then an undergraduate of St John's College, Cambridge. It is believed that, except, inevitably, for the war years, there has been a match every year since then but, sadly, the results for other years between 1924 and 1946 are not known. Perhaps a reader can help here? With the recorded results standing at Oxford 23 wins and Cambridge 23 wins (and only 4 draws), it is impossible to know who is actually in the lead. The match is played in the spring and alternates between the two cities.

Some university players have performed quite strongly in the English Open Championships; Peter Burnett (Oxford) got through a few rounds in the mid-1950's at about the same time as Peter and David Eagles (both Cambridge). The Cambridge team were first awarded half-blues in 1955, following rapidly by Oxford; this, I may say, was partly on my initiative and with the assistance of Ivor Montagu. The university match is, of course, a serious and hard fought occasion, but in recent years two additional, and informal, events have been established, with Oxford and Cambridge combined "Oldies" taking on the current teams in each city. They even sport an acronym - COTTON - which, with a little juggling, translates into Cambridge and Oxford Table Tennis Old Boys Network. Last November, COTTON beat the Cambridge team by 18-12.

The Universities have a strong and instinctive feeling for the value of tradition and continuity, and it hardly needs to be said that table tennis will continue to thrive.

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# CHINA CHANCE to REGAIN SUPREMACY

**W**ithin the Chinese squad are likely to be the World No.2 Wang Tao, the No.7 Ma Wenge, the U.S. Open Champion Kong Linghui and Swedish Open Champion Ding Song. Sweden are not looking quite as strong as in recent past. Their Olympic Champion Jan-Ove Waldner has slipped to No.5 in the World rankings, Peter Karlsson has dropped six places to No.10 and Jorgen Persson, the former World Champion, is now at No.14.

Nevertheless, with the unusual system of three men playing a full match of five singles, surprise results are quite likely. Outsiders for the Men's Team title are France and Belgium, both of whom have shown significant improvement since the last World Championships played in Gothenburg two years ago. The Men's singles title in 1995 is probably at its most unpredictable.

The Women's events are likely to be dominated by the host nation, China, who have the top three players in the World rankings, Deng Yapping, Qiao Hong and Gao Jun, and no less than five out of the top six.

On a good day the England men have the strength to beat almost any team. Donald Parker has announced the England squad as: Chen Xinhua, Carl Prean, Alan Cooke, and Desmond

WITH NO LESS THAN SEVEN OF THE TOP 21 PLAYERS IN THE WORLD, CHINA HAVE THEIR BEST CHANCE SINCE 1987 TO DOMINATE MEN'S TABLE TENNIS WHEN THE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS ARE PLAYED IN TIANJIN, CHINA, AT THE BEGINNING OF NEXT MONTH

**WRITES ALAN RANSOME.**

Douglas. Douglas has been brought back into the squad to strengthen the team pre-Manchester 1997. It is disappointing to hear that Matthew Syed has declared himself unavailable for selection due to his studies for his final examinations at

English Nationals for the same reason, one learns that he has still been travelling regularly to Montpellier to play in the French League taking several days out of his potential study time each time, his unavailability to play for England in the most important event is difficult to accept.

The women's team, subject to recovery from injury by Lisa Lomas, is at full strength for both the Commonwealth Championships which take place for a few days earlier, from 21-28 April in Singapore, and the Worlds. The team is named as: Andrea Holt, Lisa Lomas, Alison Gordon and Nicola Deaton. The England Men's team for Singapore is: Alan Cooke, Carl Prean, Bradley Billington, Andrew Eden (subject to fitness) and Terry Young.



ALAN RANSOME

Oxford. This would have been more understandable if Matthew had temporarily retired from table tennis for the whole of the period running up to his finals but when, after missing the

## RECOGNITION FOR THE COMMONWEALTH CHAMPIONSHIPS

The Commonwealth Table Tennis Championships are being supported for the first time in their 24 year history by the International Commonwealth Games Council who have provided the medals for the Championships and are sending three of their representatives to the Opening Ceremony. The 1995 Commonwealth Championships Table Tennis will be preceded by a meeting of the Commonwealth Games Council in Kuala Lumpur when they will be receiving the official bid document for the 2002 Games from Manchester. Included within the bid will be the proposal to include table tennis in the Commonwealth Games for the first time in 2002.

Included within the World Championships in Tianjin will be the Biennial General Meeting of the International Table Tennis Federation which will be attended by more than 100 delegates of affiliated national associations throughout the world. There will also be almost continual meetings of the ITTF Council and various Committees.

Altogether more than 60 amendments to ITTF Rules and Regulations have been received spanning more than 8 pages of text. Some of the more significant proposals are to remove the ban on liquid

glues and to introduce penalties for misuse, to change the composition of the ITTF Executive Committee, to reduce the height and diameter of pimples on pimped out rubber, to make the service visible to the opponent, to hasten the introduction of the expedite rule, to reduce the lux level

**WELCOME TO RICHARD YULE**

I am pleased to welcome our new Chief Executive, Richard Yule, to our ETTA team. Richard's appointment was confirmed at the Management Committee Meeting on 10th March. Richard is the Association's first Chief Executive to be well known in

1995 National Singles Champions Andrea Holt and Carl Prean



Terry Young - selected for his first England Senior game at the Commonwealth's in Singapore

for lighting and to change the Swaythling Cup system from the current 5 sets to the European League system of 7, and play the Women's Corbillion Cup on the same system as the Men's team event.

There will be a new President of the ITTF elected in Tianjin after the untimely death of Ichiro Ogimura of Japan. The current favourite for the position is the present Deputy President, Lollo Hammarlund of Sweden.

**SUCCESS FOR CARL AND ANDREA**

The English National Championships were successfully staged at Kings Lynn for the third successive year. Back to form, Carl Prean was a worthy winner of the Men's Singles, proving to have too strong an attack for Chen Xinhua in the final. Andrea Holt was England's best player in the Women's Singles, defeating the former three times champion, Alison Gordon, in a dramatic final.

the table tennis circles prior to his appointment. He was Scotland's leading player for several years, had a period as a Liaison Officer with the Scottish Sports Council and was then the Development Officer and Coach to the STTA. In addition to his extensive contacts within the Sports Council, Richard was able to attract significant sponsorship to the STTA during his period of office.

**AND WELCOME BACK TO MIKE WATTS**

Another new member of staff alongside Richard Yule will be our former Deputy General Secretary and more recently Vice Chairman of Marketing, Mike Watts, who re-joins the Association's full time staff as Events Manager following the resignation of Clive Oakman in February. I believe that overall the Association is fortunate to have so many excellent staff members who are not only expert in the performance of their duties but show dedication to the advancement of the sport and

the Association. This applies not just to the staff in Hastings, but also to our Coaching and Development staff in the field.

**RECMAN**

The Association had an opportunity to put its best foot forward when invited by the Sports Council to exhibit at the prestigious Recreation Management Conference in Birmingham at the end of March. This is a conference where all of the leading people in the Sports Council and local authorities throughout the country meet for three days to discuss current matters in sport and recreation. The ETTA stand featured our Facilities programme and our new Youth project development in line with the Sports Council's new National Junior Sports programme.

**ANOTHER NEW FACILITY**

On the facilities front, I am pleased to be able to report the success of a project masterminded by the ETTA Regional Development Officer for the East Midlands, Harold Taylor. Harold has been able to acquire a hall at the Sycamore Sports Centre in Nottingham, supported by Nottinghamshire County Council, which is ideal for four tables being 60ft x 33ft. The centre is open every day from 8.30am till 10.30pm. Membership is very reasonable at £30 for the whole year for adults, £20 for children and £70 for family membership - without any other charges for playing. The centre hosts six teams

playing in the Nottingham League as well as county matches, inter-town matches and formal coaching sessions. The centre is one of the pilot projects for the Sports Council's Top Club youth programme. The facility is provided by the County Council for a rental of only £3,000 per annum, which includes all the running costs. The Sports Council have recently provided a grant of £5,000 for further significant improvements at the centre including the refurbishment of a very good wooden floor. All other amenities are already available within the Sycamore Centre such as car park, changing rooms and showers, canteen, etc. This is an ideal facility for players within Nottinghamshire to enjoy regular match play and practice for a very modest outlay. well done, Harold!

Alan Ransome, Chairman

TERRY YOUNG LIVED UP TO HIS PROMISE BY WINNING THE THAKE TRANSPORT KENT JUNIOR OPEN BOYS SINGLES CROWN FOR ENGLAND, BEATING DENMARK'S ROBERT HARTBURG, WHILST GLENDA ASHISON WON THE GIRLS SINGLES TAKING THE CROWN AGAINST ENGLAND'S SHELLEY RUOCCO, AND GARETH HERBERT DID ENGLAND PROUD BY WINNING THE CADET BOYS SINGLES TITLE, BEATING BELGIUM'S DAMIEN DELOBBE

**WRITES ADRIAN HALL.**

**E**ngland's Gareth Herbert (Berkshire), Terry Young (Berkshire) and Glenda Ashison (Surrey) held at bay formidable

Ukrainian, Belgium and Danish opposition to win the Thake Transport Kent Junior Open Singles titles at the Black Lion Sports Centre, Gillingham on Saturday/Sunday 18/19th February 1995. Attracting entries from nine national teams and involving 285 players, this is the largest tournament to be staged in this country.

The Ukrainian and Belgium domination of the International Team event the previous day was ended when Herbert beat Damien Delobbe (Belgium) 21-17, 21-13 in the final of the Cadet Boys singles. Herbert beat the Ukraine's No.1 cadet Alexander Jakhev 21-18, 21-23, 21-17 in the semi-final. Kent's Scott Friday



**GARETH HERBERT**

# YOUNG, ASHISON & HERBERT *win* FOR ENGLAND

Thake Transport Kent Open Junior Girl's and Boy's Singles winners Glenda Ashison and Terry Young



disappointingly lost to the Welsh No.2 cadet Stephen Jenkins 19-21, 19-21 in the third round. Ukraine's young defender Alexsej Kaylik found Delobbe's attack to

be too strong losing 11-21, 16-21 in the other semi-final.

Ukrainian Olga Tsynbalyik beat her compatriot Vareria Brehove in the final of the Cadet Girls

Singles 21-14, 24-22 in the most entertaining match that contained some excellent retrieving rallies. England's No.1 seed Lyndsey Thornton was beaten in the 2nd

round by Luxembourg's Michelle Berg 15-21, 16-21. Kent players did well in the U12 Boys Singles with Billy Ball reaching the quarter finals and Oliver Stevens beating Justin Dodd 21-4, 11-21, 21-15 in the semi-final. Adam Robertson (Wales) looks a fine prospect for the future as he first beat Ball 21-13, 21-10, then Richard Mann (Suffolk) 21-17, 21-19 before accounting for Stevens in the final 22-20, 21-19.

Essex's Hannah Yardy won the U12 Girls Singles as expected beating Charlotte Cooksley (Wales) 10-21, 21-13, 21-17 and S Roberts (Sussex) in the final 21-16, 21-18. Roberts beat second seed Amy Linnecar (Essex) in the first round 21-18, 16-21, 21-12.

England's Terry Young won the Junior Boys Singles beating the Dane Robert Hartburg 21-19, 21-17 in a hard hitting final

(Left to right) Tony Thake (tournament sponsor), Olga Tsybalyik of Ukraine the winner of the Cadet Girl's title and the Mayor of Gillingham Borough Council, Councillor Sheila Clark.



Girl's Doubles winners Glenda Ashison (left) and Shelley Ruocco with Kent Table Tennis Association Chairman Reg Thompson



Boy's Double winners Terry Young (left) and Steven Meddings with Kent's Chairman Reg Thompson.

containing virtually no rallies. Ryan Jenkins (Wales) caused a major upset when he beat Ukrainian Rubalchenko 21-16, 23-21 in the quarter final as did Hartburg when he beat last year's champion Kevin Vissers (Belgium) 21-18, 21-19.

Glenda Ashison and Shelley Ruocco rounded off a good weekend for the English players when she contested an all England final, with Ashison winning 21-14, 21-11.

## RESULTS

### CADET BOYS SINGLES

Gareth Herbert (England) beat Damien Delobbe (Belgium) 21-17, 21-13

### CADET GIRLS SINGLES

Olga Tsybalyik (Ukraine) beat Valeria Brehova (Ukraine) 21-14, 24-22

### JUNIOR BOYS SINGLES

Terry Young (England) beat Robert Hartburg (Denmark) 21-17, 21-15

### JUNIOR GIRLS SINGLES

Glenda Ashison (England) beat Shelley Ruocco (England) 21-14, 21-11

### U12 BOYS SINGLES

Adam Robertson (Wales) beat Oliver Stevens (Kent) 22-20, 21-9

### U12 GIRLS SINGLES

Hannah Yardy (Essex) beat S Roberts (Sussex) 21-16, 21-18

### CADET BOYS DOUBLES

Alexander Jakychev (Ukraine) J Henot (France)

Alexsej (Ukraine) beat S Juyot (France) 21-10, 21-17

### CADET GIRLS DOUBLES

Karin Nielson (Denmark) Valeria Brehova (Ukraine)

Nellie Marx (Denmark) beat Olga Tsybalyik (Ukraine) 21-15, 21-5

### JUNIOR BOYS DOUBLES

Terry Young (England) Konstantin Rubalchenko (Ukraine)

Steve Meddings (England) beat Viji Matvejchik (Ukraine) 21-13, 21-19

### JUNIOR GIRLS DOUBLES

Shelley Ruocco (England) Victoria lychenko (Ukraine)

Glenda Ashison (England) beat N Litvinova 14-21, 21-16, 21-18

### CADET BOYS PLATE

Chris Lemon (Surrey) beat Christian Hany (Kent) 21-15, 21-18

### CADET GIRLS PLATE

Sarah Simmons (Wales) beat D Oliares (France) 21-13, 21-17

### JUNIOR BOYS PLATE

David Coleman (Essex) beat Praveen Reddy (Berkshire) 21-16, 12-21, 21-19

### JUNIOR GIRLS PLATE

Sarah Steadman (Sussex) beat Crystal Hall (Kent) 21-10, 21-12

# TONY THAKE

## TRANSPORT

# ROSSKOPF *the* HERO IN BELGIUM

JORG ROSSKOPF WAS THE HERO FOR GERMANY AGAINST BELGIUM IN THE FIRST LEG, BUT BELGIUM BOUNCED BACK TO TAKE THE SECOND LEG, FORCING THIS JOOLA EUROPEAN MEN'S LEAGUE FINAL INTO A THIRD LEG DECIDER IN LIEGE **WRITES GRAHAM CARTER.**

**J**org Roskopf, German No.1 and World No.8, is a national hero in his home country. Thousands flock to watch "Rossi" in Bundesliga matches and even more in the Joola European League. In February Roskopf unleashed his almighty left handed attack on Belgium in the 1st leg of the European Men's League Final. Playing away from home in Charleroi, he demolished the champions,

defeating both of Belgium's aces, Philippe and Jean-Michel Saive.

Roskopf's tremendous victory over the World No.1, 21-9 in the third, gave Germany the lead 3-2, and after Steffen Fetzner beat Andras Podpinka, Germany had really put the cat amongst the pigeons by winning the 1st leg 4-2.

Could Germany, who had comfortably sunk England in the semi-final, go all the way to take the 2nd leg at home? Given a huge patriotic crowd behind them, one would think so,

but this time the two Saive's redressed the balance scoring twice each to allow Belgium to win 4-1.

This time 1994 European champion Jean-Michel Saive was to crush the 1992 champion Roskopf 21-10, 21-13, angry for the disrespectful treatment two weeks before.

Roskopf was to pick up Germany's sole point, against Podpinka, and Philippe Saive had sewn things up for Belgium after taking care of both Peter Franz and Steffen Fetzner by narrow margins.

So, at the time of writing the Joola European Men's League

title is still not settled. A third and decisive final match is scheduled to be played in Liege, Belgium, on March 21st.

## HUNGARY *are* NEW WOMEN'S CHAMPIONS

In the European Women's League Super Division final, Germany the defending champions narrowly lost out to Hungary 4-3 in the third leg of a three - match final held on 8th March.

Germany, an almighty power as England will confirm after being doused by them in last years' final in Crewe, were weakened by the loss of Jie Schopp, who is suffering from a condition similar to repetitive stress syndrome suffered by typists.

So, Schopp, the European No.1 and ranked 13 in the World played only in one leg of the final, the second held in Hungary on 28th February. She was clearly below par, beating Kriztina Toth but losing to Csilla Batorfi.

Germany had won the opener 4-2 at home, thanks to two points each from Nikki Struse and Elke Schall. Hungary took the second match 4-1, with the high-serving Csilla Batorfi seeing off both Struse and Schopp.

Vivien Ello ranked 80 in the World won the deciding 3rd leg for Hungary, scoring twice against Elke Schall and Olga Nemes (World No.44) to clinch the championships for Hungary.

