

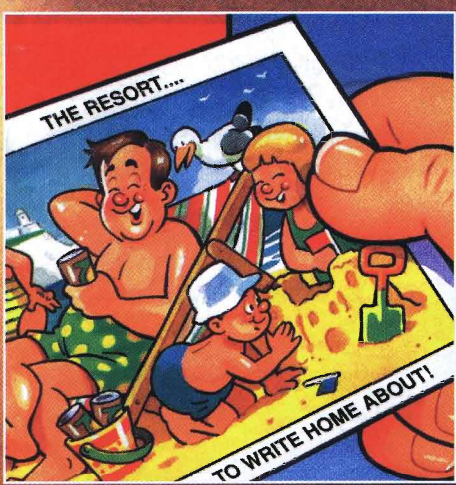
TABLE TENNIS

NEWS



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SCOTT WINS AT BRIDLINGTON

Good Friday

- **English Junior Open** pages 16 to 19
- **Euro Olympic Qualifiers** page 10
- **Stamco Sussex 2 Star** page 23

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TABLE TENNIS NEWS

CHATTERBOX A 'Jamboree Bag' of TT Items!	4
FROM THE CHAIR Battle Royal in Manchester	5
HOME & AWAY Not the Soap but the offering from Richard Habgood's mighty pen!	8
EUROPEAN OLYMPIC QUALIFIERS The Big Test	10
BRITISH LEAGUE Solder leads Peniel to Victory	14
ENGLISH JUNIOR OPEN Our 'Man Friday' wins on Saturday	16
STAMCO SUSSEX 2 STAR Billington and Collier... Spring a Surprise!	23
MAILBOX Where your pen can be mightier than the sword!	26
EXPEDITE Clare Pengelly Memorial 2 Star	34

CAPTAIN'S LOG

Great News! Great Scott! Yes Scott Friday won the Boy's Cadet Singles title at the English Junior Open in Bridlington.

Scott's victory at the seaside was England's first cadet singles triumph in this five year old competition.

The Girls 2nd team, Michelle Haynes, Kathryn Woodward and Debbie Pestka, narrowly missed out on success in the team event when they led Belgium III 2-0 in the semi-final before losing a nail-biting contest 2-3.

England's Tracey Davies also did well reaching the semi-finals of the Junior Girls Singles, where she lost to eventual winner Petra Cada from Canada.

Gareth Herbert reached the Junior Boys semi-finals and Terry Young was beaten in the quarter-finals.

Hopefully these results will be the start of an English revival in European Junior table tennis.

Congratulations to Katy Hart who made her England debut at Bridlington.

John F A Wood

IN THE NEXT ISSUE...

■ JOOLA MENS EUROPEAN LEAGUE ENGLAND V AUSTRIA

■ ENGLISH JUNIOR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

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



Table Tennis Snippets

SLIPPERY PATCH!

International Umpire Karen Tonge had a nasty fall, after umpiring a final at the English Junior Open at the Spa Royal Hall, Bridlington, she slipped over on a wet patch and suffered a suspected fractured arm. Luckily, as you'll note from our picture, it wasn't her drinking arm!



FOUR NEW TOURNAMENTS FOR HUMBERSIDE

Good news for all Junior players in that the Humberside Table Tennis Development Committee and Humberside County Council Leisure Services have teamed up to organise and support a series of four one star events. The first one is the Humberside Clee Fields (Grimsby) on October 28th. Followed by the Humberside Beverley on January 20th 1996. Then it's on to the Humberside Grimsby on April 20th with the final event being the Humberside Hull on May 18th.

KENT JUNIOR OPEN

There will be a new venue this year for the Kent International Team Event and Kent Junior Open. The event will take place at Cobham Hall, Gravesend on 16-18th February 1996. As last year a strong International Entry is expected so it is advised to get your entries returned as soon as possible after you receive them to avoid disappointment. The main sponsors for the two events are D B

Construction, Kent Sports Development Unit, Thake Transport and Gravesham Borough Council.

CHINESE TAKE-AWAY TERRY

Terry Young flew out from Heathrow on Thursday 19th October 1995 for 3 months intensive training in China.

Terry will be accompanied by his grandfather Pat Carthy.

GILLY SQUIER

Dick and Val Roffe have moved to Frinton, please get in touch.

Val & Dick Roffe
9 Stallards Crescent
Frinton-on Sea, Essex
CO13 0TN
Tel: 01255 678847

SCOT TO WED

Brian Webster the eccentric Scottish photographer and sports statistician from Dundee is going to be married in his home city on January 20th, next year to a nurse from Perth, Ann Herd.

Brian, who has attended more European Championships than most still leads a hyperactive life - he sleeps on average three hours a

Mr Hammarlund leaves a wife and two daughters to whom we extend our deepest sympathy.

FAVOURITE SPORT

England fast bowler Devon Malcolm listed in 'My Favourite Things' column in Today newspaper recently that his favourite sport to play (other than Cricket) is table tennis!

If England's Cricket Team decide to drop him perhaps there's a future for him in the world of table tennis?

BEER TODAY GONE TOMORROW

Row Table Tennis club which is situated in Gaddesdon Row, Herts were about to celebrate their inaugural year at the Plough Pub across the road from the hall, only to discover the pub had gone bust and closed.

Sadly the week previous the village lost its only shop but the intrepid 'choppers' were not daunted, they now travel 1 mile down the road for after match drinks at the Chequers.

WINNER!

GUESS WHO?

Winner of the 'Guess Who?' photographic competition was Sandra Liddle of Polmont, Sterlingshire. Sandra will receive a £20 Butterfly voucher, for correctly naming the boy in the photograph as our ETTA Chairman **Alan Ransome**.

STOP PRESS

THIRD TIME LUCKY

Matthew Syed won his third successive Sears International Invitation Mens Singles Trophy, when he beat Alan Cooke in the final, in Palatine, Illinois, USA.

night. When working at table tennis Press Centres he is usually knocking on the door at 6am.

Brian is an ordained priest of the Mormon Church. His fiancé is also a member of that religion.

LOLLO HAMMARLUND

It is with deep regret we have to announce the death of ITTF President, Mr Lollo Hammarlund on Saturday, 14 October 1995.

He had not been well for some months and the discovery that he had cancer came at too late a stage for surgery.



NATIONAL YOUTH DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

An 'all hours worked' post

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The successful candidate is likely to possess the following:
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- Experience of working with young people.
- Effective written and oral communication skills.
- High level of self-motivation and initiative.
- Experience of sport development.
- Understanding of Table Tennis.
- Full driving licence.

Closing date: 18th December 1995

Job description, person specification and background information available from:

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English Table Tennis Association, Queensbury House
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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.

BY ALAN RANSOME

BATTLE ROYAL

in Manchester

I WAS PRESENT AT THE LAST EUROPEAN OLYMPIC QUALIFICATION TOURNAMENT IN BOLZANO, ITALY, FOUR YEARS AGO AS ONE OF THE BRITISH TEAM CAPTAINS AND REMEMBER THE CHAMPIONSHIP VIVIDLY AS A COMPETITION THAT AROUSED THE MOST PASSION AND COMMITMENT FROM THE PLAYERS OF ALL NATIONS. IT WAS ELECTRIFYING. EVERYBODY WAS DESPERATE TO QUALIFY FOR THE OLYMPICS AND THE TABLE TENNIS MATCHES THAT ENVIRONMENT CREATED WAS SOMETHING REALLY EXCEPTIONAL.

I have no doubt that the same desire to succeed will be present in Manchester when the European Olympic Qualification Tournament for Atlanta takes place from 10-14 January 1996.

Although eighteen European men and twelve women have pre-qualified for Atlanta, those who remain would clearly do justice to any international championship. Amongst the men fighting for places are the former European Champion, Jorgen Persson of Sweden; the English Open Champion, Damien Eloi of France; the former world doubles champion, Steffan Fetzner, Germany; and the brilliant young Polish player, Lucjan Blaszczyk who did so well in Tianjin. The women's competition is equally impressive with stars like Olga Nemes of Germany; Valentina Popova of Slovakia; Elena Timina of Russia and formerly of BFL Grove; and Mirjam Hooman of the Netherlands.

From a British viewpoint, Chen Xinhua and Carl Prean have both pre-qualified and therefore Donald Parker is likely to choose from Matthew Syed and Alan Cooke for his remaining men's place and between Andrea Holt, Lisa Lomas, Alison Broe and Nicola Deaton for the three women's positions.

The system of play ensures high tension matches from the outset.

There are ten qualification places for the men and ten for the women. There will be first and second stage groups in both competitions and the eight winners of these groups will automatically qualify. The remaining two places and the all-important list of reserves will be decided by further groups and a final knock out section. All matches are to be best of five. This creates a competition in which every match is vital until a player has either qualified or has been eliminated. The eight group winners will play a separate knock out tournament for the title of European Olympic Qualification Champion.

Play is scheduled to start on Wednesday 10 January in the afternoon and will continue throughout the day on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, with the final stages of both qualification and the championship being concluded in the early evening of Sunday 14th January.



Alan Ransome, Chairman ETTA

The organisation for the European Olympic Qualification tournament and the 1997 World Championships is moving swiftly ahead. Richard Scruton has been appointed as Referee for the Olympic Qualifying

tournament with Stuart Sherlock, as one of the Deputy Referees. Stuart, the Referee for the European Championships in Birmingham last year, has been selected as Referee for the World Championships 1997. Congratulations to Richard and Stuart.

ITTF PRESIDENT DIES

The ITTF has lost its 2nd President in less than 12 months. Sweden's Lollo Hammarlund died of cancer at the beginning of October, just five months after being elected to the Presidency at the ITTF Congress in Tianjin. Lollo's life had been dedicated to table tennis. He was a Swedish International player and the Team Manager at the time the former ITTF President, Ichiro Ogimura, had been engaged by the Swedish Association as the coach to improve their elite performances. Lollo also had a long history of service to international governing bodies. He was Deputy President of the ETTU at the time of the Europe Top 12 in Cleveland in 1983 and went on to be the ITTF Deputy President when Ichiro Ogimura became President in 1987.

SUCCESS AT BRIDLINGTON

The England junior squad enjoyed some of their best results for some time at the English Junior Open Championships in Bridlington on 13/15 October. Thirteen year-old Scott Friday won the Cadet Boys Singles beating Patrick Jazwiec of Germany in the final and Belgium's Herve Delporte in the semi-finals. Other good performances came from Gareth Herbert of Berkshire who reached the semi-final of the Boys singles, only to lose to the Canadian

Homayoun Kamkar-Parsi. Tracey Davies of Peniel made the best progress in the Junior Girls singles, reaching the semi-finals only to lose to the eventual winner, Petra Cada of Canada.

In the week leading up to the English Junior Open England played three junior internationals against the Canadians, two in London and the final match in Leeds. The England boys won all three matches by 6-4, 8-2 and 7-3, whilst the England girls tied the series one all, with one match drawn. By winning the first match in London 7-5, losing the second 6-4 and then playing to a draw at the new Armley Centre in Leeds.

I would like to extend my thanks to Reg Rockall of the Edison Club and Ray Burch the Regional Development Officer for Yorkshire and Humberside for their assistance in staging these three fixtures.

Whilst it is good to see more encouraging results from our young players, it is clear that the standard internationally is rising and more countries are producing quality young players. The Danish showed off their prowess at the Peniel tournament in September, whilst in Bridlington the Spanish and the Canadians showed how much they had improved. The Government's "Raising the Game" programme launched by the Prime Minister recently, which includes the provision of an Academy for Sport to nurture Britain's most talented athletes will provide far greater opportunities for improvement than has been possible in the recent past. It is essential that table tennis is selected by the Sports Council to be part of this programme and decisions in this respect are likely to be made next year.

BOA POST FOR DIRECTOR OF COACHING DON PARKER

The England Team Manager and Director of Coaching, Donald Parker, left the Association's employment on 31 October to take up a new post in the Technical Department of the British Olympic Association. Donald has made a tremendous contribution to English table tennis over the last 18 years or so that he has been employed by the ETTA. In that time he has been captain of the England junior teams, England men and England women. Under his leadership the teams have won many medals at international level including winning the Silver in the European Championships in 1988 and two bronze in the team events at the European Championships in Birmingham last year. Many Commonwealth medals have been won during Don's time including the Men's Team Gold in Hyderabad in 1994 and Silver in both the Men and Women's team in Singapore earlier this year.

Donald has been Director of Coaching for the last eight years and has played an important part in the revival of the Coaching Scheme over the last four years. Coach registrations have increased by 400% since 1991.

It should be recognised that Donald has been very even handed in the way that he has managed and selected the England teams and that his diplomatic skills have created a first class impression for English table tennis around the world and have put the sport in good stead with partner organisation such as the Sports Council, the National Coaching Foundation and Donald's new employers, the British Olympic Association.

The BOA have agreed to allow Donald to continue to carry out some work for the ETTA in the first few months of his appointment so as to assist with the transitional period. Donald will, in any case, maintain a close interest in table tennis as he always has done. We wish Donald Parker every success in his new career.

NEW STAFF STRUCTURE

The ETTA Chief Executive, Richard Yule's proposal to the Management Committee to establish a new staff structure has been accepted. There will be four departments, Administration led by ETTA General Secretary, Robert Sinclair; Marketing led by Richard Yule himself, Development which sees promotion for Diccon Gray who is upgraded from Development Manager to Director of Development, and a new Technical Department that will encompass all coaching and England team matters. Following the departure of Donald Parker it is intended to appoint a new Director of Coaching early in the New Year. All four departments will be located in the ETTA head office in Hastings.

The promotion for Diccon Gray is a recognition of the tremendous work that Diccon has carried out managing the Focus Sport programme which has included the employment of ten Regional Development Officers and the introduction of both the ETTA Facilities Programme and the Woolwich Junior Leagues over the last four years.

CARL PREAN CENTRE

The latest development success has been the official opening of the Isle of Wight Centre in October. The ETTA were able to assist with the securing of close on 100% funding for this centre, mainly from the Sports Council Southern Region and the Foundation for Sport and the Arts via the ETTA half million pound grant. ETTA Facilities Officer, Paul Baker was involved in the design of the centre and both Mike Lewis, the Vice Chairman for Development and former Regional Development Officer, Stephen Joel were both assisted in the arranging of the finance. John Prean co-ordinated the project on the Island. The Isle of Wight Association have named the facility the Carl Prean Centre. The new purpose-built centre, costing in excess of £170,000, has six tables for matches, excellent lighting and a new Tarkett floor.

Congratulations to all concerned.

CHEN AND PREAN PRE-QUALIFY FOR OLYMPICS

Both Chen Xinhua and Carl Prean have pre-qualified for the Olympic Games in Atlanta next July due to their world rankings. The British Olympic Association (BOA), the governing body of sport for Olympic matters in this country can only nominate a total of three men and three women for the singles events. As the BOA have two players pre-qualified, it means that only one man can be entered in the European Olympic Qualification tournament in Manchester. As there have been no pre-qualifiers amongst the British women, three players can be nominated for the Qualification tournament.

Under ITTF regulations all players participating in the Olympic Games are required to receive the nomination of their national association and this year, so far as England is concerned, the nomination procedure has been controversial. Initially there was some talk of Chen Xinhua retiring after the last World Championships and returning to China. Donald Parker asked the ETTA to consider a hypothetical case in which Chen Xinhua would no longer be playing for England but would have pre-qualified for Atlanta and wished to take up his place in the Games in the British team. The ETTA Management Committee discussed this matter at their June meeting and decided that any player who would not make him or herself available for England should not be nominated for the Olympics. In the event, Chen Xinhua has continued to live in England and to make himself available for the England team.

In the light of this decision, Carl Prean's decision to make himself unavailable for England but still wishing to be nominated by the ETTA to play in Atlanta has proved very controversial. The ETTA Selection Department's recommendation received strong support from the current England Mens and Womens squads which was voiced through their National Council Representative Bradley Billington. The Selection Department feared that a nomination for Carl

Prean in these circumstances would be seen as a license for players to "cherry-pick" events in which they wished to participate rather than making themselves available for England selection as and when required. Selection decided to recommend to National Council that the previous decision relating to Chen Xinhua should be respected. After a long debate in which Carl Prean's previous record for England was an important factor, National Council at their October meeting decided that both Chen and Prean, having pre-qualified, should be nominated for the Olympic Games, regardless of their availability to play for England. However, in a separate decision, places at other international championships would only be available to non-England players if vacancies existed after the places required for the England team players had been filled.

It was hoped that the ETTA decision to nominate Carl Prean would encourage him to make himself available for England on a "no precondition" basis, but this has proved not to be the case and Carl has responded by saying that he would only play in an England team if Chen Xinhua is not playing and a precondition of this kind to the Selectors is clearly unacceptable. All players wishing to be selected for their national team in any sport must make themselves available for selection and who else is picked to play in the team or as the captain is entirely as matter for the selectors.

OLD FRIENDS REVISITED

On my recent travels I have had the pleasure of meeting two former ETTA officers. Firstly at the opening of the Barrow Table Tennis Club I met George Yates. George, former Deputy Chairman of the ETTA, General Secretary of the ETTU and for many years Editor of Table Tennis News, made the trip with his wife Doreen from their home in Bolton.

I was pleased to visit the 60th Sussex Open Championships in Hastings where I met former ETTA Chairman, Charles Wyles OBE.

Alan Ransome Chairman ETTA

AFTER TWO PRACTICE SESSIONS IN A 500-SEATER HALL, THE ENGLAND GIRLS SET ABOUT THE TASK OF UP-ENDING THE HUNGARIANS, CHAMPIONS OF THE EUROPEAN LEAGUE, ALTHOUGH HOW HUNGARY PUT DOWN GERMANY LAST SEASON IS TO ME A MYSTERY WRITES
JOHN WOODFORD IN BUDAPEST.

ENGLAND LOSE *in Hungary*

Lisa gave England a flyer when she brought down Kristina Toth 11,19 boosting the theory that against foreign opposition her defence, when at its best, causes most problems.

Alison Broe also commenced with a superb start taking the first game 12 against the might Batorfi who appeared in a gipsy-type headscarf. Batorfi using her high services with reasonably good effect, bounced back to take the second and third 13,10 as Alison ran out of ideas.

England champion Andrea Holt is rarely at her best early in the season. England's chance of success depended very much on her beating the improving and glamorous youngster Vivien Ello. But the girl with the surname that reminds us of the TV comedy "Ello, Ello"! although losing the second, came through to win with controlled aggression

16,-10,16.

Backspin can win doubles matches, but not often. Batorfi and Toft made short work of Holt and Lomas 11,10, leaving England trailing 1-3.

This left Lisa to see if she could stop Csilla Batorfi to save the match. Lisa patiently defended and attacked as she has done in the past to beat the skilful Hungarian No 1 but of no avail, the home player raced home 16,15 to give Hungary a 4-1 victory they deserved.

To indicate how busy some of these foreign teams are, for the second time in ten days an England team sat down for a splendid meal and more than ample drinks, minus the opposing team - they were off to Luxembourg for another event.

Back in Namur, Belgium only ten days earlier, the England men's team were given a meal after the match accompanied only by officials - the Belgium men were off to another battle elsewhere.

Both in Hungary and Belgium the organisers were clearly embarrassed that the home sides could not wait to afford the visiting team the courtesy of being there for the after-match speeches and meals.

Another interesting fact from the matches in both Belgium and Hungary, in both hotels after the match, the England teams were able to watch themselves in action in long television recordings of the matches played an hour or so earlier. In Hungary, a two-hour



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DEVELOPMENT OFFICER**
An 'all hours worked' post

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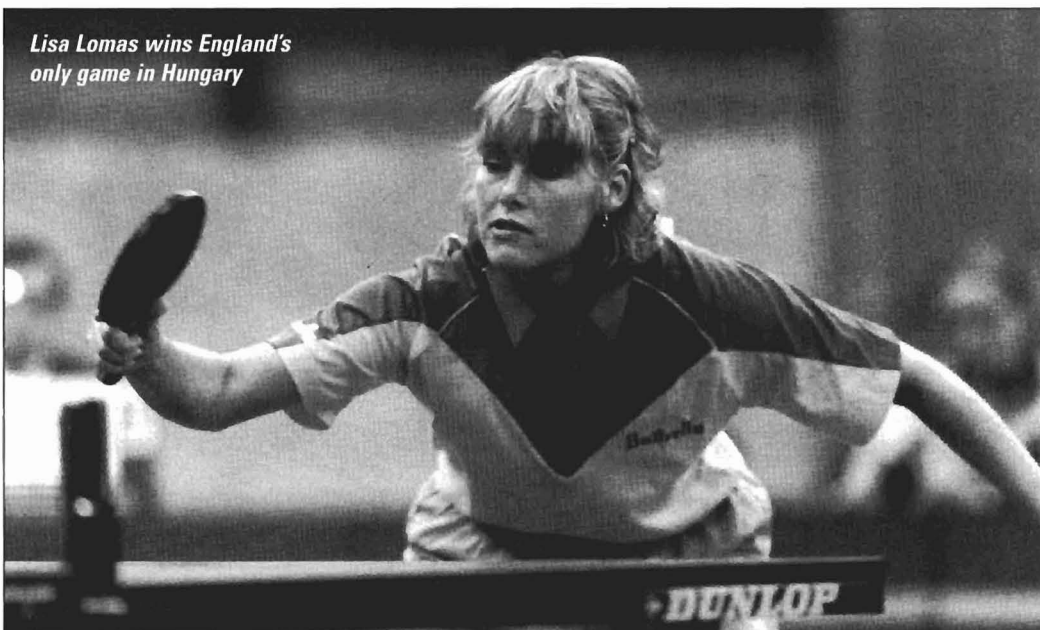
Salary: £15,000-£16,000
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The successful candidate is likely to possess the following:
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Effective written and oral communication skills.
High level of self-motivation and initiative.
Experience of sport development.
Understanding of Table Tennis.
Full driving licence.
Closing date: 18th December 1995
Job description, person specification and background information available from:

Doreen Nightingale,
English Table Tennis Association, Queensbury House
Havelock Road, Hastings, East Sussex TN34 1HF
Tel: 01424 722525 - Fax: 01424 422103

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Lisa Lomas wins England's only game in Hungary



transmission!

