



Table Tennis DIGEST

LIVERPOOL & DISTRICT TABLE TENNIS LEAGUE

EDITOR: Jack Lambert,
4 Rhosesmor Road,
Liverpool L32 7QU
Tel: 546-3081

EDITORIAL BOARD: A.Upton
J.McKim
D.Cameron
K.Armson

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EDITORIAL

Never mind three aside - or include three aside - what other changes do we need to rekindle some enthusiasm in our game. I would never expect to go back to the euphoria of the thirties and fifties, but we do need a boost of some description.

Welcome to our new friends from M.Y.C.A., Unity Boys Club and Litherland Boys Club, may they all enjoy their table tennis with us and may their association be long and happy. Litherland have quite a table tennis past with many times champion Arthur Taylor and Billy Clayton the personality kid. If they can produce players as good as Arthur or as dedicated as Billy they will be doing themselves and the league a favour.

By THE very narrowest of margins three aside for the first division was turned down, but what of the future? A very influential body is for it - so what about next season? Think about it, it is a big step - most things have been said but the Digest is yours for your opinions, on any matter appertaining to the game. Finance on the possible new set up has not been mentioned - over to you Don Cameron and will it improve our standards by encouraging outside players to play here.

Change is the word that sums up the division this season. Keith Williams teams up again with Brian Davey after only one season with different clubs. John Rankin is back with Bootle after only one season with another club. Steve Green moves to Maghull after only one season with V. Sangs. Malcolm Pu is back on the scene with Liv. Y.M. and Phil Thompson is back at Eng. Elec. after a spell on the continent. Mal McEvoy is back in the 1st div. with a different club, claiming he is a reformed character as he can no longer afford the luxury of breaking his bat.

Change in the formation of the champions and runners-up of last season has seen Wav. Lab. lose two key players and V. Sangs. likewise. Change which has reduced them from the best to just two of a fairly even bunch. Change which again saw the champions defeated by Eng. Elec 'A' in their first match 6-4. This same match saw the defeat of the current League Champion by Richie Cragg.

Change which finds us with two newly promoted teams who will not be doormats for the rest and one of them, namely Elec. Supply, could well be champions.

Change also with a non-playing writer for these notes when change again saw Les French move out of V. Sangs. 1st team and into the 2nd Div. On the subject of Les, I am sure we all wish him a speedy recovery from illness and a return to competitive table tennis.

We may not always agree with him, but every sport needs its controversial characters and Les has the added factor of being devoted to table tennis and its improvement.

One change we did not get was from four to three man teams. Opponents of this may well find this season giving them ammunition for the expected tussle for the championship will be the direct result of not having changed to three player teams.

Another change was the absence of Roy Smith from Wav. Lab. line-up for the first two matches due to food poisoning after a continental holiday (stay at home next year, Roy.).

Yet another change could come later when we will probably see Wav. Lab. fall from the tightrope they have walked successfully for several seasons and be reduced to only two 1st div. teams.

Change with new names on the Championship and Readman Cup and seeing for the first time a newly promoted team win the title and perhaps even do the double. I could be wrong about this for it may well have been done before, 2nd & 1st div. champions in successive seasons.

Of the five possible contenders namely, Liv. Y.M., Maghull, Elec. Supp., Bootle and Wav. Lab. Y.M. lack strength at No's 1 & 2 but make up for with a better all round strength and consistency. Will they be asking themselves is this to be the season when the name of Liv. Y.M. will be restored after a long absence to the 1st Div. cup? Maghull have good players at 1 & 2 and are fairly strong at 3 & 4. Elec. Supp. and Bootle on the other hand have their strength at No's 1 & 2 but their 3 & 4 can be relied on for a reasonable sets haul. The current champions must be considered the outsiders for they have lost last season's 1 & 2 and have moved Rob Bevan and Bernie Wentworth up. Unfortunately Rob missed the first month due to illness and will also miss other matches due to shift work. The question they ask, will Rob Bevan demonstrate his full potential now that he is in a settled team with something to play for? For promoted Bernie

Wentworth it means coming to grips with unexpected pressures which he will have to master if he is to keep his place.

All in all we can look forward to an intriguing struggle in which a few good wins can push any team to the top. Matches will have much closer results and it is sure to become a battle between the teams with the strong 1's & 2's and the more balanced all round teams. I will leave forecasting to Roy Smith who doesn't mind the occasional gamble and often gets the outcome right.

