1994 U.S. National Championships
Las Vegas, Nevada

DAVID ZHUANG
Men’s Singles Champion
Men’s Doubles Champion
Mixed Doubles Champion
Over 30 Champion

AMY FENG
Women’s Singles Champion
Women’s Doubles Champion
Mixed Doubles Champion
Team Trials Champion
My Contract with USATT Membership:

• I will make Junior & Club Development Top Priority.
• I will raise money for these programs, as I have in the past.

Dr. Jiing Wang

The USATT had large membership increases in 1971 (Ping Pong Diplomacy), 1988 and 1992 (Olympics). However, all these gains were lost. Obviously, it is a waste of time to promote and try to sell the sport until we fix the product. This means developing more and better clubs that new and current members will want to play at; and setting up nation-wide junior programs. Juniors are the future of the sport, and the age group most active in sports. If you agree with this, please give me your support.

Vote

☑ Dr. Jiing Wang
Executive Vice President

About Dr. Wang:
Dr. Wang raised $52,000 for the 1994 U.S. Open...He personally sponsored a U.S. Junior Team to the Youth City Championships in Taiwan...A long-time player, he has founded two table tennis clubs...He was the Tournament Chairman of the 1994 U.S. Open...He is currently President of several organizations, including the prestigious Duke Medical Clinic and the Health & Life Foundation, a non-profit organization (as is the USATT).
TOURNAMENTS

1994 U.S. NATIONALS
David Zhuang & Amy Feng Sweep!
10 Men's Singles by Larry Hodges
12 Women's Singles by Richard McAfee
14 U.S. Team Trials by Larry Hodges
14 National School Championships by Larry Hodges
18 Doubles Events by Larry Hodges
18 Senior Events by Richard McAfee

1994 U.S. OPEN TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS
Cheng, Dan & Todd Win $2,000 each
by Tim Boggan

1994 SOUTHERN OPEN
Cheng Yinghua Sweeps!
by Larry Hodges

1995 PAN AM TEAM TRIALS
Men's Team: John Butler, Sean O'Neill, Chi-Sun Chui, Derek May
Women's Team: Lily Yip, Diana Gee, Wei Wang, Tawny Bank
by Larry Hodges

1994 HUNTSMAN WORLD SENIOR GAMES
by Grant Misbach

WORLD CIRCUIT FINAL
Lisbon, Portugal
Wang Tao defeats Jean-Michel Saive
by Diego Schaaf

INTERNATIONAL RESULTS
Cheng Yinghua defeats World Champion
Jean-Philippe Gatien at World Cup!
The World Cup, World Team Cup, World Allstar Circuit,
Swedish Open, Italian Open, Asian Games, Qatar Open

COACHING

MENTAL VISUALIZATION
by USATT Certified Regional Coach Sean Lonergan

THE BACKHAND TO FOREHAND TRANSITION
OF ZORAN PRIMORAC
by USATT Certified National Coach Wei Wang

TEACHING A BEGINNER TABLE TENNIS
by Christopher Pham

PROFILES

MEET VICTOR TOLKACHEV
St. Joseph Valley's Full-time Coach
by Brad Balmer

DALLAS REDEKOPP
Billings Benefactor
by Walt Gomes
IT'S TIME TO RAISE THE HEIGHT OF TABLE TENNIS TABLES
by Michael Scott

Based upon several factors I have arrived at the conclusion that the height of Table Tennis Tables should be raised approximately two inches (approx. 5 cm). USATT Rules Committee Chairman Malcolm Anderson and ITTF Secretary-General Albert Shipley confirm that the table height is currently 2'6" (approx. 76cm). Mr. Shipley's records go back to the 1930's. To be technically precise Mr. Shipley points out that until 1937 the printed table tennis laws only mentioned 2'6" but in 1937 the table height was increased to 2'7". Since 1975 the measurements have been expressed only in metric terms (e.g. table tennis height of 76 cm). A centimeter is actually 0.3937 of a linear inch. From the 1930's to the present date the worldwide average height of males and females has considerably increased by several inches. Therefore it is only logical that some consideration of a height adjustment should be seriously considered in adjusting the table height accordingly.

Upon discussing my opinion and recommendation with international authorities I have, surprisingly, not encountered any objections but instead have had enthusiastic, affirmative responses from the USATT headquarters, at tournament exhibitions. Peter Chamberlain is a 14-year-old eighth grader with a 3.8 GPA. He is also a player who's rating recently went from 1517 to 1715. He has successfully passed his Regional Umpire test, and demonstrated his abilities as a great umpire by umpiring some top matches during the tournament. Peter probably the youngest umpire ever to be certified by the USATT. Congratulations Peter, and best wishes for a bright future as an umpire.

Paul Kovac recommended that every player should have a USATT bumper sticker included in his packet. He was immediately well pleased with this adjustment and made the comment that it was far more comfortable playing at that table height. With a new pair of fairly thick soled shoes I personally am capable of reaching 5'7" in height. I readily adjusted this to the altered table height and found it far more satisfactory for playing.

Being USATT Team Physician for over 15 years, I can confirm that with the increase in players height there has been a correspondingly increase in the number of players with lumbo-sacral and other related orthopedic and muscular strains. Jim Butler occasionally has had to utilize a back brace while playing. Raising the table to a more reasonable height will help alleviate such abnormal strain on the body and partially eliminate the awkward cramp-like stance experienced by a few players have been engaged in the sport of Table Tennis.

I have discussed the recommendation with Dr. Zarko Dolinar of Switzerland and will recommend an elevation in table height during the next meeting of the ITTF Science Committee in China. Eventually approval by the ITTF may prove time consuming but essential for the advancement of our sport.
If You Want To See

• More Sponsors...
• More Junior Development...
• More Club Development...

Then vote
Dr. Jiing Wang

"Dr. Wang is the most prolific fund raiser in USATT history. Dr. Wang is the kind of candidate who can make a positive difference for USA Table Tennis.” - Dan Seemiller

USATT Executive Vice President

BRINGING IN SPONSORS

• Dr. Wang raised $52,000 for the 1994 U.S. Open.
• Since 1985, Dr. Wang has sponsored the Chinese team to every U.S. Open.
• Major sponsor for Chinese New Year Open, 1991-94.
• Dr. Wang will continue to bring in sponsors for junior & club development programs.

JUNIOR & CLUB DEVELOPMENT

• Dr. Wang personally financed a U.S. Junior team to the King Car City Youth Championships in Taiwan in August, 1994, and acted as Team Leader for the 15 juniors players.
• Dr. Wang founded/co-founded two table tennis clubs.
• Dr. Wang will get sponsors for Junior & Club Development Programs.

ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE

• Dr. Wang is President of Duke Medical Clinic; President of Pacific Times; and President of Health & Life Foundation, a non-profit organization.
• Tournament Chairman of 1994 U.S. Open, in charge of fund-raising.
• Co-founded Southern California TTA in 1983.
• Has physician's license in California & Pennsylvania; currently a general practitioner in El Monte, California.

Team Leader Dr. Wang with U.S. Junior Team at King Car City Youth Championships in August, 1994
Tianjin Council meetings would be held the playing schedule and the host television should be in Tianjin from September provision of computers would be finalized on the ranking of the champions was agreed. A contract for the would receive 10%. The intention to raise 3.3 World Championships 1995 need to be provided and named. ETU was willing to participate, negotiations were in hand to find a potential site for the World Cup in Atlanta in 1995, likely venues in the future would be Sydney and Osaka. 3.2 World Cup It was reported that no title sponsor had yet been found for the event scheduled to be held in Taiwan in December. A political incident involving Taiwan, China and the President of the Olympic Council for Asia had arisen which could necessitate finding an alternative venue to Taiwan. The new contract with IMGO was agreed on the understanding that the 1995 World Cup would be held in France. The Projects Director reported that there was a good chance of a sponsor for a women's World Cup and, provided the ITTF was willing to participate, negotiations would continue which a further reduction in the cost of the equipment would need to be provided and named. 3.3 World Championships 1995 A record contract for TV overseas rights had been signed of which the ITTF would receive 10%. The intention was to raise this percentage at future World Championships was agreed. A contract for the provision of computers would be finalized soon. It was agreed that the Projects Director should be in Tianjin from September 23-25 in order to finalize arrangements for the playing schedule and the host television broadcaster. It was agreed that in Tianjin Council meetings would be held on May 2nd and 10th, with the BGM on May 6th. 3.4 World Championships 1997 Although India had offered to stage a full-scale Championships it was felt that preference should be given to a venue in Europe. Negotiations would continue with Barcelona on the basis of one day less for competition, a reduction in the hospitality burden, plus a financial package concerning television and advertising but no ITTF money would be used. England and Manchester were possible candidates and Croatia had offered to stand by. A final decision would be made by the end of November and if no satisfactory arrangement could be made with a venue in Europe, then the event would be allocated to India. It was agreed to study a change in the team event system of play. 3.5 Asian Games It was agreed that the test event would be the 4th World Team Cup even if no title sponsor could be found in which case the event would not carry prize money. As there were signs that the world economy was improving, tenders were invited for the Asian Games. If China decided to bid for the Olympic Games for 2004 there was a chance that they would wish to have the event in December 1995. 3.7 World All Stars Circuit The 1994 Final was to be held in Lisbon, Portugal on October 29-30 and the Deputy President would represent the ITTF. There would be two World All Stars events in Europe in 1994, in Barcelona on November 13 and Charleroi, Belgium on November 15. A contract had been signed with Spectrum, a management agency in Hong Kong, for an Asian circuit over the next three years. 3.8 Global Youth Championships The Japanese TTA had announced that the event would again be held in Tokyo on January 9-12 1995. Conditions would be the same as the 1994 event, games of 11 points with service changing after every two points. 3.9 World Grand Prix The Projects Director explained his idea of a series of Open International Championships. The OIC Working Party had already formulated a set of Directives for Open Championships which would have to be followed by each event in the Grand Prix. 4.1 Cup Special Mr. Harrison gave the background to the events leading up to the marketing of a racket covering known as Cup Special, for which TSP had not requested ITTF approval. This was a version of a TSP racket authorized by the ITTF and produced by a brand name Curly. It was being treated commercially and sold at double the normal price of Curly. It was a long pimpled rubber and the treatment appeared to harden the pimples, giving a surprise advantage to some players. In the discussion that followed, two key points emerged in that Cup Special was not an ITTF approved rubber and that it was illegal to use an approved rubber whose characteristics had been changed after approval. It was also agreed to recommend that Associations should study a policy of banning the use of the long pimpled rubber inside the usual arrangement for Tournament players and veterans. In future, racket coverings submitted for approval would be studied for any negative or detrimental effect on play. Notice would be given of the Committee's decisions to all Associations. 4.2 Glue Mr. Harrison reported on the findings of a meeting held between representatives of the FIT (Federation of International Table Tennis Manufacturers), representatives of the ITTF Equipment Committee and the manufacturers. The minutes of this meeting recorded the following opinions: 1. Some of the currently approved glues fell under government regulations for dangerous chemicals and should be packaged accordingly. 2. Because laboratory work was very expensive, the ITTF had analyzed sub samples only for the banned substances. Complete analyses were available only for 3 of the 22 approved glues. The FIT agrees that the ITTF should send complete analyses for all approved glues, and that the costs of the analyses should be borne by the manufacturers. 3. In the small rooms usually set aside for regluing, noxious concentrations of vapor were quite possible. Regluing in sports facilities and other buildings should be completely prohibited, as was already done in some countries. 4. All glues currently approved were highly flammable. They should therefore not be sold to children. The legal definition of "child" varied from country to country. The responsibility to comply with this paragraph therefore fell on the sellers. Glues should not be sold in "open" shops, such as supermarkets, cash and carry shops, etc. 5. It would be impossible to avoid completely the instance of glue misuse. 6. The subject of PSA was discussed at length. All participants shared the common view concerning the difficulties associated with PSA, e.g. its difficulty in handling, the waste produced, the necessity to remove residues with solvents and the accumulation of the rubber before using the adhesive. 7. The participating manufacturers of glues were optimistic that within six months to two years a water-based glue with a regluing effect could be developed. This would be the best solution, and would remove any doubt about health hazards and flammability. The Executive Committee accepted the findings of the FIT meeting and steps would be taken to define the acceptable levels of toxic solvents in the currently approved glues. By January 1 1995 all approved glues must comply with the low level of toxicity to be established by the Equipment Committee on the advice of the Executive Committee. Manufacturers were to be asked to speed up their efforts to produce a water based glue with fresh gluing effect as this would solve all problems. The Executive Committee was not empowered to lift the Council's ban on toxic glue scheduled for August 1 1995, nor did they wish to do so. Testing for solvent vapor would be conducted at World Championships and the Olympics. Mr. A. Ransome (England) was invited to the meeting for this item and he gave a summary of the actions taken in England to ban all regluing, required playing rubber to be applied to the racket and not to the glue to a racket. This caused problems at international events and put English players at a disadvantage. Therefore, the senior English players were allowed to use the approved glues only when playing against other English players. Mr. Ransome thanked Mr. Ransome for his interest and contribution. It was noted that there would have to be an amendment to the current regulations 3.2.1.3 to add the word 'organic' so as to prevent the use of water-based glue. The contents of a separate letter from Mr. Bachler as President of FIT were considered. It was not possible for the Executive Committee to retain the present situation of allowing the use of approved glues and PSA sheets indefinitely as it was not in the interests of the ITTF. One point in the letter was similar to those in the FIT/ITTF meeting minutes, except that it was not agreed to decide penalties for use of non-approved glues after prior agreement with the CTTF but the Committee were prepared to listen to their opinions. 5 Finance Mr. J. Ramsdale outlined the current financial position and felt that the future position would be satisfactory if all current negotiations on sponsorships were successful. It was agreed to proceed with securing overdraft facilities for up to £400,000 and all necessary documents were signed. It was very likely that we would not need to use the overdraft after January. At that point we would become available. It was agreed to take out a professional indemnity insurance to protect the Officers of the ITTF from legal action by a third party. Mr. Ramsdale reported on various items but the outstanding items due to the ITTF and the steps being taken to recover them. It was felt that instead of equipment approvals at set prices, a licensing scheme should be developed whereby use of the ITTF logo was sold, the charge relating to sales on a scale of a percentage of the turnover. Mr. A. Ransome (England) was in- volved to the meeting for this item and he suggested that an assistant should be appointed per project per year per Continent. In thanking Mr. Ramsdale for his work, the President concluded that our finances were steadily improving but the overdraft facility was needed to safeguard our position in the immediate future. The Treasurer pointed out that it would be impossible to overdraw in the future, the ITTF reserve of the Olympic TV rights should be increased accordingly. 6 Membership It was agreed that a letter recommended acceptance of the application by the Maldives to re-affiliate after suspension. 7 Honors 7.1 Hall of Fame It was agreed to proceed with the induction of those champions winning 5 or more gold medals in the decade 1945-1955 plus the first induction of an official.
ROBO-PONG 2000, MAY THE FORCE BE WITH YOU.

Practice exactly what you want—when and how you want to do it! Designed as a personal table tennis partner, the Robo-Pong 2000 can play anytime, day or night. Enjoy playing table tennis without having to search for a partner. Variable from beginner to expert levels, Robo-Pong 2000 can challenge you to be your best!

This portable machine returns your plays and the improved collection net feeds returned balls to the loading chamber for continuous, non-stop action. The control box enables quick adjustments for speed, frequency and oscillation without stopping play.

- Provides healthy in-home family entertainment, for a great TV and video game alternative.
- Fully assembled, compact, portable and light weight. Sets up in less than 5 minutes.
- Promotes family fitness without boredom or monotonous repetition and develops reflexes, aerobic capacity and coordination.
- Built-in oscillation unit allows for multiple sweep combinations.
- Improves your Table Tennis game almost immediately. Learn how to return serves, lobs, drives, loops, pushes and chops and how to handle topspin, sidespin and backspin.
- Comes complete with collection net, remote control, 48 balls, video tape, owner handbook and instruction manual.


Try Pong-Master, the electronic interactive table tennis game. Combine this game with Robo-Pong 2000 for more great fun. Robo-Pong 2000 fires up to 90 balls per minute across the net with different spins. Your return must hit one of the Pong-Master sensor targets on Robo-Pong 2000's side of the net. Pong-Master keeps the time and score. Beat Robo-Pong 2000 at Pong-Master and you can beat anybody.

Call us NOW!
Our Customer Service Representatives will be glad to help you

NEWGY
1-800-55 NEWGY
63949

Reg. retail $595
SPECIAL USATT PRICE
$495

Makes a great gift!
Dear Editor,

I would like to join with Jamey Hall and Teh-Hsin Too (May/June, Sep/Oct) in commenting on the membership/tournament fees and the impact on new members.

Our university club currently has about 30-40 members, with 4 being USATT members. For many of these players paying $20 is difficult, and tournament fees on top of that keeps them out. (As previously noted—the membership fee is reasonable but is still a barrier for new members.)

I have considered running a sanctioned tournament in our club, but this seems impractical because we wouldn’t be able to get enough USATT members to cover costs. My guess is that we’re not the only club in that situation.

I think implementing a member/non-member rating fee could greatly reduce the problem—estimate the cost of handling one person per tournament (e.g. $2) and add it to the rating fee, i.e. $3 for members/$5 for non-members. This would allow for many new players to enter with a low initial cost. Since this would not constitute membership there would be no cost for TTToday or mailing lists, only that of calculating and maintaining the players’ rating. This would also allow many more people to have a rating which in turn would allow much easier tournament handling in places where few are members. Since both the tournament fees and the costs per player are higher for sanctioned tournaments they are few and far between—with lower costs to new players, there would be more tournaments, and the sport’s popularity would increase and hence revenues as well.

Dear Editor,

USATT will not give ratings over the phone, directing us instead to the vagaries of the U.S. Postal Service. I suggest that USATT get a 900 number for exactly this purpose, and try it out for a six-month period. The number could be manned for two hours during the middle of the (Colorado) day, making it accessible to players on both coasts. Whereas USATT makes no money from the present mail-in system, a charge of $2 per minute for the 900 number would result in a cash flow. The number is thinking of entering a tournament but are unsure of their current rating could get instant gratification. This would be far more member-friendly than sending a request through the mail and then waiting for a response.