### JOOLA EUROPEAN MEN'S LEAGUE FINAL

1st Leg		11th February 1995	
BELGIUM 2		GERMANY 4	
Jean-Michel Saive	beat	Steffen Fetzner	21-12, 21-6
Philippe Saive	lost to	Jorg Roskopf	15-21, 14-21
Andras Podpinka/ Jean-Michel Saive	lost to	Peter Franz/ Jorg Roskopf	9-21, 21-19, 15-21
Philippe Saive	beat	Steffen Fetzner	16-21, 21-19, 21-12
Jean-Michel Saive	lost to	Jorg Roskopf	18-21, 21-14, 9-21
Andras Podpinka	lost to	Steffen Fetzner	21-16, 18-21, 10-21
2nd Leg		25th February 1995	
GERMANY 1		BELGIUM 4	
Jorg Roskopf	beat	Andras Podpinka	21-18, 21-10
Steffen Fetzner	lost to	Jean-Michel Saive	16-21, 16-21
Peter Franz/ Jorg Roskopf	lost to	Philippe Saive	21-14, 14-21, 19-21
Jorg Roskopf	beat	Jean-Michel Saive	21-14, 14-21, 19-21
Steffen Fetzner	lost to	Philippe Saive	18-21, 21-14, 18-21
Jorg Roskopf	lost to	Jean-Michel Saive	10-21, 13-21

### EUROPEAN WOMEN'S LEAGUE FINAL

1st Leg		14th February 1995	
GERMANY 4		HUNGARY 2	
Nicole Struse	beat	Maria Fazekas	21-16, 21-18
Christina Fischer	lost to	Csilla Batorfi	16-21, 12-21
Elke Schall	beat	Kriztina Toth	21-16, 21-15
Nicole Struse/ Christina Fischer	lost to	Csilla Batorfi/ Kriztina Toth	21-19, 15-21, 22-24
Nicole Struse	beat	Csilla Batorfi	21-14, 21-11
Elke Schall	beat	Maria Fazekas	21-18, 21-14
2nd Leg		28th February 1995	
HUNGARY 4		GERMANY 1	
Csilla Batorfi	beat	Nicole Struse	16-21, 21-15, 21-12
Kriztina Toth	lost to	Jie Schopp	13-21, 21-16, 19-21
Vivien Ello	beat	Elke Schall	21-15, 18-21, 21-13
Csilla Batorfi/ Kriztina Toth	beat	Nicole Struse/ Christina Fischer	21-11, 21-14
Csilla Batorfi	beat	Jie Schopp	21-17, 21-14
3rd Leg		8th March 1995	
HUNGARY 4		GERMANY 3	
Csilla Batorfi	beat	Olga Nemes	21-19, 21-15
Kriztina Toth	lost to	Nicole Struse	15-21, 16-21
Vivien Ello	beat	Elke Schall	18-21, 21-12, 21-9
Csilla Batorfi/ Kriztina Toth	lost to	Nicole Struse	22-20, 21-23, 16-21
Csilla Batorfi	lost to	Elke Schall	16-21, 15-21
Vivien Ello	beat	Olga Nemes	21-13, 21-15
Kriztina Toth	beat	Elke Schall	17-21, 21-17, 21-19

It seems to be that the odd numbers years are lucky for them both, as they both won before in 1991 and 1993.

No.1 seed Matthew Syed withdrew a week before due to under preparation and being behind with his studies for Oxford University final exams.

Women's No.2 seed Lisa Lomas was unable to play through a long standing shoulder injury, which had caused her to withdraw from the quarter finals of the English Open, so it was left to Carl and Andrea to show how it is done.

In the men's singles, the four semi-finalists played to a very high standard, with Alan Cooke taking the first game off defending champion Chen Xinhua before eventually falling. Desmond Douglas, at 39 years of age looked to be of World Championship class when recovering from 0-2 to 2-2 before losing 21-15 in the 5th against his junior by 12 years Carl Prean.

Douglas' popularity endures and the Kings Lynn crowd were eager to see the 11 times former champion do it yet again. In the form he was in, it could quite easily have happened. In the final, Carl Prean proved he is fully recovered from injury by eclipsing the World No.19 Chen Xinhua 3 games to nil. This was the 12th victory for Carl against Chen in 14 encounters, and demonstrated that the Isle of Wight professional is World Class against defence.

Earlier, in the 2nd round Bradley Billington (England No.7) narrowly stopped Nicky Mason, on the comeback trail after announcing his retirement 1 year ago. This was a 5 game of great entertainment value with one game being settled 33-31.

## HOLT *finds* MELODY AGAIN

The women's singles belonged to Andrea Holt, Alison Gordon and Linda Radford. Holt, the lass from Ramsbottom, continued her prolific success gained in 1995. Following on from reaching the English Open women's singles final in January, she scooped both the women's singles and doubles in Kings Lynn.

The final against Alison Gordon

# HOLT & PREAN DOUBLE HAT-TRICK

ANDREA HOLT AND CARL PREAN BOTH SCORED DESERVED HAT TRICKS WHEN THEY LIFTED THE WOMEN'S AND MEN'S SINGLES TROPHIES FOR THE THIRD TIME AT THE ENGLISH SENIOR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS IN KINGS LYNN HELD ON THE 4TH-5TH MARCH.

WRITES GRAHAM CARTER.



was a classic. Holt took the first two games. Gordon, battling against injury to her achilles tendon looked utterly lost. Then came the fight back. Supported and coached by her fiancée -

Scotland's No. 3 John Broe, she dug in.

Gordon found that she could pick up points by attacking Holt's forehand court. This would often be returned back with no spin

allowing the forehand kill rapidly off the bounce. Staging a great fight back Alison levelled at 2 games all.

With the men's singles final starting on the neighbouring



**Presentation of Men's Doubles trophy (left to right) Alan Ransome ETTA Chairman, Nicky Mason and Skylet Andrew runners-up, Alan Cooke and Desmond Douglas the Men's Doubles winners and Major Leslie Dutton Chairman of Leisure and Tourism of Kings Lynn and West Norfolk Borough Council.**

table it was difficult for the sizeable crowd sitting in the grandstand to avoid concentrating on the end of the women's final, which Holt eventually took after an hour's entertaining table tennis.

No. 5 seed Linda Radford pulled off the only real shock in either the singles events when she defeated the European Junior Championships medallist Sally Marling, who was seeded at No.3. Nicky Mason and Skylet Andrew, sporting a glittering royal blue playing strip, failed in their bid to win the men's doubles title for what would have been a record 7th year. They fell to the B.F.L. Grove duo Desmond Douglas and Alan Cooke in the final. Des has now won this a record 12 times, but with different partners.

Another match of merit was the titanic Veterans men's singles final between the same giants from last year, John Hilton and Nigel Eckersley. Hilton was the hero, perhaps eager to make up for having to retire injured from the final 12 months before.



**Presentation of the Women's Doubles trophy, (left to right) Mayor of Kings Lynn and West Norfolk Borough Council, councillor Bryan Howling, winners Kate Goodall and Andrea Holt, and ETTA Vice Chairman of Competitions Tony Chatwin.**



Losing Men's Singles  
finalist Chen Xinhua



Veterans Men's Singles  
winner John Hilton

## DOUGLAS to RETURN ?

later), and Andrew Eden still not fully recovered from a virus, England will need to consider all options.

England Team Manager Don Parker watched play with keen interest at Kings Lynn though no amount of persuasion could get him to comment on who would be in the World Championship squad, due to be announced a couple of weeks after the National Championships.

However, there is speculation among the media that Desmond Douglas could come out of retirement to represent England at the World Championships in China, at the ripe old age of 39.

Will this happen? Probably only Don Parker and Desmond Douglas could answer this, but with Matthew Syed undecided about his availability for China (final exams start nine days



Losing Women's Singles  
finalist Alison Gordon

Lynnsport proved to be a feather in the cap for the event's sponsors, Kings Lynn and West Norfolk Borough Council, and the English Table Tennis Association's gratitude goes to them.



Veterans Women's  
Singles winner Doreen  
Schofield

## FULL MARKS *for* LYNNSPORT

Graham Rogerson, from Kings Lynn League was in great form as the event's energetic Organiser who had a loyal band of helpers bustling for three whole days.

Lynnsport and Leisure Park, the venue at Kings Lynn, earned full marks. Spacious and well managed by Neil Anthony and Martin Chisholm, it provided a marvellous atmosphere to hold the Nationals, which have been staged there for the third year in a row.



Bradley  
Billington

## NIGERIAN Visitor

Abdul Wuraola, who was born in Liverpool, but moved to Nigeria where he was brought up before returning to England, where he plays for the Jags Sports Centre in Surrey.

Abdul, who was beaten by Andrew Wilkinson in the Men's Singles at the Nationals, is looking for a sponsor.



Veterans Women's  
Doubles winners  
Carol Hewitt (left)  
and Penny Perry.



ETTA Vice Chairman  
Competitions Tony  
'Doctor Dope'  
Chatwin (left) and  
ETTA General  
Secretary Robert  
Sinclair, glue testing  
with the Dräger Gas  
Detection Kit, which  
will be used at all  
ETTA tournaments  
and it may also be  
used at all ranking  
events.

## ENGLISH SENIOR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS RESULTS

### MEN'S SINGLES Quarter Finals

D. Douglas beat B. Johnson  
15, 7, 8

C. Preat beat S. Rockall  
18, 10, 10

A. Cooke beat B. Billington  
9, -21, 14, 11

X. Chen beat C. Oldfield  
8, 12, 18

### Semi Finals

C. Preat beat D. Douglas  
14, 18, -13, -20, 15

X. Chen beat A. Cooke  
-10, 18, 12, 16

### Final

C. Preat beat X. Chen  
12, 18, 16

### MEN'S DOUBLES Semi Finals

A. Cooke/D. Douglas beat  
S. Gibson/J. Holland

17, 17

S. Andrew/N. Mason beat  
J. Hilton/B. Billington

12, -18, 17

### Final

A. Cooke/D. Douglas beat  
S. Andrew/N. Mason

17, 13

### MIXED DOUBLES - Semi Finals

C. Carthy/H. Lower beat

C. Wilson/G. Schwartz  
15, -5, 15

D. Holland/L. Radford beat  
J. Holland/G. Ashison 11, 19

### Final

D. Holland/L. Radford beat  
C. Carthy/H. Lower 17, 16

### VETERANS MEN'S SINGLES Final

J. Hilton beat N. Eckersley  
12, -19, 13

### VETERANS MEN'S DOUBLES Final

P. Bowen/J. Hilton beat  
I. Robertson/D. Welsman 16, 13

### WOMEN'S SINGLES Quarter Finals

A. Holt beat N. Deaton  
17, 17, 13

L. Radford beat Sally Marling  
15, -19, 16, 16

A. Gordon beat H. Lower  
19, 16, 16

K. Goodall beat T. Davies  
12, 12, 9

### Semi Finals

A. Holt beat L. Radford  
18, 13, 8

A. Gordon beat K. Goodall  
17, 13, 11

### Final

A. Holt beat A. Gordon  
15, 13, -21, -14, 11

### WOMEN'S DOUBLES Semi Finals

K. Goodall/A. Holt beat  
A. Gordon/M. Thornley 20, 10

H. Lower/L. Radford beat  
N. Deaton/S. Marling -11, 18, 18

### Final

K. Goodall/A. Holt beat  
H. Lower/L. Radford 16, 15

### VETERANS WOMEN'S SINGLES Final

D. Schofield beat J. White 12, 16

### VETERANS WOMEN'S DOUBLES Final

C. Hewitt/P. Perry beat  
C. Moran/D. Schofield 15, 10

# THE BATTLE *for* 3rd PLACE

IT IS A FAIRLY SAFE BET THAT BFL GROVE WILL ONCE AGAIN BE CROWNED CHAMPIONS OF THE FRIENDLY HOTELS BRITISH LEAGUE. WITH THREE MATCHES LEFT TO PLAY THEY ONLY NEED ONE VICTORY TO CLINCH THE TITLE. ONCE AGAIN THEY HAVE DOMINATED THE LEAGUE FROM START TO FINISH. TEAM PENIEL LOOK LIKELY TO BE RUNNERS UP ONCE AGAIN WHICH WILL BE NO MEAN FEAT TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION THAT THEY HAVE BEEN DENIED, BECAUSE OF INJURY AND ILLNESS, THE SERVICES FOR VIRTUALLY ALL OF THE SEASON OF EITHER SEAN GIBSON OR ANDREW EDEN AND ON QUITE A NUMBER OF OCCASIONS, BOTH OF THEM **WRITES AUBREY DRAPKIN**

**T**he battle for third place between Drumchapel Glasgow and Horsham Angels looks likely to continue to the last match of the season, both teams being level on points, but the Scots having the advantage of a game in hand.

Vymura International seem certain to be relegated and DML Launceston are also still in danger of the drop. Competition to take their places in the top flight is fierce with Ruston Marconi Lincoln and West Warwickshire locked in battle in second and third places in the First Division North behind BFL Grove II who cannot be promoted. Only one point now separates Lincoln and West Warwicks after the former were held to a draw by Sedgefield.

There is a similar situation in the First Division South but in that case, three clubs are involved, two of them from London. The Euston-based side, Linda Farrow currently hold a two point advantage over Edison TTC of Haringey and O.L.O.P. of Reading. As in the North, BFL Grove lead the way but are not in contention for promotion. The Linda Farrow side are now very strong with Nicky Mason at number one followed by Grant Solder, Nigel Thomas and John Taylor. A 6-2 victory over Grove, the latter's first defeat of the

season, now makes the Euston side favourites to take second place. The other two clashed at Reading where Edison came out on top, also with a 6-2 scoreline. Simon Rockall lost only his second set of the season in this match, going down to the English Junior star, Terry Young. Young, however, was beaten by David Goode.

Sedgefield third team took over at the top of Division Two North after victories over Peterborough (5-3) and BFL Grove Colts (6-2). City of Leeds, however, have two matches in hand and the two clubs also have to play each other at Leeds. The Yorkshire side have introduced Steve Wathey into their side and he has won every set in the three matches played to date.

Moorland Seasiders of Blackpool are lying in a handy position in third place if the top two teams slip up.

Barclays Bank are virtually home and dry in Division Two South East needing only one point from their last two matches to take the title. Pillinger Air Croydon, who lost their unbeaten record when they went down 5-3 to Barclays, seem certain to finish in second place.

Bribar Colley Hyundai of Pontypool still lead the way in

Division Two South West despite being held to a 4-4 draw by Jolliffe Poole when they were without David Barr. They still lead Cheltenham Saracens by two points with DML Launceston II a further two points behind.

In the Third Division East it is now a two horse race between Progress of Willesden and

**Friendly  
HOTELS**

**British League**



Nicky Mason, Linda Farrow's new No.1 in Division One South


Crusaders Lincoln. With three matches left to play only one point separates them. They meet at Willesden in the next round of matches and victory for the home side could settle the issue. It would appear that a change of division has worked wonders for Crusaders. This season they are challenging for honours after languishing at the foot of Division Three North in previous years.

The Walsall club Leckie consolidated their position at the top of Three Midland with victories over the Nottingham League (6-2) and Bromsgrove (7-1). They are two points in front of Launceston III with O.L.O.P. II in third place. O.L.O.P., however, could still have a say in things as they

entertain Leckie in the penultimate match of the season. Abbeydale of Sheffield defeated CWS 6-2 and BFL Grove IV 5-3 to stay three points ahead of Drumchapel Glasgow II at the top of Three North. The two teams have still to play each other in Sheffield and Glasgow also have a game in hand.

Horsham Angels III held off the challenge of Norwich Todd Foxwood when the clubs played a 4-4 draw at Norwich. The Angels stay two points clear with Norwich another two points ahead of MacDonalds Barnets League who have risen steadily up the table.



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**FRIENDLY HOTELS BRITISH LEAGUE**

