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TABLE TENNIS DIGEST

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No. 4

Editorial

A magnificent season for George Smith and the Liverpool Y.M.C.A. club, league champions of Divisions 1, 2 and 3B, Readman and Hyde Cup winners and runners up in the Rumjahn. Congratulations to them and Palmerston 'B' and 'C', Divisions 3A and 4B; Maghull 'A', Division 4A; Trinity 'J' Division 5A, and Fire Service 'A', Division 5B.

After a couple of years absence the word "Fiddle" has reappeared in two aspects: (a) playing players out of order, and (b) ranking players lower than they should be and playing them for crunch matches for higher teams. A book could be written on the pros and cons of both items, but unless you have a full-time staff to check every score against every player in every game against every ranking list, plus a check on games played for teams, etc., the present rules, are, in my opinion, quite adequate, providing they are played to in the right and proper spirit.

I think we all know what the right spirit is (O.K. Betty, we know mine's a whisky) we play the game that way 99% of the time, but when the glamour of the cup or a league championship is at stake the 1% comes out and it is this 1% that makes the headlines and brings in the aggro. Another point to be questioned is where does stupidity, astute captaining, fiddling and giving a part-time player as many games as possible to suit club and player, start and finish?; where and when is that deciding point and who is to decide it? If you are on the winning side and your captain puts the reserve in place of the missing number one, your captain's strategy is brilliant, to the losers you are a right shower of fiddlers. How many different versions are there of where the reserve should go? — and that must be the mildest of the pros and cons I was talking about.

I first met a fellow named Geoff, When we clashed with their 'D' team and 'F', Then he played against me in their 'A', 'E' and 'C', And he beat me at deuce for the first and the 'B'. It was plain to us all, the committee and me, That HIS club was fiddling, don't you agree?

LOCALS ABROAD

In their final match the men's 'A' team duly polished off their nearest challengers, Nelson 'A', by 9 sets to 1, to clinch promotion to Division Three in their first season. Clive Strettle, unbeaten in 24 singles and 8 doubles sets, and Tony O'Connor, only one defeat, were the mainstays of the team, both being ever-presents.

The third place was filled by Keith Williams, Brian Davey and, for the final three matches, by Rod McPherson.

After having finished as runners-up last season, I had high hopes of the men's 1st team taking the 1st Division title for the first-ever time this season. However, due to international duties and other commitments we were only able to play our strongest trio on four occasions. One hopes that this situation can, and will, be rectified before next season! It should be noted however, that successful 1st team debuts were made by Keith Williams, Clive Strettle and Tony O'Connor. Paul Tsang played in every match and recorded some good individual results and it is nice to see a player that really enjoys his table tennis.

The ladies' team, which is much changed since the title-winning side of last season, finished a creditable third, winning five and losing

three matches.

Since their defeat in December by Manchester, the team has included at least two juniors and newcomers Marie Gaul, Julie Turner and Paula

Breithaupt have all acquitted themselves with credit.

Once again our hopes of a divisional title were reduced, due to training camps and County commitments, and major junior tournaments, which our top players had to attend. For their final junior match on March 26, our team were without Clive Strettle, on first team duty, and Tony O'Connor, playing in London.

Their places were taken by Phil Thomson and Dave Money, and along with Graeme Black, formed an all-"Electric" trio, but unfortunately

they were beaten.

Their third place position in the final league table is good under the circumstances, the championship going to Barrow for the second year

running

In closing I would like to thank, through this column, all those people who helped, throughout the season, in running all the City teams. In particular team captains Brian Leeson and Alex Gould, and also Robert Davies and Ken Black for helping at various times. I would also like to thank club secretaries of Wavertree Labour, Rafters, Y.M.C.A., and for his help, Jack Lambert, for staging so many City matches.

Of the 19 players used in Lancashire and Cheshire League matches this season, Strettle and O'Connor played 14 times for their City. McNee,

our top player, only four.

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Men's	7	4	1	2	44	26	9	3
Men's 'A'	9	9	0	0	77	13	18	1
Ladies'	8	5	0	3	55	25	10	3
Juniors'	7	5	0	2	46	24	10	3

In the National Cadet Championships (U-14) Tony O'Connor reached the final only to lose to second seed Wilson 18 and 19 after beating top seed Graham Sandley.

Tony Clayton seems to be regaining a bit of his old form, winning

the Lancashire Open.

In the Under-14's Lancashire Junior final O'Connor beat Reed (Cumbria) 9 and 14. Graeme Black and Peter Coyle lost in the doubles final.

Although Liverpool lost 6-4 to Preston in the Livingstone Trophy match it was a personal triumph for Clive Strettle, who won his three singles (beating England-ranked I. Smith) and his doubles with O'Connor.

Business Championship was won by John Marshall (Rafters) against Trevor Owens (Wavertree Labour), the pair teaming up for a doubles win.

DON DAVIES/J.A.L.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Sir,

On the face of it, it would appear that Trinity 'J', Division 5A winners, had a very good season this year, but if you look a little closer there could not have been another winner.

The season started with the Trinity Club having 5 teams in the league, and after the first half of the season everything was going according to plan, with Trinity 'J' looking as if they would win the league, with Kirkby Sports a little way behind. Sometime after the New Year it became apparent that things were not going so well for Trinity 'J' and that Kirkby Sports had forged ahead.

In the second half of the season Kirkby had to play Trinity five times. On three of those occasions the name J. Hankin was seen for the first time. He even played himself at No. 1 on one occasion, but lost one of his games and played the remaining two matches at No. 3, with the normal No. 1 at No. 4. Finally, was the coupe de grace, the cancelling until the final week of the season, a match between Trinity 'J' and another of their teams. There is only one conclusion that can be drawn from this sort of fixture jiggling. To say I felt bitter about the above events is putting it mildly. Here was a situation where a group of players had played their hearts out and put in an awful lot of practice in an effort to win the league only to be beaten by a team that, had they played according to the general acceptance of the league rules, would only have finished third.

I personally don't think there should be any great adjustment in the rules, as that would interfere with the genuine table tennis enthusiast who can only play now and again. It would be interesting to know if anybody can think of a rule that would stop such a monopoly occurring in future. Incidentally, I don't know what Eric Hardman would make of this.

NORMAN CHALONER

(Colonsay).

