YOUNG CASH£S IN!

SYED BEATS KARLSSON IN THE USA Page 9

INSIDE...

- FRIENDLY HOTELS BRITISH LEAGUE
- ENGLAND CRUSH POLAND
- CHEN BEATS GATIEN

LISA LOMAS TO APPEAR ON TV'S 'QUESTION OF SPORT'? Page 4

SWITZERLAND'S CHRISTELLE CHERIX WINS PLAYER OF THE PENIEL 2 STAR TOURNAMENT Page 14
Alison Gordon celebrated her 50th appearance for England, in a European League match, at the Ashford Table Tennis Centre against Poland.

Full Story on Page 9
Lisa to appear on
Question of Sport

AFTER A GAP OF A NUMBER
OF YEARS, A TABLE TENNIS
PLAYER IS TO APPEAR ON
THE POPULAR BBC TV QUIZ
SHOW ‘A QUESTION OF
SPORT’.

Lisa Lomas the England
No.1 and National
champion is to record a
show, and will be in the
company of a number of
‘Big Names’ from sport. “I’m
rather nervous, but I really want
to do it”, said Lisa before going to
record the show.

The transmission date for your
diary and your video is very
soon: it will be shown on BBC on
18th October at 8.30 pm. Miss it
at your peril!

LIVE ON SKY

Viewers of Sky Sports will soon
be in for a rare treat. Don Parker,
Lisa Lomas and Andrea Holt are
performing live on Sky Sports
channel on Saturday 15th October
between 1-5 pm.

They are taking part in a special
celebrity challenge when stars
from other sports take on the
England professionals at table
tennis. Don and the girls will
then offer coaching tips to the
challengers.

WOOLWICH
WARMING UP

The Woolwich Junior Leagues
have really taken off. At the latest
count, a remarkable 84 new
Leagues have registered at the
ETTA office. According to the
Regional Officers (RDO’s), there
are another 30 in the pipeline still
to register at Headquarters.

So, if you’re planning to run a
Woolwich Junior League, but
have not yet sent in your yellow
affiliation form, please do so
NOW!

As part of the national
promotion, there are now
specialty produced score-cards,
note paper and posters available,
thanks to the Woolwich Building
Society. If you are a Woolwich
Junior League organiser, give us a
call to tell us your requirements
on 0424-722525.

PHILOU TIES LE KNOT

World champion Jean Philippe
Gatien got married to his
sweetheart Nathalie, in August.

LONG DISTANCE

DML White Hart Leaunceston
Club travelled nearly 1,600 miles
by car to play their ETTU Nancy
Evans Cup Match, against TTC
Neuhausen in Switzerland.

The very long drive by
Transport Manager and Coach
Kevin “James the Chauffeur”
Buddell from Plymouth to Dover,
through France and Germany’s
Black Forest region, onto
Switzerland, was all worth while
though because they won 4-2.
Peter Hancock said “The whole
match was really well presented
with spotlights and national
anthems, and it was also covered
by regional TV. We won this
match because we had more
bottle! Plus, they played with
glue and we didn’t, so we got in
first topspin and kept the ball on
the island, that was the match
tactics. And it worked!”

SALTER RETURN

Genti Salter, Essex’s ex-county
player and England junior is now
playing for Sedgefield in the
Veterans British League. Making
a comeback after not playing for
20 years.

He is now an antiques dealer
living in Durham.

China Tour - Men's International Test series

28th December 1994
Woking Leisure Centre
Woking Surrey

29th December 1994
Polkth recreation Centre
St Austell Cornwall

30th December 1994
Crystal Leisure Centre
Stourbridge West Midlands

ENGLAND V CHINA

1st January 1994
South Kesteven TT Centre
Grantham Lincolnshire

2nd January 1994
Mansfield Leisure Centre
Mansfield Nottinghamshire

3rd January 1994
Northgate Arena Leisure Centre
Chester Cheshire

Order your tickets early for this great series on 01424 722525 (Access/Visa/Switch)
I ATTENDED THE TRAINING CONFERENCE WITH ALL OF THE REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT OFFICERS IN WALSALL AT THE BEGINNING OF SEPTEMBER, AND WAS DELIGHTED TO LEARN THAT THERE ARE IN EXCESS OF 100 NEW TABLE TENNIS CENTRES AT SOME POINT IN THE PLANNING STAGE BEING DEVELOPED BY OUR MEMBERS THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY. EACH OF THE RDO'S PROVIDED DETAILS OF THE SCHEMES WITHIN THEIR REGION. OVER THE SAME WEEKEND, THE CONFERENCE WAS ADDRESSED BY TONY PLOZIAJASKI FROM THE SPORTS COUNCIL NATIONAL LOTTERY TEAM WHO GAVE OUR DEVELOPMENT STAFF THE LATEST INFORMATION REGARDING THE LOTTERY.

WRITES ALAN RANSOME.

The Lottery itself is to managed by Camelot who are the company that were successful in the tender bid. It is anticipated that approximately £150 m will be available for sports projects from Lottery funding in the first year. £1600 m is expected in the first seven years. It is one of the main priorities for our Regional Development Officers to ensure that affiliated table tennis organisations that are interested in improving their facilities, receive all the information available, be it technical or relating to grant aid from either the National Lottery, the Sports Council, the Foundation for Sports and Art, or from their own Local Authority.

Our Facilities Officer, Paul Baker, is working hard in both assisting schemes and producing technical information. He is available to support the RDO when required. There is no doubt that table tennis as a sport is well prepared to take advantage of these new opportunities.

The Lottery itself starts in November with the first applications for funding being accepted by the Sports Council in January 1995. The RDO's are being trained in all aspects of facilities and will be able to give members valuable help and guidance with their projects.

Not all the projects will be successful, but provided the majority come to fruition, it will certainly create far greater opportunities for playing table tennis throughout the country.

NINE TABLE CENTRE FOR CIRENCESTER

The latest scheme to be proceeding a pace is the Deer Park School project at Cirencester which is being promoted by the Deer Park School and Cirencester League. The total project is likely to be in excess of £300,000 with the biggest part of the funding being provided by the school itself. The Foundation for Sport and the Arts through the ETFA is providing £60,000. The Sports Council South West Region, £55,000 and further contributions are being provided by the Cotswold District Council and Cirencester League themselves.

The playing hall will accommodate 9 tables for match play and the project includes both changing and social facilities. The Centre will be open for at least 4 mid-week evenings per week, plus the weekend. The target date for opening the Centre is April 1995. I would like to congratulate Bob Davis, the Cirencester League Development Officer who has driven the scheme from a table tennis viewpoint, and Ken Minchul the Deputy Head who has provided the impetus from the school's point of view.

KEN MUHR APPOINTED AS NORTHERN REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

Ken Muhr has been appointed RDO for the Northern Region, therefore completing the appointment of ten Regional Development Officers nationwide. Ken is well known in table tennis circles as both a Senior Coach, League Administrator and Tournament Organiser. He will bring a great wealth of experience to the region. Ken starts his new post on the 31st October and will be based within a new Sport Development Unit in Durham University. One of Ken's first tasks will be to organise promotions in advance of the staging of the 60th English Open Championships which is being played at Thornaby Pavilion, Cleveland, on 4th - 8th January 1995. It is the aim of the Association to increase the development and promotional activities surrounding all major events with the objective of table tennis within the vicinity of the venue enjoying a sustainable boost.

NEW FORMAT FOR THE 60TH OPEN

In line with the recommendations from the ITTF for International Open Championships, the 1995 English Open will follow a new format which concentrates only on the four main events - Men's Singles, Women's Singles, Men's Doubles, Women's Doubles. Under the new system, the top 16 seeds will receive an automatic bye through to the last 32 of the singles. A further 16 players will be automatically placed in the first round. Forty-eight players will be drawn into the qualification groups. Any players outside the first 80 in the Men and Women's Singles, will play in a preliminary tournament for 16 places in the qualification groups. The preliminary events will be played on Wednesday 4th January, the qualification groups on Wednesday 4th and Thursday 5th, with the first round on the evening of Thursday 5th. This will all take place on 8 tables.

The playing hall will accommodate 9 tables for match play and the project includes both changing and social facilities. The Centre will be open for at least 4 mid-week evenings per week, plus the weekend. The target date for opening the Centre is April 1995. I would like to congratulate Bob Davis, the Cirencester League Development Officer who has driven the scheme from a table tennis viewpoint, and Ken Minchul the Deputy Head who has provided the impetus from the school's point of view.

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1988. Full details of the Open will be available shortly. It is likely that the Open will attract a very strong entry. Already committed are the Chinese Men's team and the Russian Women's team. China will play a 6-match test series against England in the period running up to the Open. Whilst the Russian Women, the current European Champions, will play a 2-match tour against the English Women after the Open. The tour venues are already finalised as follows:

ENGLAND V CHINA
MEN
28/12/94 Woking, Surrey
29/12/94 St Austell, Cornwall
30/12/94 Stourbridge
1/1/95 Grantham
2/1/95 Mansfield
3/1/95 Chester

ENGLAND V RUSSIA
WOMEN
9/1/95 Hull
10/1/95 Crewe

PENIEL JUNIOR SUCCESS
IN THE CURRENT CLIMATE THAT IS PROVING DIFFICULT FOR SOME TOURNAMENTS TO RUN, IT WAS GOOD TO WITNESS THE SUCCESS OF THE PENIEL JUNIOR OPEN THAT WAS PLAYED AT BRENTWOOD ON THE 10/11TH SEPTEMBER.

The event was over-subscribed and the referee Phil Gower, was not able to accept all the entries he received. Amongst the entrants were the vast majority of leading English players and a team of juniors from Switzerland captained by the famous former Swedish coach Christer Johansson. The event was a big success partly due to the very attractive prizes that were offered, including a selection of bikes, electrical goods, as well as prize money. At the same time approximately 250 miles northwest of Brentwood, a new tournament, the Blackpool Junior Open took place. Although it did not receive either the quality or quantity of entries as the Peniel, this tournament was also a success story in its own way.

WILD CARD FOR ENGLAND
On the international front, England have received a 'wild card' entry for the Men's section of TSP World Team Cup which is to be played in Paris between the 12th-16th of October. Our injury hit Men's team just failed to qualify by their performance in the 1993 World Championships in Gothenberg. Most of the best teams in the world are likely to participate.

FORREST GUMP WORLD CHAMPION

The film is set in the USA in the 60's and 70's. Gump playing table tennis is one of the main sub-plots of the movie. The film is set to be one of the most popular movies of all time and has already grossed more than $240 m in nine weeks in the United States and is the No. 1 film Stateside. It is to be released in Britain on October 7th and could help create a fresh impetus for our sport and amongst movie goers. Suitable for Adult and Teenage audiences.

Player Profile
ALAN COOKE
Name: Alan Cooke
Birth Date: 23/3/66
Birth Place: Chesterfield
Parents: Colin and Sheila
Brothers and sisters: Ian (elder) and Gary
Home: Chesterfield
Car: Renault 19 (Grove sponsor/Farmers Garage)
Wife: Susan Jayne a table tennis player
Children: None
Annoying habits: Being too competitive
Blade and rubbers: Butterfly blade
Silver/Ekrips rubbers
Favourites:
(1) TV Show: Sit coms - Only Fools and Horses, One Foot in the Grave
(2) Music: Mixture (depends on mood)
(3) Song: n/a
(4) Food: Chinese
(5) Film: All new films (big movie buff)
(6) Film actor: Jack Nicholson, Clint Eastwood
(7) actress: Goldie Hawn
(8) Holiday resort: Barbados
(9) Book: Novels - new (when travelling)
(10) Sporting hero: Borg
Career Highlights: 4 Commonwealth Golds (including Men's Singles)
Biggest influence: Parents and Derek Marples
If you could have a meal with anyone in the world who would it be: Jack Nicholson
What's your ideal way to relax: Other sports
What are your ambitions away from table tennis: Improve my skiing and water-skiing. After playing days are over I like the challenge of moving in business.
Chen follows the Pied Piper after beating Gatien and worrying Waldner

EVER SINCE CHEN XINHUA FLEW INTO MANCHESTER SOME SIX YEARS AGO, THERE HAS BEEN A SCHOOL OF THOUGHT WHO SAID THAT HE WAS WELL PAST HIS BEST AND WOULD THEREFORE BE A HINDERANCE RATHER THAN A HELP AT THE TOP END OF THE ENGLAND MEN'S SQUAD WRITES JOHN WOODFORD.