(The Editor’s Note—Starting January 1, 1995, the USATT will institute a $5 tournament pass. Contact headquarters for details.)

Allan Saxton
Urbana/Champaign, Illinois

Dear Editor,

I know that one of the concerns of the USATT is to increase the popularity of the sport and the participation in the sport of table tennis. Clearly, there are a number of ways to approach this, one of them being by televising important matches.

One major problem is that two aggressive topspin players with rallies often limited to a couple of balls across the net. In contrast are the matches between a chopper or defensive player and a topsinner. I would think that to a great many viewers such a match would attract more interest; it appears that the defensive player necessarily will lose, but that is by no means always the case. Ordinarily, there will be many more balls across the net and the viewer will be impressed when the “underdog” defender wins the point and perhaps the match.

I understand that table tennis training at higher levels is concerned with advancing the ability to compete internationally, but I think that the sport would be well served by giving more attention to training “the defense.” It seems to me from what I have observed that a chopper, for example, with the ability to hit when the opportunity arises, can be as competitive as well as entertaining. I think many people would be amazed by the almost acrobatic abilities of the chopper and the sudden, explosive loop or hit that wins the point.

I understand that probably the reason for the success of some defenders is due to the fact that the topspinners face the defensive style relatively rarely. If defense became more of a factor the topspinners might become more proficient out of necessity; still, I think more involvement of defensive players is one of the keys to promoting the sport. The viewer who is interested enough to watch a match may be put off by the probability of seeing repeated serves returned into the net or off the table and other missed shots after very short rallies; the factors (spin, placement, etc.) are probably not appreciated by the uninformed viewer. In some of the topspin vs. topspin matches it is going to be hard to understand why the points were so short. It tends to make it appear that these are really not very proficient and the degrees of spin, speed and placement are not appreciated.

Finally, it might be better if the team “defense” were not used. Rather, a player would use “underspin” or “topspin” (or lob, block). If a player simply puts the ball back in play and nothing more, that is defensive. But the chopper, for example, is imparting aggressive spin, variations of spin and placement. On the other hand, these involve characteristics returning with high loops or easy chop. It is only when the chop is smashed or fast looped that you really have playing; otherwise, it seems to be largely defensive.

I am hoping that in the future there will be more emphasis on chopping and the production of longer, more interesting points.

David H. Wheeler
Beaverton, Oregon

January/February 1995

Dear Editor,

I am hoping that in the future there will be more emphasis on chopping and the production of longer, more interesting points.

David H. Wheeler
Beaverton, Oregon

January/February 1995
Jean-Michel Saive is using the Vmax blade with Vmax and Cmax rubber sheets. To become the 1994 European Champion and the World Number "1" rated player is not possible with just any kind of racket and rubber! The new Vmax blade with Vmax and Cmax rubbers were specially developed to give Jean-Michel Saive the best power, speed, and control needed for his devastating loops and lightning quick attacks.

**Schildkröt**

Distributed by Vector Sports

**THE NEW POWER GENERATION!**

Vmax. "Jean-Michel Saive" is famous for his relentless attacks. Jean-Michel is playing Vmax. It offers very fast speed with control taking advantage of a new construction - 5 plies of red ash, Oregon pine and abachi woods. Ideal when combined with the Vmax rubber.

Cmax. "Jean-Michel Saive" means "Maximum control" for both attacking and control players. With Cmax, extra feeling on the ball is created because of the longer contact between the ball and the rubber. Cmax helps to provide well placed balls, perfect rotation of the ball and fast attack. Thicknesses: 1,3/1,6/2,0 mm.
Men’s Singles
by Larry Hodges

16ths
After making five straight finals, winning three of them, it was pretty much taken for granted that Jim Butler was the man to beat. Training full time in Sweden, with a nice all-around game with exceptional serves and a spectacular backhand, he was seeded number one. In the 16ths (final 32), he faced 19-year-old Sean Lonergan, who passed the Regional Umpire test at the Nationals. He is also rated 1715, so he’s a player as well. Just don’t start taking journalism classes, Peter!

Most watched match in tournament, except for the finals: Todd Sweeris (2524) and 12-year-old, 4’9” Jessica Shen (1913)

In the fifth, Jim led 10-6 at the switch. From here on, it was all Lonergan as he scored all five on his serve to lead 18-17. Sean flipped Jim’s first serve off the end and served up a nice return. (Sean is trying very hard to locate anyone who has a tape of the match—call him at 301-670-6882 if you do.)

The other interesting match in the 16ths was Barry Dettel’s come-from-behind victory over Dave Fernandez. U.S. Junior Champion Dave served from the top of the court, but followed that by smashing Jim’s loop. Serving at 18-20, Jim loop killed with his forehand from the backhand corner, and served up a clean winner to end a 9-1 scoring binge and advance. Our 3-time and current National Champion was out, -17, 15, -12, 18, 18. (Sean is trying very hard to locate anyone who has a tape of the match—call him at 301-670-6882 if you do.)

In the fifth, Jim led 10-6 at the switch. At 11-13, Jim began to pull away, and up 16-12, Jim got a practically match-ending net ball to go up 17-12. Jim served off, and so Sean served from down 13-17.

From here on, it was all Lonergan as he scored all five on his serve to lead 18-17. Sean flipped Jim’s first serve off the end and served up a nice return. (Sean is trying very hard to locate anyone who has a tape of the match—call him at 301-670-6882 if you do.)

The other interesting match in the 16ths was Barry Dettel’s come-from-behind victory over Dave Fernandez. U.S. Junior Champion Dave served from the top of the court, but followed that by smashing Jim’s loop. Serving at 18-20, Jim loop killed with his forehand from the backhand corner, and served up a clean winner to end a 9-1 scoring binge and advance. Our 3-time and current National Champion was out, -17, 15, -12, 18, 18. (Sean is trying very hard to locate anyone who has a tape of the match—call him at 301-670-6882 if you do.)
avoided being skunked, winning against defending champion Todd Sweeris, 16-19, 15, in a match where neither player seemed to want to play—Todd because he'd just lost in Men's Singles, Etc because he kept thinking Todd was conceding and so almost played a little too much exhibition. The final was Etc's forehand looping against Dave's, two-winged quick looping, with Eric winning out at 18 & 15.

Men's Singles, Quarterly

Interestingly, four of the eight quarterfinalists were lefties—Dan Seemiller, Brian Masters, De Tran and Darko Rop.

Semi-finals

David Zhuang vs Dan Seemiller

These two have played each other since they were 9 & 12, respectively, but Sean has a good lead in the lifetime series. Their recent matches have all been close, with Brian 15-15, 15-15, 15-15, 15-15.

David Zhuang vs Dan Seemiller

Zhuang, 11,17,-20,17.

20-10. The string ended at 15-11 when David finally scored on his serve to go up 16-11...and won the game 21-11. (Even the 18 in a row streak, the receiver won this game 8-6.)

Once again, the receiver took the lead in the second, as server David fell behind 1-4. Down 11-13, David goes up 16-13, and holds that lead to 19-16, Sean to serve...and David quickly wins 21-17.

David finally ends the Bermuda Service Triangle as he twice scores all five on his serve in the third in going up 20-13 Championship Point. A quick 3-0 win for David!

Wasn't there some mention of a comeback earlier? Sean wins the last two points on his serve to pull to 15-20, David to serve. Oh-oh: Sean starts off with a falling backward forehand smash, 16-20. Helped by one edge and three unreturnable forehand rip loops, it's suddenly 20-20! Seven Championship points...gone. Sean serve and rips a winner, 21-20. Then rips a net-nicking, loop winner off of David's serve, nine in a row! 22-20! Has David blown a third straight final?

Finally, something for the TV coverage! The Disney fairy tale continues in the fourth as Sean takes a 4-0 lead—on David's serve. But David, shaken, but not yet stirred, ties it up 8-8, goes up 12-8. Dave is mostly blocking, but he never misses, and Sean's third-game heroics just aren't there now.

Dave leads 16-12, then 16-15. Then he's up 19-16, 19-17. Sean misses an inside-out loop kill, 20-17, and then loops off again, 21-17. National Men's Championship to David Zhuang, 11,17-20,17.

On the third game comeback, David said, "I thought it was over!" There's a lesson there, somewhere...

Clockwise, from left: Semifinalist Brian Masters, Leaping President & Semifinalist Dan Seemiller, Giant-killer Sean Lonergan upsets top seed Jim Butler, Under 22 Men's Champion Eric Owens.

10. The string ended at 15-11 when David finally scored on his serve to go up 16-11...and won the game 21-11. (Even without the 18 in a row streak, the receiver won this game 8-6.)

The outstanding feature of the final (other than "the comeback") was that the receiver outscored the server throughout the match. For the record, the receiver outscored the server 87-63 for the match, 58% to 42%. The game by game breakdown was as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Game</th>
<th>Server</th>
<th>Receiver</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4th</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>87</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Coaching Sean for the match was Johan Carlsson, whom Sean had stayed with in Sweden in 1986 & 87. Coaching David was Joannie Fu.

The first game was a blowout, although it didn't start that way. At 5-3, David, the receiver scored the next 18 points in a row! Yes, the scores were 5-5, 10-5, 10-10, 15-
Amy Feng won Women's Singles & Doubles (with Lily Yip), Mixed Doubles (with David Zhuang) and came in first in the U.S. Team Trials.

Women's Singles
by Richard McAfee

Once again the Women's Singles Event produced a small, but very high quality field. While there were only 20 entries, the average rating of the quarterfinalists was 2510. Another apparent trend in the last few years has been the decreasing overall age of the field. Eight of the last 16 players were under 22 years old. In fact, four were still competing in the Juniors.

Quarterfinals:
Defending Champion, Amy Feng (MD), only 25 years old, started out strong running a 11-4 first game lead over Jane Chui (MA). The left-handed Amy scored repeatedly with her crosscourt backhand. Amy won the first 21-7. Jane came out swinging in the second and often out-countered Amy to take a 8-4 lead. At this point, Amy began to loop more and quickly regained control. Game two to Amy 21-14. Jane continued to fight hard into the third. However, Amy's serve and follow are just too good. Game three and match to Amy 21-14.

The Lily Yip (NJ) and Tawny Banh (CA) match was an example of how serve and serve return can dominate a match. Tawny has a strong forehand and backhand counter game. However, in this match, she almost never got a chance to open. Lily took early control of each game and rolled to a 5, 14, 17 victory.

Zakharyan (CA) match provided some excellent, quick countering points for the spectators. The first game was all Anita's, as she snapped in forehand after forehand kill, 21-8.

Both players raised their level in the second. Peggy, forcing her own offense more, took an early 9-5 lead. Anita continued to play steady and forced Peggy into making some forehand errors. Anita went on to take a 19-16 lead and looked sure to capture game two. However, Peggy had other ideas as she played four great points to deuce the game.

With both players reluctant to attack, the next point was a long pushing contest, finally won by Anita. A serve return error by Peggy gave Anita the critical second game at 21-20. The match continued even to 18-all in the third. Again both players played a very long pushing game. This time the point went to Peggy. A third ball attack would give Peggy a 20-18 lead. Peggy then missed a backhand counter, 20-19. Finally Anita looped long to give Peggy the third game at 21-19. After three hard-fought games, Rosen wilted in the fourth. Zakharyan took the game and match 21-10.

The most dramatic match of the event would be the quarterfinal between former U.S. Champion, Wei Wang and U.S. Team Member Virginia Sung. This five-game match was a war of nerves, skill, experience, and, most of all, heart.

Coming out in the second, Wei began to change her game. Pushing much more and trying to pick-hit, which didn't see to hurt as much as looping. Wei slowly built a 14-8 lead. At this point, Virginia began to see some frustration and forced her own attack, making many errors. Game two to Wei, 21-13.

Game three would be the turning point in the match. Virginia came out very determined and took a quick 4-1 lead. Wei continued the pattern of long pushing points with some forehand picks mixed in. With Virginia leading 10-6, the expedite rule came in. Virginia would go on to take this game at 21-17; but, the strategy of the remaining part of the match was greatly changed.

Games four and five followed similar scripts. It quickly became clear that Wei was much more experienced playing under the expedite rule than Virginia. When serving, Wei was very patient, often waiting to almost the last ball to score with her offense. On the other hand, Virginia seemed lost as to when she should attack. Often attacking early, she quickly became confused and frustrated. Wei won games four and five at 16 & 13.

Seminifinals:
Wei continued her fine play by taking the first game off Amy Feng, 21-18. For Wei to be successful, she had to pin Amy to her backhand and force her to counter. Once Amy got the first forehand loop, she quickly took control of the point. Over the next three games, Amy's serves and follows begin to dominate the match. Amy won the next three games and the match, 11, 15, 18.

In the other semifinal, Lily Yip was much too quick for Ana Zakharyan. Ana has very strong drives from both sides. However, she rarely had a chance to use them. Lily's serve and return continued to dominate her opponent. Match to Lily, 11, 11, 16.

Finalist Lily Yip

For the third straight year, the final would be between Amy Feng and Lily Yip. Amy had both of these previous matches. However, last year's match was a close 5-game affair, and the spectators were mixed in their picks for a winner.

In the beginning of the first game, both players appeared very nervous. Points were very short and, more often than not, won by an error. Amy jumped to a quick 10-5 lead by virtue of repeated blocking errors by Lily. First game to Amy, 21-10.

In the second both players settled down and a pattern began to emerge. Lily had to attack first. Once Amy took control of the point by looping, she could out-position Lily, often scoring wide to Lily's forehand. The first half of game two was close with Amy holding an 11-9 lead. Gradually, Amy pulled away to an 18-12 lead. Second game to 21-15.

After winning the first two games in easy fashion, this match looked like a blowout for Amy. Game three began with Amy taking a 4-1 lead on her serve. At this point, Lily noticeably began to elevate her game, particularly her serve return. Missing short drops and flips, Yip began to control Feng's serve. Lily also began to spin more with her forehand, instead of trying to kill every ball. The result was a 14-11 lead for Yip, her first lead of the match. Lily continued to hold a small lead to 18-17. A couple of costly backhand errors allowed Amy to deuce the game. Here is a point by point recount of the final points.

#1 Deuce - With Amy serving, Lily loops a ball long
#2 Match Point for Amy - Lily scores with a serve.
#3 Deuce - Amy misses a forehand drop off a short drop from Lily.
#1 Game Point for Lily - Lily hits a forehand long off a slow loop.
#3 Deuce - Amy scores on a backhand

January/February 1995
January/February 1995

Virginia Sung (L) won under 22 Women and made the quarterfinals of Women’s Singles, while Lily Yip is “congratulated” by Barry Dattel for making finals of Women’s Singles and winning Women’s Doubles. Barry & Lily lost 18 in the third to eventual winners Amy Feng & David Zhuang in the semifinals of Mixed Doubles.

High-end Table Tennis Equipment by

now available in the U.S.

When the Chinese National Team decided to have equipment custom made for players like Ma Wenge, Wang Tao and Lu Liu, the “Rolls Royce” of table tennis equipment was designed. Now, the majority of Chinese National players including ‘94 U.S. Open Champion Kong Linghu and ‘94 World Team Cup MVP Liu Guoliang play with this equipment:

- The blades are made in Sweden -
- long established as the authority in the art of blade making.
- The topsheets are made in China -
- still the highest friction available on the market.
- The sponge is made in Japan -
- legendary for its consistency and springiness.

These components were finely tuned to maximize each of their most desirable characteristics. Although there is no substitute yet for the feel of glue, a similar arc and drive can be generated with this equipment. The Avalox line is especially designed for attack styles and is therefore limited in its number of different products.

Available:

- 5-ply blades (80-85 grams) (as used by Ma and Kong) $44-
- 7-ply blades (83-87 grams) (as used by Wang Tao) $44-


To order call: 1-800-500-5057

Table Tennis Today 13

LET’S GET SERIOUS! ED HOGSHEAD FOR EXECUTIVE VICE-PRESIDENT!

Ed has developed strategic planning for several small and mid-size corporations. Using this 25 years of professional business experience and 25 years of Table Tennis play and promotions, Ed has developed plans to accomplish short and long-term goals for Table Tennis in the U.S. He compiled ideas and suggestions from the USATT papers of the last ten years, flew to Colorado and met with Paul Montville (Executive Director of USATT) and all of his staff, flew again at his own expense to Colorado to attend the USATT Board of Directors’ Meeting in November, 1994, and formulated a 25 page plan. A shortened version of this plan was distributed at the National Team Tournament in Detroit, handed out at the National Tournament in Las Vegas, and mailed to all USATT Clubs. Reaction to this plan has been fantastic - everyone agrees - it’s a positive plan to propel U.S. Table Tennis into the future as the Recognized Successful Olympic Sport it should be. (Several small parts of the overall plan have already been instituted by USATT)

LETS FINISH IT! VOTE FOR ED!

KEY PORTIONS OF PLAN

1) BETTER COMMUNICATION
   A) Member meetings at National Tournaments
   B) Member meetings at Regional Tournaments
   C) News media faxes from USATT Headquarters
   D) Vice-presidents responsible to regions.
   E) Develop E-Mail network between clubs
   F) Print more important national info in paper
   G) Print membership book.
   H) Develop handouts for member distribution.
   I) Setup USATT booths for info and products at all toursneys.
   J) Recognize national and regional achievements with press releases and in paper.
   K) Distribute “How to” books on clubs, coaching, umpiring, junior development, toursneys, etc.

2) COMMITTEES
   A) Fill them and fire them up
   B) Conserve present members
   C) Recruit new members
   D) Hold membership contests.

3) MEMBERSHIP
   A) Double in five years.
      a) Retrieve old members
      b) Conserve present members
      (Put value in being a member.)
      c) Recruit new members
      (Use current members.)
      d) Hold membership contests.

4) MONEY
   A) Obtain corporate sponsors
      a) Use our best asset - our members.
      b) Pay commission on acquiring sponsors.
      c) Lock overseas. (This is the most International sport there is!)
   B) Establish separate youth funding plan
   C) Help local clubs find sites to play at

PERSONAL INFO:

42 years old; Life member USATT; Club Umpire; State Coach; Certified Tournament Director; Played in Germany 2 years; 5 years College Commercial pilot; On 2 Boards of Directors; President of N.I.M.C.
Women's Trials
The Women's Team Trials took place in two stages at the U.S. Nationals. The first stage was four groups of five or six players, with the top two advancing to a final round robin of eight players, with carry-over. The top four in the final round robin would make the team. (There is a chance that there might be funding available for the fifth place person to also go.)

