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JILL PARKER MBE
Receives the Pat
Archdale Women in
Table Tennis Trophy
from Jose Ransome



Table Tennis

NEWS



ISSUE 226
NOVEMBER 1994

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THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE ENGLISH TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION

CAPTAIN'S LOG

England's men did quite well in Nimes, France in the TSP World Team Cup, where they once again beat Austria and the Australians to reach the quarter finals, where they lost to China.

But the Englishmen did manage to win £3,000 by reaching the quarters, out of a total of £100,000 prize money.

See full report by John Woodford of The Daily Telegraph, on Page 13.

Sadly, on Tuesday night of the 18th October 1994, England's Women's team lost 0-4 to Sweden at the Milton Keynes Table Tennis Club, Kingston.

The presentation of the match was superb, and the catering before and after the match was excellent.

The catering was kindly supplied by the girls of the Kingston Gymnastic and Fitness Centre, in their spare time, organised by Brian Saunders.

Jose Ransome, who presented the 'Pat Archdale Women in Table Tennis' trophy to Jill Parker MBE, was herself a winner when she won the trophy in 1993 season for her 'Woman in Table Tennis' campaign.

Jose was a winner more recently when she won the Women's Singles and Women's Doubles with her sister Valerie Marshall, at the 'Inside Passage' tournament aboard the SS Rotterdam cruising up the west coast of Vancouver to Alaska.

But sadly on her return, Jose broke her wrist on Thursday 13th October 1994, when she fell over whilst playing tennis at Tennis World, Middlesbrough.

Mike and Christine Lewis sent Jose some flowers with a get well message and note saying "It's safer playing table tennis!".

John F A Wood



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England's Alan Cooke won a colossal battle against Mikael Appelgren of Sweden in the TSP World Team Cup in Nimes

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



HARRY REACHES THE BIG NINE-O!

There must be many people in the table tennis world who remember Harry Edwards although they might have lost touch with him. Harry first came onto the Middlesex



Executive Committee in July 1948 and with some very short breaks served on the committee until July 1985. In 1982, Harry's long



service was recognised by appointing him a Life Vice President.

Harry's main love was the junior members of the Association and apart from acting as the non-playing captain of the Middlesex Junior team, he also organised their coaching for many years. Harry prided himself on never leaving a junior team player until he handed them over to their parents or had seen them inside their front door!

Well, Harry is now in a residential home in the Sutton Coldfield area where he is near his nephew, Alan Charnick, and his family, and on 16th July this year Harry celebrated his 90th birthday. There was a party at the Home which had been decorated on the outside with bunting and a banner and on the inside with balloons and a smaller banner. Over 30 people attended the party, and apart from Alan and his family, John Mew who was Harry's last boss at EMI, and his wife travelled from Uxbridge to be with him on the great day. The birthday cake had the Middlesex County Table Tennis Association badge as centre-piece with table tennis bats as extra decoration.

Mercury Asset Management Sports Award under a scheme administered by the Sports Aid Foundation (SAF). The grant has been awarded to Reagan in recognition of his table tennis achievements and will provide a contribution to his training and competition expenses for the forthcoming year.

Reagan (15) lives in Billericay and is a pupil at Billericay Comprehensive School although he finds he often has to travel to Barnet, North London for coaching. Reagan is the Essex U17 junior No.1 and at the national junior trials in December 1993, finished 3rd. He reached the quarter final of the English School's tournament in May 1994. Widely recognised as one of Britain's top 5 junior boys, Reagan shows the potential necessary to become a top senior international.

AMERICAN IN BLACKPOOL

Stan Jensen (76 years young) took part in the Blackpool 3 Star open in May. He is a member of the Newberg Table Tennis Club in Portland, Oregon. His Grand Daughter is studying in London and Stan came over from the States to visit her. Upon hearing about the tournament he decided to enter the Vets Singles, and gave a fair account of himself. He has been connected with table tennis for over 60 years and is a regular veteran player and organiser in his home town.

GERMAN CLUB PARTNERSHIP

A German table tennis club is looking for an English club to start up a partnership.

This could lead to exchanges of teams and establishment of new friendships between people from the respective clubs. Any club interested in forming international links should contact:-

Mr Kohlen
Tischtennis - Club Frankenthal
1972, Malvenweg 4, 68305,
MANHEIM 31, GERMANY.

NOT MOVED

Pat Archdale has not moved to Hemel Hempstead as printed in the ETTA Address Directory, in fact she still lives at 26 West View Road, Keynsham, Avon, BS18 1RG.

GRANTS? RECENTLY RECEIVED A GRANT OR APPLYING FOR ONE?

If your club or organisation are looking to purchase new table tennis equipment, we **strongly** advise that you call us now for a competitive quote. Simply inform us of your requirements and your written quotation is already on its way...



Why pay more for your equipment than you need to?

● Club bulk purchases bigger discounts guaranteed.

081-870 3600

MERCURY ASSET MANAGEMENT SPORTS AWARD

Essex schoolboy, Reagan Nettleingham, is to receive a £400

Grove men with a line up of Alan Cooke, Desmond Douglas and Chris Oldfield, visited the Croatian team of Industrograndga Azgres and won by 4 sets to nil in front of the television cameras and a packed house last month. They will meet Andrzej Grubba's team, TTC Zegbrucke Grenzau of Germany at home on the weekend of December 10 and 11.

The Grove women's team of Lisa Lomas, Alison Gordon and the Chinese star, Tong Fei Ming, followed suit with a 4-0 victory at home against STR Arttep Pap Topolcany of Slovakia. Grove girls will meet the Hungarian Club, Postas Budapest, on the same weekend and have an excellent chance of progressing to the semi final against the little known Hungarian trio.

My congratulations go to the Grove players mentioned above and particularly to Ian Marshall and Geoff Twiss



Alan Ransome

whose enterprise has produced a superb club that not only enjoys great success in Europe, but promotes a successful programme for players of all standards and runs the most comprehensive programme of tournaments in Britain and possibly Europe.

GROVE'S SUCCESS IN EUROPE

OUR CHAMPION CLUB BFL GROVE OF MARKET DRAYTON, ARE THE ONLY CLUB TO WIN THROUGH TO THE QUARTER FINALS OF BOTH THE MEN'S AND WOMEN'S SECTIONS OF THE EUROPEAN CLUB CUP OF CHAMPIONS
WRITES ALAN RANSOME

Grove provide an excellent role model as a major club and I strongly encourage other clubs to follow Grove's lead.

Matthew Syed conqueror of Austria's Ding Yi

SYED ON SONG

The England men's team, and

in particular Matthew Syed, has made a great start to the season. Our team defeated Austria in the Joola European League by 4 sets to 2. Chen Xinhua's victory over Ding Yi being the highlight. We reached the quarter finals of the TSP World Team Cup in Nimes, France with victories over Austria and Australia with Matthew Syed beating Ding Yi on this occasion. We lost narrowly to Sweden by 3 sets to 2, after Carl Prean beat the Olympic Champion, Jan Ove Waldner and Alan Cooke defeated the three times European Champion, Micheal Appelgren. In the quarter finals the Chinese squad proved too powerful for England winning by 3 sets to nil. Syed's most impressive performance, however, as reported in the last issue of Table Tennis News, was his defence of the USA Tournament, the Sears Invitation, in which he beat one of the best Swedes, Peter Karlsson in the final.

Our women's team have had a mixed start to the season beating Poland by 4 sets to 1 at Ashford but then being well beaten by a much improved Swedish team that included the European



Champion, Marie Svensson, by 4 sets to 0 at Milton Keynes. Our girls can still qualify for the semi final of the European League Super Division but will need to win their away fixture against the Netherlands team which is likely to include the former European Champion, Bettine Vriesekoop and the English Open Champion, Mirjam Hooman.

JUNIOR BOOST

For the first time for some years I am delighted to detect an improvement in the standard of our leading juniors, in particular the performance of Terry Young who followed up his victory at Peniel with six out of six wins for Berkshire in the first weekend of "Senior" Premier



Jai Yi Liu our new Junior Coach with Christian Thompson in Paris

Division County Championships. At Cadet level the two No.1's, Gareth Herbert and Lindsey Thornton are progressing well. It is not a coincidence

that this has all happened since our new junior coach, Jai Yi Liu, the former Chinese coach has joined our staff. Jai has been busy looking after our teams at the European Youth Championships, has coached on several National training camps and has spent time working with our leading juniors in Reading, Kent and Peniel for a few days duration each. Jai is also a regular attender at our main junior tournaments where he is able to study our best players in competition.

60TH ENGLISH OPEN IN CLEVELAND

The 60th English Open in Cleveland has attracted its widest TV contract to date. Grand Slam Sports, the company that produced the TV coverage from the European Championships which was beamed to more than 100 countries have entered into an agreement with the ETTA to give the event 3 days of coverage. BBC are not able to screen the English Open this year and have opted for television coverage of the England V China test match in Stourbridge which is to be played on 30 December and broadcast on Grandstand the following day. The English Open, however, is likely to be

seen in this country on both cable and satellite and throughout the world by both national broadcasters and satellite.

To encourage the strongest possible entry a prize fund of 20,000 US Dollars is being offered. This is the first time that prize money will be awarded for the English Open, although this level of fund has been given for a number of recent International Opens abroad. The English Open will undoubtedly be the highest standard international event to be played in Britain during 1995, and is described by the Tournament Director, Mike Watts, elsewhere in this magazine. Our organisers are determined to provide a package of tickets and hotels plus a playing schedule that will be very attractive to all the spectators. The seating at Thornaby Pavilion is limited and therefore booking early is recommended. Following the success of the coaching course at Euro'94, our National Coaching Committee are planning a shorter course in conjunction with the Open. Details from Jill Parker on 0772 715216.

A MAJOR CENTRE FOR TABLE TENNIS

Following details that I gave of the Isle of Wight centre,

and the new facility in Cirencester reported in recent issues of Table Tennis News, I am delighted to report the finalisation of funding for another major facility for table tennis, this time, in Lancashire. The Hyndburn Table Tennis League and the Hyndburn Borough Council have combined to embark on a project which will be linked to the Hyndburn Sports Centre, so being able to take advantage of all the centre's facilities including changing rooms, refreshments, reception, car park, etc. The scheme will facilitate six tables for match play plus storage and a viewing area. It will be widely used both during the daytime and in the evenings for table tennis.

The majority of the funding is being provided by the Council, £85,000 plus the land, the Foundation for Sport and the Arts via the ETTA for £60,000 and the Northwest Sports Council £55,000. My congratulations go to Fred Holden, the Secretary of the Hyndburn League and his committee and Stewart Kellett, head of Leisure and Property Services at Hyndburn Borough Council who have combined to make this scheme happen. Our development staff Paul Baker, the Facilities Officer, and North West RDO Martin Ireland have been pleased to provide valuable assistance.

Alan Ransome, Chairman.

China Tour - Men's International Test Series

28th December 1994
Woking Leisure Centre
Woking Surrey

29th December 1994
Polkyth Recreation Centre
St Austell Cornwall

30th December 1994
Crystal Leisure Centre
Stourbridge West Midlands

ENGLAND V CHINA

1st January 1995
South Kesteven TT Centre
Grantham Lincolnshire

2nd January 1995
Mansfield Leisure Centre
Mansfield Nottinghamshire

3rd January 1995
Northgate Arena Leisure Centre
Chester Cheshire

Order your tickets early for this great series on 01424 722525 (Access/Visa/Switch)

NEW LOOK FOR THE *Sixtieth*

In deciding the venue the facilities offered by Cleveland County Council has enabled the tournament to move into a new era. Cleveland has long been established as a major centre for table tennis, and the Thornaby Pavilion has been the venue for a number of major events in the past including the European Youth Championship (1970), the English Open (1977), the European Top 12 (1983) and the Euro/Asia Individual events (1988).

The tournament takes on a different format this time; the

THE 1995 ENGLISH OPEN REACHES ANOTHER MILESTONE WHEN OVER THE PERIOD WEDNESDAY 4TH TO SUNDAY 8TH JANUARY 1995 THE 60TH OPEN IS HELD AT THE THORNABY PAVILION, THORNABY IN CLEVELAND WITH CONSIDERABLE SUPPORT FROM CLEVELAND COUNTY COUNCIL. THIS TOURNAMENT WAS ORIGINALLY SCHEDULED FOR JANUARY 1994 BUT WITH THE EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS IN APRIL 1994, IT WAS POSTPONED ONE YEAR TILL THIS SEASON **WRITES MIKE WATTS.**

Friday 6th and Saturday 7th the event comes down to four tables with tiered seating on all sides and during this period rounds 2,

Teesport, Zetland Place, Middlesbrough, Cleveland TS1 1HJ, (Telephone 01642 249000 or Fax 01642 226000) stating number of persons requiring this package and their accommodation requirements (ie Single, Twin etc).

To order your tickets either complete the order form below and send to: Mrs V Jones, ETTA, Queensbury House, Havelock Road, Hastings, East Sussex, TN34 1HF (Telephone 01424 722525) or telephone quoting your credit card number or send your completed booking form to Dave Hutchinson, Teesport, Zetland Place, Middlesbrough, Cleveland, TS1 1HJ.

DON'T FORGET, MAKE A DATE TO BE IN CLEVELAND FOR THE 60TH OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS.

▼ TICKET PRICING

DATE	TYPE OF TICKET	ALL DAY PRICE	SPECIAL OFFER
Wednesday 4th January	Unreserved	£2.00	One free ticket with every 10 purchased
Thursday 5th January	Unreserved	£2.00	One free ticket with every 10 purchased
Friday 6th January	Unreserved	£5.00	One free ticket with every 10 purchased
Saturday 7th January	Unreserved	£5.00	No discount available
Sunday 8th January	Mainly unreserved, some reserved	£7.00	No discount available
3 Day Season Ticket	Includes reserved seat for Sunday finals	£15.00	No discount available

new format includes only the four main events, Men's and Women's Singles and both Doubles and leaves no room for other events including the Team Events and the format is in accordance with new ITTF guidelines for International Open Championships, and a prize fund amounting to 20,000 US Dollars, making this the most lucrative prize money offered for a tournament in this country.

At the venue itself, there will be eight tables on Wednesday 4th and Thursday 5th when pre-qualifying rounds for all events are held. Late on Thursday afternoon the first round proper for all events will be played. On

3 and Quarter Finals of all events take place. Finally on Sunday 8th the arena has only two tables for the Singles Semi Finals and the two Doubles Finals. The Singles Finals will then be played on one table. Already guaranteed are a men's team from China who will be playing a short match tour prior to the event and a Russian Women's team who will play two matches after the Open.

Invitations have been sent to all the top nations in the world including Sweden, Germany, France, Belgium, South Korea, Japan, Netherlands, The Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland and many more.

SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR SPECTATORS

A package has been agreed for spectators wishing to take advantage of the final three days of the tournament giving two nights with full English Breakfast at the nearby Post House Hotel three days tickets and a free programme for £60.0. Applications for this package should be directed to the Assistant Tournament Director Dave Hutchinson in writing at

▼ TICKET BOOKING FORM

DATE	NO. OF TICKETS	TICKET PRICE	TOTAL COST
Wednesday 4th January		£2.00	
Thursday 5th January		£2.00	
Friday 6th January		£5.00	
Saturday 7th January		£5.00	
Sunday 8th January		£7.00	
Season Ticket		£15.00	
		Total Enclosed	£

Name

Address

Post Code

Telephone no. Access/ Visa Card no

Expiry date

Signature (Credit Card Customers only)

Super Sweden were on the night far too hot to handle, with Sweden's No.1 player and European Women's Singles Champion Marie Svensson leading her team to a magnificent victory with all three Swedish girls winning with awesome powerful topspin.

First on the table was England's No.1 Lisa Lomas who carried the nation's and the partisan crowd's hope for an early lead over their visitors, but sadly a lack-lustre Lomas could not get into her usual rhythm with her usually sound defence

MATCH OFFICIALS

Referee: Jos van den Berg
Umpires: David Edwards
Gerald Hammond

letting her down, as she fell to Sweden's Asa Svensson 11-21, 9-21.

Alison Gordon was next on the table recording her 51st game for England, but she too came up against an in-form powerful woman, Marie Svensson, who carried on where she left off in Birmingham, powering her way to victory.

Gordon did make a fight of it though, trailing in the first leg 9-20, she made a magnificent recovery winning 9 consecutive points before going down 18-21. The super-sharp Swede took the second 21-11 with powerful

SUPER SWEDEN TOO HOT TO HANDLE!

ENGLAND'S WOMEN CRASHED 0-4 TO SWEDEN IN THE WOMEN'S EUROPEAN LEAGUE SUPER DIVISION AT THE MILTON KEYNES TABLE TENNIS CENTRE, KINGSTON, ON TUESDAY 18TH OCTOBER 1994 **WRITES JOHN WOOD.**

forehand drives.

England's No.2 Andrea Holt stepped out for the third game with the whole audience willing

her to win, but it was not to be as she went down 13-21 to Pernilla Petterson in the first. Holt rallied in the second and made a fight of

it but Petterson's hard hitting was too powerful for Andrea's defence and fell 18-21.

England were now really struggling and when the Doubles



England's Lisa Lomas with Marie Svensson

started between Lisa Lomas and Andrea Holt for England and Marie and Åsa Svensson of Sweden, England's last chance had arrived, but sadly they lost the first 14-21. But they magnificently rallied in the second with both English girls chopping superbly, interspersed with the occasional attacking topspin shot, they took the second 21-12. And when they led the third 18-17, hopes were high for a revival, but sadly England lost 19-21, and the match 0-4.

- During the interval José Ransome presented the 'Pat Archdale Women in Table Tennis Trophy' to JILL PARKER MBE, for her services to the England Women's team over the past 7 years. This is an annual award to a woman who has made a notable contribution to table tennis.
- During the match Vic and Merilyn Fussell organised a raffle and collected £155 for charity - British Diabetic Association, Milton Keynes Branch.

The powerful Asa Svensson in action



Following recent events and the statement by the ITTF, the following statement emphasises the current situation as far as the ETTA are concerned.

CURL SPEZIAL (SPECIAL)

1. The above named rubber does not contravene the ETTA Approved Laws of Table Tennis and MAY therefore be used for all play to which ITTF Regulations for International Competitions do not apply - 'ordinary, play in Local Leagues etc.
2. This rubber is not 'authorised by the ITTF' and so does not comply with ITTF Regulation for International Competitions (1993-95) 3.2.1.2. It MAY NOT be used, therefore, in County Championships and British League. It may not be used in an open tournament unless the regulations are varied for that particular tournament to allow it.

Robert Sinclair ETTA General Secretary

On course for both semi-finals

The Men's team won their difficult opener in the Joola European Men's League with an excellent 4-2 victory away to Austria in Linz on September 27th.

Chen Xinhua was in top gear, defeating both of Austria's former Chinese stars Qianli Qian



Austria's Ding Yi defeated by England's Chen Xinhua

and world No.22 Ding Yi. It was a real team effort, with Matthew Syed recovering from 14-9 down in the third against Werner Schlager to win 21-16.

Carl Prean was just as

Joola European Men's League Super Division

September 27th

Group A

Germany 4 Poland 3

Sweden 4 France 2

Group B

Denmark 4 Belgium 1

Austria 2 **ENGLAND 4**

impressive, beating Schlager 21-12, 21-14, to secure the win for England.

What about Alan Cooke? He travelled to Linz, gave the impression that he would play the doubles, but instead, in a tactical move by team Captain Denis Neale, remained on the bench to allow Chen and Prean to fight the doubles.

The idea was it would throw the Austrians, who would be expecting Cooke to play the doubles. England lost the doubles but importantly won the match.

