Chen leads Ormesby – where next?
See pages 6, 16

Chinese Tour – China’s leader Chen Xinhua
China’s leading ball – Double Fish –
World’s leading table – Jaques
SEE CHANNEL 4 DECEMBER
The Big Four for England . . .

IT now seems crystal clear that England’s fortunes as a squad, in the Swaythling Cup and the European League now rest with four talented players – Alan Cooke, Carl Prean, Skylet Andrew and Nicky Mason. These four young men have drawn clear of most of their rivals, although hopefully there will always be the brilliant youngster coming through to challenge them like Michael O’Driscoll.

The England squad and the fans will have to become accustomed to watching England without the Desmond Douglas “magic” that has delighted so many around the world for about 13 years. Desmond continues to have harsh things to say about the sport’s administrators but the impact will be less embarrassing for the establishment as he moves away from the limelight. There is no doubt that he is the finest player for England in a quarter of a century. Those thrilling lightning reflexes are now being seen, I would think, for the last time on a major tour.

He announced to the Press last March when we lost to Holland that it is time England managed without him and gave “the youngsters their chances”. Desmond was right.

THE decision by Yorkshire officials to cancel the Yorkshire and Humberside 3-star Open that was to be staged in Halifax in mid-October was according to a number of players, premature. The organisers were certainly faced with the most agonising decision – a small number of entries caused by the postal strike.

Down at Hastings, the 2-star Sussex Open was staged a week before the Halifax event should have happened. That went ahead with the same number of entries as last year, over 200 players, without a great deal of trouble. Why the difference? There was no canvassing by the Hastings TTA. A considerable number of players telephoned Hastings and telephone entries were accepted and in some cases monies collected on the day. Obviously, word got around amongst the players that Hastings was “on” and the tournament was saved.

The fact that Yorkshire were, it appears, unable to adapt themselves to the situation although they had an extra week to do it, robbed the players of one of the most important events on the calendar. Or is there some other reason unknown why Yorkshire officials decided to quit when they were “well up the creek without a paddle”?

THE run of key positions in the fields of international sport going to foreigners and not Britons may have ended with the news that England’s homegrown Michael Lawless, after years as a freelance world promoter, started work with the International Table Tennis Federation on November 1 as their new Development and Sponsorship Manager. This is in keeping with the policy of international sporting bodies employing professionals to market their sports. Mike will be based at Rainham running the World Grand Prix, the World Cup and other events possibly including a new event – a World Team Cup, an idea (says the grapevine) that was originated by the ETTA.

JOHN WOODFORD
Can you believe this?

860 in a "casual" tournament

by GEOFF TWISS

SEVEN young Grove players with coach deputising for Ian Marshall (who was on England duty in the depths of Siberia) travelled to Belgium to take part in the International Tournament in Wenduine. This is a prestige event, second only to the Ostend Tournament, that attracted an entry of 860 with players coming from all over Europe to play.

Our strongest memories will be of the different approach to the rules of the game, with the Belgian attitude being much more relaxed than ours. This seems to be the result of virtually all the umpiring being done by competitors themselves, the loser remaining on table to umpire the next match. Surprisingly confident young players controlled exuberant adults with ease, although the finer points of law went by the board.

Serves came straight off the hand and competitors walked through rallies, between players and their tables, on their way to their next match. We saw white shirts, a splendid bat with light green and dark green rubbers, nets at all heights and angles, multicoloured bermuda shorts — and all in an international tournament! This is intended as no criticism of the Wenduine organisers, it seems to be the norm in Belgium.

Umpires are paid for their duties, so are only used for the later stages of the top grade events. They have priced themselves out of any wider role! Meanwhile, we experienced a teenage umpire who read a magazine behind the scoring machine while looking up from time to time to keep an eye on events on his table.

Patient

Claire Marshall held her nerve well while explaining patiently in schoolgirl French monosyllables that a player who moved the entire table a good foot while hitting a splendid winning shot would not win the point, not in England, Belgium or anywhere else, she was umpiring! Adam Twiss, 12 years old and a qualified umpire, exploded frequently as the latest iniquity came to light — how could players from such different regimes compete on equal terms?

Incidentals aside, the Grove squad acquitted themselves well, collecting several prizes and topping well fancied players in the process. The best result came from Sarah Creasey in the Junior Girls event; she brushed aside top seed and the previous week's Ostend champion Marleen De Soete 19, 15 before losing narrowly 18–18, 18 to second seed Tamara Van Hees in the final. This was a notable success, for it is Sarah's first year as a Junior.

Sarah was on form again in the Ladies Class C event, beating third seed Ingrid Jacobs 9, 24 before losing in the quarters to eventual winner Belinda Buvens 17–18, 17–17 in a thrilling hard hitting exhibition that attracted a large gallery. She was placed fifth, while twin sister Elizabeth also reached the quarters, finishing in eighth place overall.

Contact lenses

David Morris suffered badly with his contact lenses, but reached the fourth round of the Men's B class before losing a match played with one lens only. Adam Twiss reached the quarter finals of the Cadet Boys and had the privilege of playing a round for his brother Martin in the Men's D class before the administration error was spotted. Unbelievably, the names were quietly altered and the result stood.

The Grove youngsters also took on representative teams from East and West Flanders in matches that started at 8pm and went on till midnight. How Martin Twiss, aged only 9, managed to remain awake remains a mystery, let alone find the energy to chase the mosquitos that were troubling the other players between his games!

Both matches were tied, with the older group winning against some well-fancied opposition. David Morris, wearing glasses by now, won seven of his eight matches and Sarah Creasey completed the double over De Soete in a tremendous struggle against a well-coached opponent, eventually winning 18–27, 18.

Our thanks must go to our Belgian hosts and to André Lemaire in particular. Derek Tyler kept a benevolent eye on our progress abroad and he and his wife helped out in so many ways. We made many friends and returned with invitations back to Belgium, to Germany and to Israel.

Editor's note: I shall be fascinated to hear Derek Tyler's views on the foibles of umpiring, reading books and other vices that he must have witnessed at this event. Derek normally cringes at this sort of thing — perhaps there is some weird explanation — was it not played under international rules?
Richard Eaton

British boys did well . . .

by RICHARD EATON OF THE Sunday Times

YOU had to hang around endlessly in the middle of the night to see much Olympic table tennis on telly in this country. But perhaps we shouldn't be too disappointed. The British boys performed well. The sport of table tennis did even better.

Seoul proved an ideal place for it to have made an Olympic debut. Full houses filled the University gymnasium every night and table tennis winged its way via the TV screens to many countries at times that did not require viewers to be suffering from insomnia or unemployment.

The noise of the partisan South Koreans was from all accounts deafening, even when their high fliers were lined up against the duck eggs of the tournament. It meant that table tennis was on the monitors frequently throughout the Olympic village, causing comment amongst competitors from many different sports. It meant too that Princess Anne appeared to be impressed during her visit to the gymnasium.

"It was without doubt a successful Olympics for table tennis because it will have been noticed by many people who have not seen it before," said ITTF Secretary-General Tony Brooks. What's more the ITTF has followed it up.

Within days it was announcing the appointment of its first Development and Sponsorship Manager, Mike Lawless.

Mike, who lives in Kent, will be well known to many people in the English game, particularly for his efforts as organiser of the 1977 World Championships in Birmingham. He started his new and crucially important duties on November 1st.

I hope he can help England get better press coverage at major events that we had at the Olympics. It just shows how bare the cupboard can be when the regular table tennis correspondents decide not to go.

Having seen the paucity of the printed news it made me think about heeding the advice of my more humorous acquaintances who said I should keep a fixture list beside my bed before planning further increases in my family. That is because my reason for not going to Seoul was that I had my deadlines wrong. Our second child was due right in the middle of the Olympics.

Much could have been made of our players' efforts. Alan Cooke did superbly to beat Jean-Phillipe Gatien, the top Frenchman who is probably Europe's most improved player. He only narrowly failed to qualify from his group and probably would have done so had he not let slip a lead of 20-17 in the fourth game against the 35-year-old Tibor Klamper.

Joel Green narrowly lost an epic match to his bogey player Jindrich Pansky and was one of only three competitors to take a game off the eventual Olympic champion, the Korean Nam Kyu.

And Desmond Douglas played splendidly to qualify for the last sixteen. His performances at the start of the new season suggest that he is playing better than when he was a part of England's silver medal success in the European Championships in March. Indeed he showed in a close 3-1 defeat to Jiang Jialiang that he was certainly capable of beating surprisingly nervous world champion.

Des and Skyler Andrew also produced some fine performances in the doubles, winning five out of seven matches - including one over European champions Waldner and Appelgren - and narrowly failing to qualify. (Skyler apparently revelled in the big time atmosphere, pulling up with Linford Christie and threatening the fearsome judo star Elvis Gordon that "any lip and I'll have yer")

The Olympics confirmed what we had suspected that the Chinese dominance is waning. They shared the four titles with the Koreans which suggests that home advantage now gives many players, even those outside the top ten, real chances of beating them. That should greatly interest the Europeans when the world championships comes to Dortmund starting on March 29.

ALLIED DUNBAR MILTON KEYNES 2-STAR UNDER 21 OPEN

Bagful of titles for Chris Oldfield

by KEN MUHR

ANDREA HOLT was undoubtedly the star, but Chris Oldfield went away with the most titles and money (£235) from this Allied Dunbar/Coca-Cola Schweppes sponsored event played at Bletchley Leisure centre on September 10.

Oldfield, perhaps inspired by the clearly audible music of Michael Jackson performing at the nearby Milton Keynes Bowl, stormed through three finals. In the mens under 21 singles final, Adrian Dixon, the top seed, fared no better than other Oldfield opponents in being unable to extend him to three games.

Earlier, Dixon had shown great tenacity in surviving clashes with Matthew Pernet (20-22, 21-16, 23-21 - 3rd Round), Peter Bowler (22-20, 23-21 - Quarter Finals) and Jonathan Taylor (21-16, 20-22, 21-19 - Semi Finals). A notable result was Ian Black's 20-22, 21-18, 23-21 victory against Alan Cole before succumbing over three games to Paul Savins in the quarters.

Oldfield was stretched, just once, in the juniors boys singles final clash with the greatly improved Grant Solder. Oldfield winning 21-19, 17-21, 21-17, but it was a straight games victory again for Chris over Jonathan Taylor in the final. Peter Bowler earned himself a few computer points in the same event by defeating Leigh Jeffries, but in the following round was fortunate to survive a 16-21, 21-15, 27-25 epic with Kieron Dabbs.

The Mens under 21 doubles provided Oldfield with his third success when he and Adrian Dixon overcame Leigh Jeffries and Grant Solder. In the second round, youngsters Matthew Greenwood and Gavin Yates had been within two points of causing a major shock against the eventual champions before going down 21-18, 19-21, 15-21.

HOLT OUTSTANDING

More so even than Chris Oldfield. Andrea Holt was the outstanding player of the championships. In being eligible for two events only, she had to be content with two titles. But in neither the womens under 21 singles nor with Joanne Shaw in the under 21 doubles did anyone remotely look like beating her or seriously testing her defence.

RESULTS

Mens Under 21 Singles

Quarter Finals

Adrian Dixon (Warwicks) bt. Peter Bowler (Beds) 22-21
Jonathan Taylor (Chesh) bt. Leigh Jeffries (Staffs) 20-13
Paul Savins (Berks) bt. Ian Black (Herts) 18-15
Chris Oldfield (Yorks) bt. Grant Solder (Essex) 15-17

Semi Finals

Dixon bt. Taylor 16-20-19
Oldfield bt. Savins 13-5

Final

Oldfield bt. Dixon 15-14

Womens Under 21 Singles

Quarter Finals

Andrea Holt (Lancs) bt. Rachel Knight (Middx) 12-15
Helen Lower (Staffs) bt. Andrea Ambrose (Suffolk) 12-6

Final

Andrea Holt bt. Helen Lower 15-13, 12-10

Girls Under 17 Singles

Semi Finals

Andrea Ambrose bt. Nicola Cracknell 20-17
Sara Williams (Middx) bt. Radford 12-16

Final

Andrea Ambrose bt. Sara Williams 14-15, 12-10
BRITISH CAPTAIN Donald Parker was well pleased with the performances of the British players in Seoul – that was the message I received well before the Korean Airlines jet touched down at Heathrow on October 4, carrying the British team - Desmond Douglas, Alan Cooke, Carl Prean, Skylet Andrew and a weary team manager, ETTA chairman John Prean, whose views of the Olympics will be carried in the next two issues of Table Tennis News.

PRIORITY

1 AM continually being asked why Richard Eaton and myself were not in Seoul to report the table tennis. We were both offered facilities but the costs would have been very high. My priority was the commitment to produce this magazine – had I spent three weeks in Seoul, I know of no way October TTN could have appeared before November; in addition, the very crowded programme ahead, containing the punishing Chinese tour, was another factor.

DESMOND DOUGLAS came out top of the pile with six scorching successes before he qualified but then lost to the world champion Jiang Jialiang, at 13 in the fourth game. Later Douglas was also beaten by Erik Lindh who finished third and won a bronze medal.

ALAN COOKE stacked up five wins but failed to qualify as he lost the vital game to Tibor Klampar at 23 in the fourth game, but prior to that his scalps included Jean-Phillipe Gatienne 14, –20, 15, 19; earlier Cooke roasted his other young European rival Jean-Michel Saive (Belgium) 11, 16, 12.

CARL PREAN had the roughest, toughest draw won four of his seven group matches. His victims included the Hongkong player Vong Leung, 16, 14, 13, but losses to Leszek Kucharski (Poland) and Jindrich Pansky of Czechoslovakia, prevented the Isle of Wight and Saarbrucken professional from qualifying.

SKYLET ANDREW, who played only in the doubles with Des Douglas landed a batch of superb wins – their victims included Waldner and Appelgren 20, 19 (possibly their best win ever) and also in amongst the victims were Chih Chin Long and Chih Chin (Taipei) –13, 14, 19.

The womens singles seems to have been dominated by China, except for the Czech No. 1. Marie Hrachova. She reached the semi-finals but lost to Jing (China) 15, 12, 12. The womens finals was won by Jing who beat Huifen 15 in the fifth game.

Yoo Nam Kyu (Korea), from Carl Prean's group won a sparkling mens singles final partly seen on television here in England and acclaimed widely as a powerful advertisement for table tennis. Yoo beat Kim Ki TaeK (Korea), –17, 19, 11, 21. The match was watched by a capacity crowd of 5,000 at the Seoul University Gymnasium and it made a fitting climax to the tournament.

JOHN BARBER MOVES TO LINCOLN

JOHN BARBER has moved from Worcestershire to Lincolnshire. He was the Worcester secretary and is hoping to get involved in his new county. He has been in the sport since 1926, organised his first tournament in Norfolk in 1934 and will still be on the ESTTA Executive Committee. The new Worcestershire secretary is Mrs L. Reid, 27, Allesborough Drive, Penshore, Worcestershire, WR10 1JH.

DON'T FORGET – ORDER YOUR TABLE TENNIS NEWS MONTHLY FROM THE ETTA OFFICE
**Wiltshire 2-Star tournament**

**Win by Billington, No.5 seed**

by LAURIE SELBY

Double tops were the order of the day at the Wiltshire Two Star tournament at Swindon. One of them came like a bolt from the blue but the other was expected.

Bradley Billington (Chesterfield) served up the surprise by defying his fifth seeding to win the men's singles and then teamed with Glenn Baker (Essex) to take the doubles.

Alison Gordon (Berk's) did what was expected of her by taking the women's title and then went on to capture the doubles with Carol Giles (Devon).

Billington had a great day. He overcame John Souter in the quarter final and then disposed of his doubles partner in the semi-finals. In the final he met the hard-working Steve Dorking (Essex) who found Billington's power too hot to handle. Jimmy Stokes, elevated to the top seed when Nicky Mason dropped out, went out in three games to Chris Oldfield who in turn lost to Dorking.

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Jill Harris (Staffordshire) produced some superb play to clinch the marathon opening game from Alison Gordon in the women's final. But it seemed that Alison decided enough was enough.

There was no mistaking who was boss in the second and third games as the England number one reeled off some scintillating shots to win the title.

George Evans (Wales) took advantage of the non-arrival of holder John Hilton to grab the veterans' singles with a straight games win over Dave Seabohme.

It was a disappointing tournament from a local point of view. Kevin Satchell, who reached the final last year and has since climbed to number eight in the England rankings, had to withdraw because of a pulled muscle.

The two best performances by Wiltshire players came from Swindon's Brenda Lee in the singles and Mike Oxley in the veterans.

Chris's Gun

Chris Oldfield, who did so well in the senior tournament, swept all before him in the junior tournament. There was scintillating play in the under 18 boys' final.

Tremendous potential as they battled out the Cadet boys' final. Perry, from Devon, won it in three games.

Lost her way

Linda was also on the losing side in the Cadet singles final for players of 14 and under. She won the opening game from Oval Williams (Hillingdon), ranked four in the country, but lost her way in the second and third.