At the Pied Piper of Hamelin town in Germany on September 10-11, Chen once again answered his critics by beating (for the second time in a year) the world champion Jean-Philippe Gatien (France) and in the quarter-finals, he came within two points of taking a 2-1 lead against the "young" Swedish legend Jan-Ove Waldner.

On two occasions during the two days play, Chen entertained the crowd with some clowning, once against Gatien and once against Waldner. A few people do not appreciate his antics during a serious match, but the 2,000 crowd loved it - almost a standing ovation and tremendous shouting, stamping and clapping proving in my view, that if there is a better exhibition player in the world, I have yet to watch him. Against Gatien, Chen was faulted and lost a point on allegedly falling to throw the ball high enough. How many times has Chen been faulted in his career? - very, very few - The Chinese ace went over to the umpire, lifted his glasses and squinted into his eyes! That in my view, is a yellow-card offense, dissension with an official, but I believe the umpire was so surprised that he failed to make the appropriate action.

The only English umpire present Eric Pentland from Manchester commented "I would definitely have shown Chen a yellow card."

However, despite the problems with his service which creates so many problems round the world for his opponents, Chen went through 19, 19, 16 using a high proportion of attacking strokes. Gatien seems to be improving against backspin, but he still has a long way to go. He is down to No. 7 on the world list and on this showing, that looks about right. His scores against Jorg Rosskopf were amazing - a Gatien win 17, -19, -12, 20, 20, the best of the tournament which provided £50,000 prize money.

Denis Neale, making a superb debut as an England captain, having only met Chen for the first time the previous day, was all smiles as he helped Chen to victory over Gatien, losing to Rosskopf and doing very well against Waldner. Neale and Chen got along like a house on fire.

Both men are fighters and they immediately established a rapport that could be excellent for the future of the England squad.

Quote from the new captain, "They told me that Chen had no chance against Waldner. They were all wrong, he had every chance and with a little bit of luck could have overturned him, as Peter Karlsson did in the semi-finals."

SECOND CABARET ACT
Chen Xinhua's second cabaret came in the fourth game against Waldner when he was losing heavily. Both men joined in the clapping, with Chen once again keeping the barriers and returning from the seating position with a piece of clapping. Chen also came up with another piece of clapping when he jumped on the table and deliberately missed balls!

Waldner also joined in the antics, staggered on the table and announced "You will believe anything!"

Overall, Chen played to Top Ten world class; against Rosskopf he could not tempt the German into enough errors. The German No. 1 (who has played 157 times for Germany) knows his game too well and just thrives on the backspin.

The tournament ended with a very special Farewell Party on a River Weser cruise boat owned by the 4-star hotel. Whilst the players, officials and other specially invited guests cruised down the river for two hours, the hosts the DTTB provided a scrumptious gourmet banquet.

Prior to embarkation the diners were led to the quay by the Pied Piper of Hamelin and little children dressed as rats! We followed the piping musician onto the ship, where he told us of the Pied Piper legend from the 13th century when the Piper allegedly disappeared with 300 children from Hamelin. I suspect, perhaps a little cynically, that at the end of the German translation of the legend he may have said, "If you believe that, you will believe anything!"

All the guests, the organisers and the players enjoyed the venue, right by the river amongst the wooded hills of South Hanover - and the tournament will be there again next year.

Jean Michel Saive, the eventual winner following on from his success at the European Singles in Birmingham earlier this year.
ENGLAND'S WOMEN'S TEAM WON THEIR OPENING MATCH IN THE WOMEN'S EUROPEAN LEAGUE - SUPER DIVISION, WHEN THEY CRUSHED THEIR OPPONENTS POLAND, 4-1, ON TUESDAY 20TH SEPTEMBER 1994.

WRITES JOHN WOOD

A packed house at the Ashford Table Tennis Centre, Middlesex, applauded enthusiastically as Andrea Holt stepped out for the first game of the evening, against Anna Januszyk.

The first game really went with service as both girls dominated one another every five points, with England's Holt edging out the Polish girl to take the first 21-19. But the second leg saw Holt take a grip on the game with good combination defence that saw her go from 5-5 to take the lead 9-6 against Januszyk's service. Holt continued to confuse her Polish opponent with heavy long pimple chopping, taking the second 21-14, to put England's nose in front.

Lisa Lomas, England's No. 1 player was next on the table facing Poland's Agnieszka Gieraga. Lomas took immediate control of the game with heavy backspin defence interspersed with the occasional flashing backhand attack taking the first 21-11. The second started the same as the first with Lomas taking a 4-1 lead, but Poland's Gieraga fought back with her own service to level at 5-5. Then Lomas went up a gear and put England into a 2-0 lead, winning 21-14.

Alison Gordon stepped into the arena as England's third player making her 50th European League appearance for England, and took the first in true Gordon style winning 21-14, against Poland's No. 1 player, Joanna Narkiewicz.

But the top Polish women's player, at only 18 years old, bounced back with a brilliant backhand topspin attack taking the second 21-9. The third was a much closer affair with the score level at 5-5 before Narkiewicz made a surge forward with her flashing topspin backhand and occasional forehand attacks taking her almost there at 18-12. But Gordon's British Bulldog spirit saw her fight back, being urged on by the partisan audience, which saw her claw her way back to 19-20, before the Polish girl got that last important point that pulled the match score back to 2-1 in England's favour, but spoiled Gordon's 50th appearance.

After the interval England's golden girl Lisa Lomas and Andrea Holt comfortably won the doubles 21-14, 21-19, against Poland's Anna Januszyk and Joanna Narkiewicz.

This set-up the opportunity for England's golden girl Lisa Lomas to win the match for England.

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

BY THE INTERNATIONAL TABLE TENNIS FEDERATION

AUTHORISED RACKET COVERINGS

20th September 1994

Following a report by the Chairman of the Equipment Committee, the Executive Committee of the ITTF recently expressed their concern that the authorised racket covering manufactured by TSP under the brand name curl has been receiving treatment that results in a significant change to the surface and playing characteristics. As a result of this treatment, the racket covering is no longer the same as when it received ITTF approval. Therefore, the ITTF hereby give notice that changing the character of a racket covering after it has been approved makes that covering illegal. This point is mentioned in law 2.4.7 in connection with wear, but the intention is still not to allow any change from the original.

Particular attention is drawn to the range of long pimple curl coverings being sold under the name of curl special. These have not received ITTF approval.

It was also decided that in future, racket coverings submitted for approval would be studied for any negative or detrimental effect on play such as excessive spin etc. Approval would not be granted if such negative effects were discovered.
Chen Defeats World Champion

Captain Denis Neale, in charge at an international event for the first time.
Chen's second opponent was the defending European Masters Champion Jorg Rosskopf, in front of a home crowd. Chen has had difficulty with Rosskopf's style before, and he could not overcome the German No.1, falling 3-0. Chen qualified for the quarter-finals along with Rosskopf as Gatién clawing his way back all the time, did well to hold on. Chen was watched throughout by the new England men's team.

Grove and Launceston Win
English clubs got off to a cracking start in the 1st round of the European club competitions. BFL Grove proceeded to the 2nd round of the European Club Cup of Champions with an effortless 4-0 defeat of the Finnish champions Wega. Each contest was won in singles games, with a mile round trip drive by road was fully justified. Launceston will entertain the Polish club champions at home for their 2nd round match on 7th October.

European League season begins
England's European League campaign began with the women's Super division match against Poland on 20th September at Ashford table tennis centre in Middlesex. (See page 9 for full match report).

Milton Keynes Showdown
Marie Svensson, who won the European women's singles title at Euro '94 in Birmingham, returns to England to lead Sweden against England at Milton Keynes Table Tennis Centre on 18th October. This should be the hardest fought of matches, as the two sides finished 3rd (Sweden) and 4th (England) at the Euro '94 team event. England women round off their group A matches with a trip to the Netherlands on 15th November.

Cooke's Revenge at Whitwick?
English supporters will have the opportunity of seeing the top stars in action at Whitwick in Leicester when the Joola European Men's League super division match between England and Denmark is staged at the heritage Leisure Centre on 8th November. Denmark will probably include Lars Hauth, the man who knocked our own Alan Cooke out of the European Championships in Birmingham. Before this match, England men's team will have started the European League season with two tough away fixtures. The

Results

European Club Cup of Champions 1st Round
Market Drayton, Shropshire, 3rd September 1994
BFL Grove v Wega (Finland) 0

ETTU Nancy Evans Cup
1st Round: Switzerland 9th Sept 1994
TTC Neuhausen (Switzerland) 2 DM
1. White Hart Launceston (England) 4, Paul Giles bt Jan Gurtner 22-18, Gary Lambert lost to Jiin Kroulik -6-19, Whiting/Giles bt Kroulik/Singer 15-15, Giles lost to Kroulik -12-19, Whiting bt Gurtner 14-16, 16

Launceston's Paul Whiting was Man of the Match as the Cornish club cam up trumps from a tense battle. They used a tactical switch of putting Whiting at No. 3 with great effect to win 4-2. The 1550 Austrian match on 27th September will be followed on 28th October by an exciting contest away to Belgium, a game which is expected to attract 5,000 or more spectators. This should feature the twin major pullers, our own Chen Xinhua and World No. 1 Jean-Michel Saive.
Russell Wins 5th Title

ON SUNDAY 6 AND 7 AUGUST 1994, 111 TABLE TENNIS PLAYERS WITH A DISABILITY COMPETED AT THE BSAD/MIDLAND BANK NATIONAL TABLE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS 1994, WHICH WERE HELD AT THE RIVERMEAD LEISURE CENTRE, READING, WRITES LOUISE HOLLAND.

Barry Crook, from Preston and James Rawson, from Nottingham were amongst the Championship winners, each winning their Singles competitions, plus the Open Male Standing and Wheelchair Championships, respectively. Barry Crook was also partnered by Mark Pitman, from Ilford to win the Class 6 Doubles title and James Rawson was partnered by John Pyne, from Northampton to win the Class 3 Doubles title.

David Russell, from Maidenhead, successfully defended his Class 1 Singles title for the 5th year in succession. Other competitors who successfully defended their titles were George Keith from Aberdeen, who was also named player of the Championship; Elaine Kinsella, from the West Midlands; and Denise Barnett from Northampton.

The Team trophy was again won by the Yorkshire/Humberside with the East Midlands and Southern teams finishing second and third respectively.

This was the second year that the Championships have been sponsored by Midland Bank.