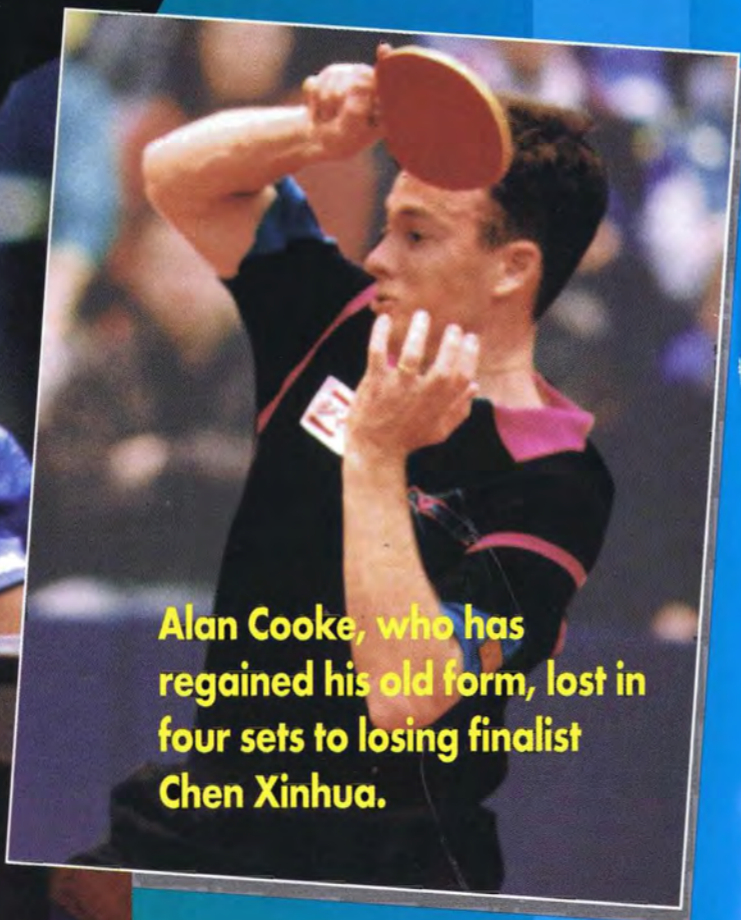
PLACINGS AT 12 FEBRUARY 1995

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
<b>PREMIER DIVISION</b>							
BFL Grove	11	11	-	-	139	15	22
Team Peniel	11	9	-	2	92	62	18
D. Glasgow	10	6	1	3	81	59	13
Horsham Angels	11	6	1	4	86	68	13
P. Plus St Neots	10	5	1	4	69	71	11
Sedgefield District	11	3	-	8	61	93	6
DML Launceston	11	1	1	9	48	106	3
Vymura Int.	11	-	-	11	26	128	-
<b>DIVISION ONE NORTH</b>							
BFL Grove II	11	10	-	1	67	21	20
R.M. Lincoln	11	7	3	1	57	31	17
Olton & West Warwicks	11	7	2	2	54	34	16
Vymura Int. II	11	5	3	3	45	43	13
Sedgefield II	11	3	3	5	44	44	9
Uxbridge (Burlton)	11	2	3	6	32	56	7
Briar Humberstone	11	2	-	9	30	58	4
Leicester Lions	11	-	2	9	23	65	2
<b>DIVISION ONE SOUTH</b>							
BFL Grove III	11	9	1	1	62	26	19
Linda Farrow (Euston)	11	8	1	2	55	33	17
Edison (Haringey)	11	7	1	3	60	28	15
OLOP (Reading)	11	7	1	3	54	34	15
BSG Brentwood II	11	2	4	5	36	52	8
Horsham Angels II	11	3	2	6	34	54	8
Milton Keynes	11	2	2	7	30	58	6
Byng Hall	11	-	-	11	21	67	-
<b>DIVISION TWO NORTH</b>							
Sedgefield III	10	6	3	1	51	29	15
City of Leeds	8	5	3	-	43	21	13
Moorland Seaside	9	5	1	3	42	30	11
BFL Grove Colts	9	4	3	2	38	34	11
Peterborough	9	3	-	6	31	41	6
Derwent	9	1	4	4	29	43	6
Uxbridge (Burlton)	10	-	2	8	22	58	2
<b>DIVISION TWO SOUTH EAST</b>							
Barclays Bank	10	9	1	-	52	28	19
PA Croydon	9	5	3	1	46	26	13
PT Fellows Cranleigh	10	4	2	4	39	41	10
BSG Brentwood II	10	4	1	5	43	37	9
Linda Farrow II	9	2	2	5	28	44	6
Team Peniel II	9	2	1	6	27	45	5
Ashford (Kent)	9	2	-	7	29	43	4
<b>DIVISION TWO SOUTH WEST</b>							
Briar Colley Hyundai	11	9	2	-	68	20	20
Cheltenham	11	9	-	2	63	25	18
DML Launceston II	11	7	2	2	60	28	16
Kingshurst Briar	11	5	1	5	50	38	11
Jolliffe Poole	12	3	3	6	41	55	9
Gridline St Neots	12	2	2	8	31	65	6
Hawbush Dragons	11	2	1	8	26	62	5
Amity Generation Fareham	11	2	1	8	21	67	5
<b>DIVISION THREE EAST</b>							
Progress	11	10	-	1	69	19	20
Crusaders Lincoln	11	9	1	1	66	22	19
Brent Juniors	11	6	2	3	51	37	14
PT Fellows Cranleigh II	11	5	3	3	51	37	13
Britannia Ipswich	11	4	1	6	43	45	9
Byng Hall	11	4	1	6	40	48	9
Peterborough II	11	1	-	10	16	72	2
Rejects II	11	1	-	10	16	72	2
<b>DIVISION THREE MIDLAND</b>							
Leckie	11	8	2	1	61	27	18
DML Launceston III	11	7	2	2	53	35	16
OLOP II	11	7	1	3	53	35	15
Nottingham League	11	7	-	4	52	36	14
PD Newport	11	5	3	3	49	39	13
Vymura Int. III	11	3	1	7	35	53	7
Bromsgrove	11	2	-	9	25	63	4
BFL Grove Colts II	11	-	1	10	24	64	1
<b>DIVISION THREE NORTH</b>							
Abbeydale	11	8	3	-	60	28	19
Drumchapel Glasgow II	10	7	2	1	57	23	16
BFL Grove IV	11	6	1	4	52	36	13
AALCO Leeds	10	5	-	5	43	37	10
City of Leeds II	10	3	3	4	42	38	9
Moorland Seaside II	10	3	1	6	28	52	7
Sedgefield IV	11	2	2	7	30	58	6
CWS Manchester	11	1	2	8	24	64	4
<b>DIVISION THREE SOUTH</b>							
Horsham III	11	8	3	-	61	27	19
Norwich TG	11	7	3	1	62	26	17
Barnets League	11	7	1	3	52	36	15
GS Larkhall	11	6	2	3	50	38	14
Rejects	11	6	1	4	47	41	13
Ellenborough	11	2	1	8	32	56	5
Adeyfield	11	-	3	8	28	60	3
Linda Farrow III	11	-	2	9	20	68	2

# DESMOND DOUGLAS



Desmond Douglas who is almost back to his brilliant best, lost a thrilling five-setter to new national champion Carl Prean.



Alan Cooke, who has regained his old form, lost in four sets to losing finalist Chen Xinhua.

# ALAN COOKE

# ENGLAND SEE RED!

The English Table Tennis Association is pleased to announce the continuing sponsorship by Tamasu Butterfly Europa GmbH to supply all of England's clothing requirements until the 31st July 1996.

And it is a new style of clothing for all of England's players within this period. Red shirts, blue shorts and white socks become the order of the day; this theme is continued with a new style tracksuit.

"Bright and cheerful" is how England star Alan Cooke describes the new kit who can be seen here displaying England's new clothing for our cameras.



Letters to The editor, TTN, 5, The Brackens, Hemel Hempstead, Herts HP2 5JA

## SAVAGED by a DEAD SHEEP!

It seemed just like "the good, old days". There I was at the English National Championships as corner man for Carl and there was the inevitable "Come if it, John" letter in the Table Tennis News of the type I had not seen for some years. It came from a Mr Geoff Fowler-Tutt of Hove. "Although I have never met John" he writes "I feel I know him well". For over 20 years, it seems, the poor fellow has been reading my occasional pieces and has suffered grievously as a result. The editor sympathises and writes of Fowler-Tutt's frustration at "having" to read "the opinions of John Pream".

One is reminded of the man who complained that, if he lay flat on his stomach on his bedroom cupboard, then, with the help of powerful binoculars, he could see what his neighbours, were doing. He complained of lack of privacy. Fowler-Tutt, to be spared his ordeals, only has to stop reading what I write. The effort of turning to the next page is not difficult.

I was indeed a regular contributor to these pages in the days when George Yates was editor and a very good editor he was. A survey undertaken by the late Rob Oldfield at the time indicated that I was the most widely read contributor. There were, of course, occasional "Dear John" letters, but in the main comments were favourable by a wide margin and I made friends all over the world and I still correspond with many of these. It was before the chairmanship of the ETTA bestowed a certain respectability on me. Since my retirement I have only sent the odd short letter to "Mailbox" and written our County Notes.

The letter Fowler-Tutt complains of was, in fact, extracted (without my consent) from my county notes and transferred to "Mailbox". Thus it may have looked to F-T as if I had dealt with only one topic, the success of the Isle of Wight player Carl Pream against Chen Xinhua on one or more occasions. When one writes one's county notes, one deals with the players in one's county. It is inevitable that one runs up against the strange ETTA ranking system which has produced such unhappy results for players and tournament organisers alike. It offers the most massive discouragement to young players and is often unfair to older ones as well. I lose count of the number of times members came up to me at Kings Lynn to tell me the same thing and to ask me to keep pressing for

improvements for the sake of the sport.

Fowler-Tutt, as he says, has not been to a national tournament and never seems to have done anything that might have involved him in the administration of the sport. I would have thought nevertheless that, before busting into print, a sensible attitude might have been to investigate what was written about. Instead he decided, though knowing neither me nor the facts, to go public with the false and obnoxious theory that I got it all up in the cause of my son, Carl, often the English No. 1, but now somewhat lower. This is even insulting to the ranking chiefs, since it suggests that they might yield to pressures on behalf of the players.

The fact is that Carl suffered greatly during my chairmanship, since every one (including me) was anxious to demonstrate that there was no 'favouritism'. I never was a great believer in rankings, since these tended to annoy our best players and sometimes set England player against player. I always saw rankings as a parlour game played by officials. Similarly, I never said that Carl should be ranked higher than Chen Xinhua, merely that he had beaten him most of the time. Against some players Carl may be more effective, against others he may not. Yes, Chen is above Carl on the World ranking list. Carl is many places above Matthew Syed on the same list, but in England Matt is No. 1 and Carl is No. 4.

Another unbelievable part of our ranking system is that players actually get more points when they win for themselves in individual singles events (tournaments) than when they play for England (team events). Thus selfish attitudes are fostered, whilst the team situation and comradeship are discouraged. In my heart and mind, players who let us down in the team context would never be No. 1. Our ranking system says the opposite. I wish our leaders would speak to the rank and file more, as I certainly did in my time. Then they would find out how the present scheme is loathed by players and coaches. Instead, odd "supporters" are paraded in these columns to say how much they liked this scheme or what an awful chap John Pream is for daring to say the ranking scheme is a disaster for the sport.

F-T asks when Chen lost 21-4, implying it was something I had invented. The occasion was the World Championships of 1991 (China) against Ma Wenge. I was not unkind, since in the European (Birmingham 1994) he lost 21-3 to Waldner.

He is a multi-talented player and still, in the autumn of his playing career, an effective player in singles when he plays for himself. When playing for England, sadly all too often he was

not there when we needed him, opting out of difficult matches. I was surprised time and time again how this was allowed and excused and I know how the other players felt as they were let down over and over again. As I see it, the No. 1 is the moral leader of the team and it is there that my reservations are strongest. All too often when we needed him in the team matches Chen was not there. Such issues are more important than the occupational risks of being "savaged by dead sheep". Someone has to speak up on such matters.

John Pream  
(Chairman of ETTA 1986-1991)

THE FOLLOWING TWO LETTERS ARE IN RESPONSE TO ARTICLES THAT WERE PUBLISHED IN GOOD FAITH BY TABLE TENNIS NEWS, IN THE FEBRUARY EDITION - Editor

## NEVER at CREWE

After reading recent articles published in the February edition of the English Table Tennis News, I feel I must reply to certain comments directed toward me and my commitment within the game of table tennis. In one article it stated that I went to Crewe and refused to play for England. I would like to put the matter straight.

It was agreed with the England team manager on the evening of the England v Russia ladies match at Hull, that due to academic commitments I would not play at Crewe. To write and say that I turned up and never bothered to play within the England team could not be further from the truth as I was never at Crewe, and had the approval of the England team manager not to attend this International Event.

I am now 18 years old and I have played table tennis since I was 8 years old. During that time I feel as though I have played to the best of my ability and at times this has not been easy trying to fit academic studies into this framework. I feel as though I have made large sacrifices, and this I have done freely for the good of table tennis.

It seems to me that more and more politics are creeping into the game every season. I feel that many of these political policies can only do the game of table tennis harm. From an early age we are coached to go out and compete whilst enjoying our chosen sport. How can players enjoy the game when they are being attacked on a personal level with articles like the one published in last month's magazine?

To sum up, I have always given my best in my chosen sport, and continue to do so. I have carried out my duties to the best of my ability and in a professional manner. Isn't it a pity that certain journalists do not portray the same sort of professionalism.

S A Marling  
HULL

## PROTEST

I am writing to protest about articles printed in the February edition of the ETTA magazine. It was stated that Sally Marling went to Crewe and refused to play for England. What actually happened was that Sally was informed that she would be playing in the Hull match only, and not at Crewe, but on arriving at the venue in Hull, she was told that someone had dropped out and could she play the following night at Crewe.

When I arrived at the venue in Hull, Don Parker told me Sally was playing at Crewe but could not get transport. When talking to Sally, she informed me that the main reason she couldn't make it was because she had college work to do which had to be in for Wednesday morning, but also did not want to say no to playing for England. After discussion we decided that the education came first, and I was given the job of informing Don Parker. He accepted Sally's explanation, telling me that it was very short notice and if Sally had college work that was fine. So when I saw articles in the ETTA magazine I was shocked with disbelief. To doubt Sally's commitment to England is an insult. I can remember when she played in the English Junior Open. On receiving an injury in the early part of the tournament, she played on to get the English team into the final, an injury which she still has to this day. In the European juniors in Paris, after all the other juniors went out first round, Sally fought her way through to the semi final, coming off physically and mentally exhausted, having given everything for England.

Sally thinks these articles are some big mistake, but I believe that journalists would not write articles unless they had received some information from an official source, since I have been informed that only one team will be going to the Worlds and Commonwealth, and Sally, being ranked No. 4, must be in contention for selection. Therefore, I conclude, that someone is attempting to rule Sally out of selection for someone else they favour.

I consider that at the top, the game of politics is more important than the game of table tennis.

P Garvey  
HULL

**T**ony was guest of honour along with the international runner Steve Cram M.B.E. at the opening of the centre which is the new home of the ETTA's full time Northern Regional Development officer Ken Muhr.

Ken is based at the centre, along with Development Officers from other sports, such as Netball, Volleyball, Gymnastics and the National Coaching Foundation.

He is now going at full throttle in setting up development initiatives in the North of England. "Things are going quite well and I will be having special meetings with the leagues in the region during the near future".

Schemes which Ken is involved in include:-

- Schools visits: a series of schools were visited in the North East, displaying table tennis in the build up to the English Open.
- Coaching strategy - devising a coaching plan for the north.
- Giving advice on how to put together grant applications to the P.S.A
- Organising a successful Regional Conference. This was the 'Going for Growth' conference, held in January and attended by most Leagues in the North with speeches from Don Parker, Alan Ransome and the Sports Council.

## JUNIOR CLUB WORKSHOP

Harold Taylor, has also been involved in setting up a junior club workshop, held on February 27th. It was run by Dave Haskins from the National Coaching Foundation.

Around 20 local Woolwich Junior League organisers came from the region to take part in this pilot scheme of the Youth Sports Trust's 'Top Club' programme. The theme of the workshop was how to attract and keep junior members within clubs. 'Top Club' sessions are starting in 13 primary schools in the region for 10 - 12 year olds, with the aim of getting them and their parents involved.

## HUGE GRANTS FROM THE FOUNDATION FOR SPORTS AND THE ARTS

Bournemouth Sports Table Tennis Club in Dorset and Phoenix Table Tennis Club in

# TONY BLAIR *all* SMILES!

LABOUR PARTY LEADER TONY BLAIR WAS ALL SMILES WHEN HE OPENED THE NEW SPORTS DEVELOPMENT OFFICES' CENTRE, HOUSED AT THE UNIVERSITY OF DURHAM ON FEBRUARY 17TH WRITES GRAHAM CARTER.

Coventry have received £65,000 between them in grants for facilities from the foundation for Sports and the Arts.

Bournemouth, led by Colin Bryson, are using the money to assist in the construction of a purpose build Table Tennis Centre. English Table Tennis Association's full time facilities Officer Paul Barker has been heavily involved in offering technical advice at the design stage.

## PHOENIX RISES FROM THE ASHES

A project driven by Warwickshire county coach Don Richards means that the Phoenix club in Coventry is likely to be able to buy the lease from the local authority. The £25,000 Foundation for Sport and the Arts grant means that the club can continue to develop, and hope to build an additional hall on the side in order to stage British League matches.

The progress of the club charts a remarkable rise, after being

totally destroyed by fire in 1982. Now there are 3 matches played every night of the week, county matches staged, and strong links with disabled players, who regularly attend. Special wheelchair access has been designed.

## 'GET AHEAD' COACHING PROGRAMME

Stephen Joel, ETTA Regional Development Officer, has set a new coaching programme in the Southern Region, called 'Get Ahead', it is a complete scheme aimed at increasing the quality and quantity of coaches. It was unveiled at the Southern Regional conference held in Aldershot in February, and has so far had a very good response.

It deals with coach recruitment co-ordination, education, development and profile. New elements include promoting our coaches to local authorities, introducing a Coach of the Year Award and the Southern Region 'Coaching News' Magazine. With the scheme in its infancy, the recruitment drive has already seen the numbers of coaches rise, and there are now 14 League Coaching Officers in the Southern



Tony Blair showing off his Basketball talents at the University of Durham's new Sports Development.



Region - instead of eight one month ago.

## SOUTH WEST REGIONAL NEWS

The following people have successfully passed the theory part of their Coach Level 2 Award, all those marked with an \* have completed the practical and are now qualified at that Level 2.

Claire Bell (Gs), David Broughton (Gs), \*John Bunn (Gs), John Bunn Jr (Gs), Ken Bridle (Gs), Paul Gillett (Gs), Janet Hawkins (Gs), \*Peter Humble (Gs), Ian King (Gs), Leslie Landon (Gs), \*Steve Moreman (Gs), \*Lawrence Symonds (Gs), Pete Dominey (Av), Michael Hawkins (Av), \*Judith Higgs (Av), John Higgs (Av), \*Michael Searle (Av), Jeff Stone (Av), Philip Wainwright (Av), Julian Young (Av), \*Barrie Annis (Do), \*Darren Evans (Dv), \*Richard Evans (Dv), John Smithers (So).

Mrs Valerie Clack, the South West Regional Coaching Officer wishes to remind all would be coaches that their qualifications are not recognised until the final assessment form is registered with the Coaching Administrator, (Jill Parker).

News from Jeremy Williams in

far flung Cornwall, Kessells Garages who sponsor the West Cornwall TT League, awarded David Greenhough of Godolphin 'A' the player of the month award recently.

The WTTL County (Closed) Championships are to be played at the Bodmin Indoor Tennis Centre on 25th & 26th March respectively.

Both annual Tournaments - The Alan Knight Memorial Event and the American Tournament are set up to take place this season, hopefully either Jeremy Williams or myself will be able to report upon them in the next month's TTN.

And finally, John Bassett (St Ives) returned to the County side at Launceston recently making his 106th and 107th appearance against Wilts I & II.

This was John's first appearance for more than five years in a County match he recorded three out of four wins for Cornwall, not bad eh?

## SOUTHERN REGION NEWS

In addition to and concurrent with the annual tournament for players of the Regional Leagues (Men and Women) Southern Region are this season holding a

two day 'closed' tournament for ALL players from within the 5 counties (Berks, Bucks, Hants, IOW and Oxon) to be held at Windsor Boys School over the weekend of 6/7th May. 500 copies of the entry form which feature banded singles and doubles events have been distributed but if they have passed you by and you are interested contact Mick Strode (9 Hart Close, Farnborough, Hants GU13 9HQ; Tel 01276 31926) before 23rd April. And, before putting your bats away for another season give serious thought to entering a team in next season's Regional league. Now in its seventh successful season (currently 2 divisions of men's 3 player teams and 1 division of 2 player women's teams) any group of players from within the region with access to their own premises may enter - maximum 14 weekend matches per season - dates generally the same as British League - aimed at a level between local league and British League (whose players are in the main excluded) - cash prizes - more information from the aforementioned Mick Strode of league secretary, Bob Murrell (18 Rosebay Gardens, Hook, Basingstoke, Hants, RG27 9PN.

## SNIPPETS

### SHARON IS A DUNLOP MASTER

Sharon Gillett, 14, from Enfield is the latest recipient of the Dunlop Master Skill 'Masters' Award.

Ranked No50 on the England junior list, Sharon is coached by Bryon Gates from Broxbourne, and plays junior county table tennis for Hertfordshire.

Sharon is one of only 12 winners of the Dunlop Skills Masters Award during the last 12 months - truly an achievement to savour!

### WOOLWICH JUNIOR LEAGUE TOWERS IN BLACKPOOL

Blackpool's Woolwich Junior League is going from strength to strength. Taking place in the new Blackpool Sports Centre, it started with seven teams in October. Coupled with coaching sessions by Woolwich Junior League Organiser Robert Wood, there are now five new teams competing in the second phase. Around 30 young players take part who are all new to the sport.



