



Table Tennis DIGEST

LIVERPOOL & DISTRICT TABLE TENNIS LEAGUE

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

EDITORIAL
BOARD:

A. Upton
J. McKim
D. Cameron
K. Armsen

VOL.39

F E B R U A R Y 1 9 8 6

No.2

EDITORIAL

In the last issue we had a statement from the management; in this issue we have a letter from the Appeals Board, or should I say the ex-Appeals board and a letter from Alan Biggs.

Many of you may wonder what they are all about; I feel I must clarify matters as I was slightly involved at the beginning and made a comparatively major decision at the end.

It all started at the Readman Cup Final when Alan Biggs suggested to me that he shouldn't really be watching his Electric Supply first team in the final, as he had a personal and club interest in a game between Liverpool Jewish v Jewish 'A' which was taking place on the same night. Jewish 'A' had to win 7-3 to stay in Division 2. Anything less would mean that Alan's team, Electric Supply 'A' would stay in Division 2. I offered Alan my opinions on the game.

Jewish 'A' won the game 9-1. I am trying to give relevant facts without opinions or arguments.

Electric Supply appealed to the management against the result and received a negative response as no rule had been breached; they then appealed to the Appeals Board who upheld their complaint and informed the Management Committee and quoted M.R. 10 and Rule 30 and recommended the match be null and void. The management amended the Appeals Boards decision to a breach of M.R. 10 and imposed a fine of £2. Electric Supply then took the matter to the Lancashire Management Committee and Appeals Board who upheld the Liverpool League Management Decision.

As the Appeals Board recommendation was turned down by the Management Committee, the Appeals Board, consisting of Ken Jones, Basil Townsend and Peter Rumjahn, felt so strongly about the matter that they had no alternative but to resign.

As the letter from the Board correctly states, no mention of resignation was mentioned in the management's statement. Two points must be made here - (1) This was not truly a Management Committee statement but was, in effect, a report to the Digest on the Appeal Boards decision in accordance with Rule 3. (2) Ken Armon did suggest to me that as there was no signature at the end of the report it should read - (As the Appeals Board have resigned) this statement has been issued by the Management Committee in accordance with Rule 3.

I suggested to Ken, who left it to my Editorial decision, that we leave out the words that I have bracketed.

My reason for this was that we had a complaint from a club against a match result. On the other hand we had three good men and true, who, on a voluntary basis have taken on the onerous task of sorting out the league's REALLY NASTY problems for quite a few years.

The three gents (in the truest sense) concerned have all been players in top ranks of our game, one an International; they know the game inside out, their integrity is beyond doubt - three nicer blokes you couldn't wish to meet. So I left out the words "As the Appeals Board have resigned" with the hope that the resignation would not become general knowledge, and, secondly, if it did they would reconsider their decision so that we would not lose their expertise and would have the pleasure of their guidance and knowledge in the future.

DIVISION ONE

KEN ARMSON

The most disappointed team at New Year must have been Maghull, for having emerged as real contenders for second place they opened their magazine to find that the printers did not share their view and had left them off the league table. Do our printers know something we don't?

Maghull are on the plus side in the three-a-side setup. At the forefront is Neil Royden whose aggressive style seems well suited to a three-a-side and he is leading his team with style and punch. Gary Westons' style also fits in as playing all opponents brings him up against those who fall to his bat. Backed up by Simon Jones they have made their mark and are proving a real threat to the expected dominance of Bootle and Liverpool Y.M.C.A. I hear that Steve Green has returned to the fold and they have jettisoned Simon in favour of Steve. Obviously his introduction may strengthen the team, but I find it difficult to accept Steve being willing to play second to anyone, even in three-a-side.

Wavertree Labour First continue to slump and are sliding rapidly down the table. With Dave Roberts going through a bad patch, and Phil Luxon out with a broken ankle - Mal McEvoy reckons it should have been his tongue - they will be lucky to finish in the top half. Against English Electric they had to bring in two reserves and suffered a 7-3 defeat, but it was also a bad night for Andy Taylor who lost to both Andy Wright and Ron Jones, the two reserves and also to Bernie Wentworth. Against their own 'B' team they took

another heavy and humiliating tumble losing 6-4. Electric Supply also humiliated them 8-2 and the only saving grace in this match was a two straight win for Dave over Keith. Once again Dave proved that even when playing badly he can strike a good patch.

Electric Supply continue to sweep all before them but came a mini cropper against Y.M.C.A. when on their own table they could only scrape a draw. Peter Lee had a good night beating Les Molyneux and Mal McEvoy in two straight and losing 17 in the third to Keith. Mal McEvoy gave another of his famous quotes and then proved it in a match. On the cup he stated that they would win it no matter who they played as even against Bootle he and Keith would win their six sets. They played them in Week 13 and Mal proved his point when they won 6-4 with he and Keith getting the six singles. Malcolm has declined to tell me which horse is going to win the National.

All this still leaves the question of who will fill the final No.2 spot unanswered. Obviously Liverpool Y.M.C.A. still consider it will be them, but I have a feeling that Maghull will pull away from the pack. Bootle are slipping out of the running and their recent 8-2 defeat by Labour 'A' has not exactly enhanced their chances. With Paul Hutchings having travelling problems, and John Rankin still struggling to find his form, it is becoming a two team race. Y.M.C.A.'s ace could come in the shape of Eric Hardman who has now joined them. I heard one player comment that this took Eric one step nearer realising his ambition to have played for every team in the first division. He was only joking, or at least I hope he was. Eric made his debut against Labour 'A' and was the architect of Y.M.C.A.'s 7-3 victory turning in three tremendous performances, beating Roy Smith 16 & 17; Mike Tierney 6 & 21 and Paul Kinsey 9 in the third. A more subdued Eric than previously, but playing better for it, with his quicksilver play replaced by a paced and controlled game. Eric's ability has never been in doubt, only his ability to make the most of that ability.

One of the better things about table tennis is, that just that now and again, the worm turns, and expected easy victories become nightmares. For your enjoyment I will recount two of these. Having crushed their strong 'A' team 8-2, Wavertree Labour strolled to their club in anticipation of doing likewise to an assumed even weaker 'B' team. They received a rude and unwelcome awakening when Paul Griffith rode into town on his Welsh Dragon and battered them into submission. As the smoke cleared the 'B' team rode out again with a 6-4 win under their belt and leaving a bemused and demoralised 1st team trying to work out how it had all gone sour. Paul won his three with only Rob Bevan taking him to three and losing that 8 in the third, their other sets came from Neil James (2) and the doubles.

Electric Supply, with Malcolm's warcries still echoing in their ears, also sallied forth to an expected easy stroll through their quarter final with Vernon Sangster 'A' and almost came one almighty cropper. With Les Molyneux injured they had Brian Davey out and Sangster 'A' had Ian Wensley in place of Chris Ford. Before Electric Supply had got their feet comfortably settled in their pumps they were 4.0 down and the grisly spectre of a humiliating defeat staring them in the bat. Paul Gittins had recorded another win over Keith and Malcolm had stumbled to defeat at the hands of, or should it be bat of, Ian Wensley. They managed to pull themselves together and staggered out winners by a slender 6-4. So much for Malcolm's boast about how easily they will win the cup for they almost never even got as far as the semi's. I wonder where Malcolm's bat finished up?