What of Rafters? They postponed three of their first four matches. Have possibly the strongest line-up on paper. Yet have only turned their best team out once. Their claim to fame this season may be that they decided not only who the winners may be, but also who would be relegated. I have a feeling they may do much better in the Readman Cup which they at present hold.

The one thing which has not changed is the relegation struggle which features last season's contenders and the 'star' team here must be Wav. Lab. 'A'. Capt. Phil Luxon, who cannot take anything seriously, except of course, a Dock strike, is convinced his team will survive. For my part, I would not even fancy backing them with Phil's money, let alone my own. They received a real slap in the face in this struggle when they agreed to postpone their match with Rafters who could not turn out a full team, only to meet a full strength Rafters when the fixture was played. They also found that the previous week Rafters had fielded a much weakened team against V. Sangs 'A' and presented them with 5 sets. The moral here is that when relegation beckons the only favours you do are for yourself. However, so far as V. Sangs 'A' are concerned I think they can relax as favourites to accompany Lab. 'A' must be Maghull 'A'. The question here is can they emulate the feat of Wav. Lab. 'B' in past seasons and again walk the relegation tightrope as they did themselves last season without falling off? V. Sangs., with Peter Flint a lone survivor from last season's line-up, have moved up Paul Gittins, John Greene and Chris Ford. Eng. Elec have been strengthened by the return of Phil Thompson and both should finish mid table with no interest in the relegation battle and even less interest in the calvary charge for the championship. The same applies to newly promoted Cadwa who are quite capable of giving a good account of themselves, as are V. Sangs. 'A' who have also been reshaped by their club with Paula French and Steve Gittins promoted from the 'B'., Jeff Huntington, who has transferred his allegiance from Y.M. and Neil Montague who has been given his chance in the 1st div. Eng. Elec. 'A' have brought in Peter Scarisbrick in place of Joe Green and Wav. Lab. 'B' has some new faces. Neither should be in any real trouble and are capable of taking sets from all the front runners.

DIVISION 2

DON CHALKLEY

Firstly I must mention the sudden stroke which Les French suffered in October. Paula tells me that his left side has been affected and Les is still detained in Ward 6X of the Royal Teaching Hospital.

Les has made some improvement but the "physio" is working on him twice a day and he will be allowed out as soon as he can get around on his own. I am sure we all wish him the best of luck and a return to good health. His illness has certainly affected the promotion prospects of Vernon Sangster "B". I believe Paula has dropped down to the 2nd Division and Neil Roberts has been signed on for the 1st team.

The second division sees more changes than any other division and we welcome Plessey and English Electric "B" from the 1st Division and Bootle "A". Electric Supply "A" English Electric "C" and Cadwa "A" from the 3rd Division.

Of these teams Bootle "A" have made a big impact with Keith Miller, Frank Brady, John McLoughlin and Derek Sullivan all playing well.

English Electric "B" are also challenging with Brian Crolley, George Lennon, Frank McCann and Kevin Packer shining.

Bath Street look a formidable team with Dave Butterworth, Ian McIlwee, Ken Jackson and Peter Ross now stringing some good results together.

Trinity have made a good start for the second year running with Mick Keane in tremendous form. Has he lost yet?? He is backed up by Tom Killip still as fit as ever, John Higham with his new "Lentec" bat. (John laughs at its antics himself). Ray Tagg is playing consistently and making up the team.

I thought Jewish with Eddie Clein, Roy Bradbury, Bob Hudson and the fit again Jim McMillan would be higher up challenging but I note Eddie has missed a few games. No doubt his role as councillor is time consuming.

YMCA "A" still turn out a variety of players but the most consistent are Francis Llay, Wing Law, Ahmed Thabet and the much improved Dominic Tai.

Les Evans, Peter Carney, Alan Biggs and J. Moore represent Elec. Supply 'A' in the middle of the table.

Eng. Elec. 'C' with Dave Croot, Julie Prince, Bob Peverall and Ro Craddock are right up with them as are Cadwa 'A' in the shape of Trevor Hughes, Mike Power, Peter McAdam and Peter Dobbs.

I don't expect to see V. Sangs. 'B' remain in this position with Bill Harris, Sue Manning, Ian Wensley and Paula French. Sue looked in magnificent form early in the season and her table tennis was all right as well!! Seriously if she continues to play like this I predict her best season for some years.

Colonsay have A. Taylor, Kristina Cox, Barbara Kirkham and Dave Riley are not really playing up to expectations.