## UK & Ireland Corporate Games

Peterborough 1995  
June 16-18

## TABLE TENNIS

for  
Weekend Sports Warriors  
in a 19-Sport Festival



DATES Saturday 17 & Sunday 18 June

VENUE Thomas Cook Leisure Centre

### EVENTS

Singles 6 Competition Classes  
Open -30 30-39 40-49 50-59 60+ yrs  
2-a-Side Team Open & 40+ Classes



### ENTRY FORMS & Information

Tel 01733 55 89 95

Fax 01733 55 89 96



# ON A *level* PLAYING FIELD

**W**e are all now playing on a level playing field, so there can be no excuse for failure. However, a word of caution is necessary - players need to be taught how to use glue and not just how to play with it. Already we have seen the results of Juniors gluing up in cold damp conditions and as a result the rubbers have not been securely attached which has caused real problems when players arrive at the table to play. Coaches please take note.

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

### 1. Level 3 Coaches Courses

Lilleshall 2-4th June  
Milton Keynes 9-11th June  
Ipswich 28-30th July

### 2. Tutors Training Day

Lilleshall 2nd July

Anyone interested in becoming a tutor should discuss the matter with their Regional Coaching Chairman before contacting Jill Parker.

### 3. The Annual Coaches Conference

THE COACHING DEPARTMENT IS PLEASED WITH THE NATIONAL COUNCIL'S DECISION TO ALLOW 3RD GENERATION GLUES TO BE USED. THIS SHOULD ENCOURAGE ALL COACHES TO WORK JUST A LITTLE HARDER WITH THEIR CHARGES IN ORDER TO BRIDGE THE GAP THAT IS UNFORTUNATELY STILL PRESENT BETWEEN THE ENGLISH AND EUROPEAN PLAYERS

**WRITES GAIL McCULLOCH.**

Milton Keynes 21st May

This is open to all coaches and will include a de-brief of both the Commonwealth and World Championships. Application forms from Jill Parker.

Don Parker and I have been looking at two major projects to assist coaches - the production of a new coaching video and a series of coaching posters. The groundwork is complete but unfortunately we are unable to proceed further unless we can find a sponsor. Anyone who can help with sponsorship should contact us.

I would like to thank Tim Harns who again was the referee at the National Junior Trials. Tim reported on improvement in the

number of non-arrival but there is still room for improvement in

**Eastern Region Staff Coach Paul Tarrant (left) is pictured coaching Kings Lynn's Wayne Thorpe, at the recent English Senior National Championships pre-tournament coaching session.**



the player responses to the invitations as Tim had to make numerous calls to those who failed to reply by the stated deadline.

Finally, I give advance notice of an Advanced Coaching Course that will be run in conjunction with the World Championships in Manchester on April '97. Start saving now as it will be money well spent!

## ETTA COACH EDUCATION COURSES

Date of Course: **3rd & 4th June 1995**  
Venue: Lynnsport and Leisure Park, Kings Lynn, Norfolk  
Tutor: TBA

Level of Course:

### ETTA Sport Leader/Teacher/Level 2

Contact: Mr Roger Partridge, Borough of Kings Lynn and West Norfolk, Valentine Road, Hunstanton, Norfolk, PE36 5EZ.  
Tel: (01485) 532 516

Date of Course:

### 2nd, 3rd & 4th June 1995

Venue: Lilleshall National Sports Centre

ETTA Tutor: Dave Berriman

NCF Tutor: Tim Holder

Level of Course: Coach Education Weekend, **Level 3** combined with National Coaching Foundation **Level 2** Courses

Contact: The Coaching Administrator, Highfield House, 64 Regent Drive, Fulwood, Preston, Lancs, PR2 3JD.  
Tel: (01772) 715 216

Date of Course:

### 9th, 10th & 11th June 1995

Venue: The Milton Keynes Table Tennis Centre

ETTA Tutor: Donald Parker

NCF Tutor: Tim Holder

Level of Course: Coach Education Weekend, **Level 3** combined with National Coaching Foundation **Level 2**

Courses

Contact: The Coaching Administrator, Highfield House, 64 Regent Drive, Fulwood, Preston, Lancs, PR2 3JD.  
Tel: (01772) 715 216

Date of Course: **8th & 9th July 1995**

Venue: Sudbury Sports Centre

Tutor: TBA

Level of Course: **ETTA Sport Leader/Teacher Level 2**

Contact: Kris Matthews, Sports Activities Officer, Babergh District Council, Central Administration Department, Corks Lane, Hadleigh, Suffolk, IP7 6SJ.  
Tel: (01473) 822 801

Date of Course: **15th & 16th July 1995**

Venue: TBA Bedfordshire

Tutor: TBA

Level of Course: **ETTA Sports Leader/Teacher/Level 2**

Contact: Sandra Collins, Easter Region TT Development Officer, Braintree District Council, Community and Leisure Services Department, Causeway House Braintree, Essex, CM7 6HB.  
Tel: (01376) 552 525 Ext 2342

Date of Course:

### 28th, 29th & 30th July 1995

Venue: Britannia Dome, Ipswich

ETTA Tutor: Gail McCulloch

NCF Tutor: Tim Holder

Level of Course: Coach Education Weekend **Level 3** combined with National Coaching Foundation **Level 2** Courses  
Contact: The Coaching Administrator, Highfield House, 64 Regent Drive, Fulwood, Preston, Lancs, PR2 3JD.  
Tel: (01772) 715 216

Date of Course

### 28th, 29th & 30th July 1995

Venue: TBA Ipswich

Tutor: TBA

Level of Course: **ETTA Level 3**

Contact: Adam Baker, Sport 2000 Co-Ordinator, Ipswich Borough Council, Civic Centre, Civic Drive, Ipswich, Suffolk, IP1 2EE.  
Tel: (01473) 263 505

Date of Course: **29th & 30th July 1995**

Venue: TBA Southend

Tutor: TBA

Level of Course: **ETTA Sport Leader/Teacher/Level 2**

Contact: Gary Shepherd, Sports Development Officer, Civic Centre, Victoria Avenue, Southend on Sea, Essex, SS2 6ER.  
Tel: (01702) 355 612

Date of Course:

### 12th & 13th August 1995

Venue: Cheshunt TTC, Cheshunt, Hertfordshire

Tutor: TBA

Level of Course:

### ETTA Sport Leader/Teacher/Level 2

Contact: Jon Ainge, Braxbourne Borough Council, Youth Development Officer, Leisure Services Department, Bishops College, Cheshunt, Hertfordshire, EN8 9XF.

Date of Course: **2nd September 1995**

Venue: Latton Bush Centre, Harlow

Tutor: TBA

Level of Course: n/a (Disability Awareness Training)

Contact: Erica Roast, BSAD, C/O Peterborough City Council, Norwich Union House, 24 Church Street, Peterborough, Cambs, PE1 1HG.  
Tel: (01733) 317 260

Date of Course: **3rd September 1995**

Venue: Latton Bush Centre, Harlow

Tutor: TBA

Level of Course: n/a (Taster Day for Disabled People)

Contact: Erica Roast, BSAD, C/O Peterborough City Council, Norwich Union House, 24 Church Street, Peterborough, Cambs, PE1 1HG.  
Tel: (01733) 317 260

# MIDDLESEX PREMIER DIVISION CHAMPIONS AGAIN

MIDDLESEX, SURELY THE MOST CONSISTENTLY SUCCESSFUL TEAM IN THE SENIOR PREMIER DIVISION, HAD WINS OVER LANCS, DERBYS, ESSEX AND DEVON AND AGAIN WON THE CHAMPIONSHIP

WRITES DOUG MOSS

This was remarkably their 26th Championship win and was the 6th win in the past 10 seasons. The Middlesex team comprised Nigel Tyler, John Souler, Richard Hyacinth, Leslie Keast and Marta Pilchova with Neil Charles coming in for the final match against Devon and winning his 2 events. Sixteen matches in the final series were played at St Nicholas, Park Leisure Centre, Warwick.

There was a very good competitive atmosphere over the weekend. 10 of the 16 matches ended as draws or 6-4 results. Essex started this final series in the lead. But they dropped a point, to Leics, in their first match of the weekend, when Dave Gannon (Le) won his two events. Essex lost 4-6 to Middx despite Chris Sladden and

during the season.

Berks only lost to Essex in the final series. The team was well served by 3 young players - Ben Johnson, Terry Young and Gemma Schwartz, who lost only to Linda Radford (E) and Karen Smith (Le). Devon won two matches and drew 3 times and finished well clear of the relegation zone. Staffs, who did well in the first series, slipped badly in the final

RESULTS							
MI 10	LA 0	DY 6	LA 4	LA 2	ST 8	LA 2	BK 8
IE 7	DY 3	MI 6	E 4	LA 2	ST 8	LA 2	BK 8
BK 4	E 6	IE 5	DV 5	LA 2	ST 8	LA 2	BK 8
ST 4	DV 6	BK 7	ST 3	LA 2	ST 8	LA 2	BK 8
E 5	IE 5	E 4	DY 6	LA 2	ST 8	LA 2	BK 8
DY 4	MI 6	ST 4	IE 6	LA 2	ST 8	LA 2	BK 8
DV 5	BK 5	DV 2	MI 8	LA 2	ST 8	LA 2	BK 8
LA 2	ST 8	LA 2	BK 8	LA 2	ST 8	LA 2	BK 8

sessions. A win against 'wooden spoonists' Lancs just saved them from relegation. Staffs were without the services of either their 1st or 2nd team ladies.

Derbyshire, even with the services of Bradley Billington and John Holland in the final series of matches, could not avoid relegation although they finished with 5 points. Lancs got just 1 point over the season and are for relegation.

Linda Radford (E) was the only player to finish with 100% success, and Karen Smith only lost once. Lesley Keast (Mi), playing only in the second series lost just one match. Of the men Terry Young (Bk) and Stephen Slater (St), who both missed two matches, won 80% of their events. Bradley Billington (Dy) played in the final series and won 7 of his 8 matches.

## SENIOR DIVISION 1A

WO 3 WA 7  
Warwicks visited Christopher

Whitehead School, Worcester and remain unbeaten after a 7-3 win. Trevor Washington played very well for the homesters in inflicting the first defeat of the season on Phil Gunn 9, -16, 17. Washington also had a 2 straight win over Barry Johnson. Mandy Milton (Wo) got the other win with the 19 and 6 defeat of Nicola Meddings. Steven Meddings (Wa) had 2 comfortable wins and Kate Ryan was also in good form with 2 wins and Kate Ryan was also in good form with 2 wins.

## RESULTS 18/19 FEB

WO 1	Y 9	LA 2 5	ND 5
SK 8	LA 2 2	BU 6	WO 4
ND 4	SK 6	Y 9	LA 2 1
WO 5	SK 5	LA 2 2	CA 8
WO 1	CA 9	WA 5	Y 5
CA 8	ND 2	WA 6	BU 4
ND 7	WA 3	Y 6	BU 4
SK 7	WA 3	BU 4	CA 6

Champions: **Cambridge**  
Relegations: Lancs 2nds, Worcs.

## SENIOR DIVISION 2A

NG 8	CV 2	CH 9	CU 1
CU 2	LI 2 8	WA 2 10	ST 3 0
CU 4	LE 2 6	WA 2 2	ST 2 8

Cleveland suffered their first defeat of the season after an emphatic 8-2 win by Notts. Adrian Bolton (Ng) lost the two events. Lincs got their second win of the season with the 8-2 defeat of Cumbria. Leics 2nds also visited Cumbria. The home team held the match score at 4-4 but Joanne Heath and D. Grundy followed with wins to gain 2 points for Leics. Cheshire had an emphatic 9-1 win over Clwyd. Warwicks 2nds had mixed fortunes in their matches against Staffs 2nds and 3rds. They lost 2-8 against Staffs 2nds with Mark Read (Wa) beating Andy Stokes 19, -19, 17 and Mark Woolerton (Wa) getting a -15, 17, 10 win over Julian Wootton. And Warwick 2nds beat Staffs 3rd team 10-nil. Staffs 2nds look well set to win the championship of this division.

## RESULTS End Feb

LI 2 0	NG 10	CH 8	WA 2 2
ST 3 5	CU 5	LE 1	NG 9
ST 2 10	CU 0		

## SENIOR DIVISION 2B

WO 2 2	CO 8	GS 2	DV 3 8
WI 2 2	SO 8	CO 2 7	DO 3
WI 1 5	SO 5		

Worcs 2nds and Cornwall 1st team were on equal points when they met in Worcester. But Cornwall went into a 5-nil lead and finished with a good 8-2 win. David Rogers and Sarah Stone got the wins for Worcs. Cornwall 2nds got their first win of the season with a 7-3 win over Dorset who were a player short. Division leaders Glos suffered a surprise 8-2 defeat at the hands of visitors Devon 3rds. Glos 2 wins were at the expense of Adrian Vincent. Darren Griffith (Gs) won 20, -19, 19 and Dave Harvey won at 20 in the third game. Somerset met Wilts 1st team in Devizes and the homesters went into a 5-2 lead. Phil Payne started a comeback with a -20, 12, 19 win over Eddie Roofe. Tina Sadler followed up with a 12 and 17 win over Brenda Lee and Rob Millard secured a point for Somerset with a 2 straight win over Dave Richards. Somerset later beat Wilts 2nds 8-2.

## RESULTS 25 FEB

SO 6	WO 2 4	CO 2 2	GS 8
DV 3 6	WI 1 4	DV 3 10	WI 2 0

## SENIOR DIVISION 2C

NP 5	BD 5	LI 5	NP 5
K 3 4	NP 6	H 3 5	SK 5
HE 1 5	LI 5	SK 2 1	HE 1 9
NK 5	K 3 5	HU 4	HE 3 6
BD 6	NK 4	E 2 7	LI 3
HU 4	SK 2 6	HE 1 8	E 2 2
NK 4	HU 6	E 2 10	K 3 0
HE 3 4	BD 6		

Champions: **Herts 1st**

## SENIOR DIVISION 2D

BU 2 0	K 2 10	SX 3 9	BU 2 1
HA 1 3	E 3 7	HA 1 9	BU 2 1
E 2	SX 3 8	HA 2 3	E 3 7
K 2 6	HE 2 4	HE 2 2	SX 3 8
HE 2 5	HA 2 5	HE 2 1	HA 9
E 3 3	K 2 7	HA 2 7	BU 2 3

## JUNIOR DIVISION 1A

LA 1 4 NK 1 6  
Norfolk 1st team was a player short

## FINAL LEAGUE TABLE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
MI	7	5	2	0	47	23	12
IE	7	3	3	1	37	33	9
BK	7	3	2	2	40	30	8 (95-69)
E	7	3	2	2	40	30	8 (89-75)
DV	7	2	3	2	34	36	7
ST	7	2	2	3	38	32	6
DY	7	2	1	4	28	42	5
LA	7	0	1	6	16	54	1

Linda Radford (E) being unbeaten. They finally lost 4-6 to Derbys who won all 6 Men's events. In comparison Leics had a successful final series with 2 wins and 2 drawn matches and did very well to finish in runners-up spot. In their match versus Derbys, Chris Rogers had an excellent -14, 19, 19 win over Bradley Billington. Karen Smith, always a top performer at this level, lost only once - to Linda Radford -

on their visit to Oldham but nevertheless got a 6-4 win. Leroy Pye and Mark Wortley (NK) did well to win their 4 events.

## RESULTS 25 FEB

Y2 7	NK1 3	SK 4	DY 6
NK1 4	SK 6	SK 6	NG 4
Y2 9	NK2 1	NG 8	LA 2
CW 9	NK2 1	NG 6	CW 4
CW 5	DY 5	DY1 3	Y2 7
CW 9	NK2 1		

## JUNIOR DIVISION 1B

## RESULTS 25/26 FEB

AV 1	BU 9	HA1 1	SX1 9
AV 5	SX2 5	K2 7	AV 3
SX3 10	DV2 0	HA1 7	K2 2
DV2 3	K2 7	BU 7	HA1 3
DV2 0	SX1 10	SX2 5	HA1 5
SX1 10	AV 0	DV1 6	SX2 4
K2 5	DV1 5	DV2 1	BU1 9
SX1 8	DV1 2	BU 6	DV1 4

Champions: **Sussex 1st**

Relegations: Avon, Devon 2nds

## JUNIOR DIVISION 2A

LA2 8	WA2 2	LI 5	LA2 5
BD 5	NP 5	WA 6	LI 4
IE 0	WA 10	OX 5	IE 5
WA2 5	BD 5	NP 5	OX 5

8 matches were played at Grantham TT Centre and 5 of these had drawn results! Warwick's 1st team kept their unbeaten record with a 6-4 win over Lincs and 10-nil win over Leics. Ryan Stockham and Emma Churchley (Wa) each lost their first event of the season in the Lincs match. Oxon got their first point in a drawn match with Leics. Jennifer Simmons and Vicky Hahn (Ox) won their 4 events. Oxon also got a draw against Northants. Lancs 2nd dropped their first point in a drawn match with Lincs. The Lincs team was 1-3 down, came back to lead 5-4 when Andrew Day beat Darryl Davies 26 and 19 to earn a draw for Lancs. The match Warwick's v. Lancs 2nd, in the final series, should decide the championship.

## JUNIOR DIVISION 2B

HU 2	E2 8	E3 3	SK2 7
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The Hunts/Essex 2 match started with Reaun Williams (Hu) beating Barry Mays 19 and 20. But Essex came back strongly to win 8-2. Karen Mason (E) remains unbeaten. Suffolk 2nds had a good 7-3 win over Essex 3rd team. Vicky Gray (Sk) remains unbeaten and Emma Waters and Gavin Bloomfield each won their 2 events.

## RESULT 25 FEB

SK2 5	E2 5
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## JUNIOR DIVISION 2C

WO 7	WI 3	SO 7	DV3 3
DO 2	GS 8	HR 4	DO 6
GN2 10	CO 0		

Worce had a very good 7-3 win over Wilts. Tim O'Mahoney (Wi) retained his 100% record. Stephanie Price (Wo) won her 2 events including the first defeat of Debbie King 15, -18, 9. Alex Hill (Wo) also had 2 comfortable wins.

Devon 3rds visited Wellington Sports Centre and went down 3-7 to Somerset. Kate Homeyard (Dv) continued her good record with 2 easy wins. Dorset team was a player in 2 matches played at Hertford, they went down 2-8 to Glos with Lee Dredge winning the 2 events for Dorset. Dorset pulled off a 6-4 win against Herefords Lee Dredge and Anthony Forster winning their 4 events. Glamorgan 2nds continue to dominate this div with a 10-nil win over visitors Cornwall.