Vernon Sangster 'A' are showing their heels to their first team and proving troublesome to some and not so troublesome to others. They battered English Electric 7-3 with only Phil Thompson and the old warhorse Fred Pheysey

winning a singles. Fred had a great 20-22; 19-21 over Paul Gittins and rumour has it that he was enquiring as to whether this entitled him to a No.1 seeding in the Closed when a couple of weeks later Paul beat Keith Williams. After this win Sangster 'A' struggled to a draw with Bath Street where they found Ken Jackson too much of a handful. He won his three which included a comfortable two straight win over Paul. Fred might have to settle for No. 2 seed or have a play-off. Ian McKelwee got the other two for Bath Street and Paul got a double for Sangster 'A' with Chris and Steve getting one each.

I cannot see this Bath Street team being in any real danger of going down, for Ken Jackson seems in fine form and is obviously enjoying his return to this division, and with the able backing from Ian and Peter their first division status is beginning to look firm.

The same cannot be said of Liverpool Jewish or Labour 'B' who are looking decidedly groggy and almost ready to throw in the towel. Even the weakness of Vernon Sangster will not be enough to save them. Wavertree Labour 'B' could still survive if they can get themselves sorted out and start fielding a team to win sets rather than just a team to complete the number. The potential is there, but by the time they get round to realising it the season will have ended, and so will their first division days. Liverpool Jewish problems are more straightforward, and boil down to the simple basic fact that they no longer have any players of real first division standard. This may sound unfair to John Henshaw who has been winning a few and is their most reliable and successful player.

I rarely question the ranking, wise or foolish, of clubs in respect of players who ACTUALLY PLAY, but the rankings of Vernon Sangster has raised quite a few eyebrows. It is a sensible decision when you have two or more teams in a division to split your strength if you want to keep them all up. It is foolhardy to balance them in such a way that the strongest becomes the weakest and the weakest the strongest. Dave Evans is completely out of his depth in a team which is struggling for sets. Paula is not doing much better and so it is left to Peter Flint to carry the whole team. They seem hell bent on destruction when tactical changes could pull them through. Because Liverpool Jewish and Labour 'B' are performing so badly Vernon Sangster will avoid the drop, but the line they are walking is a narrow one and if Peter Flint is not regularly available they could be in trouble. To date Paul Gittins has stood in for him and produced the required result, but it could all go sour.

Cadwa continue to comfortably hold their own and are so sure of staying up that only Neil Gravener bothered to turn up against English Electric and managed to avoid a whitewash with a victory over Alec Sill.

Rafters are still not sure just what they want to do and have eventually decided that their team will be Alan Timewell, Paul Ashcroft and Tom Charnock. Their results clearly show that they could be challenging for second place if they can just put their minds to it. In Alan as captain they have one of the most consistent players in the division who is capable of beating anyone and has shown in the past that he has the drive to take the team places. They show all the signs of having decided to sit this one out.

Labour 'A' are in the same position of being a strong team who can afford to sit it out. Aply led by Roy Smith who equals Alan in consistency they are on course to set a record for the Labour Club of being their first 1st Division team never to need a reserve. They have fallen away from a really good start and even Roy has hit a bad patch which now seems behind him. They received their first 10-0 defeat at the hands of Electric Supply second time round, but soon put this behind them when they battered Bootle 8-2 with Roy

recording a first ever win against John Rankin. Mick Tierney and Paul Kinsey make up the team and they provide excellent backing for Roy. Only against their own first team did it all go sour but they will be looking to reverse this next time round.

The season has been notable, if that is the right word, for defeats of top players. Are the best getting worse, or are the rest getting better? Could be that the three a side is bringing out the best in players by giving them the opportunity to play all their opponents and exploit their weaknesses and at the same time helping them to improve their own game.

My notes would not be complete without a little beef, and these will be no exception. Labour 'B' have twice been asked to postpone a home match because their high placed opponents could not field their strongest team, and obviously did not want to drop any sets. It did not matter that Labour 'B' were desperate for sets and fighting to avoid relegation and were to be denied the advantage of playing against a weakened team. We agreed on the first occasion, but declined the second, for in that same week our first team were without two players but we put out reserves which is what those reserves are for. Needless to say, in the second match one of the players who it had been alleged could not play did in fact play. Requests for postponements should always meet with sympathetic consideration but they should not be made when the team making them wishes to gain an advantage over their opponents.

My other beef concerns swearing. I find that more and more top players appear to hold the belief that foul language is an essential part of the game and in this I for one, disagree. In the absence of spectators it must frequently take place but when others are present, players should behave sensibly. I always remonstrate with any member of the Labour Club who do this, but I accept that in the heat of the moment a player can become exasperated by their own mistakes. Unfortunately there are players whose game is built on a base of language, so much so that I have heard players complain of others who do so as part of their game. I am no prude but I like to feel that I respect my opponent even if he is battering me, which they often are, and to resort to the use of foul language takes you pretty low. It may make some players feel big, but it belittles them in most peoples eyes. The worst offenders are the younger players and the others almost make themselves as bad by condoning it.

DIVISION 2

LES FRENCH

The promotion battle has now clarified with Bath Street 'A' and Bootle 'A' dropping out due to conceding walk-overs. English Electric 'A' and Maghull 'A' should achieve deserved promotion with Plessey and Vernon Sangster 'B' a handful of sets behind.

Bath Street 'A' have spoilt the season for themselves and others by distorting the relegation issue in handing out 10-0 walk-overs to Fords and Linacre thereby putting Colonsay undeservedly under pressure, who will vie with Bootle 'A' to avoid joining Bootle 'B' (dropped out) Jewish 'A' and Linacre. Fords, who would have been in the bottom four had they not received 10-0 walk-overs twice, one from Bootle 'A' who deserve problems. By an ironic twist of fate, as Jewish 'A' go down, Electric Supply 'A' will come up from 3A and reclaim their rightful place in division 2, where they would have been had the committee done the morally correct thing, rather than applied the 'letter of the law'. They had an 80-20 vote at the A.G.M.E. to give them

the mandate to relegate Jewish 'A'. Clearly the vast majority of the league felt that Electric Supply 'A' had been badly done to considering the result of their appeals. This season, Jewish 'A' having signed Harry Johnston, had a team good enough to stay up had they played to their best form. Justice will have finally been done.

Y.M.C.A. have come into the promotion reckoning by introducing Malcolm Pu at No.4. If totally fit, Malcolm would be the natural No.1 of this team, and the team would get more sets overall if he was. The return of Ahmed Thabet has also increased their chances. They probably have too much to make up to top Maghull 'A' or Electric Supply 'A'. Vernon Sangster 'B' have lost their chance by conceding sets as walk-overs and turning out weakened sides.

Results having a bearing on the top places:- Plessey beat Electric Supply 'A' 8-2 with Rod McPherson beating Trevor Owens in 3, but losing in 2 to Bob Edwards. Plessey took all of the other singles, Maghull 'A' lost 6-4 to English Electric 'A' with Graeme Balck winning 2, beating Alan Chase. Frank Murphy beat Richie Cragg and Peter Holmes (Rod didn't play); Mick Allen had a good win over George Lennon; English Electric won both doubles for the match. Results having a bearing on relegation:- Fords beat Jewish 'A' 6-4 with Ken Bennet recording a great double over the classy Jim McMillan and the likeable John Henshaw. Arthur Pearce also beat Jim but lost to Bob (Bela) Hudson in 2. Bill Proffitt also lost to Bob but beat Roger Bennion 17 in the third. Alan Cameron also beat Roger but lost to John Henshaw. Jewish 'A' sported a much weaker team against fellow strugglers Linacre, and managed to win without Roger Bennion by a handsome 8-2 scoreline. Reserve, John McGee, had two good wins over Ken Ainsworth and Frank Lacey; Jim McMillan won his two as did Drac..., sorry Bob and Richard Stevenson. Harry Johnston and John Henshaw were both missing from this important game; Mal Gray won Linacre's only singles 17,16,11, against Richard Stevenson.