Watch out for the names of Alex Perry and Darren Blake in future years. These youngsters showed tremendous potential as they battled out the Cadet boys' final. Perry, from Devon, won it in three games.

**RESULTS**


Women's singles, semi-finals: Miss A. Gordon bt Miss C. Giles 9, 7; Miss J. Harris bt Miss M. Carey 9, 9. Final: Miss Gordon bt Miss Harris -23, 13, 6.

Veterans' singles, Final: E. Evans bt D. Seabohme 9, 17.

Men's doubles, Final: Baker and Billington bt Souter and Dorking 13, 18.

Women's doubles, Final: Miss Gordon and Miss Giles bt Miss Barella and Miss Evans 9, 13.

Juniors


Girls singles, semi-finals: Miss S. Pengelly bt Miss A. Gower 6, 8; Miss L. Radford bt Miss S. Williams 13, 6. Final: Miss Pengelly bt Miss Radford 10, 19, 19.

Cadet boys singles, Final: Perry bt Blake 15, 13, 17.

Girls doubles, Final: Miss Williams and Miss Radford 19, 17, 19.

Boys doubles, Final: Oldfield and Taylor bt Milerb and Thomson 17, 18.

Girls doubles, Final: Miss Pengelly and Miss Gower bt Miss Knightley and Miss Sadler 16, 19, 13.

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**WATCH THESE EVENTS:**

**CLEVELAND SELECT – AT ESTON LEISURE CENTRE, MIDDLESBROUGH**

**THE HOSPITALITY INN INTERNATIONAL TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS**

**SATURDAY & SUNDAY 19 AND 20 NOVEMBER**

**SAT 19th**

0900 Int. team events
1300 Cadet boys/girls singles
1830 Junior boys/girls int. team finals
1930 Cadet boys/girls finals

**SUN 20th**

0900 Junior Boys singles
1100 Junior girls singles
1300 Junior boys/girls doubles
1730 Junior boys/girls finals

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**English Junior National Championships**

**WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 14 – EUROPEAN LEAGUE DIVISION 1**

**ENGLAND v ITALY**

at 7pm

**THE ARMITAGE CENTRE, FIRS ATHLETIC GROUND, MOSELEY ROAD, FALLOWFIELD, MANCHESTER M14 6HE**

ADULTS – £4.00
CHILDRENS – £2.00

(INCLUDES PROGRAMME)

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**THE SKY BLUE CONNEXION RECREATION CENTRE, LEAMINGTON ROAD, RYTON-ON-DUNSMORE, COVENTRY**

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The Midland Bank were the major sponsors for the tournament and trophies were presented by Sue Baxter, manager of the Swindon branch, Nigel Pless, business development manager, Swindon, and Swindon area sales manager Tony Thresher.
The night vigil?

HOW many table tennis fans fell asleep late at night waiting to watch some action from Seoul? The main problem was that it was not really advertised when the table tennis was going to be shown, although overall we seem to have done reasonably well.

Mopping up

Whilst Alan Cooke was going strong mopping up some well-known names like Gatien and now the top media public relations person for the British Olympic Association played a prominent part in Seoul in television interviews when the drugs problems reared their ugly heads.

There was a tendency for the Korean officials to test all winners - it was Desmond Douglas who was tested on the second or third day of the table tennis tournament. Desmond and Donald Parker who accompanied him to the drug-testing centre arrived back at their accommodation in the small hours.

Bigger role for Chen?

IS Chen Xinhua, now playing for Ormesby in the Leeds British League and so far undefeated, destined to play an increasing role on the coaching side for the England squad?

That is the question that occurred to England fans as they watched Chen sitting with the England players on the team bench at the last match of the Swedish tour at Andover.

He has of course, commitments here with Butterfly UK Ltd - he is promoting the full range of Butterfly equipment and clothing and is using the Butterfly Elegance blade with Tackiness D Red on the forehand and Long Feint Black on the backhand.

That seemingly deadly combination has so far meant no defeats in his opening matches, but he has yet to meet Bathwick Tyres (Desmond Douglas) and the favourite Grove, Market Drayton, the only team with four extremely powerful players, or so it seems.

Prince’s table tennis ball

WE suffered again badly during the Olympic table tennis tournament from sports presenters references to “ping-pong”. I counted three occasions, there were probably more, when after the play, the cameras came back to the link studio, the presenter obviously thought it funny to remark “so-and-so claims he can play ping-pong like that” referring in jocular fashion to a fellow presenter.

Another dose

The national press, in this case the Daily Mail gave us another dose of “ping-pong” on September 17. There is a tendency wherever we get a mention in general news columns to use ping-pong.

For those who did not see the story, it concerned the investiture of the Prince of Wales in July 1969 and his gem-encrusted crown.

Vat of gold

The golden orb on the top of the crown was nothing more “than a humble ping-pong ball” chortled the Daily Express. It seems that a lump of gold would have been far too heavy and the Prince could have sagged under the weight.

The table tennis ball was silver-coated and then placed in a vat of gold according to the Express Royal Correspondent Richard Key.

So now we have yet another use for our table tennis balls - apart from in the bingo halls!

The New rule for the Anglo-Scots

ANGLO-SCOTS, those who live in England but play for Scotland - David Hannah and Janet Smith - must now give priority to certain Scottish events, a new rule this season from the Scottish TTA.

Priorities

Hannah and Miss Smith both intended to play in the Slamco Sussex 2-star open on Oct 8-9, but Janet had to give priority to the Meadowbank Open, whilst Hannah remained in plaster after his serious football injury to his knee.
Taking our sport to the people...

TABLE TENNIS can be the great participation sport of the 1990's - and then a great spectator sport - if WE can make it happen. Luck plays a big part in business as well as sport, but the odds can be shortened if luck is given a helping hand.

We are taking Table Tennis to the people and we are providing the opportunities all over the country for existing and potential members to see top class table tennis. We have brought this to towns which have never staged an international match before. We are forging excellent partnerships with local authorities in staging some big events at low cost and with little risk to the organisers.

Some expressed disappointment with the 'gates' at Swindon and Andover in our recent excellent matches against Sweden which brought the European Champion Mikael Appelgren and most of Sweden's all-conquering team to these regions. Well, perhaps but we gave the season a rousing start, we made the National Press in August, we enjoyed an hour of table tennis on Grandstand as a result of the first match in Milton Keynes where there was a packed house. It was rather better TELEVISION, better staged, better looking than we had previously seen on Grandstand. The arena looked excellent.

Leeds our allies

Remember those floppy green partitions, those squiggly multi-coloured lines on the floor left over from basketball? Contrast that with our new arena, our blue single-coloured floor. We took care and it showed. We had excellent allies in the Leeds and A P A and the team effort brought results. No cause for complacency. We must continue to strive for better and better things.

Snooker gates

I saw snooker a week or two ago and the gates were very much below what we achieved. Snooker is still the market leader, but we are catching up.

The improvement in our general television coverage has been remarkable and film makers now see the sport as both an artistic challenge and a chance to hit the ratings. We have high hopes for the forthcoming Cheerleader Productions on Channel 4. Their films of the Euro-Asia have been widely admired.

Television remains the finest way of advertising our sport. We shall continue on that road assembling major events which we can take into the regions and with which to hit the TV jackpot one day.

When you read this, you will have seen both the European Champions Sweden and the World Champions China, if not live, then on the box, perhaps both. The LEEDS Masters in Preston is coming. Grandstand will show this gala occasion in a splendid arena, the Guildhall, which you may have admired when other sports were staged. We hope the Olympics will bring table tennis to many new viewers and that among them will be some who will take up the game. When they come to your club or league, make them welcome. The beginning is never easy and newcomers need all the help they can get. A chance to make new friends and to bring new faces into your leagues.

I have referred elsewhere to encouraging signs, increased entries in both the County Championships and British League, which showed how wrong were those who foresaw rivalries and problems. For years the two have existed harmoniously side by side and both have profited from the gentle competition and both have grown and they will continue to do so if they have good management which is efficient as well as idealistic.

A Women's British League WILL get off the ground. I hope it will be the flagship for activity on that front where much can and needs to be done. There is immense scope for increasing our membership among women. The sport will be better if we succeed.

It remains a pleasure - and one we have more often these days when we produce more to write about - to read the articles of Richard Eaton, John Woodford and our new President Johnny Leaf, who is read by up to 10 million readers at a time. These chefs stuck with us when there was little to write about. Now there is more and we must continue to make news.

Not long ago European League matches, at any rate those in Division 1 (as opposed to the Superleague), were hard to sell and organisers often lost money. Now there is a waiting list. 12 matches of England vs China were sold out in no time. We could have staged many more. Such is the interest today.

The new selling, marketing and advertising effort is very much on its way. In time it will help to bring the new members and the public recognition and respect the sport is beginning to deserve.

Table Tennis can an excellent 'product' but that is not enough. We have to succeed in a hard competitive market place against more than a hundred other sports. Continue your own marketing and selling efforts locally, compete for members, make sure that the sport is featured in every issue of your local newspapers and make it look good.

Awakened Interest

Support our international team when it comes your way. The players have served the sport well. Much of our recent success is the result of their efforts. TV and Media interest is awakened by international success. Most of all, watch these matches because you will enjoy them, because watching the best will improve your own game and give you a new slant on our old sport.

Anything and everything is possible if we want it to happen.

JOHN PREAN
Chairman's report on Olympic debut

Courtside probe for Seoul

by JOHN PREAN, ETFA Chairman

MY FIRST impression remains that Table Tennis, the Sport emerged from Seoul with flying colours, its image enhanced and it did so because of the basic, inborn excellence of the game. The scheduling, the staging, the long distance between venue and Olympic Village and much else did the Sport few favours.

Tremendous Crowds . . . You will have noted and read about the poor crowds enjoyed by many of the Olympic events including some well publicised ones. Our venue held 5,000 and for three sessions each day for nine days the hall was near capacity or full. If you saw empty spaces, these were mainly in the section reserved for players and officials.

I was glad that the undoubtedly success I record was due to nationalism and not the sport itself, which filled the hall three times each day throughout an uninterrupted qualifying period of 6 days, followed by a final stage with a mismanaged schedule.

In fact, 70% of the seats were sold before it was known which, if any Korean players would be on view. Crowds were always large and enthusiastic, as they are in other parts of the world, which is something we are trying to bring about here. That is why we are bringing top class tennis to so many parts of the country.

Unbelievable It was not only the excellent Korean players who emerged as winners, but the whole sport of Table Tennis. That is my message despite much criticism otherwise. It would have been much, much better if the scheduling had been more imaginative, the format more thoughtful and marketing-orientated. Starting the Men's Last 16 at 9 in the morning (which for the players meant a 7.15 start on the bus through the inevitable traffic jam) seemed a particular blunder. Meaningless matches for places 5 to 8 were played at more elementary hours. It seemed absurd to expect spectators to arrive in the extreme suburbs at 9 in the morning for some of the best matches. For long periods, earlier, there was little interest in the qualifying stages which featured 8 groups of 8 men and 8 groups of 6 women, which produced a weary plod of 6 days' duration. It was perhaps the very, very hot, as the air conditioning was switched off, presumably because of its effect on the ball in flight. Despite this, and much else, the sport triumphed over its self-inflicted adversity.

Barcelona The sport was very much on trial, its continued presence in the Olympics by no means assured. There can be no doubt that it has demonstrated its right to be there among other top sports and many lesser ones. I hope that in Barcelona there will be a team event, for so long the base of Table Tennis, but especially that the scheduling will be much better and that the format will appeal to spectators and the wider TV audience. For the first 6 days TV practically where I ask again the sport and who can blame them for staying away from such a weary batch of meaningless matches? The schedule seemed designed by a kindly youth club leader, anxious to give all participants as much play as possible. It had nothing to do with the marketing needs of a modern sport or its spectators. If we ignore these lessons, then we shall lose the battle against other sports, which ITTF President Ogimura has told us we must win.

None of our women won through the European qualifying competition, though many were there who were not as good as our Gordons and Bellingers. Other Continents were granted excessive representation. Very strong decided representation, not excellence.

Long wins With no British representation, I shall give less time to the Ladies' Event. It was won by Chen Ying of China, a late entry (one can see why), who has the best ladies' loop I have ever seen. If her backhand matched her forehand, she would be the best of all time. Her demolition of the European Champion, Balatonka by 4, 11 and 2 tells the melancholy story of what now happens to defenders in the highest regions of the sport. A vanishing species took another step towards oblivion. A vital ingredient in the balance and enjoyment of the sport was destroyed by ill-conceived legislation, then warmly embraced, now shown to be ill-judged.

Des Douglas Des won 6 matches in good style. They were what our computer classes as 'expected wins', but nevertheless he played very well, losing only to Lindh, the eventual bronze medalist. Therefore Des reached the last 16 in which he was beaten by Jiang. It was to be the world champion's last win, as he then lost to Lindh and quite conclusively at that.

Carl Prean Without what the computer calls 'unexpected defeats', Carl was nevertheless not at his best by which I mean the form that won him the World Title against the Top 10 of a recent world ranking list.

Klamar strikes Back with the Hungarian veteran, we noted yet another remarkable win against the Austrian Chinese Dong Yi, followed by an even better one against a Chinese, Chen Long Can, who was defeated in 5 grueling games. A place in the semi-final was as much as fate allowed him however. A rampant Kim Tae Taek denied the Hungarian a place in the Final and Lindh denied him the Bronze.

Kim Tae Taek Kim, always a good player, was the revelation of the tournament. He played brilliantly to reach the Xu Zengcai, China's third hope, and then Waldner, Europe's first. It is hard to convey the sheer excellence of these two epics, as the Korean turned losing poss-

litions into winning ones, playing great points when it mattered most. The Swede played with his usual impudence (in the best sense) and his customary imaginative guile and at times carelessness, but he was up against an inspired opponent and an inspired crowd.

Yoo Nam Kyu Among all the greats assembled, Yoo seemed to me from the beginning the one most likely to win. He is a fantastic player, who does everything well. Like all class penholders he plays very well from the backhand side and he has probably the best loop in the world. I have admired him since I saw him in our Junior open at Portsmouth. I knew then that here was a future star.

Service unfair It hurts me to say that there is a flaw in his game. He has superb service, but it is unfair. I sat in a line with the middle of the table and could not see his bat strike the ball. The definition of what constitutes a loud or fair service is now unfortunately totally obscure. Experienced players are not longer called by umpires or judges any more. They may call others, for instance if the ball is thrown 5½ inches rather than 6, but invisible services are not longer called and requests for line judges are generally ignored. One recalls the agitation over black bats of the combination variety, but at least one had the advantage of one's own eyes and ears to gauge whether the ball was struck with the fast or slow rubber, but there is no way one can tell for certain whether a service has chop or float or top or side spin if it is struck behind the body. Yoo's skill is such that any indifferent return is despatched towards the barriers for a winner.

(Concluded on page 36)
England coasted at Wrexham

DESPITE liberal doses of the traditional Welsh hospitality England coasted to victory in the Quadrangular tournament sponsored for the first time by the Leeds Permanent Building Society at the Plas Madoc Leisure Centre and presented by the Wrexham Maelor Borough Council.

England men beat Wales and Scotland 5-0 and Ireland 5-1. The England side comprised Skylet Andrew, Nicky Mason, Sean Gibson, Alison Gordon and Fiona Elliot. England women's team were also showing their authority — they beat Wales 5-0, Scotland 5-0 and Wales 5-0.

The win scored against England came from Colm Slevin who beat Sean Gibson 19, 17. Although England were without their top three Scotland were also minus David Hannah and Carol Dalrymple. Ireland's hopes rested almost entirely on Slevin.

One of the biggest battles was in the opening match between Wales and England when Andrew only just scraped through 25, 19 against Nigel Tyler. The Welsh crowd were especially impressed with Nicky Mason whose speed left all comers gasping.

There were two close matches both involving Ireland. Ireland beat Wales 3-2 thanks to Slevin's win over Tyler and Thomas, but a magnificent victory by McIlroy (Scotland) over Dill gave the Scottish men a 3-2 success against the Irish pair Dill and Slevin.

Slevin's best win of the tournament was 10, 6 against Nigel Thomas. In the women's matches the "Big One" ended Wales 6, Ireland 4, with Justine Thomas picking against Nora McEvoy. The Welsh girl kept cool to win 17, 18, 19 according to Alan Griffiths whose notes helped to cobble this report together in the absence of any professional, semi-professional or amateur scribes.

Festive Season Reminder

Publishing on time for the next two issues of this magazine is obviously threatened by the Christmas and New Year holidays. But, it is possible that the printers can keep any delays to a minimum providing that our contributors send copy as quickly as possible. So, copy please before the normal deadlines when possible over the next two issues.

London Region Championships

For the mentally handicapped Crystal Palace NSC 23.11.88 10am-4pm: Umpires urgently needed for 24 tables. Apply to Clive Oakman 0621 50550.

Quadrangular Results

Men:

Wales 0, England 5
Ireland 2, Scotland 3
Wales 2, Ireland 3
England 5, Scotland 0
Wales 1, Scotland 4
England 4, Ireland 1

Women:

Wales 0, England 5
Ireland 0, Scotland 5
Wales 4, Ireland 1
England 5, Scotland 0
Wales 1, Scotland 4
England 5, Ireland 0.