## RESULTS 25 FEB

GS 3	GN2 7	GN 2 10	HR 0
DV3 0	WO 10	DO 4	WI 6

## JUNIOR DIVISION 2D

SY2 7	SX3 3	M12 3	SY3 7
BU2 4	K3 6	HA2 10	BK2 0

Surrey 2nds remain unbeaten after a 7-3 win over Sussex 3rd. Adam Laws (Sy) lost his first event of the season to Karl Forder (Sx) -21, 19, -17 but Anna MacNamara and Sarah Lane (SY) still have 100% records. Middx 2nds are still without a point after a 7-3 defeat by Surrey 3rds. Kent 3rds got their second win of the season with a 6-4 win over Bucks 2nd. Sally Howes and Amanda Bateman (K) won their 4 events. Hants 2nds 10-nil win over Berks 2nds takes them to within 1 point of Surrey 2nds and the teams



Linda Radford  
in action

still have to meet!

## RESULTS - 25 FEB

BK2 2	BU2 8	SX3 6	SY3 4
SY2 8	HA2 2		

## VETERANS DIVISION 1B

K2 7	SO 2	E2 6	BU 3
E3 3	BK1 6		

Kent 2nds continue to dominate this Div with a 7-2 win over Somerset. Brian Reeves (So) won his 2 singles events. The mixed doubles was hard fought with Ray Tilling/Pam Butcher (K) winning -19, 14, 25! Essex 2nds had a good 6-3 win over Bucks at Raleigh Police Station. Derek Wood and Ray Murray (E) won their 4 singles events. Essex 3rd team met Berks 1st team at the same venue. It was the visitors Berks who got a 6-3 in although there were a number of hard fought matches.

## RESULTS - 25 FEB

K2 5	E2 4	SO 4	SY2 5
BU1 3	E3 6		

## VETERANS DIVISION 2A

WA2 2	NP1 7	WA3 3	NP2 6
NG 1	LA2 8		

Warwick 2nds lost their first match to Northants 1st team who are unbeaten. Margaret Maltby (Np) continues with 100% singles wins and mixed doubles with Keith Jones. Northants 2nds were also successful against Warwick 3rds team despite losing both doubles events. After their 8-1 defeat of Notts the Lancs 2nds are also unbeaten and are just ahead of Northants 1sts, These teams meet in the final Round of matches.

## RESULTS - 25 FEB

NP2 4	NG 5	CW 1	NP1 8
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## VETERANS DIVISION 2B

CA 2	NK 7	E4 5	HE2 4
BU2 2	BD 7	BD2 5	HU 4

Norfolk met Cambs at St Neots TTC and got a 7-2 win. They remain unbeaten and go further ahead in this Div. Mick Broughton and Chris Brewer were involved in 6 on the wins. Essex 4th team lead 4-3 against Herts 2nds when Chris Budden (He) had a 20 in 3rd to win to level the match score. Dave Wright (E) then beat Terry Wilson to give the Essex team a win. Berks 1st team visited Milton Keynes TT Centre and achieved a 7-2 win over Bucks 2nd. David Hyde (Bd) continues with 100% singles win. Beds 2nds got their first win of the season at the expense of Hunts.

## RESULTS - 25 FEB

HE2 4	CA 4	HU 4	BD1 5
NK 9	BU2 0	BD2 1	E4 8

## VETERANS DIVISION 2C

SY3 4	SX2 5	SX3 3	K3 6
M12 5	BK2 4	K4 2	M17

The Surrey 3rds v Sussex 2nds clash at Graham Spicer Institute certainly produced a hard fought match. The 5-4 result kept up the Sussex team's unbeaten record. 2 events were decided at 20 in 3rd games and another at 19 in a decider! Sussex 3rd team was not so successful going down 3-6 to Kent 3rds. Middx 2nds and Berks 2nds were on equal points when they met. The result was 5-4 with Middx as the winners. John Smith/Kathy Nunn and Maurice Isaacs/Ian Mablin won the 2 vital doubles events. Middx 1st team got a convincing 7-2 win over Kent 4th team.

## RESULTS - 25 FEB

K3 5	M12 4	SX2 8	BK2 1
M11 6	SX3 3	SY3 8	K4 1

## VETERANS DIVISION 2D

DV1 9	GS2 0	DV1 7	AV 2
GS1 7	WI 2	DO2 2	HA2 7

DV2 4AV 5

Devon 1st team had 2 emphatic wins - V. Glos 2nds and Avon 1st - and go further ahead in this Div. Penny Perry continues unbeaten and Mike Short lost only his first match of the season against Bob Murray (Av) -18, 9, -18. Glos 1st team had a good 7-2 win over Wilts 1sts. Alan Giles (Gs) won his 2 singles events and the mixed doubles with Judy Morley. Hants 2nds went into a 5-nil lead on their visit to Dorset 2nds and finally won 7-2.

## RESULTS - 25 FEB

WI 4	DO2 5	HA2 7	AV 2
GS2 6	DV2 3		

## VETERANS DIVISION 3A

NP3 0	Y2 9	BD3 5	SK1 4
NK2 9	HE4 0	ST 5	CH3 4

Yorks 2nds had another comprehensive win at the expense of Northants 3rds. Remarkably Yorks 2nds have won 5 matches and dropped just 1 event! Beds 3rd team got their first win of the season with the 5-4 defeat of Suffolk 1sts, despite losing both doubles events. Harvey Cross and Alex Murdoch won their 4 singles events. Norfolk 2nds ends gave Herts 4th team with the "whitewash". Staffs beat Ches. 3rd 5-4 with John Taylor (St) winning both singles.

## RESULTS - 25 FEB

NP3 1	NK2 8	HE4 5	BD3 4
Y2 7	CH3 2		

## VETERANS DIVISION 3B

WI4 0	HA3 9	HE3 7	WI2 2
HA4 4	SX4 5		

Hants 3rd team got a 9-nil win over Wilts 4th team. The team continues unbeaten and Ray Lush still has a 100% record. Herts 3rd team is also unbeaten after their 7-2 win over Wilts 2nds. Hants 4/Sussex 4 was a hard fought match with 6 events going to a decider and a final 5-4 win for the Sussex team.

## RESULTS - 11 FEB

DO3 6	BK4 4
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## RESULTS - 25 FEB

SX4 4	WI2 5	BK4 9	WI4 0
HA4 2	DO3 7	HA3 5	HE3 4

## VETERANS DIVISION 3C

OX2 7	WI3 2	SO2 4	DV4 5
DV3 6	HE5 3	BK3 9	HR 0

Oxon 2nd team's 7-2 win over Wilts 3rds gives them maximum points. Alf Davies and Dave Harse won their 4 singles and the men's doubles event. Devon 4th team got their 2nd win of the season with the 5-4 defeat of Somerset 2nds. The ladies singles event saw Wendy Pryce (So) beating Madelaine Pittman -13, 21, 23! Devon 3rds and Herts 5th teams met at Exmouth with the home team winning 6-3. Berks 3rd team beat Herefords 9-nil with just the ladies singles event going to the decider.

## RESULTS - 25 FEB

WI3 6	HR 3	DV4 1	BK3 8
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# NEWS from the COUNTIES

## AVON

BOB MURRAY

### HEADACHE FOR ORGANISERS

With only one county match remaining I intend to review the February and March results in the next issue together with a look back at the season.

### BATH LEAGUE

This year's Bath Closed Tournament turned out to be extremely successful. A substantial increase in entries gave the organisers a headache fitting all the matches in and was after 11.30pm (some 15 hours after the tournament commenced) when the final event concluded.

Gary Baldwin was undoubtedly the star performer on the day. He captured five of the day's main titles and was only just pipped for the sixth one in the Men's Doubles. Gary took both the Chronicle Cup and Men's Singles events beating Dave Richards and Trevor Lloyd respectively. Michele Cohen is the new Ladies champion after defeating Brenda Lee in three sets. Results in full:-

#### CHRONICLE CUP

1. GARY BALDWIN 2. DAVE RICHARDS

#### MEN'S SINGLES

1. GARY BALDWIN 2. TREVOR LLOYD

#### LADIES SINGLES

1. MICHELE COHEN 2. BRENDA LEE

#### LADIES DOUBLES

1. COHEN/LEE 2. LINDA PORTER/GILL

#### BEER

#### VETS SINGLES

1. GARY BALDWIN 2. PADDY O'CONNOR

#### VETS DOUBLES

1. GARY BALDWIN/ALAN DUKE

2. ROY SMITH/MIKE OXLEY

#### MEN'S DOUBLES

1. TREVOR LLOYD/DAVE RICHARDS

2. GARY BALDWIN/ANDY MAYBEE

#### HANDICAP SINGLES

1. STU ENGLISH 2. NIGEL DOWDING

#### JUNIOR SINGLES

1. ANDY RUMARY 2. PETER WHIPP

#### JUNIOR DOUBLES

1. P WHIPP/S BURLE 2. D HILL/C GIBBS

#### HANDICAP DOUBLES

1. PAUL DENNING/GEOFF STONE

2. MALCOLM/NEWMAN

#### MIXED DOUBLES

1. GARY BALDWIN/BRENDA LEE

2. TREVOR LLOYD/DEBBIE BOOY

#### DIV 1 H/CAP

1. GEOFF STONE 2. REG MORRIS

#### DIV 2 H/CAP

1. JON HUNT 2. GEORGE BROWNE

#### DIV 4 H/CAP

1. PETER WHIPP 2. JAMES STONE

Many thanks to Bathwick Tyres for their sponsorship of the event and to Bath Sports Centre for being so patient!

## BERKSHIRE

JOHN CUNNINGHAM

### THE FAIR SEX

Berkshire Ladies made the headlines in the Maidenhead and Reading Tournament, with the fair sex thin on the ground at all levels from cadets to

veterans, their prominence will give local and 'County' table tennis a welcome boost.

Several youngsters are also making a forward move in the wake of Berkshire's top England stars. Two in particular, Andrew Grantham and Roddy Kay have been performing well in the Bracknell and District Premier Division.

### CHAMPION'S DEDICATION

Susan Collier made it women's singles title number 13 on Sunday at the championships - and it was victory with very special significance for the record breaking Castle Hill player.

Collier dedicated her final clash with

Sue Collier, Berkshire's dominant Ladies Singles Champion.



Lisa Crick to the memory of former Maidenhead junior star Susan Blackburn, who tragically died last year.

Blackburn and Collier were great junior rivals and friends in the late

1970s and it was the performances of Blackburn which inspired 28 year old Collier to many of her achievements.

Before leaving the area Blackburn, once a top junior in the country, won two women's singles titles in 1982 and 1983 and was three times junior girls champion between 1979 and 1981.

Currently ranked 23 in England, Collier dominated the women's singles event and again her final opponent was Castle Hill's Lisa Crick.

Crick started with a string of brilliant attacking winners but soon Collier was in control as she reeled off a burst of explosive forehand loops and crashing backhand winners to take the final 21-14, 21-8.

Collier's hopes of further titles on Sunday evening were dashed - as she twice finished on the losing side.

And one of the thorns in her side was Isabel Walker from the Phoenix Club in Maidenhead, who made her mark on the championships with two titles.

In the women's doubles she teamed up with Crick as the seeds overcame five times winners Collier and Lorna Firth in an exciting three set clash.

Walker was then in action with Ian Schwartz as they faced defending champions Collier and Hugh Bartholomew in the mixed doubles final.

This was an absorbing clash which also went to three sets. The decisive factor finally proved to be Schwartz's explosive left handed forehand loop which time and again caused the defending champions trouble.

With Walker also playing her part the second seeds finally took the title with a 21-18 in the third win.

The previous day Collier had again showed she can compete with and beat the best in the top flight when she won her sixth Premier Division title.

After a tense 22-20 in the third semi-final win over Mike Rhodes she then pulled back from 12-5 down in the third against Bob Davis in the final to take it 21-15 with a devastating performance.

Another outstanding performance at the championships came from Davis

to win the Divisional Handicap title. Despite having one of the greatest handicap disadvantages the Premier Division player battled his way through to beat Peter Matthews in the final.

### UNLUCKY ANDY

Our Lady of Peace player Andrew Grantham played well for Berkshire Juniors against Hampshire 2nd in Division 2 of the inter-counties championships but couldn't prevent them losing 10-0 Hampshire 2nd.

Grantham, brilliant on the attack, lost one match 21-19, 21-19 and another 15-21, 23-21, 21-16 against players with high England rankings.

Stuart Wise also produced a fine display against the Hants number one before going down 21-19, 11-21, 21-17.

Grantham, Roddy Kay and Gareth Soden teamed up to take the Berkshire Junior Inter-town from Maidenhead and Newbury.

## BUCKS

JAKE YEATES

### BUSY MONTH

A busy month of activity on the Bucks county scene has been palpably bereft of success from the county sides.

Giving you the diabolical news first (before progressing to the plain bad), the senior second team played a weekend of matches at the Hazelmere youth club over 18 and 19 February.

The results are as follows:

Bucks II 0-10 Essex II

Bucks II 1-9 Sussex II

Bucks II 1-9 Hampshire I

Bucks II 3-7 Hampshire II

See, not too good, hence the concise nature of this report. The ladies -

Loretta Catlow and Raji Shanmuganathan on the Saturday, only Elizabeth Seymore on the Sunday - could not quite compete, and were all unsuccessful. The sets were won by Danny Baxter, Jake Yeates, Tom Yeates and Harry Yeates.

The defeats continued for Bucks when the junior second team played Kent 3rds at the Kingston T.T. centre on February 11. Two good wins each for Lawrence Fo and Andrew Baggaley were not enough, and Mark Cole, Gemma Kibby and Jane Dickens were sadly unable to muster a game between them as Bucks slumped to a 4-6 loss.

But they turned around against Berks II, Elizabeth Seymore, Andrew Baggaley, Fo and new boy Martin Rule winning 2 each, with Dickens out of luck, for an 8-2 win.

The senior first team played on the weekend of 18 and 19 February, and fared a touch better. After losing 4-6 to a strong Yorkshire side they fought back against Worcestershire to win 6-4.

The deciding game was won in "stunning fashion" by Harry Yeates 17, 15 over Trevor Washington, conqueror of Ian Musk in his earlier game, and the two points proved enough to fend off relegation for another season. On the Sunday Danny Baxter was drafted into the side to replace Harry, but the team had their hardest matches and lost

both, to Cambridgeshire and Warwickshire.

The veterans first team produced a good display against Essex 2nds, who lead the division, but couldn't prevent a 3-6 defeat. There were good wins for Geoff Giles and Mike Atkinson over Brian Adams, and they teamed up to take the doubles. But when Mike Rhodes lost 17 in the third to Derek Wood a defeat was inevitable. Muriel Hooker was unsuccessful in her games.

A mid-season revision of the ranking list has resulted in the following state of affairs on the Bucks veteran scene:

**Veteran Men**

1. Michael Rhodes 2. Frank Earis 3. Geoffrey Giles 4. Michael Atkinson 5. John Cooper 6. Graham Trimming 7. Kenneth Phillips 8. Steven Crow 9. David Wacknill 10. Brian Savage 11. Peter Leckie 12. Alan Catchpole 13. Michael Shave 14. David Swift

**Veteran Women**

1. Muriel Hooker 2. Jackie Thomas 3. Janice Curtis 4. Vivienne Vokes 5. Raji Shanmuganathan

The junior firsts ended their season with four matches over 25 and 26 February at the Kingston Centre. Four excellent victories (stemming the dire flow) of 10-0, 9-1, 7-3 and 6-4 from Jake Yeates, Steven Munson, Lawrence Fo, Andrew Baggaley, Wendy Barlow and Donna Tuohy could sadly not overtake Sussex, to whom we lost earlier in the season. So our final league position in second in 1b, missing out on promotion once again.

More locally, Milton Keynes has been represented strongly in the national cup matches. The men await a trip to Cambridge for their last sixteen encounter, while the boys played away to Leamington Spa in the Carter Cup winning 5-2. They now progress to the quarter final, when they face an agonising trip to Hull! The real drama, however, occurred in the Bromfield Trophy against Leicester. Elizabeth Seymore won her three matches convincingly, with Gemma Kibby losing all her three. In the ninth game, with the score 4-4, Donna Tuohy played the decider. She lost the first 12-21 but regained her composure to take the next 21-18. Unfortunately it was in vain, and she lost the third leg 20-22 giving Leicester the win.

City of Milton Keynes look assured of mid-table respectability in the Friendly Hotels British League division one south. An excellent match versus BSG Brentwood on February 26 resulted in a 4-4 draw. The highlight was man of the match John Burleton's rousing triumph over Ryan Savill at 19 in the third.

**CAMBS**

ANDY HUBBLE

**SENIORS PROMOTED**

Four fine performances have seen our seniors finish at the top in division 1A and therefore promoted to the Premier Division next season.

Cambs took on Lancashire 2, Worcestershire, Buckinghamshire and Northumberland over the weekend 18th/19th February 1995. On Saturday an 8-2 win against

Lancashire set the standard with Yvette Hooks unfortunate to lose both singles particularly against Paula French 21-19 in the third. Maximums all round for the rest of the team, Keith Richardson, Andy Withers, Mick Harper and Helen Newbound.

The afternoon match against Northumberland also finished 8-2 with Yvette and Andy dropping the points.

On Sunday Geoff Davis replaced Andy Withers for both matches, otherwise the side was unchanged.

In the morning a convincing 9-1 win against Warwickshire saw only two matches go to three ends. Geoff was the unlucky loser edged out 23-21 in the third end against Trevor Washington.

The final match against a strong Buckinghamshire side but a good performance resulted in a 6-4 win. Mike Harper completed an undefeated weekend as did Helen Newbound, who ended up with a 100% record in the division. Keith lost out 23-21 against John Burleton to give him seven out of eight wins and Geoff provided the other points.

The final analysis shows Cambs winning the division by one point over Yorkshire having only lost to Warwickshire early on. A very creditable performance and congratulations to all those who represented the county.

**ANNUAL CHAMPIONSHIPS**

Wisbech dominated the recent Cambs County Championships at junior level.

James Walton took the cadet boys singles beating J Pett 21-15, 21-15 while Helen Charlton beat Kelly Chapman in the cadet girls 21-19, 21-11.