BSAD/MIDLAND BANK NATIONAL TABLE TENNIS 1994 RESULTS

Class 1 - Male
Winner - David Russell - SON 21-5, 21-18
Runner up - Arthur Wada - NOR
Class 1 - Female
Winner - Margaret Hudson - Y/H

Class 2 - Male
Winner - Ian Littlewood - NWT
Runner up - James Rawson - EMD
Class 2 - Female
Winner - Lynne Ridings - NWT

Class 3 - Male
Winner - John Sherratt - BEWSA
Runner up - John Pyne - EMD
Class 3 - Female
Winner - Elaine Kinsella - WMD
Runner up - Denise Barnett - EMD

Class 4 - Male
Winner - George Keith - SCT
Runner up - Michael Bruce - SCT
Class 4A - Male
Winner - George Keith - SCT
Runner up - Dennis Hughes - WAL
Class 4A - Female
Winner - Anne White - ETN
Runner up - Joyce Thirtle - Y/H

Class 5 - Male
Winner - Peter Gabriel - WAL
Runner up - Clive Warley - Y/H
Class 5 - Female
Winner - Jo Gunstone - SON
Runner up - Janine Blackburn - Y/H

Class 6 - Male
Winner - Barry Crook - IMD
Runner up - David Hope - Y/H
Class 6 Female
Winner - Judith Smith - Y/H
Runner up - John Jones

Class 8 - Male
Winner - David Evans - IND - 0,2
Runner up - John Jones - WAL
Class 8 Female
Winner - Brenda Addis - IND - 9, 13
Runner up - Jackie Smith - ETN

Class 9 - Male
Winner - Graham Sandley
Runner up - John Souter
Class 9 - Female
Winner - Gemma Schwartz
Runner up - Kim Spicer & Sandra Ritchie - SON

Class 9 Doubles - Male
Winner - Scott Gilbert & John Souter
Runner up - Graham Sandley & Colin Wilson
Class 9 Doubles - Female
Winner - Gemma Schwartz & Clare Plumridge
Runner up - Sandra Roden & Jane Borella

Open Wheelchair - Male
Winner - James Rawson - EMD
Runner up - John Pyne - EMD
Open Wheelchair - Female
Winner - Denise Barnett - EMD
Runner up - Elaine Kinsella - WMD

Open Standing - Male
Winner - Barry Crook - IND
Runner up - David Hope - Y/H
Open Standing - Female
Winner - Elaine Marshall - SWT
Runner up - Judith Smith

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT
At Last! A Sports Shop selling Quality Specialist Table Tennis Equipment over the counter. We also have a nationwide Mail-Order service. Come, see and handle the goods before buying at competitive prices.

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DAVENSPORT
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W hen I first began playing, the tournament scene provided one of the most important opportunities to improve your play. Then, they were fun, comparatively cheap, generally promoted by many of the leagues up and down the country, and well supported, writes Desmond Douglas.

Nearly every weekend, if there was not a representative match of some description, there was a good tournament somewhere in the country to enter. Now, rules have imposed so many conditions, that organisers have found the cost of staging a tournament too expensive. Between playing conditions, umpiring requirements, venue facilities, and prize money, the organisers are struggling and that is before the players have even hit a ball. But it is on the playing side that I would like to see some changes for it is the success of our top players that is crucial to the well-being of table tennis in England.

ENGLISH TOURNAMENTS

Bonus points would be given in English tournaments to the winner, ie. 1 star, 10 points; 2 star, 20 points; 3 star, 30 points; 5 star, 50 points. The top 4 or 5 players would have a gap possibly of 100 points to enable them to play for England or their foreign clubs, without worrying too much about competing in the UK. A lot of people are moving up and down the list without competing. The emphasis must be on competing.

TOURNAMENTS

I would like to see a Band system as used in some foreign countries and by Ian Marshall at Grove school. The present system in operation is not good at all, especially where juniors play in a senior event, often do well against the seniors and gets all the way through the system (ABCDEFG etc.). The idea is that people would be playing each other of similar standard, which will give everyone a chance to improve, but also a chance to win as well as getting good value for money.

Its pointless where someone who cannot play and gets badly beaten under 10 in both games - what has either player gained? Nothing. This is unlikely to happen if both players are of similar standard.

LICENCE

The ETFA should consider a licence for everyone who plays in clubs and leagues etc., this would bring in some much needed income to the ETFA to use on grass roots, juniors, and seniors. The licence fee would be £12 per year, for this there would be no need to pay a 50p levy at tournaments. You would get concessions for the magazine, European league matches, friendly matches etc. also included on the licence would be your name and band number. It would be easy for the computer to check points and ranking position, ie. Fred Smith, Band (B), Midland Open, and who he played, also because he is in a band of 64 players, it should be quite easy to find out everything about his results. At the end of the day people have got to realise if they want something from the sport they have got to pay for it, the other top sports are not any different. The equipment that the people use costs a lot more than the £12 levy, also the ETFA must be seen to be giving something back to the members.
SWITZERLAND WIN INTERNATIONAL

ON THURSDAY EVENING AT PENIEL ACADEMY THERE WAS A FULL HOUSE OF KNOWLEDGEABLE SPECTATORS WHO WATCHED THE JUNIOR INTERNATIONAL TABLE TENNIS MATCH BETWEEN THE BEST OF THE PENIEL JUNIORS AND SWITZERLAND JUNIORS WRITES BILL WALL & RON MCKENZIE.

Two matches took place which whetted ones appetite when watching the ability of these juniors whose skill would have graced any of the top divisions of the local leagues.

PENIEL BOYS
Vince Avery, Ben Linnecar, David Coleman, Stephen Linnecar, Alex Yordy, Sam Clemons

SWITZERLAND BOYS
Raphael Keller, David Voyame, Ralph Wirt, Ivan Paladini

Switzerland won this match 5-3 but not before Peniel Boys had put up a tremendous fight to make a draw of what was a close fought encounter. The very vital first game saw Ben Linnecar go down in two straight to the very talented Raphael Keller -13 and -15. My 'Man of the Match' Vince Avery was next to keep the score lines level and showing why he is so highly rated taking David Voyame -15 and -13. Vince made a good second appearance taking the Swiss No 1 -17 and -8 in a very convincing manner. The only other victory going to Peniel was when Ben Linnecar made a second appearance and this time making no mistake when he beat Ralph Wirt -22 and -16. The Swiss Juniors were not be denied when in the final game of the evening Ivan Paladini played an exciting three-ender ending up with the winning score of 20-22, 21-17 before taking the final game in style 21-7 which gave the Swiss Boys a fine victory.

The second match of the evening saw the Peniel Girls go under 6-2 to some very determined play from the Swiss Girls.

PENIEL GIRLS
Tracy Davies, Verity Cleminson, Hannah Yardy, Amy Linnecar, Helen Lincoln & Anno Cheeseman

SWITZERLAND GIRLS
Tini Schmid, Sophie Riesen, Melanie Egger, Christelle Cherix

That up and coming young player Tracy Davies opened her account for Peniel when she took Tini Schmid the Swiss No 1 in two straight, 18 in both games. Verity Cleminson continued the good work when beating Sophie Riesen 14 and 14, but unfortunately this was to be the last winning game for the Peniel Girls as the ladies from Switzerland pressed on and took the remaining games to run out 6-2 victors so combining with their boys to complete the double. Playing for the Swiss Girls was a young lady who despite her lack of height she made up for in all out attack. Christelle Cherix could just about see over the table and with her bubbling personality and attacking every ball she played in two fine victories over Hannah Yardy whom she beat 17, 16 and 20. Christelle then went on to play in another exciting three-ender when she beat Amy Linnecar 17, 14 then 15. In her singles victories she came from behind to give a display of pure left hand aggression.

There is no doubt that the Swiss have a little jewel and for me Christelle was the 'Young Lady of the Match'.

Peter Linnecar is a Director of the tournament sponsors Macartney & Dowie Financial Services and Team Peniel. A delighted Peter said, "We were over subscribed and had to trim down the entries. We are trying to encourage youth in table tennis, basically to supply high quality tournaments with a professional approach and to do it properly. We want to encourage youth in table tennis, basically to supply high quality tournaments with a professional approach and to do it properly. We want to encourage youth in this sport. Hence the prizes, where they can go for something tangible, reflecting the quality of the whole event. Michael Reid, Ester Coleman, Nicky Jarvis and myself are in agreement, that we will make this an annual tournament, with a certain amount of international events being in September with another international invitation event in the latter part of the season still to be finalised. We are also planning new facilities at the Peniel Academy, where we have over 40 youngsters playing table tennis at the school, out of 120 pupils aged from 4 to 18 years old. We are very pleased we had the experience and professionalism of Dick Roffe as our tournament organiser and Phil Gower as our referee. John FA Wood
Young & Ashison in the money

ENGLAND JUNIOR TERRY YOUNG FRESH FROM HIS EUROPEAN YOUTH EXPERIENCE IN PARIS TOOK THE BOYS SINGLES TITLE AND £500 CASH, WHEN HE BEAT PENIEL'S VINCENT AVERY IN THE FINAL 15 AND 12. ASHISON TOOK HER CHEQUE WHEN SHE WON AN ABSORBING CLASSIC GIRLS BATTLE WHEN SHE ATTACKED HER WAY THROUGH THE LONG PIMPLE COMBINATION DEFENCE OF KATHRYN WOODWARD -20, 19 AND 12. WRITES BILL WALL.

The venue of Brentwood International Leisure Centre over the weekend of 10/11 September witnessed some of the best ever table tennis when young players from Switzerland and all corners of the UK came to display their talents in the Macartney & Dowie/Peniel 2 Star Junior Select TT Championships. At the end for those that were successful, total prize money of £3,150 was the reward and divided between the winners and runners-up of the various events, the most ever awarded for a Junior TT Championship, as well as bikes, TVs, radios, Walkmans and a variety of prizes which today's juniors find useful.

Saturday saw the start of the Event with each team member striving and supporting each other the competition was well and truly under way.

CADET TEAM BOYS:
SEMI-FINALS:
Kingfisher Bt. Peniel 3-0 with our visitors from Switzerland overcoming Jags Juniors 3-2. The Final turned out to be an easy ride for the young Swiss players who beat the highly fancied Kingfisher 3-0.

CADET TEAM GIRLS:
Our overseas visitors put two teams into this event when Swiss I in the form of Christel Cherix/Melanie Eggel were expected to reach the Final but went out in the Semi to Wakefield who with their opponents in the Final, Swiss II fought out a thriller with the Swiss clinging on in the deciding game to give them a well deserved 3-2 victory.

JUNIOR BOYS TEAM:
Once again in the older category Kingfisher fielded a strong contingent in Terry Young(Bu) and Steven Meddings (Wa) who made no mistake in the Semi-Final beating the Swiss 3-0 while in the other Semi, Chrigrar were narrowly sliding into the Final with a 5-2 victory over the much fancied Team Peniel I in the form of Vince Avery and Ben Linnecar of Essex. The Final proved to be very one sided when Kingfisher proved too powerful for Christian Thompson (K) and Christian Herbert (Bu) of Chrigrar who went down to the Kings.

JUNIOR GIRLS TEAM:
Downside, Team Peniel I, Britannia and BFL Grove put out an array of players - Downside, Shelly Ruocco/Glenda Ashison (E), Team Peniel I, Tracy Davies/Verity Cleminson (E) who contested the first Semi-Final with Downside just scraping home 3-2 in a match that had the
Leeroy Pye blocking on the backhand during the boy's junior singles.

CADET GIRLS SINGLES:
Two Yorkshire girls fought out the first Semi-Final with Emma Smith overpowering Charlotte Spink 15,14, then Karen Lockwood (Ch) took an easy passage into the final when she took two short games to dispose of Anna McNamara (Sy) 15, 21. The final turned into one of who could hit the winning shot first and this turned to the advantage of Emma Smith who ran out a 13 and 15 winner.

CADET GIRLS SINGLES PLATE:
J. Rolle (Bk) took a straight ride into the final while S. Gillett (H) was battling through. The final proved to be too much for the Berkshire girl who went down 13 and 2 in a very one sided final.

JUNIOR BOYS SINGLES:
In the top half of the draw it was difficult to know which game to watch Steve Joslin (E) had a good run into the quarters. Vince Avery (E) who had prepared well took the eye with his all round play. The No. 1 seed S. Meddings (Wa) getting the chop from Leeroy Pye (Nk) who himself went out to the in form Vince Avery. Michael James (Y) showing how easy it was to get to the Semis where he combined with Vince to produce a thrilling encounter with the Essex man proving to be the best on the day running out with a 17, -23, 14 scoreline.

