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The Official Magazine of USA Table Tennis

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Escalade Sports
P.O. Box 889,
Evansville, IN 47706
by Paul Montville

At the end of my first—and very hectic—few weeks in office, I would like to say "HELLO!" to everybody out there in Table Tennis Land. The warm welcome that I've received has been great, and the office staff here at headquarters has done their best to get me up to speed in a real hurry; as you can imagine, there's a LOT to learn.

With the General Bank U.S. Open in the history books, I would like to thank the sponsors, Organizing Committee and volunteers, whose generosity, tenacity and hard work made this one of the most successful Opens in recent years. Our sponsors include Brother International, Coca-Cola, Escalade Sports, General Bank, the Anaheim Hilton and Nittaku. I would particularly like to thank Dr. Jiing Wang, the Tournament Chairman, for his tireless dedication and support.

If you saw me at the Open—I was the one with the confused look—I hope you introduced yourself. If you weren't in Anaheim or if we missed each other, please feel free to contact me at any time at the office. I welcome the opportunity to learn more about our sport and about you—the members, sponsors, players and fans who make it all happen. I look forward to working together to make USA Table Tennis the very best it can be.

by Larry Hodges

At tournaments around the U.S., often someone comes up to me and starts telling me about their club. "It's got...table tennis, great lighting, and it's open...all nights a week," etc., etc. Although I'm bombarded with this, I try to be supportive and offer encouragement—obviously, they're very proud of their club. But only occasionally does something come up that really opens my eyes.

At the St. Joseph Valley Open in South Bend, Indiana, I was being told about the local program, which seemed quite good. However, I was in automatic drive until I heard the magic words: "...and Viktor Tolkachev is the full-time coach."

To me, a club without a full-time club is a club, but nothing more. We've got something like 300 of them, but the sport isn't getting bigger from it. What we need (among other things) are clubs with full-time coaches, who make a living at the sport. Why?

Because, while there is no real incentive for club members to get new members ("They'll just take up table time that I'd rather have, one might say), a full-time coach makes a living coaching. And no one can do that in the U.S. (as a free-lancer) without promoting the sport. That means finding some way of lining up 30-40 hours of coaching each week, that's a lot of students—and one heck of a core group for any table tennis club.

Players who take lessons make an investment, and are far less likely to leave the sport. So this core group becomes the nucleus of another successful club—and soon, the club is ready to hire its second full-time coach, run tournaments, and generally develop into a regional table tennis power.

So when I heard that Viktor was coaching full-time (about 30 hours a week, so far), I was quite pleased. Clubs come and go, and professional clubs (i.e., one with full-time coaches) are in it for the long haul. New players come in the door, see the professionalism (i.e., someone actually making a living at table tennis!), and the image of our sport improves come up to speed in a real hurry; as you can imagine, there's a LOT to learn.

The calend...
by Sean O'Neill
ITTF Athlete Advisory Board

An Open Note to All Juniors

At the 1992 Olympics in Barcelona I had a chance to overhear Jennifer Capriati speak to a sports medicine trainer in the training room. The encounter lasted only a few minutes but it formed a strong opinion of this young tennis phenom's maturity level. While her tennis ability would lead you to think she was a seasoned adult, her language and questions she asked made me doubt whether she was even up to tennis at all. With fifteen years to go, I concluded she was a product of modern tennis which puts all the focus on winning matches and very little on the development of the child. Reading of Capriati's recent arrest for drug use in the newspaper, I thought she was a seasoned adult, but I still felt the challenge every time we played.

Rivals help you to reach your potential in record time. For me, Scott Butler was the most instrumental in my junior development. The countless matches we played allowed me to gauge my preparation and skill on a regular basis. The benefits didn't stop with our head to head meetings; if Scott beat a top player in another event, I wanted to beat that same player. Even after we left the junior ranks I still felt the challenge every time we played. Rivals who know your game well force you to develop outside strategies and tactics to win and help you become more strategic and resourceful in the process. Staying out of junior events reduces the chance to develop a strong rivalry.

Ratings are simply a historical value of how you performed in your last tournament. Plain and simple. They don't help you beat your next opponent. They don't determine you or your parent's self-worth. Those who focus only on ratings are looking at the past and not into the future. Safeguarding your rating by not playing in your rating event or staying out of a tournament because you are out of practice will increase the problem the next time you play someone at your level. To play pressure-free you need to compete against as many different players and situations as possible. By protecting your rating you are depriving yourself of the very improvement you desire. Any junior who places more importance on ratings instead of competition will find it impossible to make the national team.

Training is probably the most misunderstood component to improving. Quantity without quality is useless. Many juniors have fallen into the trap of believing that simply playing once or twice a day will allow them to pass their competition at ease. How confused they become after losing to players who "don't train." First of all, each point in practice should be treated as if it was match point in achieving your #1 goal. I am saddened to see some our top junior players make only 50% of their practice points with any intensity. Then they wonder why they can't "turn it on" in big matches.

How many times have we heard over the years that the best players at the U.S. Open are on vacation, not on the job? After competing and watching the U.S. Open over the last 12 years, I'm sure this has never been the case. Players don't take vacations with ten thousand dollars on the line. In the day of the computer ranking system, players are not willing to throw a match away.

There have been some great moments in U.S. Open history. Everyone probably remembers 1990 (Tournament of Champions) when Jan-Ove Waldner saved six match points against fellow Swede Peter Karlsson, came back from down 19-14 in the fifth against China's Chen Zhiben, and then took the final 3-1 against Swede Mikael Appelgren. Shortly after that victory, Waldner and his $20,000 top prize needed a vacation. This guys have all obvious, they haven't practiced in similar situations.

Another aspect of training which is often overlooked is the importance of physical training. For juniors at least 20% of total training time should be spent on non-tennis fitness activities. These can be running sprints or long distances, cycling, circuit training or cross training with such sports as soccer, tennis, or basketball. Play both ends of the court! Those who develop muscular strength can be better prepared for their next opponent.

Respect your opponents but don't fear them. If you don't believe your opponent is worthy of your skill level, be ready to lose. The more experience your competitor has the more relaxed they will be regardless of the score. To play great you must play relaxed. Our sport is a game of adjustments; those able to make small modifications will reap big dividends. It's the little things that add up. Too much respect is not helpful either. Believe that if you play your best, you can win. And finally, never never, never give up! You will never feel the exhilaration of a great comeback if you throw in the towel before the match is over. Even if you don't make it the halfway, your rhythm and timing will be there for the next match, as well as fear in your opponent's eyes.

INTERNATIONAL TEAM WATCH

by Jim Butler, U.S. Men's Champion

How many times have we heard over the years that the best players at the U.S. Open are on vacation, not on the job? After competing and watching the U.S. Open over the last 12 years, I'm sure this has never been the case. Players don't take vacations with ten thousand dollars on the line. In the day of the computer ranking system, players are not willing to throw a match away.

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Respect your opponents but don't fear them. If you don't believe your opponent is worthy of your skill level, be ready to lose. The more experience your competitor has the more relaxed they will be regardless of the score. To play great you must play relaxed. Our sport is a game of adjustments; those able to make small modifications will reap big dividends. It's the little things that add up. Too much respect is not helpful either. Believe that if you play your best, you can win. And finally, never never, never give up! You will never feel the exhilaration of a great comeback if you throw in the towel before the match is over. Even if you don't make it the halfway, your rhythm and timing will be there for the next match, as well as fear in your opponent's eyes.
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Greentree Racquet Club, Pittsburgh, PA
August 20 & 21, 1994

NATIONAL ALLSTAR SERIES EVENT

***FULLY AIR CONDITIONED***

EVENT  FEE  DATE/TIME  1st  2nd  3-4  5-8  9-12
01  Open Singles   25   Sun 11:00 a.m.  500  325  225  125  50
02  Open Doubles   10ea  Sat 12:00 noon  200  100  50
03  Allstar Men    15   Sat 11:30 a.m.  400  300  200  125
04  Allstar Women  15   Sat 11:30 a.m.  175  125  60
05  Allstar Seniors Over 40  12  Sat 3:00 p.m.  200  100  50
06  Over 50        12   Sat 1:00 p.m.  75  50
07  Over 30        12   Sun 11:00 a.m.  125  80  50
08  U2500 RR      15   Sun 9:00 a.m.  150  100  50
09  U2375 RR      15   Sat 5:30 p.m.  125  80  50
10  U2250 RR      12   Sun 11:30 a.m.  100  60  30
11  U2125 RR      12   Sun 9:00 a.m.  100  60  30
12  U2000 RR      12   Sat 11:30 a.m.  80  50  30
13  U1875 RR      10   Sat 9:00 a.m.  T  T
14  U1750 RR      10   Sat 9:00 a.m.  T  T
15  U1625 RR      10   Sat 1:30 p.m.  T  T
16  U1500 RR      10   Sat 9:00 a.m.  T  T
17  U1350 RR      10   Sat 9:00 a.m.  T  T
18  U1200 RR      10   Sat 11:30 a.m.  T  T
19  U1000 RR      10   Sat 3:00 p.m.  T  T
20  U18 RR        10   Sun 11:00 a.m.  50+T  30+T
21  U16 RR        10   Sun 9:00 a.m.  40+T  20+T
22  U14 RR        10   Sun 1:00 p.m.  30+T  20+T
23  U4300 Doubles 8ea  Sat 7:30 p.m.  125  80
24  U3400 Doubles 7ea  Sat 7:30 p.m.  100  60

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Six miles from playing site

TOURNAMENT INFORMATION:
SITE: Greentree Racquet Club, Pittsburgh, PA
DIRECTORS: Dan Seemiller & Barry Rodgers
REFEREE: Bill Walk
AGES: As of August 21, 1994
ELIGIBILITY: Events #3-5 are open to U.S. Olympic Eligible Players only. All other events are open to anyone. Adult and junior players must be members of any USATT or ITTF affiliate or purchase a USATT membership.
DRESS: Solid, non-white clothing and soft soled shoes must be worn. USATT dress code will be enforced.
EQUIPMENT: 14 Stiga tables, 6 Butterfly tables, Butterfly white balls, air conditioned.
PLAY: Events 1, 3 & 4 are best of five. All others best of three except finals. RR - Round Robin
NOTE: Tournament management may modify, combine or cancel events, limit entries and assign temporary ratings for unrated players. All USATT rules will be enforced.
DEADLINE: Entry deadline is August 12, 1994. Any late entries, entries without payment or phone entries will be charged a fee of $10.00. Please send entries to SUN TV OPEN, 307 Meritt Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15227, (412) 884-5864. Make checks payable to: Sun TV Open Table Tennis.

DIRECTIONS TO TOURNAMENT:
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(Parents must sign for minor(s.).)
ITTF COUNCIL MEETING
Tianjin (Tientsin), China,
May 30 - June 2, 1994
by ITTF Vice President for North America Tim Bogdan

(Editor's note—the following is a truncated version of the official ITTF report sent to the USATT Executive Committee by Tim Bogdan.)

I selected here some topics of discussion at the recent ITTF meeting in Tianjin, China, which I think might be of more than routine interest to North American readers.

Augusta's Olympic Games Bid

I visited Augusta back in August in the course of a visit of USATT President Seeiniller and had written a six-page report on this possible venue not only for the USATT but for the ITTF. Now in Tianjin I’d again present all the disadvantages, all the advantages I could think of for such a players and officials, even though they’d be part of both the Opening and Closing Ceremonies, feel at least somewhat deprived of the traditional “Olympic experience”? And wouldn’t there be more captive spectators for our Sport in Atlanta than in Augusta? The answers to other questions, however, were less clear to me. If the venue were in Augusta, in the eyes of the members of Council, what would be behind the bid. The August Chronicle, the South’s oldest paper still in circulation, and his popular in table tennis circles and for his promotion of discussion at the recent ITTF COUNCIL MEETING in Tianjin, China, was already going all out to make this a memorable Championship. A kickoff Publicity Tour—Jinan, Nanjing, Shanghai, Fuzhou, Xiamen City—had been put on May 1, International Labour Day, in an open field in a rural area of Jinan, the capital of Shandong Province.

“People poured from the field by the nearby free markets. The prepared pamphlets and other publicity materials were all handed out just in time, and people showed their way to the front of the horizontal banner to sign their names showing their concern and support for the Championships.”

Just as “ping pong diplomacy” had made a difference, run the line, so now for everyone, from pre-school children to those in their ‘80’s, these World Championships will serve a purpose, “will promote our economic reform.” Deja vu: “Make the past serve the present and foreign things serve China”—Mao, not Deng.

It was of course obligatory that all members of Council take a hard hat, soft appreciative look at the construction going on at the 1995 World Championship Site. The five-part Sports Centre, scheduled to be completed by the end of October, was certainly impressive. In China, sharp objects were thought to be unlucky. If so, don’t worry, the Main Arena was flying saucer-shaped. Its web-styled interior was flying, swung to the cool the palate, and usually very lucky. Then the yellow taxis were all high up as if for a moment caught in a moving vase, the better for center-line lane-straddling, clogged the streets—so cleanly that no one would any more drop a cigarette on one than on an expensive carpet.