The U17 doubles final was between James Walton/James Warren and Alan Bennett/Mathew Knott. Bennett/Knott took the title over three ends 14-21, 24-22, 21-14.

The U17 girls saw two Helens competing for the title. Helen Morris overcoming Helen Charlton 21-15, 21-19. The most surprising result came in the U17 boys singles where James Walton was odds on favourite, Matthew Knott, who has improved all through the season, having lost the first end and being down in the second, suddenly produced a sensational comeback to take the title 21-18 in the third end.

(A report on the senior event will follow next month)

*N.B Would team and league secretaries please note the deadline for the final Table Tennis News for this season is 1st April 1995, so please ensure reports are with me at least seven days before this date.*

**CUMBRIA**

GORDON BROWN

**CAUSED AN UPSET**

Barrow's Alan Turner caused an upset in the Cumbria Closed Championships at Millom Sports Centre when one of his victims in the

qualifying group he won was number two seed Mark Temple, of Carlisle.

But Turner, in turn, went out in the quarter-finals to junior Mike Walker, of Barrow, who lost his semi-final against fellow Barrow League star Andrew Pachul, of Millom.

Then, in the final, came Pachul's downfall when Barrow's top tournament star Kevin Hodgson won at 21-15 in the third. Hodgson's semi-final victim was Ian Reed, of Millom.

A noteworthy feat was by 11 year old Mark Allen in reaching the junior boys' semi-finals.

There was disappointment for men's doubles number one seeds Steve and Mark Temple. They had been hoping to take the new BNFL Shield in Memory of late Carlisle League chairman and county committee man Bev Glendinning, back to the city.

But their hopes were dashed by Barrow pair George Gibson and Jamie Harris after three closely fought games. The unseeded Gibson and Harris were bang on form, having eliminated number two seeds Andrew Pachul and Ian Reed (Millom) in the quarters.

Jade Kendall was the star of the event, getting her name on the women's singles and the under 14s singles trophies and taking the mixed doubles with Kevin Hodgson.

**RESULTS**

Men's singles: Kevin Hodgson (Barrow) beat Andrew Pachul (Millom) 21-18, 21-23, 21-15. Semi-Finals: Hodgson beat Ian Reed (Millom) 21-12, 24-22. Pachul beat Mike Walker (Barrow) 21-19, 22-20.

Women's singles: Jade Kendall (Barrow) with Catherine Corkhill (Barrow) runner-up on round robin. Veterans singles: Stan Halesworth (Barrow) beat Neil Honeyman (Barrow) 21-15, 22-20. Semi-Finals: Halesworth beat John Taylor (Barrow) 21-14, 21-13. Honeyman beat Colin Pratt (Barrow) 21-15, 10-21, 21-17.

Junior boys: Phil Kendall (Barrow) beat Mike Walker 21-19, 21-18. Under 14s: Jade Kendall (Barrow) beat Graham Foster (Barrow) 21-9, 20-22, 21-18.

Under 12s: Mike Gomersall (Barrow) won a round robin with Zekeil Dixon (Kendal) runner-up.

Junior girls: Catherine Corkhill won a round robin with Jade Kendall runner-up.

Junior doubles: Phil Clarkson and Mike Smith (Carlisle) beat Jade Kendall and Catherine Corkhill 21-23, 21-11, 21-16.

Men's doubles: George Gibson and Jamie Harris (Barrow) beat Steve and Mark Temple (Carlisle) 21-18, 16-21, 21-18.

Mixed doubles: Kevin Hodgson and Jade Kendall won round robin with Mike Walker and Catherine Corkhill runners-up.

Women's doubles (one entry): Jade Kendall and Catherine Corkhill trophies were presented by county vice-president Clarice Rose.

**DERBYSHIRE**

COLIN DEATON

**NOSEDIVE!**

The early season talk of Derbyshire winning the Premier Division this season if we could field a full strength side quickly took a nosedive.

After the final playoff weekend the sad news is that Derbyshire are to be relegated.

Without the services of Alan Cooke and Nicola Deaton due to unavailability and injury it proved that Derbyshire had not got adequate cover for these two international players.

Our girls particularly found the going tough and although they fought extremely hard their results were disappointing.

Derbyshire secretary Les Allwood immediate comment was "we will be back". I hope Les is right but in my opinion more effort has to be made to get the best team in the country to play and in a lower division I feel our leading players will be more reluctant to play.

However, the efforts for our leading young players goes on. Steven Shaw of Burton looks to be one of our big, bright hopes for Derbyshire seniors.

His dedication to our game is never in doubt but he needs to be more consistent.

If we could have the regular services of Bradley Billington and Nicola Deaton both these would be a tower of strength, but in view of their commitments a big question mark remains.

However, we have an array of promising young players such as David Purdy, Michael Islewood and Scott Habershon who would develop into regular premier Division players of tomorrow and this aspect alone makes the future interesting.

Burton supremo Terry Gadsby had to withdraw in the early new year from his post as National Councillor for Derbyshire.

Terry had a heart attack which has resulted in him temporarily curtailing some of his table tennis responsibilities.

Our County Association were quick to act on finding a replacement at the following Derbyshire meeting which resulted in the popular Sue Cooke being appointed to the role.

Sue plays regularly for Derbyshire and plays almost every week in the Chesterfield and district league and also helps to keep her husband Alan focused on the important events that lie ahead in his calendar. We all wish Sue the very best in this appointment and I am positive she will be a good ambassador for Derbyshire table tennis.

Terry Gadsby's illness has tested the resources and organisation of the Uxbridge Club. The existing committee have kept things going with particular thanks to his wife Maureen.

The Clubs runs 16 teams in total with 6 junior, 8 senior teams, one in the Derby league and two in the British league.

Uxbridge have established themselves in the British league but their ambition is to progress to premier league standard.

Terry Gadsby would like to thank all the people who sent gifts, cards and get well messages during his illness.

Finally, the Derby and district league are intending to run next season six division of eight teams instead of four divisions of twelve teams.

This new set up will be up for discussion at the Derby and district league's AGM.

## DURHAM

KEITH WILSON

### THE WAY FORWARD

A meeting held at the RAFA club in Durham produced a joint commitment to future of the sport within the county boundaries. A new Development Committee was formed and will hopefully produce the way forward for implementation at the County AGM before next season. Led by County Chairman Sam Raistrick, the committee includes representatives of all leagues and will hopefully produce the beginning of a strategy that will unearth the players of tomorrow.

Sedgefield already have a growing number of talented youngsters coming through their coaching scheme. 13 year old Michael Marsden is one very good example having won the Northern Region Cadet trials, beaten many higher ranked opponents in various Open tournaments, and been considered good enough to force his way into Sedgefield's British League squad. Along with his other club mates from the Newton Aycliffe Advanced Training Centre, he produced some excellent performances in the 2nd staging of the Sedgefield Junior 2 Star on February 18/19th.

Paired with David Skeen, the Cadet Doubles came their way without the loss of a single set. 12 year old Richard Johnson produced enough, via four wins over ranked players, to see his name join others on the England list. The tournament once again featured a large Scottish contingent which strengthens the relationship between Sedgefield and Scotland which has seen several of their top players travelling to play in the Friendly Hotels British League.

The Durham County Closed Championships will also be held at Newton Aycliffe on Sunday 30th April. Entry forms are now out and gives the framework for a great event - provided the players give their support (which hasn't always been the case).

Finally, congratulations to Sedgefield British League players Keith Rodger and Mark Simon. Mark has been selected for the Welsh team for the Commonwealth and World Championships while Keith has just learned that he will join Mark in Beijing for the Worlds as part of the Scottish side. After an absence of nine years from the international scene, it is a tribute to Keith's dedication that he

can return at the age of 34. His work with the Sedgefield juniors gives them the insight into what makes a top player and all concerned with Sedgefield wish Keith and Mark every success.

## ESSEX

STEVE KERNS

### SECOND BEST COUNTY SENIOR TEAMS:

Despite scoring 16 points out of 18 the second team had to give second best to Herts I in division 2C. The all-important game against Herts I was lost 2-8, an agonising affair where three games were lost at 19 in the third or closer. Ian Attridge lost -19 in the third to Keith Samuels and -24 in the third to John Taylor, a match which brought that hall to a standstill, whilst Steve Rand just missed out 20, -21, -21 to Samuels. Despite the obvious disappointment of this defeat the team showed firm resolve and commitment to beat Lincs 7-3 and Kent III 10-0 to guarantee the runners-up spot. The records of all players in this team were exceptional: Clive Carthy 16/18, Steve Rand 15/18, Ian Attridge 16/18, 50 Man 14/18, Julie Askem 9/11 and Nikki Kemard 3/6.

Top player for the third team was Jamie Wickens who over the two weekends of competition scored eight wins out of ten. The team lost 2-8 to an inspired Sussex II, beat Hampshire II 7-3, scored an even better 7-3 win over Hampshire I and lost 3-7 to a strong Kent II team.

### ROMFORD CLOSED

Ian Attridge and So Man retained their Men's and Ladies titles at the LESSA Club in Rainham, and both players added to their successes with Ian taking the Men's Doubles with beaten Men's Singles finalist Don McGilvray and the Mixed title with So Man. So was also successful in the Ladies Doubles partnered by Jackie Fenn. Ian having travelled to the Finals Night straight from a National League match had looked out-of-sorts in his semi-final against Terry Guymer losing 7-21 in the first end, but put this behind him to take the second 21-11, and at 15-15 in the third he hit a purple patch to seal victory 21-16. In the final Essex Veteran first-teamer McGilvray must have sensed victory with 10-6 lead in the third end but it was the irrepressible Attridge who fired home a succession of booming winners for a 21-15 victory. Terry Guymer also impressed with a semi-final win over McGilvray in the Veterans Singles and an empathic win over Fiezal Mauthoor in the final.

Results were as follows:

**Ladies Singles:** So Man beat Carol Nelson 14,9.

**Men's Doubles:** Ian Attridge/Don McGilvray beat Terry Guymer/Chris Herbert -14,14,10.

**Ladies Doubles:** So Man/Jackie Fenn beat Carol Nelson/Janet Langford 20-14,16.

**Veterans Singles:** Terry Guymer beat

Fiezal Mauthoor 6,11.

**Restricted Singles:** Chris Herbert beat Ian Davison 12,17.

**Minor Restricted Singles:** Ian Davison beat Ian Barlow 18, 18.

## CHELMSFORD CLOSED

It was seventeen-year old Steve Joslin who hit the headlines at the Chelmsford Closed with a thrilling -19,22,23 semi-final win over David Cole and a comfortable 14,11 success in the final against Terry Dowsett to become the first Junior to win the Men's Singles since David Newman twenty years ago. Shelly Ruocco retained her Ladies Singles and Mixed Doubles titles and added the Ladies Doubles to her collection. Full results were as follows:

**Ladies Singles:** Shelley Ruocco beat Sarah Davison 15,10.

**U21s Singles:** Reagan Nettleingham beat Shelley Ruocco 16,9.

**Veterans O40s Singles:** Derek Wood beat Gordon Donegan 13,10.

**Veterans O40s Singles:** Ev Lucas beat Ken James 14,12.

**Mixed Doubles:** Rik James/Shelley Ruocco beat David Cole/Sarah Davison 17,-15,10.

**Men's Doubles:** Nick Mills/Steve Kerns beat Steve Joslin/Paul Davison 13,-20,13.

**Ladies Doubles:** Shelley Ruocco/Sarah Davison beat Karen Mason/Catherine Woodcock 13,5.

**Junior Boys Singles:** Reagan Nettleingham beat Steve Joslin 16,20.

**Junior Girls Singles (Round Robin):** Winner Karen Mason, Runner-Up Catherine Woodcock.

**Junior Doubles:** Reagan Nettleingham/Karen Mason beat Sarah Davison/Shelley Ruocco.

**U15s Singles:** Paul Lucas beat Gary Bignall 18,13.

**U13s Singles:** Paul Woodcock beat Natalie Bowden -19,20,21.

**2-Down Restricted Singles:** Nigel Lamb beat Stuart Walsh 17,-16,17.

**4-Down Restricted Singles:** Nigel Lamb beat Karen Mason 16,20.

**6-Down Restricted Singles:** Gary Bignall beat Keith Woodcock -16,20,18.

## GLOUCESTERSHIRE

ALF PEPPERD

### SUCCESSFUL

One of the most successful Under 17's and Under 14's Tournaments took place recently at St Benedicts School, Arle Road in Cheltenham.

There were 54 entries from all over Gloucestershire, consisting of both Boys and Girls entrants, played on eight tables and commencing at 10am on Sunday the 12th of February, play continuing non-stop until the Finals were concluded around 3.15pm.

Much of the success of this tournament must be attributed to the chief Organiser Mr Peter Cruwys, who in direct conjunction with Mandy Himer (the County's Youth Development Officer), approached ALL the secondary schools in the county, well prior to the date of the actual Tournament, and the response was astounding.

The support and attention from

accompanying parents was superb, and even the Counties No1 Under 17 Girls Player, Miss Ann Humble (not eligible to play), was to be seen both umpiring and helping in general.

The entire Tournament was well refereed by Mrs Gill Smith of Cheltenham, and the medals and trophies were presented by Mr Jack Reeves the County President and Mr Leslie Smith the County Chairman. The finals of all events are listed below:

**Boys U12 Singles:** Mike Dowsett beat Russell Dowsett (both Chelt), 21-11, 21-13.

**Girls U12 Singles:** Group of three finals in which Tiffany Hopton (Chelt), emerged as winner.

**Boys U14 Singles:** Chris Roberts (Chelt) beat Matthew Brooke-Smith (Stroud), 21-11, 21-15.

**Girls U14 Singles:** Group of three final in which Suzy Robinson (Stroud), became the winner.

**Under 14 Doubles:** Chris Roberts (Chelt) and Suzy Robinson (Stroud), beat Mark Polson of Cirencester and Jonathan Broad (Chelt), 21-13, 21-15.

By the time this gets into print in April's Table Tennis News Cirencester will be looking forward to the opening of the Deepark School project, an event which should be the largest table tennis League, the total project is likely to be well in excess of £300,000 with the biggest part of the funding provided by the School itself.

The foundation for sport and the arts through the ETTA is providing £60,000, the Sports Council in the South West Region, £55,000 and I understand that further contributions are being provided by the Cotswold District Council and the Cirencester League.

When finally completed, the playing hall should accommodate nine tables for match play and the project includes both changing rooms and social facilities.

The target date for opening I understand is scheduled for May of this year and should be available for at least four evenings per week, plus of course the weekend.

Bob Davis, the Cirencester League Development Officer, has been in charge of events since the very beginning.

He has been greatly helped by Ken Minchul, the deputy head of Deepark School who has provided the impetus from the School's point of view.

Many Cirencester League players have contributed much time and effort to the project in the form of running raffles and various other money making ideas.

Their combined work has helped pave the way for a future Centre of Excellence, something of which all table tennis supporters in Gloucestershire, have never had before, and this should benefit us all enormously.

And finally, taking a long term table tennis view of the future, many of us in Gloucestershire see Cirencester's venue at Deepark School, as a Mecca for table tennis.

## HAMPSHIRE

by BRIAN LAMERTON

### NOT HAPPY PEOPLE

When Hampshire's senior team set off for a 4 match weekend at High Wycombe in late February their administrators were not happy people; leading their division at that stage they found themselves without 80% of their recognised No.1 squad. And yet returned, subject to a decision on Oxfordshire who did not appear, divisional winners - by 1 set from Kent 2 who they had defeated 6-4 earlier in the season. So, with 2 wins and but 1 defeat step forward Mark Werner, Graham Pointer, Tony Reynolds, Julie Norman and Lorna Dutch.

The return of the veterans to the premier division, as briefly noted in February magazine, lasted but one season but they determined that now they know what it is all about they will re-group and return at the first available opportunity. Chris Wilshire in his first season has shown an affinity for the veteran game as also shown by his winning of the Southampton veteran title at the first attempt after defeating the holder Chris Shelter. When these two met in the Men's final however the roles were reversed leaving Wiltshire still looking for the title that has now left him as runner-up for the fourth successive season. Irish University student Deborah Phillips is the new Ladies champion and 14 year old Alister Turner the junior. Without distracting from Alister's achievement (his final with Simon Geddes was high quality) his path was made a little easier by the unfortunate clash with the Regional schools team finals which took Mark Wilshire, Stephen Wilshire, Chris Butt and Tom Mellors off to Bristol. But congratulations to these 4 lads who representing Wildern school won their way through to the National finals.

My earlier comments about the few who produce newsletters stuck home and I have now received a copy of Aldershot's excellent 2nd 32 page magazine and a promise (!) of a copy of Portsmouth's news sheet. Aldershot's effort includes an interesting and amusing (if it were not so serious) account from 63 years old Brian Smith who describes the facilities used by his 9 clubs up and down the county, starting with a room at the end of Southsea pier. If we are to encourage newcomers, and keep the new juniors which we are bringing on, we MUST do something about the places in which we play - AND BE PREPARED TO PAY FOR IT. On that note I rest my case for another month.

## HERTS

by JOHN WOOD

### HEMEL HEMPSTEAD ARE SENIOR CHAMPS

Winners of this year's Hertfordshire Senior Inter-League Tournament are

Hemel Hempstead, who forced mighty Barnets into second place, when they completed the second weekend at the Barnet Table Tennis Centre on Sunday 19th February 1995.

The triumphant trio from Hemel Hempstead were Glen Wilkes, Gary Keers and Emma Hurling, with Hurling finishing the tournament undefeated as was second placed Barnets' John Taylor.

The crunch match of the championships was between Hemel Hempstead and Barnets 1st team on the first weekend.

Hemel took the opening game when Gary Keers beat Watford's Justin



Herts Women's Singles Champion Emma Hurling.

Skinner 12-21, 21-19, 21-16, but Watford levelled it to 1-1, when John Taylor chopped Glen Wilkes off the table 21-19, 21-7.

Keers and Emma Hurling put Hemel back in front winning the first mixed doubles 17-21, 21-11, 21-17.

But that super defender Taylor pulled it level at 2-2 when he frustrated Hemel's Keers 21-18, 21-8.

The next mixed doubles saw Wilkes and Hurling put Hemel back in the lead, when they powered Taylor and Lisa Cohen to defeat 21-19, 21-17.

Then all action Wilkes decided the match beating Skinner 21-12, 21-6 in an all topspin battle putting Hemel into a 4-2 lead.