In the second half of the draw

Christopher Jamieson who is 11 years old and has been playing for 2 1/2 years at Peniel, lost to Milton Keynes' Andrew Baggaley in the U12 boys singles final. He was a member of Peniel's U11 schools team that won the last 2 years' national title. Christopher's coach, Nicky Jarvis said, "Chris is developing quite well and his ability to concentrate and take in information is very good. Physically he is naturally strong, and his game is quite sound from the forehand side, he has a very good table tennis brain. The future looks bright for Chris as he is so very keen to succeed.'

attention of all spectators. The second Semi-Final was between Britannia represented by Claire Lowe (Su)/Sarah Davison (Sk) and BFL Grove who fielded the powerful duo of Kathryn Woodward (Cu)/Michelle Haynes (Ne) with the latter winning 3-2. And so the scene was set for a classic encounter, but Downside found no difficulty in breaching the defence of Grove taking the ladies team event 3-1.

There was to be no let up when the Team Events had been completed, the singles now taking centre stage with all players out to improve their personal ratings in the first Peniel 2 Star and major tournament of the season. Proceedings commenced with the:

UNDER 12 BOYS SINGLES:
C. Jamieson (E) bt. T. Yardy (E) 10, 21, with A. Baggaley (Bu) disposing of S. Collins (Ng) 17, 23. The Final turned out to be very one sided with the boy from Bucks coasting to a 8 and 13 victory over the improving Jamieson.

UNDER 12 GIRLS SINGLES:
Essex girls dominated this event with two club compatriots giving their all. Although the Final only went to two games, the standard was high and with the exchanges coming fast and furious it was Hannah Yardy who overcame Amy Linnecar 19 and 15.

CADET BOYS SINGLES:
An absorbing competition with the Semi-Finalists of G. Herbert (Bk) overcoming R. Wirt (Swiss) 19 and 20, then A. Baggaley taking three bites to stop the No. 2 seed S. Friday (K) 19, -17,11. There was no doubting the winner when the Berkshire boy started in determined fashion, he was going to be the winning finalist, and so it turned out, taking the boy from Bucks 14, 11.

CADET BOYS SINGLES PLATE:
Once again the Essex contingent dominated and in an easy Final Tim Cleminson coasted to a 13,14 victory against Paul Cooper.

In the second half of the draw

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16 TABLE TENNIS NEWS October 1994
Tournament Report

Sarah Stedman of Sussex caught in action serving.

only Reagan Neetingham (E) of the home players could get a good run where he survived to play an absorbing Quarter Final then eventually going down 18, 16, 19 to D. Purday (Dy) who when playing the second Semi-Final went down easily to T. Young (Bu) 11,17.

THE FINAL:
Vince, who had been showing top form throughout the championships fell 8 point behind at the start of the first then making a determined effort he caught up. Terry playing a very tight attacking and then blocking game took the first comfortably 21-15. The second game was point for point and at 4 each Young pulled ahead 12-4 with some great passing shots and smashes taking him onto 15-5. Avery could not seem to get into the match and at 18-9 to Young, Vince was playing nothing like his earlier form which swept him into the Final against Glenda Ashison (Sy).

THE FINAL:
Glenda went into an early lead and did most of the attacking against Kathryn’s defence where at one stage the Surrey girl led 20-15 in the first then lost 22-20. This match was proving to be the cream of all the finals and in the second game it followed the pattern of the first with excellent rallies being produced and Woodward winning good points when she attacked. Ashison started to get more confident against the Woodward defence and hit a succession of good passing shots that were winners. Both girls fell back into defence from time to time but Glenda’s attacking streak took over enabling her to take the second 21-19. After the first two thrilling encounters the spectators settled for another close clash, but it was not to be, Glenda started to take the vital early points and with her topspin game getting the better of Woodward’s defence she pulled away to win easily 21-12.

EPILOGUE:
And so the first Peniel Junior TT Championships were brought to an end where all the hard work of the Sponsors Macartney & Dowie and Jarvis Sports, Organisers, Referee and Umpires brought a satisfactory conclusion in a first class venue.

JUNIOR GIRLS SINGLES:
Possibly the best matches of the championships were produced in this event. In the earlier rounds, Nikki Kennard (E) playing her best for some time edged her opponent 22-20, 22-20 in two tight games. The No.1 seed Shelly Ruocco (E) beat S. Riesen (Swiss) 9,14 but her concentration was all over the place other than on her game and when she played Verity Cleminson (E) it proved to be her downfall going out to the ever improving Peniel player 20,13. Quietly going about her job, Kathryn Woodward (Cu) who with her very clever defensive work had caused problems for all her opponents and it was this style that brought her into the Final against Glenda Ashison (Sy).

THE FINAL:
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CHRISTER JOHANSSON

Chris Johansson, the Swiss National Coach who was a specialist at always beating English players when he represented his national side Sweden, between 1959 and 1969. Christer said, “This tournament is really good for the youth and hopefully next season it will be even better with more foreign countries entering. We have had a good week here with a training camp and accommodation at the Peniel Academy. They looked after us really well. We started exchanging with Peniel in April and hope to continue because it is good for European friendship. With regard to the tournament, our teams played quite well, winning the internationals on Thursday then taking the cadet boy’s and girl’s titles, but suddenly we lost our form in the singles.”

John FA Wood

ETTA Chairman Alan Ransome is pictured with Hannah Yardy and Andrew Baggaley, the U12 Winners

Having fun at the after tournament reception are (left to right) Councillor Jim Shawcross, Deputy Mayor Valerie Fletcher of the Brentwood Borough Council, Peter Linnecar of Macartney & Dowie Financial Services and Dick Roffe the tournament organiser.
Denis lives in Doncaster with his wife Denise and three children, Joanne, 16 years old, David, 12 years and Andrew, 13 years.

David and Andrew have just started playing table tennis, so maybe there will be another Neale playing for England - well, they have got the right coach for a start!

Since Denis retired from playing for England in 1977, he runs a pub, "The Black Swan" in Northallerton; owned a couple of betting shops, then a newsagents; from which he retired from to concentrate on getting fit to compete in the veteran championships and do well in the World Veteran Championships in Melbourne.

At one time he owned 30 racing greyhounds who were trained by top trainer Charlie Lister, in Nottingham.

Denis is a supporter of Middlesbrough Football Club, and in his prime as English champion he used to train every day at the ground alongside the likes of England's centre forward, Brian Clough.

Denis said, "Now that Bryan Robson has taken over as player-manager I think they will win the first division because he knows what he is doing." He added, "I also love watching Yorkshire play cricket, and Geoff Boycott is my sporting hero."

Denis's wife, Denise, who is North East Area Manager for Total Accounting Services, in the DIY expert in the family, because Denis is useless at household chores.

Denise added, "Denis is completely useless around the house, he can just about boil water! Once, he put milk into the electric kettle and burnt out the element!"

His favourite TV programme is naturally Grandstand, and his favourite type of film is true life dramas like "Silence of the Lambs".

Denis's favourite food is Chinese and if he could have a meal with anyone in the world (apart from Denise), it would be with Ursula Andress (as she was). During his years at the top Denis had time to write two books on table tennis: "Way to the top", and "Halex Book of Modern Table Tennis".

Denis also appeared on TV when he had two series of seven half hour programmes in 1975, which appeared nationwide on Saturday mornings, produced by Granada TV.

He also appeared on "Question of Sport", as did Chester Barnes, Desmond Douglas, and Jill Parker.

Denis reflected, "over the past 30 years, only us four have appeared on TV's "Question of Sport" - where are the characters of today?"

To prove that Denis is not dwelling too much on the past, he has just signed a 2 year contract with Bethune, who play in the French 1st Division.

Denis's favourite way of relaxing is going to Greyhound racing or spending time with his family, especially when they all go to the swimming baths together at Rossington.

When asked about his ambitions as men's team captain, Denis replied, "My job is to motivate the players; they have to respect the coach to get the best out of them. If the respect goes then you are wasting yours and their time. I need to get to know the players and understand their way of thinking. All the coaches have got to work together to develop the juniors so that we've got players coming through."

"England have got a very good men's team now, but in 5 years time we will need players coming through.

"England have got a very good men's team now, but in 5 years time we will need players coming through. There's a big gap between the top four or five players and the rest.

"When juniors go up to the seniors, they should be ranked in the top ten, or pushing for it! But at the moment, that's not happening."

"Remember Chester Barnes was No. 1 at the age of 15, and when I left the juniors, I was ranked in the top ten, as were Nicky Jarvis, Paul Day, Trevor Taylor, Desmond Douglas, Alan Cooke, Carl Prean, Chris Oldfield and Michael O'Driscoll. Occasionally you get a late developer, like John Hilton, but generally, first year out of the juniors, you have got to be in the top 10, pushing for a place in the National Team."

"My ambition is to get table tennis back where it was 20 years ago with England being a strong nation in the world of table tennis from senior to cadet level." Denis added that his ambitions away from table tennis are, "To make sure that my family grow up to be decent human beings."

The Neale family portrait (left to right) Joanne, Denis, Andrew, Denise and David pictured in their Yorkshire garden.
STOKES AND WALKER JOIN DRUMCHAPEL

THER IS ONLY ONE CHANGE IN THE LINE UP IN THE PREMIER DIVISION THIS SEASON, DRUMCHAPEL GLASGOW REPLACING BATHWICK TYRES. THE SCOTTISH CLUB HAVE STRENGTHENED THEIR TEAM BY SIGNING IAN STOKES AND EWAN WALKER FROM SEDGEFIELD AND THE FORMER SCOTTISH INTERNATIONAL, RICHARD YULE, Writes Aubrey Drapkin.

BFl Grove ave, as usual, a host of top class players and look as though they will once again be far by far the strongest club in the competition.

The remainder of the divisions have almost changed beyond recognition following the loss of twelve of last years teams and the inclusion of thirteen new ones. This, however, means that with one exception all of the divisions have a full complement of eight teams. The exception is Division 2 South East where the resignation of JAGS came too late to find a replacement.

A summary of the changes is as follows, last season divisions being shown in brackets:

PREMIER In - Drumchapel Glasgow (3 North).
Out - Bathwick Tyres. DIVISION ONE NORTH
In - Leicester Lions, Uxbridge Burton I, Vymura International II
Out - City of Milton Keynes, (now 1 South), Cheltenham Saracens, (relegated), City of Sunderland.

Peniel's Clive Carthy, winner of 'Player of the year' in the friendly Hotels British league, and Division 2 South East

Keith Wilson
Sedgefield's Keith Wilson said, 'In our first year in the Friendly Hotels British league we didn't have Bradley Billington, Ewan Walker or Ian Stokes, and we did really well finishing 3rd in the Premier Division. So with a similar strength side now, we hope to do equally well, and we will be making a new signing soon that of Italy's Massimo Polomba, who was ranked No 18 in Italy prior to his 2 years National Service. And hopefully after Bradley Billington has finished his season in France he will still be in time for the last matches of the English season. Sedgefield's top 4 will be: 1 Bradley Billington, 2 John Hilton, 3 Eddie Smith, 4 Massimo Polomba.'

Everyone knows that when it comes to business it helps to have friends in all the right places.

So it may interest you to know that there are 27 Friendly Hotels and Stop Inns situated in, or just minutes away from major business centres.

Each offers a range of relaxing and spacious rooms, a comfortable restaurant and friendly bar, a fully equipped mini-gym, and the odds are, a modern leisure centre complete with pool and sauna too.

And of course there's the kind of welcome that lets you know you're staying with friends, not just acquaintances.