Jewish 'A' are having a lean time. John Henshaw is supported by Paul Morgan who will encounter difficulties getting away from his fireman's duties. Roger Bennion has returned and John McGhee has also played a few games. This team was in the doldrums last year and yet managed a miraculous recovery so don't write them off yet.

My own team, Police are holding up the league and we look destined for relegation.

We realised just before the season that the miner's strike was going to hit us hard so we decided to use 6 players:- Dave Crispin, Gareth Jones, Tom Purcell, Albie and Richie, like Dave have found themselves on duty all over the country. Gareth, a dog-handler sergeant has had to forgo playing table tennis for some time now because of his specialist duties. Tom, a working detective has been our most regular player but even he has allowed murders, robberies and rapes to interfere with table tennis!! To add to all this woe I have missed many games for personal domestic reasons.

I have not received many cards. Plessey 5 Trinity 5. 7 games went to 3 so this must have been a close contest. Mick Keane beat Trevor Owens and Bob

Edwards and with Tom Killip also beat Trevor and Peter Wass. Bootle 'A' 6 Colonsay 4. A. Taylor beat K. Miller in 3. and F. Brady in 2. Jewish 'A' 1 Bootle 'A' 9. Paul Morgan beating K. Miller in 2. Bootle 'A' 4. English Electric 'B' 6. George Lennon beating Miller and Sullivan and Brian Crolley beating Miller and Dave Wilson. George and Brian then beat Dave Wilson and Mark Patterson in 2. English Electric 'C' 5 English Electric 'B' 5. Dave Croot beating George Lennon in 2. Bob Peverall beating both Brian Crolley and N. McGrath in 3. Frank McCann beat Julie Prince and Ro Craddock in 3. Trinity 4 Jewish 6 Mick Keane beat Roy Bradbury and Jim McMillan. Then with Tom Killip they beat Jim and John Henshaw. John Henshaw beat Tom Killip and D. Southworth in 2. Electric Supply 'A' 3 Bath Street 7. Dave Butterworth lost to Les Evans in 2 and Alan Biggs 22/24 19/21. John Henshaw beat Trevor Hughes and Mike Power in a 8/2 defeat by Cadwa 'A'. Electric Supply 'A' 5 Colonsay 'A' 5. Taylor beat Kelly and Biggs in 2. Peter Carney beat K. Cox and B. Kirkham. Plessey 6 Police 4. Trevor Owens and Bob Edwards 2 each for Plessey. Albie Baker beat Ian Burrows in 2 and with Tom Purcell beat Bob and Ian in the doubles. V.S. 'B' 6 Bath Street 4. Sue Manning beat Peter Ross and Dave Butterworth in 2. Les French beat Dave and Ken Jackson in 3. Les and Sue remained unbeaten by beating Dave and Ken. Ken beat Bill Harris 25/23, 22/20. Colonsay 6 Cadwa 'A' 4. Trevor Hughes beat Taylor and D. Riley. Barbara Kirkman beat Peter McAdam and Mike Power. YMCA 'A' 8 Plessey 2. Bob Edwards beating Ahmed Thabet and Frank Llay. V.S. 'B' 8 YMCA 'A' 2. Francis beat Sue Manning in 3 and with Ahmed beat Bill Harris and Ian Wensley.

That's your lot for now. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all.

DIVISION 3A

Once again your intrepid author finds himself the victim of our ruthless Editor and his evil henchman who hides under the disguise of secretary of one of our well known Labour Clubs, his name will not be revealed at this time, but he is well known throughout the league for sending out his evil instructions in stapled down secondhand N.U.R. envelopes. On this occasion he has the temerity to suggest that your lowly scribe has used bribery to ensure that he would be allowed to write your notes this season, what nonsense, only a complete idiot would bribe somebody to allow him to write this sort of nonsense.

Now to the purpose of the notes, you all want to know who is going to win the division and who will be relegated, well if you think that I am daft enough to make that sort of forecast after only six weeks of the season you are right. My feeling is that Bath St. 'A' are almost certain to finish up in top spot, with the runners up coming from Brownmoor Park, Fords, Electric Supply 'B', and Bootle J.C. with Plessey 'A' as an outsider. The other end of the division is a little harder to sort out, on current results Kirkby and Maghull 'B' seem the most likely candidates for the drop but there is a long way to go yet and it only needs one good signing to improve a team that appears to be struggling, and with only one team likely to be relegated anything can happen. Talking of Kirkby it is good to see a club pushing youngsters up the divisions, I realise that it is not altogether by choice, but youngsters like Tony Neary, Phil Christie, and Phil Marcroft will gain a great deal from playing in this division, so beat them now, you may not be able to in a couple of years.