ENGLAND'S MEN'S AND WOMEN'S TEAMS HAVE BOTH MADE AN EXCELLENT START TO THE 1994/5 SEASON IN THE EUROPEAN LEAGUE SUPER DIVISIONS, AND AT THE TIME OF WRITING ARE ON COURSE TO APPEAR IN BOTH SEMI-FINALS WRITES GRAHAM CARTER.

England's second group match will be against the mighty Belgium, away in Liege, the side that includes the world No.1 Jean-Michel Saive on October 25th.

WHITWICK CLIMAX

England's prospects for a semi-final place will be decided by the crunch match at Whitwick in Leicestershire on November 8th when England take on Denmark.

Denmark are an unpredictable side, having been promoted to the Super Division as Division 1 champions, they shocked Europe by beating the Super Division champions Belgium 4-1 on September 27th.

England women have done equally well so far. They smashed Poland 4-1 at Ashford Table Tennis Centre, Middlesex on September 20th (full report in October issue).

Another home match against Sweden at Milton Keynes on October 18th (report in this issue) will be followed by an away trip to the Netherlands on November 15th.

Providing both teams get through, the drama will be intense when it comes to the two semi-final matches at the Corn Exchange, Ipswich on December 13th.

GROVE THROUGH TO QUARTERS

BFL Grove men and women's team progressed to the quarter-final stage of the European Club Cup of champions after recording excellent 4-0 successes.

On October 7th Grove women defeated the Slovakian

champions Pap Topolcany at home, with the Market Drayton club's Chinese star Tony Feiming most impressive in beating a Slovakian international in straight sets.

A packed house and TV cameras saw Desmond Douglas perform a great escape, to save



England's Chen Xinhua

two match points against Chinese ace Sun Ling as Grove men travelled to Croatia to play Zagreb on October 8th.

Grove men are drawn for the quarter-final against top German club Grenzau.

West Midlands Coaching Chairman Jill Harris was the only scorer for South Kesteven Sovereigns as they bowed out of the Nancy Evans Cup, losing 4-1 against Anadolu University from Turkey.

LAUNCESTON REINSTATED

DML White Hart Launceston's Manager Peter Hancock had his wits about and registered an appeal to the European Table Tennis Union. This followed the appearance of an ineligible player in the Polish champion club line-up during their second round clash in the Nancy Evans Cup.

Mieski Pogon drove a round trip of 1800 miles by minibus to play the Cornwall club, but had

RESULTS

EUROPEAN CLUB CUP OF CHAMPIONS

MEN 2ND ROUND 8/10/94

Zagreb 0 - 4 BFL Grove

Sung Ling lost to Desmond Douglas

12, 20, -15

Tasic Roko lost to Alan Cooke

-9, -10

Juzbasic Neven lost to Chris Oldfield

-18, -13

Ling/Roko lost to Douglas/Cooke

20, -9, -11

WOMEN 2nd ROUND 7/10/94

BFL Grove 4 - 0 Pap Topolcany

Tong Feiming bt Alena Frtolova

14, 13

Lisa Lomas bt Nana Lancaricova

5, 7

Alison Gordon bt Julia Flaischarova

17, 7

Lomas/Feiming bt

Frtolova/Flaischarova 19, 13

NANCY EVANS CUP (WOMEN)

South Kesteven Sovereigns

(Grantham) 1

Anadolu University (Turkey) 4

Jill Harris bt Tunay Caskun

10, -18, 10

Karen Smith lost to Turkan Sabirli

-17, -12

Helen Newbound lost to Melek

Turkengil 16, 18

Harris/Smith lost to Caskun/Sabirli

-19, 18, 17

Jill Harris lost to Turkan Sabirli

-15, 15, 15

NANCY EVANS CUP (MEN)

2ND ROUND 7/10/94

DML White Hart Launceston 1

Mieski Pogon (Poland) 4

Paul Giles lost to Budzich Dariusz

-16, -17

Gary Lambert lost to Gudilkin Igor

-18, -13

Paul Whiting bt Gasdowski

Przemyslaw 15, 9

Giles/Whiting lost to Gudilkin/Budzich

-13, 16, -19

Paul Giles lost to Gudilkin Igor

26, -16, -13

*Launceston win after appeal because of ineligible player.

failed to nominate their top player, Dariusz Budzich in their registered list of players.

Poland beat Launceston 4-1 on the night, but the European Table Tennis Union upheld Peter Hancock's complaint, meaning the visitor's long drive was in vain.

So Launceston go through to the third round and are due to travel to Portugal to play Estrala Da Amadora (Lisbon) on December 9th.

EUROPEAN WOMEN'S LEAGUE SUPER DIVISION

September 20th

Group A

ENGLAND 4 Poland 1

Sweden 4 Netherlands 2

Group B

Hungary 4 Belgium 0

Romania 0 Germany

FIGHTING FOR THE LEFT-OVERS?

SPONSORSHIP IS ALL SET TO PLAY AN INCREASING ROLE IN SPORT DESPITE THE PROMISE OF £MILLIONS FROM THE NATIONAL LOTTERY. THE DIFFICULTY FOR MOST SPORTS FROM PARENT ORGANISATION TO INDIVIDUAL CLUB, IS HOW TO GET THEIR HANDS ON IT **WRITES JIM BECKLEY.**

Millions of pounds are poured into sport every year but the vast percentage of that money is aimed at half a dozen sports and that leaves the minnows - the vast majority of sports like table tennis, fighting for the left-overs.

Yet the chances of getting sponsorship are higher than you think - if you can turn your thinking upside down! In short think about what the sponsor wants and not what you can offer him.

It's a fact of life the most sports organisations have little or no idea about how the system works. They bundle together a folder of handouts describing their organisation, how many

members they have, a list of events, what it will cost and what a wonderful opportunity it would be.

There are stories of organisations sending these packs on spec to hundreds of potential sponsors presumably playing the numbers game. The more you send the better the chance there is of hitting the jackpot. It's time consuming, it's costly and frankly doesn't work.

Unfortunately, the sponsorship game isn't played that way. If it were, sponsorship wouldn't be a problem.

The sponsorship game is all about who you know. It's also about publicity and television in particular. It's not about being the biggest participation sport in the world - or being the fastest

growing sport. If you want sponsors then make sure you have a slick PR person who knows the media, how it works and can prove it.

The prime object of any sponsor is getting publicity. Don't believe for one moment that the sponsors will provide money because they want to give you a helping hand. That's naivety in its extreme.

Sponsors may say in their handout it fits their image, but behind the words is an overwhelming desire to achieve as much publicity as they can. And if that publicity isn't forthcoming that contract will be curtailed quicker than a Jean Michel Saive forehand smash.

One client I worked for always insisted on having the person responsible for the sports organisation PR at the initial meetings. And the questions that followed were directed at that person. The sport itself came a poor second to how it could deliver the publicity.

HIGHLY VISIBLE

The marketing director of a major company in the North West that pours in £millions each year told me: "If the sport is highly visible both from a spectator point of view and on media coverage, then we are very interested. Conversely, a sport which receives little coverage despite being a large participate sport, is not a good promotional vehicle for us".

Another company I worked for insisted in putting into the contract a number of media objectives it wanted achieved. Media coverage is as important as that and it's the main reason why so many contracts don't survive the first year.

All major companies involved in sponsorship keep a close eye on their media count. That's the market speak for the number of press cuttings and TV mentions they get.

Any worthwhile client will wish to become involved with a sport than can run an event well, can publicise them equally well and can guarantee they will be well attended. Nobody wants to see his name at an event watched by one and his dog - that's bad publicity.

The vast majority of sponsorship deals you read about come through someone knowing

someone. So remember the most important person in your organisation could be your PR man. But make sure he's good.

BASIC RULES

Basically there are ten rules to follow along the road to a successful relationship with big business.

□ Always remember that big companies have to plan their activities well in advance. It's no use asking just a few weeks before the event. Try to give as much notice as possible - and a year is not too far ahead.

□ Search out people you know are in business. They may well be looking for someone who is in a position to obtain to obtain publicity and the devil you know is often better than the one you don't.

□ Always try to find out who to write to. Do your homework and contact the right person within the organisation. A letter in the wrong hands will not get very far.

□ That letter is very important. You might have to contact several firms before you get what you want, so type the letter each time. It might be a laborious task, but a good impression is worth it's weight in gold.

□ Study the firm you are writing to. It's no use trying to interest someone who builds boats if you want them to spend money on your table tennis tournament.

□ Explain what plans you have, especially to publicise the firm. Despite what sponsors might say, they all like to see their name - especially on TV.

□ Give as much detail as possible about your organisation including financial details. Showing you are well organised and go-ahead will help instill confidence.

□ Don't ask for a specific amount. That is taboo. Try to win interest first and talk money afterwards.

□ If you get a positive reaction, don't push your luck too far. Always be prepared to listen to your sponsor and take his views into consideration.

□ Finally, if you get a sponsor, try to keep him. Make sure he is invited to all your functions and gets regular supply of press clippings. This way you will have a good chance of getting more money next year.

60TH ENGLISH OPEN

at Thornaby Pavilion
4th - 8th January
1995

See
December/January's
issue for preview of the
No.1 tournament in
England this season.

China retain Men's Cup & Russia win Women's

This time in a beautifully warm and sunny Nimes, China sent only one of their top men Liu Guoliang (world No.15). In support was Wang Hao (No.32), Lin Zhigang (59), Qin Zhigang (72) and unranked, the chopper Ding Song!

All five men looked extremely dangerous, tremendously powerful smashing of the early balls up to the table was the Chinese keynote through the five days of the tournament.

The Chinese women were defeated 3-2 by Germany in a cliff-hanging semi-final but it was the Russian choppers Timina, Palina and Melnik who were the final winners 3-1 against Germany.

The English men's team managed to lift £3,000 of the £100,000 prize kitty supplied by TSP after again bringing down our arch-rivals Austria 3-1, crushing Australia 3-0 and only just losing 3-2 to Sweden to reach the quarters, where China were 3-0 victors over England.

Chen Xinhua did not continue his best form, losing early to Ding Yi and later to a revitalised Jorgen Persson. We

CHINA HAD TO FIGHT DESPERATELY HARD TO RETAIN THE TSP WORLD CUP, WON BY THEIR MEN 3 YEARS AGO IN BARCELONA AS AN OLYMPIC WARM UP WRITES JOHN WOODFORD OF THE DAILY TELEGRAPH.

saw him at almost his best when he took Jan-Ove Waldner to three games.

Carl Prean and Alan Cooke enjoyed themselves - The Isle of Wight professional defeated Waldner, and Cooke again demonstrated that he has the beating of Mikael Appelgren. The Derbyshire spinner in his usually effective style (half-way back) fought a colossal battle with the 'Appel', winning 16, -16, 19.

Matthew Syed wore a typical big smile for most of the stay in Nimes after he recorded one of his best wins - 21-15, 13-21, 22-20 against Ding Yi who led 20-15 in the third game!

Ding is rated 60 places over Syed on the world list, so our Oxford University student must surely move up after that success.

England men had one big advantage in Nimes - Don Parker was also there to add his encouragement to the efforts of Denis Neale, who seems to have become a lively and enthusiastic

member of the
England
squad

administration and was even seen knocking up with chen Xinhua. Our England No.1 is of course, an extremely difficult player to advise technically on court for any coach in the world. Denis Neale, especially as a new captain, has quite a task ahead of him to mould the entire team into a fighting force.

YOUNG SAIVE WAS MAJESTIC

Man of the tournament was Phillippe Saive. He stepped into the lead role in the absence of his big brother (resting to protect his No.1 ranking) with an astounding show to beat in the semi-finals the two Chinese aces Wang and Lui. I have never seen Phillippe pile on so much power, breaking up the Chinese rhythm but China squeezed home in the semi-finals 3-2. If Jean-Michel had been there of course, it is possible that Belgium may have won the World Team Cup.

Sweden seemed to have their problems. The used old firm of Waldner, Persson, Appelgren boosted by Peter Karlsson. Unless they produce another Karlsson, it is difficult to see how they are going to hold onto the Swaythling Cup in Tianjin in front of 10,000 Chinese supporters. Failure by the Chinese on home ground and anyone slumping could find themselves engaged in extending the Great Wall!

Apparently, the Chinese squads we saw in Nimes are in Europe for an extended stay. Another squad is expected to play the Chinese tour of England starting at Woking on December 28th.

THE VENUE

The hall, very new, was an excellent venue. The hotels were a short distance away aided by an extremely efficient transport fleet of cars supplied another sponsor SEAT. Perrier were it seems, another important sponsor and even supplied a Press Officer known as Hubert whose team did their best to keep the writers happy.

The Press Room was really inadequate, only

four phones and not always working properly, no typewriters readily available but the willingness of the media staff made up for the shortcomings.

A number of cynics say, with some justification that this was a Mickey Mouse affair. I can recall John Prean saying that when it first started some



Matthew Syed records one of his best wins

five years in Japan.

There is still an air of uncertainty about the whole thing. Some say the ITTF started it to fill a gap between world championships that might have been filled by some other body. Some countries do not send their strongest teams - China for example, although everyone needs the prize money. South Korea did not enter because of a clash with the Asian Games.

Some top players did not appear - Jean Michel Saive was one. The next one will be next year in Atlanta - another warm-up for the Olympics, so better entry will be expected.

But overall, credit goes to the French TTA, who struggled manfully and largely succeeded thanks to the various sponsors, especially TSP and Perrier who draw their water from springs near to Nimes. The crowds were poor for the first 3 days, numbers in hundreds; for the last 2 days, possibly 3,500, which I consider is not bad for a place that is at the extreme end of France, many hours by train as I ruminated in my sleeping berth as it rolled gently into Paris Lyon Station at 6.58am!

England's Carl Prean beat Jan-Ove Waldner

ANDREW EDEN & TONG FEI MING WIN AT THE SEASIDE

SUSSEX OPEN
2 STAR

ANDREW EDEN
COMFORTABLY RETAINED
HIS MEN'S SINGLES TITLE AT
THE STAMCO SUSSEX OPEN
2 STAR CHAMPIONSHIPS
BUT IT WAS A SCRATCH
PLAYER, TONG FEI MING,
WHO TOOK THE
HONOURS WINNING ALL
THREE AVAILABLE TITLES
LAST MONTH **WRITES**
RON SPENCER.



Andrew Eden
Men's Singles
winner, who
comfortably
retained his title

The absence of seeds Grant Solder & Stephen Dorking made Eden's job easier and he proceeded to the final without dropping a set. In the quarter-final, he beat 5th seed Neil Charles before beating unseeded Clive Carthy in the semi-final. Carthy had come through to this stage, taking the advantage of Dorking's absence, but only after a 23-21, 18-21, 21-17 win in the quarter-final over Edward Hatley. In the other half of the draw, Nigel Tyler came through the semi-final with a three set win over fellow Horsham Angel, Ritchie Venner. In Solder's absence, the bottom quarter of the draw saw the closest games. Ian Musk beat Adrian Moore 23-21, 16-21, 22-20 before beating Simon Rockall 21-17, 21-17; Rockall had earlier beaten Damian Holland in three

sets. Tyler beat Musk in the semi-final and, although producing some good play, could not prevent Eden taking the final and

his second successive title.

The Women's Singles saw the arrival of Tong Fei Ming who was China No.2 in 1987 and now under contract with grove Club. She was only allowed in on a scratch entry as a replacement for the absent Helen Lower and immediately showed her class winning her matches very comfortably. In the final, she met last year's winner, Linda Radford, who was given a scare by Sussex Junior Joanna Bush-Harris before winning in three sets and then defeating Gemma Schwartz in the semi-final. The final produced

some good play but Tong ran out a comfortable winner.

The Men's Doubles saw a change of partners for Eden being joined by Joe Kennedy (replacing Dorking) but he had originally entered with the absent Solder. This new pairing were taken to three sets in their first match by Ian Attridge and Damian Holland but, after this, won their next two matches well beating Darren Blake & Mick Harper in the semi-final where they lost to an excellent straight sets match to Adrian & Stephen Moore. In the final, Eden and Kennedy took the first set easily and were winning well in the second before the Moore brothers fought back to force a third set. They could not sustain their play however and the top seeds ran out easy winners.

The Women's Doubles saw Tong Fei Ming join Linda Radford, as a replacement for Lower, and easily won their way through to the final. On paper, they should have met Teresa

Tong Fei Ming who won three titles at Hastings (Fei Ming in English means 'Butterfly')



**WOOLWICH
JUNIOR
BRITISH LEAGUE**

**26th - 27th
November '94**

**Bletchley Leisure
Centre
Milton Keynes**

Bennett & Claire Hunter in the final, but this was not to be with Carol Hewett & Penelope Perry claiming a good result by winning a close three set match. In the final, the top seeds made all the running and were easy winners.

Tong's third title was in the Mixed Doubles, again as a replacement for Lower, joining Ritchie Venner as top seed and they proceeded to the final without mishap. There was some good games in the second half of the draw but second seeds Holland and Radford came through to their allotted place but lost comfortably in the final.

In the Veterans Singles, top seed Mick Harper, last year's Class 2 Singles winner, proceeded well to the final. However, second seed, Derek Holman was not so lucky, losing in three sets to Paul Beck in the quarter-final. Beck then beat Jeffrey Boyce in the semi-final but could not prevent Harper from taking the final and the Veteran's title.

As expected, the Class 2 Singles produced some excellent close games and the title could have easily gone to any one of

four players all playing well on the day. Joe Kennedy worked hard getting to the semi-final with two of his matches going to three sets and the other match a



**SUSSEX OPEN
2 STAR**

very close two-setter. In the end, exhaustion got the better of him and he lost very easily to Damian Holland in the semi-final. Holland had come through to this stage without too much trouble although he was taken to three sets by Adrian Dixon.

Stephen Horsfield battled through the final with three successive hard three set matches against Clive Carthy, his brother, Andrew and Simon

Richard Stevens, presented the trophies and prize money with the Hastings President, Roger Gillett, presenting the awards on behalf of the Bradford & Bingley Building Society for the Women's Doubles Event they sponsor.

**New
veteran
Mick
Harper won
the
Veteran's
Singles Title**

RESULTS

Men's Singles

SF: A. Eden bt C. Carthy 11, 17.
N. Tyler bt I. Musk 14, 17
Final: A. Eden bt N. Tyler 15, 17

Women's Singles

SF: L. Radford bt G. Schwartz 13, 13.
Tong Fei Ming bt C. Hunter 9, 14.
Final: Tong Fei Ming bt L. Radford 15, 12.

Men's Doubles

Final: A. Eden & J. Kennedy bt
A. Moore & S. Moore 10, -20, 13.

Women's Doubles

Final: Tong Fei Ming & L. Radford bt
C. Hewett & L. Perry 11, 11.

Mixed Doubles

Final: R. Venner & Tong Fei Ming bt
D. Holland & L. Radford 16, 14.

Veterans Singles

Final: M. Harper bt P. Beck 14, 16

Class 2 Singles

Final: D. Holland bt S. Horsfield 17, 10.

Rockall in the semi-final. The final, left over to the next day, saw another good match but Holland took his first Sussex title.

Mr Leon Shepperdson of the Sponsors STAMCO and the Mayor of Hastings, Councillor

North West Region

**THE NORTH WEST REGION TABLE TENNIS
DEVELOPMENT TEAM PRESENTS A**

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WORKSHOP**

on
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Sports Psychology in Table Tennis with Tim Holder,
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A VERY FAMILIAR LOOK!