This shows once again how other European countries do better than we do here for television, whilst in England we are the poor relation and in common with many other smaller sports, rarely get onto the television screens.

After beating the Dutch England women only have to stop Belgium to qualify.

RESULTS ANALYSIS

HUNGARY 4 ENGLAND 1
K Toth | L Lomas -11,-19
C Batorfi bt A Broe -12,13,10
V Ello bt A Holt 16,-20,16
Toth and Batorfi bt Holt and Lomas 11,10
Batorfi bt Lomas 16,15

Joola European League Mens Super Division

With England's disappointing 1-4 defeat at the hands of Belgium chronicled elsewhere in this issue, England's next opponents Austria won their second match of the season by defeating Hungary, 4-2, to set up yet another nail biting match between the two teams. A glance at the tables below will show just how tight the positions are; England need to finish second to contest a medal position. Failure will bring a relegation battle against the bottom two teams from the other group.

RESULTS 2ND ROUND

Germany 3 Sweden 4
Poland 0 France 4
Belgium 4 England 1
Austria 4 Hungary 2

WOMENS SUPER DIVISION

Still smarting from their opening 1-4 defeat at the hands of Sweden, Germany heralded the return of Schopp and Strusse with an emphatic 4-0 victory over Italy to kick start their season into life.

Romania have continued their good start to the season with a surprising 4-0 victory over Sweden, and the Netherlands put behind their 1-4 opening game defeat by England, to beat Belgium 4-0.

Champions Hungary proved just too strong for an enthusiastic England team; this month's home game against Belgium could take England's women into a position of challenging for medals.

EPSON ITTF WORLD RANKING LISTS

There have been no changes in the latest (October publication) issue of

the top ten women, but in the men's listings Germany's Jorg Roskopf climbs 2 places to No 6 following his European Masters Cup victory over Sweden's Jan-Ove Waldner. Waldner is now at No 5 in the world list; Korea's Kim Taek Soo moves up one place to No 4 and China's Liu Guoliang drops to No 8.

England's players have shuffled around with Chen Xinhua now at No 19, Carl Prean still at No 30, Alan Cooke at No 55, Matthew Syed at No 64, Desmond Douglas at No 65 and Chris Oldfield at No 143.

Andrea Holt is up one place to No 59 just behind Lisa Lomas at No 58 in the womens rankings. Alison Broe is still at No 78, Nicola Deaton (186) Helen Lower (215) and Sally Marling (228) all move upwards in the latest published list.

EUROPEAN MASTERS CUP 95

World Champion Kong Linghui (China) was comprehensively beaten in straight games by Belgium's Jean-Michel Saive at the quarter final stage of the tournament.

Eventual winner Jorg Roskopf (Germany) put out Zoran Primorac (Croatia) at the same stage as did Andrej Grubba (Poland) with a thrilling five set victory over Calin Creanga (Greece) and Jan-Ove Waldner (Sweden) by the same score over Vladimir Samsonov (Blr).

In the semi-finals Roskopf overcame Saive by 3 games to 1, Waldner beat Grubba in three straight games before Roskopf in front of his home crowd got the better of Sweden's Olympic Champion in five

RESULTS

QF Roskopf v Primorac 18,19,13, Saive v Kong Linghui 21,19,20, Grubba v Creanga -15,20,15,-15,21, Waldner v Samsonov -13,27,-22,15,19

SF Roskopf v Saive 11,13,-18,19, Waldner v Grubba 9,13,16

F Roskopf v Waldner 14,-9,19,-19,18.

WORLD TEAM CUP 1995

Played in Atlanta as a foretaste of things to come, it was Korea who claimed the men's team prize and China (who else?) who walked off with the women's competition.

Earlier, Korea had reached the semi final stage with a 3-2 victory over the Chinese mens team; there they met an ebullient United States team still jubilant after their 32 win over France.

Germany provided the tournament's other shock with a quarter final 3-2 victory over Sweden. At the penultimate stage Germany overcame Japan 3-2 to reach the final.

The Chinese women's team swept aside European League Champions Hungary 3-0 in their semi-final before achieving the same score against Romania in the final.

FINAL SCORES

MENS COMPETITION

Korea 3 Germany 2

Yoo Nam Kyu v **S Fetzner**
-21,-19 0-1

Kim Taek Soo v J Roskopf
18,17 1-1

Lee Chul Seung v **R Prause**
-18,-23 1-2

Kim Taek Soo v S Fetzner
17,9 2-2

Yoo Nam Kyu v J Roskopf -
14,19,20 3-2

WOMENS COMPETITION

China 3 Romania 0

Deng Yaping v O Badescu
8,9 1-0

Qiao Hong v E Ciosu
-18,12,18 2-0

Yang Ying v G Cojocar
13,15 3-0

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MENS GROUP A

	P	W	L	F	APts
Sweden	2	2	0	8	5 4
France	2	1	1	6	4 3
Poland	2	1	1	4	7 3
Germany	2	0	2	6	8 2

MENS GROUP B

	P	W	L	F	APts
Belgium	2	2	0	8	2 4
Austria	2	1	1	5	6 3
England	2	1	1	5	7 3
Hungary	2	0	2	5	8 2

WOMENS GROUP A

	P	W	L	F	APts
Romania	2	2	0	8	2 4
Germany	2	1	1	5	5 3
Sweden	2	1	1	4	5 3
Italy	2	0	2	2	8 2

WOMENS GROUP B

	P	W	L	F	APts
Hungary	2	2	0	8	2 4
Netherlands	2	1	1	5	4 3
England	2	1	1	5	5 3
Belgium	2	0	2	1	8 2

the **BIG** *test*

ATLANTA, HERE WE COME. THAT'S THE MESSAGE FROM THE BRITISH CAMP AS OUR PLAYERS LIMBER UP FOR THE BIGGEST TEST OF THEIR LIVES
WRITE MIKE WATTS AND JIM BECKLEY.

Already they have been to Talahassee for training and acclimatisation. Now they are aiming to qualify for next year's Olympic Games in Atlanta at the Nynex Arena in Manchester from January 10-14 1996.

In the 1992 Barcelona Olympics Carl Prean reached the last 16 and

Lisa Lomas and Andrea Holt reached the same stage in the doubles.

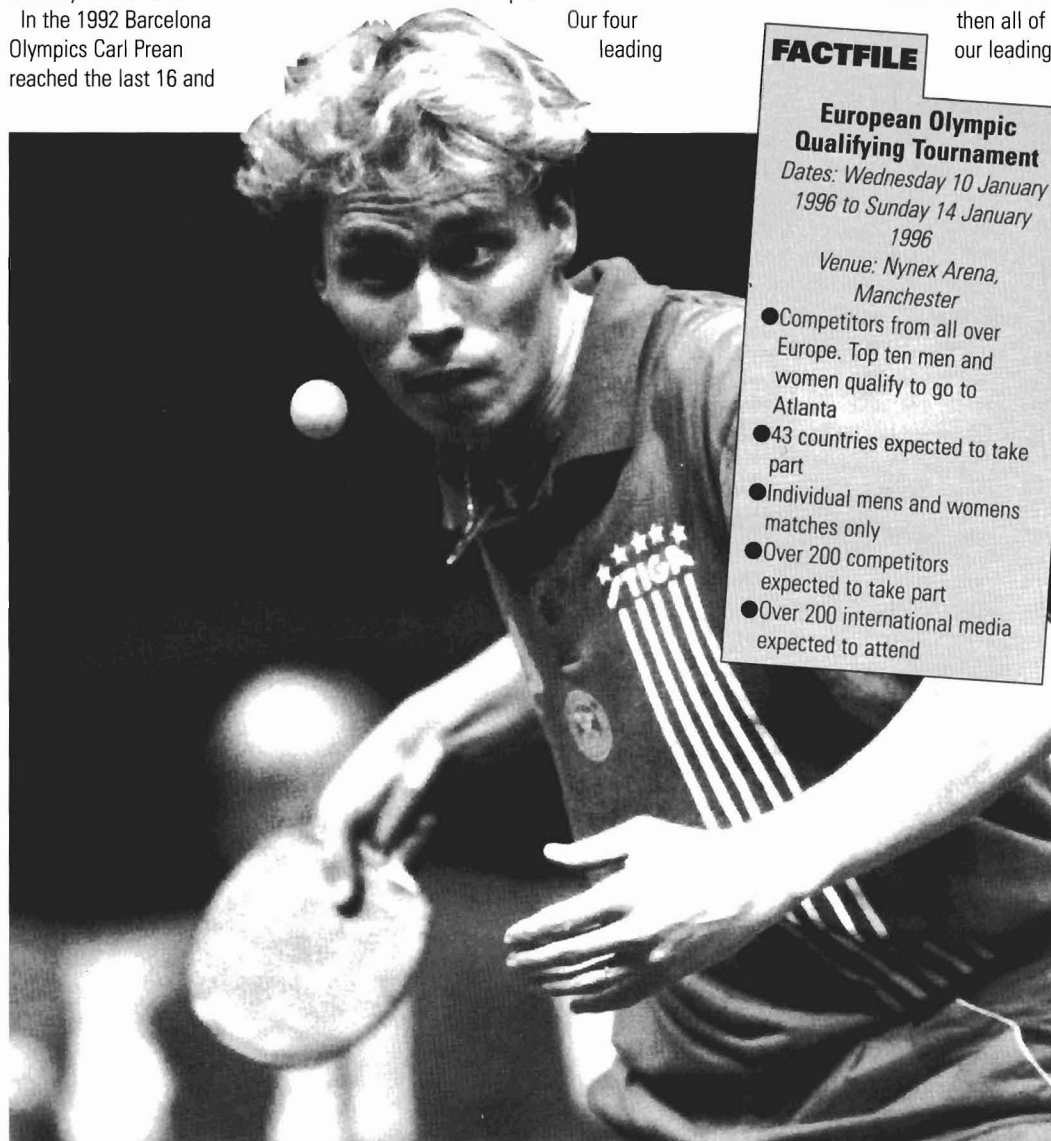
Unfortunately Chen Xinhua, whilst a full British Citizen, found himself on the wrong end of an international ruling which forbade him from taking

part.

Our four leading

ladies will also be there with national champion Andrea Holt, plus Lisa Lomas, Alison Broe and Nicola Deaton making their way to the Nynex arena but only three will be able to qualify.

Between now and then all of our leading



FACTFILE

European Olympic Qualifying Tournament

Dates: Wednesday 10 January 1996 to Sunday 14 January 1996

Venue: Nynex Arena, Manchester

- Competitors from all over Europe. Top ten men and women qualify to go to Atlanta
- 43 countries expected to take part
- Individual mens and womens matches only
- Over 200 competitors expected to take part
- Over 200 international media expected to attend

players will undergo a stiff examination with tournaments lined up in Austria, France and Hungary.

Other likely entries include Jorgen Persson of Sweden, a former world singles champion and a member of Sweden's world beating side since 1989.

Damien Eloi of France, the current holder of the English Open in Cleveland earlier this year along with other notables like Calin Creanga (Greece), Trinko Keen (Netherlands), Stefan Fetzner (Germany) and Thierry Cabrera (Belgium).

In a bid to make sure the Olympic qualifying round and later the World Championships go to plan two key appointments have been made.

As outlined briefly in the last issue by our chairman, Matthew Henderson (44) has taken on the role of Executive Director with responsibilities for the commercial aspects of the two events.

He was previously Director of

Events at the Keith Prowse Agency and the CPMA Group marketing consultancy where he was responsible for commercial strategies and the planning and implementing of a variety of international sporting events. Born in London he now lives in Milton Keynes.

Mike Watts (57) is the Tournament Director and is a former ETTA Deputy General Secretary and National Events Manager. A Vice President of the Association he is also the founder and President of the Veterans English Table Tennis Society.

He also worked on the World Championships in 1977 when they were held in Birmingham and was a member of the Executive Committee at last year's European Championship. He lives in Southend.

Both are now beavering away in Manchester Town Hall where the Olympic and World Championship office is now based.

WEDNESDAY 10TH JANUARY			
ADULT £2.00	CHILD £1.00	Evening £1.00	Schools FREE

THURSDAY 11TH JANUARY			
ADULT £4.00	CHILD £2.00	Evening £2.00	Schools £1.00

FRIDAY 12TH JANUARY			
ADULT £4.00	CHILD £2.00	Evening £2.00	Schools £1.00

SATURDAY 13TH JANUARY			
ADULT £4.00	CHILD £2.00	Evening £2.00	Schools £1.00

SUNDAY 14TH JANUARY			
ADULT £5.00	CHILD £3.00	Evening N/A	Schools N/A

SEASON TICKET			
ADULT £15.00	CHILD £8.00	Evening N/A	Schools N/A

BULK PURCHASE

10-19 tickets purchased for the same day attract a discount of 10%.
20+ tickets purchased for the same day attract a discount of 15%.

EVENING SESSIONS

Applicable only on the day - no advance sales.
Evening tickets available from 17.30hrs subject to availability.

SCHOOL PARTIES

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Another tournament at the 'Resort for Sport'

sparkle at the SPA

KIBIBI MOSELEY FROM BARBADOS AND JASON SUGRUE WON THE JUNIOR GIRLS AND JUNIOR BOYS SINGLES TITLES RESPECTIVELY, AT THE SPA ROYAL HALL, BRIDLINGTON, WRITES **KEN LYONS**.

Bridlington was the venue for the 9th Humberside East Yorkshire Junior Open Championships. Played at the Spa for a total prize fund of £1,785, the event attracted most of the top players from Cumbria to Cornwall plus 10 Scottish Juniors.

The event was organised by the North Yorkshire Table Tennis Association in conjunction with Humberside Leisure Services, Humberside Table Tennis Development Committee, East Yorkshire Borough Council and Jarvis Sports.

Saturday proved to be a great day for Andrew Baggaley (BU) when he lifted the Cadet Boys singles title and combined with Christopher Dunn to win the doubles. The Cadet Boys singles went the way of the seedings when Andrew, seeded 2, met number one seed Scott Friday in the final. In the first Baggaley found himself 4-1 down off serve he then reversed the situation to 5-5. It was even all the way with Scott serving 17-18. In a tense game Andrew won 19. The decider looked like going either way with Scott leading 8-7. Andrew worked hard from this point and came away with a very impressive victory 21-12 to take the title.

The under 12 boys singles provided no surprises when Michael Chan proved too good for the rest of the field and captured the title was a 17,18 victory over Stephen Davies (LI).

The under 12 girls event saw Kirsty Caldwell (CH) reach the final where she faced Louise Durrant (NG). Louise played well to take the title 16,17. She then went on to play in the Cadet girls single where she

reached the semi finals before going out to Katy Hart (Sy).

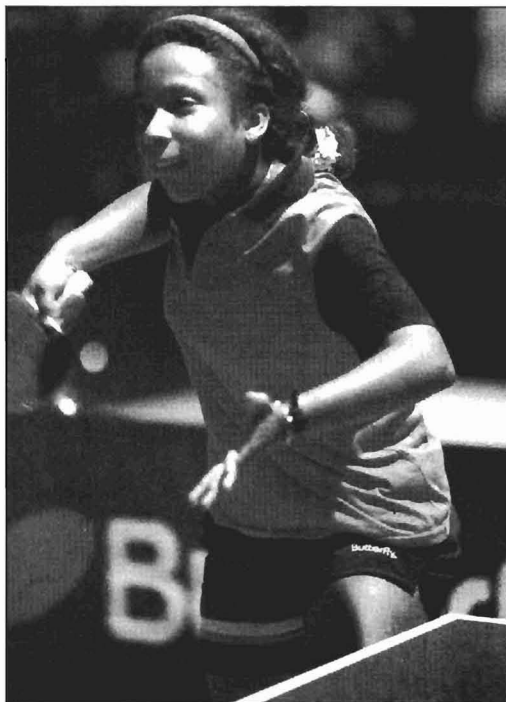
In the girls Cadet singles the final was between Karen Lockwood (Ch) and Katy Hart (Sy). Earlier in the Semi's Karen had defeated Sarah Noutch (Y) 14,11 and Katy had defeated Louise Durrant in a very tight match - 14,17,19. In the final Karen was never in any trouble and ran on to a comfortable winner 17,14.

In the Junior boys singles event the first shock result came as early as the second round when the number three seed Michael James from the host town went crashing out to Michael Isherwood (Dy) -9,19,17. Andrew Baggaley winner of the cadet boys the previous day lost narrowly to Hull's Peter Marshal 19, -18,16. National Champion and defending his East Yorkshire title Terry Young (BK) had no trouble in reaching the semi-finals where he met Scott Friday. Scott had reached this stage by overcoming D.Smith (Y) -18,7,15 and Isherwood 17,18. Friday

**Jason
Sugrue
winner of
the Junior
Boys
Singles title**



put the disappointment of losing the cadet event behind him by causing the shock of the tournament when he beat Young to take his place in the final 16 and 22. In the other half of the draw Jason Sugrue (Mi) seeded at two had no problems in reaching the final without dropping a set. The first game in the final was



**Kibibi
Moseley from
Barbados,
recipient of
the Junior
Girls Singles
Trophy**

a very tight affair with Friday taking it 20. In the second Sugrue raced away and in no time was 19-10 up and finally levelled the match by winning 21-13. In the decider it was Friday serving first and Sugrue went 5-0 up. Friday never recovered from this and Sugrue, playing some excellent table tennis, took the title with a fine 21-8 victory.

In the Junior girls singles event it went the way of the seeding where in the final Kibibi Moseley from Barbados and top seed met second seed Lindsey Thornton. The power of Kibibi proved too great for the gallant Lindsey and she took the title 13 and 12. The two girls joined forces to play in the doubles and as expected reached the final where they met Michelle Haynes and Debbie Pestka. This proved to be a

very good match each end being tight with Moseley and Thornton coming out victors 19,-19,17.

In the boys doubles Jason Sugrue also became a two-fold winner when he combined with Christian Thompson to beat Terry Young and Michael Isherwood 17 and 16.

The whole event had good coverage by Steve Webb of Yorkshire Coast Radio with a total of 1 hour airtime. This event was the first in a series of five junior tournaments to be played at Humberside this season. The remaining four being a series of 1 star events new to the calendar which are organised by the Humberside Table Tennis Committee and Humberside County Council Leisure Services.

BACKS to the

WALL

BELGIUM, CHAMPIONS OF THE SUPER DIVISION OF THE JOOLA EUROPEAN MEN'S LEAGUE HAD THEIR BACKS TO THE WALL AT NAMUR ON OCTOBER 3, BUT THEY FINALLY GAINED CONTROL OVER ENGLAND TO WIN 4-1 IN ANOTHER MIDNIGHT FINISH, PLAYED IN FRONT OF 2,000 NOISY, FOOTBALL-CHANTING FANS, BUT THIS TIME, NO JAZZ BAND WRITES

JOHN WOODFORD.

Chen Xinhua gave England a flying start over Andras Podpinka 16,-12,13, a revenge victory. Alan Cooke followed suit by taking the first game from Jean Michel Saive 17, but the world No 3 craftily changed his tactics to combat the Cooke top-spin to win 16,6.

If England were destined to upset the Belgian applecart, the man to do it would have been Matthew Syed, unbeaten until he reached Namur, after winning tournaments in Chicago and Paignton. His Target was Phillippe Saive, the man who has improved so much in the last two years. The Oxford graduate snatched the first game 19, giving England hopes of further progress, but again, slowly the younger Saive demonstrated his patience and skill against the vicious Syed backspin to win 14,17, the first defeat of the season for the Berkshire player, whose latest base is in Derbyshire.

All five games played in Namur went to five, so the Belgians had a real fight on their hands. In the doubles match, once again Cooke and Bradley Billington battled back to take the middle game from the brothers, but the home side hit back

to take the third 13.

With Belgium 3-1 up and the clock nearing the bewitching hour of midnight Chen was pitted against Jean-Michel who took the first game but lost the second 18 after some vintage chopping by the Chinese player. Saive gained a big lead in the third. This led to another exhibition session by the two men with Chen returning balls from the seating, to the huge delight of the crowd, a section of whom never stopped chanting for their heroes, even continuing when the journalists were filing their copy half an hour after the match. After the Chen antics, Saive sealed the match 21-10.