At the Astor, once frequented by the General Albert Shipley that I was expected to see a Report describing the North American table tennis scene for the year, I spent some time preparing the U.S. part of the long part—regard to anything interesting. Having myself asked for a Report and having received, as it turned out, even an even more lengthy one than my own from Adham Sharrar, Director General of the Canadian TTA, I noted not to edit it (all seemed interesting to me) and sent it on to Shipley with my own U.S. part. However, not realizing the accustomed short length of these Continental Reports, or the sometimes not too interested audience for whom they were intended, I was to see only my own part distributed to the Council. Since Adham’s part of the Report was never circulated, it was just too (inappropriate) for inclusion in the ITTF Magazine for Tuesday’s Meeting in Tianjin to explain to the Council how Canada had been “neglected” and to give a brief Oral Report on the state of Table Tennis there. This of course I did. I pointed out, of Canada’s international accomplishments this past year—three golds, and a Hawkins in the Commonwealth Championships; and a silver and a silver in the Pan Am Cup; and Men’s and Women’s Championship titles in the German Cup. I explained that Canada was having some funding problems—they’d suffered cuts from Sport Canada and, because individual tournament players were not playing in as many tournaments as usual, their prize-money income was decreased by almost 25%. On the plus side, though, I concluded, Quebec table tennis was thriving, and, though Ontario, aside from the annual CNE tournament, was struggling, it hoped soon to establish one of the CTTA’s proposed Title Games, which I’d fought for at the Executive Board Meeting in January in Tokyo. Here in Tianjin I’d begun by reading out the very lengthy in the ITTF Handbook that said discrimination of any kind was prohibited by the ITTF’s own Constitution. Then, in answer to an opposition divisionary report by ITTF Ranking Chair Andre Dammann circulated here that was considered the ITTF should further, extend this Directive to International Open Championships as well, for we needed umbrellas with “a quick reaction,” “Strong powers of concentration,” and “Great powers of recuperation,” I’d replied that, C’mon, if it was possible, is capable of playing well enough to be the defending U.S. Open 61 Champion, I was surely capable of umpiring.

President Ogimura’s first approach to my request for a rescheduling was to suggest that for the ‘96 Olympic Games in the agent-conscious U.S. a waiver of this might be given... Then, that when proved unacceptable, a waiver “would” be given... And then, that when too proved unacceptable and I asked that the question of my motion to rescind (seconded by Rudolf Harrison) be called, President Ogimura quickly, obliquely did so. With ITTF Deputy President Lounge Hamndler, ITTF Treasurer Hans Giesecke, English Association President Alan Ransome, ITTF Rules Committe President and ITTF Table Tennis Science Chair Zarko Dolinar all greatly helping me against the opposition, the final vote was 17 for rescheduling, 10 against.

North American Report

Back in Mark, it had been made clear to me by ITTF Secretary-General Albert Shipley that I was expected to write a Report describing the North American table tennis scene for the year. I spent some time preparing the U.S. part—regard for anything interesting. Having myself asked for a Report and having received, as it turned out, even an even more lengthy one than my own from Adham Sharrar, Director General of the Canadian TTA, I noted not to edit it (all seemed interesting to me) and sent it on to Shipley with my own U.S. part. However, not realizing the accustomed short length of these Continental Reports, or the sometimes not too interested audience for whom they were intended, I was to see only my own part distributed to the Council. Since Adham’s part of the Report was never circulated, it was just too (inappropriate) for inclusion in the ITTF Magazine for Tuesday’s Meeting in Tianjin to explain to the Council how Canada had been “neglected” and to give a brief Oral Report on the state of Table Tennis there. This of course I did. I pointed out, of Canada’s international accomplishments this past year—three golds, a silver, and a bronze in the Commonwealth Championships; a gold and a silver in the Pan Am Cup; and Men’s and Women’s Championship titles in the German Cup. I explained that Canada was having some funding problems—they’d suffered cuts from Sport Canada and, because individual tournament players were not playing in as many tournaments as usual, their prize-money income was decreased by almost 25%. On the plus side, though, I concluded, Quebec table tennis was thriving, and, though Ontario, aside from the annual CNE tournament, was struggling, it hoped soon to establish one of the CTTA’s proposed Title Games, which I’d fought for at the Executive Board Meeting in January in Tokyo. Here in Tianjin I’d begun by reading out the very lengthy in the ITTF Handbook.
Free! *Crazy Thoughts?*  

The Olympic Quota System for North America was passionately objected to by Max Wong who emphasized that only the countries in North America and Oceania were not given the opportunity to field the members of their teams on a team. How could this in all fairness be supported by the IOC or ITTF? Even if Greenland, who wanted to join the ITTF, would choose to become part of North America, what chance had we for Olympic places based on any geographical representation? As other continents had too many countries to find Olympic places for, we had too few. Although any accord on a generally recognized "fair" Quota System seemed unreachable to me, I could see that I myself had to do more in the future than just reasonably point out, as I did here and in Tokyo, how Nigeria, and even possibly Egypt and Cuba (both of whom had but one player ranked in the top 250 to North America's ten!), could field the maximum allowable team, while either the U.S. or Canada, both with a player in the top 50, could not even field a two man team! I also tried to support Max by inviting USATT Atlanta Olympic Games liaison Jimmy McClure's view as to how "disastrous" it would be if the U.S. (as well as Canada) didn't have a team to play on their home court—for as everybody knows, what Table Tennis needs in North America is sponsorship, visibility, I must emphasize, however, that while there can be no doubt that President Ogiurama is very conscious of North America's Olympic needs, he could not possibly overtly guarantee the "wild cards" to us, else they wouldn't be "wild cards."  

**TV Promotion**  
President Ogiurama is naturally very much troubled by the fact that Table Tennis isn't being shown much on TV, and so he hopes that everyone will help ITTF Projects Director Thunstrom achieve his Live TV Coverage goal. Alan Ransom suggested that more ITTF resources needed to be allocated to Promotion, that money ought to be budgeted to hire a professional, Not a bad idea; perhaps he could be based in the U.S.? (As far as the '95 World Team Cup goes, though it's scheduled for Aug. 9-13 in Atlanta, there's been no negotiation yet for major sponsorship.)
GLUE AGAIN
by Rufford Harrison
ITTF Equipment Committee Chairman

Elsewhere in this issue you will find an article by Tim Boggan summarizing most of the recent ITTF Council meeting. But not glue; Tim asked me to handle that one.

I hate to reopen this sticky subject, but ITTF readers have to be made aware that, during the meeting in May, the ITTF Council unanimously affirmed the Executive Committee’s ban on liquid glue, which begins on August 1, 1995. I’ll tell you why I think “liquid glue” means, along with something about alternatives and control procedures, but first let’s try to justify the Council’s action, since the matter is so controversial.

I don’t think there’s any point in going back to Manchester, 1992, when a “glue ban” was first introduced; you know about that already. So let’s start in Birmingham, England, where, during the European Championships, a new organization was formed, the Federation of International Table-Tennis Manufacturers, a.k.a. FIT; this includes all major ITTF suppliers from Europe, Japan, China and possibly elsewhere. One of FIT’s first actions was to invite the ITTF’s Equipment Committee, which I chair, to hold a discussion with the glue manufacturers. (You know, I supposed that the well-known equipment suppliers don’t make their glues; they buy them from established glue manufacturers.) I asked two of our Committee members to work on this with FIT, and the meeting was held in Luxembourg, by chance while the Council meeting was going on in Tianjin. The meeting, which included four representatives of the glue companies and four from FIT, reached several conclusions:

1. All organic solvents are toxic, some of course more than others, and some are highly flammable. (Because of this flammability, some players had to surrender their glue at Gothenburg and many of you have discounted the hazard: it is its repeated use, several times a day. In short, a “liquid glue” is one that evaporates. We shall have achieved our objective, and the matter is so controversial.

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

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

4. No glue containing organic solvents, authorized or otherwise, should be sold to young players, who should not use them without adult supervision.

5. No tournament should have a glue category. A glue ban does not remove a hazard; it concentrates it.

Some of this you have heard before, and many of you have discounted it as the mouthing of a group of toxicological Cassandras. But please keep in mind that all of this comes directly from the glue and equipment manufacturers. Here they are, those who stand to gain by selling you glue, telling you that it is a noxious material. Before I give you my own comments, here’s another one from a person very much interested in selling glue, namely the president of the Tamasu Company (Butterfly):

“Regluing damages the image of table tennis. The problem started with regluing.

If players stop regluing, the problem disappears. The ITTF ought to take strong leadership in this direction.”

Yes, we know that Surbek is pushing 50 and he’s very much alive. So are millions of smokers; cancer seldom gets them at that early age, yet there is no doubt that all that smoking shortens the life of most who indulge in it. That isn’t the only example. The literature of toxicology includes many examples of substances that cause death, years, even decades, after the exposure.

This effect is compounded by the young age of many of our regluers. In order to eliminate some procedural complications, toxicity studies are almost invariably limited to adult men. They select those with women, and virtually never use juniors. Yet there is a strong presumption that the time at which we are most susceptible to toxic substances is the age of puberty.

And so we have the very people whose livelihood would benefit from selling these adhesives telling us that we probably shouldn’t use them. Perhaps we’d better listen.

But even if we accept the fact that some solvents are toxic, why is the ITTF banning them all? Several reasons. First, the image: solvents are gradually being eliminated from paints, inks, etc., by government decree; it’s only time before glues will follow. Meanwhile it doesn’t look good for players, and especially young ones, to be using something with a notorious aura, which includes glues, cleaners and anything else containing organic solvents. Second, even those solvents with lower toxicity may be in the long run very hazardous when used repeatedly by juniors. Third, there is the matter of practicality. We can test for the banned solvents, as we did in Gothenburg. But at about $3 per Draeger tube, and at least three tubes per test, random testing at a tournament would cost at least $200 per day, in addition to the cost of the equipment.

But we are developing a device that should cost only $150 and will require no additional cost except for a battery to run it; its problem—or advantage—is that it detects all solvents. Banning them all permits us to use this cheap device as our control method.

Does this mean that you may never use liquid glue after July of next year? No, it doesn’t. It does mean that you may not use liquid glue today if you want to play in today’s tournament, since our random testing may catch you. But if you glued the racket last week, there should be no solvent left for us to find today; it will have evaporated. We shall have achieved our objective, and Mr. Tamasu’s, of eliminating the hazardous practice of regluing.

The occasional use of a volatile glue, like your use of it last week, isn’t the source of the hazard; it is its repeated use, several times a day. In short, “a liquid glue” is one that is still liquid, or wet at the time of play; if it was once liquid, but is now dry, it is of no concern to the ITTF. The English TTA has banned liquid glues for a year now, and reports that the ban has worked well.

But a ban like this will slow the game, and most players won’t like that, perhaps including you. What is the alternative? There are several.

There is of course PSA, pressure-sensitive adhesive like that on Scotch tape. It seems to be faster than ordinary glue, but it certainly isn’t as good as speed glue, though I have no doubt at all that, by August 1995, newer types will be faster. There’s the possibility of an iron-on type. A stick like a roll-on deodorant is under consideration. Most promising, however, is an aqueous (water-based) glue: the glue people say their prototypes are fast, and retain their accelerating effect for several days.

So there’s every hope and expectation that, come August 1, 1995, you’ll have a product that eliminates regluing, eliminates any possible toxicity, and retains the speed and spin of the sport. That’s our objective.

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Table Tennis Today

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The Saint Joseph Valley tournament crew once again showed that it doesn’t take decades of experience to run a great tournament, just hard work, efficiency, and determination. 263 entries and 50 tables highlighted what is fast becoming one of the most popular tournaments. This included many local players from the South Bend Table Tennis Club, with its new full-time coach, Viktor Tolkachev, formerly from Latvia, and a finalist in the 2300’s. (You have to see the “waiter” table tennis TV commercial that Viktor thought up and directed—a description here wouldn’t do it justice.)

The powers that be did put a small dent on the tournament, as outside forces scheduled and sanctioned a long time previously, but somehow the message didn’t get to Montreal until it was too late for the date to be changed, and so a number of the best players from the U.S. were missing. These included Cheng Yinghua, Jim Butler, Sean O’Neill, John Onifade, Amy Feng, Lily Yip, and Wei Yinghua. Despite having a great forehand smash, David is usually more a blocker than a hitter—but I’ve never seen him smash as much as he did this tournament.

In the second game, David goes up 12-16, when Dan (of the Seemiller grip, which is named after him) suddenly backhand loops a winner against a surprised and temporarily frozen David. At the time, Dan hadn’t loooped a ball in 15 points, and although he was countering well, David’s blocking and hitting were gradually putting him in the lead. Finally, at 18-15, Dan suddenly tries to loop every ball, running all over the court—but David blocks them all back, and finally blocks a clean winner. Second game to David Zhuang, 21-15.

The third was more of the same as David took an 11-4 lead and then held it the rest of the way to win the match, 7, 15 & 13.

Kayode, from Lyckby, Sweden, was visiting friends Jim Butler & Derek May in August, and drove up with the Augusta crew for the tournament. (He’d be flying back to Sweden soon, and so this would be his only U.S. tournament.) He played your basic Swedish topspin game, with a fantastic backhand smash to go with his backhand loop.

Also in this tournament I witnessed what may well be the shot of the century—and I don’t even know who the player was who made this shot! This player smashed a ball so that it hit the net post against the nob that tightens the Stiga net. The ball bounced all the way across the table, and hit the top of the other net post! It bounced back about 3/4 of the way across the table, rolled along the top of the net for a foot or so, then dropped over on the other side. It hit the net clamp on the far side, and rolled off it onto the table for a winner! (“That guy’s tricky,” said USATT Vice President Jimmy McClure upon hearing of the shot.)