THE NEW SEASON IS STILL IN ITS INFANCY BUT ALREADY THE PREMIER DIVISION HAS A VERY FAMILIAR LOOK TO IT - BFL GROVE OF MARKET DRAYTON TOP AND TEAM PENIEL IN SECOND PLACE. BEING REALISTIC I CANNOT HONESTLY SEE ANY CHANGE HAPPENING IN THE FORESEEABLE FUTURE AND WITH RESPECT TO PENIEL THE GROVE OUTFIT'S PLAYING STRENGTH AGAIN LOOKS SUPERIOR TO ANY OTHER CLUB **WRITES AUBREY DRAPKIN.**

Not only does this apply to the Premier Division but also to both first divisions although Vymura International seconds did inflict an unexpected defeat

on Grove's second string. The point is that Grove have players of the calibre of Tong Feiming, Lisa Lomas and Carl Morgan in their third team so what chance have other teams like Sedgfield, who cruelly lost two star players



England Junior Terry Young still undefeated in the FHBL

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to Glasgow at the very last minute before the season started, of signing top class replacements when Grove seem to have them all.



Grove's Ian Marshall

Don't get me wrong I'm not knocking the Grove club for whom Ian Marshall is doing an excellent job, I'm more concerned at the lack of the chances being afforded to other clubs to

realistically challenge for the title. One success story off the table is the dramatic rise of the first Scottish club to enter the Friendly Hotels British League, Drumchapel Glasgow. In their first season they swept the board in the third division North, acquired a good name for their organisation and hospitality and at the end of the season were the only club to apply for the vacancy in the Premier Division. Having been granted this they immediately attracted the attention of the local media. Not only did they get good publicity in the Glasgow newspapers but in addition BBC Radio Scotland took notice. In the words of their sports editor 'It's time we took an interest in Table Tennis, more especially as Drumchapel are on our doorstep'. Interviews were arranged with the Glasgow club who responded on the table by crushing Vymura International 14-0 in their opening fixture, even though they were brought back to earth next time round when Team Peniel beat them 10-4. Time will tell whether or not they survive in the top flight but I've a sneaking feeling that they will. Turning to the facts and figures

PLACINGS AS AT 2ND OCTOBER 1994

FRIENDLY HOTELS BRITISH LEAGUE							
PREMIER	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
BFL Grove	3	3	-	-	41	1	6
Team Peniel	3	3	-	-	30	12	6
Policy Plus St. Neots	3	2	1	-	26	16	5
Horsham Angels	3	1	-	2	23	19	2
D. Glasgow	3	1	-	2	19	23	2
Sedgefield	3	1	-	2	16	26	2
DML Launceston	3	-	1	2	10	32	1
Vymura International	3	-	-	3	3	39	-
DIVISION ONE NORTH							
R.M. Lincoln	3	2	1	-	16	8	5
Vymura International II	3	2	1	-	14	10	5
Olton & West Warwick	3	1	2	-	16	8	4
BFL Grove II	3	2	-	1	15	9	4
Sedgefield II	3	1	1	1	14	10	3
Uxbridge (Burton)	3	1	-	2	8	16	2
Leicester	3	-	1	2	7	17	1
Humberside	3	-	-	3	6	18	-
DIVISION ONE SOUTH							
O.L.O.P.	3	3	-	-	21	3	6
BFL Grove III	3	3	-	-	19	5	6
Edison	3	2	-	1	18	6	4
Linda Farrow	3	1	1	1	12	12	3
BSG Brentwood	3	1	1	1	10	14	3
Horsham II	3	-	1	2	7	17	1
Milton Keynes	3	-	1	2	6	18	1
Byng Hall	3	-	-	3	3	21	-
DIVISION TWO NORTH							
Moorland Seaside	3	3	-	-	17	7	6
City of Leeds	3	2	1	-	19	5	5
BFL Grove Colts	3	2	1	-	17	7	5
Sedgefield III	3	2	1	-	16	8	5
Derwent	2	-	1	1	6	10	1
Peterborough	3	-	-	3	7	17	-
V.R. Warrington	2	-	-	2	3	13	-
Uxbridge (Burton)	3	-	-	3	3	21	-
DIVISION TWO SOUTH EAST							
Barclays Bank	3	3	-	-	16	8	6
P.T. Fellows Cranleigh	3	2	-	1	15	9	4
P.A. Croydon	2	1	1	-	11	5	3
BSG Brentwood II	3	1	1	1	14	10	3
Team Peniel II	2	1	-	1	8	8	2
Ashford (Kent)	2	-	-	2	5	11	-
Linda Farrow II	3	-	-	3	3	21	-
DIVISION TWO SOUTH WEST							
P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts	
B.C. Hyundai	3	3	-	-	18	6	6
Kingshurst	3	2	-	1	16	8	4
DML Launceston II	3	2	-	1	16	8	4
Cheltenham	3	2	-	1	14	10	4
Gridfine St. Neots	3	2	-	1	12	12	4
Jolliffe Poole	3	1	-	2	12	11	2
Hawbush	3	-	-	3	5	19	-
Amity Generation	3	-	-	3	2	22	-
DIVISION THREE EAST							
Progress	3	3	-	-	21	3	6
Crusaders Lincoln	3	2	1	-	18	6	5
Brent Juniors	3	2	-	1	14	10	4
Byng Hall II	3	2	-	1	14	10	4
P.T. Fellows Cran. II	3	1	1	1	13	11	3
Britannia Ipswich	3	1	-	2	13	11	2
Reject II	3	-	-	3	3	21	-
Peterborough II	3	-	-	3	-	24	-
DIVISION THREE MIDLAND							
Leckie	3	3	-	-	19	5	6
P.D. Newport	3	3	-	-	18	6	6
Vymura III	3	2	-	1	12	12	4
DML Launceston III	3	2	-	1	12	12	4
O.L.O.P. II	3	1	-	2	12	12	2
Nottingham League	3	1	-	2	11	13	2
Bromsgrove	3	-	-	3	6	18	-
BFL Grove Colts II	3	-	-	3	6	18	-
DIVISION THREE NORTH							
BFL Grove IV	3	3	-	-	21	3	6
Abbeyle	3	2	1	-	17	7	5
D. Glasgow II	3	2	1	-	16	8	5
Moorland Seaside II	3	2	-	1	14	10	4
AALCO Leeds	3	1	-	2	10	14	2
Sedgefield IV	3	-	1	2	8	16	1
City of Leeds II	3	-	1	2	7	17	1
CWS Manchester	3	-	-	3	3	21	-
DIVISION THREE SOUTH							
Rejects	3	3	-	-	16	8	6
G.S. Larkhall	3	2	1	-	18	6	5
Norwich T.F.	3	2	1	-	17	7	5
Horsham III	3	1	2	-	13	11	4
Barnets League	3	-	1	2	10	14	1
Ellenborough	3	-	1	2	9	15	1
Adeyfield	3	-	1	2	9	15	1
Linda Farrow III	3	-	1	2	4	20	1

of the opening matches it's good to see Policy Plus St. Neots making a good start with a draw against Launceston and victory over Vymura. Once again Stuart Palmer is making an impact, winning five of his first six sets. Horsham Angels went down to Peniel but then trounced Launceston 14-0 in their second match.

Sedgefield are suffering from the loss of Bradley Billington to the French League and of Stokes and Walker to Glasgow and lost to both Grove and to St. Neots, although new signing Richard Hyacinth did get a couple of wins on his debut against St. Neots.

Edison TTC and O.L.O.P., as well as Grove thirds are emerging as the strongest sides in division one South. Edison's David Goode, Neil Charles and Simon



unscathed. Olton and West Warwicks, Ruston Marconi Lincon (who drew with them) and Vymura II (who dropped a point to Leicester Lions) made the best start with one win and one draw each. Only two players in the division recorded four out of four from the opening fixtures - Grove's Michael O'Driscoll and Lincoln's Dave Gannon. In the second division Barclays

Supported by  Schildkröt

Rockall were all unbeaten in the first two matches as were John Souter and Terry Young for O.L.O.P. The latter looks likely to make quite an impact in the first division. For Grove, Tong Feiming and Carl Morgan have both started with four wins in four visits to the table. With the shock defeat of BFL Grove II at the hands of Vymura II in a match that saw Mark Hankey and Paul Hutchins both beat Alison Gordon, no team came through the first two matches in the Northern section

Bank were the only team to stay 100% in the South East Section, Mark Randle winning all of his sets, whilst in the South West Bribar Colley Hyundai and Gridfine St. Neots both took four points from their opening fixtures. David Buck remained unbeaten for Colley Hyundai, the only other player in the division to win four being Jolliffe Poole's Tony Clayton.

Up in the North, City of Leeds, BFL Grove Colts and Moorland Seaside of Blackpool are the early leaders with Leeds just on top on set difference. Several players made an unblemished start in this division - Leeroy Pyle of Grove, Andrew Wilkinson of Sedgefield, Natasha Williams (Blackpool) together with Leeds' David Indriks, Tony Bottomley and Richard Smith. But the only player to get the player of the match award in both of the first two matches, in fact the only one to do so outright in any division, was Darren Ashall of Derwent TTC.

Early leaders in the third divisions were Brent Juniors and Progress WHS (East), Leckie, Parkside Dragons Newport and Vymura International III (Midland) BFL Grove IV and Moorland Seaside II (North) and Norwich Todd Foxwood and Rejects (South).

Only a brief mention of the third divisions this month but I'll put that right next time round.

PRESS OFFICER OF THE YEAR



THE FRIENDLY HOTELS PRESS OFFICER OF THE YEAR WAS EDISON'S GLEN WILKES WHO WON THE TITLE BY A STREET.



ALISON TO PASS ON HER NATIONAL EXPERIENCE TO THE CADET GIRLS

WHEN ALISON GORDON WAS ASKED WHAT SHE WOULD DO WHEN SHE RETIRED FROM PLAYING TABLE TENNIS, SHE REMEMBERED WHAT JOSE RANSOME HAD SAID TO HER, "IT'S IMPORTANT THAT YOUR EXPERIENCE SHOULDN'T BE LOST TO THE SPORT ONCE YOU HAVE FINISHED PLAYING AT INTERNATIONAL LEVEL". SO WHEN ALISON WAS OFFERED THE ENGLAND CADET GIRLS CAPTAIN'S POSITION LAST SUMMER, SHE DULY ACCEPTED

WRITES JOHN WOOD.

Alison is our most experienced lady player having completed her 50th European League match for England, when she proudly wore the yellow and blue national shirt against Poland in September at the Ashford Table Tennis Centre in Middlesex.

Actually, Alison is not yet ready to retire from playing at national level, so she will continue to represent England as well as coaching

the Cadet Girls.

When asked how she would tackle both jobs, she replied "I haven't thought about how to tackle the problem if there is a clash of playing dates, but I hope this won't happen. I shall commence my duties by having a look at the girls styles and bring out the best in their games."

Alison continued, "The Chinese coach Jai Yi Liu will have a big influence on their game as he is overall in

charge of the juniors and cadets."

Asked how she will accomplish her ambitions as a coach Alison said, "I will try to see all the girls that are being considered for the national side by going to all the important junior tournaments, as and when I can fit it into my playing schedule, such as the Cadet Six Nations, Cleveland Junior 2 Star Select and Junior Top 12 etc. Hopefully I will be able to train with them trying

to help them with their training programme."

Alison continued, "After the cadet girls came 12th in the European Youth Championships, in Paris this year, I hope that in Holland next year to improve on that performance. To improve on that effort would be a big achievement."

When asked about her personal playing ambitions, Alison replied, "I was going to stop playing after Euro 94 in Birmingham, but I can still

play well for another season, and I'm training hard hopefully to be selected for Women's European League matches and to do as well as last season."

Alison added, "I also hope to be selected for the Commonwealth Championships in Singapore and the World Championships in China. As the Women's team will go from 2 to 3 players in Singapore we will have a better chance of winning a

gold medal, after achieving a silver medal in India."

"Playing with Grove with Lisa Lomas, Tony Fei Ming and Nicola Deaton, we have an excellent chance of reaching the European Club final this season."

Three times national Champion, Alison Gordon listed 'One foot in the Grave' as her favourite TV programme, but this does not reflect on Alison's ability as a player and coach as she still has a lot to offer the game of

table tennis.

Her favourite foods are Chinese, Indian and Italian, and her favourite holiday resort is somewhere hot with plenty of golf courses.

When asked if she could have a meal with anyone in the world, who would it be, she replied, "With Mel Gibson, but only if John Broe wasn't available."

At the end of this season Alison will marry John Broe of Scotland on the 1st July 1995, at Sonning Parish

Church, Sonning, Berkshire, at 3 pm. At the same church Alison's Mother and Grandmother were married.

After her marriage Alison will move from Reading to Glasgow, so travelling to training camps at Lilleshal will put a bigger strain on her. But I am sure she will succeed! Because Alison Gordon is a winner, a lady of true grit!

Champions Essex take the lead

COUNTY
CHAMPIONSHIPS

THE COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS PROGRAMME FOR 1994/95 STARTED OVER THE WEEKEND 24/25TH SEPTEMBER WITH OVER 100 MATCHES PLAYED. THIS INCLUDED THE FIRST ROUND OF SENIOR PREMIER DIVISION MATCHES PLAYED AT A NEW VENUE - IDSALL SPORTS CENTRE, SHIFNAL, SHROPSHIRE

WRITES DOUG MOSS.

Essex fielded a young team with Chris Sladden, Damian Holland, Ryan Savill, Linda Radford and top junior Shelly Ruocco. Their first encounter was against Lancashire. Essex has a great start with a 9-1 win! There followed a tougher contest against Devon, who went into a 2-nil lead with Paul Whiting (Dv) beating Chris Sladden 13 and 14. Essex fought back to win 7-3.

Staff's team played very well to secure a draw with Essex! Steve Slater (St) won his 2 events. Shelley Ruocco (E) was perhaps unfortunate to lose her 2 matches. But credit to Staffs

achieved without their top two ladies. The two promoted teams - Berkshire and Leics - fared well. Both teams had one win, a draw and one loss which gave them 3 points and places in mid-table.

There were many hard fought matches with 5 of the 12 ending in a draw. Just 3 players got 100% wins from the 3 matches - Linda Radford (E), Karen Smith (Le) and Terry Young (Bk), the national No.2 Junior. This included wins over Graham Sandley and Richard Hyacinth (Mi).

LEAGUE TABLE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
E	3	2	1	0	21	9	5
ST	3	1	2	0	19	11	4
MI	3	1	2	0	17	13	4
BK	3	1	1	1	16	14	3
DV	3	1	1	1	16	14	3
LE	3	1	1	1	14	16	3
DY	3	0	1	2	9	21	1
LA	3	0	1	2	8	22	1

SENIOR DIVISION 1A:

LANCS 2NDS 6, WORCS 4.

The two promoted teams met and Lancs started well by going into a 4-0 lead. Sandra Roden (Wo) stemmed the tide and convincingly won her 2 matches. Philip Bowden played well to get 2 vital wins for Lancs and with support from Paul Hutchings, Kevin Dolder, Brenda Buoeuy and Sylvia Graham, Lancs gained a 6-4 win.



Essex's Shelley Ruocco

SENIOR DIVISION 1B:

SX 1STS 8, SX 2NDS 2. SY 1STS 8, SY 2NDS 2. AVON 6, DV 2NDS 4. KENT 7, MID 2NDS 3. The 2 teams demoted from the Premier Division - Sussex and Surrey - both started well with 8-

2 wins over their 2nd team. Carol Hewett (SX.2) had a very good 14 and 13 win over Claire Hunter. David Harding (Sy.2) was involved in deuce in 3rd sets beating Selwyn Campbell 23 in 3rd game but losing to Darren

RESULTS

E 9	LA 1	DV3	E7
DY5	DV5	LA5	LE5
MI5	ST5	E5	ST5
LE6	BK4	DY3	BK7
BK5	MI5	MI7	LE3
ST9	DY1	LA2	DV8

ladies with Jose Bongers winning at 22 in the 3rd game and Janet Dunning being successful at 24 in a decider! With Essex leading 5-4 Adrian Dixon beat Ryan Savill - 19, 18, 16. Staffs team had a successful weekend by getting a 9-1 win over Derbys and a draw with Middlesex, when Adrian Dixon (St) again won the final event with a 17 in 3rd defeat of John Souter. This gave them 2nd place in the table and it was

Blake -19,19,-20. Devon 2nds went into a 2-nil lead against Avon when Michelle Cohen (Av) beat Elaine Short at 19 in 3rd game but Avon went on to win 6-4. Juliet Houghton and Helen Garlick (K) won their 4 events in a 7-3 win over Middlesex 2nds.

SENIOR DIVISION 2A:

WAR 2NDS 8, CUM 2. CH 6, NG 4. STAFFS 2NDS 3, CV 7. CW 1, LI 2NDS 9. CW 6, LINCS 2NDS 4. Newcomers Cleveland made an excellent start with a 7-3 win over Staffs 2nds. Keith, Roger, Mark Simon and Steve Cooper (v) won their 6 events. Kate Ryan and Dawn Bromlley won their 4 matches for Warwicks 2nds in their 8-2 defeat of Cumbria. Nottingham's team was a player short against Cheshire the 6-4 win. Cw played 2 matches and got a good 6-4 win over Lincs 2nds. But against Leicestershire 2nds Darren Bagnall was the only player to get a win for Cw.

SENIOR DIVISION 2B:

GS 6, WILTS 4. WILTS 2NDS 4, GS

6. CORN 2NDS 0, WORCS 2NDS 10. DV 3, CORN 1STS 6. DO 4, SO 6.

Gloucs made a good start to the season with two 6-4 wins - over the Wilts teams. Darren Griffin and Graham Slack (Gs) won all their matches. Worcs 2nds visited Cornwall 2nds and came away with a 10-nil win. Kevin Worth was the only Cornish player to go to a deciding game. Cornwall 1st team, who narrowly missed promotion last season, go off to a 6-4 win over Devon 3rd team. Cara Rowe (Co) won her 2 events. The Dorset/Somerset match score stood at 4-4 when Tina Sadler and Rob Millard won their matches to earn Somerset 2 points for a win.

JUNIOR DIVISION 1B:

BUCKS 8, KENT 2NDS 2. DV 10, DV 2NDS 0. HANTS 5, AVON 5. SX 7, SX 2NDS 3.

Kent 2nds, on promotion, were under pressure at Milton Keynes and only Alison Smith and Rachel Woolven were able to get a win. Devon proved their

ranking list when the 1st team had a "clean sweep" over the 2nd team. The Hants/Avon match was hard fought proceeding 1-1, 2-2, 3-3, 4-4 and ended in a draw. For Avon's Graham Long and Tom Orlick were unbeaten. Sussex 1sts bet their 2nd team 7-3. The 2nd team boys - Harry McCarney, Chris Hancock and Paul Hancock - each got a win.

JUNIOR DIVISION 2B:

E 3RDS 5, HUNTS 5. NOR 3RDS 0, E 2NDS 10. SK 2NDS 6, HERTS 2NDS 4.

Essex 3 and Hunts, who finished 2nd and 3rd in the Division last season, met and a draw resulted. The Essex team led 5-3 but Kirsty Pike and Reuan Williams (Hu) forced the draw. Essex 2nds fared better with a 10-nil win on their visit to Norfolk 3rds. Suffolk 2nds

were indebted to Vicky Gray, who won her 2 events in their 6-4 win over Herts 2nds.

JUNIOR DIVISION 2C:

WORCS 9, DOR 1. DV 3RDS 1, GN 2NDS 9. WILTS 6, CORN 4. SO 4, GS 6, SO 10, HERE 0.

Worcs, with 3 players making their debut, started well with a 9-1 win over Dorset. Newcomers Alex Hill, Ian Wood and Laura Vaughan, won their match convincingly. Glam 2nds visited Plymouth and came away with a 9-1 win. Johnathan Kent go the 1 win for Devon 3rds. Cornwall went into a 2-nil lead against Wilts but the homesters came back to win 6-4. Two matches were played at Wellington Sports Centre with Somerset getting a 10-nil win over newcomers Herefords. But with Ann Humble and Mel Garlick winning their 4 events Somerset went down 6-4 to Glos.