Fords, in addition to their free handouts of 30 sets, proved their rise to Division 2 was no fluke by a number of good results against top teams e.g: 4-6 against English Electric 'A'; 6-4 win over Bootle 'A'; 5-5 with Maghull 'A', and, finally, they trounced Linacre 10-0 with Ken Bennet beating Harry Reeve. Against Maghull, Ken Bennet beat Alan Chase and Mark Royden with Arthur Pearce also beating Alan Chase.

Other good individual performances include Roger Bennion and Bob Hudson wins over Ted Mandaluff both in two straight to earn Jewish 'A' a draw with Y.M.C.A. 'A' with Mal Pu at 4 beating Stevenson 16,4 and Bennion 8,16. Jewish 'A' beat Colonsay 7-3 with young Colin Rourke having a great 14-6 win over Harry Johnston. Roger Bennion beat Barbara Kirkman 8-15, but lost to Kristina Cox the same evening. Perhaps the best of all, young Steve Crolley beat Ted Mandaluff. Ted also lost to Frank McCann for a rare double defeat. In a similar situation, young Jason Killip beat Billy Clayton 19-17, to help Bootle Y.M.C.A. to an 8-2 win over Bath Street 'A'. Mike Keane beat 'Butty' in 2. Jason also beat Barbara Kirkman but lost to Kristina Cox, which is a measure of how much Kris is improving. Colin Rourke beat Tom Killip for another good win. John McGee (Jewish 'A') beat Bill Harris (Vernon Sangster), his best ever win. Brian Crolley beat Alan Chase and Ted Birch in English Electric 'B' 7-3, defeat by Maghull 'A'. Brian Jennings also beat Alan Chase 17-18 in Colonsay's 7-3 defeat by Maghull. Colin Rourke beat Graeme Black 18-6. Kristina Cox beat Richie Cragg 21,17. Dave Tagg beat Trevor Owens in 3, Ian Wensley beat Bob Edwards and Peter Wass for Sangsters only sets against Plessey; Barbara Kirkman beat Ray Lavin and Alan Gillespie in Colonsays 7-3 defeat by Plessey. Brian Jennings beat Mike Keane in a cup match against Bootle Y.M.C.A. Barbara Kirkman and Colin Rourke both beat Nigel Conquest in 2 straight.

In 9-1 defeats for their sides, Mal Cray beat Ahmed Thabet, Jack Davidson beat Mike Keane, John McGee beat Ian Burrows and Peter Wass for a great double in a 6-4 defeat. The best? Choose for yourself. Mostly the fixed orders haven't been abused. Captains need to take great care in their orders otherwise there may be 'cheating' by accident, especially after re-ranking. I have found no evidence of deliberate order 'fixing' for gain. Although the ranking lists of many clubs are hard to accept. What are the punishments for incorrect orders?

The best team are easily Maghull 'A', as their team spirit is something special, ensuring a pleasant evening win or lose!

DIVISION 3A

JACK LAMBERT

I am sure that the names Karen Gibson, John Letch, Fraser Farquharson and Eugene Berger are well known to most of you - O.K., can you possibly explain the score line, Bath Street 'C' played 12, lost 12; it seems incredible to me. They came pretty close against Brownmoor Park, going down 6-4, thanks to a Bill Spencer treble. Both Eugene Berger and John Letch saved their side from whitewashes against Wavertree Labour and Electric Supply 'B'. John beat Alan Nisted, 23-21 in the third. Six games going to three - so they are trying - but played 12 lost 12, my goodness! my Guinness! The other moment of glory for Brownmoor Park was a great 5-5 draw with Plessey 'A' (Hawthorne 3), thanks to Spencer again and Forrest. A great battle here between those great old war horses, Norman Cooke, (I've collected all the Digests), and Stan Harvey - Stan winning 19-21; 22-20; 21-17:

We have three teams who have called on less than a handful of players between the three of them, Electric Supply 'A', Maghull 'B' and Vagabonds. There must be something in team spirit and success because two out of three of these teams are going to be promoted. A thrashing for Maghull by Electric Supply, 8-2. A 7-3 win over Vagabonds by Maghull and a five all between Vagabonds and Supply. So no clear indication here although I think it will be between Vagabonds and Maghull to accompany Electric Supply. Supply hit them hard and often with tens and nines, but Vagabonds have a bogey team, Kirkby, a 6-4 and 5-5 against Bootle J.C. (Dave Graham 2). Maghull 6 (Ray Tagg 2), and Bootle J.C. 4, and how about this - Colonsay 'A' 7; Maghull 'B' 3, Harry Nelson and Dennis Goodwin trebles. So you see what I mean, whoever slips up the least will go up with Supply 'A'. Job Centre, with a solid five squad, are having a good season with number one, Pilkington, ever present. So there we have the top and bottom - but there's more - and most of them are having their moments - Electric Supply 'B' are just outside the promotion race, Alan Kelly 2 saved their face against their 'A' team. Despite this reverse, a good league position, with Tommy Lynch and strong doubles partnerships their strength. English Electric 'C' are feeling the loss of their number one, Julie Prince, who is looking forward to next season and a happy event around May. The team battles on a good 6-4 against Colonsay, Roy Craddock and Peter Holmes doubles. Another battler is Norman Challoner of Kirkby, who, despite dog shows and pool tables etc., taking over his area still produces a top half of the table side with young players of potential. Peter Lee and Tony Leary coming along nicely.

Plessey 'A' and Colonsay 'A', a five all draw; whatever teams these two put out, all our yesterdays prevails. In this one Ian Blore turns up and Jean Jennings, and we have Alan Guy as steady as ever winning THREE, as did Alan Gillespie for Plesseys. With a regular Woods-Baker-Wright 'combo', I

wouldn't have expected a whitewash from Wavertree Labour, but it happened. Both of these sides deserve credit for regular turnouts, Ron Jones for the Labour Club is having an excellent season. Police had no mercy on fellow sufferers, with an 8-2 against Bath St., Sue Anderson winning a cheeky singles and doubles here, as did Karen Gibson, and a 7-3 against Brownmoor with Albi and Alan trebles.

John Armstrong had a tough night against Wavertree Labour, losing to Ron Jones 18, beating Bill Stanley 22-20, and with Steve Royden winning 22-20, all in the third game. Albie Baker and John Christian lost to Alan Guy and Brian Leeson 21-16; 29-31; 18-21; hard luck! No reference here to Littlewoods of Everton, but John Moore beat John Moore 21-18; 21-7; and that's a fact. Harry Nelson beat Alan Biggs 20 and 19. Rob Peverall beat Les Evans 21-16; 17-21; 23-21. John Pilkington (Bath St.) beat Holmes and Craddock both in the third, all these are their sides lone winners, Ron Jones made a habit of it!

Bobby Owen of Vagabonds has had a few close calls, Norman Challoner 17, Les Molyneux 15, Steve Royden 17, all in the third, but still retains his 100% record.