RESULTS ANALYSIS

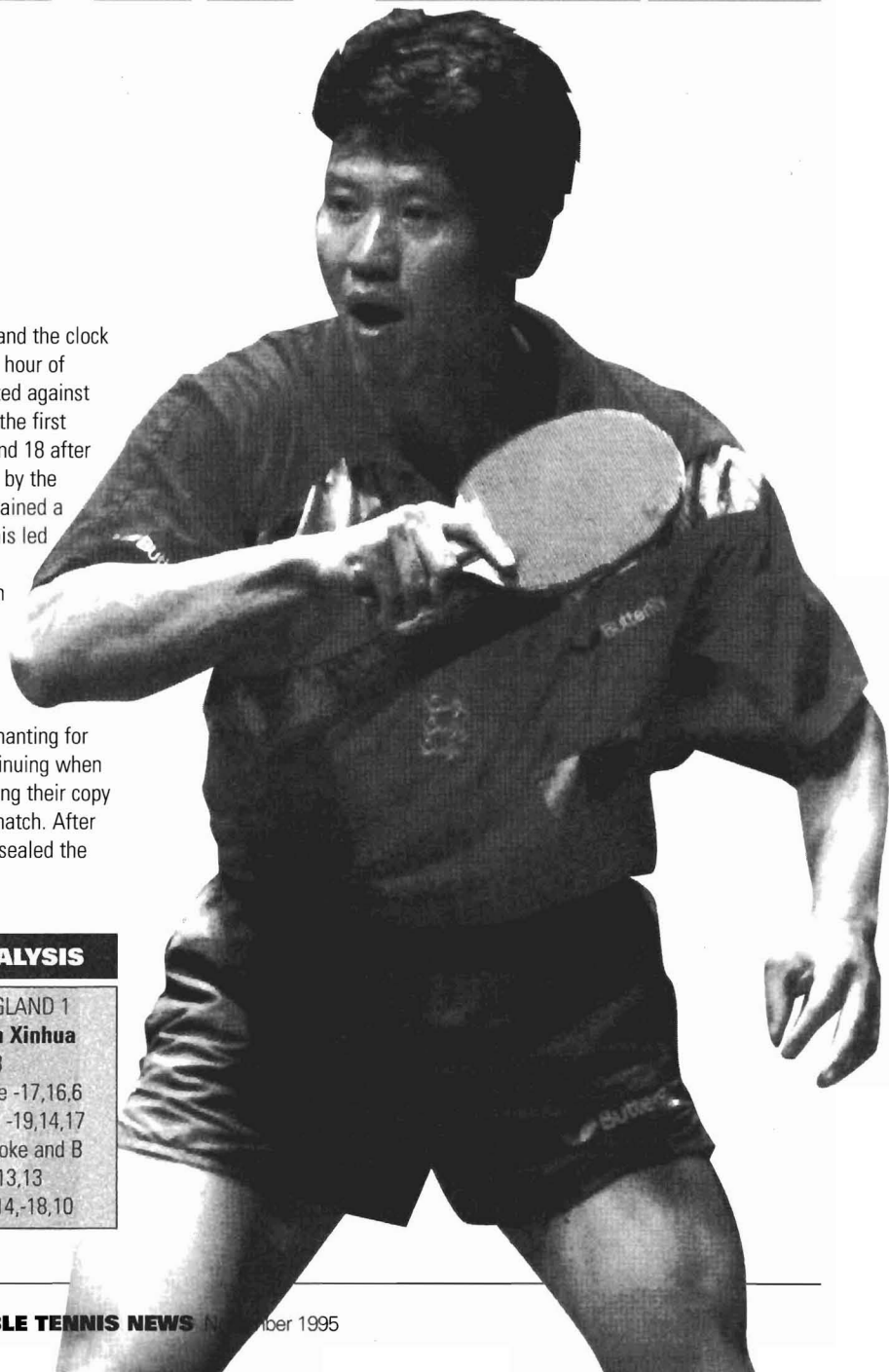
BELGIUM 4, ENGLAND 1
A Podpinka I **Chen Xinhua**
-16,12,-13

J Saive bt A Cooke -17,16,6

P Saive bt M Syed -19,14,17

J & P Saive bt Cooke and B
Billington 13,-13,13

J Saive bt Chen 14,-18,10



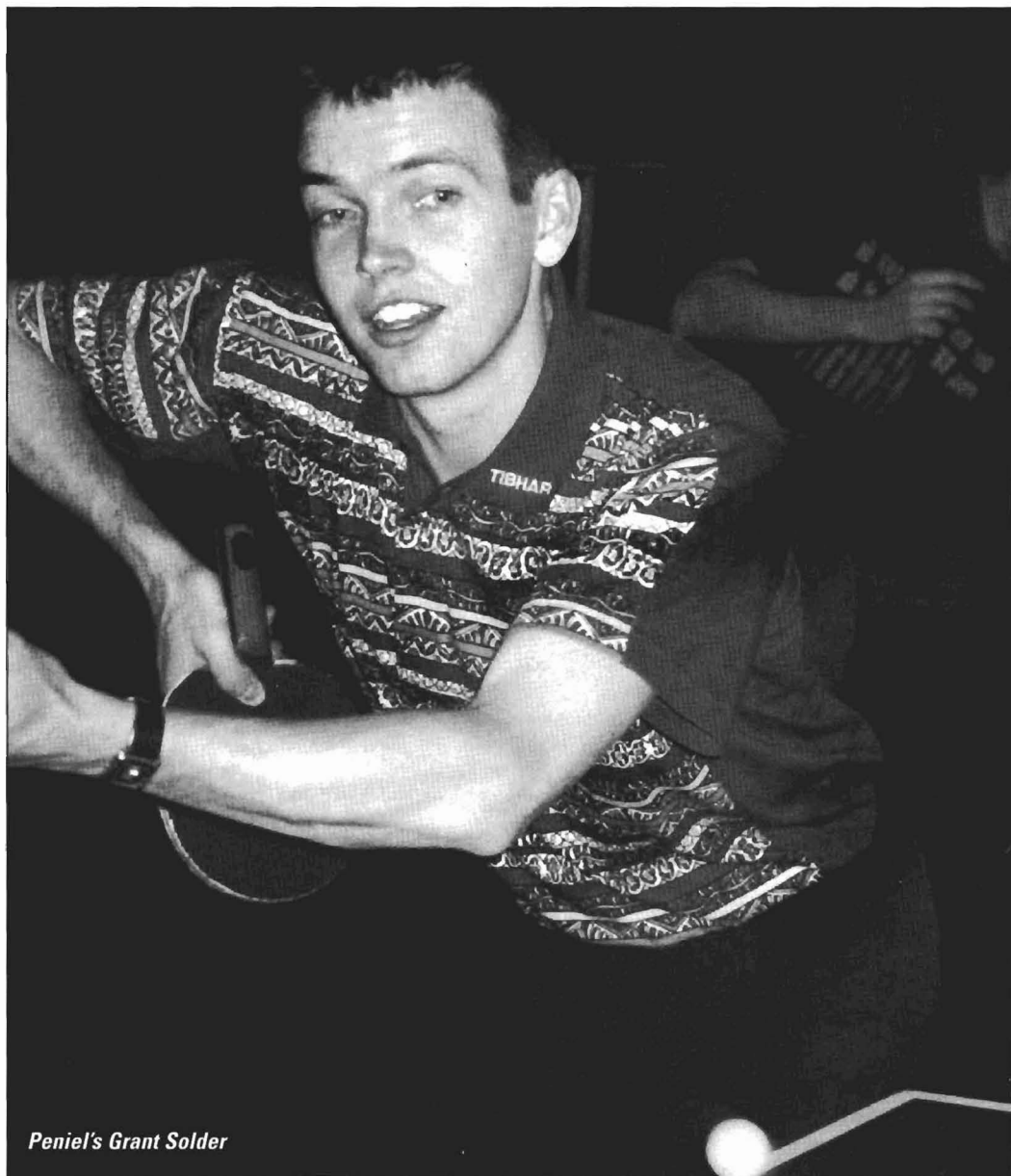
Solder *leads* **PENIEL** *to* **VICTORY**

TEAM PENIEL TOOK ADVANTAGE OF THE FACT THAT BFL GROVE WERE ON DUTY IN THE EUROPEAN CUP TO TAKE OVER THE LEADERSHIP OF THE BRITISH LEAGUE PREMIER DIVISION WRITES **AUBREY DRAPKIN.**

Player of the match Grant Solder led them to a 12-2 victory at Horsham when he defeated Scott Greenbank, Adrian Moore and Ritchie Venner. John Holland and Andrew Eden were also unbeaten with Vince Avery getting one set. The victory followed a 10-4 success at home to newcomers Ruston Marconi Lincoln and gave Peniel six points from three matches.

BFL Grove had previously beaten St. Neots 12-2 and Drumchapel Glasgow won a keen encounter with Linda Farrow 8-6 and both clubs have maximum points from two matches. After losing 4-10 at home to Team Peniel, Sedgefield got off the mark by beating visitors Linda Farrow 9-5.

Michael O'Driscoll, John Hilton and Tim Dyson all won two singles but the outstanding player on the day was Terry Young who got three for Linda Farrow, beating O'Driscoll,



Peniel's Grant Solder

BRITISH LEAGUE - PLACINGS AT 1/10/95

Hilton and Eddie Smith.

Ruston Marconi Lincoln are finding life tough at the top and are still pointless after successive 10-4 defeats at the hands of Horsham and St. Neots.

Vymura seem to be determined to get back into the Premier Division at the first attempt having won all three of their matches in division one North. A 5-3 victory away to Humberside was followed by a 6-2 home win over City of Milton Keynes. Stephen Horsfield was unbeaten in both matches.

BFL Grove II and Olton and West Warwicks are close on Vymura's heels with five points. Grove beat Milton Keynes 6-2 whilst West Warwicks had a 5-3 victory over Uxbridge. The two clubs then met at Market Drayton where they played a 4-4 draw.

After losing their opening match, Sedgefield got into top gear with a 6-2 home victory over City of Leeds although Leeds' Richard Smith had fine wins over Andrew Wilkinson and Benny Robertson. The Sedgefield side went one better next time out, winning 7-1 at Humberside.

Like Vymura, DML Launceston are looking for an early return to the Premier Division. They are leading the way in division one South despite being held to a 4-4 draw by Edison - a match in which all eight sets needed a third end to decide them and four of these went to each team!

Launceston made no mistake next time out when they romped to a 7-1 home victory over Horsham Angels II. Paul Whiting, Chris Sladden and Gary Lambert were all unbeaten in this match whilst Horsham's Paul Barry won their only set.

After losing to Edison in their opening fixture, Colley Motor Group of Pontypool had successive victories over OLOP and Cheltenham Saracens to move into second place, level on points with Barclays Bank and Edison.

OLOP, who did so well in this division last season are certainly missing the injured Jimmy Stokes and languish at the foot of the table with only one point to their name so far.

Three teams have 100% records in

the second divisions after the first three matches. In the South East, Yellow Brick Progress and BSG Barking both have six points and are already three points clear of the rest of the field. The other team to have won all of their games is Kingshurst Bribar who are one point ahead of Launceston seconds in the South West. The early leaders in the North are Drumchapel Glasgow who have beaten both Derwent and Leicester after being held to a draw by Abbeylea on the opening day of the season.

As in the second divisions there are only three teams in the whole of the third divisions with 100% records after the first three matches.

Fellows Cranleigh lead the way in the East, their latest victories being against Byng Hall seconds (7-1) and Ashford of Middlesex (8-0), Rejects Colts having been beaten at the start of the season.

DML White Hart Launceston thirds made it three in a row with success at home to Bromsgrove followed by another home win over Uxbridge seconds. Team JUIC Nottingham are in second place with four points but have only played two games.

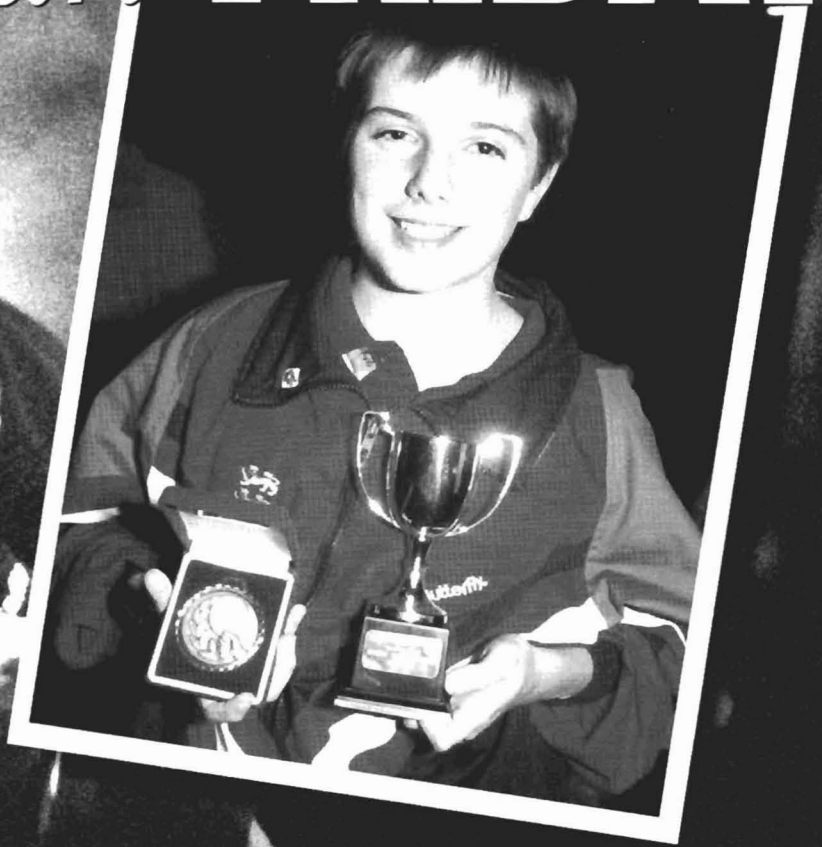
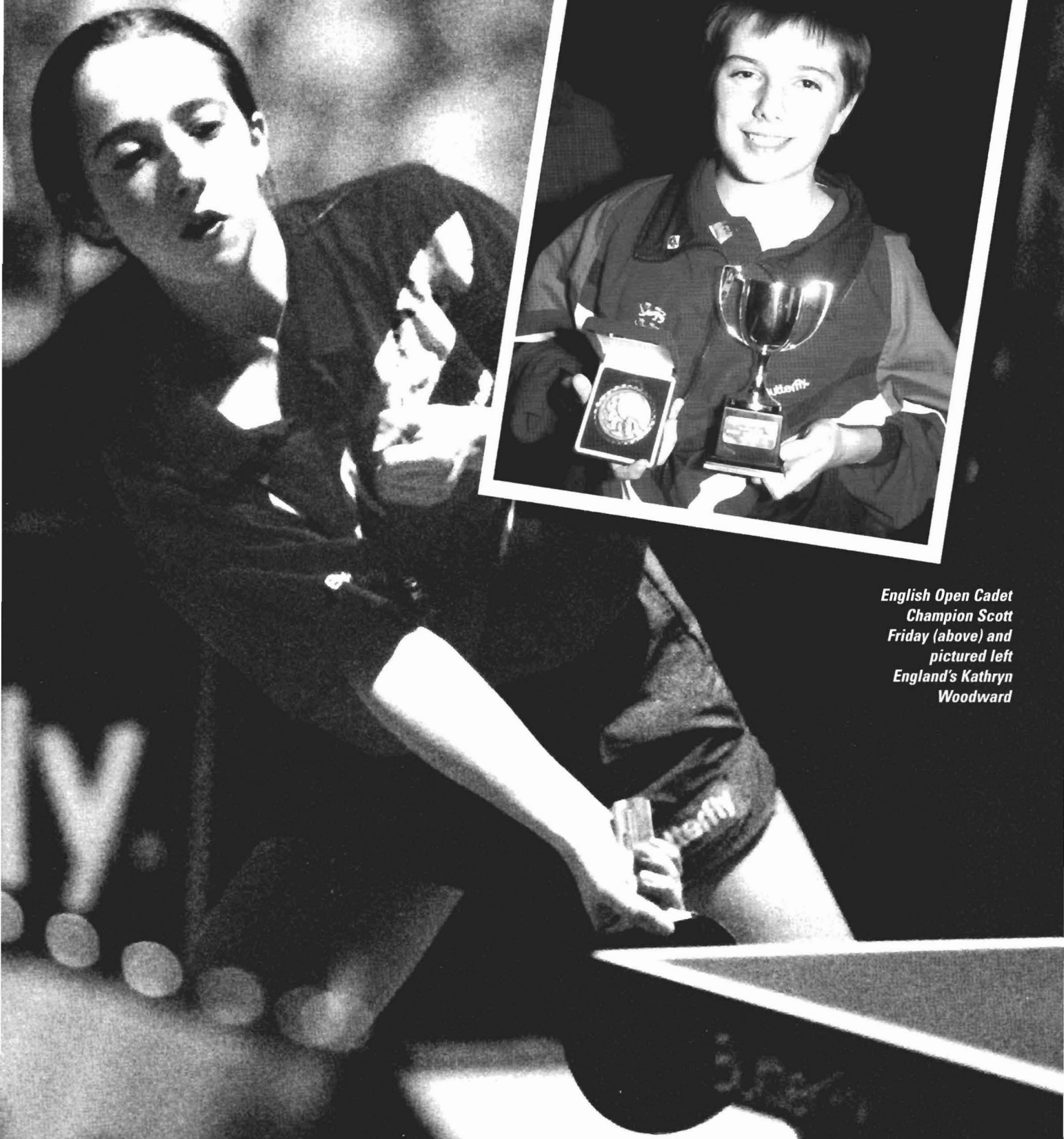
The third team with three victories is CWS Manchester in the North. Their latest successes were against BFL Grove Colts away from home where the Manchester team ran up an 8-0 scoreline, and at home to Drumchapel Glasgow thirds who were beaten 5-3. The CWS outfit sit proudly at the top of the table which makes a pleasant change for them as they have always seemed to be at the bottom since they entered the league.

In the South, JAGS lead the way with five points. Adeyfield did extremely well to hold them to a 4-4 draw but they went top of the table with a 7-1 win away to Graham Spicer.

On a humorous note Drumchapel Glasgow tested the Post Office when they tried to send their results to both Carol Beames and myself at the same time! The winners were the Post Office who realised that Whitley Bay is not in Brighton and delivered the letter correctly although it did take a week!

Premier Division	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
Team Peniel	3	3	-	-	33	9	6
BFL Grove	2	2	-	-	25	3	4
Drumchapel Glasgow	2	2	-	-	18	10	4
St. Neots	3	1	1	1	19	23	3
Sedgefield	3	1	-	2	17	25	2
Horsham Angels	3	1	-	2	13	29	2
Linda Farrow	3	-	1	2	18	24	1
R M Lincoln	3	-	-	3	11	31	-
Division 1 North							
Vymura	3	3	-	-	16	8	6
BFL Grove II	3	2	1	-	16	8	5
Olton and W. Warwicks	3	2	1	-	15	9	5
Sedgefield II	3	2	-	1	16	8	4
Uxbridge (Burton)	3	1	1	1	15	9	3
City of M. Keynes	3	-	1	2	8	16	1
Humberside	3	-	-	3	6	18	-
City of Leeds	3	-	-	3	4	20	-
Division 1 South							
DML Launceston	3	2	1	-	16	8	5
Colley Motor Group	3	2	-	1	16	8	4
Edison	3	1	2	-	14	10	4
Barclays Bank	3	2	-	1	13	11	4
BSG Brentwood	3	1	1	1	13	11	3
Cheltenham Sar.	3	1	-	2	8	16	2
Horsham Angels II	3	-	1	2	8	16	1
OLOP	3	-	1	2	8	16	1
Division 2 North							
Drumchapel Glas. II	3	2	1	-	18	6	5
Vymura II	3	2	1	-	18	6	5
Leicester Lions	3	2	-	1	15	9	4
Sedgefield III	3	1	2	-	14	10	4
Abbeylea	3	1	1	1	12	12	3
BFL Grove III	3	1	-	2	8	16	2
Burnside Seaside	3	-	1	2	5	19	1
Derwent	3	-	-	3	6	18	-
Division 2 South East							
Yellow Brick Progress	3	3	-	-	21	3	6
BSG Barking	3	3	-	-	18	6	6
Byng Hall	3	1	1	1	14	10	3
Pillinger Air (LLTC)	3	1	1	1	12	12	3
Invicta Lanterns	3	1	1	1	11	13	3
Linda Farrow II	3	-	2	1	10	14	2
Norwich Todd Foxwood	3	-	1	2	7	17	1
Crusaders Lincoln	3	-	-	3	3	21	-
Division 2 South West							
Kingshurst Bribar	3	3	-	-	17	7	6
DML Launceston II	3	2	1	-	18	6	5
Gridfine St. Neots	3	2	-	1	14	10	4
Horsham Angels III	3	1	1	1	14	10	3
ATH Cardiff	3	1	1	1	14	10	3
Leckie TTC	2	-	1	1	6	10	1
Jolliffe Poole	2	-	-	2	2	14	-
Shelfield	3	-	-	3	3	21	-
Division 3 East							
Fellows Cranleigh	3	3	-	-	22	2	6
Chelmsford League	3	1	2	-	15	9	4
Team Peniel II	3	2	-	1	13	11	4
MacDonalds Barnets Lge	3	2	-	1	12	12	4
Greenleys of M. Keynes	3	1	1	1	14	10	3
Rejects Colts	3	1	-	2	8	16	2
Byng Hall II	3	-	1	2	8	16	1
Ashford (Middlesex)	3	-	-	3	4	20	-
Division 3 Midlands + West							
DML Launceston III	3	3	-	-	19	5	6
Team Juic Nottm Lge	2	2	-	-	13	3	4
Wiltshire TTA	3	1	1	1	12	12	3
Shelfield II	3	1	1	1	11	13	3
BFL Grove Colts II	2	-	1	1	7	9	1
Uxbridge Burton II	2	-	1	1	5	11	1
Bromsgrove	3	-	-	3	5	19	-
Division 3 North							
CWS Manchester	3	3	-	-	18	6	6
City of Leeds II	3	1	2	-	14	10	4
AALCO Leeds	3	1	1	1	12	12	3
Humberside II	2	1	-	1	8	8	2
Drumchapel Glas III	3	1	-	2	11	13	2
Sedgefield IV	2	-	1	1	7	9	1
BFL Grove Colts	2	-	-	2	2	14	-
Division 3 South							
JAGS	3	2	1	-	18	6	5
Generation 2 Fareham	3	2	-	1	14	10	4
MacDonalds Barnets II	3	1	2	-	14	10	4
Rejects	3	1	1	1	11	13	3
OLOP II	3	1	-	2	11	13	2
Progress WHS	3	-	2	1	10	14	2
Graham Spicer	3	-	2	1	9	15	2
Adeyfield	3	-	2	1	9	15	2

Our man **FRIDAY**



*English Open Cadet
Champion Scott
Friday (above) and
pictured left
England's Kathryn
Woodward*

wins on SATURDAY

SCOTT FRIDAY BECAME THE VERY FIRST ENGLISH BOY TO WIN THE CADET BOYS SINGLES TITLE, WHEN HE DEFEATED GERMANY'S PATRICK JAZWEIC 18,-19,11 IN THE FINAL AT THE ENGLISH JUNIOR OPEN AT BRIDLINGTON WRITES **JOHN WOOD**.