Forty years working with Maurice

by KEITH PONTING

No doubt many tributes have been paid to the late Maurice Goldstein, O.B.E., but as one who worked closely with him for many years, I would like to be allowed to pay my own simple one.

I first met Maurice in July, 1969 when I was first elected to the National Council. The following year began an association which, for me, was the greatest privilege I enjoyed in over 40 years close involvement in our sport.

As a new recruit to national administration I was thrown in at the deep end to organise the National Team Competitions and eventually other events under his chairmanship. He was an inspiration to work for and his wise counsel, guidance and encouragement meant so much to me. We became great friends and never had a cross word during our work together.

I spent many week-ends in Birmingham enjoying the wonderful hospitality of Maurice and his wife Gladys. This always meant concluding the business I arrived for and then staying up all night helping Maurice with the multitude of tasks he was engaged in for Warwickshire and Birmingham. I often had meals on my lap, surrounded with piles of paper work of all descriptions. Such was the measure of the man that did not mind missing a nights sleep, which was small fry compared to the contribution he made to our sport.

I never ceased to be amazed at his modesty and humility. Never full of his own importance, never arrogant and self centred, I never once heard him boast about how many unpaid hours he worked for table tennis. He did, like many more of us, all he could for the sport he loved without seeking rewards, honours or compliments.

Unfortunately, during the last years of his life he was greatly troubled by the divisions in our sport. We often spoke about it, and I know how very distressed he was. He always hoped things could be resolved and, for the sake of his memory, I hope and pray this will be the case.

There can be no doubt that Maurice Goldstein, O.B.E. was the greatest man ever in the history of the E.T.T.A. There has never been anyone like him, and we shall never see his like again. Rest in peace Maurice, you deserve it.
England capsize Finland reserves

by JOHN WOODFORD at Bracknell

FINLAND must be one of the weakest teams in Division 1 of the European League. But the three reserves from Finland were orthodox, stylish but lacking experience. It was almost inevitable that they were going to be crushed 7 - 0 at Bracknell Sports Centre on October 12, so perhaps they decided to play for experience two young men rated 4th (Seiro) and 6th (Kontala), what happened to Pyyko and Greffberg is not known.

Although I managed to write 700 words on the match for the Daily Telegraph, it was not a memorable occasion. There were a few good rallies but in the main the talents of the young Finns were subdued by England as they started their fourth bid for promotion to the Super Division.

Carl Prean played as well as he needed to, opening the match against Kontala and playing the penultimate game 13, 13 against Seiro, the man who puzzled Sky­

This proved well within their capability, leaving Kontala and Nieminen the losers 15, 17. The two final singles lacked interest as Prean hammered Seiro and Andrew defeated Kontala 15, 16.

The match was attended by about 200 people, the lowest attendance for a European League match for some years. Reasons? Finland could be the least attrac­

It was almost inevitable that
tive opponents in Division 1; Bracknell does not find it easy to

Although I managed to write

where we

attract crowds to indoor sporting
events, so I am told; where we

England clinched the match with the mens doubles with Andrew and Nicky Mason com­

find big crowds we find that local

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**Former European champion strikes again**

**COLGATE NORTH OF ENGLAND 2-STAR OPEN**

**Hilton mesmerises O’Driscoll**

by George R. Yates

TIME stood still at Streathford Sports Centre on Sept 24 when, just as twelve months previously, John Hilton won both the men’s and veterans’ singles and Fiona Elliott again captured the women’s singles title.

In the Men's singles top seed Sean Gibson fell in the quarters to Scotland’s No.2, John Broe who, in turn, fell lamentably away to Hilton after winning the first game. But not as badly as young Michael O’Driscoll in the final who took on the role of rabbit, as confronted by a stoat, being seemingly mesmerised.

O’Driscoll had earlier disposed of No. 2 seed, Nigel Eckersley, Kevin Beadsley and Cheshire’s transferee to Lancashire, Tony Taylor, but his performance in the final was abject.

And yet another up-and-coming in the person of Andrea Holt failed to surmount the final barrier when giving second best to Fiona Elliott who, in the semis, had been taken to three by Joanne Shaw while Miss Holt had disposed of Jill Harris 2straight.

The best set of a lacklustre series of finals was the men’s doubles in which Broe and Eckersley just got the better of Hilton and his Northumbrian partner Ian Robertson. Holt and Shaw, after winning the first game of the women’s doubles final 21-6 succumbed in the second -20 but triumphed in the decider at 18 against Elliott and Janet Dunning.

**Schofield victim**

In the veteran’s singles Hilton was only taken to a decider once and that against Gordon Sharples of Lytham in his first encounter the champ’s final victim being Derek Schofield. Introduced for the first time in the North of England the Class 2 Mixed Singles event was won by Cheltenham’s David Harvey at the final expense of Beadsley.

**Medal deserved**

Presiding over affairs on control was long serving Leslie Jones, now in his 79th year, and orchestrating the show for the 40th time and which, according to Les, would be his last. Should it be so, then a medal should be struck or something more tangible be awarded to this northern stalwart who, over the years, has contributed so much to the sport of table tennis.

**RESULTS**

Men's Singles: Quarter-finals:
J. Broe (Sco) b S. Gibson (La) 20, 16, 20; J. Hilton (La) b. Robertson (Nd) 19, 12; T. Taylor (La) b A. Dixon (St) 16, 11, 17; M. O’Driscoll (Y) b K. Beadsley (Y) 10, 19.

Semi-finals:
Hilton b Broe 19, 14, 12; O’Driscoll b Taylor 15, 18.

Final:
HILTON b O’Driscoll 10, 9.

Women’s Singles: Quarter-finals:
F. Elliot (St) b K. Cox (Np) 17, 19; J. Shaw (Y) b J. Dunning (St) 18, 17, 10; J. Harris (St) b S. Collier (Bk) 15, 12; A. Holt (La) b K. Burrows (Y) 14, 12.

Semi-finals:
Elliot b Shaw 24, 10, 15; Holt b Harris 20, 15.

Final:
ELIOTT b Holt 17, 16.

Veteran Singles: Quarter-finals:
Hilton b W. Moran (Ly) 9, 12; W. Russell (La) b R. Dixon (St) 21, 14, 15; D. Schofield (Ch) b N. Thewlis (La) -20, 13, 20; R. Bagot (Ch) b G. Brook (Y) 20, 15.

Semi-finals:
Hilton b Russell 11, 19; Schofield b Bagot 17, 17.

Final:
HILTON b Schofield 13, 18.

Men’s Doubles: Semi-finals:
Broe/N. Eckersley (La) b S. Scowcroft (La)/Taylor 20, 14; Hilton/Robertson b Browne/Gibson 11, 16.

Final:
BROE/ECKERSLEY b Hilton/Robertson 16, 20.

Women’s Doubles: Semi-finals:
Holt/Shaw b Collier/Harris 16, 17; Dunning/Elliott b Burrows/J. Smith (Sco) 11, 15.

Final:
HOLT/HAWK b Dunning/Elliott 6, -20, 18.

**Satellite TV Might Be A Problem For Us....**

by JOHN WOODFORD

EVERY time table tennis is on television people outside the sport say “You are back on television, is the sport into a revival?” or words to that effect. This is further proof that to keep in the forefront of the smaller sports we just have to get on that box some way or other, despite the internal politics of the TV media.

The fact that the Swedish tour in August was shown on BBC Grandstand is just the boost we need for a new season, but the onset of more and more satellite TV could be bad news for many sports.

**Fear**

Peter Tory, of the Daily Express wrote not long ago that there are “many things to be feared concerning the approach of satellite TV.”

The story headline was “The heaven sent escape from sport”. It appears that satellite TV will remove most of the sport from the four home channels. At present something like 500 hours of total TV are transmitted into our homes each week.

When satellite TV gets cracking there will be thousands of hours. Football, so we are led to believe will go into space, possibly cricket, along with wrestling, said to be the favourite of our ETTA patron the Queen.

ITV are said to be axing darts and many people are becoming bored with the huge coverage of snooker.

There are a lot of people who oppose sport on the home channels as much as most of us wish to see it, table tennis and many other sports.

**Certain**

What is certain is that most of the sport will go on satellite. It remains to be seen how that will affect sport in general (in particular table tennis) and of course, our mainstream sponsors the Leeds Permanent Building Society.
Chen in action for Ormesby – but Grove are favourites

ORMESBY seem to be getting their moneys worth from World No 7 Chen Xinhua as he comfortably won his two against Butterfly Cardiff and gained the MotM nomination. The Welsh side led 2-1 before losing 2-5 in this Ormesby’s first match. Forecasts made in mid-August on the top divisions are beginning to look doubtful. With Dave Hannah’s knee injury (from football!) Ashford’s chances could be reduced if he cannot play before Christmas. However Ashford could survive as they are not scheduled to meet Bath or Grove until January.

Meanwhile, Grove Market Drayton get off to a flying start without losing a game. The last minute withdrawal of Kingfisher Reading has resulted in some hasty reshuffling of teams. Bayer Bradford, Burslem ANC and Grove III all move up a division. Nevertheless it seems better for KR to withdraw than turn out a team which could struggle in a lower division.

Bradbury recruited

October’s issue promised some observations on the lower divisions. Limited space prevents a comment on every team. As previously mentioned Ashford II look set to run away with Division 2 South with Max Crimmins, Alison Gordon, Joey Kennedy and Kenny Jackson as their top four. These players have proved that they could destroy most opposition at Division 1 level. Others will no doubt try to prove me wrong! Deptford Rams have recruited Phil Bradbury who should find it difficult to lose if he stays in this division. Chelmsford OCs are led by the unpredictable Des Charlelry while Jolliffe Poole have the sometimes under-estimated Tony Clayton. Cheltenham Saracens have 4 players in the top 101 including Darren Griffin playing at No 3. Victory Sports Tonbridge remain unknown to me this year as I am yet to see their registrations.

Vymura International could do well in Division 2 North with their blend of youth and experience. This team includes Andrea Holt with 3 of the country’s top 20 veterans, namely Matt Sheader (7), Derek Schofield (6) and Roger Hampson (19). Leicester TIC have now been sponsored by the Royal Mail and should not have too much trouble in ‘delivering’ results. I would be most interested to see the registrations for Chan Construction II as there appears to be little separating them in this division.

In Division 3 East AHW (Bletchley) Comets have the reportedly talented Jonathan Bradbury (Phil’s brother) in the No 1 slot. City of Milton Keynes has a number of former Middlesex players (Ken Muh’s influence?) and Dunstable Pioneer have quite a good team on paper. Watch out for the young Bowlers-Colin at No 7 in the team beat Division 3 South may be a little weaker than in previous seasons although there are still some useful players around – not to mention Steve Mills playing for newcomers Marley Ashford.

Bennie Robertson in the move

Contrast

Lambeth 4 Tops could do well on their day with Melvyn Waldman out of retirement and Matthew Fernet their promising junior. Rejects II is little changed from last year whilst in contrast Gunnersbury Triangle are rebuilding their squad. TSP Larkhall II looks as if it is basically a veterans team with countless years of experience. Pillinger Air (Croydon) RRTIL (what a mouthful!) have a stable side with veterans Henry Buist and Andy Meads. Horsham Dolphins II should do quite well with former ‘Reject’ Alan Cole among their ranks to make this look like a veterans division. Ashford III’s youngsters will be put through their paces with this wealth of experience.

Could do well

Last, but not least, to Division 3 West where Hampshire’s Graham Toole, Ramish Bhalla, Mark Wilding and Tony Catt represent Amity Generation Fareham who could do well if they find their form. Bath II is headed by Chris Holley and Andy Creed while White Hart Launceston are led by Neil Bevan and Jeremy Williams. One of the ‘great unknowns’ must be Kingfisher Reading whose performance may well depend if their players originally in the Premier Division remain in this division.

SOME FIRST FIXTURE RESULTS IN BRIEF:

Grove produce an emphatic whitewash over Chan Construction while Butterfly Cardiff scrape a 5-3 win over Armada 400 (Plymouth) and then lose 2-6 to Ormesby. Grove II record a 5-3 win over West Warwickshire as do Ruston Marconi Lincoln over MBS St Neots. Kettering Sports get off to a healthy start with a 7-1 win over City of Leeds. In a local derby Team Ramolese Essex produce a 5-3 victory over Dagenham FC. Horsham Dolphins beat the remains of TSP Larkhall I by 7-1. C & L Ruislip hammer Rejects 6-2 with the recent addition of Andy Wellman of Ruislip. Doleq Carpets draw with Plymouth Bulldogs.

More details next issue....

by MIKE LOVEDER

STOP PRESS

ALISON GORDON, the England champion has left Ashford and signed for Plymouth Armada in the premier division. She said last week, ‘If I am going to aim for the top in Europe I need to play in the top division of the Leeds British League.’
### Leeds Women’s British League

In response to the demand for more women’s competitions, the Leeds Women’s British League will be inaugurated during the 1988-89 season. It is hoped that initially the competition will attract between 12 and 16 club teams of senior or junior female players, thereby allowing 2 divisions to be formed.

With sponsorship of £1,000 from the Leeds PBS the first round of 5 or 7 matches for each club team will be played over the weekend April 15-16 at the Woughton LC, Leadenhall, Milton Keynes.

Teams will be 3 players each and whilst the fees may seem high at first glance, compared to the opportunity for 4 days high level intensive competition (2 full weekends) it will actually be excellent value for money. Cost of entry £65, player registration £7 x 3 = £21 - £36, divided by 4 days play = £7.16 per day, not that much different to open tournament fees but a great deal more guaranteed play. Further information from ETIA office.

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### Leeds British League 2 - Tables

#### Premier Division

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<td>Fellows Cranleigh 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>T.S.P. Larkhall</td>
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<td>2</td>
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#### Division 2 (South)

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<th>A</th>
<th>P</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>3</td>
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#### Division 3 (North)

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<th>Division 3 (South)</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>Hanham Dolphins 11</td>
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<td>3</td>
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<td>Ashford 111</td>
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<td>Lambeth 4 Tops</td>
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<td>Gunnessbury Triangle</td>
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<td>Gunnessbury Triangle</td>
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<td>Ashford 11</td>
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<td>Rejects 11</td>
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<td>T.S. Larkhall 11</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>5</td>
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<td>Bathwick Tyres 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Marley Ashford</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Marley Ashford</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**24 MONTH PRICE FREEZE AT**

**TEES SPORT**

First for Table Tennis

**CATALOGUE 1987-88**

Send for a copy of our current catalogue where all prices are held from September 1987 to August 1989 plus our six page new product supplement. For the best service, quickest delivery and widest choice contact

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**WOMEN IN TABLE TENNIS**

GET on board the British League! In response to the demand for more women’s competitions, the Leeds Women’s British League will be inaugurated during the 1988-89 season. It is hoped that initially the competition will attract between 12 and 16 club teams of senior or junior female players, thereby allowing 2 divisions to be formed.

With sponsorship of £1,000 from the Leeds PBS the first round of 5 or 7 matches for each club team will be played over the weekend April 15-16 at the Woughton LC, Leadenhall, Milton Keynes.