DIVISION 3B

COLIN PRATT - JACK LAMBERT

Having apologised in the last Digest for your lack of notes, this time I have to apologise personally, as, having been let down once by a responsible member of the management, I didn't think I would be let down again. I was unable to make personal contact - but on each occasion I was informed through third parties that the notes were on the way - they have not arrived.

On the way to see the league leaders, Everton, I was on a high - who wouldn't be? This gave me a touch of inspiration. I phoned Colin Pratt and asked him if he could put me roughly in the picture on the Division's situation. I returned and found the following notes delivered from Aughton by Sir Colin - thanks a lot Col.

The division was a four team race for the two promotion places - Cadwa 'A', Police, Vernon Sangster 'C' and English Electric 'D'. However, English Electric ran into a poor series of results followed by the unexpected and sudden retirement of No.1 Alan Jones, which resulted in a re-ranking of players and the signing of Brian Aldred.

Sangster led from the front by Bill Harris, having suffered from 'reserve' problems, and this could affect their challenge at the top. Cadwa 'A' beat Sangster in the return match to avenge their only defeat - Bill Hargreaves, Lancashire's junior star Robert Lowe and Les Linforth playing well for Sangster. In a crunch, second place game, Police went to Sangster and won 6-4.

Liverpool Jewish captained by Dave Cohen are having an excellent season with matches going on past midnight, the result of playing with Barna and wooden bats. It's wonderful to see old fashioned rallies which last more than the usual serve - crash - bang of the modern bats. My tip for the top at this stage of the season has to be Cadwa 'A', with Police in second place.

Trevor Hughes, Ian Miller, Bill Hargreaves and Mike Power have played to win this division from the start and have a good chance of making the difficult

jump into the 2nd Division; the tricky part is being able to stay in the 2nd and not come tumbling down again - they look good enough. Nice to see Sylvia Graham playing again for Bootle Job Centre; congratulations on the birth of a new junior player!

Relegation is probably between Maghull 'C', Y.M.C.A., Rafters 'A' and Bath St. 'D', although Bath St. and Y.M.C.A. have signed Chris Chislett and Steve Graham to help in the fight.

Effort of the Month

Mike Poole of Jewish doesn't win every week, but my goodness! he certainly has a work-out. His games against Ian Lunt and Brian Aldred were wonderful to watch in terms of effort and spectacular retrieving. Well done Mike - keep taking the tablets!

The Police have had a good season and could finish in second place. They have a strong team with the Steady, reliable G. Jones, the wonderful, eccentric backhand of Tom Purcell, the all round play of Len Dyson and the defence of Don Chalkley. This team, however, could have problems in Division two.

Joan Monaghan of Wavertree had a good win over a player I rate highly, Mark Reed of Sangster - well done Joan. Chris Roberts of Maghull is finally getting results with his combination bat and has had some good wins recently.

John Pilkington of Bath St. is also playing well this season; his crisp forehand hit wins him lots of points and he plays to win. Well done John, and don't forget my write-up in Southport.

P.S. Everton won 4-0.

DIVISION 4A

KEN ARMSON

Since the last issue, the position at the top has remained unchanged with M.C.Y.A. romping away and already the division champions. The pattern in the two 4th divisions changes little, with it either being a one team race or a closely contested season. This season it is the one team race in 4A & 4B. Our only consolation is that our division has a home grown team as front runners, whereas 4B are all from the Widnes area via Fords. I don't suppose it will make you feel any better after being thrashed by M.C.Y.A., just thought I would throw it in for good measure. Cup wise it looks like being 4A v 4B or M.C.Y.A. v Fords. Hopefully it will be M.C.Y.A., but I have my doubts.

As always when we have a runaway leader, any sets won against them become newsworthy, and the pick of these goes to Arthur Birch (Wavertree Labour 'E') who in a tense and hard fought set finally emerged the winner against Peter Choi 23/25 in the 3rd. University made their contribution when Dom Lebouf (hope I've got that right) beat John Lau 17 in the 3rd - these M.C.Y.A. lads believe in going down fighting. Alan Guy made another of his ghost appearances for Colonsay and took a double, beating Peter Choi and David Ng. Another double winner was Roly Wright (Bootle Y.M.C.A. 'A') who also defeated Peter and David, and in each set took a game 26/24. For Warwick Bolam it was the turn of the lower order with Carl Ledson recording his lone win against Kar Lee. For Maghull, Stuart Fay recorded a club double when he beat Kar Lee

twice playing for Maghull 'E' & 'F'. For good measure, he also defeated John Lau and may be the only player to take three sets from them. All notable victories these, for with M.C.Y.A. sweeping all before them, the few sets they have dropped stand out. Our one consolation is that they are a friendly crowd and you could not wish to get battered by a nicer team. Their friendliness does not extend to giving away sets.

With a runaway leader, attention must focus on the other promotion spot at No.2, and here the battle is tense, with those involved conscious of the fact that this is the only avenue open to them. They can take heart from the fact that we could have three going up, and it will be vital for them not to relax. Bootle Y.M.C.A. 'A' and Warwick Bolam are still in there slugging it out, but Maghull 'E' are looking likely to pull clear of them, and they made their intention clear to all teams by taking 4 sets off M.C.Y.A. To date they are the only team to do so and for this reason alone must be considered the best bet. They have a nice blend of experience and strength and have shown they can produce the results against the lower teams.

Having said that, where does it leave Vagabonds 'A', for they thrashed Maghull 'E' with only sets from Dave Berry and Harry McGanity saving them from a 'whitewash'? I have to say that like several teams in this division, Vagabonds swop the team round quite often to give other players a game and this has cost them dearly. Bootle Y.M.C.A. 'A' will be pushing hard, but they are slightly suspect, and came a real cropper against Maghull 'F' second time round losing 6-4. Peter Brownlee (No.1.) was missing the first time, and Bootle had a comfortable win, but his presence and the consequent moving down, the order of his team-mates produced a 6-4 win for Maghull.

Warwick Bolam are still there and look a good bet to push Maghull 'E' hard, but I fancy they might just get pipped at the post and at the same time pip Bootle Y.M.C.A. 'A' for 3rd place. Fluctuating results are often the hallmark of the lower divisions and tend to obscure the real potential of a team, and we have had our share of these.

The middle of the table order is fairly stable, and if Bootle Y.M.C.A. 'A' do finish fourth then I expect to see Cadwa 'C' and Vagabonds 'A' not all that far adrift. As with Vagabonds 'A' we have not seen the real potential of Cadwa for they have pushed out several reserves, but their regular line-up of Chris Roberts, Ian Fletcher, Jack Power and Rob Davies can push most teams.

Wavertree Labour 'E' made a very promising start and looked good for a high position. Unfortunately, player problems have brought a reverse to their results and at times they have struggled to keep the team going. They have not been helped by the attitude of one Colonsay member who apparently feels that claiming a walk-over is better than giving a team a chance to survive. It would seem he is not interested in putting playing table tennis before claiming useless points. It isn't in the Rules, we all know that, but at this level it should be about sportsmanship and not gamesmanship, which is better left to the higher divisions.

We appear to have lost the colourful presence of Dave Cohen so you can all put your sunglasses away. Lewis Rosenbloom has emerged as their No. 1. and he also has made his mark against M.C.Y.A. with a victory over David Ng. He also took a double off Bootle Y.M.C.A. 'A' beating Roly Wright and Les Higham. Strange lot these Jewish players, for they seem to have solved the eternal problem of players who are convinced they are better than others think they are. Jewish players seem happy to play in whichever team they are placed.