Friday was dominant, he stayed close to the table taking the ball early, forcing his opponent Jazweic away from the table to win with a flourish. He was so much in control of the deciding game that he attacked his way from 7-6 up to lead 19-7, before the German made a late rally, but Friday was the boy in charge, winning 21-11 in true champion style.

England's other notable successes were Gareth Herbert who reached the Boy's Singles semi-finals and

RESULTS ANALYSIS

JUNIOR BOYS SINGLES:

H Kamkar-Parsi (Can) bt A Carneros (Esp) 17,-14,19. SEMI-FINALS: Carneros bt M Herrler (Ger) 16,14 and Kamkar-Parsi bt Gareth Herbert (Eng) 18,14.

JUNIOR GIRLS SINGLES:

P Cada (Can) bt D Bajc (Slo) 17,18. SEMI-FINALS: Cada bt Tracey Davies (Eng) 17,9 and Bajc bt Kibi Moseley (Bar) 16,18.

CADET BOYS SINGLES:

S Friday (Eng) bt P Jazweic (Ger) 18,-19,11. SEMI-FINALS: Friday bt H Delporte (Bel) 16,17 and Jazweic bt A Robertson (Wal) 16,9.

CADET GIRLS SINGLES:

L Stumper (Ger) bt C Lehrack (Ger) 17,15. SEMI-FINALS: Stumper bt L Delporte (Bel) 18,11 and Lehrack bt J Gorlich (Ger) 15,-14,17.

BOYS TEAM COMPETITION:

Spain bt Germany 3-1.

GIRLS TEAM COMPETITION:

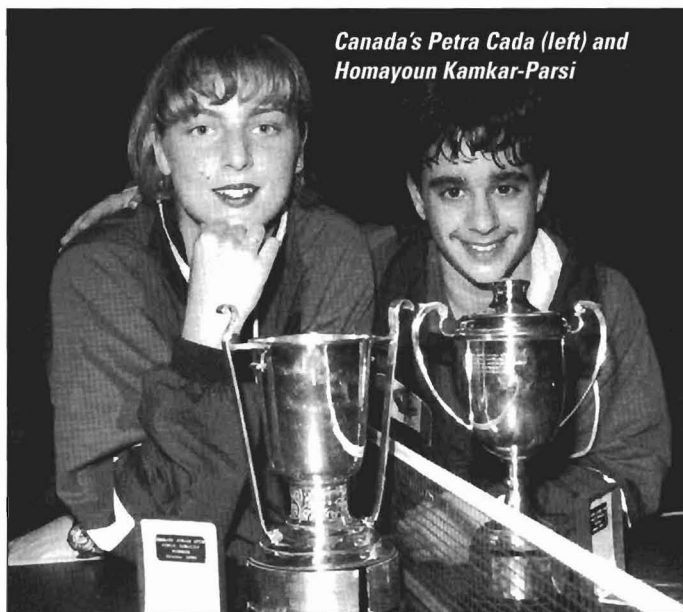
Canada bt Belgium III 3-0.

BOYS TEAM PLATE:

Germany II bt Canada II 3-1.

GIRLS TEAM PLATE:

Belgium II bt Spain I 3-2.



Canada's Petra Cada (left) and Homayoun Kamkar-Parsi

Terry Young who lost in the quarter-finals.

Our most memorable performance in the girl's section was by Tracy Davies, who reached the semi-finals of the Junior Girls Singles.

Stars of this tournament were Canada who won both the Junior Singles titles when Petra Cada won the Girl's trophy beating Darja Bajc of Slovenia 17 and 18 and Homayoun Kamkar-Parsi who overpowered Spain's Alfredo Carneros 17,-14,19.

In the team event Canada's girls were once again triumphant with Cada collecting another gold medal alongside Iwa Kong, when they beat Belgium III 3-0.

Spain were the surprise winners of the Boys Team event when Alfredo Carneros and Carlos Machado beat the much fancied Germany 3-1 in a thrilling final.

Spain the once-forgotten nation of

table tennis, has re-structured since the Barcelona Olympics and are now a force to be reckoned with. They have an exciting future with talented youngsters.

Germany's Laura Stumper impressed both players and officials at Bridlington on route to winning the Cadet Girls Singles title.

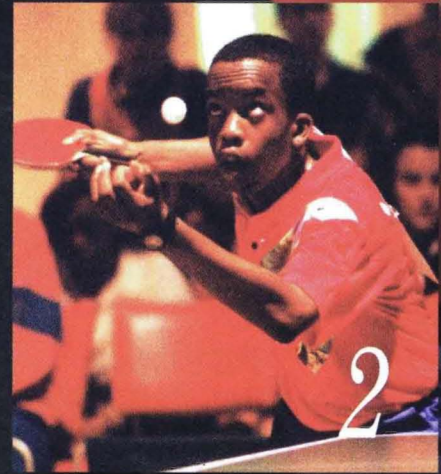
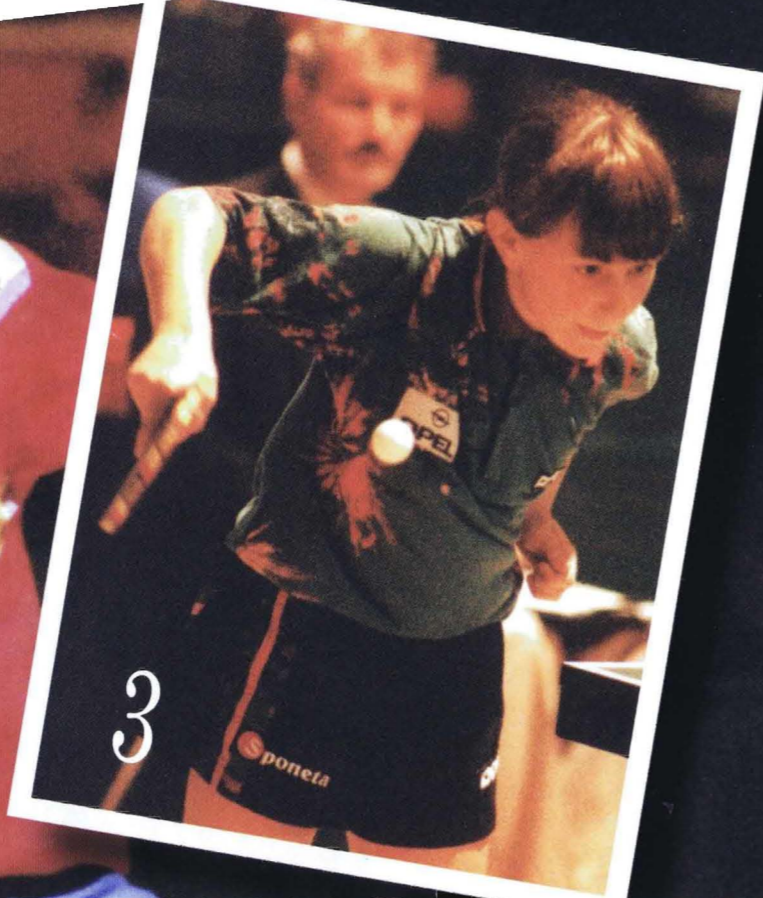


Sadly England's Boys team Gareth Herbert and Terry Young were beaten 3-1 by Spain in the semi-final, and England's Girls team Tracy Davies and Lindsey Thornton lost to Canada 3-0 in the semi, whilst England's 2nd team of Kathryn Woodward and Michelle Haynes also reached the semi-finals, where they were defeated 3-2 by Belgium III, after being 2-0 up.

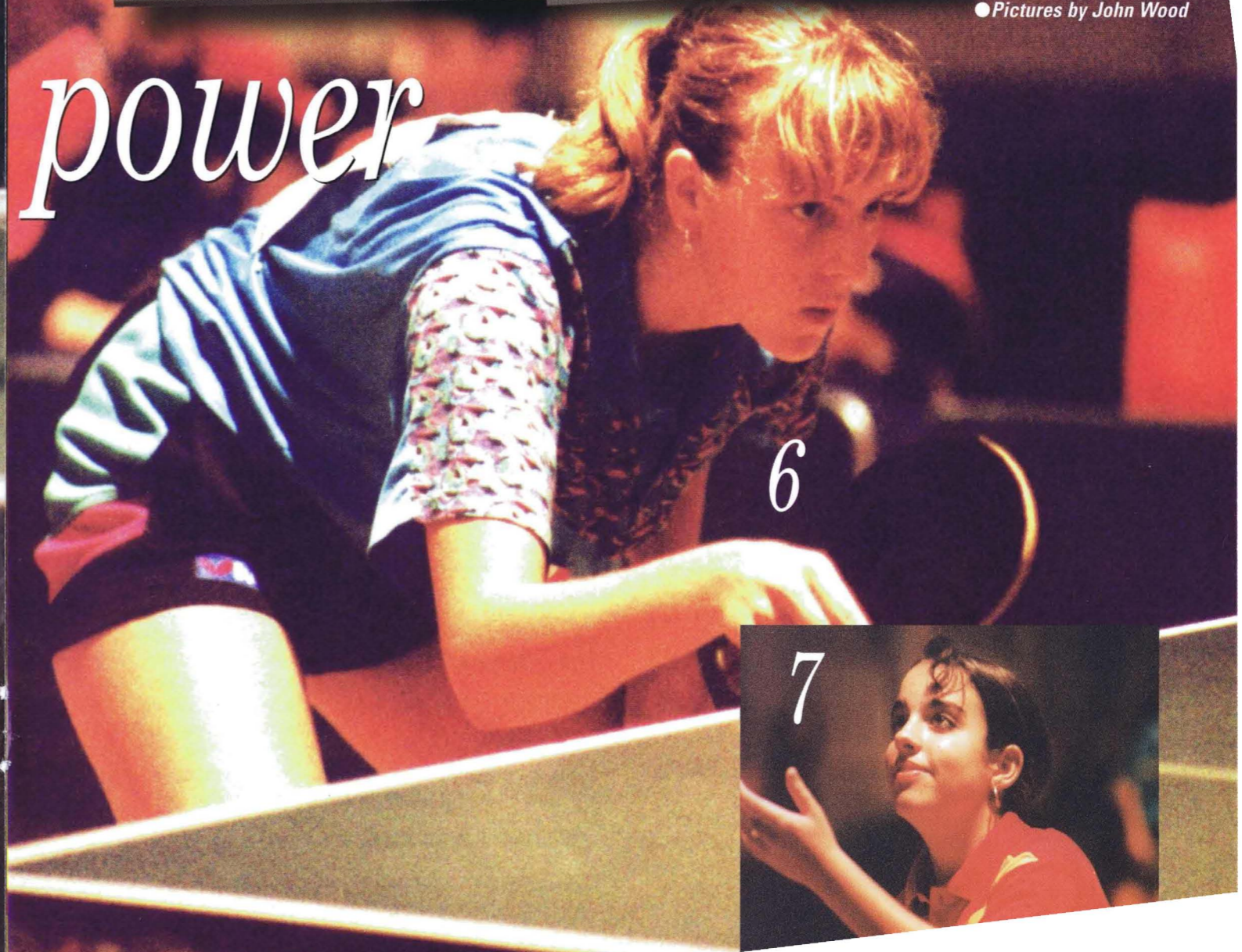
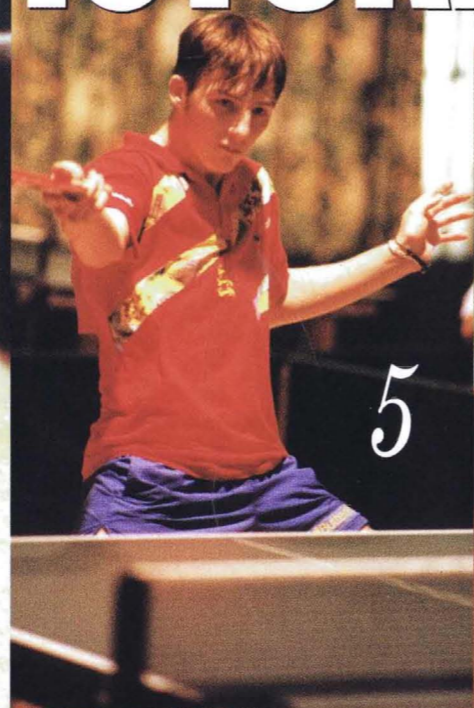
FUTURE WORLD STAR

Standing head and shoulders above the rest of the girls at Bridlington, was diminutive Laura Stumper from Germany, who at only 11 years old has all the makings of a future World Champion.

Laura, who won the Cadet Girls Singles title at Bridlington has been playing since she was 7 years old. Her coach is Horst Heckwolf and she practices with her father Rudi, at home in Stuttgart.



TTN PICTURE *power*



- Pictures:
1. Michael James (England)
 2. Gareth Herbert (England)
 3. Laura Stumper (Germany)
 4. Mike Hanley (Assistant Transport Manager)
 5. Terry Young (England)
 6. Petra Cada (Canada)
 7. Katy Hart (England)
 8. Doreen Stannard (Umpire Control)
 9. Tony Chatwin (ETTA Deputy Chairman)
 10. Stuart Sherlock (Referee)
 11. Robert Sinclair (ETTA General Secretary)

● Pictures by John Wood

Flying START

The County Championships programme of more than 700 matches "kicked off" on 23 September. However Devon, keen to get going, left the "starting gate" a little early and played 2 Senior and 1 Junior match on the preceding Saturday.

The first Round of Premier Division matches are scheduled for -
21/22 October - JUNIOR
4/5 November - SENIOR AND VETERAN

SENIOR DIVISION 1A:


Arrangements are in hand for matches to be played over 2 weekends.

SENIOR DIVISION 1B:

GS 4 SY 6 K 6 HA 4
Promoted Glos put up a good fight and actually led 4-2 against Surrey. But the visitors fought back well to win 6-4 with Glenda Ashison (SY) unbeaten. Kent beat promotees Hants 6-4 with Joe Kennedy and Jason Goodall winning their 4 events.

SENIOR DIVISION 2A:

LE2 2 CV 8 CH 6 CU 4
LA2 10 CU 0 ST 3 NG 7
CW 4 WA2 6 CH 0 LA2 10
Lancs 2nds, on demotion, made a great start with 10-nil wins over



both Ches. and Cumbria. Just 3 of the 20 events went to a decider! The Ches. and Cumbria teams also

met and, with Ches. ladies - Clare Newns and Jill Schofield - winning their 4 events, got a 6-4 win. Staffs. 3rds met the strong Notts. team who won 7-3 with their men - Mark Green, Tim Sheppard and Paul Wood - unbeaten. Cleveland visited Knighton Park, Leicester and got off to a good start with an 8-2 win. Warwicks 2nds visited Clwyd, and with 3 players promoted from their Junior team - Ryan Stockham, Susie Allen and Liz Haynes got a 6-4 win.

SENIOR DIVISION 2B:

DV3 7 WR2 3 DV4 3 WR2 7
SO 5 CO 5 CO2 1 CO1 9
WR1 10 GS2 0

Worcs 2nds visited Plymouth TT HQ for 2 matches and honours were even. They first met the Devon 4th team and won 7-3 with Lewis Siket, Helen Pogmore, and Lynda Reid being unbeaten. Devon 3rd team later got revenge with a 7-3 win. Peter Thomas and Joanna Barraclough (Devon Juniors) and Tony Sweet were the "architects" with 6 wins. Somerset had veteran Brian Reeves as their No 3. With Reeves and Rob Millard winning their 4 events they were able to hold on for a draw. Worcs 1st team, on demotion, made a good start with a 10-nil win over newcomers Glos 2nds. Cornwall 1st team beat their 2nd team 9-1. Shirley Luckhurst won the 1 event for the 2nds.

SENIOR DIVISION 2C:

Arrangements have been made for matches to be played over 2 weekends. The first of these is at Grantham TT Centre on - 4/5 November.

SENIOR DIVISION 2D:

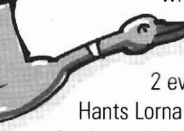
E3 4 BK2 6
Berks 2nds were 1 player short on their visit to meet Essex 3rds. However with Ben Johnson and Martin Adams winning their 4 events the visitors got a 6-4 win.

JUNIOR DIVISION 1A:

Arrangements have been made for matches to be played over 2 weekends. The first of these is at Northwich on - 28/29 OCTOBER

JUNIOR DIVISION 1B:

HA 4 DV 6 K2 3 SY2 7
BU 5 K2 5
Devon met Hants at Fareham Centre and started the season well with a 6-4 win.



Peter Thomas (Dv) won his 2 events and for Hants Lorna Dutch had 2 wins in straight games. Surrey 2nds, on promotion, made a good start with a 7-3 win over Kent 2nds at Ashford. Adam Laws, Tom Wilkins and Adam Quartey won their 6 matches. Kent 2nds got a draw against Bucks 1st team at Milton Keynes. They had to thank their girls - Rachael Woollven and Amanda Bateman - who won their 4 events.

JUNIOR DIVISION 2A:

Arrangements are being made for matches to be played over 2 weekends at Grantham TT Centre

JUNIOR DIVISION 2B:

HE2 1 SK2 9 E3 1 OX 9
HE2 1 OX 9 BD 5 CA 5

SK2 6 HU 4 HE1 7 E3 3
HE1 7 CA 3 OX 7 HE1 3
NK2 5 CA 5 BD 7 HE2 3
E3 3 BD 7 NK2 4 HU 6

12 matches were played at St Neots TTC. Suffolk 2nds, one of the top teams from last season, started well with wins over Herts 2nds and Hunts. Gavin Bloomfield and Emma Waters (Sk) were unbeaten. Herts 1st team played 3 matches and won 7-3 against both Essex 3rds and Cambs. But there was a surprise when they lost 3-7 to Oxon, who finished at bottom of Division 2A last season. Oxon made a big impact with 9-1 wins over Essex 3rds and Herts 2nds. Ellis Bicknell and Nicola Pavitt (Ox) went through the 3 matches unbeaten. Newcomers Cambs. came away with 2 points after drawn matches against Beds. and Norfolk 2nds. Their No 1 James Walton won his 4 events. After their draw with Cambs, Bedfords. had two 7-3 wins over Herts 2nds and Essex 3rds. Hunts beat Norfolk 2nds 6-4 with their boys - Rehan Williams, Richard Wilcock and Philip Clarkson - being unbeaten.

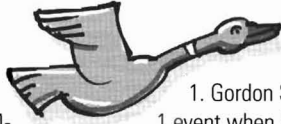
JUNIOR DIVISION 2C:

AV 7 HR 3 WI 3 GN3 7
SO 5 WO 5

Newcomers Glamorgan 3rds got off to a good start with a 7-3 win over Wilts. at Devizes TTC David McRae and Andrew Richards won their 4 events. Avon, demoted from Division 1, received Herefords and got a 7-3 win. Chris Jones, the Hereford No 1, won both his matches. With Michael Ong and Chris Sayers winning their 4 events Somerset, as last season, made a draw with Worcs. Laura Vaughan had 2 comfortable wins for Worcs.

JUNIOR DIVISION 2D:

K3 4 SY3 6 DO 7 BU2 3
BK2 3 MI2 7 SX3 1 HA2 9
Hants 2nds, who narrowly missed promotion last season, got off to a good start with a 9-1 win over Sussex 3rd team. Just 1 event went to a deciding game. Kent 3rd team lost 4-6 to Surrey 3rd team. The match score stood at 4-5 but Dhirren Patel (Sy) made no mistake with a comfortable win to give Surrey 2 points. In the Dorset/Bucks 2 match 6 events went to a decider. But, with Lee Dredge and Nicki Bryson winning their 4 events, Dorset won 7-3. Berks 2nd team was a player short against Middx 2nds who took full advantage to get a 7-3 win. Michael Dominguez and Sabrina Papini won their 4 events for Middx.



Ann Lloyd. Ches. 2nds on demotion from Division 1B, lost the first event to Notts when Terry Bull beat Alan Timewell 13 and 8. However Ches. turned things around to win 8-1. All events in the Northants

2nds/Warwicks 2nds match were decided in straight games. Warwicks won 8-1. Gordon Shaw (Np) got the 1 event when beating Phil Paine 18 and 13.