Group A
Top-seeded Amy Feng, 4-0, easily won her group with four straight 2-0 wins. Coming in second and also advancing was Nan Li, 3-1, who upset Jane Chui, 15-17, 12-10, to advance. Not advancing were Jenny Chang, 2-2; Jessica Shen, 1-3; and Vivian Lee, 0-4.

Group B
Lily Yip, 4-0, lost only one game (to Peggy Rosen) in advancing in first place. Peggy, 3-1, came in second, with a three-game win over Milagros Llosa, -12, 9, 8. Not advancing were Milagros Llosa, 2-2; Janet Kim, 1-3; and Sally Dahlin, 0-4.

Group C
Virginia Sung, 4-0, and Wei Wang, 3-1, easily advanced in this group, with Virginia upsetting Wei at 19, 17, to come in first. Not advancing were Inga Viktorova, 2-2; Joannie Fu, 1-3; and Karen Chang, 0-4.

Group D
Tawny Banh upset Anita Zakharyan, 15-, 19, 15, to come in first at 5-0, while Anita came in second, 4-1. A-red-hot Tawny held all other players under 10 in her other four matches. Not advancing were Nan-Ling Cheng, 2-3; Toni Gresham, 2-3; Andrea Butler, 1-4; and Patricia Hocke, 0-5.

Final Round Robin
Amy Feng swept the field, going 7-0. Lily Yip won the final against Amy, but lost at 20-, 14, 14. No other came close to getting a game from Amy. Virginia Sung came in second at 5-2, with losses to Amy and Anita Zakharyan, but her head-to-head upset of Lily Yip put her ahead of Lily, who was also at 5-2. Third-place finisher Lily had three-game wins over Anita Zakharyan, -19, 27, 14; over Wei Wang, -19, 17, 11; and Peggy Rosen, 17-, 10, 13.

The most exciting match of the women's trials was Lily's comeback against Anita. Anita won the first and led 20-15 in the second, Lily serving. Lily fought off eight match points to win the game, 29-27! Lily won the last game and if Anita had won the game, she'd have been tied with Tawny Banh for the fourth spot at 4-3, but Tawny still would have come out ahead, care of her head-to-head win against Anita. As it was, Tawny locked up the 4th and last spot on team. Not making the team were Wei Wang, 5th at 3-4; Anita Zakharyan, 6th at 3-4, due to her head-to-head loss to Wei; Peggy Rosen, 7th at 1-6; and Nan Li, 8th at 0-7, after a 11-, 17, 19 loss to Peggy.

Final U.S. Women's Team: Amy Feng, Virginia Sung, Lily Yip & Tawny Banh

Men's Trials
It was decided by the USATT to make the Men's Team Trials for the 1995 World Championships a two-part process. Part one took place at the U.S. Nationals, and narrowed the field to eight players. These eight will take part in a final trials sometime in February to decide the team of four that will go to the worlds. (There is a chance that funding may be available to send a fifth player as well.) Also eligible for the final trials will be Cheng Yinghua, who was competing at the World Singles Cup Championships in Taiwan during the Nationals.

New U.S. Team Member Tawny Banh upset fellow Californians Anita Zakharyan and Wei Wang to make team.

He won the right to represent North America at the World Cup by winning the North American Championships, and since he can't be in two places at the same time, it was agreed that he'd be waive into the finals. Unseeded players trying for the Men's Team were put in round robin groups of six players, with the top player advancing to two final groups of seven players. Players advancing from the first stage were Randy Cohen, 5-0, who upset the group's top seed, Dave Fernandez; Da-Zhi Guo, 5-0, the new junior from China now living in California, who defeated fellow-Californian Chi-Sun Chui to advance; Barry Dattel, 5-0, who upset Barney J. Reed to advance; Gbenga Ogundimu, 5-0, over Clark Yeh; and Sean Lonergan, 5-0, who upset De Tran to advance.

In the second stage, there were two groups of seven, with the top four in each group to advance to the final stage.

Group A
Sean O'Neill went 6-0 to come in first and advance, including a defeat from Jim Butler in the final round. Jim came in 4th in 3-3 barely advance after five games to lose to Gbenga and Darko Rop (the latter from up 20-13 match point in the fifth). In second place was Darko Rop at 5-2, with Gbenga at third, 4-2. Not advancing to the final stage were Barry Dattel (2-4), De-Zhi Guo (1-5) and Sean Lonergan (0-6). Of interest was Sean Lonergan's match with Jim Butler, where he led 19-14 in the first, before losing, and then won the second game—an omen of his later upset of Butler in Men's Singles in the Nationals a few days later.

Group B
Khoa Nguyen, seeded fourth in the group, came in first with a 6-0 record, including an upset of David Shang. Todd Sweeers also upset David Zhuang to come in second with a 4-2 record, matching David's record, but finishing ahead in the standing care of his head-to-head win. Todd's other loss was to Brian Masters, who came in fourth and advanced with a 3-3 record. Not advancing were Derek May, 2-4; Eric Owens, 1-5; and Randy Cohen, 1-5.

Those eligible for the finals trials are: Sean O'Neill, Darko Rop, Gbenga Ogundimu, Jim Butler, Khoa Nguyen, Todd Sweeers, David Zhuang, Brian Masters, and Cheng Yinghua.

School Championships
by Larry Hodges

National High School Champion Barney J. Reed.

Barney J. Reed added the National High School Boys' Singles Championships to his list of national titles with an 11 & 19 win over Shashin Shodhan in the finals. Shashin was not to be denied a title, however, as he teamed up with Richard Lee to win the High School Doubles Championships over Deepak Jain & Dylan Martis, at 15 & 25 (*).

Wan-Ling Cheng won the Girls' High School Singles title in the tightest singles final in the school events, 15-, 18, 19 over Milagros Llosa. Wan-Ling almost pulled off a double, as she and Jeannie Cheng lost in the final of the Girls' High School Doubles event to Milagros Llosa and Inga Viktorova, 10, 18.

U.S. Open Under 14 Champion T.J. Beebe pulled off the only double in the school events, claiming both the Primary School singles and Junior High School Doubles, with Anthony Torino. In the singles final, Georgian and top seed T.J. Beebe faced Californian and second seed Freddie Gabriel. After winning the first 21, 8, the momentum transferred to Gabriel as he won the match up, 21-14. The experienced Beebe prevailed in the third as he ran away with it, 21-10, to win another National title.

Jimmy Gun & Vineet Agarwal almost had the Junior High School Doubles title, winning the first game 21-16 against Beebe & Torino, and leading 19-12 in the second. But Beebe and Torino had other plans as they went on the attack, tied it up, and finally won the game, 24-22. The momentum continued in the third as Beebe/Torino won the title, 21-10. It was Beebe's second straight Junior High School Doubles Championships, as he won it the previous year with Richard Lee.

Da-Zhi Guo, newly arrived from China, completely dominated the Boys' Junior High School event, although Jimmy Guan went to deuce with him in the finals losing at 12 & 20.

Long-pipped chopper Casey McLeod waltzed through the Boys' Elementary Singles, defeating Mark Hoskins in the final at 6 & 8. Jacqueline Lee did the same with the Girls' Elementary Singles, going 3-3 in the complete round robin.

Marylanders Vivian Lee & Jessica Shen won the Girls' Junior High and Primary School Singles events respectively. Vivian won over Tracy Lee, 8, 11, Jessica over a much-improved Jeanie Cheng, 9-, 18, 16.}

Girls' Primary School Singles Champion Jessica Shen teamed up with Todd Sweeers mixed doubles to upset Barney J. Reed & Anita Zakharyan and have two match points on Sean O'Neill & Tawny Banh before losing 27-25 in the third.

Milagros Llosa lost the final of Girls' High School Singles 19 in the third to Wan-Ling Cheng (no photo available), but teamed up with Inga Viktorova to win Girls' High School Doubles.

TABLE TENNIS TRAINING CENTER
of Colorado Springs

JOIN US FOR ONE OF OUR THREE DAY MINI-CAMPS

FEB 16-18 MAR 23-25 APR 20-22
MAY 25-27 JUN 22-24 JUL 20-22

Juniors $50 Adults $95
(Call or send for information)

Private lessons are available for those who are unable to attend the camps or who desire a more individual approach

COACHING BY DANA JEFFRIES
USATT Certified National Coach
(719) 632-7664

January/February 1995
RE-ELECT GEORGE "GUS" KENNEDY
EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT

TABLE TENNIS EXPERIENCE

EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT: USA TABLE TENNIS SINCE 1979
OFFICER & DIRECTOR: US TABLE TENNIS FOUNDATION
AUTHOR: "KENNEDY'S KORNER" TABLE TENNIS TODAY
OFFICER/DIRECTOR: MINNESOTA TABLE TENNIS FEDERATION
DELEGATE TO WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS: 79-PRESENT
INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION COUNC/L MEMBER 1989-1993
CHAIRMAN OF INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE: USA TABLE TENNIS 1977- PRESENT
TECHNICAL DIRECTOR/TABLE TENNIS: PAN AMERICAN GAMES INDIANAPOLIS 1987
NATIONALLY RANKED SENIOR PLAYER: RATING 1910. MEMBER SINCE 1968
1994 MINNESOTA STAR OF NORTH STATE GAMES, OPEN-2nd, SENIORS-2nd

OTHER
GRADUATE ELECTRICAL ENGINEER 1967. REGISTERED PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER 1972-PRESENT

PLATFORM
Number 1. WORK WITH A BALANCED BUDGET
Number 2. EMPHASIZE SPENDING MONEY FOR MEMBER SERVICES. THIS MEANS JUNIOR MEMBERS, CLUB MEMBERS AND NATIONAL PLAYERS, INCLUDING COACHING PROGRAMS FOR ALL. ALL OTHER PROGRAMS ARE SECONDARY!

20 ELMWOOD PLACE W., MINNEAPOLIS MN 55419 PHONE (612) 824-0505 PLEASE CALL OR WRITE

Doubles
by Larry Hodges
(See further coverage of school & senior doubles elsewhere in this issue)

David Zhuang and Amy Feng swept the major doubles events. They teamed up together to win Mixed Doubles, while Dave won Men’s Doubles with Dan Seemiller, Amy winning Women’s Doubles with Lily Yip. All three finals went three, but none were close. For the record, it was Zhuang & Feng over Dan Seemiller & Wei Wang in Mixed, 10-20,11; Zhuang & Seemiller over Jim Butler & Brian Masters in Men’s, 10-17,16; and Feng & Yip over Wei Wang & Tawny Banh in Women’s, -14,13,15.

Dan Seemiller was the other big doubles winner. In addition to Men’s Doubles and second in Mixed, he teamed with Dave Sakai to win Over 40 doubles. Dave Sakai then teamed with wife and tournament director Donna Sakai to make the finals of Over 40 Mixed Doubles, losing to Henry Chan & Peggy Rosen.

There were four other double-doubles finalists here. Bill Sharpe & Leon Ruderman, who won Over 60 Doubles and made the finals of Over 50 Doubles, losing the final to George Brathwaite (the Over 50 Men’s Singles Champion) and Nick Mintzveris (the Over 60 Singles Champion). Henry Chan & Peggy Rosen, who won the Over 40 Mixed Doubles, also made the final of Over 40 Doubles to Seemiller & Sakai.

Lim Ming Chui teamed up with Donald Hayes to win 4200 Doubles over Courtney Roberts & Mark Wedret, -17,17,14. Loc Ngo & Michell Do defeated Bernard Savitz & William Blyth in the 3600 Doubles final, 14,10.

Results & write-up of the Disabled events will be in the March/April issue of Table Tennis Today.

ATTENTION VIDEO PRODUCERS!
Include your table tennis instructional or competition tapes in our next catalog.
INCREASE YOUR SALES!

Contact Lisa Gee, owner, ABC Video
415-341-1579

January/February 1995 Table Tennis Today
Senior Events

by Richard McAfee

This year's Nationals featured the largest turnout in the Tournaments's history with 640 participants. This resulted in large draws and very strong fields in almost all of the Senior Events.

**Over 30 Singles**

With three of the Open Singles Semi-finalists competing (David Zhuang, Dan Seemiller & Brian Masters), the Over 30 field was the strongest in memory. Zhuang, Seemiller, and Barry Dattel marched into the semi-finals without much trouble. However, Brian Masters (2547) was ambushed by Loc Ngo (2313) in the Quarters 17-6, 14. This is the second year in a row that Loc has pulled an upset in this event. Last year he defeated Rey Domingo to make the semi-finals. In the first semi-final, Barry played a tight match with his regular practice partner Zhuang, losing at 21-18, 21-17. Barry made many strong forehand loops but, in the end, was unable to deal with Zhuang’s serve and return game. In the other semi-final, Seemiller completely shut down Loc Ngo, scoring an easy 12 & 11 victory.

The final match was a quick 16 & 12 win for David Zhuang. Despite Seemiller’s game effort to slow down the game, Zhuang’s quick counterattack repeatedly punished Danny’s defense. In total, David Zhuang won 4 titles at this year’s Nationals.

**Over 40 Singles**

The Over 40 event has always been considered the “premier” senior event. This year’s large field (72 entries) certainly lived up to that reputation. The top 8 seeds reached the quarter-finals. The only one to be seriously threatened was Henry Chan (TX) who won a tough three-game match with defender Howard Grossman (CA) at 18-19, 11-18, 21-15.

Quarterfinals

With the final eight players averaging a rating of 2330, the level of play was very high. In the first match, Seemiller coasted to an easy 8 & 15 win over former U.S. team member Alain Ming Chui (MA). Henry Chan (TX) blocked and hit through George Brathwaite (NY), 16-15. It was great to see George back and playing well, after missing most of last year due to injury. Many-time National Senior Champion David Sakai (MD) also went down in this round, losing to Charles Butler, 20-15, 45-15. David won the key first game at deuce. However, Charles, a long-time professional player and coach in Germany, continued to grow stronger throughout the match. In the end, he had too much forehand power for David. In the last quarter-final, defending U.S. Senior Champion Attila Malek (CA) looped through the long-pips blocking of William Sharpe (PA).

**Semifinals**

Both semifinal matches were over quickly. Dan Seemiller’s international experience and table game overwhelmed Henry Chan 13 & 8. Attila Malek expertly navigated a little more resistance from Butler, winning at 17 & 14. Malek’s serve and much stronger backhand were the winning factors.

**Finals**

This was the match that everyone had been waiting for. Both Attila and Dan had arrived at the finals without the loss of a single game. Could Attila repeat as National Champion, or would the recently eligible senior, Seemiller, prove unbeatable?

The first game started out with Attila

on a roll. Scoring often with his serve and follow, Attila took an early lead. Attila’s strategy seemed simple: force Danny wide to the forehand whenever possible. This would often lead to Danny backing up from the table and playing defense. First game to Attila, 21-17.

Drawing on his two decades of international experience, Danny began to change things in game two. Handling Attila’s serve better, Danny was able to attack more and stay closer to the table. Game two to Danny, 21-15.

The final game was a real crowd-pleaser. Both athletes played at a very high level. In the end, Danny made fewer errors, and some great matching returns. Game and match to Seemiller, 21-17. Congratulations to our new U.S. Senior Men’s Champion.

**Senior Women Over 40**

This year’s event belonged to Peggy Rosen (TX). Peggy defeated Wan Yee Cheng (NJ) in the final at 9 & 9. In the semifinals, Peggy defeated Starlene Wilson (IN) at 14 & 12. Cheung defeated D. Andrezewska (FL) at 21-10, in the other semi-final. Peggy also had a great showing in the Women’s Open, losing a close 4-game match to Anita Zakhrayan in the quarter-finals.

**Esquire Men Over 50**

Shapiro and Ruderer continued their fine doubles play by winning this event over Greensrud (AZ) and Clark (AZ) at 9-7, 15-12.

**Senior Mixed Doubles Over 40**

Henry Chan (TX) and Peggy Rosen (TX) defeated the defending champions, Donna and David Sakai (MD) in the finals at 17 & 18.

The senior events at the Nationals always have a very special atmosphere about them. Of course they are very competitive. Don’t ever let anyone tell you that the competitive fires die out with age. It is simply not true. However, the competition changes as one gets older. Not only are senior athletes competing for titles. They are often competing for life itself. When watching the seniors compete, you quickly realize that all of them are winners. They have won the battle over life’s hardships, disabilities, diseases, and even old age itself, to come to Las Vegas.

There is no better example of this than the return to play of Bernie Bukiet (CA). This many-time U.S. Champion and Team Member was seriously ill just a few months ago and underwent several life threatening surgeries. It was a joy for all of us who know and respect him to see him back hitting the ball. Not only did he play, but he also could be seen hour after hour running match cards to the tables. His participation over the week was a real celebration of what our sport is really all about. Great to have you back Bernie!

Congratulations to all who took part in the Senior Events!

---

**A.P.S., Ltd.**

A.P.S., Ltd is a new manufacturer of Table Tennis Products. Our line of Table Tennis supplies are all American, made in the U.S. A.P.S., Ltd. background is in aviation, so we bring a high degree of quality and expertise to the Table Tennis industry. Call us for your Table Tennis needs, or contact your supplier.

**Blades**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Blade</th>
<th>Suggested Retail</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ULTRA CARBON I</td>
<td>$60.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ULTRA CARBON II</td>
<td>$65.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ULTRA-KEV</td>
<td>$60.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CAB-O-BLUE</td>
<td>$50.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ULTRA WOOD I</td>
<td>$30.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ULTRA WOOD II</td>
<td>$30.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ULTRA CARBOKEV</td>
<td>$60.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**CONTACT US FOR DETAILS**

A.P.S., Ltd. P.O. BOX 130 PIEDMONT, OK 73078
PHONE: 405-373-1991 FAX: 405-373-1629

---

**Dear Dr. Jiing Wang,**

For years, many of us practiced diligently in hopes of aspiring towards competition at the international level. As time passed and our level of play developed, our hopes decreased, seeing little done to introduce U.S. Juniors to the table tennis world.

However, your support has made this trip (to Youth City Championships in Taiwan, August, 1994) possible for all of us and we are very grateful for that.

Thank you once again.