National Allstar Men

No one in the event (which is restricted to Olympic or ITTF eligible players) got a game against David Zhuang, whose pips-out hitting出了 never ceased. In the quarterfinals, David had his closest match, 19,18 & 12, against Jason St. George. (In the previous round, he’d won at 8, 7 & 6 against a 2136-rated player.) In the semifinals, he faced Barney J. Reed, who’d taken out rivals Sean Lonergan in the 8ths (deuce in the fifth) and Brian Pace in the quarters (15, 11, 12). But David was too much for Swedish/Oklahoma/Pennsylvania-trained Barney, who went down at 13, 9 & 13. (How many pips-out penholders are there in Sweden, Oklahoma or Pennsylvania—excluding sister Kristey Reed?) In the other semi-final, Dan Seemiller (who’d won out in a battle with local favorite Clark Yeh in the previous round, 16, 11, 14, 17) won out in another battle with Gbenga Ogundimu.

From top left: Open Champion Kayode Kadiri of Sweden; Open Runner-up, Open Doubles Champion & Men's Allstar Champion David Zhuang; and Semi-finalists Jack Huang & Huazhang Xu. Only Huang was able to get a game from the powerful Swede.

In the second, Xu goes up 10-1, and wins at 12. In the third, despite Hyatt’s acrobatics (he should be a circus acrobat!), Xu wins 21-16, and the match, 23, 12, 16.

David Zhuang vs. Stephen Hyllon

David blitzes in the first game, smashing everything, as he wins it 21-8. In the

Open Singles

“Is this supposed to be fun, this is table tennis. Right now, I’m not having fun and I’m not playing table tennis.” So lamented U.S. team member Derek May between games as he went down in the 8ths to Jamaican team member Michael Hyatt, who now lives and works in Atlanta. (Will he be there in 1996? Will Derek?) Except for Gbenga Ogundimu’s 5-game win over Brian Pace, all the matches in the 8ths were either 3-0 or 3-1.

Quarterfinals: Kayode Kadiri vs Gbenga Ogundimu

Many of us got our first look at Kayode in the quarters against Gbenga Ogundimu. Gbenga, who at one time had posted wins over most of the U.S. team, was way out of shape, and except for the second game, was not really in this match. From 7-all in the first, Kayode won 21-9. In the second, Gbenga pulled to 13-10, but Kayode tied it up at 15-all. Gbenga goes up 18-16, but only scores one more point that game against the serve & following Kayode (who’s serves may be as good as U.S. Champion Jim Butler, who most consider to have the best serves in the U.S.). In the third, Kayode pulls away and holds his lead to win the match at 9, 19, 16.

Huazhang Xu vs. Michael Hyatt

Poor Xu was supposed to fly in on Saturday morning. However, he over-slept, and missed his flight. Worst, he discovered that his flight was actually scheduled for Friday, not Saturday! But he managed to fly in on standby.

This is one of the toughest matches for Xu, as Hyatt’s topspin defense pushes 130-pound Xu’s power to the limit. But Xu rarely seems to miss, and can throw everything he has into his loops. Hyatt has several ads in the first game, and plays an incredible lobbing point from up 20-19 game point before Xu wins the point to deuce it, 20-11. Xu goes on to win the game, 25-23, with almost every point the same—Xu looping over and over, Hyatt topspinning everything back from all over the court. Redundant, but spectacular!

In the second, Xu goes up 10-1, and wins at 12. In the third, despite Hyatt’s acrobatics (he should be a circus acrobat!), Xu wins 21-16, and the match, 23, 12, 16.

Table Tennis Today
second, David led most of the way, but
Stephen gradually came back—and al-
most catches up before being blocked
down, 21-18.

In the third, David again led most of
the way—and then, right at the same
time as Jack Huang is fighting off match points
against Dan Seemiller two tables down
as Jack Huang is fighting off match points
the way—and then, right at the same

time, so Jack is serving from up (and
so missed it), Stephen catches
up only to lose 21-19, and the match, 8,
18, 19. However, Stephen would go on to
win the 2500's over Clark Yeh.

In the first, David's on his way
to victory with a 16-13 lead, but Jack ties
it up at 17-all, then 19-all. Dan served and
looped off the end, but then Jack pushed
into the net, 20-all. Dan then plays one of
the best points of the match, looping six in
a row, then (out of position) choping
one, blocking another, then loops three
more in a row before finally looping a
winner to go up 21-20 match point.

In the next point, Dan pushes a ball
with the antispin side of the racket, and
Jack either misreads it or is caught off
guard as he pushes the ball—straight up,
a head-high hanger, close to the net. But
Dan, caught off guard (how often does a
maniac, looping winners against every-
thing—but David is blocking them all
back, and smashing winner after winner
(many of which Xu loops right back at
him from the barriers). But again David is
too strong as he gradually pulls away to
and a few shots later Jack has deuced it.

Dan has two more match points this
game (22-21 and 23-22), but Jack deuces
it both times. Finally, at 23-all, Jack
makes a leaping topspin return, and Dan
misses a relatively easy loop kill to give
Jack the ad. Jack promptly ends the game
by loop-killing Dan's serve to force a fifth
game.

In the fifth, Dan again takes the lead,
going up 7-3, 9-6, and 16-14 (at 15-14,
Jack loops, and Dan pulls off a double-
bouncing touch block that Jack can't even
touch). But Dan only scores one point on
his serve, and so Jack is serving from up
18-17. Up 19-18, Jack serve and loops,
and Dan blocks off the end with the antispin
side of his racket to go down 20-18 match
point.

"I worked too hard for this match!" Dan
exclaims between points, but to no
avail as he flips Jack's serve off the end.
Match to a much-relieved Jack Huang,
-14, 16, -16, 23, 18.

Semifinals:

Huazhang Xu vs. David Zhuang

David comes out fast this match, kill-
ing everything as he takes a 9-2 lead in
the first, 8 of his points on smashes. Xu pulls
to 9-11, but David pulls away to win 21-
17.

In the second, Xu is looping every-
thing—but David is blocking them all
back, and smashing winner after winner
(many of which Xu loops right back at
him from the barriers). But again David is
too strong as he gradually pulls away to
win 21-16.

In the third, Xu starts to play like a
maniac, looping winners against every-
thing to lead 9-4. (Can anyone match Xu
and Michael Hyatt when it comes to
topspinning from all over the court?) But
then Xu loses his concentration (or some-

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July/August 1994
Kayode Kadiri vs. David Zhuang

The scores don't really show what happened—Jack missed Kayode's serve over and over, practically spotting half the game (about 50% outright). (Jack can't just return the serve—he has to return it in a way to stop Kayode from getting any easy winner, no easy task.) Kayode, however, is now returning Jack's serve better and better, and Jack's not getting as many balls to loop. Worst for Jack, Kayode's starting to anticipate Jack's down-the-line ripping forehand loop from the backhand corner—and when Kayode blocks it back (to Jack's wide forehand, using Jack's own speed against him), Jack rarely even touches the ball. Kayode's also beginning to smash backhand winners against Jack's quick blocks. Kayode goes up 14-4 in winning 21-11. Kayode established his backhand kill this game, and over and over the rest of the match he smashed backhand winners down the line to Jack's wide forehand. After the tournament was over, Kayode told me that after this game he became confident that he would win the tournament.

In the third, the two play even most of the way—Jack still wearing Kayode down with his forehand loops and moving the Swede around with quick blocks—but Kayode's serves are just too much—how can Jack win if he misses Kayode's serve 10 times each game? Jack keeps it close, but Kayode scores three in a row from up 18-16 to win the game and go up 2-1 in the match.

The fourth is a repeat of the second, as once again Kayode pulls away, taking an 11-3 lead in winning 21-14. It seems that Jack can play close to Kayode half the time— despite constant struggles with Kayode's serve. The other half of the time, Kayode's just too good, and wins going away. Match to Kayode, -15, 11, 16, 14.

Final Kayode Kadiri vs. David Zhuang

Once again the odds seem to be running about 4-1 in favor of the Swede in this match. According to Jack Huang, David has a chance because he has a very good return of serve. In addition, how often does Kayode get to play pips-out penholders in Sweden? On the other hand, the audience had just seen Kayode against Jack Huang in the semis—and he looked pretty strong.

From up 8-7 in the second, Kayode runs away with the game, dominating the rallies with his forehand loops and backhand loops & smashes. First game to Kayode, 21-13.

In the second, Kayode goes up 9-6, then David goes up 14-11. Kayode ties it up 15-all, but David leads 19-17 on Kayode's serve—and Kayode pulls out some big ones, scoring four in a row to win 21-19. A disguised David races back and forth—instead of 1-1, he's down 2-0. In the third, they play dead even to 10-all. But Kayode's backhand loops and smashes start taking a toll as he begins to pull away, 16-13. Kayode serves from up 19-16, and goes up 20-16. David scores the next two, but Kayode finally ends it, and wins the hard-fought match, 13, 19, 18.

Women's Singles & National Allstar Women

The draws for these two events were disappointing small, and in both events, it was Virginia Sung versus Jane Chui in the finals.

In both matches, Jane played what seemed a very smart, roll, roll, push, roll, smash’ game against champion Virginia. In the Allstar Women, Jane won the first game, 21-17, as Virginia seemed undecided about whether to outlast Jane or to attack Jane's soft topspins. In the second, Virginia becomes more decisive, and both chops and attacks very steadily in winning 21-16. By the third game, Virginia's attacking more and more, and she's got Jane's attack under control. Match to Virginia, -17, 16, 13.

The final of the Women's singles was more of the same, with Virginia winning 2-0. Jane wasn't able to establish a winning smash in either match, and too often fell into predictable pattern play. Virginia, whose rating can fluctuate from 2100 to 2400 eyes, achieved that rating a few months ago—for a few weeks... seems to be learning more and more how to win.

Other Events

In both the Over 40’s and the National Allstar Seniors, it was Dan Seeleider versus Dave Sakai (another “Dan vs. Dave”?), with Dave taking out 2300 winner Parviz Mojaverian in both semifinals, and Dan taking out Lim Ming Chui in both of his semifinals. In the Allstars, Dan won, as expected, at 16, 14. In the over 40's, a tired Seeleider defaulted to the victorious Dave Sakai.

USAIT President Dan had reason to be tired—he was in four finals (not to mention his five-game battle with Jack Huang in the Open). Besides the two senior events and the National Allstar Men, he also teamed up with David Zhuang to win open doubles over Jamaican's Michael Hyatt and Stephen Hylton, at 9 & 9. The surprise of the doubles event, of course, was Barret Reed & Dave Fernandez quarterfinal 14 & 10 win over top seeds Jack Huang & Huazhang Xu. (At the Hall of Fame Open a few months ago, Reed & Fernandez had upset Jim Butler & Brian Masters). However, they went down in the semis to Hyatt & Hylton, at 15 & 14, while Seeleider & Zhuang took down Kayode & Derek May at 11 & 8 in the other semis.

The playing hall—the Notre Dame Joyce Athletic Convocation Center.

Former Nigerian Team Member Gbenga Ogundimu, Men's Allstar Semifinalist, Open Singles Quarterfinalist.
In the Junior events, it was David Fernandez over Norman Yeh in the under 18’s at 14 & 10, while Sunny Li won the under 14’s in a 16, -16, 19 battle with Mimi Bosika. In the regional junior championships, the winners (who qualify for a training camp at the Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs) were Norman Yeh (U18 boys), Greg Kaganovich (U16 boys), Nate Troyer (U14 boys), Mark Hazinski (U12 boys), Carrie Thayer (U14 girls) and Ditius Hayley (U12 girls). The under 18 & under 16 regional girls events were both canceled, with one entry in each (Kara Schmucker & J.J. Welling, respectively).

The tournament was sponsored by Escalade sports (Stiga), as well as the South Bend Recreation Department, the Nappanee TTC, and the Michigan City YMCA TTC (which donated a number of tables). Also supporting the tournament were 10 junior players (all under 12) from the Walt Disney TTC in Mishawaka, Indiana.


**National Allstar Men** - Final: David Zhuang d. Dan Seemiller, 7,15,13; SF: Zhuang d. Barney J. Reed, 15,13,14; Seemiller/Gheng Ongudimini, 21,14,24,13; QF: Zhuang d. Jason St. George, 19,18,12; Reed d. Brian Pace, 15,11,12; Ongudimini d. Derek May, 16,19,8; Seemiller/Clark Iloh, 15,21.


**National Allstar Seniors** - Final: Dan Seemiller d. Dave Sakai, 16,17; SF: Seemiller d. Lim Ming Chui, 11,14; Sakai d. Parviz Mojaverian, 19,18.

**Over 40** - Final: Dave Sakai d. Dan Seemiller, def.; SF: Seemiller d. Lim Ming Chui, 16,10; Sakai d. Parviz Mojaverian, 16,18,15; SF: Seemiller d. Lim Ming Chui, 11,14; Sakai d. Parviz Mojaverian, 19,18.

**Over 50** - Final: Paul Lamsd d. Houshang Bozorgzadeh, 18,17; SF: Lamsd d. Larry Su, 5,15; Bozorgzadeh d. Primo Madri gal, 17,8,8.

**Over 60** - Final: Ercel Kerner d. Paul George, 10,8; SF: Kerner d. Vern Morehead, 12,15; George d. Joe Baltrus, 16,18.