So order your free Friendly Hotels directory and rooms, a comfortable restaurant and friendly bar, tariffs straight away, or book direct right now, by calling Jane Parker on Freecall: 0500 91 92 93
RESULTS OF MATCHES ON 4th SEPT 94

PREMIER DIVISION
Team Peniell I 9 3 Horsham
Out - Burtonll (2 North), Bribar Trophies Fellows Cranleigh II

DIVISION ONE SOUTH
Ruston Marconi Lincoln 4 4 Ilkley
West Warnocks 5 3 Sedgefield
Uxbridge (Burton) 1 6 2 Bribar
Humberside

DIVISION TWO SOUTH
AFC Wimbledon 2 6 Colley Hyundai
Birminghams
DML White Hart Lonsdon 3 5 Grove City
Bircher Colley Hyundal, Pontypool
7 1 Hawthburh Dragons, Dudley

DIVISION THREE SOUTH
Brent Juniors 8 0 Peterborough II
Progress WHS, London 5 3 Preh
Triumph Fellows Cranleigh II
Crusaders Lincoln 6 2 Byng Hall II,
Uxbridge

DIVISION ONE WEST
Leeds City II 1 2 Sedgefield
City of Leeds II 5 3 Abbeydale
Sheffield

DIVISION TWO WEST
BFL Grove Coloys 1 3 Sedgefield
BFL Grove II 8 0 Barclays Bank
Vymura International II

DIVISION THREE WEST
AAFCO Leaders 2 5 Sedgefield
Gateshead
City of Leeds II 4 4 Abbeydale,
Sheffield

DIVISION ONE SOUTH
In - City of Milton Keynes (1 North), Horsham II (2 South West) Linda Farrow I and Byng Hall (both 2 South East).
Out - Rejects I (relegated), Bibr Milo Colley (relegated) and G. S. Larkhall.

DIVISION TWO NORTH
In - Peterborough (3 East), BFL Grove Coloys (2 South West), Uxbridge II, Moorland Seaside Blackpool and Sedgefield III (all new)
Out - Vymura II, Leiceste Lions and Uxbridge Burton I (all promoted), Leckie (relegated) and Lewis Westfield.

DIVISION TWO SOUTH EAST
In - BSG Brentwood (3 East), Linda Farrow II and Barclays bank (both 3 South).
Out - Linda Farrow I and Byng Hall (both promoted), Norwich Todd Foxwood (relegated) and JACS.

DIVISION TWO WEST
In - Sedgefield II, Saddleford II and new teams Ymura III, BFL Grove Coloys II and Team JUCE Nottingham League.
Out - Sedgefield II and new team Saddleford II.

DIVISION THREE SOUTH
In - Moorland Seaside Blackpool II, Sedgefield IV, Abbeydale, City of Leeds II and Drumchapel Glasgow II (all new)
Out - Barclays Bank and Linda Farrow II (both promoted).

DIVISION THREE EAST
In - Rejects (1 South), Moorland Seaside Blackpool (all promoted) and Crusaders Lincoln (now 3 East).

DIVISION THREE NORTH
In - Rejects (1 South), Moorland Seaside Blackpool (all promoted) and Crusaders Lincoln (now 3 East).
Out - Drumchapel Glasgow II, Sedgefield III, Moorland Seaside Blackpool II, Uxbridge Burton II (all promoted) and Crusaders Lincoln (now 3 East).

**DIVISION THREE SOUTH**
In - Rejects (1 South), Moorland Seaside Blackpool II, Sedgefield IV, Abbeydale, City of Leeds II and Drumchapel Glasgow II (all new)
Out - Barclays Bank and Linda Farrow II (both promoted).

supported by Schildkrot

ENGLISH TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION

Due to resignation of present incumbent, the ETTA seeks a

SOUTH WEST

Regional Table Tennis Development officer (full time 17 months fixed term contract)

In conjunction with ETTA/Sports council ‘Focus Sport’ initiative, the main thrust of the post will be to plan and coordinate the implementation of the South West Development Plan for Table Tennis.

**SALARY £15,000 (all hours worked post)**

Office base - Bristol

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

Closing date for applications 17th October 1994
Interview scheduled for 27th October 1994

Job description and application form available from:
Doreen Nightingale, ETFA, Queenbury House, Havelock Road, Hastings, East Sussex, TN34 1HF
Tel: 01424 722525 Fax: 01424 422103

Striving for equal opportunities; this post is funded by the Sports Council (South West) and the English Table Tennis Association
WHY WHO SERVES?

THE ARTICLE IN LAST MONTH’S MAGAZINE WAS MISSED OUT BECAUSE OF AN ADMINISTRATIVE MIX-UP. THE GREAT SHAME IS THAT I CANNOT BLAME THE EDITOR FOR IT! WRITES JACK RANDALL.

In June (Mag 223) the question was raised about who serves next after a penalty point is given during play under the expedite system. The ITTF Rules Committee met very soon after the matter was raised, and have decided that a penalty point should be treated like any other point, whether or not the expedite system is in force. In other words, if a penalty point is awarded, it counts as though a rally has just been played and scored, and the next server would be the one who would serve in the normal sequence applying at the time.

We also asked what to do with a person giving advice who was not the nominated adviser in any individual event. The Rules Committee recommend that anybody other than the nominated adviser attempting to give advice should be shown the red card and asked to leave immediately. The possibility of appointing two assistant umpires was mentioned as a solution to a particular incident when objection was taken to the umpire calling multiple faults for the player serving from a point further from the table than his body. We did not intend to imply that there should always be two assistant umpires going to be found? No, it was just for this occasion, but on the other hand, why should one match be treated any differently from all the others in the provision of officials? Perhaps the solution is to say that, when serving, the ball must be struck at a point nearer the table than the body. The easy option of keeping up standards by banning any umpire over 60 years of age was dropped for World title events, but permanently not for European events.

The following rule changes were among those issued by the ITTF Council to take effect from 1 September 1994:

- Until the ban on liquid adhesives was lifted at a point nearer the table than the body, the easy option of keeping up standards by banning any umpire over 60 years of age was dropped for World title events, but permanently not for European events.
- The ban was extended by the late Dennis Reed to ITTF-qualified umpires.
- The ban was eventually rewarded and Doreen Nightingale was let loose on the tournament scene.
- Doreen Nightingale, a chance meeting with a friend from earlier years resulted in an invitation (plead!) to make up the number in a local league club team. Without any clue as to the momentous nature of the decision, Doreen agreed.
- New friends led to new doors being opened and before long she was part of the team involved in the administration of the Veterans Table Tennis Society. It was in this arena that Doreen came upon the ‘ETTA Umpire’ for the first time. “This seemed like a possible way of holding a useful and

The score must be called in English, or any other language acceptable to both players or pairs and to the umpire. Players must leave their rackets on the table during match intervals. A warning for misbehaviour applies to both players of a doubles pair, whichever of them committed the offense. Congratulations to these people who reached the heights last season, International Referee John Jermy, International Umpires Richard Avent, Alan Harwood and David Edwards.

DOREEN NIGHTINGALE

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Woolwich warms up

The Eastern Region have the highest total registered to date: 17 WJL's from 42 senior leagues in the Region. Stowmarket have been praised as an example of good practice, with local authority grants subsidising costs. North West Region's Wirral League looks to be preparing well, with an excellent multi-table venue being used. Eight WJL's have officially registered. In the South there are 10 certainties plus another four likely. The South East has nine at the time of going to press, while there are five in London.

**Woolwich Junior Leagues are starting.**

**Writes Graham Carter**

II over the country local League Secretaries are setting up Junior Leagues under the Woolwich guidelines set out in the Organisers’ pack. With more registration forms coming in a total of 84 new Woolwich Junior Leagues have so far registered at the English Table Tennis Association head office at Hastings. Regional Development Officer’s reports indicate there are another 30 Leagues organising themselves who are still to register. This is most encouraging new indeed.

But what is the national picture? Where are the leagues being set up? The break down is roughly as follows: East Midlands have 11 Leagues preparing of which four have registered. West Midlands so far have five with another 11 expected. In Yorkshire and Humberside there are 13 Leagues interested in running Woolwich Junior Leagues, eight of whom have signed up.

**Woolwich Organisers’ Guide.**

Pictured are some of the school children at the Leeds Junior Summer League ‘Woolwich Warm up’.

The countdown is over. Planning and preparations are nearly complete. The Woolwich Junior Leagues are starting.

WOOLWICH JUNIOR LEAGUES:
FIT TO COACH?

ALL QUALIFIED COACHES WILL BE FAMILIAR WITH THE ‘CODE OF ETHICS’, SINCE IT IS CLEARLY STATED IN THE BASIC COACHING MANUAL. COACHES WILL THEREFORE KNOW THAT THEY HAVE “...AN OBLIGATION TO PROJECT AN IMAGE OF HEALTH, AND CLEANLINESS” WRITES GAIL MCCULLOCH

Unfortunately, this is not always apparent from many coaches. No matter how good a coach may be in the practice hall, she/he does not inspire any confidence in a young player or their parents if she/he is scruffy and non-athletic in appearance. These are both aspects that, in most cases, can be easily rectified.

I am not suggesting that all coaches should be at the same fitness level as their charges - there may be good reasons why this is not possible - but I would suggest that many coaches are not as physically fit as they ought to be.

As a student, I remember being told that I should not ask youngsters to do something that I was not prepared to do myself. Obviously, it is not easy to live by this principle as one gets older. However, I would like to see all ETTA coaches aiming to improve their fitness. As a guide, I would suggest that all coaches should be able to jog for 10 minutes; clearly demonstrate safe exercises for strength, flexibility and speed. Coaches should be fit and healthy, inline with the image of table tennis that we wish to project.

A second area of concern is the coach’s ‘obligation to project an image of functional efficiency.’ To function efficiently, a coach must possess many qualities including organisational and communication skills and knowledge of the game. Obviously, the level of these skills varies considerably and tactical knowledge takes time to acquire.

However, there is one area where a coach can help themselves improve and that is in their technical knowledge. The problem for the coach, is that most of their spare time may be filled up with coaching activities, and that leaves little time for self-improvement. However, I feel that coaches should consider an annual personal performance course to be essential and this should be incorporated into their forward planning.

Most regions run Coach Update courses on a variety of topics - if nothing is happening in your area, chase your Regional Coaching Chairman to organise appropriate courses. For those wishing to work on their own techniques, Dave Berriman is running a Coach Performance course at Lilleshall on 19-20 November. Details from Jill Parker. All ETTA coaches should be ‘fit to coach’ - are you?

NATIONAL TRIALS 21-22 DECEMBER

For all junior and cadet players, the road to the National Trials and Junior Masters has begun. Preliminary trials have been held in several regions and final trials are scheduled for 17-18 December. I would remind players that this is an invitation event, they should not accept the invitation to play if they have no intention of fulfilling that commitment as this causes great inconvenience to the organisers and more importantly, prevents others from participating.

The Junior and Cadet Masters will be held on 4-5 February 1995 in Ipswich.

A ROLE IN ENGLAND FOR ‘SUPER COACH’?

ONCE DUBBED ‘SUPER COACH’, LLOYD LEWIS IS NOW IN HIS 50TH YEAR AND HAS BEEN COACHING PRIVATELY FOR 25 OF THOSE YEARS. LLOYD’S REPUTATION IS AS A COACH OF TOP PLAYERS.

WRITES KEN MUHR.

The first person I coached privately was Graham Sandley who had never held a bat. He was 9 years of age. He went on to become an international player, England No. 2. He lost to Des (Douglas) 3 times in the national finals.

He has also coached various other leading players such as Max Crimmings, Phillip Bradbury, Skytel Andrew, Alison Gordon, Helen Williams - he stresses not continually but over a period - as well as juniors too numerous to mention. Since moving up to

Overweight coach Ken Muhr of the Kingston Table Tennis Centre, Milton Keynes, looks to be a little out of condition. Maybe because of over-indulgences during the summer season!