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LETTERS continued

16 Handfield Road.

Dear Jack,

May I, through the pages of the "Digest", express my thanks to all concerned with the running of the recent Dinner Dance to celebrate 50 years of Liverpool table tennis. The venue was most impressive and II had to look round twice to see if we were in the right place. Who were all to look round twice to see if we were in the right place. Who were all those handsome-looking blokes in smart suits escorting all the pretty ladies? On closer examination it turned out that they were the same blokes last seen on the other side of the table, old shirt and pumps on, dripping sweat and doing their best to beat the living daylights out of their opponents. A familiar face descended on us as we stood at the bar, and as he shook hands with us, Eric Caird said, "Are you old fellows still playing for Linacre?" It took us back to the days of playing at the conservatory against Rafters in Bentley Road, a place steeped in atmosphere where you were always sure of a hard, sporting game and great hospitality. It was nice to see Eric again and the A.G.M's don't seem the same without his presence. We then sat down to dinner and it was an excellent meal his presence. We then sat down to dinner and it was an excellent meal fully enjoyed by all. John McKim introduced our guests, Tom Blunn, George Yates, and our esteemed chairman, Arthur Upton, who all spoke on the achievements of the Liverpool League since its inauguration in 1926. After the speeches it was time for the dancing and all our members were soon showing everybody the value of good footwork. All too soon it was over and we were linking hands for Auld Lang Syne. It was a nostalgic occasion and an evening to be remembered. One minor criticism: I think the dinner dance should have started earlier for the meal and the speeches took out a large slice of the evening and did not leave much time for the dancing. Now, Jack, from the club's point of view I thought their response to the affair was very, very disappointing. Out of a total of 30 clubs and over 100 teams I think there were only about 6 to 8 clubs represented, along with players from Beauclair, Wavertree Labour and one or two others who I don't know, plus 100% attendance from my own club, Linacre. It was a poor show from the rest of the league and surely finance wasn't the answer, for £4 for a dinner dance today is very reasonable.

Anyway, Jack, it was a night to be remembered by those who attended it and summed up perfectly for me by Ken Jones (ex-Bohemians) who said, "A wonderful evening, full of nostalgia and that is something you cannot buy".

FRANK LACEY

(Linacre).

From the Treasurer

Dear Sir.

My thanks to all those members and clubs who helped sell the draw tickets on behalf of the E.T.T.A. This costs nothing to the league but we can benefit enormously, this time it was to the extent of £60 which I have now received from the E.T.T.A. as 50% of the gross sales. However, if every league member sold one book of tickets we would have received nearly £200 which could have meant a possible reduction of fees next year! Our Anniversary Dinner, which was a great success, did not result in any burden on our funds—in fact a small excess of revenue accrued.

DON CAMERON.

Dear Jack,

I have had cause to write to you before as Editor of the "Digest", but always on pleasant topics of table tennis news, but this time I feel I really must write about a very disturbing atmosphere that seems to be creeping into the game. I have felt on several occasions this season that in the 5th Division (other division too, possibly) that there is a certain amount of manipulation of the League Rules and some matches have not been played in a very sporting way. What has finally persuaded me to put pen to paper is the fact that I have, very much against my will, been drawn into this rule manipulation, and II wish to apologise through your pages to the club involved and assure them that I had no option and that I have withdrawn from my club committee in protest. (I am considering withdrawing from all future matches but, on the whole, this would probably increase rather than decrease rule manipulation). What do I mean by rule manipulation? Well, the classic case is reversal of team order—we've all met this one on occasions, but the occasions this year are becoming very frequent. What do we do about it? I don't know unless teams of 3 with everyone playing everyone else is the answer.

The second case only applies to large clubs with many teams. Don't rank your players accurately so that a strong team sits at the bottom of your dist (due to sudden improvements and standard not know to club secretaries perhaps?). Keep strong players as reserves (perhaps they can't play every week?) and then throw these same players in every key match. Result — Team A meets Team B 5 or 6 times a season. Impossible? Ask some 5th Division teams!

Is this the spirit we want to play table tennis in? Are points everything? Does a good, sporting match (contested in a keen but friendly manner) matter? Do we want a social evening at our matches or not? Is gamesmanship flourishing and sportsmanship dead? Is there anyone else left in the league who thinks like me that "It is not whether you won or lost but how you play the game" that matters?. And the best team should win each division by fair means only.

ANNETTE P. CROSS (Trinity).

Liverpool Closed Championships 1976

New Heys Comprehensive School again provided the venue for the Liverpool Closed Tournament between April 20th and 23rd, and with 12 tables available and with the School's excellent facilities, all events were completed without a hitch.

With two of the Liverpool team being unable to participate, Paul Tsang was the obvious choice for top seed. Wayne Percival took him to three games in Round 4, but apart from this, Paul had little trouble reaching the Final, where he beat Dave Roberts in two entertaining games. Dave's closest shave was against Peter Lee in the semi-final, just getting home 21-19 in the third.

There were a few surprise results. George Smith lost to Mike Tierney 16 and 18, then Mike lost to Tony O'Connor 18 and 13, who went on to lose to Peter Turtle in three very close games. Peter's defeat of Eric Hardman 13 and 16 in Round 4, was perhaps unexpected, but moreso was the exit in Round 3 of last year's semi-finalist, Alec Bryce, at the hands of Tom Killip 18-21, 21-15, 21-18. Another unexpected result was the defeat of Liverpool 'A' Team player, Roddy McPherson, by Paul Morgan 19 and 7. Paul went on to beat Roy Smith in three games before losing to Dave Roberts in the quarter-final.

Paul Tsang and Peter Lee had little difficulty in taking the Men's

Doubles title, although their Final against Wayne Percival and Dave Roberts was no runaway victory.

The Women's Singles title went once again to Barbara Kirkman, although she had some very uneasy moments in her Final against Julie Black when the third game seemed to be slipping away from her. Good results in this event were recorded by Ann Carline against Mrs. Janet Davies 13 and 19, and also by Paula Breithaupt against Mrs. Muriel Cox 19 and 9. In fact Paula, partnered by Julie Turner, deserves special praise for snatching the Women's Poubles title from the more seasoned and experienced pair, Mrs. Mabel Neary and Mrs. Muriel Cox. One totally unexpected result in this event was the first round defeat of the top seeded pair, Barbara Kirkman and Julie Black, by the scratch pairing of Janet Davies and Marie Gaul in three close games.

Only six girls competed in a disappointing Girls' Singles event and Julie Black retained her title. The Boy's Singles event went according to seeding until the Final, where second seed Tony O'Connor, convincingly beat top seed Clive Strettle 16 and 10.

The Restricted Singles, as usual, provided some very interesting results. Bobby Owen defeated Bill Leeming, Les French, F. Lay and D. J. Harrison before facing Graeme Black in the semi-final. Graeme managed to oust his veteran opponent in a most exciting three-setter and then had to wait to see if his final opponent was to be his sister, Julie, who had to face Phil Luxon. Ken Black was prepared to umpire a unique family final, but unfortunately Phil had other ideas and set about potting two Blacks in successful manner. Talk about Black looks!

An added incentive in the Veterans' Singles was the award of a new trophy, the Rikki Brown Shield, to the winner. George Smith, the top seed, eventually managed to ensure that his name will be the first engraved on it, although his Final against Bill Harris was not an easy victory.