JUNIOR DIVISION 2D:

HANTS 2NDS 7, BUCKS 2NDS 3. SY 2NDS 8, MID 2NDS 2. BK 2NDS 4, SY 3RDS 6. SX 3RDS 5, KENT 3RDS 5.

Bucks 2nds started with a 2-nil lead over Hants 2nds but the home team recovered to win 7-3. Elaine Moore and Donna Granville won their 4 events. The Surrey 2/Middx 2 match started with Tom Wilkins (Sy) beating

James Wakelam 19,-20,21. With Kingfisher Club, Reading got a 6-4 win over Bk 2nds with Katy Hart confidently winning her 2 events. Although Sussex 3 led Kent 3 2-nil, the visitors came back to lead 5-4 but William Reardon (Sx) beat Steven New in the 3rd game to force a draw.

VETERANS DIVISION 1B:

E 2NDS 7, E 3RDS 2. KENT 2NDS 7, SY 2. BUCKS 4, SY 2NDS 5. SO 5, BK 4.

In the Essex 2/3 clash Brian Adams and Ray Murray each got a win but that was the extent of the 3rd team's success. Surrey, on demotion from the Premier Division, met last season's Division One champions and succumbed 7-2 to Kent 2nds.

Surrey 2nds were a player short against Bucks and, with Mike Atkinson winning his 2

singles, Bucks won 5-4. Brian Reeves and John Crabtree (So) won their 4 singles and Shirley Dark/Graham Green won the mixed doubles to give Somerset a 5-4 win over Bk.

VETERANS DIVISION 2A:

WAR 3RDS 3, NG 6. NP 2NDS 4, NP 1STS 5. CW 3, LANCS 2NDS 6. Cams fought back from 3-4 down to get 2 points for a 5-4 win over Essex 4th team. Beds 2nds, on promotion, put up a good fight against Bucks 2nds. The score stood at 4-4 when Steve Crow (Bu) beat Ivan Brown to get a 5-4 win. Herts 2nds, coming down from Division 1, could not have done better than a 9-nil win over Beds. Norfolk 1st team visited St. Neots TTC and got a 7- win over Hunts.

VETERANS DIVISION 2C:

KENT 4THS 5, SX 3RDS 4. SY 3RDS 9, MID 2NDS 0. MID 1STS 8, BK 2NDS 1. SX 2NDS 5, KENT 3RDS 3. Promotees Kent 4th team got 2 points from a 5-4 win over Sussex 3rds. Barry Grimwade (k) won both of his singles matches. Just 2 events needed a decider when Surrey 3rds beat Middlesex 2nds 9-nil. But Middlesex 1st team, after demotion from Division 1, played well to beat Bk 2nds 8-1. Sussex 2nds went into a 3-nil lead and, with Andy Meads and Gerry Batt-Rawden involved



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in 5 wins, they defeated Kent 3rds 6-3.

VETERANS DIVISION 2D:

GS 1STS 7, DO 2NDS 2, WILTS 6, DV 2NDS 3.
After promotion and demotion affecting the 2 Glos teams they came together in this Division. The 1st team got a good start with a 7-2 win over Dorset 2nds. But the 2nd team struggled against Hants 2nds and went down 1-8. Graeme Holton beat Ken Burton 15 and 26 for the one Glos win. Five events need a decider in the Wilts/Devon 2 match but the homesters got on top to win 6-3.

VETERANS DIVISION 3A:

NP 3RDS 1, STAFFS 8, HERE 4THS 4, CH 3RDS 5, YORKS 2NDS 8, SK 1, NK 2NDS 5, BEDS 3RDS 4.
Staffs was another team to make a good start after demotion. They won 8-1 against Northants 3rds. Muriel

Cox (Np) beat Shirley Boone 20,-14,17. It was a close contest between Herts 4/Ch 3. It took Phil Luxon (Ch) to beat Dennis Robinson 11,-10,20 to get the 5th event for a win. Two new entrants met when Yorks 2nds had a convincing 8-1 win over Suffolk.

VETERANS DIVISION 3B:

DOR 6, SO 2NDS 3, OXON 2NDS 5, BK 3RDS 4, HERE 5THS 6, HERTS 3, WILTS 3RDS 3, DV 4THS 6.
Newcomers Wilts 4th team visited Dorset 3rds and lost 1-8. Ben Sage got the 1 Wilts event. Herts 3rd team did well on their visit to Southampton to beat Hants 4th team 6-3. Keith Hartridge (He) was involved in 3 of the wins. There were some hard fought games in the Bk 4/Wilts 2 match. Five events went to a decider and 3 were won after deuce and 19 in 3rd games. Hants 3rd team took the first 4 events against Sussex 4th team. Sussex won the next 3 but Hants came back to win 6-3.

VETERANS DIVISION 3C:

DV 3RDS 6, SO 2NDS 3, OX 2NDS 5, BK 3RDS 4, HE 5THS 6, HR 3, WI 3RDS 3, DV 4THS 6.
Somerset 2nds went into a 2-nil lead against Devon 3rds but the Devon team hit back to win 6-3.



Surrey's Glenda Ashison

COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS

More success for Devon when their 4th team beat Wilts 3rds 6-3. Phil Goulding was involved in 3 of the Devon wins. Hereford visited Herts 5th team when Carol Milnes (Hr) won her singles and the mixed doubles

with Neville Meredith. But the Herts team got a 6-3 win. Oxon 2nds, on demotion, had a tough match against Bk 3rd team before winning 5-4. To seal the win Alf Davies (Ox) beat Mike Harris 15,-14,25!

LATE RESULTS SENIOR DIV 2C

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

JUNIOR PREMIER DIVISION

The first round of 12 matches in this Division was played at Armley Table Tennis Centre, Leeds. Yorkshire and Surrey both won their 3 matches. Yorkshire head the League table having a 1 set advantage over Surrey. Yorks team was very well served by their boys, who won 15 of the 18 sets played. Michael James was their star winning 6 matches without losing a single game! His closest match was against Jason Sugrue (Mi) 20 and 23.

Surrey took 2nd place in the

LEAGUE TABLE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Y	3	3	0	0	20	10	6
SY	3	3	0	0	19	11	6
E	3	2	1	0	21	9	5
BK	3	1	1	1	15	15*	3
GN	3	1	1	1	15	15	3
K	3	0	1	2	13	17	1
MI	3	0	0	3	10	20	0
CH	3	0	0	3	7	23	0

*33-32 as against 31-33

table. Glenda Ashison was their most successful player losing only to Claire Newns (Ch) with scores -23 and -21. Essex dropped just one point - in their match against Berks., Berks, the current champions were without the services of Gareth Herbert, one of the top ranked boys. However their No.1 - Terry Young - got

RESULTS

MI 4	GN 6	Y 7	MI 3
CH 3	Y 7	GN 5	K 5
BK 5	E 5	MI 3	E 7
K 4	SY 6	CH 3	SY 7
E 9	CH 1	BK 6	K 4
SY 6	BK 4	GN 4	Y 6

100% wins. This added to his success in being unbeaten in the recent Senior Premier Division matches. The only other player with 100% wins was Bethan Daunton of Glamorgan.

In the final round of matches in April next, Yorkshire have to meet both Surrey and Essex. The Championship of this Division is very far from being settled!

ON PEAK TIME TV DURING
THE EVENING OF
SATURDAY NOVEMBER 19TH
1994, A PIECE OF ENGLISH
HISTORY WILL BE CARVED.

**WRITES GRAHAM
CARTER.**

In what is likely to become the most popular programme on television, Noel Edmonds is favourite to host the National Lottery show.

Live on the BBC programme, a machine will pick out six numbers ranged between 1 and 49. The winning 'punter' will have a one in 14 million chance of scooping the jackpot and becoming a millionaire.

Tickets for the National Lottery will go on sale in 10,000 outlets on 14th November. Eventually 40,000 supermarket, shops, newsagents, garages and post offices will have lottery game terminals. It is estimated that 50% of the adult population will become regular players.

FUNDING DOUBLED FOR SPORT

The National Lottery Bill was given Royal Assent in October 1993. This identified a number of "Good Causes" which would receive funding from as the proceeds from the event become available. The Lottery is expected to raise an incredible £9 billion for heritage, arts, charities, millennium and sport.

In short, the effect of the Lottery will be to double the existing funding for sport from the other main sources combined:-

Sports Council	£60million
Foundation for Sport & the Arts	£50million
Football Trust	£35million
Sportsmatch	£4million
	£149million
<i>all figures are approximate</i>	

National Lottery is £150 million in year one.

If you think this is good news, listen to this:- the proceeds will gradually increase year by year so that the £150 million available for sport in year one is anticipated to rise to a total of £1600 million during the first 7 year period!

WHO IS PROMOTING THE LOTTERY?

A special organisation called

NATIONAL LOTTERY BEGINS

Camelot won the bid to hold the licence to sell the tickets and operate the Lottery. They are an amalgam of existing companies with expertise/experience in marketing, lottery sales, computers etc:- Cadbury Schweppes, De La Rue, Racal, G Tech, ICL.

So, you can be sure they'll be on sale in the same places as Cadbury chocolate!

FACILITIES

Sport, including table tennis, will be able to take advantage of the extra money on offer. It is likely that funding will be given to Capital Schemes eg. Facility building projects rather than revenue eg assistance with running expenses. The expertise of qualified architect Paul Baker, the ETTA's full time Facilities Officer can help guide projects through the architectural and technical maze and ETTA Regional Development Officers will be on hand to advise.

Table tennis could even benefit from the fund for the Millennium, if a suitable scheme is put forward.

WHAT IS THE PROCEDURE FOR APPLYING?

Firstly, there's no rush! Funding from the Lottery is to be distributed by the Sports Council. Application packs will be available from them from November 18th.

HOW WILL THE ETTA ASSIST APPLICANTS?

As many people already know, the ETTA Development department assists applicants to the Foundation for Sports & the Arts and the Sports Council by reviewing project plans and offering advice and endorsements. It is a fact that this gives the applicant greater credibility and increases the

chances of the applications being successful.

It is the ETTA's intention to do the same with applications for National Lottery funding, although the exact procedure is yet to be finalised.

Regional Development Officers are up to date on the current situation regarding the Lottery from a senior member of the Sports Council National Lottery Team, Tony Ploszajaski.

They will be giving advice on how to prepare applications in such a way as to meet the

requirements of the Sports Council assessors, who will be working to a pre planned scheme.

The ETTA Chairman, Alan Ransome sees the chance provided by the National Lottery to develop table tennis as being tremendous:-

"Not all the projects will be successful, but provided the majority come to fruition, it will certainly create excellent opportunities for playing table tennis under improved conditions throughout the country".

HOW DO YOU APPLY?

A special Sports Lottery Line has been set up by the Sports Council for all queries regarding Lottery grants (not general information about the Lottery). Telephone 0345 649649. The line is open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Applications for funding of schemes will be accepted from 4th January 1995. The English Table Tennis Association recommends potential applicants register to receive the Lottery newsletter Lottery Link by ringing the Lottery line.

ENGLISH TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION and ENGLISH SCHOOLS'
TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION

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Striving for equal opportunities, this post is funded by the Sports Council and the English Table Tennis Association, in conjunction with the English Schools' Table Tennis Association

ACCIDENT REPORTING, RECORDING AND PREVENTION

BY STUART SNEYD

(ETTA VICE CHAIRMAN AND NVQ CO-ORDINATOR)

1. INTRODUCTION

The following is an abridge version of a document which has been prepared as part of the source material for National Vocational Qualification (NVQ) Level 2 in Table Tennis Coaching. The information will be of value to any coach, regardless of qualification.

2. REPORTING

Under the requirements of the Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations 1985 (RIDDOR), events resulting from accident which arise out of or in connection with work are reportable, using form F2508, to the Health and Safety Executive (HSE). The point of contact is the local office of HM Factory Inspectorate.

The events are defined as follows:

Form F2508 should be sent to

- Deaths
- Specified major injuries (see list below)
- Incapacity for work for more than three days as a result of an injury (over 3 day injury) which is not a specified major injury.

the HSE within seven days of the reportable event.

Deaths and specified major injuries are also immediately notifiable, by way of telephone, to the HSE. Immediate notification generally means during normal office hours, as soon as possible after the notifiable event.

The responsibility for dealing with reporting/notification depends on the circumstances ie: **Death, specified major injury or**

over 3 day injury of an employee.

RESPONSIBILITY: The employer.

Death, specified major injury or over 3 day injury of a self-employed person working in premises which are under the control of someone else.

RESPONSIBILITY: The person in control of the premises.

Specified major injury or over 3 day injury of a self-employed person working in premises which are under his/her control.

RESPONSIBILITY: The self employed person or someone acting on that person's behalf.

Death or specified major injury of a person not a work (eg a member of a coaching squad) but is affected by the work of someone else.

RESPONSIBILITY: The ETTA, irrespective of the location in which the injury occurred.

Injury to a self employed coach working in premises controlled by a local authority.

RESPONSIBILITY: The local authority.

Injury to a self employed coach working in premises controlled by the coach.

RESPONSIBILITY: The coach or someone acting on his/her behalf.

Injury to a member of a coaching squad in premises controlled by a local authority.

RESPONSIBILITY: The local authority, irrespective of the employed or voluntary status of the coach in charge of the squad.

premises controlled by a local authority, where the connection relates to the facility provision as part of the local authority undertaking.

There is however, an exception to these work related situations - there is no obligation on anyone to report an injury which occurs whilst a self employed coach is working in someone's home.

Aside from the legal obligations, local arrangements may have a bearing on the action a coach needs to take. For example, if the premises are controlled by a self employed coach but the owners of the premises insist, as standard practice, on dealing with reporting/notification themselves, then the coach need take no further action. Under these circumstances, however, the coach must be certain that matters will be properly dealt with. If there is any doubt, the coach must report to/notify the HSE as appropriate.

It is important to note that where there is no work connection, there is no responsibility to report/notify. For example, an injury would not be reportable if it occurred to a member of a coaching squad in premises controlled by a volunteer coach.

It should also be borne in mind that the self employed/voluntary status of a coach may change from day to day. What is critical, therefore, in terms of the coach's responsibility for reporting/notification, is the status of the coach at the time of the injury.

The foregoing is a brief outline of the requirements of RIDDOR. Any coach interested in detailed guidance should purchase HSE booklet HS(R)23, 'A guide to the reporting of injuries, diseases and dangerous occurrences regulations 1985' available from: HSE Books, PO Box 1999, Sudbury, Suffolk, CO10 6FS, Tel: 0787 881165, Fax: 0787

ETTA COACH EDUCATION COURSES

Date of Course: **12, 13 November 94**
Venue: Bedford Athletic Stadium
Tutor: TBA
Level of Course: **Sport Leader, Teacher, Level 2**
Contact: Ms Mirna Eubanks
Tel 0234 267411

Start Date of Course: **Thurs 10th Nov 94**
Sessions: 5 x 2 hour every Thursday
Venue: South Thames College, London
Tutor: TBA
Level of Course: **Level 1 Coach award**
Contact: John Ulewellyn
Tel 071 351 5584

Date of Course: **19, 20 November 94**
Venue: The Grange Sports Centre, Shrewsbury, Shropshire
Tutor: Jill Harris
Level of Course: **Level 2**
Contact: Vicky Wilkinson, Shropshire County Council Leisure Services Dept
Tel 0743 254 032

Date of Course: 10am - 5pm **20 November 94**
Venue: Robin Park Sports Complex, Robin Park Road, Wigan, Lancashire
Level of Course: **Coaches Workshop**
Contact: Martin Ireland 061 736 9448 or Campbell Eaton 0606 871117

Date of Course: **3, 4 December 94**
Venue: Adeyfield, Hemel Hempstead
Tutor: Paul Tarrant
Level of Course: **Sport Leader, Teacher, Level 2**
Contact: Sandra Collins
Tel 0376 532525 ext 2342

Date of Course: **10, 11 December 94**
Venue: St Johns & Rowena Sports Centre, Swanstree Ave, Sittingbourne
Tutor: Dave Berriman
Levels of Course: **ETTA Sport Leader Award, ETTA Teacher Award, ETTA Level 2 Coach Award**
Contact: TBA
Tel TBA

RESPONSIBILITY: The person in control of the premises in connection with the work being undertaken.

The following are examples of responsibility for dealing with reporting/notification:

Injury to a coach employed by the ETTA.

Injury to a member of a coaching squad in premises controlled by a self employed coach.

RESPONSIBILITY: The coach.

These examples are all connected with work activity, including the activity of a volunteer coach in

313995.

Forms F2508 are also available from HSE Books but note that the use of photocopies is acceptable.

3. RECORDING

All accidents, regardless of the legal requirements under RIDDOR or the employed/voluntary status of the coach, should be recorded and the records retained on file by the coach. For the purposes of recording, an accident is defined as any incident causing an injury which requires first aid treatment.

In the case of accident which result in events which are reportable/notifiable to the HSE by someone other than the coach, the recorded information should, if necessary, be passed on to the appropriate person to assist that person in meeting their legal obligations under RIDDOR.

4. PREVENTION

In addition to regular health and safety checks undertaken by the coach, action should be taken to prevent or minimise the recurrence of an accident and a record made of the action taken. If such action involves requesting work or

further action by a third party, the request should be made in writing and a copy retained by the coach.

5. CONCLUSION

The importance of recording and retaining information concerning accidents cannot be overemphasised - the information may prove invaluable should issues of liability arise.

SPECIFIED MAJOR INJURIES

- Fracture of the skull, spine or pelvis.
- Fracture of any bone in the arm or wrist, but not a bone in the hand.
- Fracture of any bone in the leg or ankle, but not a bone in the foot.
- Amputation of a hand or foot.
- Amputation of a finger, thumb or toe, or any part thereof if the joint or bone is completely severed.
- The loss of sight of an eye, a penetrating injury to an eye or a chemical or hot metal burn to an eye.
- Electric shock from any electrical circuit or equipment,

whether or not as a result of direct contact, which causes: injury, including burns, requiring immediate medical treatment or, loss of consciousness.

- Loss of consciousness resulting from lack of oxygen.
- Any other injury which results in the injured person being admitted immediately into hospital for more than 24 hours.

NOTE

1. The above list is not complete but the injuries omitted are unlikely to be encountered.
2. Fracture includes a break, crack or chip.
3. Fracture of the skull includes a fracture of the upper jaw and a fracture of the bone in the upper part of the nose. It does not include a 'broken nose' involving damage to the cartilage of the nose.
4. Fracture of any bone in the arm does not include the collar bone.
5. Amputation means either traumatic amputation at the time of the accident or surgical amputation following the accident.
6. Medical treatment covers

hospital treatment or treatment by a medical practitioner or nurse.

7. Being admitted immediately into hospital means within a few hours of an accident. Immediate admission does not apply one or more days after an accident.

ENGLISH TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION

A POSITIVE APPROACH TO TABLE TENNIS

Tim Holder the Association's Sport Psychologist will be delivering a presentation to all parents and coaches at the English Junior Closed on Saturday 3rd December and Sunday 4th December at the Bushfield Sports Centre, Bushfield, Peterborough. These will take place at 10.00 am and 3.00 pm for approximately 1 hour.

One of the key aspects of the presentation will be looking at a parental guide as to how to help the young table tennis player. There will of course be the opportunity to ask questions and the cost for attending will be £1.50.

Looking forward to seeing you there.