**U2300** - Final: Parviz Mojaverian d. Viktor Tolkachev, 10,12; SF: Mojaverian d. Ramin Samari, -12,12,19; Tolkachev d. Viktor Ongudimini, def.

| U1400 | J. Booth, Jr. d. Lawrence Wang, 6,20,11; SF: Booth d. Robert Brown, 18,19; Wang d. Shuan Fitzgerald, 15,16 |
| U1200 | Tomoko Suyuara d. Ashkay Registran, -18,16,17; SF: Suyuara d. Janine Greb, n.s.; Registran d. Nate Troyer, 16,16 |
| U1000 | Mike Bacon d. David Brocker, -17,14,21; SF: Bacon d. Eileen Zanto, 18,16; Brocker d. Brett Compton, -18,21,18 |

| Under 18 | Final: Dave Fernandez d. Norman Yeh, 14,10, SF: Fernandez d. Daniel Kim, 11,18,19; Yeh d. Barney J. Reed, def. |
| Regional Under 12 Boys** - Final: Mark Hazinski d. Brian Koziatek, 18,13, SF: Hazinski d. Brett Compton, 20,17,20; Koziatek d. Jamie Bell, 18,15 |
| Regional Under 12 Girls** - 1st Dittus Hayley; 2nd Simona Subonj; 3rd Dorela Subonj; 4th Nicole Balmer |

| Under 18 Boys** - 1st Nate Troyer; 2nd Gerald Demos IIF; 3rd E. Jamal Hall |
| Regional Under 14 Girls** - Carrie Thayer d. Erica Schmucker, 14,16,9 |

| Table Tennis Today '95 |
INTERVIEW WITH BARNEY J. REED
U.S. #1 Ranked Player Under 18
by Larry Hodges
June 14, 1994

TTT: How did you get started, and how old were you?
Barney: I was three. My dad started me
with a ball on a string. He had me hit for
about 5 minutes a day. I was hitting
forehands in a row when I was four—on
a table with the legs cut off, so it was only
a foot and a half or so off the ground.

TTT: I stayed at your house once back
then for a week. You were there at the
time, and we hit a lot of forehands to
gether. I was on my knees to get to a table
level. Thanks for the knee scrapes!
Barney: No problem! It's very important
when you are young to develop these
good techniques early. It takes a lot of
skill and determination for a player to
change his techniques later on—Sean
Lonergan (who is currently looking for a
sponsor!), changed his whole game when
he was sixteen, is the only exception I can
think of.

TTT: This past year, where have you
been training?
Barney: I have been training mostly in
Bartlesville, Oklahoma.

TTT: Who did you train with?

TTT: How much and what type of train-
ing did you do?
Barney: We trained twice a day, two and
a half hours in the morning, then we'd
take a break for lunch and do schoolwork.
We'd do another training session that
afternoon, for three hours. That included
an hour of serve practice, and an hour with
a Newgy robot.

TTT: Do you have a coach?
Barney: My dad, Barney D. Reed, is both
Speedy's and my coach. He has been my
only coach my whole life.

TTT: What type of physical training do
you do?
Barney: Running every other day.
Push-ups and sit-ups. Jumping over barri-
ers—I set up 8 in a row, and jump over
them one at a time, walk back, and jump
over them all again.

TTT: What type of techniques are you
working on these days?
Barney: I'm not really working on tech-
niques any more. My father has already
built in the techniques when I was younger.
Now all I have to do is make my shots
stronger and more consistent. I think it is
very important that one learns techniques
at a younger age, and then build from
there.

TTT: Tells us about your trips to Sweden
over the years.
Barney: I think that it is very important
for any junior who is trying to make it in
table tennis to have international experi-
ence. I feel that I gained and learned a lot
from the international experience.

TTT: How is Swedish table tennis differ-
ent from U.S. table tennis?
Barney: The level of play is much higher.
They have alot more junior players at the
tournaments.

TTT: Tell us about "Home School."
Barney: Speedy and I switched over to
home school in January. The company
sends us the books and materials, which
have guidelines, such as how many pages
should be done each day. We send the
tests in, and they grade it and send it back.

TTT: What equipment do you use?
Barney: I use the Donic Persson rubber.

TTT: What do you think the USATT
did to help support juniors?
Barney: They should give the top juniors
the opportunity to compete overseas in
international competition. They should
give more financial support to the up and
coming juniors because they are the fu-
ture. And how come they have a senior
allstar series, but no junior allstar series?

Sports Hall of Fame athlete is a father of four and
grandfather of three. Marcytrains at the Burke
RehabilitationCenter in White Plains, New York
with wheelchair bound
table tennis ath-
etes. He has re-
cently been invited
by the U.S. Olympic Committee to par-
ticipate in an Olympic Festival to be held in St.
Louis in July this year. Jackie DiLorenzo, fellow Westchesterie
and a Paralympian like Marcy, will rep-
resent the United States in Atlanta dur-
ing the 1996 Paralympic Games, and
will speak in Marcy's honor at the in-
duction ceremony.

The media, daily and weekly print
organs, as well as Yonkers Cablevision
usually cover this prestigious annual event.

Politicians and other dignitaries, friends
and relatives of Marcy Monasterial will
attend the ceremony.

Marcy Monasterial Elected to
Yonkers Sports Hall of Fame

Marcy Monasterial, Editor of the
American Wheelchair Table Tennis As-
sociation (AWTTA) Newsletter, and
the nation's top-ranked table tennis player
over the age of 70 in both able-bodied
and disabled, will be inducted as the newest
member of the Yonkers Sports Hall of
Fame at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, May
21st, 1994, in a ceremony at the Yonkers
Department of Parks, Recreation, and
Conservation building on Nepperhan Avenue.

Ranked number one by the
National Handicapped Sports (NHS) in table
tennis, Marcy is also ranked nationally by the
USA Table Tennis (USATT). Marcy was
also ranked number two in the world
sometime in Class 10 (amputee below
the elbow) and is presently the most domi-
nant amputee table tennis player in the
United States today, and is still a player to
be reckoned with even among able-bod-
ed competitors.

Marcy has competed all over the
world in no fewer than 22 countries, in-
cluding the 1984 Paralympic Games in
Uniondale, New York, where he won
silver and bronze medals; the 1988
Paralympic Games in Seoul, Korea, where
he twice defeated the eventual men's
central singles gold medalist in round robin
competition and reached the quarterfinals; the
1987 Handicapped World Games in Paris,
France, where he won a silver medal; and
the 1992 Paralympic Games in Barcelona,
Spain, where he won a bronze medal in
Team Table Tennis.

Marcy's table tennis career and tour-
nament competitions spanned seven de-
cades. Last July 1993, in Laguna Hills,
Calif., Monasterial won the over-70 U.S.
National Table Tennis Championships for
both able-bodied and disabled. In April
this year, Marcy won the Ossining Invita-
tional Table Tennis Tournament for
the fifth consecutive time, bringing his tour-
ament wins to more than 600. He was the
U.S. Amputee Athletic Association Ath-
ete of the year in 1986-89.

Monasterial took undergraduate
courses at Indiana University in 1945-46,
then proceeded to Columbia University,
where he obtained a Bachelor of Science
Degree in Journalism in 1951, and a
Master's Degree in Sociology as well as a
Master of Library Science Degree, the
following year.

Marcy Monasterial worked for 36
years at the United Nations as a Social
Affairs Officer and Librarian before re-
tiring in 1983. The following year, he
came aboard as a member of the editorial
staff at the InterDok Publishing Cor-
poration in Harrison, New York. The

Table Tennis Today
The third time was the charm for Anderson College's Greg Riley as he won the U.S. Collegiate Men's Championship held at Anderson College, home of the Trojan's Table Tennis Team.

In defeating Penn State's Srinivasan Ramanathan, 13,17, Riley became the third consecutive Trojan to win the title. AC's Nigel Christopher won the title last year, and Michael Hyatt started the run in 1992. "The match was hard," said Riley. "I thought it would come down to myself and teammate Nigel Christopher. I was more worried about my semifinal match than the finals." Christopher went on to finish third by defeating Sohail Khan of Augusta College, 9,17, in the consolation match.

Riley, who is also a four-time Barbados National Champion, will compete in the Caribbean Championships in July; and anticipates playing in the 1996 Olympic Games in Atlanta.

In the women's final, Jane Chui of the University of Massachusetts at Amherst defeated Linjing Xu of Kansas State, 10,16. "I am happy to have won. I have been playing for many years and this is my first collegiate title," she said. "I have met a lot of people and the whole tournament was nice."

To reach the final, Xu pulled a major upset, defeating the 1992 champion, Magali Montes of Augusta College. Montes went on to take third place by defeating Yuki Taylor of Santa Monica College, 17,13. Taylor then teamed with Kyoko Begami of Utah State to capture the women's doubles championship. In men's doubles, Ralf Schlosser of Purdue University teamed with Karimal Karimanal of the University of California to take the title.

Christian Lilleroos of the University of Central Oklahoma teamed with Linjing Xu to defeat the team of Jane Chui and Ralf Schlosser 16,15 to take the mixed doubles title. Over the years, Christian has proved to be quite a doubles specialist. Along with the mixed doubles title here, Christian won the collegiate men's doubles in 1989, 1990 and 1991.

As always, the tournament was filled with fun and plenty of exciting matches. We here at Anderson College would like to congratulate all of the winners and all those who participated. We would also like to thank all the volunteers, and the Event and Management Class that managed the event. Men's Singles: 1st: Grey Riley; 2nd: Srinivasan Ramanathan; 3rd: Nigel Christopher; 4th: Sohail Khan.
Women's Singles: 1st: Jane Chui; 2nd: Linjing Xu; 3rd: Magali Montes.

Tournament Directors Note:

This was the third and final year of Anderson College's contract with the Association of College Unions International to hold this event. I would like to express my personal gratitude to all those that have participated in making these events so successful.

Rubber Used at the 42nd World Table Tennis Championships
Gothenburg Sweden - May 1993

- 53% Butterfly
- 18% Sriver
- 9% Brand B
- 9% Brand C
- 3% Brand D
- 9% Others

Zoran Primorac
World Cup Champion
U.S. Open Champion
Sriver Player

Rubber Used at the 42nd World Table Tennis Championships
Gothenburg Sweden - May 1993

Men's Runner-up Srinivasan Ramanathan and Champion Greg Riley.

Women's runner-up Linjing Xu, Champion Jane Chui, and ACUI Representative Matt Dinnan.
MEET THE SOURINTHONES AT THE HALL OF FAME
by Larry White

They are called the “Tigers,” these four Sourinthone brothers, and play like tigers they did at the 1994 Hall of Fame Open in Augusta, Georgia. Bottom line results? You bet.

Nui (age 8) won the Under Age 12 Junior Regional Championships and the free training camp in Colorado. Nui also made it to the semifinals in the U14 RR Open. At the ripe old age of 8, he is rated number 1 in the U.S. Boys under 10 division.

Lock (age 11) won the U14 RR Open without losing a game! He also advanced to the finals of the Under Age 14 Junior Regional Championships and lost a heartbreaker at 19 in the 3rd. He gained some valuable experience against long pips. Lock is ranked number 4 in the nation for boys under 12.

Jay (age 15) won the U16 Junior Regional Championships and the trip to Colorado. Jay also played very well in the U1900 RR. He advanced out of his round robin group and won two matches before losing at 15, 19 in the semis. Jay teamed up with coach Larry White to win the U3300 doubles in a long, heroic march to the finals. The $100 first place prize would help to finance the return trip to Nashville, Tennessee.

Saymek advanced out of his round robin group in the U18 Junior Regional Championship. He then won the 1/4s and the finals. The $1000 JOOLA Prize & Trophy

DID‘JA KNOW
by Bob Green

In October 1933 the newly formed United States Table Tennis Association published its first official news organ and named it Table Tennis Topics. It was about Readers Digest size and consisted of four pages. The main topic of the first issue was the “Ten Articles of Agreement that would govern the new organization.” These articles were drafted and signed by the first associations, New Jersey, Illinois, and Philadelphia. New York joined soon afterward. The articles excluded individual USTTA membership. Only clubs with five or more individual members would be granted affiliate status. If local clubs were located in a territory controlled by a regional affiliate, they would have to join through that affiliate. Money to run the USTTA was outlined in the articles as coming from two sources. Each affiliate would pay annually in advance, ten cents for each of its individual members and additional money would come from the sale of equipment approval stamps to manufacturers of table tennis gear. Topics was not included in the membership and cost ten cents each or one dollar, in advance, for a year’s projected ten issues. The first major project of the new USTTA was to get international recognition. A tournament was to be held in Chicago with the winner to be sent to the Worlds in Paris, expenses paid. Other qualified players would have to pay their own way.

ITTF chairman, Ivor Montagu, sent his congratulations to the new USTTA and indicated the ITTF would be glad to welcome the USTTA into their twenty member world group.

Thought for the day: The California Table Tennis Association, due to local problems, may soon introduce a new playing rule that will read: “In the event of an earthquake, a let will be called and play will be temporarily suspended until such time at the table quits moving.”

The Sourinthones—Saymek, Lock, Jay & Nui.

They said it...

"This isn’t supposed to be fun, this is table tennis. Right now, I’m not having fun and I’m not playing tennis." U.S. Team Member Derek May, between games against Michael Hyatt. Hyatt won.

“That guy’s tricky.” USATT Vice-President and former National Singles and World Doubles Champion Jimmy McClure, about a player who won a point by hitting a ball against a net post so that it bounced all the way to the other net post, bounced back, rolled along the net, fell over onto the net clamp, and rolled onto the far side of the table for a winner.

His daily routine includes running the bases, hitting in the batting cages and against White Sox staff members and shagging about 300 fly balls. Later, perhaps after some ping-pong in the locker room, he goes golfing. A description of Michael Jordan’s typical day, posted recently on the computer network Prodigy.

"The Ammonia-D didn’t have any effect." Sean Lonergan, on his experiment gluing with Windex, whose prime ingredient is Ammonia.

Heard anything interesting at the table tennis club recently? Send it to: NTTC, 15916 Indiana Dr., Rockville, MD 20855, 301-670-6882 (ph), 301-670-6967 (fax).

To the Editor,

I usually find Bob Green’s column informative or at least vaguely amusing, but I found his column in the May/June issue to be questionable.