Burnley, Lancashire from London and the South 5 years ago, he has been coaching Maria Thornley and also for the last two to two and a half years, Jonathan Taylor.

What are Lloyd’s views on the modern game? “The modern game with the glues is fantastic to watch - fantastic rallies, great shots. That’s how table tennis should be played.”

Lloyd considers that whereas Asians used to dominate the game with defenders, pimples hitting, and disguise of serve with pimples, for the last 6-8 years Europeans have dominated using fast glues which the Asians don’t like so much. That, he thinks, is behind moves to rule it out, which he disagrees with.

“I think England have done the wrong thing in banning the glues, because today we have got the safe water based glue which have been proved very safe and the rest of the world are playing with them. I don’t see why we should not play with them as well.”

What style does Lloyd coach? “I always coach attacking play, because I think that is proper table tennis. I don’t believe in putting short pimples or long pimples on (the bat of attacking) players, just disguising the spin.
Defensive players I don’t mind playing with the pimples as it gives them a chance to slow the ball down. I personally like to coach attacking players, to win shots themselves because if you can win points and do tremendous shots it doesn’t matter who you are playing – you have the chance of winning the point. If you play negative and hope they miss I don’t think it is developing the game. There has been a lack of coaching over the last 10 years in this country, not developing stroke players. We have been relying too much on the funny bats.”

Lloyd considers there should be the right people coaching the right technique at the highest training camps, not just training, multi-ball and players playing each other. Techniques such as “topspin, looping off the bounce, being aggressive, doing good serves and getting the first loop in, and developing strong attacking backhands because you can’t run round and do everything with your forehand.” He also feels that our top players should be playing at the training camps against our up-and-coming young players, and more of our coaches should be learning from watching world class players.

He would like to be used at training camps to help younger players develop strokes at 11/12/13 which would be strong and going on when they are 16/17/18 years old, so that they would not be relying on just putting the ball back on the table, and on blocking. Lloyd spoke of meeting Paul Hutchins, the then English tennis supreme, many years ago who told him that: “He was trying to change the coaching methods because too many coaches teach their youngsters of 6, 7 or 8 to beat the American lads, but when they get to 10, 11 or 12 the American lads beat our lads because they have learnt their angles and are consistent with their (stronger) shots. That is a similar sort of thing with the table tennis. I want the lads to be doing the shots, learning the touches, the flicks, good serves, variations, especially a good backhand, and they will develop and be good players by the time they are 16, 17 or 18, for England.”

Lloyd Lewis is waiting – and hoping – for the call to help develop England’s future stars.
JUNIOR SCENE

Kirklees Junior 2 Star

James & Fisher win first of season


Michael James defeated Andrew Sugarman 17, 18, 15, in a hard hitting final, with Sugarman taking the first off James with powerful topspin down both wings. But James recovered to win the second by varying his service not allowing Sugarman in. Then James went on to take the third with heavy topspin play. A worthy final with long hitting rallies.

In the semi-finals Michael James beat his brother Simon 18 and 16, whilst Sugarman defeated Darren Ashall in a much closer battle, 18, -18, 19.

Zoe Fisher won the Girls Singles final when she beat Nicola Parkes 17 and 18. Fisher dominated the game with heavy forehand and backhand loops, attacking the third ball on every occasion, whilst Parkes stayed in the game with long hard hitting counter attacks.

In the semi-finals Fisher beat Helen McGreevey 9 and 10, whilst Parkes had a much tougher game with Clare News, whom she finally overcame 14, -20, 19.

In the Boys quarter finals Darren Ashall beat Wayne Marsh -20, 18, 19, Andrew Sugarman beat David Smith 18, -18, 16, Simon James beat Glen Payne 7, 10, and Michael James beat Mark Worthy 12, 12.

Whilst in the Girls Quarter finals Zoe Fisher beat Nicola Silburn 20 and 18, Helen McGreevey beat Joanne Baralough 19 and 18, Nicola Parkes beat Nicola Smith -18, 19, and Clare News beat Alice Howard 19 and 15.

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NASTY SUBSTANCE
I wish to reply to Mr Coniel's letter in the last Table Tennis News.

Only some of the manufacturers have removed the most harmful elements from table tennis glues, although the rest have been instructed to do so by January 1st 1995, by the ITTF. Several of the current glues contain a nasty substance called n-hexene and some still have too high a level of aromatics.

At least two glues on the 'Approved' list have been tested by the ITTF and have been found to contain too high a level of the banned substances.

The 'cleaning up' of the glues by the ITTF does not mean they are safe, only that they have reduced the risks.

How safe the materials are depends on how they are used, and how responsible the people are that use them.

One cannot be narrow-minded about the use of glue, and think that because one might consider that they can run a tournament and provide safe conditions of use, that everyone will use those conditions. What about practice prior to the event?

It is well known that the banned carcinogenic solvents give a better performance than the approved solvents. They are easily obtainable from garages. As long as one can reglue, people will cheat by topping up approved glues with the banned solvents. In fact, there is no doubt that this is being done, and the logistics of testing render it impracticable other than at major tournaments. The cost would prove inhibitive.

One must sympathise with the Sports Administrators who have to consider all eventualities and all the types of people who will reglue. They have to consider all the legal implications that might arise not just now, but in the future.

As we become more and more aware of the danger of these substances, legislation arises concerning control of their use, and it is an administrator's duty to enforce rather than reactive.

I consider the ITTF's National Council to have been proactive in their decision to ban the organic solvent-based glues and should be commended.

Unfortunately, in this world people tend to be reactive and we are paying the price with our environment (e.g. acid rain, nuclear clear contamination, cancers, asthma etc). The manufacturers claim that technologically they will provide the properties derived from removing either from the approved glues, modified sponge/rubber or a combination of all thee.

If they had heeded the ITTF four years ago, they would have been ready for the market now. Some manufacturers will have the required products ready for next August. Any manufacturer who has not will be left behind and will pay the penalty of not heeding the advice of the ITTF.

Dr R Powell
Dumfries, Scotland

FROM CANADA
I have just received the September issue of Table Tennis News and I like its new appearance.

Congratulations, keep up the good work.

Please pass on my best wishes to all my old friends in England.

Paul Judd
Surrey B.C., Canada

RESPONSE TO TIGGY CONIEL'S LETTER, WHICH APPEARED IN THE SEPTEMBER ISSUE OF TABLE TENNIS NEWS, BY THE EDITOR JOHN F. A. WOOD

"In reply to the above mentioned letter, it is not true that table tennis manufacturers have now taken out all the harmful elements out of speed glues, and it is a fact that most of the glues currently appearing on the ITTF list are still dangerous to health.

Because of the present glue debate I have decided that it would be informative to our readers to publish a letter from RUTT Ford HARRISON, CHAIRMAN OF THE ITTF EQUIPMENT COMMITTEE, that was recently circulated to National Councils."

John F. A. Wood, Editor

At its meeting in Tianjin in May, the ITTF Council unanimously affirmed the Executive Committee's ban on liquid glues, which begins on August 1, 1995. I will tell you what I think "liquid glue" means, along with something about alternatives and control procedures, but first let's try to justify Council's action, since the matter is so controversial.

It does not make sense to be freewheeling on catching a dog that is running away. If we have a policy of not using liquid glue, we must have a policy of not using liquid glue. If we have a policy of using liquid glue, we must have a policy of using liquid glue. If we have a policy of not using liquid glue, we must have a policy of not using liquid glue.

One of ITTF's first actions was to invite the ITTF's Equipment Committee, which is made up of representatives of the glue manufacturers. (You know I suppose, that the well-known equipment suppliers do not make their glues; they buy them from established glue manufacturers.) I asked two of our Committee members to work on this with ITTF, and the meeting was held in Luxembourg, by chance while the Council meeting was going on in Tianjin. The meeting, which included four representatives of the glue companies and four from FIT, reached several conclusions:

1. All organic solvents are toxic, some of course more than others, and some are highly flammable. (Some players had to surrender their glue at Gothenberg airport when leaving the last world championships because of this flammability.

2. The ITTF was absolutely correct to ban the use of toluene, trichlorethylene and related compounds, which are highly toxic.

3. We should add n-hexene to this list. The Equipment Committee was already contemplating doing this, and the wheels are already in motion.

4. No glues containing organic solvents, authorised or otherwise should be sold to juniors, and no junior should use them without adult supervision.

5. No tournament should have a gluing room. A gluing room does not remove a hazard; it concentrates it.

Some of this you have heard before, and many of you have already discounted it as the mouthing of a group of toxicological Cassandras. But please keep in mind that all of the above comes from the glue and equipment manufacturers. Here they are, those who stand to gain by selling you glue, telling you that it is a noxious material. Before I give you my own opinions, here is another one from a person very much interested in selling glue, namely the President of the Tamusu Company (Butterfly): "Reducing damages to the image of table tennis. The problem started with reglueing. If players stop reglueing, the problem disappears. The ITTF ought to take strong leadership in this field.

Yes, we know that Surbek is pushing fifty and is very much alive. So are millions of smokers; cancer seldom gets them and there is no doubt that smoking shortens the life of most who indulge in it. That isn't the only example. The literature of toxicology includes many examples of substances that cause death years, even decades, after the exposure.

This effect is compounded by the young age of many of our regulars. In order to eliminate some procedural complications, toxicity studies are almost invariably limited to adult men; they seldom use women, and virtually never use juniors. Yet there is a strong presumption that the time at which we are most susceptible to toxic substances is the age of puberty. And so we have the very people whose livelihood would benefit from selling these adhesives, telling us that we probably should not use them. Perhaps we never should.

But even if we accept the fact that some solvents are toxic, why is the ITTF banning them all? Several reasons, firstly the image. Solvents are gradually being eliminated from paints, inks, etc. by government decree; it is only time before glues will follow. Meanwhile it does not look good for players, and especially young ones, to be using something with a noxious aura.

Secondly, even those solvents with lower toxicities may be in the long run very harmful to those who use, repeatedly by juniors. Thirdly, there is the matter of practicability: We can test for the banned solvents, as we did in Gothenberg. But at about $5 per Dreuger test, and at least three tubes per test, random testing at a tournament would cost at least $200 per day in addition to the cost of the equipment. But we may develop a device that should cost only $150 and will require no additional cost except for a battery to run it; its problem or advantage - is that it detects all solvents. But even if we accept the fact that some solvents are toxic, why is the ITTF banning them all?

Some prefer the cheap, easy way to run tournaments, others the expensive, effective way to do it, but we must do it the effective way. If we cannot do it, let the ITTF tell us that we can no longer run tournaments.