With our division being two teams short there will be no relegation problems

to be faced, and the bottom teams can get on with enjoying their table tennis.

No-one volunteered to take over these Notes, and as you can tell my brain, what little I have, is running short of inspiration. It is very difficult trying to write two sets of Notes per issue, and if you don't think much of my Notes then why not take over for the last issue? I will cheerfully give way to any willing or unwilling volunteer.

DIVISION 4B

MIKE GRIFFITHS

Two teams are now pulling away at the top of this division, Fords and Waterloo LTC. We have two very evenly matched teams here, and the struggle to be the eventual winners could go all the way. The match between the two sides was an exciting affair and Waterloo took the honours 6-4. Barry Stringer, still unbeaten and still the best player in this division by a long way, won his three for Fords, but the match winning performance came from Ken Nelson of Waterloo who beat mark Pierce 22/20 21/11 and Kevin Cook 21/14 13/21 23/21 (from 15-20 down). Andy Armstrong, Mike Nelson and myself all chipped in with a singles win, while Dave Garbe was the only other singles winner for Fords beating Mike Nelson.

The two teams are matching each other result for result at the moment. The few points which separate them come about from their matches against third placed Rodney Youth Club. As reported in the last issue, Waterloo won 6-4 but Fords devastated them 9-1 with only Jack Wilson losing to Justin Quinn.

Rodney Youth have still only lost to the two top teams, but they just lack the strength in depth to pick up large wins each week. English Electric held them to a 5-5 draw. Keith Wright, playing exceptionally well this season but unfortunately for Electric not often enough, they had an excellent double over Harrid and Quinn. Rodney also dropped 3 valuable points to bottom placed Liverpool Jewish.

English Electric and Maghull occupy 4th & 5th positions. Maghull surrendered rather tamely 7-3 to Electric when the teams met. Wright and Margaret Collins won 2 each. One of the star performances of the season so far must go to Margret Collins. Against Fords she disposed of Pierce and Cook both two straights in her team's 3-7 defeat.

The two Aigburth teams and Vernon Sangster would appear to occupy the next positions in mid-table. Sangster had a poor start to the season but have now improved, their best result so far being a draw with Maghull and an 8-2 win over Aigburth where Barry Mounsey and Steve Denison both beat Bill Leeming. Barry Steve was also the inspiration behind the draw with Maghull, winning 4 of the 5.

The Aigburth teams had differing fortunes against Bath Street. The first team lost 6-4 and were grateful to win both doubles. Brian Cunningham and Val Smallwood won two each. Brian beat Bill Leeming 22/20 12/21 21/16. The second team however, outdid their seniors and won 6-4. A good team effort this with each player winning a singles and picking up both doubles. Pick of the singles wins were Peter Meyer over Dave Aimson 17 in the third and Simon Killeen over Val Smallwood 19 in the third. Star for Bath Street for this occasion was Denis Hudson who beat Peter and Simon.

Bath Street and Kirkby come next in the division. Kirkby are the team who seem likely to improve as the season goes on. They are led at Number 1 by young Phil Marcroft, a good attacking player who has to be treated with respect. He has already accounted for Gibson and Banks of Maghull and Davis & Travis of Bootle Y.M.C.A., and at the time of writing has just had his best match to date with a notable double over the Waterloo 1 & 2. Playing with Phil is the irrepressible Arther Brindle, what an inspiration to us all. Arthur continues to pick up useful wins and already this season has beaten Barry Meyer and Margaret Collins.

Bootle Y.M.C.A. have been surprisingly disappointing this season considering the experience in their team. A lot of their problems stem from the total lack of form of Les Travis, and they rely heavily on Ken Davis and Roy Williams. Ken won his two singles in the teams 6-4 win over Vernon Sangster, beating Barry Mounsey and John Dyson, and Roy did likewise against Kirkby beating Lyon and Brindle.

At the bottom we are left with Brownmoor Park and Liverpool Jewish. As usual the Jewish team is different every week and I can't even begin to work out what their regular team is supposed to be. Their only win to date was against Brownmoor 7-3, Tony Cohen and Roy McEvoy winning 2 each.

Brownmoor Park's best performance has been a 7-3 victory over Vernon Sangster and a draw against Bath Street. Against Vernon Sangster, Ken Miller was star man beating Dyson and Cunningham as well as winning his doubles. A. Crowe had a similar treble against Bath Street beating Richard Woodley and Val Smallwood in his singles.

As ever, to end with, a small batch of useful performances, and don't forget that YOU are allowed to mark the score cards with outstanding performances which you think warrant inclusion in these notes. Not one card has been marked so far this season, and it even seems to be an effort for the teams to fill their records at the bottom!

Richard Blackburn (Liverpool Jewish) beat Harry Holmes (Aigburth): Bill Leeming and Harry Holmes both beat Mark Pierce of Fords for their side's only points: Dennis Hudson beat Alan Hamid 15/21 23/21 21/19, a sole winner: Wilf Gibson (Maghull) beat Justin Quinn 22/20 16/21 21/19, and on the same night Jimmy Gill beat Michael Murphy. Paul Beesley making a comeback for Vernon Sangster beat Ken Nelson. Billy Holmes of Aigburth inflicted a rare defeat on Andy Armstrong of Waterloo.

DIVISION 5

E. CAMERON

The fifth division is like a clapped out banger, according to one of its players. Its programme is in fits and starts; we run for a few games, conk out for one or two, start up again full of promise, then just as we begin to tick over, clatter to a stop just before we meet a good team. We then just about start ticking over again as the match ends in an inglorious defeat. The only consolation is that it is much easier to convince ourselves that we could have won if only we had a chance of keeping our eye in.

Not being a championship contender, I, of course agree, but it must be admitted that Plessey, who are sitting nice and comfortable on top, do not seem to notice the problem.

How about this for an idea to solve our problem next year. The fifth division would be abolished and in its place would be the 'Alliance'. The Alliance could be entered by any club wishing to give its reserves a game; there would be no restrictions on who could play, other than they must be registered players of the clubs concerned. This would solve the problems of the big clubs who need so many players to comply with rule 15, for example Maghull, with eight teams who need forty players, which means eight are spare each week, and we all know that in these days there are so many alternative ways of filling in spare time, that club members tend to drift away if they have few chances of a competitive game. The Alliance would have its trophies but would not have a promotion link to the main divisions. Preference for admittance to the main divisions would be given to applicants with teams in the Alliance. There are other variations, for instance, the Alliance could play three aside if it so wished.