Barney J. Reed, PA
Dave Fernandez, NY
Shashin Shodham, CA
Norman Yeh, IN
Richard Lee, MD
Deepak Jain, NJ
Sunny Li, MD
Glenn Brown, NY

Tom Plaisted, KY
Phillip Lim, CA
David Fang, NY
Milagros Llosa, NY
Vivian Lee, MD
Wan Ling Cheng, CA
Karen Chang, NY

---

January/February 1995

16 Table Tennis Today
For more than 50 years, Stiga has developed and produced the world's best table tennis equipment through quality craftsmanship and advanced technology. Decades of world champions have come to rely on Stiga for their competitive edge. If you're striving for the best in your game, turn to Stiga for the best in equipment... year, after year, after year.

Mendo
Mendo is the new generation of rubber that produces greater friction and extreme speed. Put the Mendo advantage into your game. It's now the choice of the world's top players.

See your local Stiga dealer for more information.

Escalade Sports
P.O. Box 889,
Evansville, IN 47706
RESULTS OF 1994 U.S. NATIONALS

Women's Singles—Final: David Zhuang d. Jean O'Neill, 11,17,17; SF: Zhuang d. Dan Seemiller, 6,15,15; O'Neill d. Brian Masters, 11,12,17; QF: Zhuang d. Khoa Nguyen, 19,20,10,14; Seemiller d. Todd Sweevers, 12,17,9; O'Neill d. Darko Ropo, 13,20,11,16; Masters d. De Tran, 15,19,15,18; Ropo d. Daniel Seemiller, 18,9,10; Ropo d. Derek May, 19,18,13,15; O'Neill d. Barney Reed, 13,19,18; Sweevers d. Eric Owens, 6,18,18,11; Seemiller d. Attila Malek, 12,19,20,17; Nguyen d. Barry Dattel, 18,17,20,14; Dattel d. Chao Yang, 18,9,10; O'Neill d. Gabor Udgunium, 18,13,17,16; Lonergan d. Jim Butler, -17,13,12,18; Tran d. Jason St. George, 13,17,17,19; Guo d. Chi-Sun Chui, 14,13,20; Masters d. David Sakai, 17,14,11,15; Ropo d. George Brathwaite, 10,11,9; May d. Clark Yeh, 19,17,16,18; Reed d. Joseph Cummings, 13,20,13,17; O'Neill d. Charles Butler, 16,19,14; Sweevers d. Masaruro Hashimoto, 8,17,12; Owens d. Ben Nisbet, 11,19,15,12; Malek d. Henry Chan, 13,13,12,18; Sakai d. Loc Ngo, 16,10,13; Nguyen d. Fernando Valencia, 12,10,19; Dadelle d. Dave Fernandez, 17,16,20,19,21; Oudgunium d. Randy Cohen, 11,19,8,20; Zhuang d. Samuel Smith, 9,15.

Women's Singles—all: Amy Feng d. Lily Yip, 10,15,24; SF: Feng d. Wei Wang, -18,11,15,18; Yip d. Anita Zakharyan, 11,16,16; QF: Zakharyan d. Feng, 8,20,18,19; Zakharyan d. Peggy Rosen, 8,20,19; Yip d. Tawny Banh, 5,14,17; Ropo d. Feng, 8,17,18; Reed d. Zakharyan, 9,18,14,19; Bruce d. Margaret Wood, 14,19,13,14; Grossman d. Bob Leatherwood, 19,14; Grossman d. Bard Breiner, 14,11; Grossman d. William Sharpe, 13,17.

Women's Singles—Final: Amy Feng d. Lily Yip, 10,15,24; SF: Feng d. Wei Wang, -18,11,15,18; Yip d. Anita Zakharyan, 11,16,16; QF: Zakharyan d. Feng, 8,20,18,19; Zakharyan d. Peggy Rosen, 8,20,19; Yip d. Tawny Banh, 5,14,17; Ropo d. Feng, 8,17,18; Reed d. Zakharyan, 9,18,14,19; Bruce d. Margaret Wood, 14,19,13,14; Grossman d. Bob Leatherwood, 19,14; Grossman d. Bard Breiner, 14,11; Grossman d. William Sharpe, 13,17.

Women's Singles—all: Amy Feng d. Lily Yip, 10,15,24; SF: Feng d. Wei Wang, -18,11,15,18; Yip d. Anita Zakharyan, 11,16,16; QF: Zakharyan d. Feng, 8,20,18,19; Zakharyan d. Peggy Rosen, 8,20,19; Yip d. Tawny Banh, 5,14,17; Ropo d. Feng, 8,17,18; Reed d. Zakharyan, 9,18,14,19; Bruce d. Margaret Wood, 14,19,13,14; Grossman d. Bob Leatherwood, 19,14; Grossman d. Bard Breiner, 14,11; Grossman d. William Sharpe, 13,17.

Women's Singles—all: Amy Feng d. Lily Yip, 10,15,24; SF: Feng d. Wei Wang, -18,11,15,18; Yip d. Anita Zakharyan, 11,16,16; QF: Zakharyan d. Feng, 8,20,18,19; Zakharyan d. Peggy Rosen, 8,20,19; Yip d. Tawny Banh, 5,14,17; Ropo d. Feng, 8,17,18; Reed d. Zakharyan, 9,18,14,19; Bruce d. Margaret Wood, 14,19,13,14; Grossman d. Bob Leatherwood, 19,14; Grossman d. Bard Breiner, 14,11; Grossman d. William Sharpe, 13,17.

Women's Singles—all: Amy Feng d. Lily Yip, 10,15,24; SF: Feng d. Wei Wang, -18,11,15,18; Yip d. Anita Zakharyan, 11,16,16; QF: Zakharyan d. Feng, 8,20,18,19; Zakharyan d. Peggy Rosen, 8,20,19; Yip d. Tawny Banh, 5,14,17; Ropo d. Feng, 8,17,18; Reed d. Zakharyan, 9,18,14,19; Bruce d. Margaret Wood, 14,19,13,14; Grossman d. Bob Leatherwood, 19,14; Grossman d. Bard Breiner, 14,11; Grossman d. William Sharpe, 13,17.

Women's Singles—all: Amy Feng d. Lily Yip, 10,15,24; SF: Feng d. Wei Wang, -18,11,15,18; Yip d. Anita Zakharyan, 11,16,16; QF: Zakharyan d. Feng, 8,20,18,19; Zakharyan d. Peggy Rosen, 8,20,19; Yip d. Tawny Banh, 5,14,17; Ropo d. Feng, 8,17,18; Reed d. Zakharyan, 9,18,14,19; Bruce d. Margaret Wood, 14,19,13,14; Grossman d. Bob Leatherwood, 19,14; Grossman d. Bard Breiner, 14,11; Grossman d. William Sharpe, 13,17.

Women's Singles—all: Amy Feng d. Lily Yip, 10,15,24; SF: Feng d. Wei Wang, -18,11,15,18; Yip d. Anita Zakharyan, 11,16,16; QF: Zakharyan d. Feng, 8,20,18,19; Zakharyan d. Peggy Rosen, 8,20,19; Yip d. Tawny Banh, 5,14,17; Ropo d. Feng, 8,17,18; Reed d. Zakharyan, 9,18,14,19; Bruce d. Margaret Wood, 14,19,13,14; Grossman d. Bob Leatherwood, 19,14; Grossman d. Bard Breiner, 14,11; Grossman d. William Sharpe, 13,17.
**Primorac Carbon**
The carbon blade designed by Zoran Primorac that combines Carbon and Cypress plies for power play.

**Ekrips**
Ekrips' rubber surface provides soft touch at impact. The sponge's high elasticity gives your shot extra power.

**Primorac Power Feeling**
Offensive blade which ideally combines speed and touch. More power for hard smashes and spins, while retaining touch for variations and accurate placements.

**Grubba Variant**
Allround blade for experienced players who want control and accuracy in all strokes.
I say theoretical because these 16 would then be joined—in a 20-team (4 round-robin groups-of-5) second-stage—the by the favorites, the 4 top-seeds—(1) the National TT Center "T" team (Cheng Yinghua, Todd Sweeills, and Dan Seemiller), (2) the National TT Center "A" team (David Zhuang, Huang Tong Sheng, a.k.a. "Jack," and, as a last minute substitute for Xu Hauzhong who'd hurt his arm, Abbas Ekn), (3) the Slovenian Spiruk Malacky Club team (Jaromir Truksa, Patrick Marek, Sergej Andrianov, and Igor Ondrejicka), and (4) the USA team (Sean O'Neill, John Onifade, and Darko Rop). After which (with two teams advancing from each of the 4 round-robin groups) a third-stage single elimination play would determine the Open winner.

Of the 16 positioned #1 teams, only one was upset: this was an unknown men's team, Russia I, led by Mikhail Murinov of the Vodnik Club in the Vladivostok area of Russia (now that I'd actually met someone from such a place. I came home and looked it up in my National Geographic Atlas-Vladivostok—of course, it's just above North Korea on the Sea of Japan). How in the world did this team get here? Hey, c'mon, so many of us are so parochial: these Championships are world-famous.

Of course Murinov did get a word or two of encouragement from a member of the Russia II women's team, Svetlana (nee Grinberg) Fedorova....Don't tell me you didn't see her out there playing there?...Oh, alright, not only did I not know where Vladivostok was, but, far more embarrassing, I didn't know who Grinberg-Fedorova was—though over 20 years ago, in Nagoya, Japan, I must have seen her play. In 1969, with Zoja Rudnova, she won the World Women's Doubles, and now, a quarter of a century later, she's not just the U.S. but the World Women's Over 50 Champion. Would it have been less upsetting to have seen Peggy Rosen and Tawny Bahn of that qualifying Schildkrot-Texas team play, a la Corbitt Cup style, not the Russian men but the Russian women?

The Japanese women—Japan II—came the closest to being upset in the Preliminaries when they 5-4 limped away from a shoot-out with the Young Greeks.

Palito Alto's Shasih Shodhan had the fastest draw, the smoothest trigger-finger in a 6-0 show of marksmanship, for, as he and his team well knew, the reward in question-entry into the A group—was not just for the Japanese whose trip here was made possible by their approval in successful intercollege competition. Shodhan, who's originally from Ahmadabad, India, where my wife and I had once lived for two weeks, and who'd later developed a game with coach Dennis Davis' help there in the San Francisco Bay area, had recently returned from his second visit to Sweden, where, he said, Stefan Bengtsson had improved his forehand play—for example, by getting him to contact the ball earlier.

Shodhan's Indianapolis-based, penholder teammate Norman Yeh, after losing two 2-1 matches, showed why he's the U.S. U-18 Junior Olympic Champion by adding a gutsy 8th-match win to force the tie into the 9th.

Whereupon with Potomac, Maryland's favorite son, Sunny Li, up 1-0 and 1-2 in the 2nd against Komaki Kawasaki it looked for sure like he and his teammates wouldn't be more on target...But then what happened? Kawasaki had lost to her! It would have been lost of her! ("Don't give up! Fight!"

Senshu University alumni, Itoh and Kohno? And Sunny, who knows how to win—he's the U-14 Junior Olympic Champion—suddenly lost his momentum. "Why?" I asked "Jack" Huang, his coach. "Kawasaki changed her serve pattern," he said. "She began serving to Sunny's backhand, and Sunny didn't adjust, didn't get ready. Then when he was match-point up, he had a backhand to win, but hit it too tentatively. If he'd have struck it strongly, boldly, it would have gone in—and his team would have been a winner. Of course, being so young, Sunny continues to need power, but that'll come as he progresses. Meanwhile, he's doing pretty well, don't you think?"

**Round Robin Play**

From the second-stage A(l) group of 5 teams, the National TT Center "T" team (4-0) and the Butterfly Women (3-1) advanced to the quarter's. Why, though, were U.S. Open Champion Gao Jun and U.S. Closed Champion Auy Feng playing with defensive star Virginia Sung rather than the stronger, attacking Olympic Festival Champion Lily Yip?...Because, since this Butterfly team was sure to be in the $1500 Women's final, it was thought the TV show would draw more viewers if it also featured a determined challenger?...Who said that? As if Lily hadn't made her whole programme. Anyway, in the tie between these two top teams, Todd Sweeills had an impressive win over Amy—22-20 first-game deciding victory having been prepared for earlier by a coaching tip from teammate Danny Seemiller.

Though they finished in third place, the Augusta Barret Racers maneuvered two 5-4 wins—over Japan III and New Jersey I. After being up 4-1, Augusta had to rely on Brian Pace, playing with one blue-striped shoe and white sock and one red-striped shoe and black sock, to eventually balance a 9th match win against Japan's Sakai (Suh-KHIG). And against New Jersey, after Pace had the Wild Club Team President Barry Dattel and Lily Yip (good wins along the way for Barry over Razvan Cretu, for Razvan over Lily, for Lily over Augusta Coach Xin Peng). Brian again came through in the 9th when he out-muscled and maybe out-thought Larry宝ly who kept reminding himself that he had those 30 math exams from his Rutgers students waiting for him in his hotel room across the street. So, while Brian kept saying to himself aggressively "Punch!" Larry kept thinking woefully, defensively "Punch!" Naturally it was no con-

---

**U.S. OPEN TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS**

*Detroit, Michigan*

*November 25-27, 1994*

*Butterfly.*

**1994 U.S. Open Team Champions Cheng Yinghua, Dan Seemiller and Todd Sweeills, each $2,000 richer.**

"Maybe you heard?"—it was either David Marcus or his increasingly sophisticated Control Desk Computer talking. "After the Championships are over, they're sellin' the Butterfly tables here by the grosi. But to perennial Cobo Hall Tournament Facilitator Bob Beatty and his set-up crew headed by Mike Veillette and Frank Sexton it wasn't much of a joke, more a proud accomplishment, that there really were—look left, right—444 beautifully lined-up Butterfly tables about to be put into play here.

You're impressed? History suggests you should be. Thirty-three years ago, in Hall D, Detroit held its first U.S. Open Team Championship. Want to know how many teams participated? Eleven. This year, add...a record 200 more.

So that makes how many players thronging these Cobo courts and aisles?...Hey, who's counting?...Mei-Mei Ma in charge of Registration, that's who. And if your team's score sheet has a little red sticker on it—oh, oh, somebody hasn't got an up-to-date USATT or ITTF-recognized membership card, and dues have to be paid: Sheila Von Nottbeck, Mei-Mei's collectorextraordinaire, says she sticks it to 100-150 have-to-become-new-members here every year.

With all these hundreds of players, thousands of matches, no wonder Control Desk Manager Tony McGill needed all the 8 a.m. - 8 p.m. round-the-clock help he could get—from Mei-Mei, Diane and Sarah McAfee, Peter Monaghan, Terri Weaver, Chris Kalagher, Grant Lee, Richard Kwan, Allison Atken, and who knows how many others—just to keep the daily schedules from getting all tied up. "Twice as many matches here as at the U.S. Open, played in half the time," said seasoned USOTC Tournament Director Bob Allshouse, who also doubles as Detroit TTA President and USA Team Manager. And the three TV shows Frime Network will air from the Intercollege, Women's, and Open climactic play on Sunday?...You'll see those, said Bob with a Cheshire Cat grin, "before you read about them in TT. In fact, no sooner will the tables be cleared from the Hall on Monday than the Detroit PASS affiliate on Tuesday will air the first show."...And who might get to these finals...and win them? That's of course many, though by no means all, of these team-preoccupied participants will now and then want to find out.

**Preliminary Play**

Right off, of course, Friday's 16-flight Preliminary play was of the greatest importance, for the 16 winning teams that, as usual, had been flight-positioned in according to their players' high ratings, and so in the beginning had been separated from one another, would advance and thus continue to be in a theoretical position to win the Open title and the $6,000 prize money.
from the A(2) group there came as expected the National TT Center "A" team (4-0) and...the Anderson Trojans (3-1) who just barely survived a 5-4 assault from the Detroit team (4-0) and...the Detroit I...been able to see it—and the legendary Chuck Burns, too, who, having lost 30 pounds, is recovering nicely from complications of bypass surgery.

Many-time Michigan State Champ Mike Veillette — 19, 16, 14 battled back to win over Carl Henrik Florin, former Yugoslav Doubles Champion with Lepakutesku (before Lepakutesku's greater successes with Primorje), downed Barbados Champ Greg Riley, -18, 14, 16. And to complete Detroit's quick-start, catapult attack 16. And to complete Detroit's quick-start, catapult attack 19, 16, 14 battled back to score a win over Carl Henrik Florin, former Yugoslav Doubles Champion with Lepakutesku (before Lepakutesku's greater successes with Primorje), downed Barbados Champ Greg Riley, -18, 14, 16. And to complete Detroit’s quick-start, catapult attack....over Veillette in the 3rd; Riley over Ogundimu in the 4th; Gbenga, taking heart with a 22-20 first game, beat Florin (No. 1) in the 5th; Truksa over Ogundimu, -17, 14, 14. But then, as if the Detroit players had lost anyone they might have designated their Achilles, the Trojans counter-attacked: Eriksson over Florin in the 3rd; Christopher over Veillette in the 3rd; Riley over Ogundimu with an ending deuce game; and Christopher over Florin with an ending 9 game. A massive 4-1 change in fortune. But Gbenga, taking heart with a 22-20 first game, beat Eriksson two straight—and the tie was tied. Bring on Hephaestus' armor! An Achilles was needed, was ready. But of course Veillette, though an intense 9th-match 21, 20, 16 winner, was not retired with victory, did not Hector Greg, a Trojan honor student, on and all around the court.

Though his Anderson team would not advance to the quarter's, Coach Richard McAfee had reason to be proud anyway at one place try another) Nigel's brother Ian who in January/February 1995
Ninja’s matches here might from time to time have been a bit distracting? Anyway, John Onifade got the U.S. momentarily on track with a gutsy 19–14–3 win over Chris Oldfield (World #3). So then why, Hans Galickson, did the Free Press the next morning have Oldfield’s rather than Onifade’s picture on their “Second Front Page”? Is that Public Relations?...Uh, sorry. You mean there’s a Saturday morning article on the Championships in the Detroit paper and someone’s complaining? Acting Captain Brad Billington, by overcoming Darko Rop’s lead and stopping him in 19 in the 3rd, righted the Brits into a 1-1 tie—for the moment.