The column says that the first point of the famous Erlich/Paneth match lasted 2 hours and 55 minutes. He’s talking about a men’s team semifinal in the 1936 World Championships in Prague between Poland and Romania. The time that came to my mind was 2 hours and 11 minutes, but I can’t substantiate that. Hikosuke Tamasu, in his 1993 book “Songs of International Friendship,” says it was 2 hours and 12 minutes. Istvan Kelen, in “Success at Table Tennis,” (1936), goes a little further, providing both the starting time, 2:22 pm, and the finishing time, 4:20 pm, of that first point. Kelen should know better than I; Harrison52 and Donavan: he was there, watching the match, since his team, Hungary, had just lost to Romania. But his time elapsed is only 1 hour 58 minutes.

So how long did that point last? I’ll bet against Green, and, details notwithstanding, I’m not convinced that Kelen’s watch was correct, since a time of two hours-plus seems to crop up so often. But it’s not uncommon to find that some off-hand historical “fact” harks back to some erroneous information by someone who wasn’t there.

So come out of the woodwork, all you amateur historians: what was the real length of that point?

J. Rufford Harrison

Table Tennis Today

18
Catch the Excitement!

Summer Training Camps
at the
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All ages & levels welcome!

- July 6-11
- July 17-22
- July 27 - August 1
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- U.S. #1 ranked player at 2809
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Larry Hodges
- National Coaching Chairman
- Director/Manager of USTTA's Table Tennis Program for five years at Olympic Training Center
- Author of *Table Tennis: Steps to Success*
- USATT Certified National Coach

Jack Huang
- Former Head Coach for the Guangxi Province of China
- Former Chinese Team Member
- U.S. #2 player in 1993
- Current rating: 2644

Sean Lonergan
- USATT Certified State Coach
- 2400 player
- Manager, National Table Tennis Center
- Has coached at numerous camps

Fee: $200 (NTTC Members $170)
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Camp(s) Applying for (circle):
  July 6-11
  July 17-22
  July 27 - Aug. 1

Signature (Parent/Guardian if under 18)

Amount enclosed $
The Footwork of France’s JEAN-PHILIPPE GATIEN

1993 World Champion, Men’s Singles ★ ★ ★ 1992 Olympic Silver Medalist, Men’s Singles

by Wei Wang
USATT Certified National Coach...1990 National Champion
JEAN-PHILIPPE GATIEN'S FOOTWORK
by Wei Wang
A long established technique in table tennis is what we on the West Coast call "turning"—I believe others call it "stepping around the backhand corner." It describes the decision to use a specific set of steps to get yourself into position to play a ball with the forehand, although the ball is clearly on the backhand side of the table. The advantage of that shot is that a player gets to employ the usually greater power of the forehand. Classic penholders heavily depend on turning because their grip severely limits the use of the backhand as an aggressive weapon. I stress "classical," because there is a new penhold style emerging that uses the backside of the racket for attacking and blocking, and the "classical" is dying fast. The main thing is that you find confidence to wait and to execute the footwork correctly. Chances are you won't do it like Mr. Gatien immediately, but with enough practice—who knows!

A technical note: Usually we use frame rates of 30 frames/sec which helps us see details otherwise lost. Since here we're not concerned with micro-movements but rather with the footwork, we reduced the rate to 15 frames/sec in order to be able to fit the whole sequence into the space we have available.

This point was played at the 1993 World Championships in Gothenburg. Gatien's opponent, Vasile Florea of Romania, is one of the teams who ascended into the First Division. The sequence picks up after Gatien has served an underspin serve to Florea's backhand.

I am often asked if, after serving, one should move into position for the anticipated shot—in other words: "cheat" a little—or into a neutral ready position. The worry is that without "cheating" there is not enough time to get around the ball. This is where the mental mistake is made: It is rarely an issue of time, but almost always one of balance and footwork. When "cheating" the player might have correctly anticipated the kind of return, and its approximate placement. He takes up the position, but notices that the spin has carried the ball a few inches off the anticipated line. Now it is too late to adjust, and he has to make an uncomfortable shot, usually lacking the necessary power to penetrate, and due to the last second adjustment, he might lose his balance and miss on the next shot. The danger of getting caught wrong footed is also much greater, because the opponent can see your early movement and change his placement to your forehand. After a few times, you might not dare turn anymore and lose that valuable technique from your arsenal.

There usually is much more time than you think. When recovering to the ready position, you leave your options open much longer. If you decide to turn, you do it after having seen much more about the ball, and you can now move much more accurately. The key is to recognize, that you must take two steps—the first one sideways to move into position, and the second one more forward to help the shot.

At 0.0 sec, Gatien has just recovered from the serve. His position is neutral, but his weight is slightly shifted to his right leg. He watches Florea, and at 0.0 sees—judging from the spin and the racket position—that he will push to his backhand. As Florea makes contact at 0.1, Gatien steps sideways to the left with his left leg, pushing off with his right leg. He starts pulling his racket hand back- and down to a "general" backswing area, not yet the final point of his backswing. At 0.4 sec, he has followed the ball over about half its trajectory. Based on its height and position, he can now predict very accurately where it will bounce, and how high. Now only does he set up for the final position. From 0.4 to 0.4 b he skips further around the corner, and at 0.6 sec finds the final "power" position for this right foot. He also controls the backswing while shifting his weight almost completely to his right leg. The ball bounces on the table between 0.6 and 0.6 a. At 0.6 b, he has completed his set-up and is fully "charged." At 0.8 sec, Gatien starts his uncoiling motion. His right leg pushes forward, his shoulders start turning into the oncoming ball, and his racket arm snaps forward. The ball reaches the apex of its bounce at 0.8 a, and the racket makes contact immediately afterwards. In this case, Gatien elects to make the shot down the line, so he moves forward extremely strongly, almost leaping to the extension of the net with his left foot. He saw the opening and knows that if he fully commits to the shot it will not come back, so he doesn't have to worry about recovering for the next shot. At 1.0 sec he finishes his follow through. The ball is so severe that Florea is temporarily reduced to a spectator.

Seeing Gatien's position at the end of the sequence, practically kneeling next to the table, you might be tempted to think that he would be out of the point, if the ball was returned, but, while it does happen sometimes, we have seen him recover from there and still make another power loop after the ball was blocked to his forehand corner. Now we are approximating "flying."!

This technique can be used for serve & receive as well, or during a rally. The main thing is that you find the confidence to wait and to execute the footwork correctly. Chances are you won't do it like Mr. Gatien immediately, but with enough practice—who knows!
YVONNE (LESCURE) KRONLAGE:

Yvonne arrived in the U.S. from England via Canada in the late ‘50s. Gradually she came to be a pretty good player. In the ‘61-62 season, she played for the U.S. in the U.S. vs. Canada matches at the CNE, then went on to win the Most Valuable Player Award at the FTC’s (her 16-7 record tied her for 7th with Lona Flan, whom she lost to in 4 in the 8th’s of the National’s). With a page-long article in Topics she pleaded for USATT help for women players. Such pleas of support for her causes would be commonplace in the years to come. During the ’62-63 season she was the Treasurer of the D.C. Association. With English looper Derek Baddeley she reached the ‘63 U.S. Open Mixed final, beating Sol Schiff and Leah Neuberger in the semi’s. Later that year at the National Team Championships she won a Best Sportsmanship Award. In June of ‘63 she and her husband Carl, along with Bowie and Melba Martin, opened the Prince Georges Table Tennis Club. When it was destroyed by fire, she started another one, and then another one....The one she’d have later in Howard County was, I believe, her fifth. It’s no surprise that she was often a Women’s Team Captain, repeatedly at the CNE, or example, for a Woman’s Team Manager at the Olympic (formerly Sports) Festival. She was not only a ‘Tigress Woman of the Month in ‘72, she was, year in and year out, a real force for Women’s Rights in the Sport. Why shouldn’t women play their final on Center Court like the men? Why isn’t there a Women’s Captain for the Women’s Team? Why in the history of the Sport there have been so few women on the Executive Committee? (In ‘79 and ‘89 she was elected to E.C. office.) How about a baby-sitter section at tournaments? Why isn’t there a Women’s Senior event at the Closed? Yes, she made a good Women’s Chair. And she wasn’t bad with the kids either: she organized camps for them during their vacation time away from school and saw they were chaperoned to a Las Vegas Closed or a far away Junior Olympics. She knew how to organize locally in her area: she got table tennis in the Maryland Senior Olympiads and State Games, she could take on the responsibility of several Eastern Opens, work with others to establish a Tour stop at the University of Maryland Cole Field House for the Chinese on their U.S. “Ping-Pong Diplomacy” trip, manage an $80,000 then a $10,000 Maryland Open, establish a Howard Count circuit of monthly tournaments, start an Eastern Regional Training Camp, unabashedly set up an East Coast Colorado-Springs-like Training Center. She wanted to be part of the real table tennis world, liked traveling. She helped get Butterfly playing uniforms for our ‘77 U.S. World Team, was the U.S. Team Captain to the ‘79 Pan Am Games, served as both Manager of a U.S. Team to a Swedish Junior Championship and Captain of the U.S. Women’s Team to the ‘83 World’s. But of course her most ambitious venture, her greatest, was the 1990 TCO. She was the driving force that enabled the U.S. to stage a World (Veterans) Championship—only person in the 60-year history of our Association to accomplish that. Such a person is willing to take risks, get into trouble, be criticized, fail...succeed.

STEVE ISAACSON:

Back in the ‘50’s, Steve was twice U.S. Intercollegiate Champion (and at the same time U.S. Intercollegiate Bowling Champion!). At last count he had won 41 Illinois State titles, and had done pretty well outside of Illinois too—like in ‘55 when he had a 12-3 record at the NTC’s, beating such strong players as Hazi, Hirschkowitz, and Van de Wolfe. Having gone out to California for a while, he of course couldn’t stay away from table tennis, In ‘61-62, under CATTAs President Alinkinbenber, he was 2nd V.P. Returning to Chicago to see the suburban Chicagoland Club open he promptly be...
came V.P. in charge of Publicity. By 1965 he was Selection Committee Chair working in tandem with Ranking Chair John Read. In the years that followed, Steve was a regular contributor, especially when I was editor, to both Topics and Jimmy’s—articles, cartoons, even a poem showed his versatility. He was also responsible for getting the highly imaginative watercolor (this was Jim Davey’s Chicago Club?) that appeared on the front cover of the Dec., ’79 Topics.

Sometimes Steve’s articles were factual, serious, as when, with his Selection Committee background, he proposed round robins for Team Trials but not for U.S. Championships; sometimes the articles were fictional, humorous, as when he gave us his 1984 imaginative account of the 1933 St. Joe Valley tournament. But of course Steve’s the years that followed, Steve was a regular contributor, especially when I was editor, to Topics, even a poem showed his versatility. He was involved locally as Recording Secretary for his East Bay Club in the Hayward/ San Lorenzo area. Around 1970 Manny began umpiring matches. He also began writing articles for Topics—at the USTA Women’s Committee in the early ’40s. During the ’44 or ’45 season, under Reba Moneys’ leadership, she was a Vice-President of the NYTTA. Then she was off overseas giving USO exhibitions. In 1947 she was a Camel Cigarette Cover Girl. After marrying in 1953, she continued to play, and in 1955 won the Pacific Coast Championship. In 1957 she organized a spring Army Exhibition Tour of Japan and Dick Miles, Lea Neuberger, Sharon Acton. Later that year she became a cover girl again—for, as Topics would make clear, she and her teammates Susie Hoshi and Sharon Acton won the National Team Championships, and Mary herself had the 6th best record of any of the participants. She would continue to play well, and by the end of the ’60’s had won the U.S. Women’s Over 40 Championship. Since then she has written at least 25 articles for Topics—a 1976 interview with Angelita Rosal, for example; tributes to Doug Cartland, Johnny and Pauline Somuel, and Leah Neuberger. She wrote an account of the People’s Republic of China vs. Taipei Taiwan Match in 1985, an article on Bobby Fields in 1988, and over the years she wrote-ups on many California tournaments and happenings. In ’82 Mary was Topics Senior for the Month, and in ’92, for helping publicize the San Diego U.S. Closed and other tournaments, she was given the Southern California Sportsmanship/Service Award. She has been a very productive Board Member of the Hall of Fame since 1985.

MANNY MOSKOWITZ:

Manny Moskowitz and his brothers Harold and Martin were early 1930’s pioneers in organizing and sustaining New York League play. And of course Manny achieved some considerable success as a player—won the 1934 USATT Men’s Doubles with Sol Schiff. On moving to Maryland, Manny continued being very active: he was the #1-ranked Maryland player for the ’37-38 season, Chairman of the ’38 Middle Atlantic Open, the Secretary of the Eastern Inter-City League, and co-Chair of the ’39 Eastern’s. On moving to California, Manny was back playing—in the 1950 Los Angeles Open; and then, a decade later, he was involved locally as Recording Secretary for the East Bay Club at the Hayward/ San Lorenzo, CA area. Around 1970 Manny began umpiring matches. He also began writing articles for Topics—at the award presentation and the selection of umpires for the ’72 U.S. Open, for example. By decade’s end he was Chair of the Referee/ Umpire Committee and had been writing a regular column in Topics called “In the Umpire’s Chair.” In 1983 he was not only the Chief Umpire at the U.S. Closed but also the first U.S. umpire ever to serve at a World Championship. At the ’86 World Veterans Championships in Rimini, Italy, Manny was given the commendations of the President of being the U.S. flag bearer. Back home he continued to officiate locally, regionally, and nationally.