ENGLISH SCHOOLS TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION

Post Dublin, as well as Euro 94 which had a profound effect on those table tennis mad youngsters able to make a visit to Birmingham, and ESTTA are already, in mid-September, looking ahead not only to a busy 1994/5, but to the years leading up to the new millennium.

By Rea Balmford.

Following the International Schools Championships in 1993, also at Birmingham, where ESTTA linked with the ISF (International Sports Federation), and where it was suggested that similar events be arranged, information has been received from Israel that they intend to stage a World event in the Holy Land in April 1995.

The 'six playing days' tournament will involve not only national teams and individual competition, but 'champion school' teams comprising players, all of whom attended the same school.

A very exciting venture, and obviously one at which England will hope to be represented and, with ESTTA President John Arnold, who is to be congratulated on his appointment as Chairman of the ISF Table Tennis Technical

Commission, already highly involved, the Association's 'watching brief' is in very good hands.

The home programme is as wide reaching as ever, with the Team Championships getting under way before Christmas when the various Schools Leagues will be running their own competitions to sort our entries to the Area competition in January, from which winners will go through to first Regional and then National finals.

County Associations will also need to nominate players for the Individual Championships, which will again be held at the Sports Connexion, Coventry, in May, and which will almost certainly have an important influence on the make up of the teams to represent England in the Home International Championships, this year to be held in the Isle of Man.

For those youngsters still at school, but not involved in any of the highly competitive events noted above - and this in no way excludes those who are, for coaching can add points to any player's game, from beginner to international - the popular Easter Coaching Course will again be held at Lea Green in Derbyshire under the supervision of Bob Wood.

Some Primary school players are usually involved in the coaching week, and they are not forgotten at competitive level, with Dumfries in Scotland once again hosting the Under 11 Internationals in April.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS 1994/1995

January 14/15, 1995

Team Competition, Area Finals

February 12

Regional Finals

March 25

National Finals

April (date to be finalised)

Under 11 International (Dumfries)

April 18/19/20/21

Coaching Course (Lea Green)

May 6

Individual Championships (Coventry)

June 30 - July 3

Home International (Isle of Man)

School Report

Jun Tsuji wins 2nd consecutive title

BFL GROVE'S JUN TSUJI WON HIS SECOND CONSECUTIVE MEN'S SINGLES TITLE ON SUNDAY BY DEFEATING CLUB COLLEAGUE RYAN OWEN AT THE FINAL HURDLE OF THE H&E SCAFFOLDING OPEN TABLE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS WRITES IAN MARSHALL.

Tsuji repeated the success of one month earlier with a controlled display of topspin strokes as he defeated club colleague James Mwanzi in the quarter finals before defeating London's Peter Harris at the penultimate stage. Meanwhile, Owen had been involved in a series of three set thrillers overcoming clubmate David Morris and Lincoln's Mark Donoghue by the narrowest of margins to reach the penultimate round.

JUNIOR EVENTS

The rapid progress of BFL Grove's ten year old Adam Robertson was underlined in the junior events with the enthusiastic BFL Grove player clinching the Under 13 and Under 14 titles at the expense of Surrey's Michael Chan and finishing runner up to the Surrey boy at Under 12 level. Meanwhile, Chan who was to play an incredible twenty-nine matches over the weekend completed a hat-trick of success on Saturday by winning the Grade Two, Grade Three and Grade Four Under 14 titles.

The ever present Claire Marshall flew the flag for the home club by winning the Grade Two Singles title whilst BFL Grove colleague Neil Wright won Grade Four with King's Lynn's Chris Brewer successful in Grade D, Mark Donoghue of Lincoln the Grade C victor and town colleague Mike Thornley the Grade B champion.

The journey from London

proved worthwhile for Sharon Gillett as she won the Under 15 and Under 16 Girls' Singles titles whilst there was more success for the Brewer family as Adam Brewer won the Junior Boys' Singles with Liverpool's Stuart Toole the Under 16 Boys' Singles winner and Nicky Hobson-West of Durham the Under 15 Boys' Singles Champion.

The Junior Girls' Singles went the way of Leeds based Sarah Nouch who defeated Kidderminster's Laura Vaughan at the final hurdle with Wolverhampton's Samantha Cooke and Oxford's Nicola Pavitt the semi-final victims.

the Boys Doubles crown. They won a 3 game battle with the Skelmersdale pairing of McGrath and Andrew Day, -21,12,12. Lyndsey Thornton and Catherine Corkill were Girls Doubles Champions with Hayley Swierskowski (Nelson) and Andrea Flintoff (Preston) runners-up.

Chris Dunne (Wirral) confirmed his No.1 seeding by beating Adam Charlmers (Scotland) 15,-16,14 in the Cadet Boys Singles Final. Bury's Lyndsey Thornton added the Cadet Girls Singles Crown the her tally when she defeated Blackpool's Kim Roberts 6,8. Kim also figured in the Class II final but was no match for Linda Knowles (Wolverhampton) who won 11,13. Graeme Foster from Barrow-in-Furness beat Adam Parker (Preston) in a close Cadet Boys Singles Class II final, 16,-12,19. Matthew Allen (Barrow) and Andrew Rushton

(Manchester) almost went down two straight to Leeds pair Philip Lowe and Jason Sharp in the Cadet Boys Doubles final. After losing the first -18, they survived the second 22 and took the third game comfortably 13. Kim Roberts eventually tasted success when she teamed up with Lyndsey Thornton to beat Jade Kendall (Barrow) and Katy Parker (Preston) 17,10 in the Cadet Girls Doubles. Adam Parker (son of you know who) had to battle hard to beat Andrew Rushton in the U12 Boys Final -15,14,20. He finished off the final game with an unplayable net chord shot. Sister Katy made sure both Under 12 trophies finished up on the Parker Mantelpiece by seeing off Hayley Swierskowski 15,-15,8.

Thanks must go to Lancashire TTA who sponsored the trophies, Carr Hill Community Association for their support and to Aubrey Drapkin who did a first class job as referee. To all other invaluable helpers - well done.

DARREN WRIGHT WINS LANCASHIRE JUNIOR 1 STAR

Nearly 90 youngsters, from all over Britain took part in the relaunch of the Lancashire Junior Open at Carr Hill School, Kirkham in September. It is some years since the event was previously run at Bolton and Oldham. Writes Tony Meredith.

Darren Wright (Bradford) emerged as Junior Boys Singles Champion. Seeded 2, he edged out No.1 seed Peter Marshall (Hull) 18,20. England No.1 Cadet Lyndsey Thornton had little difficulty in beating Catherine Corkill (Barrow-in-Furness) 12, 16. James McGrath of Skelmersdale did well to reach the Junior Boys Singles Class II final, but his combi bat game was no match for the skills of Darren Wright who won 14,18. Blackpool youngster Kirsten Williams fought her way to the Girls Class II final only to go down the Catherine Corkill -13,13,-18. Darren Wright teamed up with Mark Brook (Huddersfield) to lift

BFL Grove's Jun Tsuji who won his second consecutive Men's Singles title, in his first year out of the junior ranks.



BONUS POINTS

I am afraid that the ETTA is in danger of making itself look ridiculous with the introduction of "bonus points" into ranking lists.

Surely, ranking lists, if they mean anything, denote that if players 1, 2 and 3 on the list are better than players 4, 5 and 6. At least they do in all other sports. To place player 6 before player 3 simply because he has happily been taking part in every event he can reach is ludicrous.

I could claim to sing better than Pavarotti because I sing more often, eg in the tub every morning; in fact I have done but no one seems to believe me!

Agreed, players should be encouraged to enter competitions, but I don't feel that artificially enhancing their ranking is the way to do it. Don't they themselves find this slightly embarrassing?

Perhaps a cash prize could be given for the best competition attendee(s).

Incidentally, since you ask, I am not bowled over by the new "TT News" cover, which is 'bitty', I much preferred the old whole-plate cover photos, which were dramatic and marvellous.

R Murphy, Bristol

BEST READ

The new look October 'News' gave me the best table tennis read that I have had for a long time - well done! But nothing is perfect, and some vital words were left out of a key quote from my interview with Lloyd Lewis, which greatly diminishes the impact of his message - that youngsters, in table tennis as in successful in the long term. Therefore I urge you to publish the particular passage, with the excluded words shown in bold.

'Lloyd spoke of meeting Paul Hutchins, the then English tennis supremo, many years ago who told him that: "He was trying to change the coaching methods because too many coaches teach their youngsters of 6, 7 or 8, to **just keep the ball in play by putting the ball back in court down the middle to keep the consistency there, and the Americans are taught to go for winners, go down the lines, go across court, pick their angles. Our lads at 6, 7 or 8 beat the American lads, but when they get to 10, 11 or 12 the American lads beat our lads because they have learnt their angles and are consistent with their (stronger) shots. That is a similar sort of thing with the table tennis. I want the lads to be doing the shots, learning the touches, the flicks, good serves, vibrations, specially a good backhand - and they will develop and be good players by the time they are 16, 17 or 18, for England"**'

Ken Muhr, Stony Stratford, Milton Keynes

SUPPORT

I would like to support the idea of

individual affiliations (or licensing of players) as proposed by Desmond Douglas in his article "Time For a Change" in the October issue of Table Tennis News and the banding of tournaments is essential if we want to give players worth while competition. As to the ratings, I agree you should not be able to gain points in one list and have them added to another. It does not sit well with the player who enters as many tournaments as possible to gain rating points to find a junior or a veteran who is well below their own standard placed a hundred or so places above them in the ratings.

However, I think it is also essential to take another step before we can get it right. That is to rationalise the event's calendar. Having spent several seasons trying to fit local competitions in between Open Tournament, British League and County Matches and listening to players trying to plan which competition to play in and which to miss I decided in April 1993 to sit down and write a paper on the then current declining situation. The result was I wrote a document headed "Competitions Development Policy" which I sent to ETTA Officers who I thought would be interested in sorting out the chaotic situation that the calendar is in. I received 10 letters telling me my thoughts on the subject had some merit and was invited to attend a Seminar for Tournament Organisers on the 10th July, 1993. Unfortunately I was on holiday and was unable to attend, so I don't know what happened at that meeting.

I realise of course, that changes cannot happen over night and that my ideas may not necessarily be that which will be adopted. The aim was to try and focus minds on the problem and get things moving. Now having read Desmond's article I feel that perhaps it should be opened for discussion to a wider audience.

Len Piffold, Farringtons TT Centre, Chislehurst, Kent
Len's Consultation Document will appear in the next issue of TTN. - Editor.

OPPORTUNITIES NEED CREATING

The April edition contained a letter to Mailbox from a Trevor J Carter entitled "A Missed Opportunity" and ruminated on the lack of profile and sings informing people of a Euro 94 qualifying event at the Brentwood Centre.

I feel Mr Carter's letter typifies the table tennis set up in this country. The low profile of Freemasonry is more readily known to the people of Britain than table tennis (that's ping-pong is it not?). Table tennis is a very "In-house" affair which the public is never very much aware of.

At the recent Euro Championships in Birmingham there were numerous leaflets and posters urging people to join a table tennis club in their area, a great example of preaching to the

converted. Did the would be authorities really think that some of the general public would be wandering in there at £7 or £11 admission just to see some exciting ping-pong which they knew about because of all the blanket coverage everywhere. It was attended by those of us already in the know. There was no general public at the National Indoor Arena but there was whoops of joy at the 3,000 crowd seen at the finals, which were held in a city of approximately a million population. There were also howls of delight as some of the action found its way onto television screens, sandwiched between the days important race meetings. Yes, this was England's biggest table tennis competition since 1977 and we enthusiasts revelled in it while the rest of the population didn't even know it was going on.

Anybody in Britain can read the "Table Tennis News" but first of all one must be in the know to subscribe to it's "In-house" delivery system. If the public were aware of table tennis it would become conspicuous by it's absence as the old ping-pong is about the only subject not on the local reading matter shelves. On the sporting scene one can obtain magazines / periodicals from dominoes and snooker through to squash and badminton. Do all these sports know something that table tennis does not?

In my part of the world a local supermarket has constructed a purpose built Table Tennis Centre for Milton Keynes and it is situated in a prominent place where thousands of people and vehicles pass each day. However, few people know what the purpose of the centre is and one needs to be within twenty / thirty yards of the entrance before the table tennis sign is visible to them. If large words "TABLE TENNIS" were introduced on the outside wall the building would become a local landmark and would be advertising the game for free 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, etc.

The foregoing must exemplify the frustration that Mr Carter experienced when no one knew of the table tennis event going on because there were no proper signs at the Brentwood Centre.

Table tennis has to stop being introvert and start sharing the game with everybody else and the first step to becoming an extrovert is to get the "Table Tennis News" onto newsagents shelves so that those thinking of trying ping-pong will become Table Tennis enthusiasts without having to be in the know.

Jim Brogan, Northampton

A GOOD SERVICE

I am prompted to write following various articles and letters in T T News and discussions that regularly take place wherever table tennis is played concerning rules defining "A Good Service".

I have played table tennis for nearly

40 years, am a qualified coach and have always taken a keen interest in encouraging others to take up the game. However, it seems to me that the Service Rules are over complicated, open to abuse and extremely difficult to administer. Perhaps I should add that the rules are often ignored by players of all standards and even some organisation too. Anyone reading this who plays league table tennis at any level will have seen illegal services almost every week, and what is worse, very little being done to correct it!

Recently I attended a County Schools tournament and saw a young player dropping the ball onto the table from about 18" above and then hitting the bouncing ball as a service. This player beat a player serving normally and the organisers didn't bat an eyelid. I might add that the organisers hadn't heard of the new volley rule either!

Returning to the service, I would like to point out that the object of the service is to get the ball into play without obtaining any unfair advantage other than using the bat to impart spin and direction. Table tennis is in this respect no different than tennis, badminton or squash and their service rules are not very difficult to understand or apply.

I would like to suggest that the games administration do us all a favour and reframe the rules and I suggest the following guidelines for amendments.

1. The server shall then project the ball near vertically upwards, without imparting spin, so that it be seen to rise by both the receiver and the umpire.
2. The free hand to be in front of an indefinite line representing the nearest part of the server's body to the table and parallel to the server's end line.
3. It is the responsibility of the server to ensure that the ball is in the view of both the receiver and the umpire or assistant umpire.

My thoughts behind these suggestions are that:-

- (a) Having a figure such as 16 cm for an umpire to judge is ludicrous in the extreme. All we need is a vertical projection that is seen.
- (b) If the free hand is in front of the body then there can be little if any chicanery.
- (c) If the receiver and umpire are to be able to see the ball, there can be no shielding and possibility of gaining unfair advantage.

Finally, I don't believe that the game's administrators realise the feelings of the regular club players and perhaps if this letter is published it may provoke hundreds of responses. I hope so, and maybe Mr average player can bring some influence to bear.

Colin R Westney, Bury St Edmund's, Suffolk

NEWS FROM THE COUNTIES

AVON

BOB MURRAY

COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS

I only have details from one of the matches played last weekend and in that our Senior team had a narrow 6-4 win over Devon II's.

Andy Creed once again proved the mainstay of the men by winning both his games and he was superbly supported by our ladies, Michele Cohen and Sian Evan, who also won both their singles.

Nevertheless, despite the closeness of the result, this was an excellent start to the season and congratulations must go out to Sian for a very impressive county debut.

COUNTY RANKINGS

MEN: 1. Andy Creed, 2. Gary Baldwin, 3. Hugh Dalton, 4. Paul Hooper, 5. Mark Butler, 6. Dar Katz.

WOMEN: 1. Michele Cohen, 2. Helen Perrott, 3. Sian Evans, 4. Carey Barrett, 5. Debbie Booy, 6. Dina Stanley.

BOYS: 1. Graham Long, 2. Tom Orlik, 3. Leigh Iles, 4. Brian Smith, 5. James Gething, 6. Paul Adams, 7. Matthew Loughran, 8. Paul Hynam.

GIRLS: 1. Jessica Orlik, 2. Gemma Loughran, 3. Katie Warlock, 4. Katie Hardidge.

VETERAN MEN: 1. Gary Baldwin, 2. Bob Murray, 3. John Higgs, 4. Mike Kimber, 5. Ernie Brown, 6. Dave Price.

VETERAN WOMEN: 1. Linda Porter, 2. Muriel Lewis, 3. Jo Eatherington, 4. June Watts, 5. Bridget Pankhurst.

COUNTY CLOSED

This year's Avon County Closed takes place on Sunday December 4th at Soundwell Technical College.

The programme includes a full range of junior events - Under 12, Under 14 and Under 17 singles for boys and girls together with a junior doubles.

The usual senior events, Men's Singles, Men's Doubles, Ladies Singles and Ladies Doubles, are this year supplemented by a Class 2 Singles and of course there is the ever popular Veteran Singles.

Entries should be forwarded to Peter Sandford not later than Wednesday November 16th. Anyone who wants further information can contact Peter on Bristol 569381.

BEDFORDSHIRE

ALEX MURDOCH

COMING SEASON

Thought I would have another attempt to get our County notes published in the ETTA magazine, so here goes.

The county recently had there AGM and planning meetings for the coming season. The AGM was once again very poorly attended and the committee will continue for another season. Why is it that we only get Bedford and Leighton Buzzard Leagues there? What has happened to

last minute, although not winning a game, had very close defeats against ladies hundreds of places above her on the ranking list.

We hope to be able to field our strongest teams in the coming months with players regarding it as an honour to be picked for the county.

COUNTY NOTES IS FOR THE PUBLICITY OF COUNTY ACTIVITIES. THE ACCURACY OF WHAT IS PUBLISHED IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE COUNTY ASSOCIATIONS, AS THE EDITOR CANNOT POSSIBLY KNOW THE 'FACTS' MAY BE INCORRECT. COPY CONTAINING LIBELLOUS OR PERSONALLY ABUSIVE MATTER OR 'POLITICAL' COMMENT WILL NOT BE PUBLISHED.

Dunstable and Luton, I am bored writing to them!

Ranking positions are as follows:

JUNIOR GIRLS: 1. Martina Whitaker, 2. Nicola Iarrani, 3. Nicola Leeder, 4. Fay Woolley, 5. Louise Byrne.

SENIOR WOMEN: 1. Sandra Harper, 2. Jenny Sanders, 3. Nichola Walsh, 4. Martine Whitaker, 5. Audrey Robinson.

VETERAN WOMEN: 1. Audrey Robinson, 2. Anita Copperwheat, 3. Val Murdoch, 4. Sylvia Coombes, 5. Jean Mayson.

JUNIOR BOYS: 1. Robert Dynes, 2. Chris Francis, 3. Adrian Hunt, 4. Graham Babcock, 5. Lee Anker.

SENIOR MEN: 1. Jimmy Walsh, 2. Kevin Copperwheat, 3. Mike Levene, 4. Norman Swift, 5. Gary Turner.

VETERAN MEN: 1. David Hyde, 2. Brian Mayfield, 3. Charlie Major, 4. Dave Birch, 5. Roy Whiffon.

The first County matches took place on the 24th September, report as follows:-

Herts Vets II 9 Beds Vets I 0

Our first team lost easily to Hertfordshire but some of the matches were tight which is creditable performance considering we had to put our players ranked 10,12 and 13 in our team.