“Blimey!” said the Ninja coming off a 2-1 loss to Sean O’Neill (World #1). “He’s a good player, but that was a bad one.” Eden had caught O’Neill after being down 1-3 in the 3rd. But a great wristy backhand ("Yeahhh!") a perfect serve and follow, and an unreturnable net/edge by Sean had sent the Ninja back to his bride-to-be for a resuscitory kiss.

Billington then scored over Onifade when John’s 20–16 match-point-down rally got him to 19 but no further. But again Sean, pulling out a 19th game against the Brits’ "Oldie," sent the USA team ahead. One could imagine U.S. National Coach Li Zhenshi saying to Sean, "You know if he tries to correct here, you do this; if he tries to correct there, you do that, right?" Precisely. As easy for Sean as bounce-bounce-bouncing the ball on the edge of his racket. USA 3—Britain 2.

But from here on out it was strictly no contest: the Ninja out-grunted Darko who, at least before losing, thought that, as in Belgrade, as in nearby Windsor, then ought to be betting on the matches, more interest, more excitement among the spectators; then Billington (how many good unranked players must there be in the world?) beat Sean, and, once that new ball was brought into play in the Eden—Onifade match, and the Ninja murdered it, he’d sort of marked his territory and thereafter more often than not it went only to the places he wanted it to.

This tie was the only one to change the pre-arranged Draw, thus the USA was forced to play not Japan but the Slovaks team, and Great Britain was forced to play not Japan but the Slovaks team which (would have eliminated one or the other of them from being assured of at least $200) but Japan.

In this fourth group, the USA Junior Team—Barney Reed, Dave Fernandez, and Korea-trained Dan Kim—finished next to last, behind Canoebeck, one of the two best Canadian teams in the field. Dave and Kim, both of whom would go on against Great Britain to beat the world-ranked Oldfield, couldn’t get started in this tie. (At one point Dave was saying if he didn’t stamp his foot, his serves would go too long..."Huh...It works for me," he said...)

But never mind. In the Friday night Junior Team Match between the U.S. (Eric Owens, Barney, and Dave) and Canada (Dennis Su, Pierre-Paul Rouleau, and, via Sri Lanka and Germany, Peter-Paul Praddeeh), to see who would represent North America at the annual Global Youth Championships in January, the U.S. Juniors came through with a 4-2 win.

Both Eric and Barney provided the winning margin with two singles wins each. So, who cares if Barney lost to Canoebeck’s Su in the Saturday round-robin? He didn’t lose to him from down 1-0 and 11-5 in the 2nd when that trip to Tokyo was at stake. Eric was telling me that when he’d trained in Korea earlier this year he’d shared a 4-bedroom apartment with 11 other people, only one of whom spoke English, and that was Kim Taek Soo (World #6) who’d helped Eric get more power, more consistency, more variety into his forehand play. "The whole country practices nothing but backhands," said Eric. "I had to give up pickled cabbage and rice and go to Sweden for a couple of months afterwards to practice my backhand." In fact, taking a cue from Barney and Dave who’re now based in Stockholm and obviously improving through their First Division League play, Eric hopes to return to Sweden very soon.

The Canadians, who’d won this tournament half a dozen or more times in the last two decades, were missing many of their top men and women players. Johnny Huang (World #12) bought a house in Toronto but he was in Paris playing on World Champion Gatien’s team in the French League, while wife Diana (World #32) was playing for Montpellier. Geng Lijuan (World #21) was having a baby, while husband Haozui Priens (World #35), assisted by Li’s brother, Geng Hai Tao (Canada #5), was opening his second Mrs. Vanelli"’s pizza parlor. Yeah, Hory quickly learned the technique—he now can high-toss with the best of them. Barbara Chiu (Canada #4) started this Canadian baby boom; now Li, Kimiko, Canadian #2, Joe Ng’s wife, and May Hui Tong (Canada #3) are all following right along.

Quarter’s

In the Saturday night quarter’s, the National TT Center “T” team so embarrassed the hometown Detroit team that there’s no point naming the players or the 10-game scores.

However, in the companion quarter of the Draw, though Great Britain beat the Japanese intercollegiate players 5-1, there were some good matches.

Chris Oldfield, who plays with Alan Cooke and De Douglas on the prestigious English League Grove Club team, got a couple of confidence builders when, first, he just-in 15, 22, 2, managed to hold off Ando Masakatsu’s off-the-bounce onslaught, and, then, 15, 13, 18, tweaked off as it was Masaru Yamagata’s hand-and-air, which, after a careless shave, the young man was trying to save face.

The Ninja, who’d also gotten by Yamagata in 3?” He’d injured himself too “the middle finger of my playing hand—it’s septic,” he said. “I can’t move it. It’s turning blue.” Of course his fiancée Kathy wanted to know if there was an in-house doctor? Or, better yet, did Kenny Owens have a few free moments? He did—and don’t think I’m stretching it to say that his Delos Neuro-Muscular approach was being lauded by players and all. With Kenny’s help, the muscular fibrils in Ninja’s finger began to stretch—so that much of its circulatory prowess was rapidly regained. Kathy was much relieved.

As for Kenny, he went off to the other side of the Draw where the National TT Center “A” team was 5-2 successfully meeting the challenge of the Butterfly wonder-women.

Jack Huang’s tactical consistency and powerful forehand overpowered even the Gao/Feng quality opposition. And New York professional Assaf Eckun, though losing in 3 to World #5 Amy (ohh, what a slashing crosscourt backhand she ace-ended him with), recovered nicely (after being down 1-5 in the 3rd) with some admirable end-game clutch play to beat Gao (World #3). It was Zhang and his sore back, though, that Owens was concerned about: before coming to this tournament poor David was in such bad shape he’d missed four days of work. "The myofascial tightness has to be relieved. So many doctors—they just haven’t had any hands-on training, haven’t any palpation skills, to identify these soft-tissue disorders." Darko Rop was talking to David as Kenny came hurrying over. There in Houston Darko’s been learning a lot from Kenny, was becoming quite the assistant. David, stretched out on a nearby table, was hurtin’ but he was still smiling as Kenny started to work on him.

The last quarter’s match was the USA vs. the club team from Malucky: that’s just north of Bratislavia—though the Ninja kept referring to these Slovak players as "Estonians.")

Sean O’Neill started the U.S. off right with a 3-game win over Patrick Malek. But that was the only match our team could win. (We should have been at Cobol Hall as early as Monday morning, like the Slovaks?)

Against Sergei Andrianov, Onifade, sporting a Statue of Liberty playing shirt, swung freely, perhaps too much so, at 19-all in the 3rd, but, having popped the Russian’s serve the previous point, he rejected the alternative of a too passive return and typically decided to go for it, to loop the 19-all serve in. But it came at him low and to his backhand, and John, having split-second committed himself, rushed not to glory but to grief—the more so when up 20-19 Andrianov bored a winner into his middle.

Semi’s

In the now just best-3-out-of-5 semi’s, it was, on the one side of the Draw, the NTTC “T” team vs. Great Britain.

When Todd Sweeves’s opening serve against Brad Billington was whiffed, you could hear a little scattering of eaves but quickly stopped applause. But when several points later Todd passed Billington with a surprise flip return of serve, the audience wasn’t the least bit restrained. Todd’s 10-6 lead vanished with the roar of the crowd into a 13-all tie—at which point Brad served off...And obligingly repeated the gesture at 18-17. First game to Sweeves.

“He’s nervous as hell!” Todd said on coming back to his bench. “He can’t even serve!” Shaky Billington may have been—but once he built up a 5-0 lead in the 2nd, he was 14, 12 never pressed.

Against current North American Champ Cheng Yinghua, Andrew Eden with his Friendship 8102 seems to want, not so friendly-like, to hold the table and stay as close as possible in the score...and it’s not. But it’s Cheng’s serve, and I hate to tell you what happens now, it’s so finger-of-Fate ugly. Even one of Marty Prager’s 10-year-olds could return serve better than popping one up and putting two into the net. NTTC “T” 1-0. 0-1.
Okay, alright, who let these guys in?
Alan Fendrick and Jim McQueen of the Boos Brothers

The world-class expatriate Chinese are just way too good. The collegians are game, but against Gao and Feng they should have a 10-point spot.

I need hardly pass the word around, though, that the last match of this tie—Virginia Sung, our long-pips defender (who needs just a little more work yet on her forehand pick) vs. Hiroshi Chihara, a topspinner with fast deceptive serves—would certainly be fun-viewing for not just those here in the arena but those at their TV screens at home.

Doing Sunday's Prime commentary, since Danny Seemiller of course was very much involved in playing, were the experienced toswome of Jim McQueen and Sean O'Neill. Did they know that that first, 21-8 game Virginia lost to Hiromi was less than half a minute from being expedited? And did they think such a variation would have been welcomed by all concerned?

Men's Final

The final between the two National TT Center teams gets underway with Seemiller playing Zhuang. Since National Coach Li Zhenshi is impartially sitting out this tie, Danny's asked long-time U.S. Team Captain Houshang Bozorgzadeh, a friend and confidante who knows his game so well, to sit in his team's corner. The two teams were renamed for the final, to better accommodate TV. NTTC "A" became Maryland, while NTTC "A" became New Jersey.

Danny is off to a 5-0, 11-5 start. His angle blocks and short placements are especially effective. Zhuang is tentative. 01 what he thinks?...Is that how he gets to 15-9?...16-all...17-all—is a battle of wills, of intense concentration. David goes up 18-17 on a succession of sharp, steady hits. Though. Once when Cheng caught him with a down-the-line serve, David stretched for it, got it back, and saved the point. This second game particularly—14-all...15-all...16-all...17—all—is a battle of wills, of intense concentration. David does up 18-17 on a succession of sharp, steady hits.

But now Cheng, though in grave danger of losing the match, has the serve. Blimey! Zhuang pushes his first return off. At 18-all though, David is wonderfully self-possessed: he returns serve, doesn't rush, waits...hits in Cheng's loop. Then, up 19-18, and in a moment at 19-all, having gotten control of the attack so as to force Cheng into a back-from-the-table topspin defense, David, who ordinarily would score both of these points against the match, can't break through, loses both, and with them his really good chance for the all-important win.

Another title for Cheng was nothing extraordinary—in recent years he'd been on three winning teams. But this was a first for Todd and surely the largest pay check of his career. As for Danny, $2,000 richer, his wife, Val, might now be persuaded to believe that, well, perhaps it was just a few years ago that her husband had brought home a major championship.

WESTSIDE TABLE TENNIS CLUB

New York City Players!
- Open 7 days & nights a week
- Excellent playing conditions
- Eight new Butterfly Europa tables
- New oak wood floor
- Good lighting
- Lockers and changing facility
- Ample parking
- USATT tournaments
- Leagues
- USATT certified coaches

Westside TT Club
601 West 50th St., New York, NY 10019
212-246-1060 or 212-246-1062

Table Tennis Today 23
Mental Visualization

by Sean Lonergan

USATT Certified Regional Coach

(Editor’s Note—Lonergan trained at the Olympic Training Center for two years, where he underwent extensive sports psychology training.)

Visualization is the process of using your mind to see, hear, and feel all of the factors in your sport performance before a competition to help you perform at your peak. It enables you to better understand and improve your techniques in your play. There are many different ways of visualizing, but the three most significant types are “Black Box” visualization, “Problem Solving” visualization, and “Mental Rehearsal.” Visualization is a misunderstood and little used science that, when used properly, enhances performance, improves focus and eases tension at major competitions.

The Black Box technique involves an athlete getting rid of all distractions at a competition by mentally throwing them away in a visualized black box. When using this technique, as with all visualization techniques, it is important to be fully relaxed. There are minor variations in how to use this technique, but the way that I believe is best is as follows. You start out by imagining yourself in a peaceful, relaxing place. In your mind you imagine having a pad of paper and pencil. You take the pencil and write down anything that is distracting, worrying, or overly exciting to you. You can also simply repeat the exercise and add any new details to your list. If later on you start to feel distracted again, simply repeat the exercise and add any new details to your list.

Mental rehearsal is the most important type of visualization an athlete can use to enhance performance. Mental rehearsal is used to imagine improved performance in practice and competitions. To do so, you must first get in a relaxed state of mind and completely empty your head of outside distractions. Imagine very specifically all of the individual components of a skill you are trying to accomplish. Imagine using perfect technique. Here is where you can correct any errors in your technique—first view the problem in your mind, then view the changes needed to correct the problem, and finally view the perfect technique. When visualizing, it is also important to view yourself from different perspectives. Imagine seeing yourself from outside your body and from various angles to get a better understanding of your techniques and a better mental image of what they should look like. It is important to not overdo the amount of rehearsal as your mind can get tired and your focus will weaken. Visualization should last no more than five to ten minutes, but can be practiced several times a day.

There is probably no other part of sports less understood by spectators but mastered by athletes than mental visualization. Although pure talent can put some athletes in the forefront, those who use mental visualization in combination with their other training techniques consistently come out ahead, making the most of their abilities.

"Dr. Wang raised $52,000 for the 1994 U.S. Open. He is the most prolific fund-raiser in USATT history. Dr. Wang is the kind of candidate who can make a positive difference for USA Table Tennis." - Dan Seemiller

Vote For The Experienced, Dedicated Team Of:

SEEMILLER, SAKAI, WANG

Dr. Jiing Wang
For Executive Vice President

Donna Sakai
For Secretary

DAN SEEMILLER
For President
Special Designer T-Shirt Offer

Paddle Palace Pharaoh Shirt

This unique table tennis shirt was designed by a Portland, Oregon artist. The design is in royal purple and teal, set prominently on the front of the Pyramid Natural color t-shirt. The shirt is high-quality Hanes Heavyweight 100% preshrunk cotton.

Available in sizes Large and Extra Large. Price: $18.00 for one, or two for $27.95

The Kalinic Super Power

New, from JUIC, The Kalinic Super Power is designed for POWER. Recommended for players who play with an aggressive forehand and backhand attack. The Super Power is a 7-ply blade with two plys of "Fire Wood" inside providing explosive speed and power.

Flared Handle, 7-Ply, Fast+ Speed

Introductory Sale Price: $38.00
(price good thru 3/31/95)

SALE!

For Powerful Aggressive Play

Keep it Clean!

Paddle Palace Rubber Cleaner

The Paddle Palace Rubber Cleaner is specially formulated to remove oil and dirt from your rubber while preserving the original quality of the rubber. Your rubber lasts longer and you play better! Paddle Palace Cleaner comes in a new non-aerosol pump spray bottle that’s good for the environment. 4 oz., pump spray bottle.

SALE: $6.00!

Kalinic Special!

JUIC Kalinic Blade with two sheets of any JUIC rubber

ONLY $65

An $86 value

The Kalinic blade is a medium-fast 5-ply blade with great touch. Speed it up or down with your choice of any JUIC rubber. Handle: flared, anatomic, conic, or straight.

CALL ORDERS TOLL FREE

1-800-547-5891

Paddle Palace Table Tennis Company
8125 SE Glencoe Rd., Portland, OR 97222
FAX (503) 777-4062 PHONE (503) 777-2266
Forehand/Backhand Transition of ZORAN PRIMORAC

1993 World Cup Champion

by Wei Wang

USATT Certified National Coach...1990 National Champion

Photo sequence by Diego Schaaf © 1995
ZORAN PRIMORAC'S BACKHAND/FOREHAND TRANSITION
by Wei Wang

Zoran Primorac (pronounced "Primorats") first made his mark on the international table tennis scene in 1987, when he and his doubles partner Ilja Lupulesku fought themselves into the doubles finals at the New Delhi World Championships. They were the "new blood" for the Yugoslavian team, trying to carry on the Yugoslavian doubles tradition which had produced Men's Doubles World Champions in 1979 (Anton Stipancic and Dragutin Surbek) and in 1983 (Dragutin Surbek and Zoran Kalinic). Although the "Dynamic Duo" of Primorac/Lupulesku were defeated in the final by the Chinese team of Chen Longcan and Wei Qingguang (later the first Olympic Men's Doubles Champions), the two young Yugoslavians continued to be one of the top doubles teams in the world. In 1991 they made up the core of the Yugoslavian team that reached the finals of the World Championship in Chiba, Japan, where they lost to Sweden. Soon after that, the political turmoil in their home country split the team up. Primorac, a Croatian, was reported to have received death threats for playing with Lupulesku. At the 1991 World Team Cup in Barcelona, Primorac was already no longer with the Yugoslavian team. Interestingly, this is when his ascent as a singles player actually started accelerating. He had always had a strong backhand punch, but up until then, it was a little too inconsistent, and his forehand was too soft to damage the "big boys." He continued playing and practicing in several European countries, and occasionally he came to the U.S. for the Open. More and more, his strength and consistency improved. His backhand punch started finding its target more often, and he added a powerful backhand loop from mid-distance, all of which moved him up into the top 10 of the ITTF list (current #10, previously #5).

One feature of Primorac's distinctive style is his preference to serve a backhand serve from the forehand side of the table and then to step around and attack the third ball with his forehand. The sidespin he generates with the backhand serve seems to match his forehand loop, so he can generate a powerful serve. Recently, at the ITTF World Circuit Finals in Lisbon, Portugal, we saw him perform very strongly and he was impressive with his smooth and yet powerful game. He dominated his opposition in Group B, beating World Champion J.R. Gatien (FRA), Petr Korbel (CZE) and current world #2 Wang Tao (CHN). The #1 player in the world, J.M. Saiwe (BEL), finally succeeded in stopping him in the semifinals.

Primorac's smoothness is in large part due to his accurate footwork which allows him to combine his strokes into a fluid motion during the point. In this sequence, we analyze his transition from a backhand loop from mid-distance to a forehand inside-out finishing loop. Primorac is practicing with Gatien. We are including every other video frame in order to fit both strokes.