DETOUR OPEN

★★ Two Star ★★

August 28, 1994 Sunday JCC—W Bloomfield MI

Location: Jewish Community Center on the corner of Maple (15 Mile Rd) and Drake.


Time: Registration and warmup at 8AM. Round robins begin 9AM.

Director: Cody Jones (810) 360-5901
daytime. (810) 360-5903 evenings.

Referee: Joseph Helfand
Fees: $33 (includes rating fee) payable to Cody Jones, 3050 Union Lake Rd 8H, Commerce MI 48382.

Entry deadline: Sunday, August 21.

Format: Round robin groups of 9-11 players. Top ten rated players are in group A, players rated 11 through 20 in group B, etc.

Ratings: Ratings from July/August 1994

AWARDS:

Group A

1st $600
2nd $300
3rd $150
4th $150

Other Groups

1st $100

Directions: From I-696 go N on Orchard Lk and W on Maple to Drake.

Pretournament coaching clinic—Saturday 2PM-6PM Aug 27 w Jon Bosica $40

Tournament T-shirt $10 each with entry. (Limited quantities at tournament for $12)

Quantity: Small ______ Medium ______ Large ______ Extra Large ______

USATT membership fee if not current:

Adult: $20—1 yr, $35—2 yr, $50—3 yr
Junior: $10—1 yr w Table Tennis Today, $5—1 yr w/o

Event fee (includes $3 rating fee) ______

Total enclosed ______

I agree to abide by all decisions of the tournament officials and assume full responsibility for any injury or property loss I may incur. Signature (parent if minor)

July/August 1994

Table Tennis Today 23
STOPPING THE BACKSPIN SERVE/3RD BALL LOOP ATTACK
by Larry Hodges
National Coaching Chairman

The most basic and common third-ball attack in table tennis is to serve short backspin, and loop the receiver's push return. Many players find it very difficult to stop this pattern when receiving, and end up losing match after match to this one tactic.

The next time you face this tactic, try one of the following:

• If the serve is long (i.e., it wouldn't bounce twice on the table if given the chance), then topspin the serve back. If possible, loop with your forehand. If the serve is to the backhand, and you aren't able to get around the backhand corner quickly enough to attack with your forehand, then loop or roll the serve back with your backhand.

• Try pushing short, which will stop your opponent from looping. If the serve is short backspin, it should (with practice) be relatively easy to push it back short, which stops your opponent from looping. The problem many players face here is reading the spin correctly—many players try pushing short against a serve that is more sidespin or topspin backspin. These too can be pushed short (yes, even a short top- spin serve!), but the receiver must read the spin correctly so as to compensate. To push short, take the ball right off the bounce. Don't open your racket as much as you would for most pushes, or the bounce. Don't open your racket as much as you would for most pushes, or the bounce.

• If you do push the serve, push effectively. Push at a wide angle, with open the racket, take the ball on the rise, bounce at least twice, if given the chance. Don't open your racket as much as you would for most pushes, or the bounce.

• Try flipping the serve. Simply open the racket, take the ball on the rise, and topspin the serve back. (See May/June issue, page 24, for a photo sequence & write-up of World #1 Jean-Michel Saive forehand flipping.) Make sure to flip either at a wide angle, or at the opponent's middle (the elbow of the playing arm).

• If you do push the serve, push effectively. Push at a wide angle, with good backspin, and (unless pushing short) push deep, so the ball bounces within six inches or so of the net. Balls such as these are more difficult to loop than a push that lands in the middle of the table. If your opponent starts to anticipate your pushing to the wide backhand, a sudden push to the backhand will often be a winner—and keep your opponent from getting a jump on your next push to the backhand. A push to the wide forehand will also set you up to block to your opponent's backhand, stopping the forehand attack after one shot. If you make an effective push, and your opponent spins it soft from the backhand corner, be ready to pounce on the ball with an aggressive block (or counterloop or smash) at a wide angle.

TRAINING YOUTH WITH MENTAL IMAGERY
by Allen Cornelius
(Editors Note—Cornelius has a Master’s degree in Sports Psychology and has nearly completed his Ph.D in Psychology)

I recently read an article about mental imagery training and found it so intriguing that I wanted to share the information with TTT readers. Several researchers in China and Canada investigated the effectiveness of imagery training for 7-10 year old table tennis players. The young athletes were part of a joint development program in China, participated in a three-phase mental imagery training program as part of their regular training. The first phase consisted of learning and practicing basic relaxation skills, which helped them to focus and concentrate on their physical sensations during the subsequent imagery training. The second phase consisted of viewing a videotape of world champions demonstrating the forehand attack in practice sessions and in competition. After viewing the tape several times, each young player was allowed to choose the style they most wanted to imitate that was compatible with their own style. The imagery phase of the training consisted of two parts. First, after relaxing, they mentally pictured the player from the video executing the forehand attack. This was done very methodically until 20 forehand attacks had been visualized. The players then shifted their focus to their training hall, and pictured themselves mimicking the world-class player’s form in practice. A script read by a coach during this imagery emphasized the components of the world-class player’s form. This was repeated for 150 attacking shots. The entire imagery session, from relaxation to conclusion, lasted only about 12 minutes, and was conducted three times a week as a regular part of their training.

The results of these brief periods of mental training were quite remarkable. When compared to a group of similar players that did not receive the mental imagery training, the group that practiced mental imagery substantially increased the accuracy and the form of their forehand attack. This gives strong support for the integration of this training into regular practice sessions, even for very young athletes.

Several characteristics of the nature of the mental training used by these athletes are important to highlight. One important aspect was having the athletes select their own “role models” to imitate. This probably fostered more enthusiasm and commitment for the visualization, and made it more personalized. The combination of the video training and the imagery is also important, as the imagery you visualize should be a good one (I have known several players that refused to watch other player’s matches at a tournament, because they thought they would pick up bad habits by watching inferior players). Another interesting characteristic of the imagery training was that the bulk of the imagery focused on visualizing the correct stroke in practice, not in competition. This emphasis addresses one aspect of stroke production, and it would be interesting to see how visualizing the correct stroke in game situations would affect their ability. The researchers also noticed that while the athletes were visualizing, they were making small body movements similar to those they were imagining. Their head and hands were moving slightly in the direction of the forehand attack. This movement occurred naturally and without specific instruction, and probably should be encouraged in visualization training to help enhance the "feel" of the shot. The researchers suggested that doing shadow practice while mentally imagining the correct stroke would probably be very beneficial.

One truly remarkable aspect of this training was the small amount of time invested (less than 15 minutes three times a week). Fifteen minutes of good quality visualization of world-class form may be better for your game than continuing to work on a “vital area of your game and gain an edge over your competition. The mental side is the most important part of table tennis. Improve this vital area of your game and gain an edge over your competition!

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Top athletes commonly use visualization to hone and polish their skills and performance. This study shows that apparently even very young athletes and novice players can benefit from this type of practice as well. The minimal time investment and the convenience of imagery practice allows for it to be easily incorporated into a training schedule. If you are a coach, developing player, or veteran, try including visualization as an integral component of your practices. You might improve faster than you imagined.

For more information about The Effect of Mental-Imagery Training on Performance Enhancement with 7-10 Year Old Children by Zhang Li-Wei, Ma Oi-Wei, Terry Orlick, & Louise Zitzelsberger, The Sport Psychologist, 6, 230(241, 1992).

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July/August 1994
1994 EUROPEAN TOUR
by Barney James Reed

The trip began February 1st, we left Harrisburg International Airport in Chicago, O’Hare International Airport. From Chicago, we left to go to Manchester, England. David Fernandez ("Speedy") and I arrived in Manchester at 7:40 AM Wednesday morning. We were met at the airport by a travel agency. They drove us to a town called Market Drayton. This town was home to the biggest and richest club in England, called BFL Grove. There they had such players as Desmond Douglas, Alan Cooke, Nicky Mason and #3 Russian. I had the opportunity to train with the #3 Russian and England’s best junior. We stayed in England for 4 days. From Herwich, England we went to Goteberg, Sweden by boat. When we arrived in Goteberg we took a train to Falkenberg, where we were met by Stellan Pettersson, Waldner many times), Ulf "Tickan" Carlsson, Magnus Pettersson (2800 two-winged attacker), and Tomas Buza (2700 left tacker), and Tomas Nordberg (2800 chopper), Wang Yang Feng, Cone (1993 World Champion), and my Dad visited the Angby club.

The next morning, February 22nd, we traveled to the Sparrvagen club where Waldner used to practice, and the Tyreso club. At Angby, Barney and I practiced in the morning and then had to leave because the Luxembourg team was in town training there. The third day we went to the Sparrvagen club where Waldner used to practice. This is where Kristy Reed first stayed with Barney and she came to Sweden. They were nice and friendly. They treated us like family members. I enjoyed staying at their house.

The second day we went to the Sparrvagen club, where Waldner and Appelgren practiced, and to the Tyreso club. At Angby, Barney and I practiced in the morning and then had to leave because the Luxembourg team was in town training there. The third day we went to the Sparrvagen club where Waldner used to practice. This is where Waldner’s brother coaches. We stayed with Anders Bolensius on the third day. He coached the Swedish women’s national team, and who is ranked #2 in Sweden, and #5 in the world.

The people at the Halmstad club were nice to us and treated us like we were family. Also all the people in town were nice and would help us with any questions we would have. It was a great experience staying at a club that produced world champions.

We stayed there about a week, and then we left for the big international tournament where the best players in the country were going to be. I was able to see Erik Lindh (1993 World Champion in teams), and Mikael Appelgren (1990 European Champion). I was also able to see some of the upcoming Swedish players such as Frederick Lundquist, Peter Nilsson, Frederik Hankansson and Magnus Molin. I played pretty well in this tournament. I did not win any events, but I was satisfied with my performance.

After the tournament, we jumped on a bus that was going to Stockholm. From Stockholm, we took the subway to Zenny’s house. This is who Kristy Reed first stayed with when Barney and she came to Sweden. They were nice and friendly. They treated us like family members. I enjoyed staying at their house.

The next day, all the good players came. A lot of the top juniors were there and the elite players from Sweden. But players from the national team were not there because they were playing their league matches. I again played very well and beat a couple of top players, but fell short in the events I was in.

At the Halmstad Club, the men’s team won the championships in the Eliteserien last year. The players consisted of Ulf “Tickan” Carlsson, Magnus Pettersson, Wang Yang Feng, Tomas Buza and Tomas Nordberg. I was able to practice with Tomas Nordberg, a 2700 chopper, and beat a couple of top players, but fell short in the events I was in.

The people at the Halmstad club were very nice to us and treated us like we were family. Also all the people in town were nice and would help us with any questions we would have. It was a great experience staying at a club that produced world champions.

I was really happy with my trip to Europe and I learned a lot from the Swedes. I was impressed with how focused they stay during training, and how serious they take the game. I really hope that I can have another opportunity to go there and improve my game.

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Table Tennis Today 25
HALL OF FAME

By Rick Brekke

Rex Harris, President of the Minnesota Table Tennis Federation, announced last month the first six inductees into the Minnesota Table Tennis Hall of Fame. The handler name is the most important recognition a player/promoter can receive in Minnesota table tennis.

The honored recipients are:

Charlie Disney: 30-year veteran sport promoter and 11-time Minnesota state champion. Founder of the oldest full-time table tennis club in the U.S., Disney's (formally Magoo's) Table Tennis Center, located in Minneapolis. Past USTTA President and MTFA President. USATT-certified coach and professional exhibitionist.

Don Larson: 24-year table tennis promoter/player, past Minnesota state champion. Current President/Owner of Disney's Table Tennis Center—25 years serving the Minnesota table tennis community. Past MTFA President and USATT-certified coach. Don started the first High School Table Tennis League in the country (with Rich Sinykin), and was "full-time" table tennis for over six years.


Harry Lund: Known as Minnesota's all-time greatest player from 1938-1954. An admirable exhibition artist, table tennis promoter extraordinary, and many-time Minnesota state champion. Last residence known is Colorado.

A prestigious Banquet was held in these players' honor, and beautiful plaques were distributed. Rex Harris commented "...With the Hall of Fame, we are trying to accomplish several things...we use this opportunity to raise funds for the coming year's programs while trying to bring together current players with those of the past...establishing a history, a tradition. It is important for the young players of today to meet and hear of the most important players and promoters who have blazed the path for them...it is an opportunity to honor and respect those who have been there and done well...these athletes deserve the same respect as basketball, baseball, and football."...

This October, Disney's Table Tennis Center will celebrate 25 years serving the Minnesota community. The club is open six days/week, all year round in Minneapolis. An extensive Pro Shop, eight air-conditioned courts, high ceilings, and dark walls and barriers help make this a very special place to play. Weekly tournaments, daily leagues, coaching, local ratings, robot practice and a long-term lease guarantee plenty of action for the table tennis enthusiast. "One of the most important attributes," says Don Larson (financial backer of the club) "to the long-term success of Disney's is an inexpensive, guaranteed multiple-year lease. We have a fifteen-year lease currently. The Disney's Club is now actively looking for a new location, however, because of a slowly deteriorating neighborhood.

If you are planning a trip to Minnesota for any reason, please feel free to stop in and say "Hello." You may call ahead at 612-724-8400, or contact Don Larson during the day at 612-430-2270 (VM #3011). We are looking forward to our next 25 years in table tennis! Congratulations to Minnesota Hall of Fame inductees!