Teams will be 3 players each and whilst the fees may seem high at first glance, compared to the opportunity for 4 days high level intensive competition (2 full weekends) it will actually be excellent value for money. Cost of entry £65, player registration £7 x 3 = £21 - £36, divided by 4 days play = £7.16 per day, not that much different to open tournament fees but a great deal more guaranteed play. Further information from ETIA office.
**Surrey's Mason in promotion bid**

The programme started well on 1 October with 67 matches played. Surrey commenced their campaign to regain Premier status with Nicky Mason filling their No. 1 spot.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SENR 1B:</th>
<th>Devon 2.</th>
<th>9 Somerset 1.</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kent 5.</td>
<td>Sussex 5.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Surrey started with a match at the new Club at New Malden when Midlands 2 were the visitors. Surrey included Nicky Mason and Glen Baker who won their 5 events to lead Surrey to a convincing win. David Goode (Mi) beat Michael Hammond in an entertaining final match with scores 15-20, 12. Devon 2 had a good debut in Div 1 with 9-1 win. Brian Rovers got the one event for Somerset. In the Kent/Sussex clash the visitors came from 2-4 to lead 5-4 but Andy Cunningham (K) beat Richard Venner 12, 17 to force the draw.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Essex 8.</td>
<td>Warwickcs 2.</td>
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<tr>
<td>N'berland 7.</td>
<td>Norfolk 3.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Worcs 5.</td>
<td>Yorks 2. 5.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Warwicks introduced Adrian Dixon, the former Staffs player, but Essex, intent on regaining Premier status, were well on top with an 8-2 win. Of the 3 promoted teams only Cambs had a success with a win over fellow promotees Herts. Norfolk, making the long journey to Newcastle, lost 3-7. The consistent John Taylor (He) won in 2 singles events against Cambs. Phillip Logsdon (Nk) made a very good start being involved in the 3 Norfolk wins, including victories over Ian Robertson and Eddie Smith. Worcs led Yorks 5-3 with fine wins by Murray Jukes, beating Mick Stead at 15 in third.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SENR 2A:</th>
<th>Lancs 2. 8.</th>
<th>Leics 2. 2.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Clwyd 0.</td>
<td>Cheshire 10.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Notts 7.</td>
<td>Warwicks 2. 3.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Lancs/Leics was a most exciting match. The Lancs team included Andrew Eden, Wayne Renton, Howard Whewell and Marjorie Riddle all making their senior team debut. Amanda Goodwin and Marjorie Riddle won their 3 events for Lancs and Andrew Eden also won 2 singles including a 22-10, 4 defeat of Maurice Newman. Newcomers Clwyd had a tough initiation their first match being against Cheshire 1 when they lost 0-10. They also received the Cheshire 2 team and lared better. The match score stood at 4-4 but the visitors came back to win 6-4, with the ladies - J. Hope and A. Jones - winning 3 events.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SENIOR 2B:</th>
<th>Cornwall 1. 9.</th>
<th>Worcs 2. 1.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cornwall 2. 5.</td>
<td>Worcs 2. 5.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Glo 10.</td>
<td>Dorset 2. 0.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wilts 7.</td>
<td>Avon 2. 3.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Worcs 2 journeyed to Lancastion to meet the two Cornish teams. Cornwall 1 dominated the match with Sue Meredith getting the win for Worcs beating Esme Stevenson -17, 16, 15. Jane McLean (Wo) made her senior debut and with Sue Meredith narrowly lost the ladies doubles at -22, 15, 19. Sue and Jane contributed 3 wins to secure the draw against Cornwall 2, with Ken Walton beating Andrew Bevan 9 and 11 and taking the doubles with Steve Horton. Glos got a maximum win over Dorset 2 the only event going to a deciding player the ladies singles in which Judy Morley beat Pat Baldwin -10, 16, 12. Wills were demoted but with unbeaten Kevin Satchell as No. 1 they got off to a good start with a win over Avon 2.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SENR 2C:</th>
<th>Cambs 2. 8.</th>
<th>Herts 2. 2.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Beds 2.</td>
<td>Hants 2.</td>
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</table>

Cambs got off to a good start with a convincing win. Hilary Finch and Alison Edge won their 3 events as did Andy Withers, being partnered in the doubles by Gary Jordan. Beds 2 and Hants, who were at bottom of the Table at the end of the season, met in the first match.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Berks 2. 6.</td>
<td>Kent 4. 2.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bucks 3. 6.</td>
<td>Amersham 2. 5.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

The new Essex 3 team, composed of young players, met the Essex 2 team. It was a hard fought match in which Damien Holland won the last event against Stuart Gibbs at 15 and 14 to gain the win. The match brought Alison and Kate Gower into opposition with Kate winning 20 and 19! Kent 2 lost 2 events at deuce in deciding games against Berks, who got a 6-4 win. Bucks lost 2-1 to SURREY 2 but Colin Luscombe (Bu) lost his 2 singles at 19 in the decider and Dawn Robbins (Bu) lost to Gay McCulloch 7-22, 20!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>JUNR 1A:</th>
<th>Yorks 2. 7.</th>
<th>Lancs 3. 3.</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Notts 7.</td>
<td>Cheshire 3.</td>
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</table>

The Yorks team was well served by Craig Smith who got 3 easy wins. Jason Lee played well to win his 2 singles for Lancs. Notts, on demotion from Premier, got a good start at the expense of Cheshire.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>JUNR 1B:</th>
<th>Avon 5.</th>
<th>Surrey 5.</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Somerset 2.</td>
<td>Sussex 8.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bucks 2.</td>
<td>Herts 5.</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Avon, on promotion, had a satisfactory start with a draw against Surrey. David Hadley (Av) made a significant contribution with 2 good singles wins. There was a battle to the end for 1st between 1's - Ian Black (He) beat Martin Adams (Blk) 19-22, 24!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>JUNR 2A:</th>
<th>Warwicks 2. 4.</th>
<th>Derby 2. 6.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Derbys did well on their visit to Coventry with a win over Warwicks. The Derby girls - Jessica Pope and Catherine Pidgeon - won their 3 events. Leices got off to 3-2 start against Lancs but the visitors fought back to 3-4 when the respective No. 1's met with Andrew Clark (Le) getting the better of Stuart Thorpe.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>JUNR 2B:</th>
<th>Berks 2.</th>
<th>Oxon 8.</th>
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</table>

In this Division most of the matches being played over 2 weekends - at Ashford and St. Neots. Oxon visited Kingfisher Club, Reading and landed a good win.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>JUNR 2C:</th>
<th>Glam 6.</th>
<th>Devon 2. 4.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Glam. 9.</td>
<td>Devon 3. 1.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gwent 5.</td>
<td>Devon 2. 5.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

A good arrangement was made with 2 Devon teams visiting Abridenton to play 4 matches against Glam and Gwent. Glam got 2 wins with Chris Kelly being defeated in singles and Denise Eward winning all her singles and doubles events. Devon success was restricted to the 2nd team making a draw with Gwent, when John Shipman (Dv) won 2 singles.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>JUNR 2D:</th>
<th>Essex 2. 8.</th>
<th>Norfolk 1. 2.</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>Essex 2. 8.</td>
<td>Norfolk 2/2.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Suffolk 2. 0.</td>
<td>Essex 3. 10.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kent 2. 3.</td>
<td>Suffolk 1. 7.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Surrey 2. 6.</td>
<td>Sussex 2. 4.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Essex, on promotion, did very well to beat Leics with their No. 1 - M. Corking - winning both his singles. The other promoters, Northants, did not fare so well when they visited Norwich, when the Northants men were dominant. Worcs had a hard match at Hyde. The score stood at 3-3 but Cheshire took the last 3 events to secure 2 points.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>VETS 1A:</th>
<th>Warwicks 0.</th>
<th>Essex 9. 5.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yorks 2.</td>
<td>Leics 3.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Norfolk 7.</td>
<td>Northants 3.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cheshire 2.</td>
<td>Worcs 3.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Essex, on demotion from Premier, made a very determined start and their team of Stuart Gibbs, Peter Radford, Stan Battrick and Lesley Radford won every event in straight games. Yorks 2 promotion, also did very well to beat Leics with their No. 1 - M. Corking - winning both his singles. The other promoters, Northants, did not fare so well when they visited Norwich, when the Northants men were dominant. Worcs had a hard match at Hyde. The score stood at 3-3 but Cheshire took the last 3 events to secure 2 points.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>VETS 1B:</th>
<th>Dorset 3.</th>
<th>Herts 6.</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>Sussex 2.</td>
<td>Kent 3. 3.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oxon 1.</td>
<td>Surrey 8. 2.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Again the demoted team started well - Herts went from 3-3 to win the next 3 events over Dorset. Dave Seathorne (He) won his singles and the mixed with Susan Felstead. Middx 2 were in charge against Hants, for whom R. Cox won the mens singles, patterned by Ray Lush, at deuce in 3rd and in the final event beat Trevor Campbell 15, 20. Despite Keith Clark (K) having 3 wins, including the mixed with Pam Butcher, Sussex got a 6-3 win. Mike Watts had a good start to the season beating Arthur Hamsworth and Bob Hawkins.

<table>
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<th></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Notts 2.</td>
<td>Cheshire 3.</td>
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</table>

Notts, on demotion, had a hard match at Blaydon. The score stood at 4-4 but the visitors came back to win 6-4, with the ladies - J. Hope and A. Jones - winning 3 events.

By DOUG MOSS

Fansyana and Allan Radford had a "clean sheet" for Essex. Suffolk 2 had a hard baptism against Essex 0 when just 1 event went to a decidery.

**THELeeds County Championships**
CONGRATULATIONS to our up and coming JUNIOR Team on reaching promotion to Div I after winning Div 3C. Watch out for the Seniors - the team consisting of S. Bettison, D. Hadley, H. Green and N. Finslady (Boys) with C. Webb, K. Matthews, S. Ketley and E. Stapleford (Girls) had comfortable wins earlier in the season when they travelled to Cornwall for a double header against I & II's. They were without No. 1 Steve Bettison through injury. Although they managed to win against II's they went down to Cornwall I's. With another two close 6-4 wins it was down to the final match of the season playing the unbeaten and 100% Dorset. Nothing less than victory could secure promotion for the Juniors, leaving 5-4. All the pressure was on David Hadley for Avon to snatch the final game for a memorable 6-4 win.

The County Rankings chosen are:

**MEN**
1. C. Holley
2. P. Lewis
3. A. Creed
4. P. Hooper
5. G. Baldwin

**WOMEN**
M. Cohen
H. Perrott
D. Booy
S. Lovell
G. Beer

**JUNIOR BOYS**
1. S. Bettison
2. D. Hadley
3. J. Johnson
4. E. Emlyn-Jones
5. M. Bush

**JUNIOR GIRLS**
1. K. Matthews
2. J. West
3. C. M'Court
4. C. Davies
5. C. Davies

**CADET BOYS**
1. E. Emlyn-Jones
2. C. Davies
3. N. Ambrose
4. B. Fudge
5. C. Butterworth

**CADET GIRLS**
1. M. Cohen
2. H. Perrott
3. D. Booy
4. S. Lovell
5. G. Beer

BATH who finished Runners-Up in Div 2 of the Midland League for the last two years have decided not to participate any longer due to the long distances involved by away fixtures and have now opted to enter a team for the recently NEW South West Regional League.

NATIONAL LEAGUE the second team travelled to Launceston, for their first fixture. With Bathwick Tyres leading 3-1 or the interval C. Holley pipped Neil Bevan 19 in the third for a 4-1 head. Jeremy Williams, Sean Gaylard reduced the deficit to 4-3 but Duncan Gray ensured a 5-3 win for Bathwick.

**MAIDENHEAD**

Junior Stephen Noel of Windsor Boys School, a member of the team which reached the 1988 Regional Final of the ESTA Team Championship, earned himself a table tennis title of a different nature when he won first prize of £150 in the SW London section of the Young Englander of Great Britain competition for his computer controlled TT robot. Designed appearing on Thames TV Stephen is scheduled for BBC's "Tomorrows World". His prototype is programmable to produce different sequences and spins during play and represents a significant advance over existing machines.

This will be the first year for more than thirty when the Maidenhead Head will have to manage their affairs without the services of Hugh Bartholomew on the Committee (the last three as Chairman), although there seems little doubt that Hugh will be playing for at least another thirty if he remains as fit as he looks.

Still up at the veterans end of the spectrum five Berkshire players journeyed to Zagreb for the 4th Veteran World Championships and put in some excellent performances. Gill Knightley and Mary Stafford both won their groups and the succeeding rounds, whilst Christine Basden having teamed up with Australian Sue Griggs surpassed herself by reaching the last 16 in the Ladies Doubles against the title holder pair which included world champion Maria Alexandrova of Rumania.


**BERKSHIRE**

**Bob Adams**

The County Closed Champions are scheduled for Sunday 20th November at 'The Cheltenham Indoor Cricket Club' a venue which has proved extremely popular over several previous years. Dave Harvey the defending mens champion will face considerable opposition in defence of his crown, while's the Ladies singles title could well be very much in balance, at the time of writing Mrs Judy Morley (the current champion) is not sure of competing owing to an injury that she sustained as long ago as last April in Bath, lets hope that it all clears up for her because if she only could her presence be welcomed - there is also an extreme shortage of Lady players in the County.

The Cheltenham T.T.A. have to be admired, for their many forms of social activities that exist in their T.T. curriculum for example: - A very positive and regular Newsletter, and from the social angle aspect of table tennis life organised - "Barn Dances" - A full days outing to Alton Towers, and more recently a T.T. combined ex-curriculum to Göttingen in West Germany.

Cheltenham's success is that they not only have a Chairperson who "SITS AND ADMINISTERS" but they are fortunate enough also to have someone WITH IDEAS, and who is not afraid of sharing ideas with her respective Committee, by this way of doing things - success is inevitable.

Yes, the Cheltenham League sets a great example of "LET'S GET TOGETHER" - "TALK", and above all "DO THINGS", a vibrant interest exists in what goes on beyond the 9' x 5', the future of our sport in this fringe Cotswold Town is most certainly not being neglected.

T.T. is most certainly on the upward trend in Gloucestershire. I have written before in this column that the possibility of Cirencester becoming an affiliated member, for several years they have declined all thoughts of affiliation - lastly until this year AGM, when the decision was taken "TO AFFILIATE". This decision will benefit the Cirencester & District T.T.A enormously because they possess a very high percentage of youngsters within their ranks to whom affiliation and all that goes with it is imperative, on behalf of the County - Congratulations Cirencester and welcome to the fold.

**GLOUCESTERSHIRE**

Aif Peppard

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T.T. is most certainly on the upward trend in Gloucestershire. I have written before in this column that the possibility of Cirencester becoming an affiliated member, for several years they have declined all thoughts of affiliation - lastly until this year AGM, when the decision was taken "TO AFFILIATE". This decision will benefit the Cirencester & District T.T.A enormously because they possess a very high percentage of youngsters within their ranks to whom affiliation and all that goes with it is imperative, on behalf of the County - Congratulations Cirencester and welcome to the fold.

**League**

To date of writing, Cheltenham Saracens now in Division 2 South remain unbeaten, their first of the season with relegation with Dordardams resulted in a very fair draw. The visitors Nil Phil Bradbury proved far too strong for our local lads and won both his singles with comparative ease, meanwhile for Saracens - Dave Harvey playing at No 4 won his two singles two straight.

In their second match of the season v Butterfly Catholic (Led Car-diff), Saracens scored over three times 6-2 win over Div 3 West (Champions). Man of the match was Saracens Nil Mark Owen who scored a very good 16-15, 13, win over Trevor Manning, last year’s - Leeds Player of the year.

**County Trials**

Of the 19 Ladies/Girls who were invited only 16 attended, it should however be noted that Judy Morley (current Ladies County singles Champion) and Lesley Dewick both wanted to attend the trials but were not able to because of injuries.

Several well known Lady Players apparently did not support the trials, therefore their cover - all keeness was suspect, however having said this - I am equally sure that the Selectors would listen, very carefully to any future request to play for the County.

Following the trials results below:

No 1. Judy Morley.
2. Jacqui Carver.
5. Heather Fanny.
6. Alison Cox.

**Coaching**

Paddy Jackson Gloucester's hard working coach reports favourable results emerging from last years coaching sessions in and around the City.
COUNTIES 2

The emergence of Jeremy Hyatt and Raymond Powell as two of the most promising Juniors of the past season has doubtless surprised, but Paddy maintained that any one of 20 other players from ages 8 - 14 could be rocking their boat in 2 or 3 years time.

Big contribution

We must on the National scene congratulate George Novoth on passing yet more coaching exams and attending an England training camp. Unquestionably George has taken a considerable amount of work load from Paddy's shoulders & furthermore contributed enormously to the smooth running of coaching in Gloucester City.

DEVON

Val Heath

AS THE new season began I could not resist taking up the challenge as publicity officer so Devon has a report in each issue of the magazine. It has struck me as very sad that no one has been able to report on Devon's achievements over the last year or so especially when they have been so abundant in numbers. The talent in the youngsters particularly springs to mind and the improvement in their play this season is phenomenal and has been very noticeable in recent open tournaments.

I must congratulate Malcolm Francis and Brian Peggell on the recent Express Sports 26 tournament held in Paignton. It was the first of its kind and the venue and organisation were superb. Many families made a weekend of it and everyone had a good time was had by all. (except for those of us who had parking tickets and I had two!)

Pleasure

For Devon the pleasure of having a tournament so near was excelled by watching Devon's young players doing so well. Both Alex Perry and David Heath won titles on the day and other local youngsters featured well. One particular junior who has made his mark recently is Plymouth's Adrian Vincent. He has achieved some very good results along with winning two U12 competitions and must be congratulated on his hard work. Adrian is just one of the youngsters who are representing Devon in one of the three junior teams entered in National League. This year lets hope they manage to do as well as their elders in the Senior team who have managed to achieve a placing in the Premier Division. Senior ranking are as follows.

HERTFORDSHIRE

John Wood

NORTH Herts have once again proved too strong for the opposition in the Hertfordshire games, held at the Heathcote School, Stevenage in September.

1. The Senior ranking trials held at The Barnet Table Tennis Centre,ran true to form with few surprises. Keith Samuels and John Taylor are in No. 1 and No. 2 positions respectively, the same as last year, but there is a fresh face in the 3rd position that of Richard Russell of Barnet. Rob Liquorish has retained his No. 4 ranking, whilst Peter Harris drops from 3rd to No. 5.

As expected, Lynne Harrison is ranked at No. 1, with Chesunt's Maggie Pavitt in No. 2, whilst Linda Walters is at No. 4, in the Ladies ranking.

The country No. 1 junior Emma Hurling comes in at No. 4, with two ex-juniors in the No. 5 and 6 positions Barnet's Maria Williams and Caroline Seaholme from Watford.