With very few cards to work with it is not easy to bring you my usual list of players who have played well in a particular match, but there have been a few that are worthy of note, as follows;

Alan Nisted (Elec. Supply 'B') beat Billy Clayton (Bath St. 'A') 21/18,

18/21/,21/18, for only the singles win in an 8/2 defeat Alan having moved from Rafters after many years. Ron Jones (Bootle J.C.) beat Val Franco (Bath St.A) 21/12, 10/21, 21/16, and in the same match Dave Ashby beat L. Pilkington 13/21,21/17, 21/14, Bath St. winning 8/2. Ian Blore (Plessey) beat Stan Clarke (Maghull B) 21/19, 23/21, and combined with Ray Austin to defeat Dave Newton and Dave Berry 22/20, 21,12 in the doubles, in an 8/2 defeat for the telephone men. In the match between Colonsay and Electric Supply 'B' Colin Rourke of Colonsay lived up to his position as one of our top juniors by beating both Ron McEvoy and Arthur Harrison with Dave Piper beating Alan Kelly to make the match score 7/3 in favour of Elec. Supply. Colin also weighed in with a double over Ron Jones and Sylvia Graham of Bootle J.C. and combined with Harry Nelson to beat Ron Jones and Dave Ashby in the doubles, again in a 7/3 defeat. Alan Smethurst (Maghull 'B') beat Tom Johnstone and Dave Rooney of Vagabonds with Dave Newton beating Mark Whittaker in yet another 7/3 defeat. Norman Challoner (Kirkby) beat Alan Cameron and Arthur Pierce and Steve Rowe also beat Alan in the 7/3 defeat by Fords.

So there you are in the first set of notes completed, all in one night Sir Ken, and you will no doubt have sussed out my style by now, yes thats it, one paragraph of rubbish one of pure speculation followed by as many names as I can decently include, so don't worry if your name is not mentioned in this edition, it almost certainly will be in the next.

DIVISION 3B

MIKE GRIFFITHS

Welcome to another season and another edition of 'Table Tennis Digest'. Good old K.A.A. has seen fit to reappoint me as your correspondent for this year, and as always can I ask for your assistance by marking scorecards with good wins, close games etc.etc.

Now down to the action in a close and interesting third division. The only clear thing to emerge in the first four weeks is that Bootle are the early leaders and are the team to beat. Their total of 33 points from 40 is 9 better than anyone else. The early strugglers have been Wavertree Labour, Bath Street 'D' and Aigburth, but the players available to these teams look too strong to make them automatic candidates for the drop.

Week 1 saw Bath Street 'B' take 4 off Bootle with Reg Edwards starring, beating Patterson & Luxford, both in 3, as well as winning his doubles. Eric Ferguson beat Tom Downing and Dave Wilson won 3 for Bootle.

The experience of Aigburth's Bill's Messrs. Leeming & Holmes, was to much for Nigel Conquest of English Electric. Bill Holmes also beat Colin Fyles but his team went down 7-3. Linacre on their return to the third have started with 2 wins from 3 matches. Against Maghull, Cray and Ainsworth won 2 singles each and combined in the doubles to give their team a 7-3 win. Newcomers Waterloo have drawn 3 of their first 4 games. Against English Electric Ken Nelson won 3 and he picked up 2 more wins against Y.M.C.A. Andy Armstrong is playing No 1 for Waterloo and is averaging a very creditable 50%.

The Bath Street 'Derby' in week 3 went according to form with a 7-3 win for the higher team. Only Dave Cunningham spoilt the 'B' teams night with wins over Edwards & Watson.

And now a batch of games which catch the eye: Andy Armstrong beat John Hodges

(Liverpool Jewish) 21/15 19/21 21/17, a lone winner that night; Les Travis (Trinity) beat Bill Leeming 16/21 21/12 22/20; Chris Roberts (Maghull) beat Dave Cunningham 21/19 20/22 22/20. Peter Brownlee of Maghull a double over Lussey & Dyson of Vernon Sangster. Colin Pratt always asks for a mention and the fact that his closest game so far was against me is pure coincidence, HONEST!!, I won this time 17/21 21/11 25/23. Another lone winner was Bill Leeming against Cadwa's Rob Davies. A marked match and definately worthy of mention is Neil Hodson's win for Cadwa over Peter Holmes of English Electric 14/21 21/17 21/17.