Hurling won the battle of the ladies, beating Watford's Cohen 21-17, 21-10, to complete a convincing 5-2 victory for Hemel Hempstead.

North Herts finished in third place, whilst Cheshunt came fourth. Hemel Hempstead's Emma Hurling whose 100% effort helped her league win this title, herself won the County Women's Singles title recently, and added another honour to her list when she was voted player of the Division Three South of the Friendly Hotels British League, at the halfway stage, playing for Adeyfield in Hemel Hempstead.

#### HERTFORDSHIRE SENIOR INTER-LEAGUE 1994/95

	P	W	L	F	APTS
HEMEL HEMPSTEAD	6	6	0	35	7 6
BARNETS 1st	6	5	1	29	13 5
NORTH HERTS	6	4	2	22	20 4
CHESHUNT	6	3	3	19	23 3
BARNETS 3rd	6	2	4	14	28 2
BARNETS 2nd	6	1	5	14	28 1
WATFORD	6	0	6	14	28 0

#### CHAMPION CLUB

Sunday 7th May will see the Champion Club event at Barnet, an event which involves all the division winners from all of the county's leagues.

## ISLE OF WIGHT

by JOHN PREAN

### LED BY EXAMPLE

Our men's team won the second division of the Hampshire Inter-Town League and so gained promotion. Roger Hookey, as so often before, led by example and went through the four matches undefeated. He had staunch support from Mike Turner who only lost a couple and Nic Hutchings who also had a positive balance. Mike has turned out more and more to defend, though he has a lethal left-handed forehand and very good backhand block. So far the experiment has been quite successful. Nic will be at university next season and table tennis will drift more and more into the background.

Congratulations to Lucy Pointer who won the Exeter 1 Star Under 11. I noted some famous names on the trophy she proudly showed me and I have high hopes that she will go a long way. May this first 'international' title be one of many. She certainly has an excellent attitude for one so young and a splendid supporting father, which is indispensable in these days of high costs of competing nationally and, of course in terms of moral and financial support. Lucy is disappointed that she has not made the national U-12 ranking list. It seems to be very hard to get on it in the first place. After that other minefields await the lucky ones.

Danny Burns (15) has been the most improved players and has hardly lost a match in our first division. 8 wins out of 10 in Hampshire's second junior county team have added to his growing reputation, though he has done less well in the Southern Region League, where his veteran opponents combination bats present different challenges.

Both, Danny and Lucy, attend our "excellence" sessions at the Westridge Leisure Centre and it is good to relate that all players who attend regularly are having strong seasons. Those who attended less regularly have not made the same progress and in some cases have gone back.

Our new centre is progressing fast. The roof is up and it should be plain sailing from now on. It is one of the many developments all over the country which will push the sport forward and all involved within the ETTA deserve the warmest of praise for their vision and hard work. I feel the second part of the success equation remain Television and getting the sport on the box perhaps the main priority. To quote Mr Samaranch: "Only sports which are constantly covered by TV may exist in the world. Sport which cannot get their place on TV only live with difficulty."

Our overseas player, Carl Preat, yet again defeated the then English No.1 Chen Xinhua in the German Bundesliga, making the tally 11-2 in his favour. To avoid further "Dear John" letters let me say that I record such results in the way I list other feats by Isle of Wight players. It is not

only my intention to suggest that player 'A' is better or worse than player 'B'. There is of course, a certain irony that results from the "best league in the world", the German Bundesliga, count for zero in our rankings, whilst the very minor English events can bring an excellent batch of ranking points. So, unfortunately, may not competing at all. Dennis Neale tells me he has just moved from No.5 on the Veterans' list, without playing a ball, to his new spot of No.3. It is getting about that NOT playing is a good idea and selective dodging of uncomfortable opponents and events is the way to the very top. It is not helpful to local coaches, who try to encourage their young players to go to 'mainland' tournaments, to be told "last time when I went I came back with fewer points that I had when I started" or "When I did NOT play, I ended up with higher ranking".

I have felt uncomfortable with the English ranking system for some years and regarded the dramatic changes a few years ago as a bad idea. Little did I realise what devastating spin offs were being set in motion, how players were being encouraged NOT to play and to have bad attitudes.

The most unlovely by-product of all is the apparent paralysis of the leadership and officialdom, the inability to move against something which is clearly wrong and bad for the game. These notes were written to early to cover the National Championships but large scale defections are rumoured, including a famous name. Q.E.D.

## KENT

by ADRIAN HALL

### DB CONSTRUCTION INTERNATIONAL TEAM EVENT

Ukraine Boys and Girls Teams won the DB Construction International Event at the Black Lion Sports Centre on Friday 17th February 1995. Fifteen teams from eight countries accepted the challenge of the Kent Association and Kent's Boys and Girls teams had excellent results finishing 6th, ahead of many national teams. Kent Boys I, Christian Thompson and Scott Friday (both Medway) beat Scotland 3-0 and then lost to the eventual winners, Ukraine, 0-3 but what close matches they were, with Rubalachenko beating Friday 21-19, 22-20 and Matvejchik beating Thompson 21-16, 22-20. In the play off for places 5-8 Kent beat Luxembourg 3-1 and then went down to Ukraine II, 0-3, for a brilliant 6th place. Kent Girls Angie Bristow (T.Wells) and Crystal Hall (Maidstone) beat Wales I, 3-0 and then lost to a strong Danish side 0-3 that had beaten England II in the previous round by the same score. The Girls then beat Ireland II, 3-2, before losing to the Irish 1st team 0-3 to gain 6th place. Kent II, Boys Scott Dawtry (Folkestone) and Paul Smith (Ashford) beat Wales II and Scotland to finish in 11th place and Kent II Girls, Cally Howes (T.Wells) and Amanda Bateman (Ashford) finished 14th.

## Thake Transport Kent Junior Open

285 players from 9 countries made this probably the largest ever junior tournament staged in this country, and England players stood up well to the challenge. England's Gareth Herbert won the Cadet Boys event on the Saturday, with Terry Young winning the Junior Boys Singles on the Sunday beating the Dane Robert Hartburg 21-19, 21-17 in a hard hitting final.

Glenda Ashison and Shelley Ruocco rounded off a good weekend for the English players when they contested an all England final with Ashison winning 21-14, 21-11.

A full report on both the above events appear elsewhere in the Magazine.

## CHRISTIAN, SCOTT & CRYSTAL ON RADIO & TV

We were able to get significant Radio and TV coverage over the International weekend, as well as splendid press coverage before and after the event. England team manager Don Parker and Christian Thompson went into Radio Kent studio's for an eight minute preview and challenge match with Scott Friday and the Radio Kent reporter. Meridian TV did a professional preview of the event including interviews and playing clips of Scott Friday, Crystal Hall, Denmark's Nellie Marx and Belgium's Kevin Visser.

## A BIG THANK YOU TO OUR MAIN SPONSORS

It would be amiss of the Kent Association not to give a special mention to our two main sponsors for the Junior International weekend. Without the financial backing and the support given to the Association from Mr Bob Lucy of D B Construction, and Mr Tony Thake of Thake Transport the whole weekend would not have been possible. Our main sponsors were well supported by Gillingham Borough Council, who as part of SPORTEX 95 made significant contributions towards the cost of the venue and supplied memorabilia for the International team event. Kent Sports Development Unit also made valuable contributions. Thank you to County Chairman Mr Reg Thompson who put many hours into making the whole event happen, well done Reg.

## KENT SCHOOLS INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

The Kent Schools Individual Championships were held at Walderslade School during half term week in February 1995.

### U11 Boys

Wesley Cheeseman (St Mathews, TWells) beat Dominic Hall (Leybourne C of E, Maidstone)

### U11 Girls

Gemma Alcorn (Northborough,

Maidstone) beat Caroline Wood (Northborough)

### U13 Boys

Scott Friday (Rainham Mark Grammar) beat Justin Dodd (Gravesend Grammar)

### U13 Girls

Hannah Frarey (Invicta Grammar, Maidstone) beat Nicky Taylor (Invicta Grammar)

### U16 Boys

Antony Lickfold (Maidstone Boys Grammar) beat Alistair McTavish (Sevenoaks School)

### U16 Girls

Angie Bristow (Bennett Memorial, T.Wells) beat Rachel Woollven (Invicta Grammar)

### U19 Boys

Trevor Griffiths (Harvey Grammar, Folkestone) beat Colin Quin (Harvey Grammar)

### U19 Girls

Allison Smith (Maidstone Girls Grammar) beat Crystal Hall (Maidstone Girls Grammar)

## COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS REPORTS

Kent's 1st Senior team played four matches over the weekend 4th/5th February 1995, winning two, drawing one and losing one, to finish third in division 1B of the Senior County Championships.

### KENT 7 - AVON 3

KENT - Joe Kennedy (1), Justin Goodall (1), Ian Girdler (2), Juliet Houghton (2), Helen Garlick (1) AVON - Andy Creed (2), Gary Baldwin (0), Mark Butler (0), Michelle Cohen (1), Carey Webb (0)

### DEVON II 6 - KENT 4

KENT - Joe Kennedy (2), Justin Goodall (1), Ian Girdler (1), Helen Garlick (0), Carly Riggs (0) DEVON - Gary Lamberts (1), Steve Giles (1), Kevin Ruddell (0), Helen Wright (2), Jane Swaby (2)

### KENT 5 - SURREY I 5

KENT - Andy Cunningham (1), Joe Kennedy (1), Ian Girdler (0), Julie Houghton (2), Helen Garlick (1) SURREY - Ewan Walker (2), Mike Hammond (1), Darren Blake (1), Jane Barella (10), Carmen Vidji (0)

### KENT 8 - SURREY II 2

KENT - Andy Cunningham (2), Joe Kennedy (1), Ian Girdler (1), Julie Houghton (2), Helen Garlick (2) SURREY - Paul Carter (0), Simon Philips (0), Martin Lowe (2), Maria Woodward (0), Michelle Hams (0)

Kent Senior 2nds finished their County Championships division 2D campaign unbeaten and were pipped to the title on games average, missing out by one game. Their final three matches were against

Buckinghamshire II, Hertfordshire II and Essex III, the results are below, bad luck team!

### BUCKS II 0 - KENT II 10

KENT - Spencer Thompson (2), Phil Saxby (2), Chris Knight (1), Carly Riggs (2), Kristina Brocklebank (2) BUCKS - Danny Baxter (0), Jake Yeates (0), Tom Yeates (0), Loretta Carlton (0), Raji Shanmuganathan (0)

### KENT II 6 - HERTFORDSHIRE II 4

KENT - Spencer Thompson (1), Phil Saxby (2), Chris Knight (1), Carly

Riggs (0) Kristina Brocklebank (2) HERTS - Ian Black (0), Craig Mellowed (1), Chris Marlow (1), Caroline Seaholme (1), Janine Laing (1)

### ESSEX III 3 - KENT II 7

KENT - Spencer Thompson (1), Phil Saxby (2), Chris Knight (1), Carly Riggs (2), Kristina Brocklebank (1) ESSEX - Jason Tendler (0), David Cole (2), Gary Tendler (0), Nikki Kennard (1), Jenny Harrison (0)

Kent Junior 3rd team had two matches in February beating Bucks and Middlesex in division 2D of the Junior County Championship.

### BUCKS II 4 - KENT III 6

KENT - Ashley Streets (0), Anthony Lickfold (1), Justin Dodd (1), Cally Howes (2), Amanda Bateman (2) CARTER CUP ZONE FINAL FOLKESTONE 5 - BRIGHTON 4 Folkestone succeeded where Maidstone had failed in the previous round beating Brighton 5-4 in the zone final of the Carter Cup (U17 Boys Team Event) and now meet the winners of Chelmsford and Ipswich in the last eight with home advantage. Scott Dawtry and Paul Smith with two wins each were the backbone of the win but Trevor Griffiths win over Mark Forster after being 16-19 down in the third was the crucial win. Kevin Doyle was unbeaten for Brighton.

## BRIBAR Kent Junior League

Eighty teams from all over Kent have now finished their zone league matches in the Brabar Junior Development League and in the process the five divisional winners from each of the four zones won themselves matching Table Tennis Shirt and Shorts to go with the winners trophy. The divisional winners of each zone go to the Angle Centre, Tunbridge Wells, on March 25th 1995 for the final play offs against the other zone winners, with the winning team in each division being presented with a tracksuit.

### OBITUARY

#### EXTRACT FROM MARCH'S KENT NEWS LETTER

Sittingbourne C 6 - Medway D 4 George Gurr won his three for Medway who also played Eve Gurr and Glen Honeyman. This match was played 22.1.95 and I have the sad duty to report that Glen Honeyman sadly died on the morning of the 26.1.95. The deepest sympathy of the Kent Association go to his family and friends.

### OBITUARY

#### RAYNER SHARP - PRESIDENT

Suddenly on November 29th at his second home in Cape Town, Rayner Sharp, president of the Maidstone & District Table Tennis Association died aged 77 years.

Rayner took his presidency seriously returning from his winter home in South Africa to present the prizes at finals night in February year after year. A respectable local businessman (many will have eaten his toffees) he will be sadly missed by his friends from the local league and our condolences go to his wife Joan, son and daughter.

## LANCASHIRE

STAN CLARKE

## EXTREMES OF FORTUNE

May I first offer my apologies to all the Lancastrians who have waited in vain to see a set a Lancashire notes, I can only plead pressure of work.

The various County representative teams have experienced extremes of fortune, the two senior teams are suffering an appalling season and are both in grave danger of relegation. The senior first team are currently bottom of the Premier division with only a single point from three matches, hardly a surprise when you consider that in this series of matches it was necessary to field a team of reserves. On paper the County should be challenging for the Championship but with Sean Gibson injured, Jonathon Taylor playing in Sweden, Andrew Eden and Andrea Holt unavailable and Maria Thornley playing in Belgium, it was left to Darren Howarth, Graham Clarke, Paul Hutchings, Paula French, Brenda Bucoy and Sylvia Graham to face the might of the Premier Division. Not surprisingly they suffered two defeats and a draw and it will require a super human effort if we are to maintain a place in the Premier Division.

The knock on effect of playing reserves in the first team has resulted in a weakened second team though their plight is not quite so severe as the first team, but they will need to win at least two more matches to be sure of avoiding the drop into the second division next season and that is a very tall order. The story of the two veterans teams in very much different. The vets first team of Nigel Eckersley, Phil Bowen, Dave Newton and Sylvia Graham failed to win the Premier division championship by just one game, finishing level on points and sets, it required a count back of the games won and lost to decide the winners.

The Veterans second team of Derek Watnough, Barry Cook, Brian Clements and Mabel Neary are currently unbeaten with three wins from three matches. The report of the two junior teams will appear in the next set of notes. The Lancashire and Cheshire league is at the half way stage with four senior men's divisions, two women's divisions, three junior divisions and six veterans divisions. The men's first division is currently showing a three way tie for first place between Warrington, Preston and Liverpool, all with six points but with Liverpool having played one game less. Relegation places seem to be between Burnley, Barrow and Stockport.

Manchester are currently leading the Ladies first division but I feel that Warrington may offer a stern challenge before the season is finished.

Wirral are undefeated leaders of the junior first division, whilst Stockport and Liverpool seem to be the teams most likely to be fighting for the veterans first division championships.

It was with great pleasure that I heard of the award of the M.B.E to Geoff Aspinall for his services to Table Tennis and the community of Oldham. Geoff is an expatriot Merseysider who moved to Oldham some years ago, quite literally to help educate the children of the East Lancashire area. Spider, as he is affectionately known, served the Oldham League as secretary for many years. I first met Geoff when his son Phillip played as a junior for Lancashire and then had the pleasure of acting as referee to the Oldham National League team during the period when Geoff was team manger and I found him to be a committed and extremely efficient organiser, but perhaps more importantly, a thoroughly nice man whom I consider it a pleasure to have worked with and a privilege to call a friend. I am sure that anybody who has had contact with Geoff will endorse these feelings and add their congratulations to Geoff on his well deserved award.

## NORTHANTS

by DENNIS MILLMAN

### MAJOR HONOURS

A flurry of activity on the county championships scene has produced some favourable results for Northants sides, although only the Veteran Firsts are still in with a chance of major honours.

Their visit to Solihull produced a seven two win over Warwickshire Seconds with Margaret Maltby and Keith Jones unbeaten in both singles and doubles, while at the same venue, the Veteran Seconds accounted for Warwickshire Thirds, with Gordon Shaw, Brian D'Hooghe and Brian Dangerfield taking all the men's singles for a six three success.

As the Juniors drew both their matches with Bedfordshire and Oxfordshire, Jenna Ashberry marked her debut with three wins out of four, a tally equalled by Joe Trippett, as the younger part of the county set-up continues to prosper.

The Seniors have already ended their season with a win against Kent Thirds, and drawn fixtures with Bedfordshire and Lincolnshire, with both skipper Ryan Keates and Kieron Dabbs winning five games out of six.

In the St. Neots Invitation League an ascendancy enjoyed for many years has now totally disappeared and matches between the respective Northants sides now provide the major interest. When Kettering met Northampton in the senior section, Ryan Keates was unable to transfer his county form to a more parochial encounter, and a fine hat-trick from Ian Hawes, plus two successes for Ian Slater, and one from Steve West proved too much for their opponents, for whom Steve Silk (2) and Phil Snelling contributed.

At junior level, Kettering marginally got the better of Wellingborough, thanks to an Andy Thomas treble and solitary successes from Lee Bunker and Stephen Woolston, neither of whom could beat Daniel Vertigan or

Ruth Huddle.

In the Wellingborough League, Higham Band A, who had won well over a hundred successive matches since an amalgamation with the previous champions Well Connected, still remain unbowed and lead the Premier Division by ten points from Westfield A, with a game in hand, and look likely to take a sixth successive title.

However, with their resources spread too thin on the ground, an identical reign in the Kettering League looks likely to end, for at the present time Higham trail Team Electric A by twenty seven points, with two games in hand, but with the two sides still to meet. Nevertheless Ian Hawes, Julian Marshall and Steve West should give Team Electric a first Premier title, with Hawes and Marshall still enjoying 100% records, and Hawes still No. 1 on the Queensbury Scimitar NCTTA Ranking List.

Higham still retain an interest in two of Kettering's three cup competitions, the Shirley Everard Points Cup and the Borough Trophy, which they have won for the past two seasons. Now the only team to be involved in all three is Wellingborough Town A, with Dave Smith, James Findlay and Tony Wallis all at the top of their form.