ST. Albans based and Hemel Hempstead player Ian Black is once again the top county Junior with Barnet's Morris Greenberg. George Sanders and Duncan Taylor in positions 2, 3, and 4.

Top Girl in the Under 17 ranking is Emma Hurling, with Watford's Sarah Seaholme in at No. 2, Barnets Talya Greenberg in at No. 3.

RANKINGS


MIDDLESEX

Iris Moss

I AM sorry that there were no "Notes" from me last month but I was ill at the relevant time, so had to leave it until this month. There is no change in the Middlesex Express tournaments that we have appointed a President. Mr. Russel Grant, the astrol­oger, has accepted the post and we are hoping that he will forecast a year of success in the stars for our County.

He is very interested in keeping the name of "Middlesex" alive in all spheres - and so are we. Sadly we have lost yet another League this season. Harry Edwards, who helped to found the Uxbridge and District League in 1949, struggled manfully to keep it alive and eventually gave up the Secretarieship three years ago, but with the death of his successor last year, the League which had declined over the years as factories in the area closed down, decided to call it a day. The remaining Clubs will no doubt be absorbed into one of the other adjacent Leagues, but it is sad to see the demise of such an old established League.


Junior Boys

Oldham, Lancashire's selection committee met to formulate the 12 David Bunting (Blackpool)
10 David Pilling (Burnley)
13 Gareth Edmonds (St Helens)
13 Michael Malcolm (Preston)
10 Howard Whewell (Burnley)
12 Chris Campbell (Oldham)

Middlesex...

Veteran Men

School on 11th and 12th March few days to get them in. They are available from me (01-2034476) or on 3rd and 4th December. Entry have been distributed by now)

Sunday 4th December. We have and watch the Finals at 6 p.m. on 22

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

Mike Tuningsley

JUNIOR GIRLS

1. Sarah Smith
2. Deborah Molyneaux
3. Susan Lingard

SENIOR WOMEN

1. Ruth Bentley
2. Kay Mayall
3. Angela Birtrell
4. Jackie Bull
5. Claire Oldman
6. Julie Bolton

The juniors opened their Leeds County Championship fixtures with a match against Cheshire and following last seasons relegation from the Premier League they were optimistic of success.

The boys led the way when Paul Wood, Peter Furneaux and Robert Yong all won to give Notts an early 3-0 lead. Cheshire pulled one back when Cerie Tremney and Susie Sorrentino defeated Sarah Smith and Deborah Molyneaux but Notts soon increased their lead to 5-1 when the doubles partnership of Yong and Wood defeated Neil Allen and Ben Seel in three sets and Wood also gained a win over Allen in the singles.

Comfortable Molyneaux and Smith both lost their singles matches but further wins for Yong and Furseaux over Peter Lau and Ben Seel gave Notts a comfortable 7-3 victory.

The Seniors opened their account with another 7-3 win, this time the opponents were Warwickshire 2nd. Ransford Scott won both his singles games. Warwickshire came with only one girl.

Real battle The Workshop Table Tennis League's Summer Season is drawing to its close with a real battle between Abbey Youth Centre D and Carlton Youth Club 1 for the title. Despite the hardship of it being a handicap league the Abbey team of Colin Deaton, Nicola Deaton, Richard Baker and Paul Daykin have fought well against the odds but only 2 of a point separates the two teams as we go to print.

Details of China's visit to Nottingham Victoria Leisure Centre and the East Midlands Regional Rankings Trials will be given in the next edition of Table Tennis News.

CALL IN TODAY TO OPEN AN ACCOUNT WITH the Leeds
with Ann Woolston to beat Joyce showed that she had lost little of her former skill as she combined Porter and Clare Waples in an entertaining final, with Clem Little/Chris Howell and Marj Chambers/Anne Abbott losing semi-finalists.

However the big event in the close season was the wedding of Graeme McKim and Joanne Hunt, with many sporting personalities on the guest list and Graeme demonstrating his fitness by carrying his beautiful bride for a bevy of photographers. On behalf of all their friends in local table tennis, I wish them every happiness as they step into a bright new future.

NORTHUMBERLAND
Audrey Dropkin

THE Northumberland League has now got under way and there are six divisions this year. The number of teams is slightly down on last year but this is due more to older players calling it a day rather than youngsters not coming in to the game. Indeed, a new cadet division is to be launched and hopefully this will be well supported.

A number of the county’s youngsters are circulating around the tournaments and already we have had two finalists this season. Graeme Sanderson got to the last stage at Kirklees in the cadet boys singles and Barry Forster did likewise at Milton Keynes.

Byker Newcastle have had mixed fortunes in their opening matches in the Leeds British League, losing 2-6 away to Lincoln and then beating Vymura International LL by the same score.

The County selection committee have issued their first ranking lists of the season and these are as follows:

**Boys**
1. Stephen Coverdale
2. Barry Forster
3. John Wesley
4. Graeme Sanderson
5. Mark Cavendar
6. Andrew Bissett
7. Andrew Wilkinson
8. Chris Dodd
9. David Venus
10. Craig Sangster
11. Geoff Spark
12. Gary Saxton
13. Barry Forster
14. Barry Forster
15. Barry Forster
16. Billy Stokoe

**Girls**
1. Joanne Grady
2. Susie Atherton
3. Diane Cartmell
4. Debbie Scholfield
5. Stephanie Bell
6. Kirsty Mawhinney
7. Joanne Donnelly
8. Lynsey Russell

**Veteran men**
1. Fred Short
2. Maurice Cheek
3. Gordon Bissett
4. John Donnelly
5. Larry Cartmell
6. Arnie Warents
7. Terry Wilkinson
8. Charles Mouzon
9. Alan Hill
10. Dave Swan

**Veteran women**
1. Pauline Long
2. Pat Young
3. Lila Aust
4. Vicki Landles

**Men**
1. Ian Robertson
2. Eddie Smith
3. Mark Christie
4. John Crawford
5. Malcolm Lusk
6. Peter Whiteman
7. Michael Curry
8. Tom Tewhitt
9. Bob Dodds
10. Stephen Coverdale
11. Alan Matthewson
12. Barry Forster

**Women**
1. Clare Mouzon
2. Carol Guthrie
3. Margaret Morley
4. Christine Burke
5. Pauline Long
6. Karen Newby
7. Joan Leslie
8. Pat Young
9. Denise Wilkinson

**THE TOURNAMENT RESULTS . . .**

CONSTRUCTING this magazine almost single-handed, the one thing I have not got the time to do is typing out results from photostats of draw sheets. Would all tournament organisers or press officers please assist by sending in typewritten reports, not too lengthy accompanied by results of finals in the usual style, eg, Cooke b Douglas, 19-18, 20.

J.W.
SURREY
Terry Vance

SUTTON & District League have 33 teams divided into 3 Divisions. Over a fifth of these teams come from the Rosehill Club.
The Guildford League are managing to run 8 Divisions.
There is no news from any of the other Surrey leagues.
Please let me have some information as I am sure that your League players would like to know about their own Leagues. So come on Byfleet, Wandleworth etc. how about keeping your members interested?

Shropshire
Ian Marshall

PENNY Pigman gained just reward for her superb clerical skills in support of Grove Table Tennis by gaining the Bill Harris Memorial Award for the season 1987-88.
It is Penny who shoulders the burden of the massive typing and clerical workload at Grove Table Tennis and providing written details on this player. He/she being more about the writing of the British League status.

South of England 2 Star. This Junior Tournament takes place on 5th & 6th November at Monk's Hill Sports Centre, Farmborough Avenue, Crowthorne. Do come along and watch some of our future England stars:-
Darren Blake - Is he going to become Surrey's answer to Ann Haydon Jones by combining his greater earning potential at tennis with his undoubted table tennis talent?

Umpires Corner
Congratulations to Terry Carpenter and his wife on the birth of their daughter.
D. Partridge Can anyone give me details on this player? He/she won a Surrey Table Tennis League Championship medal in the 1980's. This medal has recently become part of my collection and I would just be interested in learning more about him/her.

County Matches
A correction to last month's article. The Senior and Junior sides will be playing their matches at Ashford Table Tennis Centre. The Veterans 1st team will of course play at the Premier Weekends due to their promotion last year.

Staffordshire
Jack Chaklky

AT THIS early stage of the season the main activity was the County Junior trials, unfortunately, some initial confusion over dates caused some upset but this was quickly and effectively sorted out by the selection committee headed by Ian Knights and all juniors and cadets nominated to attend were able to take their chance.
Finalising the ranking list is no easy task at the best of times, and bearing in mind that equal ranking is not permitted, the playing results of the trials were not in themselves sufficiently conclusive to complete the lists. Other factors were taken into account and there is plenty of scope for changes to be made during the season.
We welcome the transfer of Leigh Jeffries, Nicholas Dixon and Nicola Meddings from Warwickshire. Leigh, at No. 5 in England, automatically takes over as our number one with Garry Knights at No. 2. Paul Malkin, who had the best overall results at the trial, is at No. 3 and, at this stage, is most likely to complete the team for the first junior Premier Weekend on November 26/27th. Very little separates the next three and all of them stand a chance to represent Staffs before the end of the season.
Nicola, despite being still a cadet (No. 3 in the national list), heads our junior girls ranking. A difficult choice between Michelle Martin and Joanna Fovall for No. 2 spot has had to pay more attention to their careers - Stephen as a physical education teacher at Bedford and recently emerged as an England table tennis captain at a schools event.
So, the three Moores, all doing well in their careers have had some trouble with their England rankings, although Teresa is still around the 20 mark, the brothers have slipped - but the latest news is that they intend to fight their way back in both the Sussex and England lists.

Sussex
John Woodford

FOR the first time in years Sussex start the campaign with two new No. 1. players - Phil Smith (Crawley) and Janet Smith (Brighton). The unrelated Smiths are of course both well known - Phil for the fact that although his fierce counter-hitting tactics frighten the large majority of his opponents, he still has not won the Sussex championship mens singles.
Now established in his career as a foreign currency dealer with Storehouse plc, Phil has pushed to the fore his sheer hard work at the expense of the Moor brothers Stephen and Adrian who have had to pay more attention to their careers - Stephen as a certified accountant in Eastbourne and Adrian with his university studies at Keele. Their sister Teresa currently the Sussex champion is also studying to be a physical education teacher at Bedford and recently emerged as an England table tennis captain at a schools event.

For so, the three Moores, all doing well in their careers have had some trouble with their England rankings, although Teresa is still around the 20 mark, the brothers have slipped - but the latest news is that they intend to fight their way back in both the Sussex and England lists.

Janet Smith is of course, better known as the well-established Scottish No. 1, whose ambitions include staying at the top in Scotland and standing on top in Sussex, although the compulsory travelling to Scotland for certain events means less time on trains. Fortunately, for those who live in the north of the county, and unfortunately for those in the south-east of Sussex, most county championship home matches and Leeds National matches are now held at Broadbridge Heath Leisure Centre, Horsham, where the playing conditions are excellent although the room for spectators is limited.
WARWICKSHIRE
Geoff Taylor

At the time of writing the County have held trials and the teams for the first matches have been selected.

The Nuneaton League has been reduced to 3 divisions. One division has been dropped but now all the divisions have a full complement of teams. The new teams for Nuneaton this season is that 3 sponsors have been found for both the league and the Closed Championships. The league sponsor is Elliott Sales, Ken Elliott the owner is a Vice President of the league and for years has been a stalwart supporter. The Closed sponsor is a local firm of Ltd A Motor Bodies which is owned by a local player. The town is entering teams in the Midland League and also the Heart of England Cadet League. The league match and also in the case of Stratford and Nuneaton it really est League in the country with 3 only means a loss of 2 or 3 teams.

Walker from Scotland who beat S. the distinction of being the small­ division but as in the case of there were 6 events and results of 12 teams.

There were 6 events and results of 12 teams. There was an upset in the Junior Girls Trials when County team regular last year Nicola Jones, favourite to win the trials, finished bottom of her group, los­ ing to both Catherine Drage (Kid­ derminster), and Joanne Hill (Dudley). Sarah Stone took full advantage of Nicola’s defeat, winning all her matches and will start the season at No 1 Ranked girl.

Junior Rankings

Boys
1. L. Horton (D)
2. J. Thompson (D)
3. K. Selton (E)
4. A. Kelly (K)
5. M. Hewitt (D)
6. A. Burman (W)
7. J. Shiridok (D)
8. R. Round (K)
9. N. Green (E)
10. E. Nixon (E)
11. N. McLean (E)
12. S. Oliver (W)
13. P. Wheeler (E)

Girls
1. S. Stone (W)
2. J. Hill (D)
3. C. Drage (K)
4. L. McConnell (W)
5. P. Hughes (W)
6. N. Jones (W)
7. C. Hunt (W)

W = Worcester
D = Dudley
K = Kidderminster
E = Evesham

Mandy Mytton, Worcestershire County 1st Team player, should by now be Mrs. Chris House. Mandy and Chris were due to get married on Saturday 22nd October at All Saints Church, Church Lench, Evesham, Mandy will be playing her local league table ten­ nis in the Kidderminster and Worcestershire League this year, for Kidderminster Harriers and Woodfield respectively. Congratulations and best wishes to you both.

YORKSHIRE
Rea Balmford

THE start of the season, always a time of hectic forward planning, has been more traumatic than ever in the past six weeks as the result of the disruption in postal communications.

One obvious effect - although the Editor may consider it one of the few blessings - is the brevity of these notes, but a far more serious repercussion in the county is the cancellation of the Yorkshire and Humberide 3* Open, one of the major events in the calendar, which should have gone ahead at Halifax in mid­ October.

Every effort was made but, in the end, with a firm entry of little over 100 players, the tournament committee were left with little option other than to cancel the event.

The County’s apologies go to all our friends throughout the country and beyond who enjoy the ‘get­together’ at Halifax, but I am sure that all will agree with the decision – better not to run than to put on a tournament which would be bound to fall well below the standards that Yorkshire like to set.

There is consolation in that, by the time these notes appear in print, the enthusiasts throughout the County of the Broad Aces will all have had the chance to see World champions China in action against the improving England squad.

Two fixtures in the series have been allocated to Yorkshire, one at Halifax in the extreme west with the North Bridge Leisure Centre doing the honours, and the other on the east coast at Bridlington Spa, currently the home of the Leeds English Junior championships.

At BRADFORD Philip Chap­ man dominated the Arthur Bowers Youth Tournament, winning all four events in which he entered and, not surpris­ ingly, picking up the Merit Award.

A recognized tournament player, Philip took the singles titles at Under 15, Under 17 and

Rea Balmford journalist

Under 15 levels and shared the doubles honours with Richard Sutton, but this can only encour­ age a number of promising youngsters who competed, but are not yet playing League table tennis, to join the ranks.

At DEWSBURY it is goodbye to Gordon Sanders, who has left the town to follow his career in Leicester. The League will miss the services of a man who has served on the committee for the last ten years in a variety of posts and will probably be best remem­ bered for his evenhandedness as Chairman and for the excellent press coverage he obtained for table tennis in the local papers.

The esteem in which Gordon was held was recognized when he received the League’s President’s Award in 1988 and was made an Honorary Life Member of the League.

The League have produced the first two editions of a new News­ letter – an interesting and infor­ mative publication from one of the County’s smaller but more progressive organizations with fewer than forty teams – coverage is from International matches within reach of Dewsbury, through a proposed Junior League at the Earlsheaton Sports Centre to vital information to local players – the title being ‘Don’t get arrested or eaten by the alaskan when visiting . . . Enter these new directions in your handbook immediately . . .’

Well done, Dewsbury.
THE all-smiles England party with the coveted British Aerospace trophy includes on the left England's supremo-captain Don Parker with young Adam Parker making his debut in front of Denis George's camera. England squad newcomer is Sean Gibson between Skylet Andrew and Jill Parker. England (Skylet Andrew, Nicky Mason, Sean Parker) won the men's matches 5-0 against Scotland and Wales and 5-1 against Ireland. The England women came through without dropping a single game.

Brian Mileham
BRIAN MILEHAM is a name to watch for. The young man from Kent was runner-up to Neil Bevan at Crystal Palace at the Leeds Youth Cup finals. But how the lad from Margate is only No. 30 on the England list is a mystery.

At Bridlington, Tony Hooper (left) from Clacton and Alan Griggs (Andover) received their EITA merit awards for services to the EITA Championships Committee chaired by Mrs Doreen Stannard, a new life-member of the ETTA.

It was Brian Webster's camera in Paris that managed to snapshot the former world women's doubles champions Rosalind and Diane Rowe. Diane Scholer has lived in West Germany for many years is of course married to Ebbie Scholer.

Neil Bevan from Bude in Cornwall is a winning name these days. He is pictured here at Crystal Palace Leeds Youth cup finals with Leeds executive Steve Wild.