VETS DIVISION 2B:

OX 6 BD 3 HE 8 BK3 1
Oxfords 1st team, on demotion from Division 1, beat Beds. 1st team 6-3. Steve Brindle played well for Beds. in beating Eddie Herrity at 19 in 3rd game and Nat Richardson at 22 in 3rd! Herts 2nds lost the first event against Berks 3rd team when Bob Davis beat Chris Budden 17 and 12. But Herts came back to win 8-1

VETS DIVISION 2C:

K3 8 BK2 1 SY3 7 OX2 2
BK1 7 MI1 2 BK1 6 K4 3
Berks 1st team, on demotion from Division. 1, made a great start to the season with a 6-3 win over Kent 4th team an the 7-2 defeat of Middx 1st team. Gill Knightley(BK) was unbeaten in singles and doubles but it was a close thing against Ann Flowerday with scores, 19, -18, 20! Oxford 2nds, on promotion, found it "hard going" against Surrey 3rds. They were able to win only 2 events when George Pullin (Ox) beat Gordon Chapman and, partnered by Alf Davies, won the mens doubles 18 and 8. Kent 3rds were leading Berks 2nds 8-nil when Ian Schwartz (Bk) saved the "whitewash" with a 20 and 15 defeat of Roger Pingram.

VETS DIVISION 2D:

HA2 2 HA3 7 S0 7 DO2 2
WI 4 AV 5 GS2 0 GS1 9
There was a hard fought match between Wilts 1st team and Avon. The match score stood at 4-4 when Clive Ellison(Av) beat Terry Parkins - 19,11,8 for a 5-4 win. Somerset were demoted from Division 1. They made a good start to the season with a 7-2 win over Dorset 2nds. Brian Reeves (So) followed up his 2 wins for the Senior team with similar success for the Veterans -

plus a doubles win with Graham Green, who supported with 2 singles wins. Will there be embarrassment in Hants with their 3rd team, promoted from Division 3, getting a resounding 7-2 win over Hants 2nds? 6 events went to a decider but the 3rd team actually led 7-nil. George Cole was involved in 3 wins. Mary Barron (Ha3) had a very good win over higher ranked Norma Millward and partnered Cole in a mixed doubles win. There was no such difficulty for Glos 1st team who beat their 2nd team 9-nil. It was closer than the score suggests with a number of deuce games.

VETS DIVISION 3A:

DU 5 CH3 4 NP3 8 BD3 1
NK2 8 CW 1
Newcomers Durham would have been well pleased to start with a win over Ches 3rds. Durham won his 2 singles and Dave Swayne and T. Di Martino each won a singles and combined to take the mens doubles. Northants 3rd team finished bottom of this Division last season but certainly got off to a good start with an 8-1 win over Beds. 3rds. It was a hard-fought match - 2 of the Northants wins were at 19 and 20 in deciding games. The Beds win was by Di Jermyn with a 20 in 3rd win over Clem Little. Norfolk 2nds met Clwyd, on demotion from Division 2. Norfolk won 8-1. The Clwyd win was by John Spence with a 20 in the 3rd win over David Henderson.

VETS DIVISION 3B:

SK 6 BU2 3 OX3 5 SK2 4
Bucks 2nd, on demotion, met Suffolk and would have been encouraged when going into a 2-nil lead. However Suffolk fought back, went into a 4-2 lead and won 6-3. Rob Hellaby and Janet Faiers were involved in 5 of the wins. Oxon 3rds/Suffolk 2nds match was the meeting of 2 new teams. The match score went to 4-4. In the final event Nigel Taylor (Ox) beat Chris Avis 17 and 21 to give Oxfords the win. Chris Lansley and John Bukin were involved in 5 of the wins.

VETS DIVISION 3C:

BK4 9 HE6 0 DV3 4 SX4 5
Newcomers Herts 6th visited the Kingfisher TT Club. Most of the

players had previously competed in the Championships. However the Berks 4th team was well on top to win 9-nil. Devon 3/Sussex 4 met at the Exmouth TT Club. The Sussex team started well and went to a 3 nil lead. Devon 3 fought back well and the match score went to 4-4. Trevor Wiramanden then had a 14 and 8 win to give Sussex a 5-4 win.

VETS DIVISION 3D:

HE5 6 SO7 3 WI3 2 DO3 7
DV4 8 HR 1 DV2 8 HR 1
There was a hard-fought match between Herts 5/Somerset 2 teams. 4 events were decided narrowly in deciding games. Dave Wilson (He) won his 2 singles events and June Nelson was successful in the ladies singles and mixed doubles events. Hereford took 8 players, with 2 separate teams, to meet the Devon 2nd and 4th teams. In both matches there were some hard-fought games but the Devon 2nd and 4th teams both won 8-1. Neville Meredith and Nim Hodges won the 2 events for Hereford. Dorset won 7-2. Danny Allen won 2 singles and the mixed doubles with Mac Allen. Brian Bickell was also unbeaten and teamed up with Eric Buckley to win the men's doubles event.

VETS DIVISION 1A:

Arrangements are being made for matches to be played over 2 weekends at Grantham TT Centre. The first of these is on 4/5 November.

VETS DIVISION 1B:

K2 2 X 7 BU 4 DV 5
SX2 3 HA 6
Kent 2nds, the team that won this Division last season, met Sussex 1st team demoted from the Premier Division. The Sussex team got a 7-2 win. Pam Butcher (K) had a good 21 and 19 win over Pauline Steel (Sx). Hants 1st team, also demoted from Premier, got off "on the right foot" with a 6-3 win over newly promoted Sussex 2nds. Chris Shelter and Graham Outtrim won their 4 singles events. Promotees Devon 1st team fared better with a 5-4 win over Bucks 1st. But it was a close thing! With the score 4-4 Dennis Gibbs (Dv) beat Mike Atkinson at 20 in the deciding game!

VETS DIVISION 2A:

CH2 8 HG 1 HP2 1 WA2 8
Y2 9 WA3 0
Yorks 2nds, on promotion, made a perfect start with a 9-nil win over Warwick 3rds. Linda Simpson (Y) had a good 12 in the 3rd win over



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(Postholder will be expected to live within one hour travel time)

The successful candidate is likely to possess the following:
Proven organising/administrative ability (preferably in sport)
Effective communication, selling and negotiating skills
High level of self-motivation and ability to motivate others
Experience of sports development
Understanding of table tennis
Full driving licence

CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS 30th November 1995
Job description and application form available from:
Doreen Nightingale
English Table Tennis Association
Queensbury House, Havelock Road,
Hastings, East Sussex TN34 1HF
Tel: 01424 722525 Fax: 01424 422103

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.

Report from Carr Hill School in Kirkham

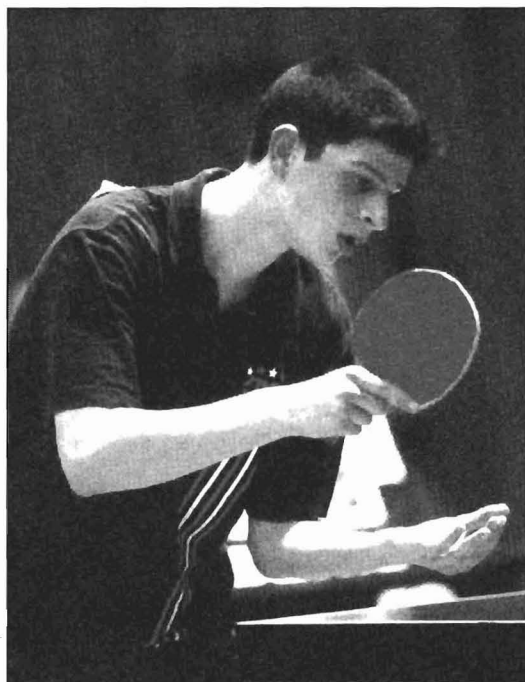
No1's *take titles*

THE TOURNAMENT WAS IN ITS SECOND YEAR AND WAS PLAYED AT CARR HILL SCHOOL, KIRKHAM OVER THE WEEKEND 30/9/95 - 1/10/95. EVERYTHING WENT WITHOUT A HITCH, MAINLY DUE TO GOOD SCHEDULING FROM REFEREE AUBREY DRAPKIN. THE ENTRY OF 125 INCLUDED CONTINGENTS FROM WALES AND SCOTLAND WRITES **TONY MEREDITH**

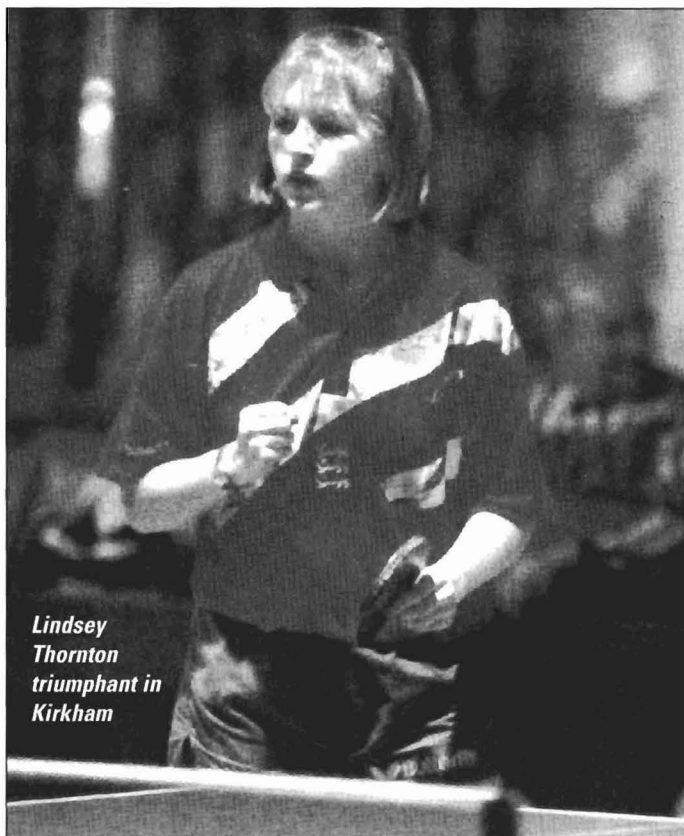
No. 1 seed Steve Meddings (Sutton Coldfield) ran out victor over Gareth Brown (Newcastle) 18,21. It was by no means a one-sided final. In fact, Gareth had his chance to take the second game. Lindsey Thornton (Bury) justified her No. 1 seeding when she came through 10,-19,12 against Yuki Gresswell (Teddington) in the junior girls final. Band 2 boys winner was Chris Dunne of Wirral with an 18,17 victory over Danny Harris (Wrexham). No. 1 seed David Charlton was surprisingly dumped out by Geraint Williams in the quarters. Delyth Davies (Wrexham) won the Band 2 girls, defeating Alice Howard (Wirral) 12,-16,10. Twelve year-old Andrew Rushton

(Manchester) teamed up with Steve Meddings to take the junior boys doubles over Alan Hewitt (Nuneaton) and Chris Dunne 14,-19,15. Lindsey Thornton and Emma Smith (Leeds) were comfortable winners of the junior girls doubles, beating the Leeds duo of Nicola Smith and Charlotte Spink 15,18.

Wrexham's Adam Robertson was an easy winner in the cadet boys final. He overpowered Gordon Reid (Dumfries) 11,11. Adam was so much superior to the rest and it is "frightening" when one finds out that he is only just eleven. The cadet girls final produced a "cracker". Linda Brown (Dumfries) turned the tables on No. 1 seed Katy Hart (Sanderstead) with a 15,-13,20



**Steve Meddings
winner of the
Junior Boy's
Singles**



**Lindsey
Thornton
triumphant in
Kirkham**

victory. Band 2 boys title went to Scott Taylor (Hull) who defeated Andrew Rushton 19,-19,17 in a well-contested final. Hayley Swierkowski from Nelson took the band 2 girls event over Gillian Edwards (Perth) 19,11. It was a double success for Adam Robertson when he won the Under 12 boys defeating Adam Parker (Preston) 10,16. Katy Parker (sister of Adam) ran out winner in the Under 12 girls with a 14,19 victory over Louise Durrant (Worksop). Michael Gomersall and Matthew Allen of Barrow were boys

doubles champions defeating Matthew Glendinning and Philip Lowe (Leeds) 15,20. Linda Brown linked up with Kate Hughes (Droitwich) to take the girls doubles over Iona Davies (Wrexham) and Gillian Edwards 17,16.

Thanks are extended to all the helpers (too numerous to mention) and in particular to Alwyn Burrough and Renee Hughes of the Carleton TTC who did the catering. The home-made Lancashire hot pot, cottage pies etc. were absolutely superb.

BILLINGTON & COLLIER... *spring a surprise!*

In the Womens Singles, Sue Collier upset all the odds with a three set win over favourite Linda Radford. The entry was boosted by the appearance of the Canadian Junior team, here for a series of matches and the English Junior Open.

The quality of the entry this year made for some top class play. In the Mens Singles, Billington had a relatively easy passage through to the final, the only set lost being to local player Paul Barry. In the semi-final, he met local hero, Nicky Mason and he, although not playing much Table Tennis at the moment, thrilled the audience with some typical play before losing in straight sets. Eden had a close tussle with Sussex's Adrian Moore in the 2nd round but took the next two rounds comfortably before setting up a thrilling close three set victory over Jonathan Taylor. The final started off as though Eden would stroll through to a 3rd title taking the first set off Billington 21-6. The No. 1 seed then came into the game more and both players thrilled the audience (with ETTA Chairman Alan Ransome amongst them) with some tremendous rallies and recovery play all round the table for the next two sets. There had to be a winner and the match ended after another brilliant rally with Eden (not for the first time) ending up on the floor trying to retrieve a fierce Billington shot. Both players left to one of the biggest ovations for years.

In the Womens Singles, Linda Radford came through to the semi-finals to meet Welsh No. 1 Natasha Williams. The match went to three sets with Linda easily taking the 3rd to get to her third successive final. The other half of the draw was opened up by the absence of 2nd

seed Helen Lower and the early exit of seeded Gemma Schwartz to the Canadian Junior, Iwa Kong in 3 sets. Sue Collier then met Kong and won in 3 sets, to set up a semi-final match against Shelley Ruocco. This was another tremendous three-setter with Sue edging home 22-20 in the 3rd. There are 17 players between Linda and Sue in the

rankings, but this counted for nothing as Sue took the first set 21-12. Linda then pulled back the 2nd set before Sue, battling for every point, took the third set to win her first Sussex Open Singles title. To say she was happy would be an understatement.

The Mens Doubles title went mostly to plan although 2nd seeds, John Holland and Grant Solder went out in 3 sets to Neil Charles and Adrian Moore. With another win following, this set up a semi-final match with the holders Eden and Joe Kennedy. After another thrilling display, the holders just edged home in 3 by 24-26, 22-20, 21-19. In contrast, the No. 1 seeds, Billington and Taylor had a comfortable passage through to the final only going to 3 once. In the final, the holders cruised through the first set 21-8 but, from then on, there was not much between them and eventually the top seeds edged home 22-20, 22-20.

The Womens Doubles title went to

the Canadian Juniors, Iwa Kong and Petra Cada. They beat seeded pair Teresa Bennett and Claire Moore and, helped by the scratching of top seeds, Linda Radford and Helen Lower, went through to the final. The other half went to seeding with Glenda Ashison and Shelley Ruocco coming through to the final although they had two hard matches on the

and Eckersley took the title for the first time in straight sets.

The Class 2 Mixed Singles event always brings tight matches but, in the end, it was experienced Joe Kennedy and 4th ranked Junior, Gareth Herbert who met in the final. Joe took the first set 21-14, but the Junior player fought back to take the next two sets and the title.

The trophies and prize money was presented by Mr Leon Shepperson of the sponsors STAMCO, the Mayor of Hastings Councillor Richard Stevens and the ETTA Chairman, Alan Ransome.

TO MARK THE TOURNAMENT'S 60TH ANNIVERSARY, ONE COULD NOT ASK FOR A BETTER FINALS SESSION AND IN ONE OF THE BEST MENS SINGLES SEEN FOR MANY YEARS, BRADLEY BILLINGTON WON HIS FIRST MENS SINGLES TITLE OVER ANDREW EDEN WHO WAS GOING FOR HIS THIRD TITLE IN SUCCESSION.

way. The final saw the Canadians lose the first set but, urged on by their party, took the final leg 22-20.

The Mixed Doubles saw the No. 1 seeds having to drop out due to Helen Lower's absence and this saw Kennedy and Sue Collier come through to the semi-finals after a close 3 set match against Scott Greenbrook and Teresa Bennett. They then lost to seeded John Holland and Glenda Ashison. John Souter and Gemma Schwartz were 2nd seeds but they went out to two other Canadian Juniors, Phillippe Bergeron and Joanna Kostra in three sets. These two juniors then had a semi-final match against Damian Holland and Linda Radford and took the first set 21-9, but the experience of their opponents then told to take Damian and Linda through to the final where they had a comfortable win over John Holland and Glenda Ashison.

The Veterans Singles final saw the current No 1 Nigel Eckersley meet the holder Mick Harper in the final

RESULTS ANALYSIS

MENS SINGLES
Semi Finals: B Billington bt N Mason 13, 6,
A Eden bt J Taylor -19, 20, 18,
Final:
B Billington bt A Eden -6, 23, 20

WOMEN SINGLES
Semi Final: L Radford bt N Williams
17, -17, 9,
S Collier bt S Ruocco 15, -18, 22
Final:
S Collier bt L Radford 12, -16, 14

MENS DOUBLES
Final: **B Billington/J Taylor** bt A Eden/J Kennedy -8, 20, 20

WOMENS DOUBLES
Final:
P Cada/I Kong bt G Ashison/S Ruocco -13, 11, 20

MIXED DOUBLES
Final
D Holland/L Radford bt J Holland/G Ashison 16, 16

VETERANS SINGLES
Final:
N Eckersley bt M Harper 11, 10

CLASS 2 MIXED SINGLES
Final:
G Herbert bt J Kennedy -14, 18, 15

BARROW *is where it's at!*

After all they have played table tennis in Barrow since 1935, only interrupted by the war years. Not convinced? OK then we will just have to sit ourselves down in this lonely outpost of the realm where the stagecoach arrives but once a fortnight, and simply dream of a place to play, and in a week's time we will wake up, walk down the street, and there it will be, all shiny and new, and crying out for some one to come in and play. Now if you believe that you will believe anything writes John Reed, Chairman Barrow & District T T Centre.

Let me take you back four and a half years to Parkview, the local comprehensive school. Cuts in education are beginning to bite, and in an effort to conserve finances, Cumbria County Council decided to dispose of a gymnasium, which for some inexplicable reason had been allowed to fall into a state of disrepair. Water was pouring through the roof, most of the windows were broken, fires had been lit inside by vandals, and the floor was in a dreadful state. It was going to cost £32,000 just to knock the building down.

Enter stage left, Mr Roger Harris, a non-player himself, but the teacher behind the successful Parkview School table tennis teams. He approached myself, Mr John Reed, Chairman of the Barrow and District

WELL BARNSTAPLE, BASINGSTOKE, BRISTOL, BOLSOVER AND BARROW, SO YOU WANT A TABLE TENNIS CENTRE? WAIT A MINUTE, BARROW? BARROW? WHERE'S THAT? OH I KNOW, DIDN'T MIKE HARDING ONCE SAY THAT IT WAS SITUATED AT THE END OF THE LONGEST CUL DE SAC IN GREAT BRITAIN? AND HASN'T BARROW JUST BEEN AWARDED THE ACCOLADE OF THE NO.1 TOURIST RESORT IN THE WHOLE COUNTRY? INDEED IT HAS, SO WHY SHOULDN'T BARROW HAVE A TABLE TENNIS CENTRE ALL OF THEIR OWN AND AS GOOD AS ANYONE ELSE'S?
REPORT FROM JOHN REED, CHAIRMAN OF BARROW & DISTRICT TTC

Table Tennis League, and so the germ of an idea was born. - Let us see if this virtual ruin could be transformed into a Table Tennis Centre. Send for the Good Fairy with her magic wand. No better still let's get the approval of the League and see what WE can do about it.

And so began the Barrow League's efforts in realising their dream. One of the first tasks was to elect a group of Directors, and form a Limited Company, so that if things were to go horribly wrong with the finances, each league member would only be liable for £1. Secondly after a series of meetings with Cumbria County Council, a ten year lease was drawn up between them

and the Barrow and District Table Tennis Centre Ltd to the effect that we were to be responsible for the restoration of the building, and for the privilege would be charged £4,000 per annum!!! At this point it should be made clear that there was no money at all in the coffers, and the task of raising over £70,000, plus the annual lease appeared a daunting one. However adopting the attitude of nothing ventured, nothing gained, we eventually took our first tentative steps, armed with only our enthusiasm, and a vision of the future. By September 22nd 1995 we had achieved a result beyond our wildest dreams.

On that day Alan Ransome

officially opened our Centre to a full house. A buffet for invited guests was laid on, and after the opening ceremony and the speeches, Don Parker introduced Alan Cooke and Bradley Billington who entertained the crowd by taking on three of Barrow's most promising youngsters Katherine Swan, Jade Kendall, and Michael Gomersall before themselves putting on an exhibition.

But what, you may ask, went on between that day four and a half years ago and the opening day? What were the ingredients for this wonderful transformation? Therefore in no particular order of importance I would suggest that all aspiring Centre builders will need:-

- 1) A steering committee, later to become a management committee (in our case Directors), who are fully committed to the end product. Ideally this committee should include people with specialist skills i.e. a solicitor, a good motivator, and others willing to take on all manner of practical jobs.
- 2) Support from the parent body, i.e. the ETTA, from the local and/or county authority, the Sports Council, and as in our case the school, is vital. This support should be carefully nurtured with the objective of progressing forward into partnerships.
- 3) A clear view of your objectives and how you see the Centre taking shape.

CHRISTMAS OFFERS (Ends Dec 31)

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Mark V, Gps, MR.....£19.99

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Lion practice balls Ideal for Robots etc

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4) Adequate funding.