Back to the realities of Division 5 in 1986 - last issue I mentioned the Police. Currently they are fifth, but appear to have played five matches only and have won them all. Maybe they are holding the cards back in the hope that they can settle into the middle of the table unnoticed and let Plessey take the strain at the top; included in their five matches is a 6-4 win over Plessey. The return is the next to last match of the season and could well decide the championship. Lying third at the moment is Maghull 'G' who have about thirteen players to choose from. Leading them is F. Leece, ably supported by P. Ellison, T. Mullin, A. Lenden (a survivor from the team of earlier seasons), K. Lewis, N. Hickey and others. This squad is strong enough to make a determined challenge for the top two but had a bad start losing their first three matches; since then they have lost one only to Plessey, so much will depend on their early form in the second half of the season. Warwick Bolam 'A' did very well last season. Their highlight was to reach the Cup Final only to go down to an outstanding team, M.C.Y.A. It was thought that Warwick Bolam would be one of the teams of the year this time but, unfortunately, two of their regulars moved on. The backbone of the present team are the two survivors D. Waters and R. Peat with E. Maudsley, D. Wheatley, T. Seel and C. Campion in support. The new players are full of enthusiasm but their lack of experience puts an added burden on Waters and Peat and seems likely to rule them out of the top spots this time round. I hear that Mr. Davies, the secretary and anchor man of Warwick Bolam, may be on the move to a new school next year, which may put the future of Warwick Bolam at stake. We trust that whatever the circumstances Mr. Davies stays in the game, the strength of our league is dependent on the existence of enthusiastic club secretaries and Dan Davies has encouraged youngsters from school to take up the game. This is exactly the policy advocated by the E.T.T.A. in its efforts to reverse the current drift away from the game, and we hope that Dan will be in a position to carry on with the good work again next season. Electric Supply 'C' find themselves in their usual middle of the table position once again this season, this time with a much changed team from last season. Gone are Pete and Joy Barton; Peter is trying his hand at snooker. Gone also are Marie Lupton and Lil Wynne. Marie, unfortunately, has a bad back problem, and we are all hoping that she will soon overcome the problem. Survivors from last season are Peter Highton, the new team captain, Monica O'Donnell, ever reliable, who seems to really enjoy the game as much as ever, and myself, struggling on as ever. The team is extremely fortunate, however, to welcome Arthur Harrison from the third division; Arthur has been with the club for many years and is probably the best number one in the division. Another comparative newcomer to the team is Neil Bascombe who played the odd game last season; he struggled a bit at the early part of this

season but is improving with every game, and I suppose in a few seasons he will be moving well up the club ratings.

I should finish off wishing you all a happy New Year, but I suppose the due out date of this magazine would make such remarks well out of date.

Fixture Secretary's Notes.

The new rule covering playing in grouping order has brought problems to some clubs. Several instances have occurred with players appearing out of order. The league has taken a lenient view of these breaches of rule, and issued warnings and a token fine so far. It is felt however, that clubs have had long enough to overcome their teething problems, and the committee advises that future offenders cannot expect such sympathetic hearings. You create your own lists and must know each members ranking number, we have asked that this be added to the card to assist us. If this was done it would be impossible to make a mistake in playing sequence.

May we also draw your attention to the rules of playing reserves. When cards are exchanged before a match starts, all players names must be included. If a player fails to turn up, a reserve may substitute; it follows therefore that the card would have the original name on and that this would be crossed off with the reserve written in underneath. Will you please note that if this procedure is not carried out you may forfeit sets in future.

Have you checked the league tables? Are all cards posted and outstanding matches re-arranged?

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

16, Handfield Rd.,
Waterloo,
Liverpool.
L22 0NX

Dear Jack,

Many of the Digests' readers will have noticed in the handbook alterations that Linacre have a new secretary this season in the person of Jack Davidson. He replaces brother Alec who has given up the job on moving to Warrington following his recent happy marriage. Alec Davidson has been secretary of Linacre for the last twenty five years and has been a dedicated and conscientious secretary throughout that period as well as being an enthusiastic player and fine sportsman. Alec took over the job on the death of our late secretary, Tommy Larkin, whom older readers will remember as another fine sportsman and an example to us all in the league. We at Linacre are sure that the good reputation we enjoy in the Liverpool T.I. league are due in a large measure to the work done by Tom and Alec. Happily Alec is still an active member of Linacre and we hope will be for many many years.

We look forward to another long and happy period in Liverpool table tennis under Jack Davidsons' guidance. He's got the next twenty five years to knock us into shape and keep us fighting for honours!! We know Jack will tackle the job with the same dedication as his predecessors, and we at Linacre are fortunate indeed in our choice of secretaries.

Frank Lacy.

29, Dudlow Lane,
Liverpool.

Dear Jack,

Would you please insert the following in the Digest:-

100 CLUB

For many years the League has relied very heavily on the 50% return we get from helping to sell ETTA Draw tickets. This produces £150 plus for the League each year - essential for our finances. However, we now have an idea to run a "100 Club". For those unaware of this type of scheme, we would ask for 100 or more members to subscribe £1.00 per month, or, preferably, pay the full £12.00 for the year and then participate in a monthly draw which would have three prizes totalling about £60.00. This scheme has the advantage of doing away with the chore of selling draw tickets, and it would produce £300 to £400 each year to the league, and all prizes would naturally be won locally. So let us have your reactions; let me or any committee member know if you are interested or even would like to be a collector. In the meantime - keep selling this year's draw tickets - we need the money.

Don Cameron.

53 Vineside Road,
West Derby,

24th January, 1986.

Dear Jack,

Appeal Board Hearing - Statement issued by
League Management Committee and published in
Table Tennis Digest - November 1985

With reference to the above mentioned statement which appeared in the November issue of the 'Digest', we would like to point out immediately that the Management Committee omitted to mention the fact that the Appeal Board resigned 'En Bloc' after their recommendation had been ignored.

Two significant features in the Management Committee's statement were as follows: "The Management Committee sympathised with the views expressed by the Electric Supply", and later in the statement, "The Chairman of the County Appeal Board stated that they also sympathised with the Electric Supply Club".

As neither of these two bodies was apparently willing to grasp the nettle and administer a suitable punishment, it seems that the Appeal Board was the only body prepared to offer a realistic and just solution to the problem..

The imposition of a £2.00 fine by the Management Committee was seen by us as nothing more than a sick joke, and we had no alternative but to follow the course of action mentioned above.

Yours faithfully,

K. JONES
B. TOWNSEND
P. RUMJAHM

Dear Jack,

May we, Electric Supply, offer comments regarding the Appeal Board hearing which we trust will give members our thoughts on the situation. Here are a few facts:-

1. At the end of 1983/84, Liverpool Jewish played a postponed game in division 2 between their first and 'A' team. They openly let it be known that their first team did not wish to be promoted. Their 'A' team won, and their first team secured its objective. No harm was done to any other club.
2. During 1984/85, the fixture, Liverpool Jewish v 'A' team, was by chance postponed again.
3. By chance, the opportunity arose for Liverpool Jewish and their 'A' team to decide the relegation issue.
4. By chance, the Liverpool Jewish 1st team had gained promotion before their last match.
5. By chance, Liverpool Jewish made a detailed check with the fixture secretary of the points position of all the teams contesting relegation the night before the re-arranged match.
6. By chance, Three Liverpool Jewish 1st team members were not available for the re-arranged match, and, in fact, only played with three players, one first team, and two from the lower divisions. Liverpool Jewish knew that had the two teams played at strength, their 'A' team would most likely have lost and been relegated. By DESIGN, Liverpool Jewish selected their teams from the eight available players in such a manner to ensure that their 'A' team gained enough points to stay up.

This time, Electric Supply were relegated - by chance!

Fact No. 7 is that the local Appeals Board resigned en bloc following the Management Committee's reaction to their recommendation to make the match null and void.

There is no rule in the league covering ungentlemanly conduct, but Rule 30 gives the Committee the authority to deal with the problem, and the Committee has been known to take action against bad conduct during a match in the past.

May we just make one final comment? The league representative, who so ably

presented the league case was Ken Armson. Ken, who so energetically fought to preserve the right for a club to do just as it wishes provided it did not break a rule, now comments presumably as an individual about our club attempting to reconcile our position within the rules. We looked in vain for a letter of condemnation from Ken regarding the fiddle against us, but it seems Ken has two hats and could not change them over fast enough to treat all clubs alike.