We finally managed to get a photograph of the three English umpires in Paris — Brian Webster's long lens again captured left to right John Lawton, Doug Young and Colin Hyland.
This Seminar requests that the English Table Tennis Association, National Council and all members endorse the "WOMEN IN TABLE TENNIS" Campaign, and implement the following proposals:

1. That the National Council endorses the formation of a Women's Steering Committee as part of the Development Department.
2. That the ETFA establish a full time position for a "WOMEN IN TABLE TENNIS" Co-Ordinator, initially with Sports Council funding as part of their Women in Sport initiative.
3. That Regional Co-Ordinators, County Associations and all Local Leagues appoint a Women's Organiser with the terms of reference to promote and organise table tennis programmes for women within their geographical areas of jurisdiction and to raise through the levels of the organisation with the National Co-Ordinator.
4. That the ETFA develop a Five-Year Plan to take into account all women's needs.
5. That the ETFA undertakes an intensive programme of promotion aimed at bringing more women and girls into table tennis, including brochures, posters and exhibitions.
6. That there is an urgent need to establish places for women to play, positive initial recommendations being a "Bounce Into Action" programme at Leisure Centres during the daytime and the setting up of table tennis evening classes similar to other sports.
7. That competition organisers should re-examine their events and implement all necessary changes designed to attract more women and girls into league and tournament play. Currently women have insufficient matches to guarantee a good day's play or warrant the necessary travel. Furthermore, it is important that women play at their own level. The following recommendations were made:
   - Introduce group play for all women's events, including doubles, and combine this with a grading system to allow all players to get 6/10 matches against players of their own standard.
   - Introduce a grading system for tournaments, i.e. Class 1: top 25 players, Class 2: 25-50 players, Class 3: 50-100 players.
   - Re-introduce Mixed Doubles events. Bring the social side back into tournaments. Suggested that a disco, for instance, be organised for the Saturday evening of a weekend event, so that young players can enjoy the table tennis during the day and have an enjoyable social time on the Saturday evening, similar to the VETTS events.
8. Recommended that a definite start be made on the Women's British League along the lines already proposed of two weekend days at a central venue, and that the League be organised by the Women's Steering Committee. The rules of the Men's league could be used to start and everything should be done to encourage the top women players to compete whilst not barring them from the Men's competition.
9. Recommended that each Regional Co-Ordinating Committee should be encouraged to establish a Women's Regional Club League where players could compete at their own level in a meaningful competition.
10. Local Leagues should be encouraged to establish a local Women's Division competition on a weekly basis at grass roots level.

The ETFA combines with the English Schools Table Tennis Association to ensure that table tennis is introduced to children in schools as an activity equally as good for girls as boys.

11. Recommended that the top female players go into primary schools and put on exhibitions to show that women play table tennis to a high level, this to be followed by a local coach/organiser to arrange table tennis programmes for the children. This could also generate some useful income for the top women players.

12. That the ETFA take the necessary steps to qualify an increased number of women coaches regionally and locally to meet the demand, this to be assisted through the Sports Council's regional participation grants.

13. That the ETFA implement all necessary measures designed to bring about international success. Recommendations include:
   - Equal prize money for women and girls in tournaments to enable more women and girls to play and play full time. In addition, this would help to eliminate the second class conditioning which starts at cadet level with less prize money being offered to girls although entry fees may be equal.
   - Allow the top 10 women, who are currently exempt, to play in the Class 2 events.
   - Arrange separate sponsorship for the Women's team if necessary, possibly along a feminine line, additional and not conflicting with Leeds and Butterfly.
   - Encourage manufacturers to change the image of women's clothing to make the game more attractive and fashionable.

**SCOTLAND**

By Denis George

WE ARE very happy to announce major sponsorship of Scottish table tennis by the LEEDS PERMANENT BUILDING SOCIETY. On November 5 "the LEEDS CHALLENGE" will be held at the Bell's Sports Centre, Perth, This invitation tournament, will have players from 10 countries - including the touring Chinese squad - participating. The event will be tele-recorded for subscription by the LEEDS SCOTTISH LEAGUE.

**EUROPEAN LEAGUE, DIVISION 2**

Due to the high cost of playing matches on a 'home' or 'away' basis, the eight countries involved met in Paris during the European Championships and everyone, except SPAIN, agreed to play-off the 1988/89 fixtures at three centralised venues:

3/4. 11.88 : 7 countries at Perth, Scotland.
4/5. 2/89 : 4 countries in Greece.
5/6. 2/89 : 3 countries in Norway.

SPAIN, however, will play their matches home and away in the conventional manner. Their match with SCOTLAND being played in Perth on 4.11.88.

The players of all eight countries will compete in the LEEDS CHALLENGE on 5.11.88.

**SCOTTISH TEAM CUP, Meadowbank, Edinburgh**

CENTRAL YMCA (Glasgow), represented by David McIlroy, Ian McLean and Euan Walker won the title for the 9th successive year. KNIGHTSWOOD (Glasgow) were in 2nd place.

**the LEEDS JUNIOR/CADET INTERNATIONAL, Prestatyn**

Honours were shared in this annual series of matches:
Junior Boys: WALES, SCOTLAND, IRELAND
Junior Girls: WALES, SCOTLAND 3
Mixed Cadets: WALES, SCOTLAND 7

**The CAIRNDALE JUNIOR QUADRANGULAR, Dumfries, 18/19.6.88**

This "one off" event, sponsored by the Cairndale Hotel, was held to celebrate the opening of the Dumfries Table Tennis Club's new club house. The England team (Jonathan Taylor, Leigh, Marie Thomlin, Joanna Roberts and Ian Robertson as NPC), as expected won quite easily, dropping only four individual matches - three to Scotland (Sarah Hurry won her two and Euan Walker beat Leigh Jeffries) and one to Wales (Steven Ward also beat Leigh Jeffries): SCOTLAND 4, WALES 4, ENGLAND 0.

**EUROPEAN YOUTH CHAMPIONSHIPS, Novi Sad**

Both our junior teams improved on their 1987 performances. The girls (Sarah Hurry & Lorraine Anderson) were 19th of 23, and on the men's team, Wally Andrew Bruce, Raymond Elder & Colin Robertson) finished 22nd of 26. Sarah Hurry performed with credit, winning 6 of her 10 matches.
Our juniors behind the Iron Curtain

CZECHOSLOVAKIA JUNIOR OPEN

England in three quarter-finals

by Jenny Heaton

HELD in Bratislava in their new purpose built table tennis hall with room for 12 tables (although only 9 were used for this tournament), and seating for 450 spectators. The hall, which is used from morning until late at night by men and women of the Bratislava Club Lokomotiv, by schools and the Youth squad, had only been opened a year earlier.

18 countries with 151 players competed in the Championships which was to be a tough test for many of the top contenders for the titles at the forthcoming European Youth Championships at Novi Sad.

Smallest team

England had the smallest team with 4 players but managed to make some impression, reaching the quarters in the boys team, boys doubles and girls doubles.

Our performances in the singles events were a little disappointing, with both Chris Oldfield and Julie Billington losing in the first round and Debbie Toole and Brad Billington going out in the second. Let me add straight away their opponents were all good players. There were few easy matches to be had in this tournament!

The playing schedule was pretty hectic with the first team matches timed to start at 8am. Unfortunately some tables got way behind and it meant our boys team in Round 1 and our girls team in Round 2 went on at the same time. After getting the boys underway with their match I confidently left them, as it was obvious the girls were going to have more problems with Hungary ‘B’.

The boys fulfilled my confidence and beat Poland 3-0. The girls had a close game but went down 3-1.

The next day was just as full starting at 8.40am with mixed doubles and finishing with 3rd round games at about 9.00pm. It was difficult for the players and myself to fit meals in around the schedule as we had to be lucky enough to catch coaches at the right times to get us to the hotel and back in time for the next matches.

The third day was less hectic as we were knocked out of the girls and boys doubles at 8.30am but we all enjoyed and learned from some good, closely fought games in the quarters and semis of the singles events.

RESULTS

Girls

Team - Hungary ‘B’
J. Billington bt. Demeter 17, 17
D. Toole bt. V. Wirth 11, 12
Doubles 18, -14, -12
J. Billington bt. V. Wirth 18, -19, -20
Hungary ‘B’ lost 3-2 to Czech the finalists who lost 3-2 to Romania Semi - Czech ‘A’ bt. Sweden 3-0, Romania bt. Hungary ‘A’ 3-1.

Boys

Round 1 - v - Poland won 3-0
B. Billington bt. Skierski 18, -10, 7
C. Oldfield bt. Kołodzięczyk 17, 12, 18
Doubles won 11, 18, 12
Round 2 - v - France ‘B’ won 3-0
B. Billington bt. Debruyne 21, 9, 18
C. Oldfield bt. Chaplain 14, 18
Doubles won 16, 17, 18

(cont. on page 35)
East Yorkshire Junior Open and Schools

Oldfield – power and experience
by REA BALMFORD

THE second East Yorkshire Junior 2 Star open Championships, which created such a good impression in their inaugural season twelve months ago, again attracted an entry of 220 plus competitors, despite all the problems posed by the postal disruption.

Under the control of referee Stuart Sherlock and deputy Richard Scruton, the event ran smoothly despite the necessity for a last minute readjustment of the seedings in the Junior Boys events resulting from the non-arrival of Michael O'Driscoll.

Moving up into pole position in both Singles and Doubles was O'Driscoll's Yorkshire colleague Chris Oldfield, and the Sheffield boy duly collected the titles, moving confidently to a Singles victory without the loss of a game, and then teaming up with scratch partner Graham Cook to add the Doubles honours.

Nottingham's Jason Bamford, seeded at 3, squeezed through the opener with three set wins over Ian Collier (quarters) and Howard Whewell, the second seed (semi-final) to make his first appearance in the final of a major tournament after getting a taste for life at the top with a number of outings in the later stages of previous competitions.

Like Michale Auchterlonie in the other semi, however, Bamford found the power and experience of Oldfield too much for him, but put up a tremendous fight which is hardly reflected in the scoreline.

In an all Yorkshire Doubles final the Oldfield - Cook team overcame Stephen Horrfield - Tim Pike, who had dismissed second seeds Whewell - Auchterlonie in the semi.

The Girls events were also dominated by the Yorkshire squad, but it was Julie Billington, the only semi-finalist from beyond the confines of the host county, who came out on top in the final clash with Debbie Toole, after previously teaming with her beaten opponent to claim the Doubles past Joanne Keighley - Ellen Meddings.

The ever-improving Sally Marling added both Cadet titles to Under 12 honours before going on to win four out of the first six sets in the Northern championship after getting a taste for life at the top with a number of outings in the later stages of previous competitions.

Like Michale Auchterlonie in the other semi, however, Bamford found the power and experience of Oldfield too much for him, but put up a tremendous fight which is hardly reflected in the scoreline.

Junior Girls Singles
Julie Billington (Chesterfield) bt Debbie Toole (Normanton) 9, 15.

Junior Boys Doubles
Graham Cook (Pontefract/Oldfield bt Stephen Horsfield (Sheffield)/Tim Pike (Wakefield) 16, -17, 18.

Junior Girls Doubles
Billingham/Toole bt Joanne Keighley (Bradford)/Ellen Meddings (Harrogate) 17, -16, 11.

Junior Boys (Restricted) Singles
Nicholas Bradfield (Maidenhead) bt Darren Howarth (Stockport) 20, 17.

Junior Girls (Restricted) Singles
Sally Marling/Hull bt Gail Ottolini (Market Drayton) -14, 18, 14.

Cadet Boys Singles

Cadet Girls Singles
Sally Marling bt Nicola Meddings (Sutton Coldfield) 17, 20, 19.

Cadet Boys Doubles
Edward Hatley (Essex) bt Andrew Nicholls/Graeme Sanderson (Washington) 17, 17.

Cadet Girls Doubles
Sally Marling/Nicola Meddings bt Angela Johnson (Hull)/Caroline Bentley (Bradford) 11, 12.

Cadet Boys (Restricted) Singles
Justin Bruton Barrow in Furness bt Phillip Neal (Hull) 14, -16, 19.

RESULTS

Junior Boys Singles
Semi-Finals: Chris Oldfield (Sheffield) bt Michael Auchterlonie (Halifax) 17, 16;
Jason Bamford (Nottingham) bt Howard Whewell (Roomendal) 19, 15, -18.
Final: Oldfield bt Bamford 17, 11.

Junior Girls Singles
Semi-Finals: Sally Marling (Hull) bt Michelle Martin (Bradford) 16, 16, 17, 18.
Sally Marling bt Michelle Martin (Bradford) 16, 17.
Final: Marling bt Martin 16, 17.

Junior Girls Doubles
Semi-Finals: Sally Marling/Ellen Meddings (Sutton Coldfield) bt Angela Johnson (Hull)/Caroline Bentley (Bradford) 19, 16, 16, 19.
Final: Marling/E. Meddings bt Johnson/Bentley 15, 20.

ENGLISH SCHOOLS' TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION

3-day international coming
by DAVID LOMAS

PLANS are already underway to organise the Leeds Schools International Championships at Stockland Green Leisure Centre, Eddington, Birmingham, on June 30, July 1/2, 1989. Last season's Championships - the first under the sponsorship by the Leeds Permanent Building Society - were the first major event at the new Stockland Green venue.

Although the national stages of the Dunlop National School Team Championships do not commence until January, 1989, most counties will be arranging local and county competitions this term. Entries are due in by December 10th, with preliminary notice of events to be entered to be notified by November 14th.

At the ETCA National Council meeting on October 8th, ESTTA Chairman John Arnold informed members about some of the recommendations of the School Sport Forum. The Forum was set up jointly by the Departments of the Environment and Education & Science. Its 41 page report was released in August of this year and is entitled "Sport & Young People - Partnership and Action". One of its recommendations is that Schools Sports Associations should encourage their members to link schools with clubs and encourage teachers and coaches to work together. Haven't I heard that somewhere before and sometime previously called "Bridging the Gap"?

The Association's new handbook has been published and is available from the ETCA General Secretary, Chuck Henry, Engleberg, Badger Lane, Woolley Moor, Derby DE5 6PG at a cost of £1.
Mailbox

From John Prean, Chairman, ETFA

I FEEL a number of comments in the leading article of the October issue need a reply.

1. The 11 up system is far from successful end of last season. The scoring began at 10 all and ended at 21. The competitors, who included Waldner, Appelgren, Persson and Prean entered into the spirit of things and, needless to say, there was none of the hassle which we got in our own English Top 12, which so discouraged administrators and sponsors. I receive numerous letters from local officials asking us to explore different scoring systems to make the game more interesting. The original idea came from a TV Producer and considerable interest in the experiment was shown by our European colleagues during meetings in the course of the European Championships. The survey taken during the English Top 12 showed a very favourable audience reaction.

All these are factors which one cannot simply ignore and walk away from because one or two players and others prefer the ways of the last 50 years which have brought table tennis to the low status from which we are now energetically rescuing it.

2. I am at an even greater loss to understand the disparaging remarks about our England/China series which was such an enormous success in April 1987, being received with great enthusiasm by crowds which have not been seen in table tennis for very many years. When we announced the news that we had arranged a further visit, twelve matches had been arranged in a matter of weeks, organisers and sponsors found. Such is and was the interest. Similarly, I am at a loss to understand the comments on “rest days” since our busiest players will have three rest days in the tour of 12 matches and are never required to play more than two singles per evening, compared with six singles and five doubles in one day in a 3 star Tournament!

It is a pity that a warmer welcome cannot be given in our own magazine to what, I am confident, will have proved a wonderful shot in the arm for table tennis.

JOHN PREAN

Last straw – “Ping-pong” on television

WHAT’S in a name? Where Table Tennis is concerned quite a lot. I attended the seminar on Women in Table Tennis and made a point of saying that Table Tennis should first, and foremost, put forward the right image. We are playing a sport that requires hard work, movement and dedication, not the image of “Ping Pong” which the ordinary “lay” people refer to. To pit patting a ball over the kitchen table, which is as the name sounds. I always thought that the game of “Ping Pong” was a game designed for the kitchen or dining room table with vellum bats, which is something completely different to the game which is known as Table Tennis and played today.

Amazed I was rather amazed and I must say, rather incensed that the majority of those present did not appear to agree with me (including the Chief Executive and Vice Chairman of the ETFA and top women players and coaches, who did not seem to mind what it was called as long as people played). If this is the case then I suggest we should change the name of the ETFA to the EPPA (English Ping Pong Association) when maybe more people will be encouraged to join. I must point out that this is not the first time that I have had occasion to put this question to the ETFA and have never received a proper answer.

Old names

When Table Tennis is mentioned to “lay” people the answer usually goes “like the Chinese we have seen on television”, not like Desmond Douglas or any of our other current internationals. The only English names that they appear to remember are Johnny Leach, Chester Barnes or in the case of women the Rowe Twins, my point being that if this is the thinking of the general public what chance have the women in the sport to make a mark to become recognised? This will never happen whilst it is called “Ping Pong”.

The last straw came when the BBC gave a review of Carl Prean before his departure to the Olympics and finished by saying in a derogatory manner “Ping Pong in Seoul”. Does Carl Prean consider himself a Ping Pong player? I hope not and if the ETFA do promote the right image and name, then in my opinion we have no hope at all of being recognised as a sport with a future.