The last sentence is a very short one, but no hopeful Centre builders should be under any illusion that life will be easy with every thing fitting into place like the pieces of a jigsaw. Hopes will be first raised then dashed on a regular basis, but the secret is to press on in as positive a manner as possible. There are times when the cautious and doubting Thomas' need to be ignored, and calculated risks will need to be taken. Omelettes are not made without breaking eggs.

In attempting to raise money, it is essential to convince possible sponsors and backers that you are a bona fide organisation, that you are prepared to see the project through, that there is a need for it, that it has been well planned, and that you will

be able to sustain and maintain a facility which in years to come will have catered for the widest possible range of table tennis players, from the very young to those of more mature years. A Centre must look after, with equal enthusiasm, both the casual player and those seeking to gain England rankings.

Finding the necessary funding is certainly one of the most difficult tasks. The pound notes and cheques simply do not fall out of the sky, or grow on trees. Letters have to be written, umpteen forms filled in and many telephone calls made. However after a while things start to get easier, especially when sponsors become satisfied that the project is increasingly looking like a viable proposition. It is then that they seem more willing to lend their support.

Strangely the more assistance you receive, the more you appear likely to get.

The funding for the Barrow and District Centre came largely from the Foundation for Sport and the Arts, The Sports Council, The National Lottery, Cumbria County Council, and Barrow Borough Council. Other sums were forthcoming from local firms, whilst for our part, the League agreed to an annual levy on players of £5 per member, and additional amounts were raised as a result of sponsored walks, raffles (including the ETTA Lincoln Handicap), selling Christmas cards, and the setting up of a 200 club. The latter has since been modified into a 100 club, with members contributing £4.34 per month via bank standing order. Half the proceeds is returned in prizes, leaving the Centre with £2,600 annually towards running costs.

Much to our relief the £4,000 annual lease has not been waived by Cumbria CC and replaced by a £500 yearly maintenance fee, as a result of representations made by the Sports council and the ETTA.

The Directors have formed three sub committees:-

- Finance
- Buildings and maintenance
- Competitions tournaments and other events

The Centre is now fully operational. During the day it is used by the pupils of Parkview School whilst the evenings are taken up as follows:- Monday/Tuesday - Practise night for league players and the general public. On these evenings there are three one hour sessions between 7pm and 10pm. Wednesday - League matches. This involves teams using the Centre as their home premises. Thursday - Parkview School. League matches. Friday - Coaching. The weekends are left free to be used on an ad hoc bookable basis for competitions, tournaments and coaching.

Overall the Directors are cautiously optimistic that the Centre will in the future not only generate sufficient finance to keep it ticking over, but will also be able to accumulate further funds to make any extra additions and alterations to the premises which they may have in mind.

Amongst the possible improvements they will be looking at, are our own changing rooms and showers, a lounge area perhaps to include a bar, and a viewing balcony.

In conclusion this report would not be complete without paying tribute to the assistance offered to us by the ETTA in the form of guidance, technical expertise, and general encouragement. Development Manager Diccon Gray incidentally an ex-Barrow League player himself, has constantly had his ear bent, and his responded at all times in a totally positive manner. The Chairman Alan Ransome has always made himself available, been willing to offer suggestions, and in the early days put himself about when he became directly involved with the local authority. We also received valuable advice from the technical department and are more than grateful for all the help provided by the ETTA.

And finally honourable mention must be given to my fellow Directors who have pulled their weight to a man, using their diverse talents to the optimum effect, and I make no apology in naming all nine. Keith Allen, Keith Edwards, Roger Harris, Ronnie Hodgson, Neil McKinnon, Malcolm Needham, Eddie O'Hara, John Poole, and Mike Yardley.

Right then so you still want to be involved in setting up a Table Tennis Centre? If you do, find between five and nine more slightly mad enthusiasts, prepare for the best, expect the worst, and keep going, and should this article inspire others to give it a go, ring 01229 77 2778 if you require any more information, and I will be more than happy to keep talking as long as you are paying the telephone bill!
John B Reed (Chairman Barrow and District Table Tennis Centre).

UNJUST

Dave Pountney, Surrey

I read with interest the report on the European Youth Championships in last month's TT News by Mr John Woodford, who seems to have laid the lack of success in the Junior Boys firmly in the hands of Terry Young, which I feel is totally unjust.



Mr Woodford appears to follow the normal reporting procedure of the British Press, where it is vital to give some stick to your

best players and losing with a smile and a stiff upper lip is infinitely preferable to winning with a "questionable" attitude.

As the report mentions, Terry won two excellent games against Hungary, including a win over the previous year's European Champion. If his two impeccably behaved team-mates had been as good on the table in this match, England would have been assured of a top 12 finish.

The article goes on to criticise Terry's ability to cope with the pressure of being England's No 1 junior. Terry has been No 1 for the whole of last year and put that status on the line at every notable junior tournament, in spite of the fact that few, if any, ranking points were available to him. If he was under pressure or worried about the chance of a defeat, he would have missed many of these tournaments, as others have done in the past and still do for that matter. To his credit he supported these tournaments, winning them all apart from a slip-up at the end of the season.

There is no doubt that Terry is unlikely to become a saint, but he is interesting, creates talking points, stirs emotions and so far is a winner. I think he is good for table tennis and I hope he makes a success of his new career. He will need to work hard and have some luck and he should always remember that a bad day on the table is still much better than a good day in the office or the factory.

MAKING 'IT'

Ken Muhr Co. Durham

Having put in immense time and effort to achieve that standard, many of our top England ranked juniors, year upon year, become disillusioned at not quite 'making it' or being appropriately recognised in their eyes. The jump to seniors may seem too wide - and they face the normal distractions and pressures of adolescence. Like the end of a love affair when in the words of the B B King

song, "The thrill is gone", they may feel sadness, bitterness, resentment, grief - boredom even - and give up.

What a loss to table tennis! For as Professor Keith Soothill said in his excellent paper, 'Where Have All The Flowers Gone?', "Youngsters playing at a high standard are the life-blood of sport. We neglect them at our peril". We must give them all the recognition, counselling and support (and tolerance?), as well as competitive and training opportunities, to keep them playing.

And perhaps not only playing, for they have the very modern game skills and competitive experience, lacking in some coaches, which as role models they could beneficially pass on to others. One small way to encourage leading juniors to come into coaching (now or later in their careers), and at the same time give some recognition and earning power for their skills and keep them in the game, is to give them free access to ETTA Coach Award courses.

Therefore, at the last National Coaching Committee Meeting, it was agreed to recommend to Regional Coaching Committees that leading juniors are given free places on Level 2 courses, plus financial assistance (towards ETTA Coach Registration fees, travel expenses etc.). The possibility of extending this to leading players of all ages was also discussed. However, it was acknowledged that being a top player does not necessarily mean being a good coach - such players, if taking advantage of free Coach Award Courses, should be given no favours in meeting the assessment standard.

A free Coach Course is of itself not enough to make our junior stars feel wanted and valued in table tennis, but it could help.

LAST WORD

John Prean (Chairman ETTA 1986-91)

It is sad indeed that Mr Richard Habgood should see fit to reply as he did on my son Carl Prean (TT News Oct). I have had a number of conversations with Richard in the past when he spoke quite



differently. It takes a lot of gall and inhumanity to greet the retirement (forced or voluntary) of a player who has played

for England 288 times, with a string of highly selected untruths and quite so much rancour. Carl was, after all, an England international for 14 years, senior and junior, a member of countless teams and he always gave his best and a playing record of 435 wins and 68%

speaks for itself. It was left to Mr Habgood to discover malice and indiscipline in this polite and easy-going player.

Carl had, of course, viewed the increasing problems and the decline of English Table Tennis (in world terms) with sorrow and the signs of poor management were everywhere. He did not imagine in his wildest nightmares that he would be made the scapegoat for the feeble showing of our men's team in the recent world championships.

It is alleged by Mr Habgood that Carl was not injured at all, that he let everybody down by not playing in some matches. I am sorry, but that is simply not true. After the event Carl attended the British Olympic Medical Centre where a specialist diagnosed a torn tendon. Carl was given a course of injections to the knee over a period of 4 weeks. Mr Habgood knows this, yet pretends that there was no injury. Carl played in every match in which he could. He was never without pain throughout. Against China his name was put on the team sheet despite his protests that he was injured and in pain.

Mr Habgood casts the injured Prean as the villain and even talks of a "hate" campaign against the fit Chen, who sat on the bench letting his injured colleague do the playing. I am sorry, it is not a campaign of hate to recite how often Chen has let us down, it is a matter of fact. It was Prean alone who stood up to be counted, to say "enough is enough".

I close with further corrections. Mr Kevin Satchell resigned on hearing that Mr Ransome would not re-appoint him as V/C Selection. He was the best English coach I have known in Carl's time in the England team, a man of integrity. Carl shares that view and it is the greatest condemnation of English Table Tennis today that this man is not involved in the England Team.

The above letter is the final word on this subject, as far as Table Tennis News is concerned. I feel that we have given sufficient space to this matter, and we have therefore decided to allow John Prean to have the last word. Editor.

REPLY TO JIM FARROW

*John Woodford
Daily Telegraph*

Replying to Jim Farrow's letter (TTN October) headlined "Disappointment" - on the scant reporting of the World Championships in China, I have several points to raise - some of which would have appeared in this magazine earlier had the 3,000 words submitted not been cut in order to get the tournament onto two pages.

Ochiro Ogimura, the late president of the ITTF said on his deathbed that the media facilities in Tianjin would not be good. Others forecast that the Chinese who had not run a world event for many years, therefore would not go along with ITTF requirements in several areas: technical and medial to name just two.



Many international journalists stayed away, because they feared chaos and poor service: there were 900 Asian writers and just 100 of us foreigners. Conditions generally were so bad that most of us from abroad left the Venue after play finished and worked from the peace of our hotel rooms. There were four computers on which results were supposed to emerge: what came out most of the time was the career details of the top Chinese officials. Frequently, we had to wait until the next day to get results in print. Faxes cost £12 a page as against a normal £2.50 or less anywhere around the world. The Press Centre telephone exchange demanded £150 up front for calls and early on there were only two lines available for incoming calls.

There were nowhere near enough seats with benches for the working journalists. Those who could not find a writing bench were placed in public seating. In order to help pay for the trip (the £3,000 is not exaggerated), I had to take on five commitments to newspapers and agencies, the same in Singapore.

At the end of the tournament the least we could expect would have been bound volumes of the complete results. This did not happen. The Chinese failed completely to create conditions suitable for the media and even refused to listen to late suggested improvements. So the services we were able to provide were the best available. Beggars can't be choosers - the ETTA could not afford to send a cameraman. I was so disappointed with China that in a journalists questionnaire I said that it was the worst organised world event I had covered in 30 years and that I would not wish to return to China even as a tourist.

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PSYCHOLOGICAL

and physical aspects of table tennis

One of the aims of the training camps is to monitor the technical and physical development of the players and to feed back individual needs to their local coaches.

This season, with the co-operation of the Calendar Working Party, 5 dates have been allocated for 'Junior Training' and Under 12 camps will be run on these dates. Along with a group of senior coaches, **Tim Holder** and his newly appointed assistant **Mark Bawden** are working with the young players on the psychological and physical aspects of their game. Their views on the camps are as follows:-

Table tennis is an intense, physically demanding sport, therefore like any sport the physical preparation of table tennis players is of major importance. At an under 12 level it is crucial to get across some of the basic physiological principles and underlying concepts behind their own physical preparation for performance. Such concepts include what a good warm up should consist of and why they should go through this process before they play. Players should be made aware of the importance of the warm up and role that it plays as an adjustment phase between being cold and actually performing. the warming up period helps to increase:

- Body temperature
- Heart rate
- Blood flow to the active muscles
- Decreases muscular tension
- Warms and stretches the relevant muscle groups
- Prevents injury

A good warm up should include

- Stretching
- Flexibility
- Running

LAST SEASON THE COACHING DEPARTMENT ESTABLISHED A SERIES OF TRAINING WEEK-ENDS FOR AN UNDER 12 SQUAD OF PLAYERS. 30 PLAYERS, BOTH BOYS AND GIRLS WERE INVOLVED IN THESE TRAINING SESSIONS WHICH PROVED TO BE BOTH POPULAR AND VERY BENEFICIAL WRITES

GAIL McCULLOCH.

- Shadowplay (if desired)
- Psychological preparation
- On table practice

Warming down should consist of a period of light exercise (running) and stretching that can last up to ten minutes and should be completed directly after performing.

Physical training, both on an off the table, is an important part of any players preparation for performance. Therefore the importance of training, and the underlying principles behind training programs, should be discussed with players. These include:

- Intensity (how hard to work the player)
 - Frequency (how often to train)
 - Duration (length of training session)
 - Training overload (putting the physiological system under stress to adapt and cope with stress)
- Progression (extending the program when the system is able to cope with the stress)
- Regression (loss of fitness due to a decrease in training)

Training programs should be as individual specific as possible, thus taking into account each player's own personal needs and requirements e.g. training for an explosive attacking player should include more work on power and speed than a defensive player whose training would be more endurance based. A good allround

training program can included endurance work (running etc), circuit training (specific to the demands of the individual), on table multi-ball practice, on table practice session (normal practice sessions) and speed and power training. The ideal is to train in order that physical fitness is not the limiting factor on table tennis performance, however it is also important that training programs should be realistic for the individual and when dealing with younger players should be a varied and enjoyable as possible!!!

During practice sessions possible the most important psychological aspect to be influenced by the coach for an Under 12 player is their level of motivation. Whilst technique development is the crucial factor, it is difficult to work on this if the performer is not there in the first place!! What therefore will help to get performers to come back for more:-

- enjoyment
- satisfaction in achieving what they couldn't do before
- social factors (eg being in a friendly environment)

The coach will often use plenty of appropriate praise in order to reward the performer. This is used simply to help the performer to feel satisfied and competent (better than they were before) about their play. It is these feelings within the player that will enable them to motivate themselves to return.

When in the competitive situation

it is very important that the young players perceive that they have had a good experience whether they have won or lost. There are many aspects to a performance for which goals or targets could be set with the performer to help them to perceive some level of success (and therefore feelings of accomplishment) regardless of the result of the match. Some areas that could be useful are:-

- attitude in the game (eg effort)
 - playing positively
 - use of tactics
 - preparation for the game
 - sportsmanship
 - use of specific techniques in match situations
- etc

Finally, in the under 12 age group it is important to start to develop composure and establish methods of control over the game. A good example of this is to develop a routine (or sequence of things to do) before service. This could contain actions (such as bouncing the ball), specific thoughts (such as where to serve and with what spin) and also elements such as a relaxing breath to help control any nervousness.

These areas of both the physical and psychological aspects of Table Tennis are crucial to the development of young performers and should play a role in any coach's programme alongside the more widely recognised technical and tactical work.

If any coach has players who they feel should be included in the squad, they should contact Jill Parker and their requests will be considered.

COUNTY Notes

Avon

BY BOB MURRAY

COUNTY SCENE

The first round of county matches has seen our Juniors and Veterans in action. The Juniors entertained Herefordshire at the Knowle and Brislington club where they emerged with two points from a 7-3 win. The new look boys line-up of Leigh Iles, Brian Smith and Matthew Newport made a promising start, all winning one set each. However it was left to Jessica Orlik and Gemma Loughran to secure the points, both winning their two singles in fine style. By my reckoning all players were from the host club, a first for Avon I would think.

The Veterans had a far harder battle when they travelled to the new Devizes TT Centre to play Wiltshire. Two wins each from Gary Baldwin and Bob Murray ought to have been the platform for a comfortable victory but defeat in both doubles plus setbacks for Clive Ellison and Bridget Pankhurst left the score 4-4 going into the final singles. Despite losing the first game, Clive rallied to beat Terry Parkins and so bring the points back to Avon. Many thanks to Bridget for turning out at short notice and to Wiltshire for providing an excellent venue and an even better tea.

Next month will see both the Juniors and Veterans in action twice and our Seniors travelling to Plymouth for three matches. Reports in the next issue.

BATH LEAGUE

My return to playing in the Bath League after an absence of 4 years means that I have had an early sight of their handbook. This season sees five divisions in Bath with a strong Bradford squad looking hot favourites to retain their title in the Premier Division. The Woolwich Junior League will be running again this season at Culverhay Sports Centre on Thursday nights and coaching for juniors is taking place at both Culverhay and St Marks School, Larkhall, also on Thursdays.

I was pleased to see that the league have appointed Marcus Berry as their first Coaching and Development Officer. It would be nice to see a crop of Bath juniors coming through into the County rankings in the next year or so.

BRISTOL LEAGUE

I am sure it will be a close battle in this year's Bristol Premier with Almondsbury's title under strong threat from Knowle & Brislington A, Failand and Nailsea.

The Bristol Closed will take place on the weekend of the 4th and 5th of November at Soundwell College in Bristol. As has been the case in recent years the Senior events will be played on the Saturday and the Junior events on the Sunday.

WESTON LEAGUE

The disappointing news from Weston is that they will be switching from Avon affiliation to Somerset with effect from the 1996/97 season. Their members of the Avon Management Council have worked hard for the county in the past and will be missed.

Bedfordshire

BY ALEX MURDOCH

This is my first report of the season which I hope will be successful and enjoyable for players at all levels.

The county ranking meeting took place in August with its usual ups and downs. The rankings for the top five are as follows:

SENIOR MEN

1. Jimmy Walsh, 2. Mike Levene, 3. Norman Swift, 4. Kevin Copperwheat, 5. David Hyde

SENIOR LADIES

1. Sandra Harrer, 2. Mary Jarrett, 3. Audrey Robinson, 4. Val Murdoch, 5. Anita Copperwheat

VETERAN MEN

1. David Hyde, 2. Brian Mayfield, 3. Paul Birch, 4. Steve Brindle, 5. Ivan Brown

VETERAN LADIES

1. Jean McCree, 2. Audrey Robinson, 3. Val Murdoch, 4. Anita Copperwheat, 5. Sylvia Coombes

JUNIOR BOYS

1. Graham Babcock, 2. Adrian Hunt, 3. Lee Anker, 4. Mark Badham, 5. Michael Pigg

JUNIOR GIRLS

1. Martine Whittaker, 2. Nicola Leboer, 3. Nicola Tarrant

The first rounds of County matches took place on 23.9.95 with our Vets I, III and

Juniors playing

The Juniors had a very successful start in the first 3 matches at St. Neots winning 2 games and drawing the third with only one girl playing. Nikki Leboer won her first ever county game and at the end of the day won 3 out of 6 - a superb performance. Adrian Hunt and Grahame Babcock dropped only one game each. Mark Badham had 100% winning 6 out of 6. His final game to get us a draw against Cams was a very tight match with Mark coming through -24,29,20.

This series of matches was well organised. Our thanks to Bernie Shannon and family. I was very impressed with the standard of juniors - in particular their discipline and etiquette during all games.

Our Vets III travelled to Northants and lost 8-1, three games going to the wire which we unfortunately lost. Di Jermyn/Tim Movihan playing in their first county match and playing together for the first time won the mixed doubles.

Vets I visited Oxon and lost 6-3. Steve Brindle won both his singles. Paul Birch won one singles. Both Paul and Steve beat highly ranked players which should assist their rankings and boost the confidence of the whole team.

Our Bedford league Vets team won both matches in the first round of the Singles Invitation League and both look set for promotion. The team was John Jerris, Martin Tribe, John Simms and Malcolm Carr.

Berkshire

BY JOHN CUNNINGHAM

SUPER STARS

A special mention this month for the Newbury League and in particular to their number one David Reeves. Not only did David lead Woolton Hill 'B' to the division one title, but unlike many of our current super stars, to his credit, whilst it was only on the odd occasion that he had any real opposition, he

played virtually every match. Signs of a true sportsman with the Newbury Association interests at heart. From the other players' points of view it was great to have the chance to cross bats with such a talented player.

HIGH STANDARDS AT BERKSHIRE CADET TRIALS

There was low quantity but high quality in this year's entry for the Berkshire Under 14 Table Tennis Trials at Our Lady of Peace Community Centre, Earley.

The turnout was significantly lower than previous years, but the Tournament Referee, Peter Goatly, said that he had never seen such well-fought and high quality rallies in the bottom group of the boys competition.

The final order in the Under 14 Boys was: 1. Rajiv Rajah 2. Robert Hudson 3. Alex Lewis 4. Charles Edwards 5. Lee Calcutt 6. Matthew Thomas 7. Thomas Williams 8. Alex Smith 9. Joseph Williams 10. Andy Chambers 11. Kevin Hedges 12. Christopher Macharthy.

There were many very close matches, but the record for nail-biting finishes must go to Robert Hudson in the top group. He beat Alex Lewis 22-24, 24-22, 24-22 and lost to Rajiv Rajah 19-21, 19-21!

The final order in the Under 14 Girls was: 1. Michelle Bosley 2. Lisa Calcutt 3. Kerry Matthews 4. Emma Hudson 5. Rebecca Thomas 6. Joanna Chambers 7. Lisa Bosley 8. Deborah Goddard 9. Sheryl Parker.

Again, there were many close games in the girls competition, but the most amazing statistic was that the average age of the players was only 10! This means that there is excellent potential for Berkshire to have many high quality junior girl players once these girls have gained a few years of competition experience.

The Tournament Referee thanked John Cunningham for the use of the fine facilities at the Our Lady of Peace Community Centre. John was also thanked for setting up the equipment and providing much-needed refreshments.

Cambridgeshire

BY ANDY HUBBLE

NEW SEASON

Away we go again on another new season with everything to play for. At local level our four leagues have remained at a similar membership to last year with the exception of Cambridge which has increased in numbers.