By Rex Harris

MINNESOTA HALL OF FAME

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GOLDEN STATE OPEN

Walnut Creek, California
May 28-29, 1994

by Carl Danner

Khoa Nguyen still leads the West, as he has since the Reagan years, although newcomer Chi-Sun Chui had his chance in this year's final. Chi-Sun's steady countering and sharp backhand brought him a big lead in what would prove to be the deciding first game, deciding because his real opportunity was to win two straight. Unfortunately for Chui, he could not hold onto the opener, and winning an equally sloppy second game proved of little use when Nguyen returned to championship form in the third for his sixth title in one year.

Otherwise, we saw that youth will be served, but not just yet, as a talented crop of young players impressed but left with few honors. Most spectacularly, Chui, a young player who lacked the soft touch and treacherous slow, curving loops with which James Tarruella charmed in a thrilling five game match. A point near the end told all, as Chui, then opposing him as he laid a stretched return, but amazing found it to return the rally. Sally Dahlman overcame higher-rated male opposition in taking the Juniors under 18 and, by impressing with a better winner and overwhelming favorite Ling Chen to the limit in the Women's final. Philip Lim and Shashi Shodhan engineered two doubles ups but could not overcome Chi-Sun and De Tran. All these and others will be heard from soon enough.

For 1994 marks twenty years in a row for this event, a tribute to the Concord Table Tennis Club and its intrepid volunteers, as well as to the continued support of tournament sponsor Svenhard's Swedish Bakery, Chevrons and others. Anyone wanting to challenge the young dynasty can try his luck next year for tournament twenty-one. Memorial Day weekend as always, in the scenic San Francisco Bay Area.


Seniors 040: lst: Raymond; 2nd: John Paek.

Open Singles: lst: Sally Dahlman; 2nd: Donald Hayes; 3rd: Carl Danner.

Open Doubles: lst: Sally & Don Dahlman; 2nd: Donald & Milton.


Open Doubles: lst: Cheng Yinghua/Lang Raky; 2nd: Don Dahlman/Peter Dahlin.

Open Singles: lst: Sally & Don Dahlman; 2nd: Donald Hayes; 3rd: Carl Danner.

Open Doubles: lst: Sally & Don Dahlman; 2nd: Donald Hayes; 3rd: Carl Danner.

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The Minnesota Table Tennis Federation sponsored the Minnesota Junior Table Tennis Jubilee which was a full weekend of table tennis. The tournament Friday night with the Minnesota Table Tennis Hall of Fame Banquet at Benchmark Bob's Sport Cafe in Burnsville, Mn. For those who are football fans, Benchmark Bob is Bob Lersunte, once of the Minnesota Vikings and then the Seattle Seahawks. Bob was a backup (benchwarmer) defensive line- man who became very popular with the Twin-Cities people because of his television commercials with Twin City Federal which were funny and always poked a lot of fun at him. Lersunte also provided several gift certificates for the raffle. This was the final Tournament which included the Brandon Olson, Don Lonning, Charlie Schroeder, Sheila O'Dougherty, Takako Trenholme and from the very early days, Harry Lund. While we were not able to contact Harry Lund, everyone else was in attendance. Please see the other article regarding the Hall of Fame Banquet. If anyone should know the whereabouts of Harry Lund, please contact me at (612) 431-0500. The last known residence was in Colorado.

On Saturday April 30th, we started the Jubilee event. We had notice events for both boys and girls and also age groups for the Minnesota Table Tennis Federation. We had a very happy to see 5 players from Canada attend the tournament, including Ryan Szajkowski, the 3rd ranked junior in Canada under 14. It was exciting watching Minnesota’s best juniors compete. It was a competitive team was established, Canada did not load up on its team simply to win, necessarily bring its best players, Minnesota put forth his best effort and to see 5 players from Canada attend the two events at the Minnesota Junior Jubilee: Girls’ Under 18 Singles; Girls’ Under 18 Doubles (with Lia Myhre), Girls’ Open Singles, and Regional Girls’ Under 16.

Ramdeen, Winnipeg (CA); 3rd: Tresa Lamphir, Duluth; 4th: Nicole Reinhold, Knapp (Wisc).

Boys U18 Singles Under 14: 1st: Ryan Szajkowski, Winnipeg (CA); 2nd: Cory Eider, Duluth.

Girls U18 Doubles Under 14: 1st: Tresa Lamphir, Duluth/Leah Wrazidlo, Duluth; 2nd: Nicole Reinhold, Knapp (Wisc)/Kim Ramdeen, Winnipeg (CA).


Boys U18 Singles Under 18: 1st: Pat Shaw, Duluth; 2nd: Mark Rainer, Winnipeg (CA); 3rd: Andy Brommerich, Winona; 4th: John Witta, Duluth.


Boys U18 Doubles Under 18: 1st: Pat Shaw, Duluth; 2nd: John Witta, Duluth; 3rd: Andy Brommerich, Winona/Mark Rainer, Winnipeg (CA).


Boys U18 Open Consolation: 1st: Eric Davison, Lakeville; 2nd: Kris Sabas, Crystal.

All Comers Minnesota Closed (NonU18 sanctioned) 1st: A.J. Kanz, Winona; 2nd: Pat Shaw, Duluth.

Regional Championships (MN, IA, WISC, S.DAK, N.DAK) Boys Singles Under 12: 1st: Charlie Miller, Champlin.


Boys Singles Under 12: 1st: Cory Eider, Duluth.

Girls Singles Under 14: 1st: Leah Wrazidlo, Duluth.


Girls Singles Under 16: 1st: Jackie Witt, Moundsview.

Boys Singles Under 16: 1st: John Witta,
The Sam Lima Labor Day Weekend Table Tennis Tournament

Saturday and Sunday, September 3rd & 4th, 1994

SPONSORED BY: The Palo Alto Table Tennis Club and the Palo Alto Recreation Department.

RATING: Two Star Event (Single Elimination).

SANCTIONED BY: USTTA.

TOURNAMENT DIRECTORS: Dennis Davis, Kirsten Doyle, Ted Lam.

TOURNAMENT REFEREES: Auny Ibrahim.

ELIGIBILITY: Open to all current USTTA members. Unrated Players are eligible only for events 2000 and above.

RULES: All USTTA rules apply.

For the Doubles U3000 event, the highest rated player in the team must be under 1700.

This tournament is TIME SCHEDULED! Matches will be played when called. Players will be default if ready.

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Tournament Site: Cubberley Pavilion - 4000 Middlefield Rd., Palo Alto, CA.

REGISTRATION: Players should check into the Registration Desk 30 minutes before their 1st Event.

AGE LIMITS: Juniors must be under 17 as of date of tournament. Seniors must be over 50 by date of tournament.

SPACE LIMITED: The number of entries being accepted is limited because ALL MATCHES WILL BE TIME SCHEDULED. ENTRY TODAY!

ENTRY DEADLINE: Entries and payment must be received by August 26th.

TELEPHONE ENQUIRIES: Leave a message at the Palo Alto Table Tennis Club Answering Machine: (415) 494-0880.

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I agree to abide by all USTTA regulations. I accept full responsibility for my participation and relieve the sponsors and USTTA from liability for injury to myself or damage to my property.

SIGNATURE:________________________

1994 LONG ISLAND CLOSED

Huntington, New York
April 23-24,1994

Sixty-five-players participated in the USATT section of the 1994 Long Island Championships held on April 23 at Finley Junior High School in Huntington.

Glenn Brown of Richmond Hill won the Open Men’s Singles event from HOPSTRA University Champion Sugura Araki, 16-.18-.16. Eleonore Leonardt of Brentwood regained her Long Island Women’s Singles title with a victory over Jo-Ann Libard, 9,.22.

Jeff Levy of Melville won the Junior Singles and U1800 C Singles along with an earlier upset victory in the local township Men’s Singles over top seeded Dan Green. Other results are shown in the summary.

Women’s Singles: Eleonore Leonardt d. Jo-Ann Libard, 9, 22.

Men’s Singles: Glenn Brown d. Sugura Araki, 16-.18-.16.


NEW YORK CITY OPEN

April 23, 1994

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LESTER ENSLIN
In Memoriam
1923-1994
by Edgar B. Stein

It is with regret that we announce the passing of Lester Enslin, who died March 9, 1994. A dedicated table tennis player and a true legend in the sport.

Lester Enslin was born and grew up in Minnesota. He served in the Army Air Corps during World War II, and in the U.S. Air Force for several years afterward. During the war he was a radio operator/gunner on a bomber, and was captured and interned as a prisoner of war. After the war, he served as a communications officer.

He married and raised a family, becoming one of the successful business, he became one of the most well-respected table tennis players in the Southwest.

Les retired from the FAA in 1981 and he and his family relocated to the rural community of Moriarty, New Mexico about 35 miles east of Albuquerque. Les continued to play table tennis at the Albuquerque club and at senior centers throughout the city. His other serious sport was racquetball and it seems ironic that he had just won a racquetball tournament in Yuma, Arizona where he and Myrna were wintering when he had his heart attack.

During his travels, Les always looked for a place to play table tennis. He probably distributed more nets and paddles (as replacements for worn out stuff) to boy's clubs than anyone else in the area. He participated in table tennis and racquetball tournaments wherever possible, and attended numerous senior games and Olympic events.

I think his best table tennis win was over Bobdan Dawidowicz in the senior at an Albuquerque tournament about 1977. He was always a determined competitor and always a gentleman.

He is survived by his wife, four sons, and grandchildren. A son, Eric, preceded him in death. He will be fondly remembered by all who knew him.

Myrna says that by now he has probably found that great Ping Pong Parlor in the sky, has strung a new net or two, and is waiting for more opponents.

(Postscript by Grant Misbach. Les was a strong supporter of the table tennis competition at the World Senior Games in St. George, Utah and has attended all three years since it started there. Last October he won the gold for men's singles 70 and over and for the men's doubles 70 and over with his partner Ed Stein. He will be greatly missed.)

MAY NTTC OPEN
National Table Tennis Center
Rockville, Maryland
May 19-20, 1994
by Larry Hodges

"It'll go five," predicted U.S. Team Member John Onifade—and sure enough, U.S. Women's Champion Amy Feng (who's been practicing regularly with World #3 woman Gao Jun) did push five-time U.S. Men's Champion Sean O'Neill into the fifth game in the semifinals before Sean pulled away to win the fifth at 10. John Onifade himself also pushed Xiaolei Hu into the fifth—and led 10-3 at the switch before Hu came roaring back to win at 14 to go into the final, where he'd split the first two games with Sean, win the third at 15-27, and finally the match 3-1, at 17, 16, 25, 15. And Hu might not even have been there, courtesy of his 19-all in the fourth battle with Larry Davly in the quarters.

The tournament was full of double-winners and double-finalists. Brian Lonergan defeated Xiuhui Liu in both the 2150 & 2000 finals; Masamichi Kubo made the final of both the 2450 & 2300's; Doua Lee defeated Paul Matkovic in both the 1650 & 1540 finals; and Joseph Blackburn, after losing in the final of the 900's, went on to win the 1050's. Meanwhile, USATT Disciplinary Chairman Dr. Morris Jackson may have wanted to take some disciplinary action as he lost in the semifinals of the 2300's, 2150's and 2000's, one better than Terry Lonergen, who made the semis of only the 2150's & 2000's.

Open Singles—Final: Huazhang Xu d. Sean O'Neill, 17, 16, 25, 15; SF: O'Neill d. Amy Feng, 7-19, 19-19, 10-16; Xu d. John Onifade, 19, 14, 16, 14, 14; QF: O'Neill d. Dave Fernandez, 12, 16, 7; Feng d. Masamichi Kubo, -18, 9, 17, 17; Onifade d. Sean Lonergen, 13, 10, 12; Xu d. Larry Davly, 15, 19, -16.


In the junior events, Keenan Bowens swept both the Under 14 and Under 11 singles. Masamichi Kubo and Vivian Lee were upset by National Wheelchair Champion Andre Scott and John Jerema in the U-2150 doubles. They proved to be too much as Jerema ran around Scott's wheelchair to reach the ball.


NTTC May Open Winner Huazhang Xu.

A major upset in the preliminary round robins in the open changed the draw completely. Huazhang Xu, number 3 seed, lost to Barney Reed Jr. and so he had to play Cheng Yinghua in the quarters. David Zhuang played against Gao Jun (World #3 woman, in her first U.S. tournament, who had just move to Maryland from China. Zhuang barely wins in a three-rounder, 13, -13, 18. In the finals, Zhuang upset 2841-rated Cheng in four games, 20-18, 15, 19, 13.

In the junior events, Keenan Bowens swept both the Under 14 and Under 11 singles. Masamichi Kubo and Vivian Lee were upset by National Wheelchair Champion Andre Scott and John Jerema in the U-2150 doubles. They proved to be too much as Jerema ran around Scott's wheelchair to reach the ball.


OHIO CONGRATULATES ADIO

On April 30th, 58 table tennis enthusiasts met in Canton to crown the state champions. Top-seeded Saubana Adio became state champ by defeating Scott Snelling (-19, 11, 18, 18), while Barbara Hale upset Svetlana Lekhter (19, 19) to win the women's title. Other state champions include: Greg Kaganovich (U17), Earl Nittskoff (O40), Louis Radzeli (OS0), Dave Strang & Daniel Kim (Doubles), Tom Newton (U1000), John Kochheiser (U1200), Rick Akers (U1400), Will Zhang (U1600), Earl Roe (U1800), Evan Tandler (U2000), and Daniel Kim (U2200).

SCHAUMBURG OPEN
Schaumburg, Illinois
May 14, 1994
Class B: 1st: Lee Bahlman; 2nd: P.V. Ramni.
Class C: 1st: Jason Miller; 2nd: Amano Remtula.
Class D: 1st: Silvio Siroia; 2nd: Myron Edgerton.
Class E: 1st: Ly Vu; 2nd: Ahmed Lakhani.
Class F: 1st: Mike Bacon; 2nd: George Siaw.