Plenty of drawn matches which I like to see, and in week 4 Aigburth avoided defeat for the first time against Maghull. Rod Bulmer won 2 singles for Maghull while Pete Knight, stepping in for Bill Homes did likewise for Aigburth.

I'm sorry if these are a little brief this time, but with only 25 cards and not a lot of time allowed, it is difficult to produce a War & Peace effort. By the next issue we should have a better idea of league position and who knows, I might even make a prediction!

DIVISION 4A

JACK LAMBERT

The season has not exactly started on a top note with two teams short, still 4B have three teams short, you pays your money and you don't get your games. I believe a few of the division 5 wallahs WANTED to play with us.

Not a lot of evidence in the way of cards to forecast the future state of our division. However, there are of lots of well known names. At a second look at the cards it seems that only the Police "A" team is playing an 8-2 win over Maghull with Keith Whittaker winning his two. A 7-3 against Jewish "C" with old battle warriors Dave Cohen 2 and Warren Davies winning three. Another 7-3 against Raffers "B". A Jerry O'Keefe double - throw wins from Alan Wood, John Christian, Derek Rimmer, Norman Morrissey and you may see what I mean about names. Warwick Bolam stopped their triumphant march with a 6-4 with Dave Davies and C. Ledson showing the way with doubles.

Do we then get a fair assessment of things to come with Bootle J.C. A beating W B 6-4 although Dave Davies was absent. But Bootle must be a fair side with Dave Graham who won his two at number two. With John Sullivan at number four we must tip Colonsay B to win the lot including the Milk Cup and Grand National.

Alan Guy, John (it is the same John!?) and Andrea Power all won their three against Raffers 7-3 but my old girl friends Pauline Lawrenson and Jean Reynolds didn't let me down with a win each. Jack Power fought hard to grab a draw at Vagabonds "A" losing 19 in the third to Dave Batty (a double) and with son Dave beating Mike Gallagher and Dave B 16 and 21, Ken Ray also on form with three wins in his sides 6-4 win.

There were two battles to the death - both with seven games going to three, Courtaulds (Roly Wright 2) and Warwick Bolam (Piggott and Leeson 3 apiece). Piggot beating Shackleton 22-20 in the third and Ledson beating Jim Geddes 27-25 in the third. Warwick also against Vags. "A" Ledson double again with Vags pulling out on the doubles.

While Peter Ellison clinched the Maghull "F" 6-4 win over Colonsay "B" with

three good wins, Frank Leece probably clinched the game with a good win over Muriel Cox - could this have been a relegation battle - perhaps it could if you would like to throw in the English Electric "F", despite the form of Les Harper who lost 22-20: 25-23; to Les Higham, in an endeavour to stop his sides whitewash against Courtaulds. Two great table Les's, similar styles, great temperaments and joy to play with. Angela Power also fought to save a whitewash but failed at 19 in the third against G. Frost of Maghull "E", who, led by Harry have a pretty fair side.

Three aside is a possibility not only to Div. 1 but to minnows like us as well - so think about it even if you don't write to the Digest, tell your secretary.

DIVISION 4B

Unfortunately your correspondent has failed to come up with the goods - so I regret that you only have a few notes from me to put you over for this issue. Mind you with three teams missing, we should be playing with bargain priced fees. The only team to welcome the shortage will be University A who can comfortably catch up on their back fixtures. Having seen Maghull D with Andy Howarth going strong, beat English Electrics E 7-3 with a couple of reserves out I feel sure that they will be amongst the leaders - prior to the match Electric were undefeated, thanks to the fine form of Wally Sill and Keith Wright. With Maghull are Wavertree Labour D with Ian Black in fine form and enthusiastic Bill Stanley giving him great support. Don Davies and his merry men from Rafters are also in with more than a shout although without Don they crashed to their first defeat against Electric D.

To the Vernon Sangster D lads - it's tough at the bottom - but keep going - all is not lost.

DIVISION 5

E CAMERON

It has been a season of mixed fortunes for division 5, we started with two vacancies at the handbook meeting, resignations soon made it five and then our luck changed as new applications rolled in, Rafters 'C' were followed by Litherland and M.C.Y.A., Unity and Wavertree Labour 'E' followed and we were at full strength with a further club enquiring. With the established clubs dropping teams like confetti within days of the season start up we have unexpectedly fared better than our comrades in the fourth division. It is particularly good to recruit three new clubs, more so because they bring with them so many youngsters to balance off the old brigade of our division.