We were pleased to obtain sponsorship once again this year from the Liverpool firm of sweet manufacturers, Tavener Rutledge Ltd., who provided money to buy all the prizes and also gave numerous tins of sweets, plus Kojac Lollipop Tea Towels, for the four Draws. We were pleased to have Mr. Bill Tavener with us on the platform to see the Finals.

Finally, my sincere thanks must be recorded to all those many people who helped to make this 44th Liverpool Tournament a success. Committee members, non-committee members and players, boys from the School itself and, of course, the School Caretaker, so many, as usual, made a contribution that I hesitate to name names here in case I accidentally leave anyone out.

BRIAN LEESON (Tournament Secretary and Referee).

RESULTS

Men's Singles—Final
P. TSANG beat D. Roberts 21-16, 21-19.
Men's Doubles—Final
P. TSANG/P. LEE beat W. Percival/D. Roberts 22-20, 21-18.
Women's Singles—Final
Miss B. KIRKMAN bt Miss J. Black 21-7, 14-21, 21-17.
Women's Doubles—Final
Miss P. BREITHAUPT/Miss TURNER bt Mrs. Neary/Mrs. Cox 21-18, 20-22, 21-17.
Restricted Singles—Final
P. LUXON beat G. Black 23-21, 21-15.
Junior Boys' Singles—Final
A. O'CONNOR beat C. Strettle 21-16, 21-10.
Junior Girls' Singles—Final
Miss J. BLACK beat Miss J. Turner 21-18, 21-17.
Veterans' Singles—Final
G. K. SMITH beat W. Harris 16-21, 21-10, 21-15.
Men's Consolation Singles—Final
R. McPHERSON beat J. Evans 21-12, 21-14.
Women's Consolation Singles—Final

Miss J. MONAGHAN beat Mrs. M. Cox 15-21, 21-15, 24-22.

Divisional Notes

DIVISION 1

	P	W	L	D	Pts
L'pool YMCA	24	21	1	2	199
Rafters	24	19	3	2	172
English Elec	24	15		4	150
Palmerston	24	13	-8	3	135
Trinity		11			124
Wav. Labour					124
Trinity 'A'	24	7	12		107
Eng. Elec. 'A'	24	6	10		106
Bath St. 'A'	24	7	12		100
Bath St	24	4	13		97
Rafters 'A'	24	3	15	6	87
Wav. Labour 'A'	24	5	14	-5	86
Colonsay	24	4	19	.1	73

Congratulations, for the second year running to Liverpool Y.M.C.A. on their league and Cup double. Having overcome English Electric in the semi-final, they met English Electric 'A'.Fred Pheysey (66%) won a singles and with Rod McPherson (58%) a double in Electric's 2-8 defeat. Y.M.C.A's run in to the chempionship began with three 10-0 wins. The first was against a weak Bath St. side, the second against Colonsay. Wavertree Labour followed the 10-0 defeat of Trinity by losing 3-7 to Y.M. The point winners for Wavertree Labour were Dave Roberts (56%) beating Tsang (93%) 21-17, 18-21, 21-17, and Mike Tierney (41%) beating George Smith (86%) 20-22, 21-19, 21-18 and Peter Turtle (82%) 21-17, 19-21, 22-20. The question Y.M. were now asking themselves was-could they go through the season without being beaten?

Their last game was against Rafters, Ted Mandaluff replacing George Smith. Rafters won 7-3. Tsang beat McNee (83%) and Pete Lee (81%) and Mandaluff beat Davey (43%). John Marshall (93%) and Keith Williams (85%) won all their games. Liverpool Y.M.C.A. had now played 24 games and lost only one.

For the second successive year we lose Colonsay. Their last three results (that I have) reaped in only 6 points. Tony O'Connor (53%) was their only matchwinner against Rafters, beating Keith Williams 11-21, 21-18, 21-14. It was Tony again against Trinity 'A', beating Jimmy Merrick (50%) and Bill Harris (50%), Trinity 'A' win-

ning 8-2. Fellow strugglers Wavertree Labour 'A' beat Colonsay 7-3, Brian Leeson, partnered by Barbara Kirkman, beating Fennah and Gilmour 11-21, 21-11, 21-19.

Thus Wavertree Labour 'A' and Rafters 'A' keep their Division 1 status, mainly because they fielded regular sides in the latter stages of the league programme. Of their last six games Rafters 'A' only lost one, they beat Bath St. 'A' 6-4 and had draws against Bath St., Wavertree Labour 'A', English Electric 'A' and Palmerston. Their last defeat was to Trinity 'A' on 23rd February, 1976, Alan Timewell (68%) and Don Davies (17%) beat Chris Dunning (39%) and in the doubles the same pair beat Harris and Griffiths.

Likewise, Wavertree Labour 'A' finished the season on a high note, losing only one game in their last six. They drew with Bath St. and Bath St. 'A'. English Electric 'A' were surprisingly beaten 9-1, McPherson beating Harworth for Electric's solitary point. Trinity 'A' were defeated 6-4 but Trinity ended Wavertree's run with a 9-1 win. Ted Gilmour salvaging a point with a 21-17, 22-20 win over Paul Leonard, Rafters 'A' and Wavertree Labour 'A' ended with the honours shared at 5-5. It was Fennah and Gilmour again winning the points for Wavertree.

Mike Tierney deserves a word of praise for his playing 36 games and Ken Jones (38%), of Bath St 'A', also for his 36 appearances. However, the season proved too much for Butterworth, Franco, Eddie Moran, Merrick and Dunning (twice). Two teams also turned up short—Trinity 'A' and Wavertree Labour 'A'.

You may find this article just slightly inaccurate, but this is due to me being about a dozen cards short. However, I make John Marshall and Paul Tsang joint leaders at the top of the averages with 93%. Other percentages are: Percival 81, Bryce 68, Strettle 82, Birch 91, Sill (Alec) 53, Smith (Roy) 64, Worthington 36, Butterworth 46, Walton 69, Reid 46, Ken Jones 38, John Griffiths 50, Chandler 27, Ferguson 62, Timewell 68,

Coogan 50, Franco 32, Mike Moran 33.

As for next year's honours, all I am going to say is watch Wavertree Labour and English Electric. See you all next season.

ERIC HARDMAN.

DIVISION 2

		'W	1	D	Pts
L'pool YM 'A'	26	23	2		195
Palmerston 'A'	26	21	4		190
Beauclair	26	18	.7		165
Eng. Elec. 'B'	26	17	7		164
Old Swan	26	17	8		153
Trinity B'	26	12	9	5	146
L'pool Jewish	26	14	9		144
Rafters 'B'	26	10	12		126
Police	26	9	11		125
Colonsay 'B'	26	8	14	4	108
Bath St. 'B'	26	6	16		103
Linacre	26	6	14		102
Colonsay 'A'	26	1	25	0	57
Waterloo Park	26	1	25	0	42
-					

The end of another season has brought the 2nd Division title to Y.M.C.A. 'A' by a narrow margin of five points over Palmerston 'A'. They finished on a distinct wobble, however. After beating a strong Jewish team 8-2, with Ted Mandaluff fighting hard to beat John Hodges 18-21, 22-20, 21-15, a few days later they played a much weaker Jewish side and struggled to a 6-4 win. Dave Money was in impressive form for Jewish, beating Ted Mandaluff and Jim Clewett. A few days previously Y.M.C.A. had struggled to beat Rafters 'B' 6-4, after beating them 10-0 at Christmas. In this match Bob Graves was at his best, beating Noel Fagan and Harry Johnson.