A Look around the Country

Cambridge, Ely and Wisbech all intend to run Woolwich Junior Leagues this year and Wisbech are continuing to coach juniors at the Queen's school on Tuesday evenings.

At County level we are fielding two additional teams to last year. It is very pleasing to see Pat Amps step in and run the County Junior side which was disbanded last year due to the lack of a team secretary. Also due to the high level of interest by the Veterans a second team has been formed with most expenses covered by an anonymous sponsor (a gesture very much appreciated by the committee). Our senior side was promoted to the Premier Division at the end of last season and opens its fixtures with a trip to Warwick Sports Centre on the 4/5th November for a central venue round of matches. The second and final weekend is scheduled for the 10/11th February in Devon. The likely squad for the first fixtures is Keith Richardson, Mick Harper, David Lee, Yvette Hooks and either Alison Edge or Jean White. The Veteran 1st team go to Barnet on 21/22nd October to play Beds 2, Herts 1, Beds 1, and Hunts in a weekend of matches. The likely squad is M. Stennett, B. Hagger, J. Turner, D. Titlady and J. White.

The 2nd team have their first match at home to Middlesex 3 on 14th October and will probably select from C. Gay, R. Fenton, B. Odell, P. Sinclair, C. Waling, P. Cutler and G. Stennett.

Our Junior team was in action on 23rd September and played three matches during that day at the central venue of St. Neots. The squad for all three matches was made up of all Wisbech players, an honour for the town, and although other juniors will obviously be selected when available Wisbech is likely to provide the backbone of the squad. James Walton, Matthew Known and Alan Bennett were the boys with Helen Charlton and young Kelly Chapman the female contingent.

In the first match against Herts we were beaten 7-3 with each of the boys contributing to the score.

The second match proved more fruitful with a 5-5 result against Norfolk 2. Again the opposition for the girls proved too strong but with J Walton (2), M Knott (2) and Alan Bennett (1) we secured the draw.

The final match was against Beds and with the opposition only fielding one girl a creditable 5-5 draw was achieved. James again took both singles with a good win over Graham Babcock and Matthew can count himself unlucky losing out to Mark Baldwin 20-22 in the third. Helen Charlton provided the all-important fifth point with a good win over Nicola Leader.

Cumbria

BY GORDON BROWN

TWIN SETS

Carlisle players Mark Temple and Phil Clarkson won a set each for Cumbria as they went down 4-6 to Cheshire in Northwich. In a double-header at the same venue, Cumbria lost 0-10 to a strong Lancashire 2nds, who beat Cheshire by the same score on the same day.

Cumbria's other two sets against Cheshire went to Steve Dixon, of Kendal, who managed to take one of his sets against Lancashire to three games.

Barrow girls Kathy Swan, last year's finalist in the National Under-12s girl's championship, and her England international age group colleague Jade Kendal, played in both the Lancashire and Cheshire matches. They did not win a set but were by no means disgraced.

The town can expect more promising youngsters like Kathy Swan and England Under 10 boys Champion Michael Gomersall and others who already grace the local scene from the Barrow Table Tennis Centre.

The multi-thousand pound grant-aided centre in a converted building at Parkview School, Barrow was officially opened by ETTA Chairman Alan Ransome amidst a galaxy of stars which included Alan Cooke.

The centre is open seven days a week with public opening on Mondays and Thursdays: £1 an hour (adults) and 75p (juniors). Senior coaches are Mike Yardley and Eddie O'Hara.

Wednesdays are match nights, Thursdays reserved for the school and Friday for coaching. Tournaments take place at the weekends.

Devon

BY JOHN VINCENT

HIGH RANKINGS

Congratulations to Peter Thomas now Nationally ranked 12 and Joanna Barraclough (16) in the Juniors for immediately qualifying for the National Junior Trials Finals because of their high rankings.

Recently a Junior County Assessment was held in Plymouth with 23 players participating. Most parts of the County were represented. 3 groups were formed of 8-8-7 according to ability, providing excellent competition. All 3 group winners were

undefeated with Daniel Adams (Black Awton) producing the goods in Group 1. Jonathan Kent, the Plymouth blaster won Group 2 and 10 year old Tim Watson (Tavistock) surprisingly winning all six of his matches in Group 3.

The established County players Rory Harries and Liz May showed good form in Group 1 in finishing second and third to Daniel Adams as expected. However, new talent emerged in the top group in the form of Exeter's Alex Woodhead and Cadets James Whiteman (Tavistock), Cameron Hinton and Paul Billows (both from North Devon). In Group 2 Claire Richards (Exeter) with 4 wins defeated Kate (North Devon) 22-20 in the third in a very exciting game. Cadet Kate showed her determination by rattling off 5 wins thus retaining her Junior County ranking at No6.

Essex

BY STEVE KERNS

PETER RODEN OBITUARY

The whole of Essex table tennis will have been greatly saddened by the death of Peter Roden who died on 19 September 1995, aged 60 after a heart attack. Peter, one of the country's most respected National Referees/International Umpires was also President of the Brentwood League, a Life Member of the County Association and the Basildon League, as well as a former Chairman of the County and a winner of the Corti-Woodcock award in 1980. Peter was also the county's current National Councillor; a real devotee of the game and a true gentleman who will be missed at all levels.

ESSEX GAMES

The year's event was held at the Clacton Leisure Centre, and was won by a high-quality Colchester team of Rik James (SM), Derek Wood (V), Janet Faiers (SI) Caroline Faiers (JG) and David Kao (JB). Sadly of the eleven teams entered only five showed up, the worst turn-out on record, and very disappointing for the Clacton league who organised the event. In such a poorly supported event Chelmsford were able to finish second despite not having a Junior girls player. Their other players who did well to overcome this obvious handicap were Steve Joslin (SM), Karen Mason (SL), Malcolm Storey (V) and Chris Farmer (JB).

PENIEL JUNIOR OPEN TOURNAMENT

Top Essex performance in the high-class and lucrative Peniel tournament came in the U12 Girls Singles where 11 year-old Natalie Bawden secured her first Open Tournament success with a brilliant win over Lucy Pointer (Hants) 13,-15,21 in the final; a game every bit as exciting as the scoreline suggests. Interestingly, Lucy's Coach was none other than John Preat the former ETTA Chairman and very experienced observer of Junior table tennis.

COLCHESTER LEAGUE

The Colchester League has one of the largest geographical catchment areas in the county, drawing teams from as far afield as Walton-on-Naze, Tiptree and Dedham. It attracts players from the neighbouring Ipswich, Clacton, Braintree and Chelmsford Leagues. The team everyone has to look up to is Civil Service A, the reigning champions (Rik James, David Cole, Richard Hutchinson, Steve Edmonds and Andy Wadling). The only team remotely capable of challenging them are the tried and tested formula of John Andrews, Dave Moss, Dave Harrison and Mick Buckley. Next strongest squad look to be Great Horkesley A (Rob Hellaby, Derek Wood, Janet Faiers, Steve Pennell and Jon Hill). Few people will back against the Civil Service team.

ESSEX SENIOR III 4 BERKSHIRE SENIOR II 6

A young Essex side will be slightly disappointed to have lost 4-6 as two of the games represented walkovers owing to the non-availability of a second Berkshire lady player. Nevertheless, the plus-points were the reliability of Nikki Kennard's play as she beat Isabel Walker fairly convincingly, and the aggressive and confident performance of Steve Joslin who fully extended Ben Johnson over three sets and who beat Tony Duffield 19,17. Simon Woods the old man of the team at 28 just failed to force the draw losing - 19,10,-18 to Martin Adams in the most open and evenly matched of deciding matches. Good news for County followers is that Clive Carthy appears recovered from his operation, and expects to be available for the Second team's games in November.

ESSEX CLOSED

This season's event will be held over the bank-holiday weekend of Sunday/Monday 5/6th May 1996 at Clacton Leisure Centre.

Gloucestershire

BY ALF PEPPERD

PROMOTION

Over the past couple of years, rapid strides in the overall promotion of table tennis have taken place in Gloucestershire, especially in coaching, and the new TT venue at Deerpark School at Cirencester, which was officially opened by the Chairman of the ETTA on July 15th this year.

Unfortunately, I feel that a very small minority of table tennis enthusiasts within the County do not appear to have grasped the full significance of the ultimate benefits that these new changes in our sport will bring, it is essential that we plan our table tennis for the future, and with all the modern ideas that are available to us.

As we approach the new Millenium in just over four years time, let us hope that professional coaching - and the superb new facilities which are now available to us in the County, will provide the nucleus of a much-improved TT standard of play, throughout the entire County.

BRITISH LEAGUE

Cheltenham Saracens still remain our sole team in Gloucestershire in the BL and owing to a vacancy this season in Division 1 South, Saracens have stepped into this slot, vacated by BFL Grove III. At the time of writing they have played two matches, beating Horsham Angels 2 by 5-3, and losing to Barclays Bank 3-5, our local team is made up with the following: Natasha Williams, Brian McRandall, Darren Griffin, Dave Harvey, Graham Slack and Mark Owen.

BITS AND PIECES

Hearty congratulations to our County No 2 player - Heather Tyrer who recently gave birth to a baby girl which Heather and her husband Paul have named Lara.

Cheltenham Jaqui Carver, currently ranked County-wise at No 3 is currently indisposed pending motherhood soon, (at time of writing).

Judy Morley of Gloucester, who has won both the County and Gloucester Ladies Singles upon innumerable occasions has this season decided to have a Sabbatical away from table tennis. We all hope to see you back in action next season, Judy.

At a County meeting that was held last September David Dean and myself have volunteered to provide photographs of local players. Dave will do the snapping, I hope to

distribute the snaps to Table Tennis News and the local press in time.

Isle of Wight

BY JOHN PREAN

ISLAND GAMES

First, my apologies that my County Notes (September issue) did not appear. They were despatched by me to the Editor on the 25th July and he tells me they were lost somewhere en route to the printing press. Many thanks to those who enquired as to their fate.

I continue to hear of the wonderful team spirit shown by our team in the "Island Games" in addition to the success of so many medals. We played against Islands who appear in the main World Championships as countries in their own right and we defeated them. Such nations play, of course, in what was once "Category 3", but, as a cynic recently remarked, will soon overtake England in the European Youth Championships. Our players had practised hard for this event and we gave a lot of attention to our doubles play. One wishes it were so nationally.

I noted that Carl has just been relegated to No 3 on the English Ranking list with Chen Xinhua going to No 2. It is an interesting example of modern ranking, as Churchill might have said. Neither player had played a match in the period. Obviously, Carl had shown poor form in the matches he had NOT played. Still officials tell me the system is very popular as well as accurate.

Lucy Pointer reached the Final of the Peniel Junior Select, losing 21-23 in the 3rd set, which I regard as a good performance for one who has a year after this in this age group. She had a match point at 20-19 and served into the net on deuce. It was that close.

I must repeat my congratulations to Lucy for winning last season's English Schools Under 11 title. I had recorded this previously in my "lost" July notes. Looking at the trophy, one sees some very famous names. Perhaps in a few years Lucy will be equally famous.

Danny Burne got through the groups in the Peniel, playing very well, but he did not quite recapture that form the following day, when he went out to a Scottish Junior who looked useful.

Both Danny and Lucy went to the "Clare Pengelly Memorial 2 Star Open" in Torbay. Lucy got to two finals this time, Under 12 and Under 14, but in both lost to the Welsh girl Charlotte Avery. That apart, Lucy won 6 matches. Her climb up the ranking lists should

continue.

Danny defeated the New Zealand junior Paul Innes in three and then the England No 21 Graham Worth, also in three. The latter feat produced a "maximum" 50 points in ranking terms (we think), as Danny is only around No 60. His joy was sobered by the dawning realisation that he had to have 10 more wins like this before he got to No 21. However, he is playing very well.

By the time you read this, our new centre will have been "officially opened". I referred to this at some length in my "lost" notes. Made possible by grants from the Sports Council (Southern Region), the Foundation for Sport and the Arts and three local Authorities, the centre will hold 6 tables for match play and 9 for practise. It is the realisation of a dream. Our warmest thanks go to the above for the encouragement they gave us and, of course, to the ETTA. That centres are going up all over the country is a very positive development. We were particularly grateful for the help we got from Paul Baker, the ETTA Facilities Officer. I may have been critical about ETTA "overstaffing" in the past, but this guy really was an asset.

Our AGM named the centre "The Carl Preat Table Tennis Centre". Erica and I abstained from the vote. It was a tribute to Carl, not only for winning the national title three times, playing 288 times for England and much else, but also for the many, many hours he had given to Island Table Tennis. In the "Island Games" (Gibraltar) he paid his share of the cost. For the many hours and days he had given us, he, a professional, never charged a bean. We hope a steady stream of Island Juniors will be cascading towards the top. Not all will make it, but we hope they will have fun trying. That European Junior title which Carl won in 1985 may yet prove an inspiration some 10 years later. It is an exciting time for Island Table Tennis.

Lancashire

BY TONY MEREDITH

EXCELLED

As promised in the last notes, I now have details of the recent County Junior Trials. Bury's Lindsey Thornton was the only exempted player at No. 2 on the National ranking list.

Michael Moir from Blackburn excelled in the junior boys and was well worthy of his No. 1 ranking. Twelve year old Andrew Rushton finished in the No. 2 position mainly due to his surprise success over last year's winner

Greg Lee (Bolton). Andrew from Manchester can probably attribute some of his sudden found success to the help given by former England No. 1 Dennis Neale who spent some time coaching him during the summer break. All things being equal, as it were, he must surely be a great prospect for the future success of the County.

Kirsten Williams of Blackpool overcame any early apprehensions she may have had and won the junior girls event in style. She was particularly delighted to have beaten her friend and local, rival, Kim Roberts. Kim has been her bogey player for some time. Hayley Swierkowski of Nelson is another player who has made rapid progress of late. Hayley finished 2nd and is ranked No. 3. A great performance from a young lady who is still only thirteen years old.

The complete junior list is as follows:-
Boys: 1. Michael Moir (Blackburn) 2. Andrew Rushton (Manchester) 3. Gregory Lee (Bolton) 4. Andrew Cullen (Rochdale) 5. Dean Walmsley (Preston) 6. Alexi Atkinson (Heywood) 7. Eric Tully (St. Helens) 8. Nicholas Bennett (Blackpool) 9. Chris Chonin (St. Helens) 10. Michael Smith (Bolton) 11. Neil Middleton (Preston) 12. Danny Hitchen (Leyland) 13. Lee Farley (Liverpool) 14. David Pilkington (Blackburn) 15. Neil Carter (Bolton) 16. Daniel Dean (Preston) 17. Ian Flintoph (Preston) 18. Liam Stewart (Bolton) 19. Russell Clark (Preston) 20. Adam Bleakley (Manchester) 21. Adam Parker (Preston).
Girls: 1. Lindsey Thornton (Bury) 2. Kirsten Williams (Blackpool) 3. Hayley Swierkowski 4. Andrea Harrison (Burnley) 5. Kim Roberts (Blackpool) 6. Andrea Flintoph (Preston) 7. Suzanne Geldard (Burnley) 8. Julie Rushton (Blackpool) 9. Hannah Roberts (Coppull) 10. Beverley Carter (Bolton) 11. Katy Parker (Preston) 12. Joanne Caine (Manchester) 13. Kimberley Barnard (Bolton) 14. Stephanie Ireland (Bolton).

Commencing last season it has been the policy of the County selection committee to rank the senior and veteran players in accordance with positions on the National ranking list as at the start of the new season. The lists are as follows:-

Men: 1. Andrew Eden 2. Jonathan Taylor 3. Sean Gibson 4. Graham Clarke 5. Steven Scowcroft 6. Darren Howarth 7. Nigel Eckersley 8. Phil Bowen 9. Tony Taylor 10. Paul Hutchings 11. Stuart Richards 12. Keith Williams 13. Kevin Dolder 14. Philippe Juniver 15. Howard Whewell 16. Barry Elliott 17. Phil Musgrove 18. David Newton 19. Martin Ireland 20. Barry Crook
Women: 1. Andrea Holt 2. Maria Thornley 3. Lindsey Thornton 4. Tamar Connolly 5. Brenda Buoeuy 6. Paula French 7. Sylvia

A Look around the Country

Graham 8. Mabel Neary 9. Amanda Winskill 10. Alwyn Burrough 11. Kirsten Williams
 Veteran Men: 1. Nigel Eckersley 2. Phil Bowen 3. David Newton 4. Brian Clements 5. Barry Crook 6. Derek Watmough 7. Norman Thewlis 8. Tony Rigley 9. Phil Blake 10. G. Rushton 11. Ron Bennett 12. Bob Johnson 13. Gordon Sharples 14. Jack Greenwood
 Veteran Women: 1. Sylvia Graham 2. Mabel Neary 3. Alwyn Burrough 4. Lesley Smallwood

Leicestershire

BY DEREK BUTT

WITHOUT SNAGS

The Elbow Tankard Finals were completed on time and without any snags. The first of the quarter-finals was between Shoe One and Marconi. This was a tremendous match and at the end it was all-square at 10-10. So the sudden death play-off had to be introduced. Shoe's Ken Whitehead had to play Graham Dyer one off and having lost to him 2-0 in the earlier part of the evening we expected it to be close. Giving 10 points away Ken really got stuck in and was well on top to win the game 21-18. It was then up to Mick Box to play Graham Redmile who he had earlier beaten 2-0. Mick, giving away seven points, had no problem winning 21-11. So Shoe One were through to the semi-final.

The favourites Rushey Mead beat Casualties 13-7, with Abraham Conteh yet again unbeaten in this tournament leading the way. Harry White won four from his six.

Newts won their quarter-final 12-4, with little trouble, James Lancaster winning three from his four and was well-supported by father and son Phil and Daniel Marriott.

The last quarter-final was between Shoe Two and Job Lot. Shoe won the tie 13-7, with yours truly having a good night winning six from six. Peter Walker chipped in with three from four.

The first semi-final was a repeat of last year's final. Shoe One v Rushey with the same result; a win for the youngsters in brilliant form and having good handicaps. They completely demoralised the Shoe team giving the Rushey Cads an average ten start. Rushey won 11-0.

The second semi was a different game altogether with the final result at 10-10, the sudden death system came in again. First Shoe's Pete Walker played James Lancaster + 1 having already lost to him earlier, it was expected to be close, and indeed Pete just got

home 22-20. Then Derek Butt had to play Phil Marriott who had a really good game earlier finishing one each. Derek got home 21-14 in this one and Shoe Two were in the final against Rushey Mead.

So the final match arrived Rushey got off to a good start as Abraham Conteh + 4 beat Pete Walker 21-9, 21-17. Shoe levelled at 2-2 as Derek Butt beat Mark Bullers + 4 two straight. Rushey took the lead again as Harry White + 8 beat Pete Gordes. 4-2 to Rushey. In the next Derek playing against Abraham Conteh + 5 won the first, but the youngster came back well to take the second with some brilliant table tennis match score 5-3 to Rushey. From there on it was too much for the British Shoe team and Rushey ran out 11-4 winners for the second consecutive year. Well done Cads.

The new season is on us again and in the Leicester and District League we have again ten division, but are a few teams down on last season. The early leaders in Division One are Rushey Mead second team unbeaten after three matches, with Matthew Hobday, Dave Grundy and Andy LeButt in good form. Loughborough Kingfishers are in second spot also unbeaten after three matches and they are ably lead by Mark Illingsworth. Both these teams will no doubt be there near the end of the season.

Middlesex

BY TONY TAYLOR

TRIUMPHANT

Middlesex were triumphant in the London Youth Games providing both finalists for the first time ever. Harrow were the winners and were represented by Jason Sugrue who was undefeated in all rounds, David Miller, Caroline O'Leary (only lost once) and Sarah Shephard. Brent were the runners-up and were represented by Daniel Feseathson, Vidal Graham and Kate O'Callaghan.

The county Junior trials recently took place at Progress Table Tennis Club and although the date clashed with the Peniel Junior Tournament there was still a healthy number of entries. In the boys entry Abir Mathur came out top with James Wakeland runner up and Oliver Wakeland third. Of the girls Sabrina Papini was undefeated and Eliza Magnuson only lost one game. It is encouraging to note the number of new girl cadets who are progressing.

Our Junior Second team won only their second match in 3 years defeating Berkshire 11 7-3 and were represented by Michael

Dominguez, Louis Dominguez, Barry Auran, Sabrina Papini and Lilian Belli. Michael and Sabrina played particularly well winning both their games. Our Vets 1st team had a disastrous day playing two matches losing against their second team 5-4 and Berkshire 1st 7-2. In the first match although John Holland won both his singles and doubles Geoff Grange also won both his singles playing some superb rallies. Our Vets 3rd Team in their first match had a very close game against Hertfordshire 3rds but just lost 5-4 but the introduction of a 3rd Team will give other players further opportunities.

Norfolk

BY RAY HOGG

70TH BIRTHDAY

Congratulations to our Edna Fletcher on reaching her 70th birthday and still playing in her local league Gt. Yarmouth and occasional Vets tournament.

When reading about the exploits of our Junior teams this season many names will be strange to the knowledgeable. This is because we are looking toward next season when we lose yet more of the established juniors. Blooding has commenced with our first campaign when all 3 boys in our second team were first timers to see how they reacted to the pressure of County play. No doubt many other new juniors will be in the same position on the other County days and then we can assess accordingly. A type of ranking trial we hope will be organised during the end of year break from school for all interested juniors round the County - do not think that the old chestnut of Norwich only applies. Either contact the twins on Norwich 401182 or myself if you require any further information.

I had hoped by now to have all the information regarding local league numbers but am still awaiting details from 5 of our 8 leagues.