The sequence starts with Primorac recovering from his previous backhand loop. At 0.2a the corner of the table shows and gives a gauge of how far back he is standing—it looks like about 5 or 6 feet. As he brings back the racket, he drops his right shoulder. You can see that his left foot "rolls" outward a little, indicating a weight transfer to the left. His blade is almost parallel to the ground as we have seen with other players in earlier backhand analyses. Up until 0.2, all his movements are in preparation. The hand moves relatively little between each frame (representing 1/15th of a second). At 0.2a the ball comes into view. We highlighted it for easier identification. Between 0.2 and 0.2a there is much more racket motion than before. That is because the last portion of the backswing belongs to the actual stroke—apparently timed with the bounce of the ball on the table. As he quickly pulls the racket back the last few inches, his elbow moves forward sharply and then the hand follows. Contact occurs at 0.4 sec. The racket angle has opened to about 45 degrees. As he follows through, he already prepares for the forehand shot. At 0.4b he starts turning his racket towards the forehand and his weight continues to move to the left. His right foot slides towards where his left foot is. At 0.6b it seems that both his feet are slightly off the ground, but the forward motion of his upper body almost stops while he sets his feet in the new position. Again, Primorac sets up, his weight completely on his right leg. At 1.0 sec you can see the ball come into the frame again. As his forehand stroke begins, he first shifts his hip toward the ball to start a whipping effect. Primorac has already started the weight transfer, and as he accelerates the racket towards the ball his body moves back a little, away from the ball, to allow the inside-out motion. His weight now rests almost completely on his right heel. At 1.2 his left foot lifts off the ground as he pushes off and steps forward some more. He contacts the ball at 1.2b, and at 1.4 we can see the position of the striking surface which makes it clear how he contacted the ball in order to give it the necessary sidespin (clockwise, seen from above). The follow-through is extremely long and involves a strong body rotation. His racket passes in front of his head, then downward and swings up next to his left hip. This follow-through only works on a topspin ball, but it is very effective in helping the trajectory to stay low and in making the ball break outward sharply.

This shot is becoming more and more popular. The strong body motion along with the quick whipping effect makes the trajectory difficult to anticipate. Even if the shot doesn't go through, the return is often weak enough to allow a put-away.

I would not recommend rolling your weight all the way to the back of your heels as Primorac does here. He can get away with it because of his superior balance and body control, but for a player practicing this sequence, I would recommend setting the feet a little farther back (away from the ball) to allow more space so you can keep the weight on the front of your feet. Each player develops his own sense of balance. What sets players at that level apart from those still working their way towards the top is that they have found their own individual solutions to some technical problems, solutions that may not apply to everyone. You can copy Primorac to a certain extent and learn a lot from him, but you can never play exactly like Primorac. Of course, if you get even close, you will have done just fine.

INSTRUCTION VIDEOS

ONE OF THE MOST EFFECTIVE LEARNING TOOLS AVAILABLE IS THE VIDEO TAPE!

Whether it is a well designed instruction tape or a recording of a world class match, each video has a complementary function in helping you visualize what to do. Learn the mechanics and theory of table tennis from U.S. Champions Wei Wang and Sean O'Neill. Then watch those same techniques used in the real world of international competition. Watch Waldner, Rosskopf, Ma and others performing at their best, and see where even they make mistakes. It's the fastest way to learn! Call, we will fax or mail you a list of available tapes.

NEW!!

Now, we have a new learning tool: "World Class Practice"

We have put together two hours of the very footage Wei has been using for the analyses in the center pages of this magazine. We have chosen twelve of the best players in the world and show how they practice - close-up, so you can learn exactly how they do a certain shot. This way of studying the mechanics of greats like Ma Wenge, Gatien, Primorac, Waldner, Karlsson, the Mazunoves, Rosskopf, Patzner, Saive, and others has never before been available!

* "World Class Practice" $25.00 & $3.00 s&h

To order call: 1-800-500-5057

Fax 818-594-6377 or send check or money order to:

INSTRUCTIVE LEARNING ON VIDEOS

Alpha Productions, P.O. Box 51103, Pasadena, CA 91115
In Memoriam

ICHIRO OGIMURA
President of the International Table Tennis Federation • Two-time Men’s Singles World Champion

It is with deep regret that we have to announce the death on Sunday, December 4th of Ichiro Ogimura, the President of the International Table Tennis Federation, from lung cancer.

Mr. Ogimura was 62 years old. After a successful career as a player on the Japanese National Team, where he won the World Men’s Singles title in 1954 and 1956, he went on to coach his beloved sport in many parts of the world, including Japan, Sweden, China, USA, Korea, etc.

He became President of the ITTF in 1987 and his dynamic energy brought many innovations to both the game and its organization. He was active in so many fields, including being a member of the Japanese Olympic Committee and Chairman of International Relations for the Nagano Winter Games.

Mr. Ogimura leaves a wife, Tomiki, two daughters and one son to whom we send our deepest sympathy. (Editor’s note—Tim Boggan will be doing an extended obituary in the next issue.)

How can you tell if a table tennis player is an engineer, physicist, mathematician, or computer scientist by profession?

• An engineer can never lose, as long as he plays with a carbon blade and speed glue.

• A physicist can never lose, as long as he puts enough spin on the ball to produce the optimal trajectory.

• A mathematician can never lose, as long as he gets the scores right.

• A computer scientist can never lose, as long as the program he wrote for USATT keeps incrementing his rating regardless.

Posted on Internet by Tak Y. Wong

LOUISIANA CELEBRATES 20th

The Louisiana Open, one of the longest running major tournaments in the U.S., will celebrate its 20th anniversary on March 25-26, 1995. This tournament, according to Power Poon, Chairman of the Louisiana Open, will offer more than $10,000 in prize money. Also, free tournament T-shirts, commemorating the 20th year will be given to all participants. Look for entry blank in this issue.

They Said It...

Overheard at the Southern Open

“It’s a Guymonpin!” said Clark Yeh of the tournament.

“One last comeback!” Dan Seemiller in third game against David Zhuang in the Open, after coming back the first two games in a row but losing both in deuce. He didn’t come back this time either.

“Never get the last point against him!” Dan Seemiller, after losing first two games against David Zhuang in the Open, 26-24 and 22-20.

“I’m so tired, I’m so stupid, and I play like a girl!” U.S. #1 junior girl Non Li, after a long day of play. Reprinted with permission of Nan & parents.

Overheard at the Nationals:

“Used to return a shot.” Description of what a block is in U.S. Nationals Program.

“When I don’t look, he scores.” Jessica Shen of Sean Lomengan’s match with Jim Butler. Jessica didn’t look; Sean won.

“It thought it was over!” David Zhuang, of blowing a 20-13 Championship game to Sean O’Neill in the final of Men’s Singles. David regrouped and still won the match.

“The fat lady will be singing soon.” Tournament Director Donna Sakai, as the Nationals was coming to an end.

Sweeties

“Are you playing doubles with God?”

Derek May to Todd Sweeris, about Todd’s doubles partner, Cheng Yingya.

“I’m 2650 against right-handed loopers. I can’t play anyone else.” Todd Sweeris, after second loss in a row to left-handed looping De Tran.

“So you’ll be practicing on Monday?”

Brian Masters to Todd Sweeris, after Todd finished one of the longest—and worst—tournaments of his life.

“It figures that my nightmare would be the nicest guy.” Todd Sweeris, of nemesis De Tran, who knocked him off the Pan Am Team and out of the Open.

“They’d split 2400 final against a 2200.”

Chui San, on why he split 2400 final against a 2200.

“Hey, the guy might be good!” Chui San, on why he split 2400 final against a 2200. He didn’t come back the next time either.

“Used to return a shot.”

Chui San, on what a block is in U.S. Nationals Program.

“I’m so tired, I’m so stupid, and I play like a girl!” U.S. #1 junior girl Non Li, after a long day of play. Reprinted with permission of Nan & parents.

The USA Table Tennis Officials Committee would like to express its sincere condolences to the family of International Umpire Andy Lee. Andy will be missed by all in the table tennis community.

Y. C. Lee
Chairman, Officials Committee

The USA Table Tennis Officials Committee would like to express its sincere condolences to the family of International Umpire Andy Lee. Andy will be missed by all in the table tennis community.

Y. C. Lee
Chairman, Officials Committee

THE SPORT CAN DO THAT TO YOU!

Here’s a comment or two from Martina Navratilova one week before she retired at the Nov., ’94 Virginia Slims Championship:

“I always thought I’d have my tennis life, and then the rest of my life,” she said last week during a two-day experiment in normalcy on Long Island, where she slept till noon, combed the beaches in anonymity and got no closer to a tennis court than a Ping Pong table.

“Tennis stunts your personal growth, stunts your relationships,” said Navratilova, who recently dove into C. S. Lewis’s “Chronicles of Narnia.” “For 25 years, I’ve let tennis make all my decisions for me; it was like a convenient blanket and I hid behind it. Next year I won’t have it, and I don’t want it.”

But Navratilova’s subconscious hasn’t quite caught up with her segue into retirement.

In her dreams, the handle of her tennis racquet has become thick as a sequoia trunk or thin as a stilletto, always ungrippable. She has faced Nancy Kerrigan on a tennis court made of ice. Once, in a United States Open doubles match alongside Bjorn Borg, she helplessly rode a gust of wind skyward and just missed being carried off into oblivion by grasping a flagpole.


Wow, imagine the dreams our Jimmy, our Amy, must have.

Contributed by Tim Boggan

PIMP PONG BALL THERAPY

Contributed by Richard Lee & Iris Lee

A 35-year-old female worker in Shen Yang was recently rushed to the emergency room at Shen Yang Hospital in Taiwan after losing both in deuce. She had been coughing up blood for several weeks. She had a history of Tuberculosis.

The hospital staff tried every method to stop her coughing and internal bleeding, but nothing worked. Her lungs were clogged with blood, and she was on the verge of suffocation. What could be done?

The doctors decided to use the “Ping Pong Ball” method.

They placed the patient on her chest so she could cough up as much blood from her lungs as possible. They peeked under the membrane that covers the ribs and pushed everything inward. Twelve ping pong balls were stuffed between her ribs to hold everything in place. The patient stopped coughing soon and soon the doctors were smiling. She soon recovered.

This technique is a specialty of the medical staff at Shen Yang Hospital. It has been used more than 30 times. This technique has been reported in numerous Chinese and American newspapers.

January/February 1995

Table Tennis Today
"If we are to succeed as a major sport we must run our business like a business — with professionalism, integrity and ethics. This election will decide if table tennis is to achieve major status in the U.S. — which it must if it is to grow in global prestige."

— Terry Timmins, USATT Vice President

Our team believes that by putting professionalism, integrity, and ethics first, American Table Tennis will grow to its full potential. Our reputation at home and abroad rides on following a strict code of ethics, making complete financial disclosures, and improving the image of our sport.

As USATT Board of Directors, we will:

- **Promote professionalism, integrity and ethics**
  - promote the most qualified professionals and advisors to serve members
  - work closely with other associations to upgrade American table tennis
  - endorse innovative solutions to tournament scheduling and administration
  - present the most positive public image whether playing, officiating or administrating

- **Promote the fiscal health of the association**
  - involve the membership in the budgeting process through disclosure and advisors
  - explore the most cost-effective methods of funding programs
  - bulletproof our decisions and policies from spurious lawsuits with no surrender
  - run the business of table tennis like a business

- **Promote table tennis’ grass-roots tradition**
  - inspire member participation in significant growth issues and activities
  - focus significant attention and resources and junior development programs
  - push school programs and table tennis curriculum development
  - recruit new members through advertising, promotional campaigns and positive image

Promote American Table Tennis by voting for George Brathwaite, Y. C. Lee, and Terese Terranova because they support these values.
Jim Butler won the Open semi's in five to David Zhuang, but won 19 in the third against Cheng Yinghua in the American Allstar Men's Final.

Open Singles Quarterfinals

"This guy's good!" exclaimed Derek May, down 10-19 in the second against 2800+ Cheng Yinghua. But Derek did well—better than fellow Chopper and Sears Invitational Champion Matthew Syed did against Cheng at the U.S. Open. Although Cheng was never in trouble, Derek was twice just a few shots short of getting a game. Match to Cheng, 18, 9, 17.

De Tran's march ended here, as he went down to Sean O'Neill, 15, 15, 24. Jim Butler had an easy 9, 11, 15 ride over Taji Oshodi. Down 0-5 in the first, David Zhuang quickly tied it up again with a pushing, blocking and chopping Dan Seemiller. Seems David was having trouble opening against Dan's backspin and sudden blocks. Was the game close? At 25-22, David got an edge, but couldn't capitalize. David finally closed it out, 28-26. The second was just about as close. At 20-all, Dan's ball hit the side, but umpire mistakenly gave Dan the point. Dan corrected him, gave David the point, and gave the game to Zhuang when he looped the next ball off. "I can never get the last point against him!" Dan exclaimed. "It's psychological!" Match to David, 26, 20, 17.

Cheng Yinghua vs. Sean O'Neill

Is 11-1 a skunk? In some circles it is. Here, both games were played out as Cheng took an 11-1 lead both games against Sean O'Neill. Sean keeps making faces at some kids on the sidelines who are noisy. At one point, after missing a loop kill, he says, "I used to make that easily." Down 8-20, "Let's get 10!" he cries. It was not to be. Match to Cheng Yinghua, 11 & 8.

Cheng Butler vs. David Zhuang

Only David Zhuang can dead-block Jim Butler's backhand smash! But in this rematch from the Open, Jim turns the tables, winning 2-0, at 19 & 16. Although he lost, David showed some incredible topspin touch from off the table, more difficult for a pips-out player.

Final

Cheng Yinghua vs. Jim Butler

Did someone jokingly refer to Cheng as "God?" Jim showed that that's not the case, bringing Cheng back to earth in this dead-even match. Although Cheng won, it couldn't get much closer.

After taking a 7-4 lead, Jim couldn't hold it as Cheng tied it up and then goes up, 8-7. Cheng builds up a 16-13 lead, but scoring seems pulling teeth. Down 20-16, Jim loops a winner, then backhand kills two in a row, 19-20. Jim's third backhand smash in a row goes off, however, as Cheng wins the first game, 21-19.

Jim almost runs away with the second game, leading 10-3, 16-9, 19-13. Cheng rises to the challenge, and one by one comes back to 19-17. Jim gets a comeback-killing edge ball to lead 20-17. But Cheng loops a net ball, 18-20. Cheng then blocks Jim out of the game.

Barry Dattel didn't win the Open Singles or make the Pan Am Team, but he did go five games with, well, everyone. To be specific, Jim Butler, Sean O'Neill, Brian Masters, and Chi-Sun Chui. He also led Todd Sweeris 19-17 in third best in three. In the Open, he led Butler 2 games to zero...

position, sets up an easy finishing loop to pull to 19-20—only he misses the loop! Game to Jim, 21-18.

Jim's backhand smashing everything this match, but usually takes three smashes to get past Cheng's countering and spinning.

Down 7-8, Cheng scores five in a row on Jim's serve to lead 12-8. Up 16-11, it
January/February 1995

More From
The Wonderful World of Table Tennis

The Long-Awaited Must-Buy Sequel To The Classic Best-Seller
"The Wonderful And Wacky World of Table Tennis"

The Two-Hour Ultimate Highlight & Training Aid* Tape
*an adjunct to any training video or program

Enjoy The Most Incredible Moments Of Recent Competition
If you thought, as others did, that our original "Wonderful And Wacky..." was the best table tennis tape ever... be prepared to enjoy yourself even more with this all-new collection of exciting highlights from the past four years of premier international tournaments. Picture quality is great... camera angles provide the best point-of-view, sto-mos enhance your enjoyment.

Study The Techniques Of The World's Superstars In Action!
If you're a player...this video is designed not only to excite and amaze you... but also to help you improve your game. The tape is organized into segments focusing on the styles and specific techniques of champions who act as your role models. Choose the players you wish to emulate... watch their footwork closely in slow motion as they always seem to be in the right position... get a feel of their timing and racket angle as they hit that unreturnable shot... or return that unreturnable shot... all while participating in actual world-level competition! If you're a coach... whether or not your trainees ever have a chance to achieve the status of Saive, Waldner or Deng Yaping, it's sure to help if they get to study this unique video library showing the very best in the game doing it right... just the way you've been trying to teach them all along!

And Just For Fun...
Enjoy segments of unique and sometimes hilarious moments edited in our inimitable style to leave you with a smile:

"Swing and Miss"..."Don't Do This"..."Ups And Downs"
"Hit Me With Your Best Shot"..."Candid Coaching"..."Net And Edges"
"Circus Atmosphere"..."Racket Rocots"..."Jump For Joy"

Order Form (Please Print)

Name...
Address...
City/State/Zip...

Phone...

Please send ____________ tapes @ $39. My total order is ________________________

Shipping included in U.S. and Canada. Add $10 US for shipping elsewhere.

Make checks payable to:

REFLEX SPORTS, 3231 Ocean Park Blvd. #216 Santa Monica, CA 90405 USA

For additional information please contact Reflex Sports, phone and fax (310) 450-7929

Only $39
More From The Wonderful World Of Table Tennis

STUDY SEGMENTS FEATURE:

SERVICE BUSINESS
close-ups and slow-motion of the best serves in the game

MOMENTS IN THE SUN
Vladimir Samsonov, Peter Karlsson & Thomas von Scheele,
Peter Franz, Andrzej Podpinka, Paul Haddad, Yu Sun Dok,
Marie Svensson

CONTROL SPINNER
Mikael Appelgren, Andzej Grubka, Qiao Hong

POWER SPINNERS
Jorg Rosklopf, Steffen Pattnar, Jorgen Persson, Ma Wenge,
Peter Franz, Andzas Podpinka, Deng Yaping, Hyun Jung Hwa,
Lina Chu, Jana Milerova, Wei Wei, Zoran Primorac

BLOCK AND SMASH
Deng Yaping, Hsun Jung Hwa, Carl Fros, Zoran Kalinic, Ding Yi,
Johnny Huang, Toshi Tozard, Kai Satoh, Chai Po Wa

COUNTER DRIVE
Li Bun Hui, Oldilla Badescu, Gerold Keren, Nicole Sturse

THE DEFENDERS
Li Gun Sang, Hiroshi Shibutani, Wang Hao, Chuen Xinua,
Matthew Syed

THE FINAL FOUR
Zoran Primorac, Jon-Owe Walkner, Jean-Philipe Guten,
Jean-Michel Saive

The Final Four—Final: Cheng Yinghua, David Zhuang, 21,14, SF: Cheng d. Dan Seemiller, 10,11; SF: Cheng/Feng d. David Zhuang/Fox, 10,11; SF: Cheng/Yinghua d. De Tran/Sweeris, 16,16,18. Cheng Yinghua was the best player in the game doing it right... just the way you've been trying to teach them all along!