A. Biggs
on behalf of
ELECTRIC SUPPLY.

Reprint of letter first printed in last issue of The Digest
(With apologies from Sefton ITeC Ltd.

19, Cedar Grove.

Dear Jack,

Woolton Hall buzzed with excitement on the evening of 4th September, when members, past and present, together with their guests, attended a Dinner to celebrate the Fortieth Anniversary of the formation of the Rafter's Table Tennis Club. The organisation of the event was in the capable hands of the Club's Honorary Secretary, Jan Davies, and the evening's proceedings were presided over by the Club's Chairman, Ted Rumjahn. Lil and myself were privileged to be present as guests of the Club, and the occasion, which following the meal was spent in exchanging reminiscences, passed all too quickly.

Amongst those attending was Eric Caird (a Vice President of the League) who, together with his wife Audrey, had travelled up from their residence in the South of England especially for the occasion. Eric requested that I should convey his warmest good wishes to the League's members, and, in particular, asked that his warmest regards should be passed on to yourself, also to the members of the Linacre Club.

Whilst conveying these greetings, I am provided with the opportunity of expressing on the League's behalf, heartiest congratulations to the Rafter's Club on having reached this milestone in their history, and to hope that the enthusiasm which has enabled them to be an integral part of the League over this long period of time, will still be very much in evidence when they celebrate their Fiftieth Anniversary.

Yours sincerely,

A. E. UPTON

CHAIRMAN.

TABLE EDGES

My sincere apologies to all who were affected by the 'slip ups' in the last Digest. A few repeated here that may have been misread.

The Closed Championships will take place again at the Kirkby Sports Centre on Sunday, April 13th. With the finals and some semi-finals taking place the following Tuesday, April 15th, at the Police Club, Prescott Road. Last year this was one of the committee's all time successes under the guidance and supervision of Brian Leeson. With a bar cafe and all your table tennis matches there, you can have a good day out.

Brian Leeson informs me that he receives many enquiries from all over the country and from all types of players, great and small, regarding -The Merseyside Open Championships; he regrets our inability to run the tournament. I agree with him, a well organised, convenient, top class tournament with the greatest names in table tennis gracing it over the years. This great tournament can only be reinstated in our calendar by a sponsor or sponsors coming along - finance is the problem.

My thanks to offers of help as correspondents to Barry & Peter Meyer - (Aigburth), Don Chalkley (Police), Warren Davies (Liverpool Jewish) and Colin Pratt (English Electric); they will all be borne in mind in the future. We have a query on one of your divisions (unfortunately you only cover two). I will take your offers up strictly in rotation of offers.

I have included Mr. Arthur Upton's report on the Rafter's 40 year celebration, which included our Vice President, Eric Caird, being named as Vice Chairman.

Don Cameron informs me that he has visited 'Monty' Albert Montgomery ex-Rafters - although I first met him at the Y.M.C.A. in 19 - (acute bout of coughing). Monty has been pretty poorly and has lost a lot of weight but Don says he is much better - all the best Monty from all your old friends. A. Montgomery Esq. is, of course, one of our four Life Members.

How many German speaking table tennis players have we? A German team will probably be visiting English Electric in May, you are cordially invited - but no mention of who won the war!!!

To Maghull omitted from the number two spot in the league tables.

So Trinity are down to one team with Tom Killip and John Higman still surviving together with the Mikes Corcoran and Keane, do I hear whispers of a famous - no very famous name - Bootle Y.M.C.A.???? - this was how it should have read, and at the time I had not heard that Trinity and Courtaulds were changing to Bootle Y.M.C.A.

Peter Lee is the brain behind Bonaparte's, the wine bar and restaurant in Clarence Street.

Appropo Frank Lacy's letter, I had a little postscript omitted from the Linacre amendment - something to the effect - fancy Alec handing over to Jack, couldn't he have given the job to a younger bloke, Frank Lacy for instance!!!

Again regarding Frank Lacy's letter. The combination of Alex Davidson, Jack Davidson, Frank Lacy, Tommy Larkin (who unfortunately died) and Mac McGonigal played together from just after the Boer War until just after the Second World War without any of them missing a match. (Actually, approximate dates 1949 - to 1961 a phenomenal record).

<u>DIVISION ONE</u>	P	W	L	D	Pts
ELECTRIC SUPPLY	17	15	1	1	138
MAGHULL	18	15	1	2	129
L'POOL YMCA	15	12	1	2	110
BOOTLE	15	11	3	1	100
WAV.LABOUR 'A'	17	10	5	2	96
RAFTERS	17	8	7	2	90
WAVERTREE LABOUR	16	9	6	1	87
ENGLISH ELECTRIC	18	5	9	4	82
VERNON SANG. 'A'	16	7	7	2	75
CADWA	16	6	10	-	64
VERNON SANGSTER	15	2	12	1	51
BATH STREET	18	-	15	3	46
WAV.LABOUR 'B'	14	3	11	-	43
L'POOL JEWISH	18	1	16	1	39

<u>DIVISION 2</u>	P	W	L	D	Pts
BOOTLE YMCA	17	11	6	-	103
MAGHULL 'A'	15	11	2	2	102
FORDS	18	8	7	3	100
V.SANGSTER 'B'	17	7	4	6	95
ENG. ELECTRIC 'A'	15	9	3	3	91
BATH STREET 'A'	18	7	5	3	89
PLESSEY	15	9	4	2	88
L'POOL YMCA 'A'	13	8	3	2	73
ENG.ELECTRIC 'B'	15	6	6	3	70
L'POOL JEWISH 'A'	16	4	8	4	61
COLONSAY	15	2	11	2	56
BOOTLE 'A'	17	3	14	-	51
LINACRE	16	1	14	1	43

<u>DIVISION 3A</u>	P	W	L	D	Pts
ELEC.SUPPLY 'A'	16	14	-	2	132
MAGHULL 'B'	18	15	3	-	132
ELEC.SUPPLY 'B'	15	12	2	1	105
VAGABONDS	15	10	2	3	95
ENGLISH ELEC 'C'	17	9	7	1	87
KIRKBY	16	7	8	1	85
BOOTLE J.C.	16	7	7	2	83
COLONSAY 'A'	15	5	7	3	74
PLESSEY 'A'	15	6	7	2	70
WAV.LABOUR 'D'	15	6	8	1	65
POLICE 'A'	16	2	14	-	40
BATH STREET 'C'	16	-	15	1	36
BROWNMOOR PARK	18	2	15	1	36

<u>DIVISION 3B</u>	P	W	L	D	Pts
CADWA 'A'	17	16	1	-	144
POLICE	17	14	3	-	128
V.SANGSTER 'C'	17	14	3	-	116
ENG.ELECTRIC 'D'	17	8	7	2	94
BATH STREET 'B'	14	7	6	1	74
WAV.LABOUR 'C'	15	6	7	2	66
L'POOL JEWISH 'B'	15	4	7	4	65
L'POOL YMCA 'B'	15	4	10	1	63
MAGHULL 'C'	16	3	10	3	61
BOOTLE J.C. 'A'	17	5	11	1	60
CADWA 'B'	14	5	8	1	52
BATH STREET 'D'	16	3	11	2	50
RAFTERS 'A'	14	1	10	3	47