October 1994 TABLE TENNIS NEWS 27
turing may catch you, but if you
 glued the racket last week, there
 should be no solvent left for us to
 find today; it will have evaporated.
 We shall have
 achieved our objective, and Mr
 Tamasu’s, of eliminating the
 hazardous practice of regluing.
 The occasional use of a volatile
glue, like your use of it last week,
 is not the source of the hazard; it
 is its repeated use, several times a
day. In short, a “liquid glue” is
 one that is still liquid or wet, at
 the time of play; if it were once
 liquid, but is now dry, it is of no
 concern to the ITTF.
 But a ban like this will slow the
 game, and most players will not
 like that, perhaps including you.
 What is the alternative? There are
 several.
 There is of course PSA, pressure­sensitive adhesive like that on
 Scotch tape. It seems to be faster
 than ordinary glue, but it
 certainly is not as good as speed
 glue, though I have no doubt at
 all that, by August 1995, newer
types will be faster. There is the
 possibility of an iron-on type. A
 stick like a roll-on deodorant is
 under consideration. Most
 promising, however, is an
 aqueous (water-based) glue; the
 glue people say their prototypes
 are fast, and retain their
 accelerating effect for several day.
 So there is every hope and
 expectation that come August
 1995, you will have a product
 that eliminates regluing,
eliminates any possible toxicity,
 and retains the speed and spin of
 the sport. That is our objective.
 Ruiford Harrison
 INTERESTING POINT
 Thanks for another interesting
 and informative magazine page
 (Umpires Corner, June 1994). In
 response to the points you raised
 on change of serve in expedite
 following a penalty point.
 Law 2-16.2 states - Each player
 shall serve for one point in turn
 until the end of the game, and in
 this case the penalised player had
 not served when the penalty
 point had been awarded, so (none
 of the ladies would ever
 swear or misbehave) would still
 have the serve, and the
 disadvantage of having to make
 the point.
 I was interested to read (p23
 June) that players and coaches
 held a debriefing session after the
 Euro 94, and wondered if the
 umpires did the same, and if they
 did what were the items
 discussed?
 An item of interest to many
 readers would be rule changes.
 Who decides a rule needs to be
 changed, why, and what is the
 process before a change is made?
 Frank Draycott
 Billington, Cleveland.
 The Rules Committee having
 considered the points raised in the
 June issue of Table Tennis News,
 decided that all points will be treated
 the same whether in expedite or not,
 John F. A. Wood, Editor (see Umpires
 Corner Page 22)
 MUCH IMPROVED
 I have just received my copy of
 Table Tennis News and felt I must
 write to congratulate you on a
 much improved publication.
 Having been in the printing
 trade all of my life I suppose I
 look on these things with a more
 critical eye and I must say the
 new look magazine is very
 professional and I would imagine
 much more attractive to prospective
 advertisers.
 It is certainly a very
 encouraging start to Richard’s
 reign as Vice Chairman of Public
 Relations, and long may that
 continue.
 Keep up the good work.
 Keith Ponting
 Exeter, Devon
 DELIGHT
 The Table Tennis News arrived
 this morning and produced cries
 of delight from Josine - for once
 we both came out well in a
 photograph, a tribute to your
 camera expertise.
 I like the new format very
 much. The colour sections are
 really spectacular. Incidentally
 my attendance at the EYC was as
 umpire assessor for the ITTF not
 ETTU but it is only a small point,
 and we hope that the ETTU will
 also profit from my efforts.
 Kindest regards from us both.
 Derek and Josine Tyler, Bruxelles.
 PLEASE NOTE
 We would like to make it clear that
 TTN does not necessarily agree
 with the views made by those
 correspondents whose letters are
 published in Mailbox. Your letters
 that are NOT abusive or libellous
 are always welcome, as are replies.
 Only those when names and
 addresses are supplied for
 publication will in future be
 considered.

TABLE TENNIS AUSTRALIA

NATIONAL COACH

The Australian Government through the Australian Sports Commission and in cooperation with the Australian Olympic Committee has introduced the Olympic Athlete Program to provide high performance training and competition opportunities for the 1996 Atlanta and 2000 Sydney Olympic Games.

Applications are invited for the position of National Coach to direct the preparation of Australian Table Tennis players for these events.

The National Coach will:
- Advance Australian International Table Tennis performances into the higher echelons of world rankings, with the aim of winning a Gold Medal at the Sydney 2000 Olympic games
- Develop planning strategies appropriate to this outcome
- Coordinate and direct the preparation of Australian Teams
- Integrate the appropriate sport sciences into the program
- Develop a network of international training and competition opportunities
- Assist in Talent Identification and Coach Education program
- Perform other duties as required.

Qualifications and Experience

The successful applicant will possess a high level of coaching experience and a record of achievement at the International level: Will have experience or qualifications in the application of the sport sciences to Table Tennis Programs: Will possess communication and interpersonal skills of a high standard.

The National Coach will be based at the Australian Table Tennis Academy, Melbourne, Australia and be expected to travel extensively within the country and overseas. A contract will be negotiated to operate until November 30, 1996 after which a review of the program will occur. Remuneration will be negotiated.

Further information and job specifications are available from Table Tennis Australia. Applications should be forwarded by Nov 9, 1994

Contact:
The Executive Director Table Tennis Australia Private Bag 1994 South Melbourne VICTORIA 3205 AUSTRALIA
Phone: (61 3) 820 8507 Facsimile: (61 3) 820 8510

This position is supported by the Australian Sports Commission under the Olympic Athlete Program.
Cleeve and Cleveham Tigers who defeated Bleadon Magic in the final. The Men's Singles championship went to Richard Godwin who had an excellent win over Steve Weymouth in the final. Steve and Richard then teamed up to take the doubles title. Ann Sandford defeated Claire Gifford to take the ladies title and Mike Witheram got the better of Pat Maxwell in the Veterans final. James Godwin (under 18) and Philip Spearpoint (under 14) took the junior titles with victories over Adam Elcock and Ian Craig respectively.

Berkshire

JOHN CUNNINGHAM

Berkshire players amongst the medals

Great Britain took a total of 12 medals in this year's main world ranking tournament for disabled table tennis players. A total of 23 countries took part at Stoke Mandeville in the British Open including USA, Korea, Mexico, United Arab Emirates and Israel. Two golds came from the individual singles events. Neil Robinson from Wales won the gold in the men's class three (wheelchair), beating Rainer Kolb from Germany 2 - 1 in the final. Melanie Davis of Kent took the ladies' class 10 (standing) gold medal, beating Iolanda Davidkova from the Czech Republic. Melanie, with team members Judy Smith and Elaine Marshall, won a silver in the ladies' class 10 team event, losing to the Czech Republic.

Hampshire

BRIAN LAMERTON

Having kept these notes up whilst the County trials are completed it is unlikely that the Editor will await the deliberations of the selection panel so I shall make some assumptions of my own! The senior trials were bereft of the reigning Number 1 and 2 men and the Number 1 Women Graham Toole, Micky Sinanin and Sarah Costar but it is unlikely that they will lose their places. Ramesh Bhalla who seems to go on for ever will probably retain No. 3 spot but Julie Norman, late of Berkshire but now living in Basingstoke has expressed a wish to play for Hampshire and number 2 in the "A" team looks to rest between her and the outstanding Junior Lorna Dutch. I understand that the seniors are likely to play in 3 "Block" weekends with one of them at Southampton.

The veterans have one outstanding newcomer (by age) and following his 100% record at the trials there is little doubt that Southampton's Chris Withyman will join Chris Shelley and Gill Larking in the first team. From there is becomes a bit obscure with Paul Shave, Bob Cox, Graham Outram and Chris Pickard (Ex Dorset) all coming into the equation. With a place in the Premier division this season they may all get a chance.

News from Southampton is that they have over 30 entries for their Woolwich junior league, matches are to be played on Saturday mornings at two venues. The British Transplant games were staged in Hampshire in July at Portsmouth's Mountbatten Centre; Mick Strode and myself helped with the umpiring in the later stages and amongst over one hundred competitors in the table tennis section was Derek Oram of Bournemouth's Merton club who reached the final stages of the Veterans event.

Regrettably these notes have taken the place of the county column throughout 1994 and we have sadly to report the passing of three "Names" during the close season. "Dickie" Brook, a Hampshire Vice President, had been active in the Bournemouth Association since 1936, serving over 30 years on the Bournemouth Executive with the last 13 years as President. Also from Bournemouth Hampshire and Dorset and member of the South West Sports council; Alan who had been in ill health for many years devoted nearly all of his free time to the coaching of youngsters and particular success for Bournemouth teams together with national success for the likes of Julie Reading and Janet New was the name. A baker by trade and used to heat Alan was a familiar figure in his leather jacket at tournaments throughout the country. Jim
White, Southampton veteran champion in 1971 was another who devoted much of his time to the coaching of youngsters including his son Steve, Southampton junior champion in 1976. A member of the Southampton committee for many years one of Jim’s legacies is the format under which their premier division is currently played.

Appearing complicated and unworkable by many when first proposed it is now an established and successful part of Southampton Table Tennis life. Always competitive Jim had taken to road running in later years and it was whilst participating in this sport that he collapsed and died in July. Table tennis can ill afford to lose 3 such stalwarts in the game; our condolences go to their remaining families with grateful thanks for their support in the time which was so unselfishly given.

We are sorry also to have to report the demise of the South East Hants association reducing to nine our association members. South East Hants, largely a second league for players of surrounding associations had been in declining numbers for a number of seasons but does not necessarily mean a reduction in overall player numbers.

Hertfordshire

JOHN WOOD

A 6 day coaching course was held at the Barnet Table Tennis Centre from 29 August, those participating found the long days (10am-6pm) hard work but rewarding for those who stayed the distance, putting up some fine performances in the Hertfordshire Junior Ranking Trials held on Sunday 4 September.

A few surprising results from relative newcomers to the game saw an initial ranking list drawn up as follows:


The senior ranking list will appear in the November issue.

Kent

ADRIAN HALL

Wang Da Yong, Belgium National Team Coach and personal coach to the World No1 and European Champion Jean Michel Salive spent a week as guests of the KCTTA along with James Fu (Belgium National Ladies coach) and Jai Yi Liu (the new English national junior coach) training the Kent County Junior squad at Riverside, Chatham, during the middle week of August 1994. Fourteen of Kent’s top and most promising juniors were put through their paces with the same training regime that has turned Belgium into one of the strongest European Nations and produced a world number one. The on the table approach of the coaches and the regular use of multiball is very different from the English system and our coaches have much to learn from these world class coaches. Discipline is strict, no talking during training and players run

November all Saturdays 2pm until 5pm at Barnet. The Hertfordshire Junior Closed Tournament will be held on Sunday 13 November at the Barnet Table Tennis Centre (entry forms coming out soon). Following the ranking trials held at the Barnet Table Tennis centre on Sunday 21 August 1994, the veterans list is as follows:

MEN


The following highly successful camp in Kent our Junior Girls, Crystal Hall, Alison Smith and Rachel Woolven and coach Bob Mahon (Sittingbourne) spent the following week at Cinity, in Belgium as the guests of the Belgium’s at a National Junior training week.

Ashford won the annual table tennis match with twin town Bad Münstereifel, over August bank holiday, the first win away from home for a number of years.

Organiser Alc Francis is still actively involved with the twinning although he has now retired from league administration. Next year will be the 25th anniversary of this popular event, so no doubt something special will be organised.

KENT’s leading youngsters Scott Friday and Christian Thompson held top spots in the national rankings at the close of the 1993/4 season. Scott the National U12 champion confirmed his top spot as the top ranked U12 boy. Not to be outdone Christian the National U14 champion had splendid results at the European Junior Championships in Paris and moved to No1 in the final ranking list. Well done boys.

County Development Officer Allan Fisher, has made giant strides forward with the opening in September of three new development centres. These centres in conjunction with the grass roots coaching that is now taking shape, should over the course of time improve the standard of the centres of excellence.

Leicestershire

DEREK BUTT

The Leicestershire and District table tennis league will again consist of ten divisions although there is a slight drop in the number of teams. However, I know everyone is raring to go again. Some good news to report on is that the Leicester League in association with the Leicester City Council present a ‘come and play’ table tennis at the Aylestone Leisure Centre.

There will be two six week...
Everyone is looking forward to this, as last time it was a success. This match is in the Men's European League.

The Special Olympics Regional Tournament will again be held in Leicester 16-17 September. This has always been a good couple of days in the past and looks like being another success.

**MIDDLESEX**

LORNA TAYLOR

Ashford table tennis club at Woodbridge Road, Ashford have been invited and have agreed to host the ladies international England v Poland on September 20th. Initial indications of ticket sales are good and we are looking forward to the honour of officiating in an exciting match. Jason Sugrue continued with his sporting development by representing England in the recent European cadet championships. Jason was also in receipt of a special Evening Standard £250 award further to the recommendation of the Sports Aid Foundation for London athletes who have performed exceptionally within their particular group.