Palmerston have been gradually catching Y.M.C.A. for the second half of the season, but could not always manage to put out their strongest side and often reserves have dropped vital points. Their determination and competitiveness were illustrated in an 8-2 win against Trinity 'B', when they won all five matches going to three sets.

Old Swan, who have had many postponed matches to play at the end of the season, have had good results to push them into fifth place. They beat Trinity 'B' 7-3 with Dave Crispin beating John Higham 21-19, 25-23, but losing to Tom Killip 25-27 in the third set. A few days later they drew 5-5.

Against English Electric, John Linforth was at his best to beat George Bradley and Bill Ellard in a 6-4 win.

Beauclair have just pipped English Electric B' to third place with an 8-2 win over Bath Street 'B'. Trinity 'B' have surprisingly finished seventh of the leading group. This was probably because they have been turning out weakened teams in the later stages of the season. Colonsay B' were particularly lucky to meet a half reserve team twice, Jewish losing 4-6 on both occasions. This has helped Colonsay 'B' to avoid relegation by five points. Colonsay 'B' had two good results against Old Swan, winning the first six and then losing by the same score. Peter Coyle was brought in for Colonsay and did well, winning three out of his four singles.

Bath St. B' have been fighting hard all season to get out of the relegation spots but their hopes seem to have been finally extinguished after a crushing 9-1 defeat by English Electric B', Tony Waddington being the only winner over Bill Ellard. Police showed their improved form against English Electric B' by narrowly going down 4-6 and finishing in the middle of the table with Rafters B'. Two first division players, Peter Short and Bill Crafter, came into this Rafters side on many occasions to help take Rafters out of trouble.

Linacre have obviously missed Harry Reeve, who has gone back to sea, and their slide has continued so that they are relegated after only one season in this division. Colonsay 'A' and Waterloo Park finished with one win each as Waterloo Park reversed their earlier defeat in beating Colonsay 'A' 6-4, with P. Ross showing much improved form. Despite their lowly position I feel that Waterloo Park have earned much credit for their sustained enthusiasm and all the players' efforts to raise their game.

What mixed styles the top ten have: Loopers; Fagan and Crispin; Orthodox hitters — Crolley/Burrows; Defence attack — Hayes/ Johnson/Clewett; Defensive — Mandaluff/Evans/Hodges.

When table tennis is supposedly

becoming dominated by all-out attack, this analysis is surprising!

Top averages:—Arthur Hayes (Palmerston) 86.11; Jack Evans (Palmerston) 81.8; Ian Burrows (Palmerston) 80, *Ted Mandaluff 79.62; Harry Johnson (Y.M.C.A.) 79.54; *Brian Crolley (English Electric) 76.78; *Noel Fagan (Y.M.C.A.) 76.78; *John Hodges (Jewish) 78.57; Dave Crispin (Old Swan) 73.68; Jim Clewett (Y.M.C.A.) 72.41.

 Marks the players playing consistently at 1 and 2.

HARRY.

DIVISION 3A

D Pts PW Palmerston 'B' .. 26 23 2 207 1 26 22 ly .. 26 22 2 193 Maghull Elec. Supply Bath St. C. 3 189 26 15 2 145 L'pool YM 'C' .. 26 13 5 140 Police 'A' ... $\dots \overline{26} \overline{13}$ 4 138 .. 26 Eng. Elec. 'D' 5 121 9 12 .. 26 10 13 Beauclair 'A' 3 119 Bath St. 'D' \dots $\overline{26}$ 5 111 7 14 \dots $\tilde{2}\tilde{6}$ Trinity 'D' 9 14 3 109 2š Crawford's 6 16 98 Wav. Lab. 'C' .. 26 5 17 4 91 .. 26 Vagabonds 'A' 2 20 81 26 Cadwa 'A'

Congratulations time is here again and, as expected, the teams to mount the dias and collect the medals are champions Palmerston B', runners-up Maghull, and for consolation. Electric Supply as losing finalists in the Hyde Cup.

Even a 10-0 walkover conceded to Wavertree Labour for a match night mix-up made no difference to Palmerston's top position. With reserves coming in who were stronger than most teams' top players, there has been no doubt about the outcome since the season started. Outstanding player for Palmerston, in my opinion, was Phil Luxon who, although he played mostly at No. 3, quite often beat players more convincingly than some of his better-known contemporaries. Palmerston have been criticised for some of their tactics and deployment of reserves, but as far as I know they have not broken any rules, so perhaps the criticism should be aimed at our League watchdogs, who have the power to set matters aright when they know a team is obviously

playing below its class.

expected, Also. as Maghull gained promotion by a narrow margin and must go up to the Second Division as one of the strongest runners-up sides ever. The whisper around the old stable is that alterations to the main Clubcould see Maghull with house better playing conditions next season. This is welcome news, as the talents of Gordon Brownlee and Co. are worthy of a far better home that the present one.

Electric Supply must be one of the unluckiest sides ever. Relegated last season by one point due to a walkover, they find themselves just missing promotion this year, and Maghull may have pipped them because they gained a 10-0 walkover. Even in the Hyde Cup Supply found themselves against a combined 3A and 3B Y.M. side as Ken Roscoe played as "reserve" for the winners in the final.

We have only had two walkover matches in our Division this season. Maghull over Cadwa and Wavertree Labour over Palmerston, and the pity is that both these results have had a decisive effect on both ends of the Division, although Vagabonds and Cadwa finished in the relegation positions; this should not have happened to anybody, as their results in the latter half of the season shows they were no worse than anyone in the bottom half of our Division. Here's hoping enough teams drop out higher up to let them stay up.

I am almost sorry to say I helped to spoil the Bath St. 'C' team's record, for I stood in when they needed a reserve for the first time in a League Match. This was their last match against Y.M., and although Bath St. went down 6-4, it was enough to keep them in fourth place. This was also my introduction to another of Y.M's stars-Francis Ley-I thought I was up against the bionic man, and I was the one doing the slow motion. I have said so many nice things about Graeme Black this season that when we met at English Electric recently, he reciprocated by being kind enough to let me beat him.

Out for revenge, Cadwa claimed a game off Maguhll at 8-20 p.m.! Watch it Cadwa, who do you think you are-Bath St.?