It is a long way off yet but I must stress that this season no one has come forward to help with the Junior 1st team. I give you fair warning that if that is the position by the 15th May 1996 the team/teams will not even be entered for the County championships. The same goes for the possible 3rd veterans of which we have plenty and there are only limited places in the current 2 teams which are well filled with keen players at the moment. The only vacancy will be Chris Brewer who is leaving the area after doing a great job for TT in the K. Lynn league and the

County - not forgetting Marie and Adam.

Phil Logsdon ex County number 1 as he now plays for Suffolk has a knee injury and will not be able to play for some time which should throw open the Norwich league as his team are champions with him unbeaten throughout last season. Also this will affect the Todd Foxwood British League team who expected to have him and Leeroy Pye both available but now could end without either.

Finish with regards to Essex girl Joan Cooke - hope to see you at Grimsby.

Northumberland

BY PAULINE LONG

NATIONAL POWER

The new National Power Northumbria League season opened on a sad note at the pre-season fixture meeting on September 5 when it was announced that Ray Main-Brown, previously a long-standing coaching officer and player at Byber Community Centre, had died of a heart attack aged 63 two days before. A minute's silence was observed accordingly and appreciation was expressed by Chairman Alan Morpeth in recognition of Ray's work. Our sympathies are extended to his widow Martha and son David in their sad loss.

The League season commenced on September 11 with 59 teams contesting four Divisions. There have been sufficient applications from new teams to offset the disappearance of some of the established names, as well as the movement of some players to other clubs within the League. At this early stage of the season, the Division 1 title could again be between last season's champions Gateshead 'A', North Shields YMCA 'A' and St. Gabriel's although much will depend on how often their top players are available. Gateshead should be strengthened by the acquisition of former Durham player Dave Godbold, who has applied to be registered for Northumberland, subject to permission from his former county.

The new County junior team received an unexpected windfall when sponsorship was obtained for new strips by Blyth company Wenade UK, who specialise in PCB assembly equipment sales, refurbishment, installation, training and machine spare parts. This is a great help in these times of ever-increasing costs in organising teams, and we are grateful to them for their assistance.

Somerset

BY LOUIS JONES

IT WORKED FOR ERIC

When Seagulls follow the trawler they do so for the fish. No, I don't know what it means either but if it worked for Eric it just might work for me. I'm the new Somerset scribe. My name is Louis Jones and I've got significantly less facial hair than my predecessor.

A fair amount has happened within Somerset's borders since Andy's last entry to 'The News' most of which without the aid of a bat. As Somerset's new season gets underway two changes have been made to the Somerset County Committee. The first being the replacement of the scribe and the second, more importantly the appointment of a new Chairman. Phil Jones is the man who has the tough job of replacing Brian Reeves who, after many years of service, for which both committee and county are extremely thankful, says goodbye to the rowdy atmosphere of County Committee meetings.

Somerset's Juniors also suffer two losses this year as both Andrew Rummy (1) and David Corkett (3) are cut loose to the world of senior rankings leaving a catalogue of hopefuls waiting to fill their places.

The final change you may wish to note is that of Laura Folkes' surname, due to the fact that she married Somerset's number 1, Phil Payne on the 2nd of September.

Congratulations and good luck to you both!

All the teams kept an unbeaten record over the last month and yet two teams failed to win.

VETS V DORSET 2

It was the Vets turn to start the season for Somerset and an impressive start it was too, dropping only two games to Dorset, in a match that surprisingly, until half way looked to be heading for a draw. Somerset at 2-2 however stormed home to take the last five games and force an impressive 7-2 win over the visitors.

SENIORS V CORNWALL

The senior team had to work hard to force a draw with Cornwall, the final score being 5-5 after a nail-biting final game. Rob Millard left it late in the tenth match to beat Cornwall's Jeremy Williams to 18 in the third. All in all a good result early in the season.

JUNIORS V WORCESTER

Somerset's unbeaten run was given extra momentum by the county juniors in their tight match with Worcester at Wellington on the 23rd of September. Chris Sayer opened the scoring with a home win over Worcester player Ian Wood, Chris Filer slipped up his first game to Philip Nichols and from that point on the lead changed hand 4 time before settling at 5-5.

Somerset Juniors also fared well at the South West Schools Championship where players from Chilton Trinity School walked away with 14 of the possible 20 medals up for grabs. A well-timed tournament for the Brigwater school as Brigwater celebrate their 50th league year on the 20th of October. Exhibition matches are to be held at Chilton Trinity and amongst those playing will be veteran Ron Lee, who himself will be celebrating his 48th year within the league.

Well I'm running out of column inches fast so I shall have to leave you to flick through the rest of the magazine at your leisure. I hope this first instalment from a fresh pen hasn't been too hard to swallow. Until next time...happy batting

Surrey

Below are the recent results of the Junior Surrey Trials that took place on Saturday and Sunday the 2nd and 3rd September.

Boys Under 17

1 Howard Quartey 2 Robert Pountney 3 Adam Laws 4 Adam Quartey 5 Tom Wilkins 6 Chris Lemon 7 Michael Hill 8 Michael Chan 9 Dhiren Patel 10 Paul Pountney

Boys Under 14

1 Adam Quartey 2 Michael Chan 3 Paul Pountney 4 Steve Gooblar 5 Jonathan Mills

Girls Under 17

1 Anna McNamara 2 Sarah Lane 3 Katy Hart 4 Vicky Lampkin 5 Claire Lane 6 Kirsty Jal 7 Seema Desai 8 Camille Blake 9 Joana Lambert 10 R Mylvaganum

Girls Under 14

1 Katy Hart 2 Kirsty Jal 3 Camille Blake 4 Joana Lambert 5 R Mylvaganum

Those who were absent from the trials were Glenys Ashison, Danielle Gooblar, Erica Craigie, Gerald Ashison, Mathew Stilwell, James McGowan and Zahid Hussein. In the boys event, Chris Lemon had an excellent day, having unexpected wins over Michael Chan, Michael Hill and Adam Quartey. The girls competition proved an excellent event with a

tie for second place between Vicky Lampkin, Sarah Lane and Katy Hart, before Lane got the verdict because of National ranking order.

SURREY CLOSED

The Surrey Closed Table Tennis Championships was played, as usual at the Sutton Youth Centre. It attracted a total of 58 entries, but the match-play was exceptional. The mens singles was the highlight of the day, especially the top half of the draw, which proved to have unlimited surprises. The 1st round alone, accounted for 3 of the seeds, the most sensational of these, being Chris Beckley's win over No1 seed Abdul Wuraola. The other two were Steve Davis beating Terry Haley (the no. 8 seed) 21-19, 14-21, 21-14 and Howard Quartey beating Steve Holloway (no. 7 seed) 21-19 in the 3rd game. Quartey also disposed of the no. 4 seed Farhat Rasual in the quarter finals to produce a 'Clash of the Giantkillers' semi-final between Quartey and Chris Beckley. It proved a real classic with Quartey winning 21-18, 21-19. The bottom half of the draw went according to plan, with Selwyn Campbell beating Jerome Jonah in the semi-final. Campbell duly finished off Howard Quartey's excellent run, by beating him 21-11, 21-11.

There were only 9 entries in the Womens singles, so this was played with 3 groups of 3, and the winners of each, playing in a final group of 3. The latter was contested by Anna McNamara, Carmen Vajdi and Karen Wilde. First on, were Karen and Anna with Anna winning in a tight match 21-19 in the 3rd game. Carmen then beat Karen, to produce a showdown between Anna McNamara and Carmen Vajdi. Carmen then won her second womens singles title, by beating Anna 21-15 in the 3rd game.

David Harding, in his first year as a veteran was unchallenged in this competition, with the closest being the finalist, John Callcut, who took 27 points in total off him, losing 21-12, 21-15.

David Harding grabbed his second title when partnering Anna McNamara to take the mixed doubles over Karen Wilde and Steve Giles 21-16, 21-16, although they were stretched to the limit by Sarah Lane and Mark Burman, but they came through 21-19 in the 3rd game.

The Mens doubles also went according to plan with No1 seeds Abdul Wuraola and Selwyn Campbell beating no 2 seeds Simon Phillipsz and Jerome Jonah 21-15, 21-17, although the former pair were taken to 3 on 2 occasions.

Mens Singles: Selwyn Campbell bt Howard Quartey 11, 11

Womens Singles: Carmen Vajdi bt Anna McNamara -19, 8, 15

Veterans Singles: David Harding bt John Callcut 15, 12

Restricted Singles: Chris Beckley bt D Hobbs -18, 18, 19

Mixed Doubles: David Harding/Anna McNamara bt Steve Giles/Karen Wilde 16, 16

Mens Doubles: Selwyn Campbell/Abdul Wuraola bt Simon Phillipsz/Jerome Jonah 15, 17

Sussex

BY JOHN WOODFORD

A HAPPY MAN

YES! It is true that the Sussex TTA treasurer Laurie Holland is a happy man as reported in the first issue of TTN this season. That Sussex do not have £44,000 in the bank, just £4,000 odd - this was due to an embarrassing mis-print on the keyboards producing this magazine.

This blunder caused a lot of correspondence mainly from other county treasurers wanting to find out the secret of the financial "success" in Sussex.

Two of the busiest people on the Sussex scene at this time are Carol Beames the national councillor and Alan Beames the county secretary. They are busy working on plans for development expansion, ranging from the Woolwich Junior League in the county to new table tennis centres, exhibitions by players, workshops, coaching and other projects aimed at stabilising the number of players in the county and most importantly trying to forge the link between the young Woolwich players and their joining senior clubs.

Concern was expressed at the last county meeting at Hove on the spiralling cost of sending veterans teams to Devon and Cornwall. I understand that other counties are showing similar worries at the cost of travelling and staying overnight in the West Country. Sussex have agreed to pay the vets mileage on three trips to the West, as they do with the other senior and junior teams.

Scott Greenbrook (Crawley) was the only unbeaten player in the premier division of the British League when Horsham Angels visited Lincoln and won 10-4, a result that pushed the Angels up four places from the bottom to the centre of the table, a position they are quite capable of improving.

Ritchie Venner is expected to be the new Sussex No. 1 when the new ranking list is published shortly. He was unbeaten at the recent Welsh trials - apparently he and Greenbrook were invited to test the "real"

A look around the Country

Welshman.

Venner edged past Steve Ward. Is he eligible for Wales? - apparently not. Harry McCarney (Lawes) and Mark Forder (Worthing) are the first Sussex junior tournament winners of the new season. McCarney won the Ken Merrett Memorial Trophy at Haywards Heath and Forder lifted the plate event at the Peniel Academy 2-star junior tournament at Brentwood.

Mrs Pat Wales has agreed to organise a revival of the Sussex Veterans Championship. This is planned to run at the Newman School, Hove on Saturday February 10, from 9.30 am. There will be events for the 40s, 50s, and 60s. The idea is attract a number of veterans who play in local leagues as well as the players from the four teams in the county championships.

Warwickshire
BY PETE WALDEN

PREDICTED

As predicted in my earlier notes, the Warwickshire Closed Championships will in future be played at venues other than the N.I.A. This season the Championships will take place at St. Nicholas Leisure Centre in Warwick on Sunday January 7th. 1996 entry forms will be sent to all leagues as soon as they are available.

The County Junior and Cadet trials took place in Leamington Spa at the home venue of the Lillington Club, under the supervision of Hugh Matthews and Allan Stockham. Following these trials the Selection Committee have decided upon these ranking lists:

Junior Boys

1. S. Meddings 2. A. Hewitt 3. S. Kurlle 4. D. Matthews 5. K. Riddell 6. M. Williams 7. K. Mohammed 8. R. Moore 9. R. Howes 10. J. Adams

Junior Girls

1. E. Haynes 2. H. Turner 3. G. Matthews 4. J. Williams 5. K. Nason 6. K-J. Walden

Cadet Boys

1. M. Williams 2. G. Singh 3. K. Mohammed 4. I. Rees 5. R. Booth 6. K. Hopley 7. C. Wragg 8. R. Watts 9. H. Hammond 10. A. Jones

Cadet Girls

1. G. Matthews 2. K. Nason 3. K-J Walden

The Leamington League has changed its format for the second year running. After many years of 4 divisions of 12 teams, an increase in entries last year brought about 9 divisions of six teams with twice yearly

promotion and relegation. This season, the league will consist of 3 upper divisions containing 11 or 12 teams, along with 3 lower divisions of 5 or 6 teams still continuing on last season's format.

This unusual system allows more flexibility at the bottom of the league where most of the up and coming juniors play. Also, it allows new teams to join the league at Christmas. The Myton club is currently running its own after-school league for new players (similar to the Woolwich Junior League) with the intention that the more successful teams will be able to transfer to the main league in the New Year.

Worcestershire
BY KEN WALTON

It must have been the joke (see October Issue), because there's lots to tell you all about this month, starting with confirmation of both County Junior and Senior Closed dates. Sunday 12th November (Christopher Whitehead School) for Juniors, and Sunday 14th January 1996 (Droitwich L C), for Senior players, are the confirmed dates, so get entering. News from Roger Stephens on a successful County Junior Trials held at Christopher Whitehead School, where Ian Wood from Kidderminster and Kate Hughes from Bromsgrove ended the day in the Number 1 positions for Junior Boys and Girls. Promising performances from Dennis Hill (Dudley), Philip Nicholls (Bromsgrove) and Adam Throssell (Worcester), were the highlights in the Boys events, with Adam finishing up at No 6 having previously not figured in a Ranking List.

Twelve years old Kate pipped rival Laura Vaughan (Worcester) with third placed Jennie Burchill (Dudley) also shining on the day.

New Junior Team Secretary Bob Hill, in his first season at the helm of...Driver, Coach, Motivator, Drinks Provider, (and anything else associated with running a County Team) duties, set off for Somerset for the opening Junior fixture with the following team: Ian Wood, Dennis Hill, Philip Nicholls, Kate Hughes and Laura Vaughan, and with the best wishes of the County.

Senior news focuses on both County First and Second Teams who started with matches against Gloucester 2nds and Devon 3rds and 4ths respectively. A 10-0 victory for the First Team featured Helen Pogmore, who also figured in the Second Teams trip to Plymouth.

In a 7-3 win over Devon 4ths, Lewis Siket, Jason Thompson and both Helen and Lynda

Reid (another Veteran, where are all the up and coming lady players?), all recorded wins, with only an out of touch Mark Brookes failing to deliver the goods. Wins for Helen, Lewis and Jason could not prevent a 7-3 reverse against Devon 3rds, so honours even on the opening trip.

More news on the make-up of Local leagues has reached my ears with the following numbers recorded. (Up or Down on last season recorded in brackets.) Bromsgrove 25(+1)... Worcester 29(-2)... Kidderminster 45(-1)... Dudley 38... Evesham (-2)... and Malvern 33(same)... shows that all leagues could do with a boost, and an injection of new players/teams for forthcoming seasons. Perhaps the Woolwich Junior Leagues can provide that boost? Time will tell. Lynda Reid attended a supposed "West Midlands Regional Forum" which she describes as a "shambles" because they are still waiting for a Chairperson to be appointed by the ETTA.

Many local players fail to understand why not only Table Tennis, but most sports seem to be dogged by endless Committees, and with Lyndas experience in mind, its hard to disagree with them.

More Junior News, with County Juniors attending Regional Trials on 22/10/95 at Shifnal, then going on to Burton at a later date. The trials are self-financing for the youngsters, with no ETTA support forthcoming, unless local leagues decide to dip into their coffers.

SORRY
Due to the lack of space and the length of some county's copy - we have had to leave out some late copy. In future would you please restrict your copy to a MAXIMUM OF 500 WORDS

OBITUARY
CHUCK HENRY

General Secretary - English School's Table Tennis Association 1982 - 1994

On 3rd July 1995, after a long and brave battle against cancer, Chuck Henry passed away peacefully in his sleep. He leaves a widow, Jean, who was a tower of strength throughout his long illness, a daughter Jane

and son Andrew.

The large congregation who attended his funeral paid testimony to the affection and respect that everyone felt for Chuck and also acknowledged the massive contribution he made both to education and to table tennis.

Chuck taught for many years in Derbyshire - as teacher and Deputy Head of Rother Junior School, Alfreton, as Headteacher at Pilsley and then from 1971-1991 as Headteacher of Dronfield Junior School. I served as Deputy Head to Chuck at Dronfield and soon became aware of his sporting interest when on my first day at school he sold me a table tennis bat! Chuck always encouraged a wide variety of extra-curricular activities and the school quickly became recognised for excellence in sport. He served on the Executive of the Derbyshire Schools' Sports Association for many years and was instrumental in promoting many sporting activities, but his real love was table tennis. Chuck worked hard with others to build up table tennis facilities at school and started numerous coaching sessions - this hard work paid off as the school won the National School Team Championships, and on a more personal level his son Andrew became ESTTA National Under 11 Champion in 1979. Over the years Chuck introduced literally thousands of children and their parents to table tennis - he was just as keen to encourage the beginner as well as the elite.

Chuck served for many years as a loyal and dedicated worker on the Executive Council of the English Schools' Table Tennis Association and was General Secretary from 1982-1994 where his influence in promoting the sport was felt nationally. Following his retirement as General Secretary the Association made him a Life Member as a sign of gratitude for his dedication to the sport locally and nationally.

Upon his retirement from school in 1991 he continued to take an active part in the promotion of table tennis at Dronfield and still ran the table tennis club every week throughout his illness. Above all Chuck loved to see and to be with the children to whom he dedicated his life and work.

*John Anderson
Secretary Derbyshire Schools' Table Tennis Association
Headteacher Dronfield Junior School
August 1995*

Clare Pengelly Memorial 2 Star

BIG SUCCESS

On the Saturday, several of the country's leading juniors participated in the various events and provided a sparkling exhibition of their skills: whipped speed, punched backhands, spin loops and well disguised serves.

Some of the U14 and U12 competitors were a joy to watch, but one is left to ponder whether they will ever attain the levels they might in two or three other European countries.

Apart from the Boys's U17 final which commanded attention, and the Girls' U17 final that did not, the evening programme consisted of an

little towards the end of the wonderful spectacle, but it must have been as much mental as physical, wondering how he could penetrate a defence which had all the hallmarks of magic.

A packed all-action Sunday featured eye-catching encounters, no less in the Group 2 events than in the main competition.

Gareth Herbert, a gifted youngster, performed outstandingly well to defeat the experience and guile of Phil Payne and take the Group 2 Men's Singles title.

The Group 2 Women's Singles final was, perhaps, a local personal pride

Linda Radford achieved two fine wins in the U21 and Newquay Pearl Women's Singles. Her opponent in each event was Gemma Schwartz. The U21 was a cliffhanger, but having secured one victory, Linda went on more comfortably to justify her ranking position ahead of Gemma.

Some spell-binding matches in the several rounds of the Men's Singles preceded Matthew Syed's defeat of Alex Perry in one semi and Andrew Eden's win over Terry Young in the other.

In the final, Matthew's breathtaking retrieval skills, that

being augmented by some very sharp, surprise, well-directed hitting.

Peter Thomas was awarded the Clare Pengelly Cup presented by the Devon Table Tennis Association, for the best Devon sports person on the day in the junior event.

Everyone enjoyed a most successful occasion and one which all associations in the South West hope will develop over the years.



Pictured at the Clare Pengelly Memorial 2 Star (from left) Matthew Syed, Andrew Eden, Rachel Pengelly-Bourke, Peter Thomas, Sarah Pengelly, Alex Perry and Terry Young.

invitation event featuring highly-ranked England senior players.

The semi-finals saw Alex Perry and Matthew Syed defeat Terry Young and Andrew Eden respectively.

We were subsequently treated to table tennis at its best. Alex took the first game with superb, sustained aggression and control of the highest order.

Matthew then demonstrated why, on occasions, he has beaten the best in Europe. Good serves and third-ball winners saw him forge ahead and take the match to a decider.

One might say that Alex wilted a

contest between two Plymouth players, Carol Giles and Joanna Barraclough, the former emerging victorious.

must certainly undermine an opponent's confidence were again manifest, though it has to be added that his defensive powers are now

THE TORBAY LEISURE CENTRE WAS THE VENUE AT A WEEKEND IN LATE SEPTEMBER FOR THE CLARE PENGELLY MEMORIAL TWO STAR OPEN TOURNAMENTS.

CLARE WAS RANKED NO 3 AS AN U17 PLAYER AND IT WAS FITTING THAT THE INAUGURAL STAGING OF THE TOURNAMENT IN HER MEMORY WAS SUCH A FINE SUCCESS WRITES DON BLATCHFORD.

RESULTS ANALYSIS

U17 BOYS SINGLES:

Terry Young bt Gareth Herbert (17,19)

U17 GIRLS SINGLES:

Yuki Gresswell bt Victoria Lampkin (16,10)

U14 BOYS SINGLES:

Scott Friday bt Michael Chan (13,8)

U14 GIRLS SINGLES:

Charlotte Avery bt Lucy Pointer (11,19)

U12 BOYS SINGLES:

Michael Chan bt Jesper Hougaard (10,14) No U12 Girls

CLASS 2 MENS SINGLES:

Gareth Herbert bt Phil Payne (16,15)

CLASS 2 WOMENS' SINGLES:

Carol Giles bt Joanna Barraclough (13,-17,19)

U21 MENS SINGLES:

Alex Perry bt Terry Young (19,16)

U21 WOMENS SINGLES:

Linda Radford bt Gemma Schwartz (-16,3,19)

WOMENS SINGLES:

Linda Radford bt Gemma Schwartz (18,12)

MENS SINGLES:

Matthew Syed bt Andrew Eden (16,13)