Harry Edwards, the long-standing chairman of Uxbridge Table Tennis League until recent years and the only life President of Middlesex recently celebrated his 90th birthday. We wish him well for the future.

The Veterans inter league in recent years has undergone a revitalisation of interest and has become a regular feature of the league. The teams are made up of veterans from across the country and play each other in a series of fixtures throughout the year.

**NORFOLK**

RAY HOGG

We expected and were delighted that all the 'hype' that led up to the European Championships and following the event, we would not be able to cope with the influx of potential players. Norfolk league for instance by the last minutes of the Norfolk league in Norfolk had hoped to increase its numbers for the diamond anniversary year. At the registration night it was announced that only 8 teams were in Division 7 as against 14 last season and even worse up to a further 7 teams were considering withdrawal through lack of players despite the handbook being printed. Information from around the county shows a reduction in most leagues.

Even some of our ranked juniors have switched to other sports but the veterans seem to be as good as ever just as well as without them there would not be any league or county organisation. My club with 10 teams requires 38 players every week and to date we can only raise 34 as some of our regulars have opted out for various reasons but the only thing they did not do was WAS TO TELL THEIR CLUB.

We had a coaching course back in June when 9 participants seemed to enjoy themselves not that anyone has said anything directly to me.

I am willing to organise a course for the basis of International coaching which is contained in one 6 hour session if there is enough interest. There is one vacancy on the County committee - that of Coaching and Development. I have been covering this for years but I am shedding this as from now. It is not a difficult job or time consuming job, just co-ordinating with the Eastern Region coaching committee and Sports Council 3 times a year. Enquiries to me please.

The above seems to be very black; let us hope things cheer up when the County teams get into action, and I look forward to reporting better news.

**SUSSEX**

JOHN WOODFORD

Exceptionally keen rivalry is anticipated at the top ends of the two new Sussex junior ranking lists just issued by county junior secretary Ray Ford.

Kevin Doyle (Arundel) is the No. 1 on his last season as a junior, but he will be closely pursued by Robert Abbots who is only 14 and already in the No. 2 position. The other rivalry will be between two girls with in their last seasons as juniors - Sarah Stedman (Arundel) and Joanna Bush-Harris of Brighton who currently holds the No.1 position, with Miss Stedman probably very close second. Battles between these two girls can go either way.

Haywards Heath have two players well up the new lists - Martyn Sims at No. 3 and Heidi Sims also at No. 3 on the girls list. Intense coaching at Hastings is also paying dividends - four juniors from Hastings are in these new lists.

Meanwhile, it is likely that the all-Sussex championships will be run on January 21-22 week-end on twelve tables (two halls) at the Newman School, Hove, where coach Peter Burdock is in charge of arrangements and where much valuable coaching takes place.

**SUSSEX JUNIOR RANKS**

**BOYS**

1. Kevin Doyle
2. Robert Abbots
3. Martyn Sims
4. Harry McCarney
5. Chris Hancock
6. Paul Hancock
7. Mark Farder
8. Jonathon Atkinson
9. Willian Reardon
10. Laurence Morgan
11. Andrew Bear

**GIRLS**

1. Joanna Bush-Harris
2. Sarah Stedman
3. Heidi Sims
4. Sarah Cohn
5. Lucy Jourdog
6. Julie Szczychos
7. Tracey Huntley
8. Sharon Roberts
9. Kelly Parrier

**INTERNATIONAL TABLE TENNIS TOURNAMENT**

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Nicola Deaton

In action against local young players.

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ETTA SPORTS COUNCIL
LION’S 2nd SEASON

Alan Hydes supervising the despatch of Lion 3 Star Balls being carried out by Claire Taylor (left) and Sarah Prior of the ENA.

Lion Sports (UK) Ltd, are now in the second season of the three year ball adoption for the English County Championships programme.

All County championship Premier Weekends will use the Lion 3 Star ball and counties are requested to use the ball for all their championship matches.

Alan Hydes of Lion Sports (UK) Ltd said “We are delighted to be assisting the County Championships programme with this agreement and look forward to further involvement in the future.”

Supplies of the Lion 3 Star ball were sent out from Hastings to all counties at the end of August.”.

As the world’s largest table tennis producer; Lion’s policy is to invest in research and development in order to bring the most advanced technology into the market place to aid the consumer and retailer. The company was launched in 1988 by former English Champion Alan Hydes and Antony Fung, the owner of the Lion factory, and in each year sales have surpassed all expectations. Such is the quality of Lion’s supplies of the Tournament 3 Star table tennis ball, that the ETTA has chosen it for the 1994 English closed Championships, the 1994 English International Open Championships and the 1994/95/96 English County Championships.

To complement the Tournament ball, Lion also offers the 2 Star ETTA approved ball, plus 1 Star fluo, Lion Club, multi-coloured and practice balls.

ENGLISH TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION

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  (previously ETTA Assistant Coach)

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Frank Bruno & light at the end of the tunnel

A LETTER FROM DAVE WARD

Blenheim Memorial Institute TTC and YMCA.

"During this period, I was coached by Alan Thompson and Kathy Best and a young man by the name of Peter Simpson, later to become England coach. I represented Leeds Juniors, a Yorkshire Association of Boys Clubs. At this stage, I was playing every night of the week.

"Other leagues I have played with are Leeds, Brighton, Warrington, Heathfield, Uckfield and District, Haywards Heath Eastbourne, Bracknell and Wokingham. Reading and Maidenhead.

"When I was 40, a new world of

When I was 40, a new world of table tennis opened up for me"

competition opened up for me - the VETTS (Veterans English Table Tennis Society). I have been to three world championships since joining, Italy (Rimini), Yugoslavia (Zagreb) and USA (Baltimore). This is really an enjoyable level to play table tennis at. The friendships and social side are fantastic, plus we all think we are world beaters - basically we secretly believe we are still 20.

"Another area of enjoyment has been the coaching side of table tennis. I have been a coach for 30 years and gained Diploma level (ETTA).

"My claim to fame could be that I was the man who coached Frank Bruno. When I went to School in Sussex, Frank was one of my pupils. He was the best table tennis player and an all-round sportsman. I selected Frank for the first friendly against Maylows Chicken Factory at Five Ash Down.

"At the half-way stage, I will never forget Frank's face as they brought in a huge plate of chicken sandwiches and a large jug of shandy.

"Frank was a model pupil and I can't remember having any problems with him. He used to join in discussions on many topics and had some valuable contributions to make. The friendship made with Frank continues to the present day and we still meet occasionally. Of course, he went on to make it in another sport but you can't win them all!

"For the last 23 years in a professional capacity working with young people in youth clubs, community homes and residential special schools, I have been privileged to introduce hundreds of youngsters to this marvellous sport. It has also been a factor in forming and improving relationships with my client group through a shared and common interest.

"There are many warming situations and experiences which you can share and benefit from. Table tennis can be played at different levels and you can be involved just socially, or in leagues and competitions, national or internationally. I have been fortunate to be involved across the whole spectrum and my friends made through table tennis are wonderful people and span every continent.

"At my present school, Sindlesham, we have a very exciting and developing situation with table tennis being a focal point for many positive experiences and it is a continuing area in which our youngsters can develop into useful players and also enhance their personal self-esteem.

"Since my arrival in September 1992, we have steadily progressed. Within the staff, I recruited two more coaches who are currently being trained. Each boy has the opportunity to avail himself of individual coaching programmes. I use the Sindlesham award scheme which I developed and the Dunlop Skills - badges and certificates are very important to youngsters.

"We supplement this with involvement in the English Schools, Bracknell and Wokingham Leagues and numerous friendly matches. Within three coaching areas, we are able to provide a very good support for our pupils - beginner - improver and advanced levels.

The future looks good and the groundwork has been done to build a professional type set up. Would-be sponsors and anyone would like to be involved should contact Dave Ward by telephoning 0734 786900.

October 1994 TABLE TENNIS NEWS 33
Welsman captures second National Title

SURREY'S DAVID WELSMAN CAPTURED HIS SECOND NATIONAL TITLE IN FOUR SEASONS, WHEN HE BEAT GLOUCESTERSHIRE'S DAVE HARVEY IN A REALLY DISAPPOINTING FINAL, 21-14, 22-20, AT THE BRACKNELL SPORTS CENTRE, LAST MAY. WRITES RON LANGHEIM.

Welsman has never won a regional singles title but he beat G. Knightley in the final, and is the first man to win this title. He defeated the top seed D. Schofield 13, 19, 19, 20 excluding the fourth game.

This year's Masters was enjoyable without really reaching the excitement of previous years. There were absentee's due to the World Vets Championships in Melbourne where players were holidaying in such romantic places as Fiji, Singapore, Hawaii and Grimsby and also we overlapped with the Cricket Season and some of our younger male members still turn out to put willow on to leather.

WELSMAN WAS THE FINALIST IN THE NATIONAL MASTERS D. WESMAN bt D. Harvey 19, 20
SUSSEX'S MARY BUTCHER bt S. COOMBS 9, 19, 19
STAFFORD'S IAN ROBERTSON bt D. WELSMAN 19, 20

There are absentee's due to the World Vets Championships in Melbourne where players were holidaying in such romantic places as Fiji, Singapore, Hawaii and Grimsby and also we overlapped with the Cricket Season and some of our younger male members still turn out to put willow on to leather.

RESULTS

WELSMAN'S REPORT

VETTS NATIONAL MASTERS 1994 played at Bracknell Sports Centre 21st & 22nd May
Men's 0/40 Singles
D. Welsman bt D. Harvey 19, 20
Men's 0/50 Singles
H. Burst bt G. Evans 16, 7
Men's 0/60 Singles
D. Schofield bt T. Wilson 13, 19
Women's 0/40 Singles
M. Stafford bt P. Perry 18, 17, 10
Women's 0/50 Singles
Singles D. Schofield bt P. Butcher 17-9, 12
Women's 0/60 Singles
P. Butcher bt S. Coombs 9, 5
Mixed Doubles
J. Hillary/C. Hewett bt J. Cokin/C. Judson 16, 12
Men's Doubles Winners
0/40 I. Roberton/D. Welsman
0/50 R. Gunnion/C. Worsn
0/60 T. Donlon/F. Lockwood
Women's Doubles Winners
0/40 M. Dignum/P. Perry
0/50 M. Stafford/G. Knighley

Any enquiries contact Peter Bradley on 0734 585 356.

OBITUARY

John Butten 1931 - 1994 by Brenda Shillito

A huge crowd of friends and relatives attended a service at the Baptist Church, Cheriton from the funeral of the late John "Bingo" Butten, who died in a tragic accident on the 23rd February 1994.

John, who was born in Richmond on the 1st January 1931, came to Folkestone in 1957 and opened the first Bingo Hall in the town.

John was a very popular man and was affectionately known as "Johnnie Bingo" until the day he died.

He was a Founder Life Member of the Folkestone Sports Centre and a keen Table Tennis player. John became very involved in the coaching of Juniors in the Folkestone area and obtained a Club Coaching Award. One of his most successful Juniors was Dino Smith who reached England Junior Standard.

As well as his enthusiasm for the table tennis John also enjoyed playing golf and played in various parts of the world.

John became well-known throughout Britain as his involvement with Table Tennis increased. He was Chairman and Club Coach of the St. Mary's Table Tennis Club, Coaching and Development Officer of the Folkestone and District Table Tennis Association, Kent League Secretary (Juniors) and a qualified County Umpire.

John was a well-known and loved character and is sadly missed by his friends and all who knew him.
FORTHCOMING EVENTS

EUROPEAN WOMEN'S LEAGUE SUPER DIVISION
ENGLAND v SWEDEN
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