In their final rush to the top, Palmerston B' used only eight players and lost 14 points—3 to Graeme Black, 1 to A. Johnson (Trinity) and 10 to Mr. Walkover.

Triple wins by Ernie Owens and Les Evans helped Electric Supply beat Maghull 7-3 in their last match. You switched the power on too late for promotion, Ernie.

Eleven wins in seven matches made Ken Foulkes "Top of the Pops" for Bath St. 'C' (Pop! wot's that? We only drink beer!).

Half-time: English Electric 0, Trinity 5. Full-time: 5 all. Sounds like a rehearsal for Wolves v Liverpool.

Maghull v Police: George Wright beats Ian Blore and loses to Steve Farr. You won't live that one down, Ian.

In their last five matches Crawford's won 2 (Bath St. 'C' and Cadwa), drew one (English Electric) and lost 2 (Trinity and Y.M.).

I must say it: "Eddie, these results are 'crackers'".

TED JANE.

DIVISION 3B

	P	W	L	D	Pts
L'pool YM 'B'	26	19	1	6	175
Cadwa	26	17	2	7	166
Vagabonds	26	15	4	7	153
L'pool Jew. 'A'	26	14	8	4	150
Eng. Elec. 'C'	26	16	5	5	149
Trinity 'C'	26	111	10	5	135
Rafters 'C'	26	9	13		132
Woolton	26	9	12	5	130
Bath St. E'	26	9	13	4	123
Eng. Elec. E'	26	9	13	4	118
	26	10	13	3	109
Old Swan 'A'	26	-7	15	4	109
Police 'B'	26	4	21	1	91
Wav. Lab. B'	26	2	21	В	80

Congratulations to Y.M.C.A. 'B' for winning the league by 9 sets from Cadwa, and the Hyde Cup with an emphatic 8-2 defeat of Electric Supply from that inferior Division 3B in the final. Cadwa gained promotion comfortably. Jewish 'A' conceded third place to Vagabonds when they could manage only 4 sets from Woolton in their last match, having won 9-1 earlier in the season. English Electric 'C' dropped out of the running when hammered 10-0 by

Y.M.C.A. 'B' and then 8-2 by Cadwa.

Wavertree Labour 'B' and Police 'B' leave us, although Police might be reprieved by teams higher up dropping out. As expected, Colonsay 'C' climbed clear, with Alan Guy (93%) making all the difference. Peter Covle won 10 and lost 8 in the closing matches, including wins over Alan Cameron, John Hoban, Ian Fletcher and Brian Cullen. Julie Turner had an excellent, if unexpected, win over Alan Pickering 23-21 in the third, possibly the best win of her career. Bath St. 'E' collapsed in the latter part of the season when Brian Aldred (66%) had a cartilage operation (speedy recovery, Brian) and Kevin Dyer left the city. The reserves hardly won a set between them, so the evergreen Cyril Smith (63%) was left as their main setwinner.

Old Swan 'A' had a disappointing season by needing to give their young reserves experience, but at full strength their team is as good as most in the division. Woolton went from strength to strength with Bill Hargreaves (83%) well backed up by David Williams (54%). Phill Stenson won 7 out of 10 in an inspired run, including wins over Doug Ridgeway and Eric Ferguson to boost his team's points total. Mike Elson had a good double over Jewish in the last match.

Congratulations to Julie Black for retaining her Liverpool Junior girls' title and reaching the women's singles final in the Closed.

Paula Breithaupt, in just her second season, did wonders to win the women's doubles title in partnerships with Julie Turner, losing finalist in the junior girls'. Paula is developing into a fine doubles player (it's the good partner she plays with that does it!).

We had to give way to that other lot in the restricted singles. Myself and Alan Pickering were seeded 1 and 2, but I was put out by first division player Bobby Owen in an earlier round (why wasn't he seeded, Brian?). Alan also made an early exit and it was left to Julie Black to carry our banner as far as the semi-final.

In the closing weeks of the

season there were some good individual performances. Pete McAdam (O.S. 'A') beat Wally Sill 23-21, 23-21. Phil Stenson (Woolton) beat S. Alam 9-21, 21-12, 21-11. Ro Craddock had a good double over Gerry Goldring and Warren Davies. Fred Price (Rafters) beat Ted Barnes 17, 15 C. Chislett (B.St. 'E') beat Eric Ferguson (Police), Mal Clark beat Gerry Goldring 12-21, 22-20, 25-23. Young Pete McAdam also went to three with Ted Barnes. Well done Pete.

Mike Power (Cadwa) and Bill Kelly (Rafters) had an epic battle just going to Mike 25-23, 13-21, 30-28. Briad Aldred (B.St. E') and Fred Price (Rafters) had an incredible match, Brian winning 21-23, 27-25, 23-21. How close can you get! Shahidul Alam beat yours truly 11-21, 21-19, 23-21, after being behind 14-20 in the final game.

My most enjoyable match was the cup semi-final against eventual winners Y.M.C.A. 'B', even though we lost 6-4.

The following players have impressed me with their sportsmanlike attitude combined with determination to do well for their team: John Hewitt, Mike Power, Brian Cullen, John Kelly and Mal Clark, Brian Aldred, Phil Thomson & Alan Hewitt, Pete Dobbs, Peter Coyle, Tom Purcell, Ron McEvoy and the whole of the Woolton team. From my own team, Gerry Goldring deserves a special mention.

The following players improved noticeably during the season:—Phil Thomson, Peter Coyle, Alan Hewitt, Paula Breithaupt, Bill Hargreaves, Phil Stenson, Pete McAdam and John Kelly.

In the doubles Ian Fletcher and Dave Murray proved themselves to be our strongest pairing, with chief rivals being Ted Barnes and Tommy Johnstone, from Vagabonds, and Alan Guy and Denis Brookfield, from Colonsay.

Alan Guy (93%) and John Hewitt (92%) topped the averages but only played in half of their teams' matches. Myself with 57 wins (89%) and Ted Barnes with 51 wins (91%) won most sets for their teams, with Alan Pickering and Gerry Goldring next with 44 wins.

My thanks to you all for a happy

and eventful season.

LES FRENCH.

D 104=

D W T

DIVISION 4A

P	٧V	يـلـ	D	PTS
24	22	0	2	1 9 4
24	20	2	2	193
24	19	3	2	171
24	13	7	4	141
24	12	11	1	132
24	12	10	2	120
24	9	12	3	113
24	10	11	3	112
24	7	13	4	101
24	7	13	4	96
24	7	16	1	82
24	12	22	0	56
24	2	22	0	47
	24 24 24 24 24 24 24 24 24 24 24 24	24 13 24 12 24 12 24 9 24 10 24 7 24 7 24 7 24 7 24 7	24 22 0 24 20 2 24 19 3 24 13 7 24 12 11 24 12 10 24 9 12 24 10 11 24 7 13 24 7 13 24 7 16 24 2 22	24 22 0 2 24 20 2 2 24 19 3 2 24 13 7 4 24 12 11 1 24 12 10 2 24 9 12 3 24 10 11 3 24 7 13 4 24 7 16 1 24 2 22 0

Here was a case for joint champions as Maghull 'A' and Fire Service were such evenly matched excellent teams, with our congratulations going to Andy Howarth and the Maghull boys, Eric Taylor, Stan Smethurst, who pipped Bird, Owens, Gavin, Ashley and Sherburn by a solitary point for the Championship.