PAT WALES (Mrs) WEST SUSSEX

Aged 82 last season

I have decided this coming season will be my last in competitive table tennis. By the time it ends next March I shall have reached the age of 82.

If any enthusiast for the game is interested I possess “Table Tennis” for 1965/66 and “Table Tennis News” 1966/67 to 1988 up to date. For distribution free of charge, preferably to someone who can call at this address to collect them. They are all in good condition.

K. WOODARD

ETFA. “100” Club Member

STANDARDS AND TRENDS

Produced and sponsored by

Eagle Star

Eagle Star

Old names and current internationals

Old names include Johnny Leach, Chester Barnes or the Rowe Twins. Current internationals may include Desmond Douglas and others.

STOP PRESS

Mandy Sainsbury very seriously injured in a car crash last year has made a remarkable recovery and is back in action and playing for a team in West Germany.

RETIRING IN BRADFORD

MR NUNN of Sedbergh Boys Club, Bradford is retiring from voluntary youth work after serving the community for over 45 years, 23 of these at Parkside Sports Centre, Bradford, but most of his work has been done at Sedbergh Boys Club, Bradford. His services have been honoured by National Association Boys Clubs, Yorkshire Association Boys Clubs, England Table Tennis Association, Bradford Table Tennis Association, and Yorkshire Table Tennis Association, who have just made him a Vice President for his work.

All his table tennis friends at Sedbergh thought you should know he has for many years helped to raise funds for the twin towns and the Bradford Children Cinderella Homes.

STOP PRESS

Mandy Sainsbury very seriously injured in a car crash last year has made a remarkable recovery and is back in action and playing for a team in West Germany.
New blades from Butterfly

by AUSTIN SALEADO in SRI LANKA

TABLE TENNIS is primarily and foremost a delicate game of skill. It demands in the player quick, fast and speed movement, controlled and co-ordinate arm and muscle dexterity, a good eye, plus - if one wants to succeed competitively at the winner's edge - sustained and errorlessly orchestrated practice.

Like in all games of skill and technique, in Table Tennis too, the role of luck and fortune cannot be discounted. But basically good equipment and right technique constitutes the decisive winning factor in the game.

Table tennis also has international visibility - a lot of it really - due to the national and regional traditions that have grown up with it today. In the East, China and Japan, both have very rich traditions of the game going back to many years of sporting history.

World leader Japan, a world leader in the manufacture and marketing of Table Tennis products and equipment, has in recent years, been making a rapid dent in the world market in TT goods. The most prestigious Japanese name in Table Tennis is "Butterfly". Tamasa, the makers of "Butterfly", with a fine range of Table Tennis equipment and clothing, are right in the forefront today as manufactuers and market suppliers and also - in the best Japanese tradition - researchers and hi-tech production leaders. The secret of Japanese success is on-line research backed with technology and innovative design. Here, in Table Tennis, Tamasa easily maintains a lead.

The newest state of the art advances and expertise in Table Tennis, for players, are communicated world wide by Tamasa in the excellent "Table Tennis Report" which they publish. The "Report" is a glossy magazine, packed with superb pictures, and is available to subscribers with an English language supplement. The Tamasa "Report" covers international Table Tennis with on the spot reportage and carries plenty of action to spotlight technique and strategy.

The English supplement to the "Report" is certainly a help for the non-Japanese reader, but even without it, the pictures in the magazine communicate their own message. The Tamasa "Table Tennis Report" is today one of the best instruction cum coaching packages one can buy in the market.

In Table Tennis, the basic tool or equipment for the player, is always the blade, sometimes called the racquet. The quality of the blade determines, with right inputs of expertise and technique, how well the game goes. Speed, spin, defence, stroke, smash or whatever one brings into it, in more ways than one, is delicately controlled and balanced by the speed and accuracy of the blade one uses. Of course, it must be added that in the final analysis, it is the player and not the blade that ultimately wins the tough competition.

Impressive Tamasa

Tamasa, with an impressive track record of nineteen gold medals, for champion winners, who used "Butterfly" equipment, now showcase their newest product line, the "Carbon Tamca Blade". The new Carbon Tamca Blade is a sophisticated product which uses carbon lining to give speed to the blade.

The product line is as follows: Tamca - 5000 - Gergely - Designed for fast speed. Excellent for the power drive at mid-distance, Tamca - 5000 - Allure - A good blade for defence, specially for a player with a range of stable chops, Tamca - 5000 - Scorna - A blade created specially for combination bat players, Tamca - 5000 - Klapmar - A fast bat, superb on the drive, specially close to the table.

TOWARDS the end of the summer ranking trials were held for Bath Juniors at the Bath Sports Centre. With the top 5 finishers qualifying for the Avon Junior preliminary ranking trials at Westons-Mare on Sept 4th. The system employed was based on an American Round Robin style of play, and the top seven places went to the following:

1. Danny Anzor, (Timberly Y.C.)
2. Scott Carpenter, (R.N.S.T.)
3. Phil Millen, (Timberly)
4. Stuart Duke, (Timberly Y.C.)
5. Maxle, (Copenacre)
6. Alan Billing, (Timberly Y.C.)
7. Richard Aker, (Timberly Y.C.)

The Western Counties Team Tournament will be staged by Avon on Sunday 12th March at Horfield Sports Centre Bristol.

WEST CORNWALL

Membership has slumped badly this season. Roger Bunt, who has given Cornish T.T. a life time of service, has resigned as League Chairman and duly elected a Vice-President at this years AGM.

I understand that Tom Honey is leaving Cornwall next year to take up permanent residence in Girona, Spain, Cornwall's loss could well be Scotlands gain.

Tom's several decades of dedicated T.T. work for Cornwall will indeed be sadly missed and more so - Cornwall must make the most of him for this current remaining season.

Representing the S.W.R. in the British Open table tennis championship for the disabled recently in Derby, Glenn Lloyd from Newent in Glos won the British Open Mens Doubles with Cornwalls Pat Wilson.

Lloyd, a paraplegic player with some 20 years of T.T. experience behind him, contacted polio before he was five years old and is paralysed from the waist downwards.

Last year in these championships Glynn actually won the Open Singles Title, he plays T.T. in the Gloucester City 3rd Division for Gloucester Spinners, and many able bodied players find him very difficult to beat.

The Bath Junior ranking trials were held recently at the Bath Sports Centre, with the top five finishers qualifying for the Avon County Junior preliminary ranking trials on September 4th at Weston-Super-Mare.


The Bathwick Tyres T.Y.C. has re-opened its "Friday Night" club practice at the Bath Sports Centre and it is good to see new Junior Players attending on the first couple of weeks, lets hope that there is no fall-off of these players.

New teams join the Wiltshire League: The 47th season of the West Wils T.T. League begins on Sept 19th with a total of 41 teams (an increase of 3 on last season).

New teams competing in the Premier Div will be County Gents & Spinners, who will be playing at the Heywood Village hall & Melksham T.T. Club "A" team.

Both of these teams will have an International Presence, the Heywood team will include veteran Jimmy Lowe, a former England player, while the Melksham team will be led by England ranked player and local professional coach - Kevin Satchell at the time of writing No 8 in the Country.

CADET CHAMPIONS - INTER CITY A VEREY VETERAN CHAMPIONS - SWINDON

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VETERANS NORTH

1. Swindon 72 - 9
2. Bristol A 71 - 10
3. Gloucester 55 - 26
4. Bridgwater 47 - 34
5. Bristol B 47 - 34

CADETS NORTH
### THE LENTEC NATIONAL RANKING LIST

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| 1. | Michael O'Driscoll (Mirfield) | 958 |
| 2. | Chris Oldfield (Cresford) | 770 |
| 3. | Jonathan Taylor (Denton) | 599 |
| 4. | Neil Bevan (Bude) | 521 |
| 5. | Leigh Jeffries (Sutton Coldfield) | 520 |
| 6. | Grant Soldier (Barking) | 515 |
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| 9. | Jason Bamford (Nottingham) | 284 |
| 10. | Alan Cole (Crawley) | 279 |
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| 81. | Alexander Perry (Credon) | 58 |
| 82. | Jeffrey Giles (Winchester) | 58 |
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| 99. | Raymond Powell (Selby) | 41 |
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**CADET BOYS**

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| 2. | Alexander Perry (Credon) | 228 |
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| 16. | Kevin Hodgson (Barrow /Furness) | 63 |
| 17. | Stephen Meddings (S. Coldfield) | 61 |
| 18. | Ewan Finlayson (Nailsea) | 59 |
| 19. | Samuel Henley (Midford) | 51 |
| 20. | Raymond Pollock (Gloucester) | 49 |
| 21. | Simon Tang (Torquay) | 48 |
| 22. | Benjamin Ware (Chingford) | 47 |
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| 24. | John Blasco (South Croydon) | 41 |
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**CADET GIRLS**

| 1. | Katherine Goodall (Leeds) | 699 |
| 2. | Sally Marling (Hull) | 402 |
| 3. | Nicola Meddings (S. Coldfield) | 362 |
| 4. | Sara Williams (Hillingdon) | 354 |
| 5. | Linda Radford (Upminster) | 329 |
| 6. | Nicola Deaton (Chesterfield) | 324 |
| 7. | Tracey Cole (Crawley) | 208 |
| 8. | Claire Pangley (Paignton) | 157 |
| 9. | Sarah Seaholme (Watford) | 127 |
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| 11. | Rachel Boon (Launceston) | 90 |
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**THE LENTEC NATIONAL RANKING LIST**

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**JUNIOR BOYS AND GIRLS**

— in conjuction with the ETFA

Effective 1 August 1988
## How the seniors stand

### THE LENTEC NATIONAL RANKING LIST

—in conjunction with the ETTA

Effective 1 August 1988

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<td>1. Alison Gordon (Reading) 1012</td>
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<td>2. Alan Cooke (Chesterfield) 1372</td>
<td>2. Lisa Lomas (Dunstable) 796</td>
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<td>3. Carl Pean (Rye) 1144</td>
<td>3. Fiona Elliot (Wolverhampton) 699</td>
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<td>4. Skyelet Andrew (Stratford) 831</td>
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<td>5. Nicky Mason (Bexhill) 670</td>
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<td>6. Jimmy Stokes (Reading) 614</td>
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<td>7. John Souter (Neasden) 557</td>
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<td>11. John Randles (Wolverhampton) 182</td>
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<td>12. Matthew Syed (Reading) 435</td>
<td>12. Claire Potts (Chester) 181</td>
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<td>13. Nigel Eckersley (Wilmso) 403</td>
<td>13. Helen Lower (Southampton) 177</td>
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<td>15. Tony Oldfield (Sheffield) 303</td>
<td>15. Melanie Carev (Purton) 126</td>
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<td>16. Steven Dorking (Hornchurch) 397</td>
<td>16. Jean Parker (Preston) 160</td>
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<td>17. Philip Bradbury (Aylesbury) 381</td>
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<td>18. Deborah Toole (Norwich) 158</td>
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<td>21. Adrian Dixon (Reading) 349</td>
<td>21. Cheryl Buttery (Lincoln) 140</td>
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<td>22. John Hilton (Manchester) 343</td>
<td>22. Elaine Short (Plymouth) 137</td>
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<td>23. John Holland (Nottingham) 339</td>
<td>23. Helen Perrott (Keynsham) 135</td>
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<td>70. Anthony Sweet (Plymouth) 239</td>
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<td>71. Phillip Vickers (Burrowas) 236</td>
<td>71. Phillip Vickers (Burrowas) 88</td>
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</table>
ROY EVANS, mastermind of the ITTF for some 36 years was presented with an Olympic Order in Seoul for his part in getting table tennis into the full Games programme.

He was secretary of the ITTF for 16 years and its president for 20, before losing the chair to Ichiro Ogimura in New Delhi last year. Said Roy in Seoul "It was a great surprise and a final accolade, this is the jewel in the crown." Roy and Nancy Evans now have another task ahead of them - masterminding the organisation of the Commonwealth Games in Cardiff next March.
I was privileged to be invited to attend on behalf of the Association accompanying by Stuart Worrel a Coach from Lincoln with experience as a Non-Playing Captain with England teams, to an International Coaching Seminar in Ancient Olympia, Greece from 2nd-9th August.

This Seminar of top level coaches from 15 countries was hosted by the Greek T.T. Association in conjunction with the International Olympic Academy of Greece and was held at Ancient Olympia which is a 5 hour coach journey from Athens.

The lecturers conducting the seminar were Vlado Miko of Czechoslovakia, Radivoj Hudetz of Yugoslavia, Kjell Johansson of Sweden and Zhuang Jiafu top Chinese Coach, the session being under the supervision of the ITTF President Ichiro Ogimura of Japan.

The subjects were:

1. The development tendencies of the technique as well as about the possibilities and methods of improving the individual technique of a player (Hudetz)
2. Swedish Training Camp System (National & National Junior) - Club Training Swedish T.T. School in Falkenberg (Johansson of Sweden)
3. The system of training Czechoslovak National Team and other top players in Czechoslovakia (Miko)

The lectures took place in the mornings from 9.0 - 1.00 with breaks after every 45 minutes due to the intense heat and also for the team of women interpreters who were in unbearable soundproof cubicles.

The afternoons were free in which we spent at the outdoor swimming pool and lectures were resumed at 5.0 until 7.0 with again breaks in between, followed by evening meal at 8.0 with the rest of the evening spent in bar, sitting outside or walking 2 miles into the Olympic village.

Tuesday was our first morning at the Olympic Academy having arrived there late Monday afternoon.

We were awakened by the music of the Zorba Dance played very loud relayed through a loud-speaker on a tree in the grove where our rooms were situated.

The opening session was an Official Ceremony with speeches and then standing for the Greek National Anthem.

The first item on the agenda was for each national representative to come out to the front to introduce themselves stating, what country they were from and what they did.

The Chinese coach gave his lecture in the morning and evening and concluded with a video tape of training session by Jiang Jiliang lasting 35 minutes.

On the Wednesday morning everyone went on a guided tour to the ancient ruins to see the temples and the first Olympic Stadium of 776 B.C. during which the ITTF President laid a wreath on the statue of Pierre Coubertin who was responsible for the first Modern Olympics in Athens in 1896.

Lectures resumed on Wednesday evening with Kjell Johansson and he concluded his subjects with the first lecture on Thursday morning. The second lecture of the morning was by Ichiro Ogimura the President highlighting the future plans of the ITTF and afterwards gave a gift case of coloured marking pens.

The evening session was somewhat of a surprise when it was announced that each country would be asked to give a report on his country's coaching structure.

After half of the countries had done this, it was decided that the remainder would give their report next morning. To finish the session Johansson gave a demonstration of forehand drive and smash sequence. A tournament was organised for Senior and Veteran players. This was like playing in a sauna as there was no air conditioning in the room. Stuart and I both lost in the First Round.

The Saturday morning lecture was by Miko and he continued in the evening by showing two tapes, one of service and topspin play in the World Championships and the other showing footwork and body position sequences outlined by visual aid - a very good tape this last one and is worth trying to obtain.

The Chinese coach had most of the questions put to him and he finished off by giving a short demonstration of service technique. This was followed by the Seminar Administrator George Selioniotakis who is Chairman of the Greek T.T. Association's Technical Committee presenting each representative with a gift from his Association plus a signed Certificate of Attendance and a very nice book of the International Olympic Academy.

In conclusion, I have to praise the remarkable organising ability of George Selioniotakis who undoubtedly made the Seminar such a great success.

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Two tapes, produced under the supervision of ETFA, covering Basic Skills to Advanced Strokes. £25.00 each plus £1.50 post & packing.

Further details and complete catalogue of other sports coaching videos from:

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Telephone: 01-828 1671
Conclusion of John Prean at the Olympics

ENGLISH TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION
CHRISTMAS COACHING COURSE

VENUE: Lilleshall Hall National Sports Centre
DATES: 28th to 31st December 1988
COACHES: Donald Parker – England Team Manager & Director of Coaching
          Alan Cooke – National Champion
COST: £110 including VAT

Participants will arrive for lunch on 28th December and depart after breakfast on 30th December. The course will be beneficial to players of any standard but particularly to those who are playing in tournaments as the emphasis during the three days will be on developing a winning game. Top England ranked players will be brought in to practice with course members. There will also be discussion and video analysis in the evenings.

To: A W Shipley
English Table Tennis Association
Queensbury House
Havelock Road
Hastings, East Sussex TN34 1HF

Please reserve me a place on the Coaching Course at Lilleshall on 28th to 31st December 1988.
My cheque for £110 is enclosed.
Name
ADDRESS

CHAIRMAN IN SEOUL
(continued from Page 9)

He played magnificently. He has fantastic mobility and a loop fit for an angel. I think he would have won with a fairer service; not all shared that view. The game itself remains in turmoil, whilst such services are allowed. Officials seem more concerned about rubbers particularly those with which hardly anybody now plays. Cries for standardisation (as if this were possible) can still be heard, mainly from those who last played with a hard bat.