One disadvantage of new clubs joining piecemeal over the first month of the season is that we have built up a considerable backlog of matches, it is important therefore to arrange dates for all these matches to be played and to advise the fixture secretary without delay of the agreed dates. It is the home teams responsibility to arrange the dates and it is the home team which will forfeit the points if the matches are not rearranged.

Looking at the league tables in the middle of week 7, M.C.Y.A. (Merseyside Chinese Youth Association) are leading the way but each club has played a different number of matches varying from one to seven. Two teams have not lost

to date, Rodney Youth and Wavertree Labour, both have met and beaten M.C.Y.A., but only just 6-4 in each instance.

It is customary at this stage of the season for Digest contributors to forecast the eventual winners and runners up, I believe that the top two will come from these three teams but I will have to guess the order. Rodney Youth is my choice for champions, they are a young team practising hard and can only improve as the season progresses, Wavertree Labour should be my choice for runners up but I would like to see the consistency of their team turn out before committing myself. Big club teams in bottom divisions can lose players as reserves to higher teams but equally can draw on far greater experienced resources, last season turned out badly in the end for Wavertree Labour and the dropping out at the start of the season indicated more trouble. A confident request to rejoin with fourth division strength indicates that they have one or two fifth division aces up their sleeve.

Having said that I am going to stick my neck out and nominate M.C.Y.A. who also believe they are fourth division material, certainly they have a very strong one and two in Peter Choi ex Liverpool Jewish and David Ng ex Liverpool Y.M.C.A. Their squad of six includes Kar Lee, Chenshun Tsoi, John Sung and John Lau, these four alternate as three and four. All play pen hold with curiously shaped bat handles, they no doubt think that that ours are the odd ones. M.C.Y.A. have a problem in bringing these four promising young men nearer the standard of their one and two. If enthusiasm and hard practice can do it M.C.Y.A. will justify my choice. One of the most fascinating things associated with M.C.Y.A. is their home venue, 'The Pagoda', I have not visited them yet but the name conjures up exotic mysticism, no doubt they will be on cloud nine if they win promotion.

Guess who have quickly slotted into the number fourteen spot in the league? my friends Liverpool Jewish 'E', two of the new clubs separate them from their colleagues, the 'F' team. It would be unfair to draw any conclusions from this, the 'E' team has played one match only.

Bath St 'E' and Brownmoor Park 'B' are our new teams from old clubs, Brownmoor rejoin us after a brief sortie in Division four and we are glad to see them back, not because they were relegated but it is nice to renew acquaintances with old friends.

Unity and Litherland are new clubs we also welcome, both have only played once as I write these notes, Unity won and Litherland lost but it is early days to draw conclusions.

Rafters 'C' are our fifth new team from one of the oldest and respected clubs in the league, after four matches they have not as yet recorded a win but apart from a drubbing at M.Y.C.A. they have picked up enough points to indicate that a comfortable position in the league is well within their grasp. If you have any comments let me have them for the next issue.

TABLE EDGES

To Les French we say get well soon, Liverpool Table Tennis is missing you already - you have done so much for the game here as well as being controversial! To Paula and Les from your many table tennis friends the best of luck for the future and may you be together again soon with your family and you Les fit and well.

I find it hard to believe that people are disappointed we are not having a presentation dance!! How many feel that way? It was the wrong formula, said one, Peter Lee would put on a great show, said another - interesting?

Spare a thought for the fourth division - even though it is nice to see a full fifth.

Certain players (plural) seem to enjoy injecting a little more aggro into our game, I feel it is not welcome and ruins what is generally a good competitive and social evening.

For years now people have been asking where they can get hold of a cheap table - recently there have been tables in the mini and maxi markets and in the league there are a couple knocking about - is this a sign of the table tennis times? Contact me - 546 3081 if interested.

I am not really enchanted by the Table Tennis hierarchy - 95% in the south, but the passing on of Jack Carrington left a vacancy at the top that can never really be filled.

The silence of Trinity Church Hall on Mondays must be quite frightening we have had a couple of games AT LEAST going on there since 1965, and know the big hush - I don't know why - I have'nt asked John Hankin for the reason, but John and his dad have had two or three games going for so long and now the deathly hush.

Phil Reid of Leicestershire who only recently became a Vice President of the E.T.T.A. has recently passed away. Prior to my appointment as editor regularly contributed to our magazine.

The Ladbrooke Hotels veterans championships were recently held at the Watford Leisure Centre (steady boys, you are getting north of London). The H.O.M. Ivor Montague founder chairman, at 80 years of age and Mayrice Goldstein President of the E.T.T.A. competed, so also did a member of our management committee Alec Gould, he lost to N. Luther (Yorks) in the semi-final of the over---ties with W. French of Surrey beating Hamer and Luther 18 and 19, nice work.