Beds Vets II 4 Bucks Vets I 5

SENIOR WEEKEND

BEDS I 0 V ESSEX III 9

BEDS I 2 V HERTS I 8

UNCS I 9 V BEDS I 1

KENT III 4 V BEDS I 6

BEDS I 6 V SUFFOLK I 4

BEDS I 5 V HUNTS I 5

Some notable performances were recorded in particular Norma Swift who despite having to retire during the 3rd match due to injury, beat John Taylor (213 places above) and Duncan Taylor (172 places above). Val Murdoch (a veteran) brought in at the

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE

JAKE YEATES

FAIRLY COMFORTABLE

The 1994/95 season has commenced with mixed success for the Buckinghamshire county teams. On 24th September, two teams played at the Milton Keynes Table Tennis Centre. The junior firsts, comprising Jake Yeates, Stephen Munson, Gareth Thomas, Wendy Barlow and Donna Tuohy, took on Kent II in division 1B, and, as expected, came away with a fairly comfortable, 8-2 win, each match being won in two legs. The defeats came from Tuohy and Barlow, who were beaten by Rachel Woollven and Alison Smith respectively.

The junior second team were also in action, away to Hampshire in division 2b. An inexperienced team of Andrew Baggaley, Lawrence Fo, Gareth Jones, Elizabeth Seymour and Gemma Kibby, including four debutantes, wasn't quite good enough as they fell to a 3-7 defeat. An in-form Bagatelle, fresh from his successes at the Peniel 2 Star Select, where he won the under-12s and was runner-up in the cadets, won both of his matches, with Jones taking the other.

The junior rankings for 1994/95 are as follows:

Boys: 1. J. Yeates, 2. S. Munson, 3. G. Thomas, 4. A. Baggaley, 5. L. Fo, 6. G. Jones, 7. M. Cole, 8. J. Ashton.

Girls: 1. W. Barlow, 2. D. Tuohy, 3. E. Seymour, 4. G. Kibby, 5. R. McAndrew, 6. J. Dickens, 7. M. McAndrew, 8. L. Gellard. The veterans were also in action, in Milton Keynes, versus Surrey. Good wins for messrs Wackrill (one), Atkinson (two), and Roades, which

put Bucks into a 4-3 lead, were cancelled out by Surrey claiming the two deciding games by default, Muriel Hooker being delayed and arriving late. An unfortunate 4-5 defeat there.

In the Friendly Hotels British League Division One South, City of Milton Keynes have had a disappointing start to the season, having lost both of their first two matches 1-7, to Edison and Grove III, with Neil Biggrave and Ian Collier winning the games. However, both Edison and Grove are looking to be strong title contenders, so things shouldn't be said to bode particularly badly for Milton Keynes. When interviewed, MK's number three, Neil Biggrave, spoke about the seemingly dire situation which the team appear to have found themselves in. "Well, it's early days yet, y'know. Yeah, understandably we're all a bit disheartened at the early setbacks. The Gaffer's been forced to bring the boy Yeates into the side due to Ian (Collier) and Ginge (John Burleton) not being available, but we're settling down, and y'know, we'll bounce back. After all, at the end of the day, it's a season of two halves, we'll take each match as it comes, like, and no, there's no discord in the dressing room, we all think Geoff's doin' a marvellous job. Thanks all the same, Ralph." So no trouble there. Back to Des in the studio.

CAMBRIDGESHIRE COMMENT

ANDY HUBBLE

DISAPPOINTING START

The start of the 1994/95 county season has been disappointing for Cambridgeshire with the demise of the county junior side. Following Ray Diffeys' retirement no one has come forward to run the team this year and so although juniors are available the team has been withdrawn.

The majority of players for this side were likely to come from Wisbech and aware of the lack of quality opposition for these juniors, Wisbech have secured a place in the St. Neots Junior Invitation League ensuring that the likes of James Walton, Alan Bennett, Matthew Knott and James Warren will still compete at a quality standard. It is unfortunate that the other improved juniors such as Darren Halfpenny from Newmarket may not benefit in this way.

The senior team will be competing in division I 'A' and the first matches are scheduled for the 5th and 6th November 1994 against Warwickshire, Yorkshire and Suffolk.

The veterans side will be in division II 'B' and their first scheduled match is against Essex 4 on 24th September 1994. Both sides will be playing from St. Neots Table Tennis Club, a decision

welcomed in general by all concerned.

The preliminary Eastern region junior trials take place at St. Neots on Sunday 9th October and Cambridgeshire will be represented in the Junior Boys by James Walton, Alan Bennett, James Warren and Darren Halfpenny. Only one junior girl has been entered, Helen Morris from Newmarket.

James Walton in his final year as a cadet has automatically qualified for the national trials early next year. We wish all of these juniors well in these trials.

At local league level the following formats will apply this season:

CAMBRIDGE: 6 divisions of 12 teams (lost 3 teams from last year) plus a junior division. **ELY:** 2 divisions of 8 teams (no change from last year). **MARCH:** 1 division of 11 teams. **WISBECH:** 2 divisions of 10 teams and 1 division of 6 teams (lost 2 teams from last year). A junior Woolwich League will be organised for the second half of the season.

Coaching: Coaching is available to juniors at the Wisbech Queens School on Monday evenings and at March on Tuesday evenings.

The county Championships have been set for Sunday 5th February 1995 at Soham Sports Centre.

Finally, if anyone knows of where spare parts can be obtained for the Stitco Robot please contact me as we have recently bought a second hand unit for the Wisbech coaching group but have a few problems with the system.

CHESHIRE

JOHN APPLETON

RANKING LISTS

Apologies to our readers for missing the last copy date but unfortunately copy dates come and go.

County Senior and Junior ranking lists have been formed with the exception of the Cadet boys whose trials are in October.

Senior Men: 1. John Hilton, 2. Brian Johns, 3. Mark Hankey, 4. Roger Hampson, 5. Derek Schofield, 6. Paul Collins, 7. Steve Dobbins, 8. Ian Eaton, 9. Dave Roberts, 10. John Hope.

Senior Women: 1. Doreen Schofield, 2. Clare News, 3. Jill Schofield, 4. Karen Lockwood, 5. Patricia Brooks, 6. Eileen Edwards, 7. Julie Hope, 8. Joan Appleton.

Junior Boys: 1. Chris Dunne, 2. Alistair Waterhouse, 3. Matthew Machin, 4. David Gerrard, 5. Paul Schofield.

Junior Girls: 1. Clare News, 2. Karen Lockwood, 3. Terry-Ann Nolan, 4. Gemma Lloyd, 5. Gillian Spragg, 6. Tracy Latham, 7. Kerry Jarmain, 8. Annabelle Sorrentino.

Cadet Girls: 1. Terry-Ann Nolan, 2. Gemma Lloyd, 3. Kerry Hazelden, 4. Kerry Jarmain, 5. Annabelle Sorrentino.

At the recent County Championship senior match against Nottinghamshire, saw Ian Eaton playing in the No. 1 spot due to the unavailability of higher ranked players. The Cheshire team of Ian

Eaton (1), John Hope, Bernie Wentworth (2), Clare News (1) and Jill Schofield (1) saw the result 6-4 for Cheshire after some very tight and exciting games.

Cheshire are still waiting for some local reports to come in!

DERBYSHIRE NOTES

COLIN DEATON

NOSE DIVE

Derbyshire hopes took a complete nose-dive when after competing in the first weekend of the Premier Division of the National Championships drawing one and losing two.

Hopes were high that Alan Cooke and Nicola Deaton would both be available. Unfortunately "Cookie" was unavailable and Nicola Deaton was only available for the one match on the Saturday. Let us all hope we can be at full strength for the next weekend.

Derbyshire's only National League side, Uxbridge have found the going tough with one team in the first and second division respectively. Their first team after winning the first match by six sets to two then lost the following two games.

In fairness, they have not yet been able to field their strongest team but have a good squad of players to choose from which includes Junior Stoddart, Mark Green, Tim Shepherd and Kevin Green.

The Burton League continues to introduce more players of all standards to the game. Recently they have formed a committee of followers and enthusiasts called the BURTON AND DISTRICT TABLE TENNIS FORUM and this forum is to develop Table Tennis in the area.

Uxbridge, under the guidance of Terry Gadsby is probably producing more young players into our game than any other area throughout Derbyshire and I thought it was quite staggering when I learnt that they had 18 teams competing in the Burton League.

One of their problems in the past has been to chase around after umpires. However, I am pleased to be able to say that strong efforts are being made to produce their own squad of umpires.

They have 11 year old Jason Liddle who is taking the DUKE OF EDINBURGH Silver Award in the form of Umpiring. The other good news on the umpires scene is that our tireless County Secretary Les Allwood is virtually a qualified umpire.

Chesterfield claim to have all the top players throughout Derbyshire namely, Alan Cooke, Bradley Billington and Nicola Deaton and it was the counties proud boast at the Europeans last season that Cookie, Bradley and Nicola were all playing on the 3 table arena at the same time.

Cookie still remains in the elite bracket in the Men's game and

Bradley Billington despite continuing his studies in the North East.

Nicola Deaton joined Cookie and Des Douglas when she was awarded a brand new car by her club 'Grove' and remains a very good player for the future.

Sad news for Table Tennis enthusiasts in the Chesterfield area was the sudden illness of Brenda Chapman. Wife of the Chesterfield Chairman Ron, Brenda has held the post of Records Secretary for many years and whilst the stroke she suffered during the summer months has steadied her down she still hopes to fulfil the position.

It was good to see Derrick Marples back in the England Tracksuit. Derrick is now the proud England Junior Girls Captain. This being a position where he can pass on some of his very valuable experience.

Finally, the Matlock and District League are to commemorate 50 years by staging an International exhibition. They intend to feature some of Britain's top stars in action against their own local players.

A good night looks in store.

ESSEX SCENE

STEVE KERNS

PIONEER OF THE GAME

SID ROSS: It is with great sadness that the County have to report the death of Sid Ross who dies on 27th August 1994, aged 82. He was a pioneer of the game in the East London area and was the driving-force behind the formation of the Barking league in 1932. Awarded life-membership of the Becontree and Barking leagues he was a top local player who won the Veteran Singles in Barking in 1957 and 1958, and the Men's Doubles in Becontree in 1970 partnered by a 15 year-old Bob Hellaby. He had been a founder member of the Dagenham Church league in 1963, and as this league expanded he was involved in its transformation into the Becontree league in 1969. As recently as 1983 he was awarded the Sports Personality of the Year Award in Barking for his efforts in coaching and administration over a 50 year period. Stories abound from the early day of Sid wheeling his table around on a wheel-barrow in an attempt to get things started. His main coaching credits include Bob and Janet Hellaby who he coached at the St. Lukes Club in Canning Town with Father Goose. He leaves behind a wife, two daughters and two sons. A true character of the game.

ESSEX GAMES

The Essex Games table tennis event held at Southend is a traditional pre-season curtain-raiser and this year was won by Chelmsford, who beat Basildon 3-1 in the final. Chelmsford lost to Basildon 2-1 in the preliminary stage but fought their way back into contention with second stage victories over Rochford, Harlow and

Thurrock. Basildon represented by Robert Nutbrown (JB), Amy Fraser (JG), Sue Cook (SL), Fred Lockwood (V) and Damian Holland (SM) were narrow 3-2 second stage winners over a much-improved Colchester team of Jenni Addison (JG), Andrew Faiers (JB), Janet Faiers (SL), Derek Wood (V) and John Andrews (SM) who took third place. With the score poised at 2-2 Sue Cook beat Janet Faiers 18 in the third to seal Basildon's win. In the final Chelmsford's win was achieved courtesy of wins for Laura Bawden (JG) and Marilyn Bawden (SL) and a revenge success for Chris Farne (JB) over Robert Nutbrown. Chelmsford's other players were Pip French (V) and Steve Kerns (SM) and their success owed much to Marilyn and Laura who stayed unbeaten throughout the day.

COUNTY MATCHES

The first round of Senior County matches saw the County Senior first and second teams stay unbeaten. In the premier division the firsts beat Lancashire 19-1, Devon 7-3 and drew 5-5 with Staffordshire. Essex success stories included Linda Radford's 6 wins out of 6 ... Damian Holland's win over Darren Howarth 15-18,18, Chris Sladden's 13,16 win over Paul Giles, Ryan Savill's 20,17 success over Paul Whiting and a 17,16 success for Damian Holland over Paul Giles.

The second team in division 2C won all six of their matches against Bedfordshire (10-0), Hunts (9-1), Herts III (10-0), Norfolk (10-0), Northants (8-2) and Suffolk II (7-3). So Man and Ian Attridge both achieved twelve wins out of twelve, whilst Steve Rand took 10 from 12, Clive Carthy 11 from 12 and Julie Askem 9 from 11. In the next round of matches they play Herts I and Lincolnshire who also stayed unbeaten.

PENIEL JUNIOR TOURNAMENT

At the excellent Peniel Junior tournament there were a number of notable Essex performances...Peniel's Verity Cleminson having the audacity of beating No. 1 seeded Shelly Ruocco in the JG singles. Vince Avery made it all the way to the JB final where an in-form Terry Young (Berkshire) took the honours. Reagan Nettleingham battled through to the JB quarter final and Nikki Kennard reached the same stage in the JG event. Her coup-de-grace came in the groups where she toppled second seeded Kathryn Woodward (Cheshire). As Kathryn took second place in that group and duly made it to the final, the quality of Nikki's win is further enforced.

And finally, the County Committee are in the process of producing a news-letter, and request the response of the local leagues to make this project work. The intention is to send a copy to every Club Secretary within the County free-of-charge, and if sufficient interest is generated to run it on the lines of the excellent Scimitar magazine which was a feature of the 1970s and 1980s.

GLoucestershire

ALF PEPPERD

GREAT DEPTH?

Writing these notes in late September for this 226th issue, its still far to early in the season to mention many TT results in great depth, as the season advances, I hope to do better.

Most League's have now commenced their playing schedules, with the possible exception of Cirencester, which I believe usually start a week or so, after the other three League's.

However, administration in the County has not been idle, the County Selectors under the chairmanship of Graeme Holton have issued the first seasons rankings list (enclosed).

Gloucestershire's sole team in the Friendly Hotels British League - Cheltenham Saracens, have to date played two matches, the first against Jolliffe Poole in Division 2 SW Region, in this match GS emerged the victors by a scoreline of 5-3, some marvellous play from JP, veteran Tony Clayton, who was unbeaten, and for the visitors Graham Slack did likewise.

In their 2nd match Saracens were away to Bribar Colley Hyundai, where unfortunately they lost 3-5, man of this match would have to be Cheltenham Saracens Dave Harvey, whom despite being in the losing team, won both his singles, including a stupendous two straight victory over David Barr, Barr being ranked No.29 as a senior player.

COUNTY MATCHES

With the exception of the senior team, who played their first match one week early, versus Wilts lists, the latter whom we beat narrowly 6-4, the 1st official round of County matches have gone well to schedule, in that Gloucestershire v Wilts 1sts match all our men rose to the occasion and won all their singles, our Ladies, I fear lost all their singles, to the more experienced Wilts lady players Brenda Lee and Helen Frost.

Playing Wilts 2nds away one week later, Gloucestershire again ran out winners by a 6-4 margin, Dave Harvey was replaced by Dennis Holland for this match.

Our Juniors in Division 2C, playing their first match of the season, managed to beat Somerset 6-4 at Wellington Sports Centre, both Gloucestershire girls - Ann Humble and Melanie Garlick were unbeaten, whilst Jon Roberts and Robin Price each chipped in with one singles apiece.

The first round of the veteran matches saw both Gloucestershire teams in the same Division 2D, the "A" team having been relegated from last seasons 1st Division, and the "B" side gaining well earned promotion from last seasons 3rd Division.

Our Vets "A" team of Alan Giles, John Fannin, Roy Fowler and Judy Morley had little trouble in conquering Dorsets 2nds team 7-2, but our Vets "B" team were well and truly beaten 8-1 by a very strong

Hampshire 2nds team, whom I suspect, might well be capable of clinching this Divisional Championship, but having said that - its still early days.

SOUTH WEST REGIONAL TRIALS FOR JUNIORS/CADETS

These trials are scheduled to take place at Wellington Sports Centre on 16th of October, Gloucestershire have nominated the following players to take part.

JUNIOR BOYS: Jon Roberts (C), Robin Price (G), Aaron Mortimer (G), Jon Bunn (S).

JUNIOR GIRLS: Ann Humble (G), Melanie Garlick (G).

BOY CADETS: Daniel Nelmes (G).

GIRL CADETS: Suzy Robinson (S).

(C = Cheltenham, G = Gloucester, S = Stroud)

COUNTY (CLOSED CHAMPIONSHIPS)

The Junior closed championships takes place on Sunday 4th December, and the venue is at St Benedicts School, Arle Road, Cheltenham.

The Seniors event takes place one week later, again at Cheltenham the venue being "The new Sports and Recreation Centre, in Tommy Taylors Lane, and the date, Sunday 11th December.

And finally: The County Development Committee has circularised all Leisure Centres and Libraries in an effort to promote our sport, it is encouraging to report that a number of Leisure Centres who, up until now, have not promoted table tennis, and are now keen to run coaching sessions.

In a concerted effort to greatly improve the playing standard in Gloucestershire, and also to attract new players into the sport, I am pleased to report that Steven Moreman aged 42 from Tewkesbury, who retired from competitive play five years ago, has expressed a wish to help in the development of the game by coaching players of all standards.

Steve will be available to conduct coaching sessions on a future Self-Employed basis, and will be available for sessions at group and individual levels, this also involves Youth Clubs and Leisure Centres, and indeed, anywhere where table tennis is encouraged.

Steve's credentials are impressive, a former Senior ranked ETTA player, winner of many Open and County Closed Tournaments for - M/S, M/D and X/D.

Steve of course will have to qualify for this important position, I personally, have no fears that he will emerge through the course triumphantly.

In case of further contact, Steve's telephone number is 0684 73221, or alternatively Mr Graham Slack, Gloucestershire TTA General Secretary, Tel: 0242 243611.

GLoucestershire TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION

The County selectors under the chairmanship of Graeme Holton have

issued their first official ranking list of the season, they are as follows:

SENIOR MEN: 1. Darren Griffin (G), 2. Dave Harvey (C), 3. Graham Slack (C), 4. William Dawe (G), 5. Dennis Holland (G), 6. Sylvester Callum (G), 7. John Turner (C), 8. Lawrence Symonds (G), 9. Guy Greening (C), 10. Roy Morley (G).

SENIOR WOMEN: 1. Judy Morley (G), 2. Heather Tyrer (G), 3. Jacqui Carver (C), 4. Alison Cox (C), 5. Sue Labrum (C), 6. Julie Taylor (G), 7. Ann Humble (G), 8. Carole Godding (C).

JUNIOR BOYS: 1. Jon Roberts (C), 2. Robin Price (G), 3. Aaron Mortimer (G), 4. Jon Bunn (S), 5. Daniel Nelmes (G), 6. Scott Nicholls (G), 7. Chris Roberts (C).

JUNIOR GIRLS: 1. Ann Humble (G), 2. Melanie Garlick (G), 3. Suzy Robinson (S), 4. Julia Mullarney (C), 5. Lynne Holton (CIR), 6. Jennie King (CIR), 7. Martina King (CIR).

VETERANS MEN: 1. Dave Harvey (C), 2. Dennis Holland (G), 3. Roy Morley (G), 4. Roy Fowler (C), 5. Alan Giles (S), 6. John Fannin (G), 7. Peter Wood (G), 8. Graeme Holton (CIR), 9. Rob Willsher (S), 10. Steve Cox (C), 11. Ken Smith (C), 12. Bob Davis (CIR).

VETERANS WOMEN: 1. Judy Morley (G), 2. Julie Taylor (C), 3. Barbara Winn (C), 4. Shelia Matthews (C), 5. June Hall (C).