Liverpool Jewish 'D' and Rafters 'B', our 3rd and 4th, were also in the horours, so our congratulations also go to Dave and Tony Cohen and Derek Dorman on winning the Forrest Cup and to the Rafters girls, Pauline Lawrenson, Jean Reynolds, Eileen Mansell and Jenny O'Keefe—whoops, sorry—Jerry.

Polytechnic were a bit top heavy with Harrison and Darlington not always available. The "power" play of Cadwa 'B' had to be seen and gave a nice mid-table position with English Electric 'F', where Betty Black treats those innocent Colin boys very harshly.

Orrell E' really disappointed with the Meyer brothers leading the way, as did Bedford House with Brady, Roberts and Sturgess, not content with going to darkest Ellesmere Port, he now goes to darkest Africa. Eingham will have something to say about that—another true blue left the fold. Let's face it, the Police and Barker & Dobson's have a tough time—but O'Sullivan, Morrisey, Ham, Travis, Catterson, Conroy and Morrissey deserve a better fate. A couple of stalwarts, Bill Davies and John McKim kept the Jewish 'C' flag

flying. The obvious weakness in all these latter teams was inability to field a regular side.

Ken hasn't set me any notes, not entirely his fault from what I hear.

JACK LAMBERT.

DIVISION 4B

	P	V۷	- 44	D	T TS
Palmerston 'C'	20	19	0	1	151
Orrell	20	16	2	2	144
St. Hugh's	20	11	4	5	124
Rafters E'	20	11	6	3	118
Eng. Elec. 'G'	20	11	5	4	117
Maghull 'B'	20	8	10	2	107
Trinity E'	20	7	12	1	80
Police 'D'	20	4	14	2	68
Cadwa 'C'	20	5	13	2	67
L'pool Jew. 'D'	20	2	16	2	63
Police E'	20	3	15	2	61

The battle for Division Champions has been finally decided in favour of Palmerston by the small margin of seven points over Orrell. A surprisingly close finish considering that Orrell twice lost to Palmerston. However, I am sure both teams will hold their own in the Third Division. I must say I have enjoyed the remarks, presumably by Pete Wilson, on the Orrell scorecards. It's a pity more teams don't adopt this idea as it can help the notes-writer a great deal, so in reply to your last card, Pete, best wishes to you also.

St. Hugh's managed to capture third place, as predicted, and may well find themselves promoted, as I understand there may be extra vacancies in the Third Division. Of the St. Hugh's players, I must mention Richard Hughes, who takes some terrible stick, friendly, I think, from his team-mates, but keeps plodding on week after week. This is the type of player I admire, one who can accept defeat cheerfully and without a great show of temperament.

Fourth and fifth spots went to the vastly-improved and highlytalented youngsters of Rafters and English Electric. I have written a great deal about both of these teams in past notes and I am glad to see that they have done so well; they will surely be challenging strongly for honours next season.

Maghull finished in a rather disappointing sixth place, mainly due to a rather poor start to the season,

or is it because their number two is past it?

Some highlights from the end of the season included a run of 3 draws in three games for English Electric, the first away to Orrell, George Cheng having the good games, Josing 22-24, 21-19, 21-19 to Pete Wilson and beating Ken Miller 16-21, 21-18, 21-19, then combining with Kevin Parker to win their doubles over Ken Miller and Dave Jones 10-21, 21-17, 21-17. The second against Rafters 'E', Clive Roberts winning both singles for Rafters and Geoff Connor beating John Kelly and "Old Len Roberts" for Electric. St. Hugh's were the third team to be held by Electric, but this time the hero for Electric was Roy Carran, with wins over Pete Begley and Richard Hughes. St. Hugh's also figured in a drawn game with Palmerston 'C', six games going to three and rather Palmerston surprisingly bother to strengthen their team for this game.

Maghull B' drew with Rafters E', the tightest game being between Clive Roberts and myself, Clive winning 13-21, 21-19, 25-23. Finally, Police E' drew with Jewish D', Anne Carline was the winner of two singles, supported by Julian Quirk and Eric Young, with one each.

Saving their teams from white-wash were P. Sawyer, Police D' 21-16, 14-21, 21-16 over Lil Wynne, Palmerston, F. Cowley, Cadwa, 21-17, 17-21, 21-15 over D. Inge, Palmerston, and finally, Cathy Gore and Anne Carline, Jewish D', 21-19, 21-19 in their doubles against Alun Williams and Pete Wilson, of Orrell. Mind you, Pete claims that he and Alun only lost because faced with two attractive young ladies, they couldn't concentrate; well, somebody may believe it.

I would like to close my final epistle by apologising to anybody that I may have neglected to mention in the last three sets of notes. There cannot be many, to be truthful I only volunteered to write the notes to be sure that I would get my name in every issue; it's the only way when you can't play very well. It has been an interesting and enjoyable season and I would like to thank everybody, team-mates

and opponents alike for having made it so.

STAN CLARKE.

DIVISION 5A

	P	w	L	D	Pts
Trinity 'J'	24	19	4	1	187
Kirkby	24	22	1	1	185
Trinity 'F'	24	16	15	3	153
Bath St. 'G'	24	16	4	4	149
Vagabonds 'B'	24	15	5	4	143
Orrell 'A'	24	12	8	i4	139
Maghull 'C'	24	12	8	4	132
Trinity 'I'	24	8	13	3	107
Trinity 'H'	24	7	14	В	88
Bohemians	24	4	16	4	86
Trinity 'G'	24	5	18	1.	81
Crawford's 'A'	24	3	19	2	70
St. Katherine's	24	0	24	0	40

By the narrowest of margins Trinity 'J' have won the division. John Tobin's lads certainly deserve credit for the way they kept going at the end, Norman Cutler, Billy Sneade, John and the division No. 2 player, John Dixon, all played their part in a tremendous team effort.

Kirkby must consider themselves unlucky, especially after the trouble over Trinity 'J'. In Mark Monaghan they had the division's top player and he received good support from his colleagues, especially young Paul Brown. Kirkby have the consolation of knowing that they did this division proud in the Stamp Cup final, only being beaten in the last set. I hope Ken Armson took notice of their performance. I think he is mistaken in suggesting that 5B is an overall stronger division. Please note, Ken, Trinity 'H' knocked Vagabonds 'C' out of the cup.