I regret that we have severed relations with the C.T.L. Agency, 52 The Albany, Old Hall Street, Liverpool. They have always been most co-operative and helped us over an awkward period when we were in trouble finding a new form of production. If you are in town they Xerox, Photo copy and type etc. The committee have had a much cheaper quote - which of course they had to accept.

I hope marriage has'nt interfered with Tony O'Connors table tennis career - we cannot afford to lose players of his class. Congratulations from us all.

HANDBOOK ALTERATIONS

Bath St: Sec. J Pilkington. Home phone number 526 3426.

Argot: "A" team 4a out.

Cadwa "D" team 4a out.

Eng. Elect. "C" team div. 2, Thursday "E and F 4a and 4b: "G" team, div.5 out.

Linacre Alex Davidson, 12 Watton Close, Thelwall, Warrington, 0925 601980.

L'Pool Jewish - second phone number 708 9999.

L'Pool Y.M.C.A. - Sec. P Lee, 107 Mount Pleasant, L3 - 708 6090.

Police "B" team 4B out.

Vernon Sangster "E" team, Div. 5 out.

Wav. Labour "A" team Div.1 Mon. "E" team Div. 5 were out, now in again at 14 fixture.

M.C.Y.A. Pagoda, Henry St. Liverpool 1, Div. 5 M/N Wed. P. Choi, Sec. Club 263 1842, take No: 5 fixture.

Vagabonds "B" team out.

Unity B C take 11 fixture in Div. 5.

Litherland B C take 13 fixture in Div. 5. 41 Sefton Road, Litherland. M/N Thursday.

Unity B C Dave St, near Lodge Lane Baths: M/N Mon. Div. 5: K Hignett c/o Club 709 5153.

Litherland B C. R W Forrester c/o Club: 928 4644.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Jack,

In this world of table tennis in which we participate and compete I feel compelled to reply to Mr Les French's letter on the subject of "Control of Rubbers".

He can't honestly be serious in his assumption that the new rules on bat surfaces will eliminate the defender, I agree it may inconvenience him or her to a degree but I feel sure that the players he has coached can and will adapt their style to one or other of the different rubbers on the market.

Defenders, I feel will always exist as long as the game of table tennis continues to be as popular as at present.

I'm sure Les knows as well as the majority know, the reason restrictions have been necessary is that certain rubbers have been used in an underhand way, therefore, I see no reason why in this instance the rule of different coloured surfaces should be instigated.

He refers to the olden days, I am sure we can all be very nostalgic and reminisce about "Barna Days", my own particular club Cadwa could boast seven city players (4 men and 3 girls) in the late 50's and early 60's during the Crafter era, but times change as life changes and people adapt, take Trevor

Manning for example Closed Winner 1983 and if he had entered this year I can't genuinely see anyone posing him many problems, he has adapted to the latest restrictions and chosen rubbers to suit his specific strategy and style of play, as I feel sure all players will do as soon as they accept that most new rules are necessary.

Yours sincerely,

Trevor,
CADWA,

FIXTURE SECRETARY'S NOTES

There are many cards missing as you will see from the League Tables. Some Clubs have advised dates for re-arranged Matches but many have not. All Matches which were due to be played in the first half of the Season must be played by Week 26.

All re-arranged dates must be advised to the Fixture Secretary by 31st December 1984. Matches not advised will be assumed as 0-10 walk-overs to the visitors.

<u>DIVISION ONE</u>	P	W	L	D	Pts	<u>DIVISION 3B</u>	P	W	L	D	Pts
WAVERTREE LABOUR	11	7	3	1	74	BATH STREET 'B'	11	7	2	2	69
ELEC. SUPPLY	10	8	-	2	67	BOOTLE 'B'	10	7	1	2	67
L'POOL Y.M.	10	7	3	-	66	CADWA 'B'	11	6	4	1	62
BOOTLE	9	7	2	-	64	ENG. ELECTRIC 'D'	9	6	-	3	58
MAGHULL	9	8	-	1	64	MAGHULL 'C'	10	6	2	2	57
CADWA	11	6	5	-	52	LINACRE	9	6	2	1	55
VERNON SANGSTER	9	4	2	3	49	L'POOL JEWISH 'B'	9	4	3	2	50
ENG. ELECTRIC	11	4	7	-	45	V. SANGSTER 'C'	10	2	4	4	48
WAV. LABOUR 'B'	9	2	5	2	40	L'POOL Y.M. 'B'	9	5	2	2	47
ENG. ELECTRIC 'A'	11	2	8	1	39	BATH STREET 'D'	10	2	8	-	42
WAV. LABOUR 'A'	11	2	8	1	37	WAV. LABOUR 'C'	11	2	8	1	40
V. SANGSTER 'A'	11	1	6	4	36	WATERLOO	11	1	6	4	40
RAFTERS	7	2	3	2	35	TRINITY 'B'	8	1	4	3	36
MAGHULL 'A'	11	1	9	1	32	AIGBURTH	11	-	10	1	22