CODE: C=Cheltenham, G=Gloucestershire, S=Stroud, Cir=Cirencester

These County ranking are effective from 10th September 1994, and are supplied by Alf Peppard, County Press Officer

HAMPSHIRE

BRIAN LAMERTON

BAPTISM IN THE PREMIER

It is not easy to write the third of this seasons columns when the playing season is but two weeks old but I guess the others face the same problem. The ranking lists which follow vary little from my forecasts of last month but one area where I was wrong was with the No. 3 junior boy where Southampton Cadet Chris Butt gets a place in the "A" team ahead of Lucan Chan (Portsmouth).

The first series of matches produced a win and a draw for the juniors in their "double header" with Bucks and two wins and a defeat for the "B", "C" and "D" Veterans teams; The two senior sides and the veteran "A" who are looking forward to their baptism in the Premier division under the present format (they were National champions in 1973 - a pity the County Champions handbook doesn't show such useful information!) will all be playing under the "dreaded" (my word!) "block" system.

For the juniors the strength of the girls was the telling point; Lorna Dutch (2) and Tina Young providing the chunk of the plus side of the "A" 5 sets all draw and Donna Glanville and Elaine Moore won 2 apiece in the "B" 5-7-3 victory. All 12 Veteran

players won at least one set each as the "B" 5 thumped Gloucester 8-1; the "C" 5 overcame Sussex 6-3 and the "D" 5 went down to Hertfordshire 6-3.

Forty-six teams have entered the Inter town leagues this season against 47 last time out; the one nett omission being in the Cadets whilst Mixed, Men's, Veterans and Juniors remain the same.

Senior Championships will be held on Sunday 23rd October. (Good! - Something to write about) at Redbridge Sports Hall, Southampton; the Sports facilities having escaped the serious fire at the school a few weeks ago.

"Many will have realised that the Alan whose death was referred to in last month Hampshire notes was in fact Alan Wettstein, one time coaching officer of Bournemouth, Hampshire and Dorset".

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION OFFICIAL RANKING LIST SEASON 1994/5

SENIOR MEN: 1. Graham Toole P'mth, 2. Miki Sinanon P'mth, 3. Ramesh Bhalla A'sht, 4. Mark Werner B'mth, 5. Graham Pointer S'ton, 6. Tony Reynolds B'stk, 7. Roger Hooley IOW, 8. Christos Hannides S'ton, 9. Andrew Ely IOW, 10. Jeremy Wilson A'dvr, 11. Justin Mead B'stk, 12. Mark Giles S'ton.

VETERAN MEN: 1. Chris Shetter S'ton, 2. Chris Wilshere S'ton, 3. Maurice Shave S'ton, 4. Robert Cox P'mth, 5. Graham Outrim A'sht, 6. Chris Pickard B'mth, 7. Keith Childs P'mth, 8. Graham Lynch P'mth, 9. Ken Burton P'mth, 10. Roy Lush P'mth, 11. Ken Giles S'ton, 12. George Cole P'mth, 13. Richard Mole B'stk, 14. Terry White B'stk, 15. Norman Stagg P'mth, 16. Nigel Lodder S'ton, 17. C. Keen A'sht, 18. Charlie Prendergast S'ton.

JUNIOR BOYS: 1. Greg Burns IOW, 2. Gareth Scaddan G/F, 3. Chris Butt S'ton, 4. Lucan Chan P'mth, 5. Daniel Burns IOW, 6. Stuart White B'stk, 7. Mark Wilshere S'ton, 8. Paul Shuller G/F, 9. Ian Brown G/F, 10. Alister Turner S'ton, 11. Paul Fitzgerald P'mth, 12. Stephen Wilshere S'ton.

SENIOR WOMEN: 1. Sarah Costar P'mth, 2. Julie Norman B'stk, 3. Lorna Dutch IOW, 4. Sarah Turner P'mth, 5. Barbara Savage A'sht, 6. J. Eldridge S'ton, 7. Donna Granville P'mth.

VETERAN WOMEN: 1. Gill Larking B'stk, 2. Sandra Simpson A'sht, 3. Mary Barron P'mth, 4. Teresa Watson B'stk, 5. Norma Millward A'sht, 6. Ann Abraham G/F, 7. Jane Boswell A'sht, 8. Janet Guess A'sht, 9. Andrea Seager A'sht.

JUNIOR GIRLS: 1. Lorna Dutch IOW, 2. Tina Young B'mth, 3. Elaine Moore B'mth, 4. Donna Granville P'mth, 5. Carly Scaddan G/F, 6. Wanda Hutchinson A'sht.

HEREFORDSHIRE

GEOFF MUTTON

NERVOUS YOUNGSTERS

In their first outing in Junior Division 2 C our rather nervous youngsters found their Somerset hosts far to

strong, and the 10-0 scoreline reflects the current gap in class. This first year at county level was always going to be tough, but many of the Herefordshire youngsters are 14 and 15 year olds, are learning quickly and will enjoy success in this league in the not too distant future.

At the other end of the scale, our veteran lost 3-6 to Hertfordshire 5. Carol Milnen was in good form beating Jane Nelson 21-18 in the third, and teamed up with Neville Meredith to win the mixed. Mike Morgan on his league debut beat Herts No. 1 Brian Gale, but despite other sets being closely fought, these three wins were the extent of our success.

Bromyard T. T. Club hosted a very enjoyable E.T.T.A. level 2 coaching course in early October. With Jill Harris as tutor, the twelve would be coaches both learnt a great deal and had a lot of fun at the same time.

With three divisions in the junior league in Hereford this season, we are not short of aspiring players who could benefit from some coaching.

HERTFORDSHIRE

JOHN WOOD

LES SMITH HONOURED

Hemel Hempstead's Les Smith was honoured with an ETTA Maurice Goldstein Merit Award, presented to him by the Eastern Region Development Officer Sandra Collins, in September, at a special League meeting held at the Adeyfield Hall in Hemel Hempstead.

Smith also received an engraved pewter tankard, presented to him on behalf of the Hemel Hempstead and District League by its President Bill Webster.

Less Smith, who is now 72 years



ETTA Eastern Region Development Officer Sandra Collins presents the ETTA Maurice Goldstein Merit Award to Hertfordshire's Les Smith.

special refreshments at the Executive meetings.

This special meeting was also a Development meeting hosted by Sandra Collins and supported by the Hertfordshire County Development Officer Jane Barrington.

Ubiquitous Miss Collins has now visited most of the Leagues within Hertfordshire encouraging the leagues to take advantage of new funding now available for the development of table tennis.

Early October saw the first Inter-League competition commence at the Barnet Table Tennis Centre with the Veterans kicking-off the 1994/5 season, where last year's champions Barnet took the early honours.

Barnets John Taylor, Chris Buden, Brian Gale, Jim Craggs and Dennis Robinson opened up a one point lead in front of Hertford and Watford, with Cheshunt in 4th position.

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations go to Lynne Harrison, Hertfordshire's ex-No.1 lady who married Clive Stephens in Blechley, on Friday 30th September 1994.

Table Tennis News Editor John Wood (left) is seen pictured at Lynne Harrison's wedding, with Lynne's husband Clive Stephens.



old, is still an active man playing regularly for his old place of employment McAlpine, where he worked as an accountant for 40 years.

He received these awards for his loyal service to table tennis in Hemel Hempstead, as both Secretary and Treasurer for nearly 30 years.

The League are hoping that he will continue for a few more years yet, especially as his wife Pat makes extra

ISLE OF WIGHT

JOHN PREAN

PLEASANT SURPRISE

Our Cadets gave us a pleasant surprise when they won their first 2 matches 9-1 and 10-0 in the first Hampshire Inter-Town weekend. Mark Prysocki, James Ovnik and Ruairie Farralley won all their matches and Lucy Pointer, who is only 10 and was therefore playing boys two and three years older than herself, won two singles.

Even better, she reached the Semi-Finals of the Peniel 2 Star Select Junior U-12, a fine effort by one generally younger than her rivals. I heard from a number of parents that this was the best junior tournament they had ever attended.

There was disappointment for Lucy from then on, as we learned she would not be included in the national U-12 ranking lists. It seems to take an age to get on the list at all, which is hardly an encouragement to the younger players. I would have thought reaching the Semi-Final stages of a major tournament should be sufficient, not least because the U-12 ranking list is ridiculously small in numbers and therefore needs additional names to lend it credibility and authority. But no. Elsewhere one learns of 'big' points being awarded for no greater achievement than turning up and losing in the first round. A strange world where turning up and losing a few times is worth than a national title. Stranger still, that at a time the ETTA Chairman seeks actively to foster junior excellence (which I fully support) another ETTA department encourages junior mediocrity. One sees thousands of names on these ranking lists (not a bad idea), but a young girl of 10 (to whom being on the list would really mean something) is given a hard time and long wait despite having made a semi-final.

Greg Burns kept his No.1 Junior spot in Hampshire, but he won the County trials only on a count-back of points. The rules in such matters i.e. a count-back only among the players involved in this triple tie, were not universally liked, but they were correctly applied. Some though I had made them up to favour an Island

player and so controversy followed me about again on what I thought would be a quiet Sunday. Danny Burns became a victim of the count-back system earlier, but made the second team in the end. With two years left in the juniors, he now has every chance to make his mark.

Lorna Dutch won both junior and senior trials, the latter also on a count-back! Despite her first place in the trials, the final senior Hampshire list saw her at No.3. Time is on her side. She has three years as a junior to land the titles we think she is capable of, but it is time that needs to be well used. We have now created an environment in which it is possible for ambitious players to play 5 or 6 times per week, including one excellence session. Our centre at the Westridge Leisure Complex is now open, potentially 7 days per week and for 24 hours each day. I shall be disappointed if we do not produce a string of players with national possibilities over the years.

Our big new table tennis centre remains on course. This will hold nine or ten table for practice and six for excellent match conditions. By the time you read this, the tenders will have been opened and perhaps building will have begun. Our very warm thanks again to the ETTA. Critical as I have often been in the past, our governing body deserves great praise for such initiatives which will push the sport into quite a different class in many areas and enable us to compete with other sports. I hope to write more fully about this project and thank all those involved as we near completion of the dream.

Our team in Southern Region League began with a 5-4 win vs Burnchal after leading 4-1. I did see most of it. Mike Turner was our hero with his first ever hat-trick in this company. The contest was a credit to the game and its infinite variety as various bats, funny and unfunny, were on view and all our opponents were mainly defenders, an unusual situation these days, but it made for an enthralling contest. The Westridge Centre venue looked great, well lit and spacious.

Our first division again seems a two horse race (Sandown and Newport Vics). The former have signed Lorna Dutch to replace Ian Urry who has left the Island. With Roger Hookey, our best player and Mike Turner, Sandown will again be very strong. Vics will need improvement from the Burns brothers. They are quite capable of this, but it will not come by itself. Chris Angus can beat anybody. If he down this on the right days, we may yet see a contest. I think Ryde and Rookley will follow the two bigger guns home. The latter have captured Dave Hilliam who had an excellent season last time, a veritable Indian summer for a former Island Junior Champion and "Evergreen" Joe Daly. They are joined by Martin Mitchell, who has started playing with a hard bat again - and very well too. His father Fred has never deserted his and still wins quite a few in our

HERTFORDSHIRE VETERANS INTER-LEAGUE 1994/5

Team	P	W	L	F	A	PTS
BARNETS	3	3	0	16	5	3
HERTFORD	2	2	0	12	2	2
WATFORD	2	2	0	10	4	2
CHESHUNT	3	2	1	14	7	2
SHAW II	2	1	1	7	7	1
HEMEL I	3	1	2	8	13	1
SHAW I	3	1	2	8	13	1
N. HERTS	3	0	3	5	16	0
HEMEL II	3	0	3	4	17	0

Division 2 at 73, in relative terms, perhaps the best performance of all.

Some international news: Our player in the German Bundesliga (Carl Preat) celebrated another win vs the English No.1 (Chen Xinhua) in that league, his 10th in 12 contest against the former Chinese champion. Another "exclusive" for this column!

KENT

ADRIAN HALL

SPLENDID OPPORTUNITY

KENT JUNIOR 2 STAR SELECT 18/19TH FEB 1995

Already seven national teams have confirmed that they will be attending our tournament, and with groups of six everybody is assured of plenty of matches in what is likely to be the strongest junior tournament in the country this season. What a splendid opportunity it is to match the skills of the English game with that of foreign opposition, perhaps the only opportunity many of the English players will have this season. Entry forms from Bill Lavis on 0622 729 750.

NATIONAL U12 SQUAD

We are pleased to announce that Justin Dodd (Gravesend) has been invited to train with the National U12 squad, good luck Justin. A word in the ears of the selectors, keep a look out for Christian Hanys (Folkestone) the reigning Kent U11 Champion.

WEDDING BELLS

A word of congratulations to Claire Hunter our S.E. Region Development Officer, who ties 'the Knot' with Adrian Moore (Sussex) in Wiltshire on 5 November 1994. Claire has made significant contributions to Table Tennis in the area since her move to Kent, but as member of my team (well No.1 really) she could have picked some easier league matches to miss. Congratulations Claire and Adrian.

WIN £1000 BY JOINING THE KENT 100 CLUB

The ambitious activities of the Kent Association requires a constant supply of cash, much of our finance is the result of the generosity of our many sponsors but now we are looking to our members, clubs, leagues and friends of Kent Table Tennis for additional support and in the process have the opportunity to win £1000. Please contact Adrian Hall (0732) 844 756 or Reg Thompson (0634) 235 865 for details.

KENT 1STS 7, MIDDLESEX 2NDS 3

With Tonbridge's Juliet Houghton and Canterbury's Helen Garlick expected to comfortably win their four matches it was down to Kent's Men to ensure that Kent got off to a winning start in the County Championships division 1B on 24 September 1994 at home to Middlesex.

Bromley's Joe Kennedy absent from representative play for some years made a brilliant comeback beating the Middlesex No.1 and England No.27 David Goode 25-23,21-10 in the first match. The match was levelled at 1-1 when Bromley's Paul Rainford never got to grips with Simon Rockall ranked ten places below him 10-21, 15-21. Ten times Kent Champion Juliet Houghton comfortably disposed of Caroline O'Leary 21-7, 21-8 and Medway's Andy Cunningham, fresh from the strain of becoming a father for the first time, confirmed his national No.38 ranking Neil Charles (50)21-19,21-12 after pulling back a five point deficit in the first leg to put Kent into a 3-1 lead.

Helen Garlick beat Elizabeth Blanch 21-12, 21-14 to give Kent a 4-1 lead. Kennedy continued his winning streak when he came back from one leg down to beat Rockall 19-21, 21-12, 21-11. Garlick gave Kent a winning 6-1 lead with another comfortable 21-11, 21-12 victory over O'Leary. KENT:- Andy Cunningham (1), Joe Kennedy (2), Paul Rainford (0), Juliet Houghton (2), Helen Garlick (2). MIDDLESEX:- David Goode (1), Neil Charles (1), Simon Rockall (1), Elizabeth Blanch (0), Caroline O'Leary (0)

BUCKINGHAM JUNIOR 1STS 8, KENT JUNIOR 2NDS 2

With the Kent players generally out ranked the score was much as expected when Kent Juniors 2nds travelled to Milton Keynes on 24 September 1994. Ashley Steers (Tonbridge Wells) ranked 104, put up a good show against Stephen Munson (25) only just losing 18-21,19-21. Alison Smith (Maidstone) (35) got it all wrong against Donna Tuohy (104) disappointingly losing 14-21, 12-21 but then reversed the tables to beat Wendy Barlow (28) 21-13,21-18.

KENT:- Lee Howes (Ton. Wells) 0, Trevor Griffiths (Folkestone), 0, Ashley Steers (Ton. Wells) 0, Alison Smith (Maidstone) 1, Rachel Woolven (Maidstone) 1. BUCKINGHAMSHIRE:- Jake Yates 2, Stephen Munson 2, Gareth Thomas 2, Wendy Barlow 1, Donna Tuohy 1.

KENT VETERANS 2NDS 7, SURREY VETERANS 1STS 2

A unexpected win for the Kent veterans beating a Surrey side that were in the Premier Division the previous season. There were three particularly good performances by the Kent players beating players much more highly ranked. Ray Tilling (Bromley) (ranked 90) beat Derek Holman (16) 21-17,21-14, Paul

Beck (Bromley) (77) beat Dave Welshman (6) 21-19,21-16 and Tom Adams (Bromley) (58) beat Derek Holman (16) 21-15,16-21,21-16. Pam Butcher (NW Kent) won her singles and teamed up with Ray Tilling for a mixed doubles win for a good all round team performance.

SUSSEX VETERANS 2NDS 6, KENT VETERANS 2NDS 3

A good performance here by Kent's lady player Brenda Aherne (NW Kent) who won her singles convincingly as well as the mixed doubles with partner George McGlone. Roger Pingram (Sevenoaks) promoted from the second team won the other match for Kent. The scores in many of the matches were so close that the match score with a little more fortune could have been reversed. Gerry Batt-Rawden (2) and Andy Meads (2) won both their singles for Sussex and teamed up for a doubles win to turn the match in Sussex's favour.

SUSSEX JUNIORS 3RDS 5, KENT JUNIORS 3RDS 5

Kent's Girls Cally Howes (T. Wells) and Amanda Bateman (Ashford) with two wins apiece earned Kent 3rds a draw away to Sussex 3rds on 24 September 1994. KENT:- Antony Lickfold (Maidstone) 1, Stephen New (T. Wells) 0, Paul Cronin (Medway) 0, Cally Howes (T. Wells) 2, Amanda Bateman (Ashford) 2. SUSSEX:- Mark Forster 1, Johnathon Atkinson 2, William Reardon 2, Tracey Huntley 0, Sharon Roberts 0.

BUSY WEEKEND FOR KENT SENIOR 3RDS

Kent's Senior team had an action packed weekend playing six matches in division 2C of the County Championships at the central venue of St Kesteven's TT Centre, Grantham on 24/25 September 1994. Kent's policy of using the third team as a development squad particularly to bridge the gap between Junior and Senior table tennis has to be applauded but does often mean that our players are up against other countries first team squads as was much in evidence over the weekend.

HERTFORDSHIRE 1STS 10, KENT 3RDS 0
LINCOLNSHIRE 1STS 9, KENT 3RDS 1 (Chris Hall (Bromley) 1)
SUFFOLK 2NDS 8, KENT 3RDS 2 (Martin Hewett (Maidstone) 1, Mark Buckley (Medway) 1)
BEDFORDSHIRE 1STS 6, KENT 3RDS 4 (Heidi Steers (T. Wells) 2, Sandra Collins (NW Kent) 2)
HUNTINGDONSHIRE 4, KENT 3RDS 4 (Chris Hall (Bromley) 1, Sandra Collins (NW Kent) 2, Michelle Ritter (SE London) 1)
HERTFORDSHIRE 3RDS 4, KENT 3RDS 6 (John Huckle (NW Kent) 2, Chris Hall (Bromley) 2, Heidi Steers (T. Wells) 1, Michele Ritter (SE London) 1)

Martin Hewett (Maidstone) P8 W1,

John Huckle (NW Kent) P10 W2, Chris Hall (Bromley) P10 W4, Mark Buckley (Medway) P8 W1, Michele Ritter (SE London) P8 W2, Heidi Steers (T. Wells) P8 W3, Sandra Collins (NW Kent) P8 W4.

JUNIOR TRAINING DAY

The initiative of the ETTA was well rewarded by a splendid turn out at Ashford TTC when players from the Kent and Sussex Centres of Excellence got together for a days training organised by Roy Pugh and under the guidance of Coaches Gary Howes (Kent) and Dave Berriman (Sussex).

KENT LEAGUES FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT

The fourth annual Kent Table Tennis Leagues five a side football tournament, organised by Justin Goodall, was played at RAF Manston. Maidstone won the tournament on goal difference due to Thanet beating Folkestone 4-1 in the final game. Folkestone finished second despite having previously won on the past three occasions. 1st Maidstone, 2nd Folkestone, 3rd Thanet, 4th Dover, 5th Ashford. Matt Vardy captain of the winning Maidstone team tells me that the standard was very high but that the event needs more publicity - you've just got it.