January/February 1995
Men's Trials

Only the top 12 men and women (based on average rating over the past year) were invited to try out for the U.S. Pan Am Table Tennis Team. Chi-Sun Chui barely made the invitees list, taking the 12th spot, despite being a member of the last PanAm team in 1991. As it turned out, he made the team again—but if one more person rated higher than him had decided to try out (and there were several that were eligible that didn’t try out), the team would have been somewhat different.

The format for both men & women was two groups of six, with the top three in each group advancing to a final round robin of six, with carry-overs. The top four in the final round robin of six would make the team. All matches were best of five.

Men's Trials

Group A

Sean O'Neill easily won this group, going 5-0. Four of the matches were 3-0, with Barry Dattel going five games with him. -18,14,7,14. Barry would also lose in five to Brian Masters and Chi-Sun Chui.

Brian Masters, Chi-Sun Chui and Derek May all finished 3-2. In the tie-breaking procedure, Chi-Sun Chui advanced with a 4-4 record; hard-luck Brian, who flew all the way from Sweden for the trials, didn’t advance with a 4-5 record. Also not advancing were Barry Dattel at 1-4, and Sean Lonergan at 0-5.

Group B

Jim Butler went 5-0 (including two carry-over wins) to come in first in the trials. Sean O'Neill came in second at 3-2, with losses to Butler (16, 19,14) and Todd Sweeris (13, 9, 22, 15, 19). Chi-Sun Chui, Derek May and Todd Sweeris all finished with 2-3 records, but when the tie-breaking procedure had cleared, Chi-Sun was 5-4, Derek 4-4, and Todd 5-4. Order of finish on team: 1. Jim Butler; 2. Sean O'Neill; 3. Chi-Sun Chui; 4. Derek May.

How close was the final spot? If Todd had blown the first game against Derek May from up 18-12... or hadn’t blown the first game against Chi-Sun from up 15-6... he’d have made the team...

"It figures that my nightmare would be the nicest guy," Todd said about his matches with nemesis De Tran, who he would lose to again in the Open Singles the next day in the Southern Open.

Women's Trials

Group A

There wasn’t a single upset in this group, and of the 15 matches played, none went five games, three went four games, and twelve were 3-0 blowouts.

Lily Yip went 5-0 in matches, 15-0 in games, and 315-131 in points in totally dominating her group. Her opponents scored 10 or less in 12 of the 15 games.

Tawny Banh was almost as dominant against the rest of the group, not giving up a game either (except for Lily, who she lost to at 9, 17, 8). Tawny finished at 4-1.

In third was Jane Chui at 3-2. Not advancing were Toni Gresham (2-3), Ann Alvarez (1-4) and Vivian Lee (0-5).

Group B

Of the 10 matches played in this group, the higher rated player won nine, with eight of them being 3-0. The only non-3-0's were Sally Dahlin’s 5-gamer over Karen Chang (22, 16, 15, 17, 17), and Diana Gee’s upset of Wei Wang, -18, 20, 18, 15, 16. Diana came in first at 4-0; Wei second at 3-1; Peggy Rosen 3rd, 2-2. Not advancing were Sally in 4th, 3-1; and Karen at 5th, 0-4.

Final Round Robin

In contrast to the two preliminary groups, the final round robin was extremely competitive, with only seven of the 15 matches being 3-0, including five 3-1 carry-overs. Lily Yip pulled out three five-gamers to go 5-0 in first place, defeating Diana Gee at -19, 16, -20, 16, 20; and Peggy Rosen at -18, 17, -22, 20, 11. In second was Diana Gee at 4-1, whose only loss was the five-gamer to Lily. Diana also pulled out a couple of five-gamers, the carry-over against Wei Wang, and a great comeback against Tawny Banh, -17, -18, 6, 16, 16. In third place was Wei Wang at 3-2. The final spot on the team was taken by Tawny Banh at 2-3. Not making the team were Peggy Rosen (1-4) and Jane Chui (0-5).

Results:

Men's Trials

Final Round Robin

(Top four make team)
1st: Jim Butler, 5-0, d. O'Neill 16,19,14; d. Sweeris, 22, 15,18, 18; d. May, 11,18,19; d. Tran, 17, 12, 14, 15; d. Chui, 8,15,13;
2nd: Sean O'Neill, 3-2, d. May, 16, 14, 14; d. Tran, 16, 15,13; d. Chui, 17,17,20;
3rd: Chi-Sun Chui, 2-3, d. May, -15,11,15,16; d. Tran, -12,13,16,14;
4th: Derek May, 2-3, d. Sweeris, 3-1; d. Tran, 17,16,19;
5th: Todd Sweeris, 2-3, d. O'Neill, 3-2, d. Chui, 3-2;
6th: De Tran, 1-4, d. Sweeris, 18, 10; -19, 17,20.

Women's Trials

Final Round Robin

(Top four make team)
1st: Lily Yip, 5-0, d. Wei Wang 11,18, -19, 16,20; d. Tawny Banh, 9,17,8; d. Diana Gee, -19,16,20,16,16; d. Peggy Rosen, -18,17,-22,20,11; d. Jane Chui, 12,17,4;
2nd: Diana Gee, 4-1, d. Wei Wang, -18,20, 18, 15,16; d. Tawny Banh, -18,20, 18, 15,16; d. Peggy Rosen, 16,14,16; d. Jane Chui, 16,17,18;
3rd: Wei Wang, 3-2, d. Tawny Banh, -19,5,17; d. Peggy Rosen, 18,19,11; d. Jane Chui;
4th: Tawny Banh, 2-3, d. Peggy Rosen, -14,18,20, 15,17; d. Jane Chui, 16,10,17;
5th: Peggy Rosen, 1-4, d. Jane Chui, 20,15,16,19;
6th: Jane Chui, 0-5.
Victor Tolkachev was born and raised in Riga, Latvia (formerly USSR). Table tennis occupied a good part of this youngster's time for nearly twelve years. At the age of five, Victor was selected as the most talented in a group of four hundred students, who were evaluated for athletic ability. He eventually was placed in a local table tennis training facility.

Success came quickly to this talented youth. A clerk & deluxe incident where Victor was physically transferred (kid-napped) to a more prominent club was carried out by Latvian officials. Many years of hard training and competition followed, resulting in multiple national junior championship awards. His junior status took him to the number two ranking in the national men's division. Victor became a part of the Latvian National Team and traveled extensively throughout the Baltic States, USSR and Europe to compete.

South Bend, Indiana is very fortunate to have someone with Victor's ability, experience and enthusiasm as head coach. With only a dozen or so full-time professional instructors in the U.S., maybe three or four of them American born, immigrant world class players and coaches are absolutely necessary and most welcome to our table tennis communities.

Victor carries on a tradition in South Bend that started in 1937 by USTTA Hall of Famer John Varga. Coach Varga produced 15 national champions during his 25-year rein as South Bend's head coach. Victor currently instructs 20 students who range in age from six to sixteen. Their individual schedules vary; however, training is conducted seven days a week, at least three hours each day. Coach Tolkachev has a strong belief in physical conditioning, including running, jumping drills, sit-ups, stair-climbing and calisthenics, as well as other sports training, such as volleyball, soccer, flag football and dodge ball, which are all played in the confines of the South Bend club. Unselfish attitude, sportsmanship and team-oriented goals are constantly stressed in Victor's training process. There has been a 30-year absence of professional coaching in South Bend; how fortunate it is to have Victor Tolkachev here to carry on the tradition!

MEET VICTOR TOLKACHEV
South Bend's Full-Time Coach
by Brad Balmer

Victor

DID'JA KNOW?
by Bob Green

In the early days of the game, 1890 to 1900, table tennis went by many names. Just some of which were: Indoor tennis on a table, Klick-Klack, Pom-Pom, Whiff-Whaff, Gossima, and Ping Pong. Gossima and Ping Pong were the only two that recorded patents and Ping Pong was the only one that was really promoted in England. It was later patented in the United States by Parker Brothers. Some early rules of Ping Pong were: Service of the ball was straight over the net, as in tennis, and had to be made underhanded, below the elbow and behind the end of the table. No backhand serves or strokes were allowed. Lawn tennis scoring was used with six games being a match. The table recommended was any dining room type that was seven to nine feet long by half the width. Net height could be seven to nine inches and it was recommended that wings be used at the net ends to prevent balls from going around. The rules also spelled out dress codes: during a heated match, men were allowed to remove their jackets but must still wear the long sleeved white shirt with the stiff collar, tie, and vests tightly buttoned. Ladies were allowed dresses that cleared the floor all around, but dress trains, patent leather boots or high french heels were considered to be dangerous. As Ping Pong was considered a fashionable sport, proper dress was a must.

Unless you played before 1930, you have probably never played a game of Ping Pong. Let me explain to everyone who thought they were Ping Pong players. In order to play Ping Pong you would have to use the U.S. patented Parker Brothers paddles, balls, tables, nets, and play under the Parker rules. If you didn't have all Parker equipment, you were really playing table tennis and didn't know it.

Thought of the day: You are in a must-win match and everything is going wrong. Your shots have deserted you, you've lost your concentration, and your opponent is getting all the breaks. This qualifies as a real emergency. CALL 911.

January/February 1995

Victor Tolkachev

Table Tennis Today 33
**Women’s Doubles, L-R:** Silver medalists Margaret Fox & Mary Kleinhenz; Bronze medalists Tybie Sommer & Christa Knauer; Bronze medalists Louise Charonko & Ann Melvin.

This was the seventh year for the Huntsman World Senior Games, which has 15 sports, including table tennis. It was the fourth year for the table tennis competition. Attendance for all sports for the two weeks was around 3,000. Seventy-nine players over age 50 participated in table tennis. There were five players from Germany, two from Russia and one from England. Most were top players from these countries.

Tuesday, October 18th was the regular practice and get acquainted day. Tybie Sommer, a former world mixed doubles champion, was back again by popular demand and gave free lessons to all who signed up and waited their turn. She was giving 10 minute lessons continuously for three hours.

That evening the welcoming banquet was held at the Dixie College campus. Then we all marched into the auditorium behind the banner of each sport, waving flags. The program was just as good as the outstanding one given last year. Several athletes were honored as heroes, including one of the table tennis participants, Michael Scarpignato of West Lawn, PA. Michael overcame the adversity of having one leg removed at a young age and being told he would be an invalid the rest of his life.

Many of us were saddened by the fact that Lester Enslin and Mary Ann passed away shortly after the tournament and was very impressed. He said he should be able to bring quite a group of athletes here for next year, which should include some table tennis players. This tournament is held each year in October and the major sponsor is Huntsman Corporation. We will look forward to seeing you all next October.

Results:

**WOMEN’S SINGLES**

50-59 1. Jane Mills (Muncie, IN); 2. Harriet Quon (Long Beach, CA); 3. Martie Absher (Ivins, UT)

60-69 1. Lisa Modlich (Houston, TX); 2. Margaret Fox (Williamsburg, OH); 3. Mary Kleinhenz (Houston, TX)

70+ 1. Christa Knauer (Stuhr, Ger.); 2. Tybie Sommer (Scottsdale, AZ)

3. Louise Charonko (Sun City, CA)

**WOMEN’S DOUBLES**

1. Tybie Sommer (Scottsdale, AZ)/Christa Knauer (Stuhr, Ger.)

2. Margaret Fox (Williamsburg, OH)/Mary Kleinhenz (Houston, TX)

3. Louise Charonko (Sun City, CA)/Ann Melvin (Sun City, CA)

**MEN’S SINGLES**

50-54 1. Churshid Nagibekov (Volgskiy, Russia); 2. Klaus Thurman (Erfurt, Ger.); 3. Yori Foka (Kostomuksha, Russia)

55-59 1. Tom Miller (Livermore, CA); 2. Larry Clark (Columbus, OH); 3. Peter Bazzos (Las Vegas, NV)

60-64 1. Norman Silver (Colorado Springs, CO); 2. Raymond Chen (Gaithersburg, MD)


70+ 1. Arthur Chase (San Antonio, TX); 2. Ed Stein (Los Alamos, NM); 3. Dean McNulty (Ventura, CA)

75+ 1. Arthur Chase (San Antonio, TX); 2. Gene Woods (Los Angeles, CA)

**MEN’S DOUBLES**

50-59 1. Churshid Nagibekov (Volgskiy, Russia)/Yori Foka (Kostomuksha, Russia); 2. Udo Linke (Germany)/Klaus Linke (Erfurt, Ger.); 3. Tom Miller (Livermore, CA)/Harold Kopper (Riverside, CA)

60-64 1. Norman Silver (Colorado Springs, CO)/Guenter Puzicha (Grasleben, Ger.); 2. Henry Desilva (Leicester, Eng.)/Raymond Chen (Gaithersburg, MD)

65-69 1. Grant Misbach (Provo, UT)/John Garnett (Colorado Springs, CO)

2. Y. C. Lee (Palos Verdes Estates, CA)/Cornelius Smyth (Henderson, NV)

3. Karl Sekjora (Casper, WY)/Walt Gomes (Cheyenne, WY)

70 + 1. Arthur Chase (San Antonio, TX)/Edgar Stein (Los Alamos, NM); 2. Richard Badger (Garden Grove, CA)/Robert Burkart (Las Vegas, NV)

**RATED SINGLES**

1650+ 1. Tom Miller (Livermore, CA); 2. Norman Silver (Colorado Springs, CO); 3. Wilfredo Escobar (Sun City, CA)

U1650 1. Edgar Stein (Los Alamos, NM); 2. Walt Gomes (Cheyenne, WY); 3. Larry Clark (Columbus, OH)

U1400 1. Dean McNulty (Ventura, CA); 2. Mike Fraher (Seattle, WA); 3. Peter Bazzos (Las Vegas, NV)

U1100 1. Elton Dempsey (Camarillo, CA); 2. Frank Jones (Pleasant Grove, UT); 3. Mary Coonan (Kenner, Can.)

U900 1. Arlene DESKO (Camarillo, CA); 2. Herbert Rossman (Santa Cruz, CA); 3. Edward SHEA (Salt Lake City, UT)

**MIXED DOUBLES**

50-59 1. Christa Knauer (Stuhr, Ger.); 2. Churshid Nagibekov (Volgskiy, Russia); 3. Mary Kleinhenz (Houston, TX)

2. Harriet Quon (Long Beach, CA)/Youri Foka (Kostomuksha, Russia)

3. Liselott Jenssen (Sindelfinger, Ger.)

55-59 1. Ursula Dierkes (Stuttgart, Ger.); 2. Hans-Peter Stutz (Geiselwind, Ger.); 3. Herbert Rossman (Santa Cruz, CA)

56-69 1. Lisa Modlich (Houston, TX)/Guenter Puzicha (Grasleben, Ger.); 3. Louise Charonko (Sun City, CA)/Walt Gomes (Cheyenne, WY)

60-64 1. Grant Misbach (Provo, UT)/Norman Silver (Colorado Springs, CO); 2. Raymond Chen (Gaithersburg, MD)

65-69 1. Arthur Chase (San Antonio, TX)/Johnny Miller (Livermore, CA); 2. Y. C. Lee (Palos Verdes Estates, CA)/Arthur Chase (San Antonio, TX)

3. Ann Melvin (Sun City, CA)/Paul Watts (Canyon Lake, CA)

70+ 1. Tybie Sommer (Scottsdale, AZ)/Y. C. Lee (Palos Verdes Estates, CA); 2. Mary Coonan (Kenner, Can.)/Lachlan Coonan (Kenner, Can.)

3. Richard Badger (Garden Grove, CA)/Ruth Jansen (Sindelfingen, Ger.)
Y. C. Lee

CANDIDATE FOR USA TT VICE PRESIDENT

OVER 40 YEARS OF TABLE TENNIS INVOLVEMENT AND MANAGEMENT EXPERIENCE

USA Table Tennis:
• Board of Directors, USATT Foundation, Inc. (1989 - present)
• Chairman, Officials Committee (1992 - present)
• International Umpire (certified 1990)
• First American certified as International Referee (1992)
• U. S. Open Deputy Tournament Chairman (1994 & 1995)
• Los Angeles Local Organizing Committee Chairman (1994 & 1995)
• Deputy General Manager of U. S. Youth Table Tennis Teams. (1994)
• AWTTA Wheelchair Certified International Umpire (certified 1994)
• Active player: Gold medalist mixed doubles, Huntsman World Senior Tournament. (1994)

Sports-related Community Involvement:
• Advisory Board of Los Angeles Alpine Recreation Center
• Secretary of the Executive Committee of American Sports Fund
• President/Chairman of Los Angeles Chinatown Table Tennis Club
• Advisory Board/Tournament Committee of Chinese American Athletic Assoc.

Business Experience:
• President, Southern California Young Homes (1991 - present)
• Vice president, Accurate Tax, Inc. (1991 - 1993)
• President, 300 S. Parking, Inc. (1989 - 1993)
• Vice President, LICO Realty & Management Co. (1974 - 1992)
• Manager, Xerox Corporation, General Electric and RCA (1954 - 1988)

If elected Vice President, I will continue my work toward both improving the USATT and increasing the image of the sport. Some of the issues I will address as vice-president are:

• **Players‘ development** - We need more resources assigned to the development of all levels of players.

• **Umpire/referee development** - We need more umpires and referees for domestic and international tournaments.

• **Streamline organizational management** - I will run USATT like my own business. I will make sure we get the maximum benefit for every dollar we spend.

• **Committee structure** - We need stronger committees to provide support for various aspects of this sport, such as support for the clubs around the country.

• **Players‘ involvement** - I will encourage players to become involved in all USATT business aspects.

With my considerable experience in both table tennis and business administration, I will make significant contributions to the USATT. I would appreciate both your support and vote in this election.

Sponsored by the Committee to Elect Y.C. Lee
Dr. J.T. Wang Committee Chairman & Linda Hsing Campaign Manager
DALLAS REDEKOPP  
*Bilings TTC Benefactor*  
By Walt Gomes

Table Tennis has many benefactors. This short article highlights one such person. His name is Dallas Redekopp. He lives in Billings, Montana. He loves the sport of table tennis and has been involved for around six years. Mr. Redekopp is why Billings has a functioning table tennis club with organized activity. Dallas and his wife Lynn own a Nautilus Fitness Center where one can see concerned humans applying a mental discipline to their bodies. And in one of his large exercise rooms you’ll see table tennis being played on six tables during scheduled nights and weekends.