Higham's Richard Elliott is currently making the most impact on the leading rankings for having taken the Wellingborough Men's Singles in January, his February achievement was to add the corresponding Northampton event.

The final turned out to be a real David versus Goliath affair, with Richard, at well over six feet in direct opposition to the diminutive eleven year old Andrew Baggeley. Andrew, who had earlier accounted for Phil Snelling and Steve Silk, just failed to re-enact the biblical comparison, but as No. 1 Under Twelve and No. 5 Cadet, he will no doubt be hitting future headlines. Meanwhile with both at the Kettering, and the Queensbury Scimitar County Closed taking place at the Kettering Leisure Village during March, the new Northampton champion will have an opportunity of completing the grand slam.

Returning to a Northampton Tournament, depleted to some extent by a plethora of table tennis alternatives, Richard Elliott added the Men's Doubles in partnership with Mark Adams, but just failed to capture the traditional threesome, when he and the enthusiastic and successful Clem Little went down in the mixed to Gary Webb and Sarah Cressey.

Congratulations are also due to Maxine Shears and Cath Walsh who between them gained three titles at the Great Britain Post Office Championships in Bristol. Maxine, who represents Chesterwell club, beat the defending champion to take the women's singles, and then teamed up with Cath Walsh to add the doubles, while Mrs Walsh completed the tally with a win in the plate.

## NORTHUMBERLAND

by PAULINE LONG

### FINE PERFORMANCE

The Northumberland County veterans' team of Ian Robertson, Bob Dodds, John Williamson and Pauline Long produced a fine performance in the second series of the Division 1A play-offs at Vymura, Hyde, during the weekend of February 4/5th. They beat Worcs. 5-4 after being 2-4 down at one stage, lost to Lincs. 3-6, but beat a weakened Cheshire II team 6-3 to finish the season safe in fifth place with three wins and four defeats.

'Benny' won four out of six singles, losing to Lincs. Brian Hill and having to concede his last singles to Cheshire's Dave Roberts owing to a shoulder injury, but he and Pauline were undefeatable in their three mixed doubles, with their final total over the two weekends being six wins and only one defeat. Bob won one singles against Worcs. and was undefeatable in singles and doubles against Cheshire II, while John played his part by winning one singles in each match and combined with Bob for a men's doubles victory in the Cheshire game.

Two weeks later, on February 18/19th, the senior team of 'Benny', Eddie Smith, Andrew Wilkinson, Caron Guthrie and Karen Newby travelled to Milton Keynes for their Div. 1A play-offs, and also retained their place in that Division by beating Warwickshire 7-3, losing to Cambridgeshire and Suffolk 2-8 and 4-6 respectively, and drawing with Lincs. II 5-5. Their final record was two wins, two draws and three defeats.

The Wilmott Cup team of 'Benny', Eddie Smith and Andrew won their Zone Final against the Bradford League 5-2, with Eddie remaining unbeaten and the others taking one apiece. The Rose Bowl team of Caron, Karen and Joanne Donnelly, however, went out of their competition when they lost 1-6 away to Leeds.

In the veterans' Brook Trophy team competition, Fred Woodhouse was given his debut against the Harrogate League, but unfortunately unable to make an impression in a narrow 4-5 defeat. 'Benny' was undefeated in his match and John Williamson won the other set.

## SOMERSET

by ANDY SEWARD

### MOVE OVER 'ROVER'!

It has been noted that the chief washer-upper failed to deliver a report for last month's TTN. The fact that, as usual, not one piece of information was forthcoming from the four leagues within the County, was no excuse. He has been banished to the dog house until a report has been compiled. Move over 'Rover'!

The Seniors continue to be the most successful County team we have in Somerset. In the double fixture against Wiltshire 1 and 2, Phil Payne

and his team recorded an honourable 5-all draw and an 8-2 win. Four out of four for captain Phil, including a crucial win over big Eddie 19 in the third. Three wins for Tina Sadler including victory over Brenda Lee, two wins each for Rob Millard, Steve Palmer and Christine Cowell.

Gloucestershire surprisingly lost to Devon 3 but remain favourites to win the Division. However, both Somerset and Wiltshire are waiting for any further slip-ups.

Somerset Vets 1 travelled to Kent 2 and only a brace of wins by the redoubtable Brian Reeves prevented a whitewash. A win against Surrey 2 was now vital for their survival in Div 1. Battle commenced last Saturday at midday, the sun high ... behind dark clouds. News on the results next month.

Somerset Vets 2 returned to their usual losing ways. Disappointing is the only word to describe the 4-5 loss to Devon 4 in early February. More predictable was the defeat 1-8 by Herts 5 at Frome Cricket Club, especially as George Philpott was unavailable. No details yet from the event other than the International Umpire challenge match was won by George Tyler over the chief washer upper in a long exhausting encounter. It nearly went to expedite. If it had, which of the participates would have been the stroke counter? Note to the County Administrator - please set up a Division 4 next season, it might just be our level.

Report completed and time to leave the company of 'Rover' and return to sanity of the world, advising the Corsley Heath Table Tennis Club, for example, how to apply to obtain a net measure. Sanity? 'Rover', move over.

## SUSSEX

by JOHN WOODFORD

### CHANGE OF DATE

A search lasting until now from last September has finally succeeded in finding a date and a venue for the all-Sussex senior championships. The final change of date has landed on Saturday, May 6 and the venue will be the Newman School, Hove.

Brother and sister Adrian and Teresa Moore are both expected to defend their titles, but recent stunning form from Ritchie Venner (who won the Dulwich Open recently dumping both the top men from Kent Andy Cunningham and Joe Kennedy in the final and semi-final respectively) suggests that he may have a golden chance of stopping the long run of successes by Adrian Moore, whose studies have been completed - he is a fully-fledged physiotherapist, happily married to Claire Moore, the South East RDO.

The list of a newly-qualified physio is of course, still a busy one - Adrian had to leave out the English National Championships at Kings Lynn because of a clashing course in physiotherapy. He then found the course was cancelled, but it was too late to get into the Kings Lynn line-up.

Meanwhile, Surrey are mounting,



The late Bill Bradley who died in Dec, former secretary of Sussex TTA, whose contribution to table tennis throughout Sussex and especially the Brighton and Hove areas was immense. Photograph by Peter Sheard.

through ETTA vice chair Gail McCulloch, a full-scale appeal to the county championships men in the corridors of power. Sussex unsuccessfully objected to the inclusion of Euan Walker the newly-crowned Scottish champion in the Surrey ranks in the final session of county championship matches - Walker was not in the earlier session. Happily for Sussex, Venner defeated Walker 22-20 in the third to give Sussex promotion to the Premier division. Had this result gone the other way, the storm could be even bigger.

Miss McCulloch maintains that Walker's temporary address in Sussex was accepted earlier and there should be no change of eligibility as he now lives and works just over the border in Hampshire. Sussex think otherwise however, and are still complaining that Walker's appearance adversely affected the Sussex second team, so they are making a second objection to the Surrey move of playing Walker.

## WARWICKSHIRE

by PETE WALDEN

### FIVE FINALS FOR BARRACLOUGH

By an unfortunate coincidence, both the Coventry and Nuneaton leagues held their closed championships on the same day in February. In Coventry, a familiar name from the coaching world - Malcolm Francis - took the major honour with a superb win in the final over defending champion Adrian Pilgrim.

Another revelation in these championships was the form of one of Malcolm's protégés Joanna Barraclough, nationally ranked at number 26 in the Junior Girls. Joanna beat Eileen Shaler to win the Ladies event, teamed up with her to win the Ladies Doubles against Kate Ryan and Tracy Green and reached the final of the Mixed Doubles partnering Mr Francis, losing to the Lillington pairing of K Ryan and T Bradley. She also managed to get to the final of the Ladies Handicap, but failed to cope with some super serving by Phoenix's Linda Clempson, and the Junior Doubles Final, which she won with Ryan Stockham. So five finals all in one day for Joanna - a fine achievement, and well worth the trip "up North".

Malcolm Macfarlane of Lillington beat Rugby's Bill Fletcher to land the Veteran's title.

**Other Results:**  
Men's Handicap: John Adams beat Andrew Smith

Veterans Handicap Winner: Allan Stockham  
Junior Singles: Ryan Stockham beat Hordeep Sojan

Cadet Singles Winner: David Matthews  
In Nuneaton, Pete Muir of Hartshill Sports TTC became Town Champion for the 12th Time, beating NALGO's Dave Grundy in a close-fought final. Pete also teamed up with Carole Burrows to retain their Mixed Doubles title.

Carole continued her winning ways with the Ladies Singles title, Pat Money from the E.M.E club finishing runner-up.

15 year old Alan Hewitt had an excellent tournament, finishing with four winners trophies and one for runner-up. On his own, Alan took the under 17 and under-21 events, then teamed up with Mathew Hobday with the U-21 Doubles and - amazingly - the Open Doubles beating top seeds Dave Grundy and Andy Lebut in the final. His only failure came in the Handicap Singles where Ridge Lanes club-mate Nick Baxter used his 6 point start to full advantage.

An all Ridge Lane Handicap Doubles Final saw Ian Baxter and Alan Jenkins win over Nick Baxter and Pat Skinner.

Justin Rai took the under-12's event but special mention must be made of his opponent in the final, 7 year old Kelly-Jane Walden who fought her way gallantly past boys five years her senior to secure the runners-up spot.

#### Other Results:

Under 14 Singles Winner: Kevin Hobbly  
Consolation Singles: Dick Jenkins  
Veterans Doubles: D Jenkins/M Fleetwood  
beat R Allsopp/R Whittaker

## WILTSHIRE

by STUART MORSE

### DIAMOND JUBILEE

Hello everybody, this is edition three, doesn't time fly. Lets hope you have all got your tickets for the Diamond Jubilee event of the West Wilts League. The evening being held at Trowbridge Snooker Centre is sixty years to the day of the leagues inauguration on 8th April. There is an official book written by John Ford and Malcolm Phillips printed by Richard Culverhouse (Paxton Print) called "60 Years On", on sale for the startling good value of £5. The Morse has been invited and I hope to meet you all there.

Jimmy Lowe has been on to me this week and he told me of the highly successful event that he organised recently. The Westbury Championships took place for the very first time, over fifty competitors took part in the tournament that had sponsorship from the local Lloyds bank and Gordon Russell, many thanks to them. The main event the Open Men's singles had a surprise winner in Stephen Crute a first season player who defeated top seed Stuart Witham. Ladies Open went to Corra Rossiter in a tight match with Sandie Esson. The Junior Open went as expected to Tim Goodship, Rachel Willis confirmed her County Closed wins when she took the under 14 and under 12 events.

The inter-league championship has

started again under the superb organisation of Sue Stone at Devizes.

The Veterans and Seniors run on several weeks up until April. Early results suggest that West Wilts may retain their Veterans title and it looks like the old Swindon v Wilts showdown for the men's title. The Junior event has been completed with Swindon winning that one from Thamesdown and West Wilts, it was disappointing that only three of the five leagues entered that one so Devizes and Salisbury don't be party poopers get entered next year.

Next season we are almost certain to have a National League team playing out of our Devizes headquarters, inquires have been made and a sponsor is waiting in the sidelines. We are still waiting to hear from Devizes Town Football club about starting negotiations for the lease of the gymnasium, the signs however are quite encouraging. We need a lease agreement so that we can put forward schemes of improvement to the Lottery people and the FSA grant men. There are several ideas about, obviously heating and changing along with our own entrance are a priority. Hopefully I'll be able to give you the good news in the next edition.

## YORKSHIRE

by REA BALMFORD

### CONGRATULATIONS

I feel that it is appropriate this month to open the notes at Schools' level, and pass the congratulations of the County Association on to the Under 13 boys of Wortly High School in West Leeds, who have battled their way through local, Area and Regional rounds of the English Schools' Team Championships and will line up to represent the North of England in the National Finals at Grantham on the final Saturday in March.

It is exactly ten years since a side from our County last won this event when Battyford C of E Middle School from Mirfield took their second successive tenure of the title in 1985. And leading that side was Michael O'Driscoll, who went on to represent England at both Junior level and full international level.

All Yorkshire will be hoping that Phillip Lowe, Jason Sharp, James Cuddy and Richard Howitt can follow the example set a decade ago and that one more of the current crop of young Tykes could also aspire to an international 'cap'.

Still with the Juniors, and the final session of matches in the Junior and Cadet divisions of the Yorkshire League were held at the newly opened Halifax TT Centre - so newly opened in fact that the tables arrived on the morning of the event. Fortunately they came early, many hands made light work, and a hectic eleven hour session of play got under way shortly after 10.am - about an hour late.

The enthusiasm of these youngsters, all proud to be selected to represent their League, is boundless, and probably the most pleasing feature is the spirit in which they play the game

- a "rookie" goes to the table, gets 'stuffed' - single figures - by one of the County boys who, to be fair, usually gives him a game, but bounces back for his next outing ten minutes later as enthusiastic as ever.

What a pity this youthful enthusiasm often gives way to a much harder - in some cases, more cynical - attitude as players move up the ranks.

Championship and relegation issues were settled with a strong Hull side who, the following day, moved into the Quarter Finals of the Carter Cup when they got the better of Norwich 5-3, took a further tenure on the Junior Boys Premier title, with Huddersfield in second place, while next season Bradford II and progressive Keighley will move up into the top flight from Division I with Leeds the side to make way.

But, led by 'Merit Award' winner Matthew Glendenning, Leeds showed up in Cadet Boys Division I, taking the honours ahead of reigning champions Huddersfield who, despite fielding the same squad that came out on top twelve months ago, had to be content with second place.

York and Doncaster will take a Division 1 place next term after finishing first and second in Division 2, but only Keighley will face the drop following the withdrawal of Wakefield earlier in the season.

There was a surprise in the Junior Girls section where Leeds II, represented by Sarah Nouch, the 'Merit Award' winner who still has another season at Cadet level, and Charlotte Spink, overcame Leeds I, while the rapidly expanding Scarborough League topped the Cadet Girls table with Hull in second place.

The Men's Veteran Division have still to complete their programme with the highest of the final series of matches in the Men's Premier Division, due to be held at the Armley TT Centre in Leeds, the prospective meeting of the two undefeated sides - Bradford and Barnsley, the latter promoted as runners-up in Division 1 at the close of the 93/4 campaign, but it is a different story for Halifax, who went up as champions and are now almost certain to make the journey in the opposite direction this time around.

With the County having to withdraw from the Open tournament field - regrettably, but out of financial necessity - it is hoped that there will be a good response to the Closed and the Junior Closed events scheduled for the late stages of the season at the Halifax TT Centre. Full reports in the next 'Notes'.

And to close on an unusual note, we had the TT version of 'Rain stopped play' in Yorkshire on the final Sunday in January. With both City of Leeds sides and AALCO scheduled for home matches in the Friendly Hotels British League, an overnight snowstorm which made Yorkshire's first city literally a 'no go' area saw hasty telephone calls made to Glasgow, Peterborough and Blackpool to prevent visiting sides travelling long distances and then being unable to make the final half dozen miles to the venue.

# PYE *beats* YOUNG

## CITY OF DERBY JUNIOR SELECT

Top seed and winner of the 94 Derby Junior, Terry Young powered his way to the Boys Open final again. His progress was slowed only once - by the improving Derbyshire player David Purdy who took the middle game in the semi-final. In the final against Leeroy Pye, Terry started confidently winning the first game 15 but losing the second at 20. The third continued as fast and furious as before until at 16-16 Leeroy seemed to find that extra confidence to go on to win 21-19. Both players provided a match to remember for the spectators. Leeroy was also

winner with Kevin Liddle from Scotland in the Boys Doubles. In the Girls Open the top 2 seeds were lost along the way leaving the final between Tracey Davies (3) and Clare Newns (6). Clare won this tussle 16, -14, 17. Shelley Ruocco and Glenda Ashison made up for their singles loss by winning the Open Doubles. Ireland had a good share of the prizes again Brioni Lane the Girls Band 1 winner and Damien Lynch the Boys Band 1 winner. Derby continued with banded events and groups still convinced that this gives players better value for their entrance fee. The late running of 1994 was banished with 2 seemingly



Kings Lynn's 14 year old Adam Pratt being presented with his Woolwich Junior 'Player of the Month Award', by England's Chen Xinhua, at the National Senior Championships.

incompatible changes-computer aided booking in and the addition of experienced referee Doris Moors to the top table.

## RESULTS

Boys Open Singles: Leeroy Pye bt Terry Young -15, 20, 19  
Girls Open Singles: Clare Newns bt Tracey Davies 16, -14, 17  
Boys Open Doubles: Leeroy Pye/Kevin Liddle bt Kevin Worth/Peter Thomas 17, 21  
Girls Open Doubles: Shelley Ruocco/Glenda Ashison bt Emma Smith/Lindsey Thornton 11, -18, 14  
Boys Band 1 Singles: Damien Lynch bt Paul O'Toole 17, 18  
Girls Band 1 Singles: Brioni Lane bt Crystal Hall 15, 12  
Boys Band 2 Singles: David Symcox bt Matthew Rutter 20, -14, 19  
Girls Band 2 Singles: Joanna Lister bt Sarah Blamire -11, 18, 12

while also providing two teams is the host town of Grantham, one from each of the 'single sex' schools of Kings and Kesteven & Grantham.

But their will be at least one new name to be added to the list of champions, for in the B.11 event none of Redlands School (Notts), KCS Wimbledon or Woodfield Junior, Wolverhampton have previously taken the title, although the Black Country School have their name on the parallel Girls honours list.

The remaining two schools are completely new to the final stage and it is welcome to both, as well as Bideford College (Devon), Wildern School (Southampton) and Wortley High (Leeds), all of whom appear for the first time.

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## LOOKING AHEAD ENGLISH SCHOOLS TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION

The three hectic Regional Finals round of the National Schools' Team Championships have now been completed and the twenty-four sides due to compete at Grantham TT Centre will be looking ahead to the big day of the National Finals.

Schools with multiple teams qualifying are lead by Peniel Academy, who fill no less than six of the eight places open to the South & East Region, while Parkview (Barrow in Furness) and Chilton Trinity (Bridgewater, Somerset) are, like Peniel, established competitors in E.S.T.T.A. competitions, with these and two sides through,

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