MIDDLESEX

LORNA TAYLOR

FIGHTING SPIRIT

"Well, at last the season has started with the run of the Country Championship games. On the first weekend of the premier county matches, held at Idsall Sports Centre, the Senior 1st team came out undefeated, although we had two disappointing draws against Staffordshire and the newly promoted Berkshire. We were 5-2 up against Staffordshire and were unlucky not to win the final games. Graham Sandley displayed a fighting spirit to win both his singles. Nigel Tyler won both his games against Berkshire including a win over Jimmy Stokes over whom Graham Sandley also triumphed. The best play by our team however, was against Leicestershire whom we beat 7-3, with both John Sonter and Nigel Tyler winning their games. All the team played conscientiously, Nigel Tyler in particular performed exceptionally well to win 5 out of 6 of his matches. M Pilchovs stepped in as a reserve and won half of her matches in the absence of higher ranked players.

The Senior 2nd team lost to Kent 7-3 with the men winning one each. The opposition was exceptionally good and so unfortunately, Middlesex could not keep up to their

remarkable standard of last season. David Goode, who gained a 100% record as the number one for the team last season, alas lost to Joe Kennedy by a narrow margin of 25-23 in the first, going on to lose the second.

The Veterans 1st team got the season off to a promising start with a victory of 8-1 over Berkshire. The team playing consisted of John Holland, Tony Taylor, Maurice Isaacs and Sally Raymond. They won both doubles in the match, which was pleasing to see as this is where they fell down last year.

The Veterans 2nd team got off to a bad start losing to Surrey 3rds. This was unfortunately due to absentees through injuries and illness, as well as Maurice standing in for the 1st team. Bob Sydney made his debut for the team and tried hard against difficult opposition.

The Junior 2nd team lost to Surrey 2nds 7-3. Kara Lindsay and Abil Mathur made their county debuts.

There was an England International match played at Ashford Table Tennis Centre in September. England beat Poland ladies 4-1 in front of a packed audience.

I would like to congratulate Linda Farrow, as not reported in a previous edition, on coming third in the boys premier division of the Woolwich Junior British League, last season.

The Wembley and Harrow League are introducing a new system of ranking all its players in one, in a scheme introduced by Gary Morgan. It will consist of matches won in league matches in respect of their division, inter-league and any other league related match, in a system of points. This concept has created much interest and will hopefully generate more enthusiasm and more players to join the league.

Below are the Middlesex Table Tennis Association Ranking lists, correct as at September 1994:

SENIOR MEN: 1. N Tyler, 2. G Sandley, 3. J Souter, 4. D Goode, 5. R Hyacinth, 6. C Wilson, 7. N Charles, 8. S Rockall, 9. N McKoy, 10. D Baker, 11. D Topiwala, 12. C Papantoniou, 13. E Skeete, 14. K Corbin, 15. P Simmonds.

JUNIOR BOYS: 1. J Sugrve, 2. S Jablon, 3. B Comen, 4. M Michaelides, 5. A Jeyarajah, 6. B Patel, 7. J Wakelem, 8. O Wakelem, 9. A Mathur 10. D Feselfson.

SENIOR WOMEN: 1. S Kubelka, 2. L Keast, 3. S Williams, 4. A Smith, 5. M Glusic, 6. R Smith, 7. M Pilchova, 8. M Hefferman, 9. K Koltasz, 10. E Koltasz, 11. I Souter, 12. E Blanch, 13. J Jablon, 14. C O'Leary, 15. J Weare, 16. J Jablon.

JUNIOR GIRLS: 1. J Weare, 2. S Horsnell, 3. Y Greswell, 4. N Parmar, 5. K Lindsay, 6. S Avraam.

VETERAN MEN: 1. J Holland, 2. W Mascarenhas, 3. W Brookman, 4. A Taylor, 5. M Isaacs, 6. J Smith, 7. N Slikfin, 8. J Mablin, 9. G Range, 10. A Wood, 11. R Sydney, 12. S Genari, 13. M Sharp, 14. G Aillward, 15. G Hawkins, 16. A Boyle.

VETERAN WOMEN: 1. S Raymond, 2. K Nunn, 3. I Slikfin, 4. L Lloyd, 5. B Blanch, 6. M Prown, 7. F Wade, 8. D Stannards.

NORTHANTS

by DENIES MILLMAN

ADAMS TOP TRIPPETT

Paul Adams reversed last season's placings, and confirmed his Junior Singles win in last season's County Closed, when he beat Joe Trippett in the Northants Junior Top Eight, sponsored for the first time by McDonald's Restaurants of Wellingborough.

Both Adams and Trippett won their remaining six singles in straight games and when they met it was apparent that the summer break had done nothing to dim their exceptional ability. Adams took the first to seize the initiative, Trippett held on to win 22-20 and level, but in a third end of cut and thrust, it was Adams who came through.

Andrew Thomas finished third, his five wins including a straight games success over fourth placed Daniel Vertigan while both girls competing, won twice with Ruth Hoddle's deuce triumph over Gabrielle Evans enabling her to take pride of place. Nicky Spence achieved seventh spot with a 21-19 third end win over luckless Stephen Woolston.

After a season away from the County Championship scene, Ryan Keates led Northants Seniors back into winning action. Northants started superbly, winning their first four matches at Grantham before falling to the strength of Essex Thirds and Hertfordshire Firsts.

Sally Russell was unbeaten against Hunts, Herts Thirds and Norfolk, lost for the first time in the six four win over Suffolk Seconds, but at the end of the day her nine successes included the scalps of the much higher ranked Clare Lowe and Julie Askew. Kieron Dabbs eight wins included a last ditch effort against Steve Rand, while Keates won six matches in succession to clinch six four decisions against Herts Thirds and Suffolk. With Donna Furniss, Ian Bird and debutant Paul Smith all playing their part the seniors could be well satisfied.

The Veterans season again opened with a First versus Seconds battle and this proved to be a real thriller, with Gordon Shaw doing his utmost to upset the rankings. After the Firsts had taken a two nil lead, Shaw and Michael Edwards had a titanic struggle with Shaw saving four match points before he got home 25-23 in the third. Next he teamed up with Brian Dangerfield to beat Edwards and Ray Kingston in the doubles and though Margaret Maltby was invincible for the Firsts, Brian D'Hooghe accounted for Kingston and the Seconds trailed four three with two singles to play. Shaw then met County No. 1 Keith Jones and after Shaw had taken the first end, the second went to expedite with Jones trailing narrowly. That was how it stayed and the match was all square.

Edwards final singles was just as close as his first. Dangerfield was

always in the ascendancy but after taking the first he just couldn't settle the issue and Edwards won 17-21, 21-19, 21-18 and the Firsts had saved their reputation, but it was Gordon Shaw who took the honours.

In the Veteran Thirds game against Staffs, four rubbers went the distance but all the home side had to show for their efforts was a well earned success for Muriel Cox.

Two players who had more reason than most to celebrate at the end of last season were Steve West and Chris Handshaw. West, who spent three seasons with Rothborough before becoming Team Electric's linchpin, finally completed one thousand Premier Division wins, the first Kettering League player to do so.

The unique feat took Steve just under twenty one seasons, and for the last seventeen of these he has had to contend with his contemporary, Chris Handshaw, who on fifteen occasions - most as team captain, has played in the side that finished top. Congratulations to them both.

The St. Neots Invitation League made a September start with Veterans Division Two, and Kettering trio of Alan Ashberry, Phil Slade and John Palmer made the best possible start with a nine nil win over Peterborough B. Newcomers Wisbech provided a sterner test and though Ashberry and Slade won two each, they both lost late in the third to the opposing No. 1 and Wisbech had triumphed five four.

Surprisingly the all conquering Wellingborough Seniors, who dominated their section for many years, are not entered but to make sure the emphasis is right, Wellingborough has entered two junior sides for the first time and elsewhere entries remain as before.

NORFOLK

by RAY HOGG

THE LAW IS AN ASS

'The law is an ass' so the saying goes. 2.4.6. Red/Black is naturally the issue and in conversation with the grass roots players none of them consider it fair. Alright for say County and up but leave us alone down in the sticks to enjoy the game as we always have irrespective of rubber colours. If the I.T.T.F. want to improve the image of the game, control the type and number of rubbers on the market as each season modern technology comes up with yet another 'improvement' which eventually will make it impossible to return the ball at all. And what a price they are. In my capacity as County Secretary I have had to write to all leagues stressing that it is LAW to have red/black and in my first match of this season I come against a blue/black and a red/red bat. One was out of the ark and one came that day from a jumble sale for 25p. We had a lovely evening as there was no way I was going to refuse to play

because of their bat colour. What can the ETTA do if players and/or whole leagues ignore this law - they are not looking to lose these people as we are still shrinking numbers in spite of all the publicity around. To be continued.

Have not heard much about progress of the Woolwich Junior Leagues except that Kings Lynn's Steve Goodale has it well organised and going well. In advance of the date I advise you all that this seasons County Championships will be held again at Lynnsport on Sat/Sun April 8/9th 1995. We are looking for a bigger entry this time as sponsorship is down and entry fees can make up the difference.

County matches are with us again with our Junior 3rd losing to Essex 2 10-0, not surprising as our squad consists of up and coming players.

Our senior team returns after 2 years absence playing 6 matches over a week-end and losing the lost - again not surprising as the players were those who wanted to represent the County. The feed back is that although heavily beaten they are all looking forward to next time. A different attitude to those who only think about their national ranking.

Veterans 1st team won 7-2 at Hunts with an excellent debut for Steve Howlett who with Mick Broughton and Chris Brewer and Sue Allen and Mary Sawyer make up a formidable squad. Mary Sawyer runs our 2nd team and led it to victory over Beds 3 by 5-4 which included a match between David Henderson and Bill Astbury that brought the house down.

Financially we are solvent mainly because of our Treasurers' fund raising efforts such as a jumble sale £150, charity stall in Norwich £110 and a quiz and chips night to be held on 22nd October which should we get the support could raise £200 plus. All this money will be ploughed back in various ways but the days of the County paying all expenses are gone forever.

NORTHUMBERLAND

by PAULINE LONG

EXTENDED DIVISIONS

The National Power Northumbria League season commenced earlier than usual on September 12. There are only four Divisions as against five the previous season, but each Division has been extended to include 15 teams, thereby ensuring partial compensation by extending the League season to the end of April 1995.

Main changes on the County Executive Committee include Pauline Long returning as Publicity Officer and Dave Schofield taking over from Karen Newby as League Secretary in addition to his Treasurer's duties. Alan Morfeth has taken over Karen's duties as County Secretary in addition to continuing as Chairman.

The Friendly Hotels British League season has already started with

Sedgefield District Narrowly losing in a 6-8 thriller against St Neots. New signing Richard Hyacinth won 2 sets, and Eddie Smith, John Stilton and Steve Shaw one each, but they could only manage to take one of the doubles sets.

The Sedgefield second team of Jim Dyson, Keith Rodger and Mark Simon crushed Humberstone 7-1 in a Division 1 match, while their third team of Scott Gilbert, Andrew Wilkinson, Steve Cooper and Mark Smith beat Burton by the same score in Division 2. Their Division 3 side, however, lost 2-6 to Sheffield.

SOMERSET

ANDY SEWARD

SADLER'S TROJAN SERVICE

At this time of the season, there is almost no news (as usual) from the local junior leagues in Somerset, so this month's ramblings will mainly concentrate on the County Juniors. But firstly, news of the County AGM held last July. The following Officers were elected for the 1994/95 season: President: BK (Brian) Reeves (Failand) Chairman: BFJ (Brian) Reeves (Yeovil) V. Chairman Andy Seward Secretary: Brenda Thorne Treasurer: Jeremy Maynard

One notable change, is that after many, many years Jim Sadler has handed over the Accounts to fellow Yeovil accountant Jeremy Maynard. Somerset would like to place on record its thanks to Jim for his trojan services to the County. Enjoy your golf!

And so to the Juniors. The local leagues may not have started yet, but the County selectors and administrators have been very busy organising the first round of County matches. Overall, three wins and two defeats represents relative success and bodes well for the rest of the season.

After much discussion, and taking into account the results of the County Assessment Trials and the County Closed Championships, the County Junior ranking submitted to the County Administrator were as follows:

JUNIOR BOYS: 1. Andrew Rumary (M), 2. Michael Ong (M), 3. David Corkett (T), 4. Chris Sayers (M), 5. Simon Gitsam (B).
JUNIOR GIRLS: Claire Shobbrook (B), 2. Anna Rundle (B), 3. Claire Gibbs (M), 4. Claire Taylor (B), 5. Helen Round (B).
B=Bridgewater, M=Mendip, T=Taunton

The Juniors played two matches on the first County Championship day and came away with a comfortable 10-0 victory against Herefordshire and much credit in a narrow 4-6 defeat against Gloucestershire. Considering that only one of the squad, Andrew Rumary, had played at County level before, there were some encouraging performances.

Against Herefordshire, there were two wins each for Andrew Rumary, Michael Ong (currently studying at

Millfield), David Corkett and the two girls, Claire Gibbs and Helen Round. The match against Gloucestershire was a very close affair. An excellent win on his debut by Chris Sayers to beat Aaron Mortimer 18,22 levelled up the match score at 1-1. Victory for Andrew Rumary 13,-20,9 (!) made it 2-2, then one from Michael Ong and its 3-3. Another win for Andrew and now its 4-4. Unfortunately the Somerset girls were unable to win any on this occasion and this left the match score 4-5 with just Chris to play against Robin Price, the Glous No.2. A close and tense match with Chris just losing 17,-21,-14 to leave Gloucestershire victors 6-4.

SUSSEX

JOHN WOODFORD

Keith Jackson the new Sussex ITA Chairman who vowed at the annual meeting to find some sponsorship to boost county fund has struck oil.

For the West Sussex Championships coming up shortly at Burgess Hill firm Homecall Carpets are the new sponsors. This is the first time that either of the two East and West events have been sponsored certainly in recent times.

So the breakthrough will be even more encouraging if Mr Jackson can also succeed in raising funds for the East Sussex event.

In a second sponsorship strike he has started a 200 Club and already has a hundred members.

The search for rising young stars is always on. Joanna Bush-Harris (Brighton) has impressed by winning the girls doubles at the recent East



Nigel Tyler of Horsham Angels, Sussex.

Yorkshire Select at Bridlington and in the same event Harry McCarney from Lewes distinguished himself by winning the Class 2 Singles at the expense of the final the Hastings star Robert Abbotts.

Best win of the month came in the County Championships when Peter Bartram (Lancs) defeated the Sussex champion Adrian Moore.

Bartram has a habit of beating the best at times and then losing to the semi-skilled.

WARWICKSHIRE

PETE WALDEN

RESHAPED STRUCTURE

All five of our local leagues are now well underway into their new season, and whilst the overall number of players has not decreased dramatically some leagues have seen fit to reshape their structure, notably Leamington. The 49 teams in this league will be split into 5 divisions of 6 teams and a further 4 divisions of 5 teams, their season becoming effectively 2 seasons with promotion and relegation at Christmas. I'd hate to be their treasurer picking up the trophies bill for that little lot!

Still on the subject of Leamington, I must mention the dates of the excellent tournaments held throughout the season by the Lillington Free Church Club for players from beginners upwards. These will be held on October 8th, December 3rd, February 4th, March 18th, and April 29th. Tournament organiser is Hugh Matthews who can be contacted on 0926 314539.

The Coventry and Birmingham leagues have slightly restructured in that Coventry now has just 4 divisions of 12 teams whilst Birmingham has 8 divisions of 12. The Nuneaton and Stratford leagues are more or less the same as last year.

All players should note that this season's Works Closed will take place on May 7th 1995 at the National Indoor Arena in Birmingham.

WORCESTERSHIRE

JOHN BARBER

COUNTY JUNIOR TRIALS

Our County Junior Trials were held on 2 September at Pensnett from which the Ranking Lists were compiled as follows:

BOYS: 1. Tim Evans (Kidderminster), 2. Alex Hill (Dudley), 3. Ian Wood (K), 4. Lewis Cook (D), 5. Dennis Hill (D), 6. Robin Sedman-Smith (K), 7. Brett Holyman (K), 8. Chris Auly (Bromsgrove), 9. Tim Morris (Worcester), 10. Steven Jackson (Malvern), 11. Simon Webb (K), 12. Ian Russell (D), 13. Paul Deakin (B), 14. Ben Winter (W), 15. William Schalbe (B), 16. Matthew Hartwell (Evesham).

GIRLS: 1. Stephanie Price (Dudley), 2. Laura Vaughan (Worcester), 3. Jennie Ponsford (K), 4. Kate Hughes (B), 5. Louise Evans (B), 6. Rosalind Sedman-Smith (K), 8. Jenny Burchill (D), 9. Zowie Arrow-Smith (Evesham).

The Junior County Closed will take place at Christopher Whitehead School, Worcester, 27 November. Our grateful thanks to John Mylton who has agreed to be referee again, an office he has fulfilled for a great number of years.

COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS

In Division 1A our Senior 1st Team found the going tough away to Lancs 2nds. Sandra Ruden fared best with

two wins, and for the men Malcolm Green and Trevor Washington took one each. Thus the team narrowly lost 6-4.

In Division 2B the second team had a much easier encounter winning away 10-0 against Cornwall 2nds. Worcs were represented by Jason Thompson David Rogers and Lewis Sickett and evergreen veterans Lynda Reid and Janet Hunt.

The match I saw was the Junior Division 2 home fixture against Dorset, Worcs winning 9-1 and had three players making their debut including cadet Alex Hill at number 2 spot. He beat No.1 Lee Dredge in fine style taking 5 points when 16-21 down in the second. Tim Evans went down the Anthony Forster but found his form to beat Dredge at 22-20 in the third. The visitors were at a disadvantage with only 4 players.

Scores: A Hill bt L Dredge 16,19. L Dredge bt R Fry 16, 13. I Wood bt R Fry 10,13. R Fry bt A Forster 17,9. T Evans lost to Forster -19,-16. Forster bt Dredge -16,19,20 (an excellent set). Laura Vaughan bt Nikki Bryson 13,17. Stephanie Price bt Bryson 19,17.

Worcs put in a keen display against spirited opponents.

YORKSHIRE

REA BALMFORD

ENGLAND COULD BE GOING PLACES

Further to my comments on Denis Neale in last month's edition - sincere congratulations on his appointment as n.p.c. of the England men's team - if he does as good a job 'in the corner' as he did on the table, England could be going places.

And still with the former England champion - his club, Harrogate Wanderers, making their first appearance in the Nancy Evans Cup, the European Knock Out competition, entertain Hirocem Malacky from Slovakia in Round 2 after being given a bye in the first round.

By the time these notes appear, Yorkshire will have made their first contact with the new English Junior coach Jia Wi Liu, based in the Broad Acres near to his former protégé, Chen Xinhua, the County and England No. 1.

Jia is due to take charge of an excellence coaching day at the Armley T.T. Centre in Leeds, and the County's outstanding crop of young players are sure to take a major step along the table tennis road under his guidance.

The players to benefit are all in the top echelons of the Junior Ranking List, and Yorkshire look to be in a strong position to make a serious challenge to regain the Junior Premier title which, in the 80s they almost made their own property.

Still with the youngsters, a group of West Riding players - Richard Potter, Nicola Silburn (Leeds), Richard and David Smith (Huddersfield) - flew out to Rotterdam for an intensive pre-season training session from top Dutch club Feyenoord Van Teylingen.

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