Third place went to my own team, Trinity 'F'. Top player was Dave Southworth, with an impressive first season. Solid support was given by Ian Walker and yours truly didn't do too badly.

Bath St. and Vagabonds fought out the next two places. Marie Gaul and Jean Monaghan were the mainstays of the Vagabonds team. I'm sure everyone will wish to congratulate Joan and Marie for their achievements in the European Catholic Schools' games, held in Malta. Joan came home with the gold medal and Marie took the silver. It's not often we get a European champion in the 5th Division.

Bath St. used eight regular players in their search for honours. Ann Crist had a useful season but top position in the squad went to Peter Mercer. Just to show what a generous chap I am I'll announce the score of Pete's win over Muriel Cox (Kirkby) 13-21, 21-18, 21-16. O.K. Pete, any more requests?

St. Katherine's took the wooden spoon and rather let themselves down by conceding a walk-over near the end of the season. A fighting performance from P. Bradbury earned St. Kath's 3 points from Bath St. He beat Kilbane and A. Nelson in the singles and partnered I. Stockton to win his doubles as well. For sheer consistency how about the Maghull team, Pattinson, Gibson and Gill, who never missed a match. They disappointed, however, towards the end of the season, losing badly to Kirkby, Trinity 'J', Vagabonds and Bath St., and being held 6-4 by Trinity 'G' for whom Richie Sanders won an excellent double over Wilf Gibson and Frank Pattinson, both in three. Trinity 'G' made up for a poor season by playing really well at the end. A great team effort saw them hold Bath St. to a draw, and they also had a convincing win over Crawford's. As well Sanders, Alan Wilcox, Pete Mellon and Alan Walker deserve credit for battling on.

My comments in the last issue seem to have inspired greater things from Orrell. In their last seven matches they dropped only 18 points, 9 of them to Kirkby and 5 when involved in another exciting draw with Bath St. Brian Forshaw was the Orrell hero here, winning three very close games, in fact eight games went to three in this match.

For Crawford's, A Thatcher and D. Williams kept the interest going although it has been a disappointing season for them. (Thanks for the ale lads). Derek Evans was easily Bohemians' best player, support coming from Alan Kiel and C. Reynolds. Yet another drawn match involving Bath St. catches the eye-an impressive doubles by Derek 9 and 19 over Chislett and 9 and 14 over Wright.

Trinity 'I' were a useful middleof-the-table team with John Simm and Dave Aimson winning most

matches for them. Mike Corcoran had an encouraging first season with Trinity 'H' and Paul Heffenden, as usual, played with a lot of endeavour.

To end off with, some of the top averages (30 sets or more): Mark Monaghan 96%, Dixon 91%, Billy Sneader 89%, Paul Brown 84%, Dave Southworth 78%, John Tobin 76%, Richie Cragg 75%, Norman Cutler 73%, Marie Gaul 66%... me 59%.

Well, that's the end of another journalistic masterpiece. Hope you enjoyed the season as much as I did, see you around.

MIKE GRIFFITHS.

DIVISION 5B

	P	W	\mathbf{L}	D	Pts
Fire Service 'A'	24	24	0	0	215
Bath St. 'F'	23	17	3	3	168
Wav. Lab. 'E'	. 24	15	5		155
Vagabonds 'C'	24		5		154
Nat. Giro	23		4		149
Wav. Lab. 'D'	24	11	9	4	122
Kirkby 'A'	24	10	13	1	110
L'pool Jew. E'	24	7	13	4	103
Woolton 'A'	2:4	7	15	2	
Bohemians 'C'	2:4	5	16	3	85
Bohemians 'A'	24	6	18	0	74
Trinity 'K'	. 24	3	17	4	70
Cadwa 'D'	24	3	21	0	59

NOTE.—Bath St. v Giro match was subject to a dispute and the Management Committee declared the game null and void.

Who would be a writer for the magazine? I praised Bohemians 'C' for being unchanged, only to find they had changed their team due to an injury. I decided you were entitled to as much space as Divisions 2 and 3B only to find the editor didn't share my views. So, commiserations to all those who had their names deleted as the Editor merrily slashed away at my notes.

We finished on a high note with Fire Service 'A' doing us proud by winning the Stamp Cup 6-4. The youthful exhuberance of the Kirkby supporters seemed to bother them at first, but they eventually proved there is no substitute for experience and ability. Congratulations to all their players for a fine double and a fine set of averages. I am sure they will also do well next season in the 4th.

No one was able to challenge Bath St. 'F', who romped home into 2nd place in spite of constant team changes towards the end of the season. They were involved in a couple of contentious walk-overs, one of which cost them 10 points. The moral here is very clear, if you change your match night and your club make a practice of claiming walk-overs, then make sure you carry out the proper procedure for match night changes, etc., as per the Rules.

Third place was not settled until the final match when Wavertree Labour E' met Vagabonds 'C' knowing they had to win 8-2 to take third place from Vagabonds. They put up a great fight and clinched it with the final set. Both teams were at full strength and my only disappointment was finding that in a match akin to a Cup Final, with the result possibly deciding who plays in the fourth next season, most of the players saw little of the match due to spending the evening playing darts.

Giro justified my previous comments with a storming finish, failing by only seven points to edge Wavertree Labour out of 3rd place. Had they turned their strongest team out regularly they would certainly have finished 3rd and been a definite threat to Bath St. 'F' for 2nd place.

The gap starts opening up with Wavertree Labour 'D' finishing a very respectable 6th but 27 points adrift of Giro. They turned in good results regularly and will be well satisfied with their position. Kirkby 'A' finished 7th with 110 and the Jewish 'E' were close behind with 103. Kirkby can feel well pleased with the results of their first season with the league and we should see a much better performance next season. Jewish 'E' have had to contend with a lot of team changes and their final placing reflects the efforts they made.

Woolton 'A' completed their first full season following expulsions. Although they only achieved a low position, they showed in the latter part of the season that they have benefitted from the experience. We should see much better results from them next season.

Bohemians 'C' have fared best of the Bohemians' teams and only a late injury to Brian Welsh lost them the chance of being unchanged all season. They easily beat their 'A' team's total, coupled with some good results. Bohemians 'A' just avoided being in next to bottom place and suffered from too many team changes. The promise of better things was there but nothing ever came of it. Both teams should benefit next season from the experience they have gained.

Trinity 'K' and Cadwa 'D' were left to sort out the bottom spot and Trinity easily held off the challenge from Cadwa. So Cadwa 'D' failed to live up to their promise not to finish bottom, but they are a young team and with experience and time on their side they should show an improvement next season.