<u>DIVISION 4A</u>	P	W	L	D	Pts
M.C.Y.A.	15	15	-	-	129
MAGHULL 'E'	14	12	2	-	99
BOOTLE YMCA 'A'	15	10	4	1	96
WARWICK BOLAM	13	10	3	-	86
VAGABONDS 'A'	15	9	6	-	75
MAGHULL 'F'	16	6	8	2	72
COLONSAY 'B'	16	5	8	3	70
WAV.LABOUR 'E'	14	5	8	1	64
L'POOL JEWISH 'C'	15	2	8	5	57
CADWA 'C'	15	4	10	1	56
UNIVERSITY	16	2	12	2	47
RAFTERS 'B'	14	1	12	1	36

<u>DIVISION 4B</u>	P	W	L	D	Pts
WORDS 'A'	16	15	1	-	140
WATERLOO	15	14	-	1	121
RODNEY YOUTH	14	10	2	2	104
MAGHULL 'D'	17	9	6	2	97
ENG.ELECTRIC 'E'	13	8	3	2	83
AIGBURTH	16	7	6	3	82
AIGBURTH 'A'	17	6	10	1	65
KIRKBY 'A'	15	3	10	2	55
BATH STREET 'E'	15	4	9	2	54
L'POOL JEWISH 'D'	15	2	12	1	46
BOOTLE YMCA 'B'	11	4	6	1	45
V.SANGSTER 'D'	14	2	11	1	43
BROWNMOOR PARK 'A'	13	1	10	2	28

<u>DIVISION 5</u>	P	W	L	D	Pts
PLESSEY 'B'	12	10	2	-	90
M.C.Y.A. 'A'	11	6	2	3	72
POLICE 'B'	7	7	-	-	60
ELEC.SUPPLY 'C'	10	5	4	1	55
MAGHULL 'G'	11	4	6	1	53
L'POOL JEWISH 'E'	9	3	5	1	41
WARWICK BOLAM 'A'	7	3	4	-	28
L'POOL JEWISH 'F'	10	1	9	-	18
AIGBURTH 'B'	8	-	8	-	4

FIXTURE SECRETARY'S note:-

THE FOLLOWING CARDS WHERE OUTSTANDING AT 10TH FEBRUARY.. ALL MATCHES UP TO AND INCLUDING WEEK 13 MUST BE PLAYED BY WEEK 26. ALL MATCHES WEEK 14 - 26 MUST BE PLAYED BY 4TH APRIL 1986. CARDS NOT RECEIVED WILL BE CONSIDERED A WALK-OVER 0-10 THE MINIMUM FINE FOR WHICH IS £2.

DIVISION 1.

WEEK	3	BOOTLE	v	12
"	10	VERNON SANGSTER	v	12
"	10	RAFTERS	v	13
"	12	L'POOL YM	v	1
"	13	L'POOL JEWISH	v	7
"	13	WAV.LAB. 'B'	v	4
"	14	V.SANGSTER 'A'	v	1
"	14	CADWA	v	7
"	15	ELEC.SUPPLY	v	12
"	16	WAV.LABOUR 'B'	v	1
"	16	BATH STREET	v	2
"	16	ENG.ELECTRIC	v	3
"	16	CADWA	v	5
"	16	WAV.LAB.'A'	v	14

DIVISION 2.

WEEK	1	MAGHULL 'A'	v	10
"	9	COLONSAY	v	10
"	16	L'POOL YM 'A'	v	3

DIVISION 3A.

WEEK	9	VAGABONDS	v	10
"	12	ELEC.SUPPLY 'B'	v	14
"	14	POLICE 'A'	v	2
"	15	KIRKBY	v	13
"	16	ELEC.SUPPLY 'A'	v	4
"	16	COLONSAY 'A'	v	6

DIVISION 3B.

WEEK	2	L'POOL YM 'B'	v	1
"	8	RAFTERS 'A'	v	13
"	8	L'POOL JEWISH 'B'	v	12
"	9	CADWA 'B'	v	9
"	9	BATH STREET 'B'	v	8
"	14	CADWA 'B'	v	4
"	14	RAFTERS 'A'	v	7

DIVISION 4A.

WEEK	9	MAGHULL 'E'	v	9
"	9	RAFTERS 'B'	v	7
"	10	CADWA 'C'	v	2
"	12	WARWICK BOLAM	v	10
"	14	VAGABONDS 'A'	v	7
"	16	WARWICK BOLAM	v	6

DIVISION 4B.

WEEK	3	BOOTLE YM 'B'	v	12
"	5	BOOTLE YM 'B'	v	10
"	7	BATH STREET 'E'	v	10
"	9	BOOTLE YM 'B'	v	6
"	9	L'POOL JEWISH 'D'	v	5
"	11	BOOTLE YM 'B'	v	4
"	11	V.SANGSTER 'D'	v	9
"	13	BOOTLE YM 'B'	v	2
"	13	V.SANGSTER 'D'	v	8
"	15	RODNEY YOUTH	v	8
"	15	BROWNMOOR PK 'A'	v	10
"	15	BOOTLE YM 'B'	v	13
"	16	ENG.ELECTRIC 'E'	v	3

DIVISION 5.

WEEK	3	WARWICK BOLAM 'A'	v	13
"	9	" "	v	10
"	11	AIGBURTH 'B'	v	8
"	13	POLICE 'B'	v	3
"	13	WARWICK BOLAM 'A'	v	8
"	15	L'POOL JEWISH 'F'	v	14

NOTE:

The numbers following the 'versus' represent the team numbers appearing in the handbook.

ALL OUR YESTERDAYS

Items will be welcomed for future editions. The Digest was first issued in October 1950, price 6d. It was sold at many of our functions and competitions.

The Editorial Board was Jack Patterson, Des Loughrey, Don Foulis, Billy Stamp and Albert Montgomery. While it was a combined effort, Jack Patterson was the brain, and Des his main support. It's arrival celebrated the 25th anniversary of the league.

Amongst the 17 new clubs were Cadwa and Bath Street.

Eddie Cameron wrote the 3rd division's notes; Ken Jones took over the secretary's job at Bohemians, arriving from Fairlawn. He had been coached by Richard Bergma while serving with the forces in Austria.

A photograph of the very attractive Rowe and May twins who competed in the Rose Bowl Final - we lost. Eileen Mansell, who has only recently retired, played regularly in earlier rounds.

North Region secretaries seem hardier than most, still in the news Jack Davidson (Linacre); what a coincidence, Norman Cooke (Bath Street), Jack Lambert (English Electric), Alec Gould and Norman Cooke, one and two for Bath Street. English Electric bought a new £40 Jacques Tournament table - they still have it!

The Mersyside Open Championships took place at the Drill Hall, Mather Ave., with the finals at the Philharmonic Hall, World Champions Victor Barna, Johnny Leach and many English champions including the Rowe twins; entrance 5/-, 3/6d, 2/6d, and 1/6d. Double rubber bats from 6/6d to ten bob. We had 16 divisions, 85 clubs and 153 teams. Billy Stamp was our secretary and Don Foulis our Chairman.

They say great minds - unfortunately I received at the last minute a few pages of 'looking back cum life story' from Les French which would be a lot more interesting, amusing and topical than my A.O.Y. in this issue - room permitting, it will be in the next issue. Come to think of it, I have another similar epic from Peter Rumjahn in the archives somewhere.

A.O.Y. is off to an interesting start.

APOLOGIES

Sefton ITeC Ltd. would like to offer apologies for printing errors in the last issue of The Digest.