Tough
For Europe it was a bitterly disappointing event. Apart from the Lupulescu/Primorac Doubles Silver only 2 medals and those only bronze! The one by Lindh and by Perkovic and Fazlic in the Ladies’ Doubles and that would hardly have been won if the Chinese or Koreans had been able to field 2 pairs rather than one. However, my confidence in European Table Tennis remains. My next notes will include a fuller analysis of the apparent European failure and the Chinese disappointments. I end as I began, my faith in the sport undiminished, but in organisation and marketing terms, it seemed to me that the international body suffers from the same malaise which the English Association has begun to put right during the last couple of years. This has to be in some respects a tough process, but one that has to be faced if the sport is to have a future.

Despite riveting play at times, the dull patches dominated. Presentation, showmanship were not merely poor. They did not appear to have been thought of. The Sport will not match the success of others until it matches their marketing skills. Whilst our rivals have begun to present their sports as show business and have attracted vast publics, the Olympic Table Tennis Show remained rooted in our youth club and amateur traditions. It was flat, limp and uninspired. We were lucky in our players, because they alone saved the day. The Olympics were not the breakthrough the sport needed. It was another opportunity lost. Barcelona must be better... I PRAY WE MAKE GOOD USE OF THE TIME.
LILLESHEAL National Sports Centre, the venue for our National Squad training and many other table tennis groups, is now able to offer all table tennis enthusiasts the chance to test their fitness. Everyone recognises the need to be fit to compete at any sport and table tennis is no exception. The effects of not being fit enough is the onset of fatigue resulting in impaired skill and decision making. It is also true that the fitter you become the less likely you are to serious injury and quicker you will recover from minor injuries.

The New Human Performance Department at Lilleshall opened in January and was funded by the FA., primarily for footballers, but also available to all sports people.

This department assesses the fitness of any sportsperson and provides guidance on appropriate training requirements for individuals or squads. The assessment programme can be tailored to suit the fitness requirements of any individual sport.

I attended a seminar at Lilleshall in June which included a practical demonstration of the fully computerised exercise testing equipment used to measure various fitness factors. These include:

1. **Maximum oxygen uptake (VO2 max).** This is the maximum amount of oxygen which can be supplied to the muscles over a one minute period and is widely accepted as being the most reliable available indicator of an individual's aerobic or endurance fitness.

2. **Speed Endurance,** which is an individual's ability to perform repeated bouts of intensive exercise following minimal periods of recovery.

3. **Blood Lactate concentration at 1, 5, 10, 15 and 20 minutes after test:** Blood lactate is a major cause of fatigue during and after intensive exercise and this is measured to ensure that it is cleared from the muscles and blood at an acceptable rate.

4. **Haemoglobin,** this is the oxygen carrying component of the blood and it is therefore essential to have a sufficient level. A low haemoglobin value will result in tiredness and fatigue occurring.

5. **Cholesterol level,** if high, results in the arteries gradually starting to block and may eventually lead to heart attacks or strokes.

6. **Body fat percentage,** the weight of any individual is made up of a certain amount of fat. For fit males the percentage of total body weight which is fat should not exceed 15% and should ideally be between 10% - 12%.

7. **Lung functions,** i.e. measuring lung volume and elasticity.

8. **Iso kinetic Strength and Endurance,** any groups of muscles can be compared to identify imbalances in muscle usage. This test is particularly useful in recommending required exercise and prevention of injury in any muscle groups. The muscle groups tested would depend on the sport an individual takes part in.

   - e.g. quadr — hamstrings in leg.

   - The right and left leg could also be compared to show any imbalance in limb usage (favouring one leg over the other).

9. **Isokinetic Strength and Endurance,** any groups of muscles can be compared to identify imbalances in muscle usage. This test is particularly useful in recommending required exercise and prevention of injury in any muscle groups. The muscle groups tested would depend on the sport an individual takes part in.

   - e.g. quadr — hamstrings in leg.

   - The right and left leg could also be compared to show any imbalance in limb usage (favouring one leg over the other).

## Six tournaments ahead

MEMBERS and non-members of the thriving Veterans English Table Tennis Society have a busy season ahead with five tournaments, open to both members and non-members. The events are:

1. **Eastern Masters** .... 22nd/23rd October
2. **Southern Masters** .... 19th/20th November
3. **Midlands Masters** .... 28th/29th January
4. **Swindon (Wiltshire)** .... 2nd/3rd March
5. **Northern Masters** .... 8th/9th April
6. **National Masters** .... 27th/28th May

Most of the tournaments include a dinner and music for dancing on the Saturday evening. Membership qualifies for a discount on Entry Fees to these tournaments.

## THE TOP 20's VETTS NATIONAL RANKING LISTS:

In conjunction with the LENTEC Results Service

<table>
<thead>
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<th>MEN</th>
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<td>John Hilton</td>
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<td>Derek Holman</td>
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<td>Peter Radford</td>
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<td>Ralph Gunion</td>
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<td>Henry Bust</td>
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<td>Keith Horton</td>
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<td>Matt Shadden</td>
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<td>Ramesh Bhalla</td>
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<td>Babs Adedayo</td>
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<td>Walter Allanson</td>
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<td>Andy Meads</td>
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<td>Alan Timewell</td>
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<td>David Sheadbone</td>
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<td>Marion Garlinge</td>
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<td>Linda Reid</td>
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<td>Gillian Knightly</td>
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<td>Patricia Bassano</td>
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<td>Margaret Dignum</td>
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<td>Joyce Coop</td>
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<td>Susan Felstead</td>
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<td>Christine Davies</td>
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<td>Jean Smith</td>
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<td>Gillian White</td>
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ENGLAND squad members Nicky Mason (No.5) and Alison Gordon (No.1) retained their Stamco Sussex Open singles without being unduly stretched at Hastings Sports Centre on October 9. They each won two titles.

Mason retained his Mens Singles title and pocketed a cheque for £220 with a comfortable final victory over Guildford’s Glenn Baker. Mason’s passage to the final was made easier through the absence of Steven Mills and Matthew Syed. Steven Dorking bowed out to Andy Cunningham. Sussex County player Ritchie Venner came through to meet Mason in the semi-final with an excellent three set victory over Joe Kennedy. In the other half, Colin Wilson came in to take a seeded position occupied by David Hannah, but unable to compete due to injury, and both he and Baker came through comfortably to meet in the semi-final which Baker won after a close match.

The Womens Singles final was again a triumph for England’s No 1 Alison Gordon, having chosen to play in the tournament and not in a rearranged British League match. Alison had a comfortable two set victory over Sue Collier in the final taking the title for the fifth time in a row and the sixth time in all, so overtaking the achievements of Karen Witt and Karenza Matthews respectively, Alison beat former winner Lesley Radford in the semi-final; Lesley taking advantage of the absence of Carol Giles (who was taking Alison’s place in the British League match). Sue Collier came through to the final with a hard earned victory over 2nd seeded Jill Harris.

Doubles shock

The Mens Doubles provided a big shock when the holders Nicky Mason and Steven Dorking went out in the quarter-final to the Moore brothers from Sussex, in 3 games. Unfortunately, the Moores were denied a final place going out to Ian Attridge and Joe Kennedy in the semi-final despite taking the first set. In the other half of the draw, Baker and Wilson came through without many problems and took the title. In the Womens Doubles, semi-final opponents Jill Harris and Sue Collier teamed up to take the title beating Alison Gordon and Juliet Houghton.

Alison Gordon

Two for Joe

With the two top Singles seeds teaming up, it was odds on that Mason and Alison Gordon would take the Mixed Doubles title but they were made to fight in the semi-final beating John Burleton and Juliet Houghton and then a close victory over Joe Kennedy and Jill Harris in the final. Kennedy had won this title two years running with Mandy Sainsbury. After winning the title for four successive years, Henry Buist was unable to defend his Veterans Singles title and after a hard fought semi-final and final, it was Peter Radford who took the trophy this year. In the semi-final, he beat Sussex’s Keith Horton game 21 in the third and had a narrow victory over last year’s losing finalist, Derek Holman.

LANCASHIRE & CHESHIRE LEAGUE

by GEORGE YATES

As last season 51 teams will participate in the seven men’s divisions of the Lancashire and Cheshire League this despite the loss of Mid-Lancs (2 teams), St Helens (1 team) together with Bury A and Farnworth B.

Compensation has been afforded by the entry of Hyndburn, Macclesfield A, Manchester Banks A and Southport A and B. The four juniors divisions however show an overall loss of two teams with Nelson A being the only newcomers against the loss of Burnley B, Crewe B and Macclesfield A.

Oldham have withdrawn their A team form the women’s second division their place having been taken over by Preston A but in the three veterans divisions the loss of Liverpool A and Mid-Lancs has been more than made good by the entry of Liverpool Business Houses, Nelson, Oldham A and Wigan.

The overall entry is:-

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Divisions</th>
<th>Teams</th>
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<tr>
<td>Women’s</td>
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<td>Juniors</td>
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<tr>
<td>Veterans</td>
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Re-jigged after the inaugural season the three veterans divisions are made up as follows:-

Division 1                      Division 2                      Division 3
---                              ---                              ---
Bolton                           Blackpool                        Barrow
Farnworth                        Buryport                        Lancaster/Morecambe A
Liverpool                         Crewe                           Liverpool Business Houses
Macclesfield                     Ellesmere Port                  Nelson
Preston                          Halton                           Oldham A
Stockport                        Lancaster/Morecambe             Rochdale
Warrington                       Trafford                         Wigan
Wirral                           Wirral A                         Wirral A

Dennis J. Smith will again combine the roles of Hon. General Secretary and Hon Treasurer his address being The White House, Burfield Drive, Appleton, nr Warrington, Cheshire. (Phone: Warrington 64007).
KIRKLEES JUNIOR 2-STAR OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS

Debbie Toole upsets top seed

by GORDON SANDERS

LOCAL favourite MICHAEL O'DRISCOLL of MIRFIELD, the current English Junior Champion, delighted some 300 spectators in retaining the Boys' Singles title at Huddersfield Sports Centre.

In a closely-fought final, he defeated the No 2 seed, county colleague and fellow international CHRIS OLDFIELD -21, 13, 19.

Yorkshire was well represented in the honours as DEBBIE TOOLE of NORMANTON overcame the No 1 Seed JULIE BILLINGTON of Chesterfield 16, 15, in the Junior Girls Singles. SALLY MARLING of Hull justified her No 2 national Cadet ranking by beating LINDA RADFORD of Upminster (No 5) in the Cadet Girls Singles, and NICOLA DEATON of Chesterfield in the U/12 event and then taking the Category 2 Junior Girls' Singles title, where her sister SAMANTHA was her unfortunate victim.

In the Cadet Boys' Singles the No 2, 3 and 4 ranked players were eliminated early leaving EDWARD HATLEY of FRIMLEY (national No 13) to emerge as champion, whilst ADRIAN VINCENT (No 29 from PLYMOUTH) overcame STEPHEN MEDIINGS of SUTTON COLDFIELD in the U/12s.

Good move

The tournament attracted 248 entries and the staging of the main-event finals during the afternoons proved to be hugely popular with players and spectators alike.

RESULTS

J.B.S.  S/F  M. O'Driscoll  b  J. Taylor -19, 14, 19
1. Oldfield  b  H. Whevell 13, -18, 13
2. FINAL  O'Driscoll  b  Oldfield -21, 13, 19

J.G.S.  S/F  J. Billington  b  N. Deaton 8, 18
1. Deaeton  b  S. Pengelly 13, 7
2. FINAL  Toole  b  Billington 16, 18

J.B.D.  S/F  D. Holland/G. Soldier  b  J. Taylor/G. Knights 16, 16
1. Oldfield/C. Oldfield  b  P. Bowler/S. Hanks 11, -19, 12
2. FINAL  O'Driscoll/Oldfield  b  Holland/Soldier 15, 13

J.C.G.  S/F  S. Marling/S. Marling  b  J. Pope/J. Thomas 8, 15
1. Billington/D. Toole  b  N. Deaton/L. Radford 20, 11
2. FINAL  Billington/Toole  b  Marling/Marling 19, 18

C.B.S.  S/F  E. Hatley  b  J. Braunt 14, -11, 9
1. Sanderson  b  R. Powell 19, -20, 16
2. FINAL  Hatley  b  Sanderson 17, 14

C.G.S.  S/F  Sally Marling  b  C. Pengelly 8, 13
1. Radford  b  N. Deaton 20, 18
2. FINAL  Marling  b  Radford 18, 11

C.B.D.  S/F  D. Baker/M. Hewett  b  D. Katz/E. Hatley 12, 16
1. Neal/S. Meddings  b  J. May/A. Vincent 20, -14, 11
2. FINAL  Baker/Hewett  b  Neal/Meddings 22, 19

C.G.D.  S/F  S. Lees/N. Williams  b  L. Heyward/C. Pengelly 12, 15
1. Radford/Deaton  b  C. Bentley/Z. Buchanan 12, 16
2. FINAL  Radford/Deaton  b  Lees/Williams 14, -14, 17

U/12.B.S.  S/F  A. Vincent  b  D. Heath 12, -19, 17
1. Meddings  b  G. Thornton-Allen 11, 17
2. FINAL  Vincent  b  Meddings 18, 11

U/12.G.S.  S/F  N. Deaton  b  L. Heyward 10, 13
1. Marling  b  M. Martin 9, 13
2. FINAL  Marling  b  Deaton -13, 18, 14

CAT.2.I.B.S.  S/F  G. Jones  b  M. Greenwood 6, 15
1. Collier  b  I. Collier 12, -18, 16
2. FINAL  Bowler  b  Jones 17, 11

CAT.2.I.G.S.  S/F  Samantha Marling  b  S. Creasey 23, 12
1. Bowler  b  S. Baggeley 12, 12
2. FINAL  Bowler  b  Sam Marling 15, -15, 13

CAT.2.C.B.S.  S/F  C. Crouch  b  M. King 18, 19
1. Sewell  b  S. Chalil 14, -14, 15
2. FINAL  Crouch  b  Hackett 9, 16

CAT.2.C.G.S.  S/F  N. Williams  b  T. Garrett 6, 7
1. Garrett  b  C. Hand 14, -17, 20
2. FINAL  Williams  b  Garrett 19, 11

WEST COUNTRY NEWS

by ALF PEPPARD

THE annual Three Cities Festival of Sport ie; Gloucester - Hereford - Worcester, hosted this year by Worcester at the Perdiswell Sports Centre was a great success, the hosts eventually ran out clear winners with Gloucester coming second and Hereford third, Dave Watton Worcesters Chairman played an excellent role as Hon-Referee.

Dave Harvey the current County Singles Champion has been coaching Lady Players on Saturday afternoons this summer at the Chalton Kings Sports Complex just outside Cheltenham, with the greatest respect to the fairer sex - Gloucester in recent years have not been rated for much strength in Ladies play.

Dave's protege's in the coaching were the following. Alison Cox - Linda Probert - Julie Taylor - Karen Harvey - Leslie Dewick - Jacqui Carver - Heather Fannin - Helen Arnold - Gill Smith & occasionally Roz Ross.

The annual County Closed Championships will again be played in Cheltenham on Sunday Nov 20th.

In the Leeds British National League Cheltenham Saracens find themselves in the 2nd Div (South) for this season, owing to a team pull-out. Last year the Cheltenham based club finished up the season in Division 3 West in third position.

Bob Attwood, Saracens Secretary informs me that the team will be without the valued services of Steve Moreman this season which is indeed a great pity because Steve did much valued work for both County and Saracens, however I understand that Mark Owen ranked at 74 on the Senior rankings will be taking Steve's place.
**Tournament Scene**

**At the Sun-Life 2-star Bristol Open**

John Lewis, Promotions Officer of Sun Life Assurance, with Nicky Mason (left) and Stephen Dorking, winners of the Men's Doubles title at the Sun Life Bristol Open Table Tennis Championships. The pairing fully justified their No. 1 seeding for the event by beating Glenn Baker and Sean Gibson in the final by 21-15, 21-13.

**OBITUARY**

**ROY MOOR**
Journalist

I LEARNT only recently of the death in June of one of the doyens of sports journalism Roy Moor, who wrote about many sports for many years including table tennis for the Daily Mail. His former colleague Ian Wooldridge wrote recently of Roy "An utterly honourable man." That is absolutely true from my own personal experiences.

The hassle

Most, if not all sports editors want to know about the hassle, the disagreements that go on in all sports because regrettably, that sells newspapers. Roy Moor somehow or other, managed to write with great flair about the more pleasant things, although how he got away with it is still a mystery.

He lied only about his age. The Mail reminded him he was 65 when in fact he was 69. He died when he was 77, but he looked 67 and was active to the last working for the Sports Aid Foundation.

**Tenacious**

His tremendous asset was his tenacity in reaching people by telephone anywhere in the world. Many years ago he managed to find and talk to open golf champion Max Faulkner driving off the sixth tee at a golf tournament in America — one of the few clubs where walkie-talkie phones were allowed on the course!

He was the most pleasant of all sports journalists I have met. Those of us who knew him will know exactly what Ian Wooldridge meant when he wrote of Roy "he showed us all how to live our lives". JW

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