A few players who have consistently done well for their teams and often shouldered the burden of main sets winners: R. Georgeson and R. Edwards (Bath St.), P. Crompton (Bohemians 'C'), G. Bethell (Cadwa), B. Hanson and T. McCoy (Giro), P. Holmes (Kirkby), T. Jones and F. Tames (Trinity), D. Davies and K. Ray (Vagabonds), M. Harris and M. O'Donnell (Wavertree Labour 'D'), J. Pownall and M. McEvoy (Wavertree Labour 'E'), C. Harper (Woolton). Not all of these will be in the

final averages, but each has made a valuable contribution to their team's efforts.

On the credit side, a 100% from P. Davis (Fire Service), a cup victory over 5A, Fire Service finishing with 215, the highest in any division, and also the only team with all wins. Some promising juniors who could well make their mark next season.

On the debit side. A team expelled. Two unnecessary incidents involving 10-0 walk-overs. Production of averages not yet possible due to Bath St. 'F', Bohemians 'A' and 'C', and Woolton, still having cards missing. Worst of all, Cadwa, never did get my towel back.

Have a good summer and keep practicing, then, who knows, the Editor permitting, you might even get a mention. Better still, take over these notes and then I might get a mention.

KEN ARMSON.

\mathbf{H}

Note from Fixture Secretary Club Secretaries are reminded that outstanding cards are still required. If you received a list and have provided scores only, please ensure cards are sent in. The Fines Book is still open.

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CUP FINALS

Finals are in order of being played—games in the matches are also in the order of being played. Unfortunately I have to be brief and factual through lack of space.

Stamp

Fire Service 'A' 6, Kirkby Sports 4, at Liverpool Jewish. Official: John O'Sullivan. Peter Davies/George Kirsopp lost to Mark Monaghan/Paul Brown 15-21, 21-23 (A good call by Mark); John Watson lost to Muriel Cox 19-21, 21-15, 16-21; Ken Jackson beat Richie Cragg 23-25, 21-19, 21-15; Davies beat Brown 21-13, 10-21, 21-17; Watson lost to Monaghan 15-21, 19-21; Kirsopp beat Cox 21-17, 18-21, 21-18; Jackson lost to Brown 18-21, 21-23; Watson/Jackson beat Cox/Cragg 18-21, 21-16, 21-18; Kirsopp beat Cragg

Hvde

Liverpool Y.M.C.A. 'B' 8, Electric Supply 2, at Bath Street, Official: Alec Gould. Alan Pickering beat Pete Carney 21-14, 23-21; John Hewitt (who hails from Dukinfield) beat Alan Biggs 21-18, 22-24, 21-10; Kenny Roscoe beat Ernie Owens 21-17, 26-24; Shalim Alam lost to Les Evans 14-21, 17-21; Hewitt/Roscoe beat Owens and Carney 21-19, 21-16; Pickering beat Evans 22-20, 21-11; Hewitt beat Owens 21-11, 21-7, 6-1 and the match was won but not over in any way. Roscoe lost to Carney 18-21, 24-26; Shalim beat Biggs 17 and 17; Alam/Pickering beat Biggs/Carney 29-27; 16-21; 21-19—what a finish. A terrific match despite the tenacity and experience of the Supply boys. Y.M. had too much flair in every way.

Forrest Rafters 'D' 1, Liverpool Jewish 'B' 9, at Crawford's. Official: Eddie Cameron. Jean Reynolds lost to Derek Dorman 17-21, 9-21; Jerry O'Keefe lost to Roy Lussey 21-12, 21-23, 22-24 (A turning point so soon?); Pauline Lawrenson lost to Dave Cohen 18 and 17; Elleen Mansell lost to Tony Cohen 8 and 15; Lawrenson lost to Dorman 21-18, 12-21, 17-21; O'Keefe lost to Dave Cohen 21-14, 16-21, 16-21. With the match going to Jewish 6-0, and who better than Dave to clinch it. Lawrenson/Reynolds lost to Lussey/Tony Cohen 10-21, 17-21; Mansell lost to Lussey 17 and 14; Reynolds lost to Tony Cohen 17-21, 21-17, 16-21; and then Mansell/O'Keefe beat Dave (Cohen/Dorman 16 and 8 amidst hilarious rejoicings from the Rafters camp. The two key games were lost by anchor man O'Keefe. If I say 9-0 I don't think any further comment is necessary.

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Rumiahn

Liverpool Y.M.C.A. 'B' 3, Palmerston 'A' 7, at English Electric. Official: Brian Leeson. Jim Clewett lost to Roy Bradbury 26-28, 19-21; Harry Johnston lost to Arthur Heys 11-21, 16-21; Noel Fagan lost to Jack Evans 16-21, 21-23; Ted Mandaluff beat Roy Bradbury 21-19, 22-20; Fagan lost to Keith Owens 22-20; 16-21, 13-21; Mandaluff beat Heyes 21-13, 22-20; Johnston lost to Evans 13, 13; Fagan/Mandaluff lost to Evans/Heyes 15-21, 21-16, 16-21 to make the score 6-2 for Palmerston. Johnston/Clewett lost to Owen/Bradbury 17, 17. The match of the night saw Clewett beat Owens 13-21, 22-20; 21-11. A good final and plenty of close games. Ron Rumjahn suggested both teams would do well in Division 1 next season—but how often will they field these strong-looking teams? often will they field these strong-looking teams?

Readman

English Electric 'A' 2, Liverpool Y.M.C.A. 8, at Wavertree Labour Phesey beat Peter Turtle 21-16, 11-21, 21-19; Rod McPherson lost to Peter Lee 9, 17 and then to George Smith 13, 15; Lynch/Alan Jones lost to Tsang/Lee 13, 16; Pheysey/McPherson beat Turtle/Smith 18-21, 21-16; Lynch/Alan Jones Let 13, 16; Pheysey/McPherson beat Turtle/Smith 18-21, 21-16; Lynch/Alan Jones Let 13, 16; Pheysey/McPherson beat Turtle/Smith 18-21, 21-16; Lynch/Alan Jones Let 13, 16; Pheysey/McPherson beat Turtle/Smith 18-21, 21-16; Lynch/Alan Jones Let 13, 16; Pheysey/McPherson beat Turtle/Smith 18-21, 21-16; Lynch/Alan Jones Let 13, 16; Pheysey/McPherson Let 14, 16; Lynch/Alan Jones Let 14, 16; Lynch/Alan lost to Turtle 21-19, 15-21, 21-8; Jones lost to Smith 14-21, 16-21; Pheysey lost to Lee 16-21, 21-17, 18-21 (a great battle); Jones lost to Tsang 14-21, 14-21. What looked an odds-on final became more with anchor man McPherson completely out of touch. A lot of people decry this type of final but it does give some of our very good players who are not at the top, a moment of glory.

To the Fire Service and Kirkby Sports teams and supporters, 98% of whom were new to Liverpool League table tennis, I can assure you that conditions and arrangements are not usually as bad as this. The secretary of the club was in hospital out of town, with her husband visiting.

I agree with you, it's nice to have a bar on these occasions.

J.A.L.

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