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Table Tennis Today 31
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NY 2091 Duan, Ting
CA 2092 Hsu, Kuo-Hung
LA 2093 Ling, Wei-Chih
CA 2104 Lin, Kung-Shu
NJ 2105 Liao, Kuo-Chung
CA 2116 Liu, Yen-Chen
CA 2120 Wang, Chi-Chen
CA 2121 Yang, Ching-Hua
CA 2122 Yang, Su-Yu
CA 2123 Ye, Li-Chen
CA 2124 Ye, Yu-

TOP WOMEN
MC 2095 Cheng, Lan
MC 2096 Chen, Xinyun
CA 2097 Ing, Hui-Hua
CA 2098 Kung, Lai
CA 2100 Lu, Shang-Yi
CA 2101 Peng, Hsing-I
CA 2103 Tan, Li
CA 2104 Wang, Shih-Chuan
CA 2105 Wu, An-Chu
CA 2106 Yang, Shih-Ting
CA 2107 Yang, Su-Yu
CA 2108 Ye, Li-Chen
CA 2110 Ye, Yu-

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*Table Tennis Today*
### NATIONAL TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE

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<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Name</th>
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<th>Contact Details</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>July 9-10</td>
<td>The Battle of the Will Tournament</td>
<td>Brooklyn, NY</td>
<td>Contact: Peter Holder, 136 Brant St., Brooklyn, NY 11236. **</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 9-10</td>
<td>Maryland Circuit, Columbia, MD</td>
<td>Contact: Yvonne Kronlage, 14160 Forsythe Road, Sykesville, MD 21784, 410-489-7291. **</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 10</td>
<td>Pocono Keystone Tune-Up, Nanticoke, PA</td>
<td>Contact: David Dickson Jr., 208 East Second Street, Berwick, PA 18603, 717-759-9814.</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 16-17</td>
<td>Cornhusker State Games, Lincoln, NE</td>
<td>Contact: Jarry Petterson, 505 West Elm, Ceresco, NE 68017, 402-665-5681.</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 16</td>
<td>Melbourne Florida Summer Open, Melbourne, FL</td>
<td>Contact: Joseph Henneke, 740 Burman Ave. NE, Troutville, WA 24175, 703-977-1307.</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 17</td>
<td>Strike One July Open, Burlington, MA</td>
<td>Contact: Donald B. Hayes, 15 Miner St., Somerville, MA 02143, 603-654-6620. *</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 23</td>
<td>OCTTC Summer Open, Yukon, OK</td>
<td>Contact: Beverly Bell, 204 Madison Ave. NE, Piemont, OK 73078, 405-373-2169. **</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 23</td>
<td>SeaFair Open, Seattle, WA</td>
<td>Contact: John McAllister, 10731 39th Ave. NE, Seattle, WA 98125, 206-365-9131. **</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 24-25</td>
<td>Show-Me State Games/ Missouri Closed, Columbia, MO</td>
<td>Contact: Danny Todd, 3321 Jamesdale Rd., Columbia, MO 65202, 314-474-6450.</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 24</td>
<td>Strike One July Open, Burlington, MA</td>
<td>Contact: Donald Hayes, 15 Miner St., Somerville, MA 02143, 603-654-6620. *</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 30-August 6</td>
<td>Seafair Pacific NW Championships, Seattle, WA</td>
<td>Contact: Tyra Parkins, 509 Olive Way #533, Seattle, WA 98101, 206-622-9215. *</td>
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<tr>
<td>August 3-6</td>
<td>AAA &amp; USATT Junior Nationals, Palm Bay, FL</td>
<td>Contact: Dick Butler, 1107 River Ridge Dr., Augusta, GA 30909, 706-737-5008. For information on USATT junior clinic to be held beforehand (July 31-August 2) contact Randall Hess, 407-452-8990.</td>
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<tr>
<td>August 6-7</td>
<td>LOUISIANA OPEN, Baton Rouge, LA</td>
<td>Contact: Power Poon, 4413 Lake Sherwood Ave. E., Baton Rouge, LA 70816, 504-293-0534. **</td>
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<tr>
<td>August 13-15</td>
<td>New Jersey County Teams, Westfield, NJ</td>
<td>Contact: Larry Bavlly, 7-A Kent Street, NJ 08873-2187, 908-828-3511. **</td>
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<tr>
<td>August 13-14</td>
<td>Maryland Circuit, Columbia, MD</td>
<td>Contact: Yvonne Kronlage, 14160 Forsythe Road, Sykesville, MD 21784, 410-489-7291. **</td>
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<tr>
<td>August 20-21</td>
<td>SUN TV OPEN, Pittsburgh, PA</td>
<td>Contact: Dan Seemiller, 307 Meritt Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15227, 412-884-5864. **</td>
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<tr>
<td>August 20-21</td>
<td>San Francisco Summer Open, San Francisco, CA</td>
<td>Contact: Charles Smith, 836 Templeton Ave., Daly City, CA 94014, 415-333-9047. **</td>
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<tr>
<td>August 20</td>
<td>Mid Summer Classic, Minneapolis, MN</td>
<td>Contact: Richard Brekke, Route 1, Box 153E, Pillager, MN 56473, 218-746-3572.</td>
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<tr>
<td>August 27-28</td>
<td>Florida State Closed, Orlando, FL</td>
<td>Contact: Olga Soltesz, 1739 Shady Ridge Court, Orlando, FL 32807, 407-830-4009. **</td>
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<tr>
<td>August 28</td>
<td>Detroit Open, W. Bloomfield, MI</td>
<td>Contact: Cody Jones, #6H, 3050 Union Lake Road, Union Lake, MI 48382. **</td>
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<td>August 28</td>
<td>Strike One August Open, Burlington, MA</td>
<td>Contact: Donald B. Hayes, 15 Miner St., Somerville, MA 02143, 603-654-6620. *</td>
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<td>September 10-11</td>
<td>Maryland Circuit, Columbia, MD</td>
<td>Contact: Yvonne Kronlage, 14160 Forsythe Road, Sykesville, MD 21784, 410-489-7291. **</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 17</td>
<td>Nashville Music City Open, Nashville, TN</td>
<td>Contact: Larry White, 216 Sanders Dr., La Vergne, TN 37086, 615-793-2915. *</td>
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<td>September 17-18</td>
<td>MATTCC September Open, Middletown, PA</td>
<td>Contact: Donald Vastine, 20 Woodland Avenue, Middletown, PA 17005, 717-944-7154. **</td>
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<td>September 24-25</td>
<td>Westfield September Open, Westfield, NJ</td>
<td>Contact: Larry Bavlly, 7-A Kent Street, NJ 08873-2187, 908-828-3511. **</td>
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<td>September 25</td>
<td>Strike One September Open, Burlington, MA</td>
<td>Contact: Donald B. Hayes, 15 Miner St., Somerville, MA 02143, 603-654-6620. *</td>
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<td>October 1-2</td>
<td>Maryland Circuit, Columbia, MD</td>
<td>Contact: Yvonne Kronlage, 14160 Forsythe Road, Sykesville, MD 21784, 410-489-7291. **</td>
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<td>October 15-16</td>
<td>Millcreek Open, Erie, PA</td>
<td>Contact: Sam Steiner, 814-833-8704. **</td>
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<td>October 19-21</td>
<td>Huntsman World Senior Games, St. George, UT</td>
<td>Contact: Grant Misbach, 3484 North Canyon Rd., Provo, UT 84604, 801-373-8009. **</td>
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<td>October 22-23</td>
<td>Westfield October Open, Westfield, NJ</td>
<td>Contact: Larry Bavlly, 7-A Kent Street, NJ 08873-2187, 908-828-3511. **</td>
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<td>President</td>
<td>Dan Seemiller</td>
<td>307 Meritus Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15227</td>
<td>(412) 884-5864</td>
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<td>Executive Vice President</td>
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<td>Secretary</td>
<td>Donna Saki</td>
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<td>(301) 801-6175</td>
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<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>Ben Nisbet</td>
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<td>(914) 591-4766</td>
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<td>Vice Presidents</td>
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<td>Sheri Soderberg Pittman</td>
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<td>Barry Rodgers</td>
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<td>Terry Timmins</td>
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<td>(714) 362-8185</td>
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<td>Foundation Representative</td>
<td>Jimmy McClure</td>
<td>7127 Williams Creek Drive, Indianapolis, IN 46240</td>
<td>(317) 255-2578</td>
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### Olympic Athlete Representative

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Viscaria
The first blade to combine arylate and carbon fibers to produce a new standard for blade performance. Viscaria not only has the arylate features of lightness, flexibility and shock absorption, but also the carbon features of elasticity and power.

Orinky
The arylate technology which has been chosen by the U.S.'s top male and female shakehand players is now available in Penhold. Orinky's two arylate plies and three wooden plies make up a blade which is equally adept at hitting, looping, close to table, or mid-range play.

Quetzal
Light, well balanced carbon blade whose compact size combines two carbon plies with three wooden plies. More suited for all around play than most carbon blades. Also excellent for quick counter play close to the table.
APEX Lightspeed Rubber

A review by Christian Lillieroos, USATT Certified National Coach

APEX Lightspeed is a revolutionary new table tennis rubber

About 4 to 5 years ago the benefits of regluing came to the attention of many American players. As word spread, players realized, just as many European players discovered over a decade ago, that regluing or speed-gluing, as it is often called, not only could increase the speed and spin of many table tennis shots but also could improve overall shot control, as a result of the ball staying longer on the racket. Over a decade the regluing revolution has found its way to all parts of the world. (The most recent converts have been the Chinese top players.) The new Apex Lightspeed line of table tennis rubber, I believe, represents a revolution potentially similar in impact to the discovery of the regluing effect.

APEX Lightspeed increases ball contact time

When Airedale initially started to develop their new rubber it was with the intent to create a rubber with the same properties of reglued rubber without the need to reglue. This was at the time considered to be important as the ITTF had stated its intention to ban all liquid based adhesives. After, a considerable amount of research was carried out by Airedale in new sponge technology with no real improvement in performance over existing Japanese sponges, (research in this area is ongoing), it was decided that most of the research effort should be centered on redesigning the top sheet component of the table tennis rubber sheet. By a careful reformulation of the material and geometry of the top sheet, Airedale was able to create a rubber with the ability to dramatically increase the time the ball stays on the racket. When the Apex Lightspeed rubber (Attack and Attack Plus) is reglued, the dwell time is further increased, allowing the ball to stay on the racket longer than with any rubber I have played with in the past. Including the established Japanese products such as Sriver, Mark V, etc. or the Chinese hard sponge/sticky top sheet rubber (which requires a very special technique and a great deal of effort to produce fast/spinny balls). The result is a rubber which reacts differently than any rubber before offering an unheard of range of shot possibilities for the average and champion level player alike. With the lifting of the ban on regluing by the ITTF until August 1995 and the strong possibility that the Professional Players Association will further pressure the ITTF to continue to allow the use of regluing beyond this date, players have once again decided to take advantages of reglued rubber. By the combining the special properties of the Apex Lightspeed top sheet with the advantages of reglued sponge, most players will find a whole new dimension in playing open to them.

Beginner and Intermediate Players will benefit the most initially

The traditional 1500 level player who has yet to do advanced shots like the loop off the bounce, short serve returns, smash of loops, etc., and who does not reglue, will find it very much easier to learn these shots even with un-reglued Apex Lightspeed rubber. The main characteristic is the same as with regluing, an increase in speed, spin and control. However, the rubber also allows for a much simplified technique to be used for a large number of different advanced strokes. This is a benefit for the beginner and intermediate players who wish to add these shots to their repertoire as they just need to master only a few new strokes. However, for the more advanced player (2200+) this may be an initial handicap as they have to first learn the myriad of different techniques they have mastered when using traditional and more difficult to play with table tennis rubbers. In short, with Apex the same technique can be used for a wide variety of shots.

The proper technique to use with the new rubber

The fundamental principal to keep in mind when playing with this new breed of rubber is that as a result of its highly elastic top sheet, you are able to carry the ball longer than before. This allows you more time to decide which shot you wish to make and gives you the ability to greatly disguise your shot. The critical point in the stroke is the timing at the point of contact with the ball. You should contact the ball at a slow speed with the racket at a flat angle (open angle) then once contact is made start your acceleration. Now you have two options. If you desire to loop a no spin ball stop your acceleration. On the other hand to achieve a fast loop ball the motion has to continue with a long forward carry stroke with the racket angle ending totally on top of the ball. The way to get heavy spin is to finish with the racket higher while using a thinner contact than the fast loop stroke. The racket head as before ends in a closed position. All this is done with less effort with this rubber. The range of shots from no spin, medium to heavy spin is greater and easier for the player to “dial in” than with traditional rubber. Another feature this rubber sheet has is that when you execute a fast or low spinny shot, the ball bounces lower than with other rubber sheets. This lower trajectory comes about because of the change in the position of the ball when it leaves the racket face (later and higher in the stroke) and a difference in launch angle and height of the ball in relation to the net.

Available in red or black with sponge thicknesses of 1.5, 1.7 and 2.0 mm

Currently the only ITTF approved table tennis rubber made in the USA!

Control - Medium speed and spin rubber for the control player.
Regular - High speed and spin rubber suitable for the all-round player.
Attack - Super speed and spin rubber for the power player.
Attack Plus - For the advanced player who places more of an emphasis on speed rather than spin.

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Christian Lillieroos

Contact us about ASTI's 1994 table tennis summer camp schedule with Christian Lillieroos and other highly qualified coaches.