DIVISION 2

	P	W	L	D	Pts
BATH STREET	11	9	1	1	82
ENG. ELECTRIC 'B'	10	8	1	1	67
TRINITY	10	6	2	2	67
BOOTLE 'A'	9	6	3	-	61
PLESSEY	10	6	2	2	56
V. SANGSTER 'B'	8	6	2	-	54
L'POOL JEWISH	8	6	2	-	52
L'POOL Y.M. 'A'	8	4	4	-	41
ENG. ELECTRIC 'C'	11	3	7	1	40
ELEC. SUPPLY 'S'	10	3	5	2	39
COLONSAY	9	2	6	1	37
L'POOL JEWISH 'A'	10	2	7	1	35
CADWA 'A'	11	1	10	-	30
POLICE	11	-	11	-	19

DIVISION 4A

	P	W	L	D	Pts
POLICE 'A'	8	6	1	1	56
VAGABONDS 'A'	8	6	-	2	56
MAGHULL 'E'	9	5	3	1	53
CADWA 'C'	7	5	1	1	46
BOOTLE J.C. 'A'	7	5	-	2	45
WARWICK BOLAM	8	4	1	3	44
COURTAULDS	8	3	3	2	42
RAFTERS 'B'	9	2	7	-	32
COLONSAY 'B'	8	2	5	1	31
L'POOL JEWISH 'C'	8	1	6	1	31
ENG. ELECTRIC 'F'	9	-	7	2	24
MAGHULL 'F'	7	1	6	-	20

DIVISION 3A

	P	W	L	D	Pts
BATH STREET 'A'	8	8	-	-	71
FORDS	9	8	1	-	57
VAGABONDS	8	6	1	1	48
BROWNMOOR PK.	9	5	3	1	45
ELEC. SUPPLY 'B'	9	3	6	-	41
KIRKBY	9	2	7	-	35
BATH STREET 'C'	7	3	4	-	32
BOOTLE J.C.	6	3	3	-	32
PLESSEY 'A'	8	3	5	-	31
MAGHULL 'B'	7	3	4	-	30
COLONSAY 'A'	7	2	5	-	29
TRINITY 'A'	7	2	5	-	28
UNIVERSITY	7	2	5	-	27

DIVISION 4B

	P	W	L	D	Pts
WAV. LABOUR 'D'	7	5	1	1	55
MAGHULL 'D'	7	5	-	2	53
RAFTERS 'A'	8	4	2	2	53
KIRKBY 'A'	6	5	-	1	45
ENG. ELECTRIC 'E'	6	5	1	-	38
UNIVERSITY 'A'	5	3	2	-	27
AIGBURTH 'A'	6	2	3	1	27
BROWNMOOR PK. 'A'	7	1	4	2	25
COURTAULDS 'A'	7	2	5	-	22
L'POOL JEWISH 'D'	8	-	7	1	20
V. SANGSTER 'D'	6	-	6	-	3

DIVISION 5

	P	W	L	D	Pts
M.C.Y.A.	10	8	2	-	77
RODNEY YOUTH	8	8	-	-	64
UNITY	7	5	1	1	49
WAV. LABOUR 'E'	6	6	-	-	47
BATH STREET 'E'	8	4	2	2	46
RAFTERS 'C'	8	4	3	1	43
BROWNMOOR PK. 'B'	9	3	5	1	42
ELEC. SUPPLY 'C'	9	2	4	3	42
WARWICK BOLAM 'A'	8	4	4	-	36
L'POOL JEWISH 'F'	8	-	6	2	28
KIRKBY 'B'	8	2	6	-	22
MAGHULL 'G'	7	1	5	1	19
L'POOL JEWISH 'E'	7	-	5	-	10
LITHERLAND BOYS	5	-	5	-	9

SOLUTION TO BRIAN LEESON'S CROSSWORD IN THE LAST ISSUE