Dallas loves the sport and allows the club to use his facility for a price anyone in the country wishes they could have—less then twenty cents a day. Besides providing a PLACE TO PLAY he also schedules tournaments and visiting coaches. Is this a benefactor? I think you’ll agree. Oh Yes, Dallas has several helpers. One of his most active, Frank Babus says; "It’s Dallas who should get all the credit. Without this space to play we would probably not have an active club."

In addition to being a super human being Mr. Redekopp has potential to becoming a high level player. But he’s also concerned with other players and helps new players starting out in the sport. He involves Juniors and Seniors and like most clubs around the country he’d like to develop National Champions. I think he will.

Recently I attended a clinic held at the Billings Club by Chinese Coach Binghu Ren, a 1992 graduate of Tianjin Physical Culture College. After graduating, Coach Ren was assistant coach at the college before coming to the U.S. He is a recent arrival who is now a graduate student at Montana State College in Bozeman (140 miles West of Billings). Coach Ren will be in the area for the next two years and says he will then return to China.

My wife and I spent a splendid five days visiting Billings, learning their history and playing table tennis in this Northern Rocky Mountain city of just over 82,000. Billings has something for everyone’s needs; schools/colleges and all other human amenities. Billings is located in the middle Southern part of the State. It borders Wyoming—almost 500 miles from Cheyenne. Montana is large in land area. You could fit almost three States of Michigan into Montana and almost 15 States of Maryland. It is beautiful country. Billings is a good place to live and have a good place to play tennis and meet Mr. Dallas Redekopp—A BENEFACITOR TO TABLE TENNIS. Thank you Mr. Redekopp. Many Table Tennis players appreciate your efforts.

---

**COLLEGE STUDENTS!**

If you are interested in competing in your Regional College Championships, contact your local coordinator from list below. If you are not sure which region you are in, contact the one that seems closest. For information on the National College Championships, contact Matt Dinnan at 203-254-4000, ex. 2371.

**REGION 1**  
Contact Person: Orville M. Forbes, 401-598-1464 (w), 401-781-4641 (h)  
Location: Johnson & Wales University, Providence, RI  
Dates: February 25-26

**REGION 2**  
Contact Person: Kristi Brouse, 518-783-2492 (w)  
Location: Sienna College, Loudonville, NY  
Dates: February 18-19

**REGION 3**  
Contact Person: Scott H. Rollofski, 215-988-5339 (w), 215-877-4518 (h)  
Location: University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA  
Dates: TBA

**REGION 4**  
Contact Person: Harry A. Metz, 412-938-5927 (w), 412-785-8388 (h)  
Location: California University of Pennsylvania, California, PA  
Dates: February 3-5

**REGION 5**  
Contact Person: Dana F. Hinnant, 615-974-1077 (w), 615-588-2809 (h)  
Location: University of Tennessee-Knoxville, Knoxville, TN  
Dates: February 24-26

**REGION 6**  
Contact Person: Charlotte Thompson, 904-392-1637 (w), 904-376-0728 (h)  
Location: University of Florida, Gainesville, FL  
Dates: February 10-12

**REGION 7**  
Contact Person: Kathleen McGirty, 513-873-5522 (w), 513-294-8452 (h)  
Location: Wright State University, Dayton, OH  
Dates: February 25-26

**REGION 8**  
Contact Person: Kate Petzer, 414-229-5511 (w), 414-268-0434 (h)  
Location: University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, Milwaukee, WI  
Dates: February 24-26

**REGION 9**  
Contact Person: Steve Lawson, 217-333-6122 (w), 217-874-2043 (h)  
Location: University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, Milwaukee, WI  
Dates: February 24-26

**REGION 10**  
Contact Person: Karla Myers, 612-255-3288 (w), 612-743-2043 (h)  
Location: University of Pennsylvania, Philadelpia, PA  
Dates: February 10-11

**REGION 11**  
Contact Person: Charlie Francis, 316-341-5901 (w), 316-342-8224 (h)  
Location: University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, Milwaukee, WI  
Dates: February 24-26

**REGION 12**  
Contact Person: Mark E. Packer, 817-565-4266 (w), 214-219-0003 (h)  
Location: University of North Texas, Denton, TX  
Dates: February 24-26

**REGION 13**  
Contact Person: Jeff C. Davis, 719-593-3491 (w), 719-202-9741 (h)  
Location: University of Colorado at Colorado Springs, Colorado Springs, CO  
Dates: February 23-25

**REGION 14**  
Contact Person: Candy Holt, 406-243-5082, ex 4944 (w)  
Location: Johnson & Wales University, Providence, RI  
Dates: February 25-26

---

**HOW TO TEACH A BEGINNER TO PLAY TABLE TENNIS**

by Christopher Pham

Teaching a beginner how to play the game of table tennis is not an easy task at all. It requires patience and knowledge of the game. When done properly, the young player won’t have any incorrect flaws which would keep him/her from becoming a top table tennis player.

Here are some suggestions on how to coach a beginner:

1. Make sure that he or she has a correct grip.
2. After the player has learned the basic forehand & backhand strokes, feed ball slowly and all over the table so the beginner is forced to use both the backhand and forehand to return the ball.
3. Make the beginner run to the left, right, and back forth so this will help develop their footwork.
4. Try to make spin when serving to give the beginner an idea on how to serve with spin. Make sure that you do not use too much spin.
5. Hit very easy topspin loops and show the beginner, in an easy manner, how to block. The beginner will eventually learn how to loop and block through your motions.
6. Play everything using all of the motions and strokes. This should be exactly like a real game because the beginner can return the ball and learn how to play correctly.
7. Use a lot of balls when playing so the beginner will not be afraid of missing and you also don’t need to pick up the ball very often. The beginner will play more freely and will learn much better when you use a lot of balls.
8. In my opinion, the all-around young player has a better chance of becoming a top player than the young player who learns toward attacking during the early stages of training.
9. If you are lacking some of the strokes to teach a beginner correctly, the best way to teach is to feed the ball to the beginner all over the table so he or she can learn to be agile while using the backhand and forehand.
10. Spend money on table tennis video tapes that teach and buy videos of tournaments. Watch these tapes together with the young player. You will find that it is worth it because the young player will pick up a lot by watching world class players play.

**7 new tapes of international competitions!!**

Call, we’ll fax or mail you a detailed list!

Also brand new:

*"World Class Practice"*

A 2 hour tape of 12 of the world’s top players at practice.

Close-up - perfect for learning how they do it!  
$25.00 + $3.50 s&h

To order call: 1-800-500-5057

---

**1994 U.S. OPEN and other VIDEO TAPEs**

**Tape 1**  
*Men's Singles OF: #1: Christophe Legout (FRA) - Lin Zhigang (CHN)*  
*Men's Doubles: #2: Jorgen Persson / Damien Eloi (SWE / FRA) vs. Carl Prean / Andrew Eden (ENG)*

**Tape 2**  
*Men's Semi Final #1: Kong Linghui (CHN) - Christophe Legout (FRA)*  
*Men's Semi Final #2: Olivier Marmurek (FRA) - Liu Guoliang (CHN)*

**Tape 3**  
*Men's Team Semi Final: China - France*  

**Tape 4**  
*Women's Singles Final: #1: Guo Jun (USA) - Amy Feng (USA)*  
*Men's Singles Final: Kong Linghui (CHN) - Liu Guoliang (CHN)*  
*Men's Doubles Final: Christophe Legout / Nicholas Chatelain (FRA) vs. Liu Guoiang / Lin Zhigang (CHN)*

**Tape 5**  
*Men's Teams Final: England - China*  
#1: Carl Prean - Liu Guoiang, #2: Matthew Syed - Kong Linghui, #3: Prean / Andrew Eden - Liu / Lin Zhigang  
#4: Men's Singles: Jim Butler - Xiao Zhang

$18. per tape + $3.50 s&h. Complete set of 5: $80. + $5.50 s&h  
(California residents please add 8.25% tax)

---

January/February 1995
# 20th Anniversary

## LOUISIANA/SCHILDKROT OPEN

$10,870 Prize Money

### SCHEDULE:

**SATURDAY, March 25**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EVENT</th>
<th>FEE</th>
<th>TIME</th>
<th>1st 2nd 3rd 4th</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Open S</td>
<td>$200</td>
<td>10:00AM</td>
<td>$100 $200 $300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. A R/R</td>
<td>$30</td>
<td>1:00PM</td>
<td>$200 $200 $300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. B R/R</td>
<td>$30</td>
<td>2:00PM</td>
<td>$200 $200 $300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. C R/R</td>
<td>$30</td>
<td>3:00PM</td>
<td>$200 $200 $300</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### SATURDAY, March 26

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EVENT</th>
<th>FEE</th>
<th>TIME</th>
<th>1st 2nd 3rd 4th</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5. D R/R</td>
<td>$30</td>
<td>10:00AM</td>
<td>$200 $200 $300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. E R/R</td>
<td>$30</td>
<td>11:00AM</td>
<td>$200 $200 $300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. F R/R</td>
<td>$30</td>
<td>12:00PM</td>
<td>$200 $200 $300</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### TOURNAMENT MOTEL

**LA QUINTA INN**

2333 S. Acadian Thwy., Baton Rouge, LA 70806

- **1-504-924-9600**
- **SPECIAL DISCOUNT FOR PLAYERS**
  - 1-4 Persons Flat Rate - $50

**RATING**

Rating events will use February 1995 rating listed in Table Tennis Today.

### FOR MORE INFORMATION:

CALL Power Poon at 504-293-0534
Singles Champion Wang Tao of China.

This tournament was the final event of the 1994 ITTF World Circuit. The top eight players based on points accumulated during the series were invited to participate, but some of the top qualifiers had to miss this event. J.O. Waldner of Sweden had to cancel, suffering from a knee injury which had already caused him to be side-lined for the semifinal and final at the TSP World Team Cup in Nimes, France two weeks earlier. Ma Wenge of China, having just competed in two major Asian tournaments, was suffering from a shoulder injury and also canceled his appearance. Nonetheless, the field was of the highest caliber: Jean-Michel Saive (BEL), Wang Tao (CHN), Zoran Primorac (CRO), Kim Taek Soo (KOR), Jean-Philippe Gatien (FRA), Jörg Rosskopf (GER), Johnny Huang (CAN) and Petr Korbel (CZE) competed in this $50,000 event.

It was the first major tournament organized by the Portuguese Table Tennis Federation, and it coincided with its 50th Anniversary celebration. The organization was very well-done. Two well-lit courts were set up in a hall at the Estadio Universitario in Lisbon, and seating for about 2000 people was available. The place was filled almost to capacity both of the tournament days, and the atmosphere was excellent. The audience was appreciative of the high level performances that were presented.

The atmosphere among the players was that of playful, friendly competitiveness, all of them communicating with each other in English. The setting was different from other events I have seen, because each of the players was there as an individual player without a whole team. They even organized their own practice schedule, of course with what would later most likely be an opponent.

When the draw was made Wang Tao was still in question. His departure from China had been delayed by 16 hours, and no one knew for sure what alternative route he had been given. So two draws were made, one with Wang as #2 seed, and another, in case he didn’t make it, with a Portuguese player filling in. Later that night, Wang showed up, jet lagged and exhausted. He had made it, but his luggage was lost. For the first time in his career, he had not packed his racket in his carry-on bag, so there was a rush to try to find some racket that might be acceptable to him. In fact, he played the first two matches in the round robin with someone else’s racket, beat Korbel, but lost to Primorac. Fortunately for him, his luggage was delivered to the tournament site just in time for the “survival” match against Gatien. The winner of this match would finish second in Group B after Primorac and thus qualify for the semifinal. They fought a tough 3-game battle which Wang finally won 10 in the third. Primorac had dominated the group, beating Wang, Gatien and Korbel in two straight games. Group A was more closely contested with Saive, Kim and Rosskopf all posting a 2-1 record. Saive had beaten Rosskopf and Johnny Huang but lost to Kim, Rosskopf beat Kim and Huang but lost to Saive. Kim’s one game win in his loss to Rosskopf tipped the balance. He won the group and Saive came in second. The stage for the semi’s was set.

The semifinal

In an otherwise very well-attended event, it was decided, for whatever mysterious reason, to play the semi-finals of 3, although best of 5 would have given the spectators more good table tennis, and there certainly were no time constraints with only three matches to be played on Sunday. Also, the semi’s could have easily been played in sequence, but they were played at the same time, so the spectators had to choose one of the semi’s to watch instead of enjoying both.

Semifinal 1: Kim Taek Soo - Wang Tao

This all-Asian match was not really heavily contested. The night before, I had sat at dinner with Kim, who speaks English very well, and he has overcome his initial shyness. When our conversation turned to his upcoming match against Wang Tao, he mentioned that, while he felt that he can beat anyone if he plays well, he didn’t have the key to beating this Chinese left-hander. Although Kim always plays at a high level, his long backhand smash didn’t go through to the Chinese “Wall”! Wang seems to be ready to block anything, all the time. Yes, I did mention Kim’s penhold backhand smash! I don’t know how he does it without dislocating his shoulder, but it usually is a solid point-getter, because just when his opponent thinks that he has Kim locked up, he bends his right shoulder forward and down, his racket winds up pointing upwards on his left side, and out of that motion he cracks the ball hard with a sudden snap. But despite great, exciting points, he lost at 17 and 16.

Semifinal 2: Saive - Primorac

Primorac had been playing extremely well all tournament long. Saive and he practice with each other frequently, and in those matches—he trainer said—Saive usually wins. But tournament conditions are different. Saive, aware that long rallies with Primorac do not favor him, played very aggressively. Judging by the way he started the match, he was not going to give Primorac any opening if he could help it. He took a 9-0 lead before he whiffed a backhand loop for Primorac’s first point. Primorac gained some steam, caught up to 13-10, but the Saive ran away to a 21-13 win. The Croatian talent started the second game visibly sharper. His apparent effort to get some breaks from Saive’s weaker backhand paid off in an early 5-2 lead, but Saive recognized the strategy immediately and evened the score at 5-5. At 6-8 Saive—in the spirit of honesty that thank God is still a trademark of our sport—gave back a point to Primorac which had accidentally been judged an edge ball and counted in his favor. They continued a close, beautiful match in which the placement of their loops counted more than their power. Primorac exerted pressure with his characteristic backhand serve from the forehand side of the table, followed by a turn and forehand attack on the third ball and Saive worked with his big swings and athletic ability, his huge legs allowing him to run down every ball.

17-17, Primorac has just almost out-blocked Saive wide to his forehand. Saive runs the ball down and from a full stretch manages to hook it back onto the table. Primorac smashes it into the backhand corner, again, from full stretch, Saive reaches it and this time has to throw up a lob. The next smash catches Saive uncomfortably in the middle, and he has to improve a shot from between his knees. Now Primorac has an open shot for a put-away, right? His block to Saive’s forehand is a seemingly ten feet over Saive’s head, right into the far backhand corner of the court. Saive once more leaps for the ball, catches up to it—at this point playing backwards—and lob it back high for a clean edge...18-17 Saive. He wins 21-20, 9-21, 21-17.

The Final: Wang Tao - Jean-Michel Saive (best of 5)

From a position of having to beat the World Champion in order to survive, Wang Tao had made it to the finals, where he faced the European Champion in a $10,000 match ($20,000 for first, $10,000 for second place). During warm-up, the two competitors already played a little psych-out game. First, while playing from his forehand to Saive’s backhand, Wang nonchalantly turns around and crashes a backhand down the line, completely out of Saive’s reach. Saive, emotionless, picks up the ball and a couple of balls later returns the favor.

The match is a display of both players’ best technique and strategy: Wang is a combination finesse/power player. He pushes every serve, lets his opponent open, blocks the balls until he has a chance to either hit the ball with his backhand or turn and loop a devastatingly quick ball right off the bounce. That shot never comes back. His blocks and attack shots are so effective, because he anticipates his opponent’s moves very well and misdirects almost every shot. On his own serve, Wang plays a classic serve/attack game, and even the master in service receiving Saive couldn’t stop him.

Saive is a worker. He loops every possible ball and tries to overpower his opponents. As mentioned before, he is considered the best service receiver in the game, which usually neutralizes much of his opponent’s advantage. This match turned on Wang’s ability to vary the length and direction of his blocks to such an extent that Saive often found himself in an uncomfortable position to the ball and either missed his shot or had to give Wang a weak ball, for which he got punished hard every time. As the match progressed, Wang’s backhand blocks became harder, and Saive had more and more problems with them, because with Wang’s lobs-out, the ball was always a little deeper than Saive likes. After losing the first, Saive won the second game at 19. But Wang’s shots grew wider and quicker, his pushes heavier, and as it became clear to him what he needed to do to beat Saive, he started to exploit Saive’s backhand more and more. 2-1 up, Wang served first in the fourth game. Although Saive started out with a 7-2 lead, he howled with frustration after yet another attempt to loop one of Wang’s dead pips-balls resulted in the ball touching the net and flying off the end of the table. Wang caught up to 7-7 and went ahead 11-9. They played fairly even from there on, and at 18-17 Saive served. A phenomenally wide, unreachable backhand from the forehand, a dead ball and an edge ball brought Wang to 20-18. He allowed one more point before tempting Saive with a long no-spin push to the forehand—a risky move at best. Saive, having steam-amped around his backhand corner, had to reach for the ball and looped it off the end, 21-19. Match to Wang 3-1.

As two weeks prior in Nimes, the outcome of this tournament strengthened pre-Chinese domination in Tianjin, China. Currently there is no team that can put together as strong a three-man squad as China. Wang Tao—by now holding the #1 spot on the team—if not on the World’s Ranking list, powered by Ma Wenge, U.S. Open Champ Kong Linghui, World Team Cup MVP Liu Guoliang, and possibly even Swedish Open winner Ding Song (a chopper), they are all players who are capable of beating the #1 of any team around, let alone the #2 and #3. It is hard to see who might stop China from going all the way. Of course there are always variables, and who knows, the Chinese players might crack under the immense pressure of having to win at home. The Swedish Team in the last World’s managed to win the Team event, but in the singles they all exited early—except Waldner, but for him even a semifinal loss is early. In China traditionally, the team event is considered more important, so that is where the players will feel more pressure. Still, if Wang Tao leads his team as cool and collected as he appeared in this event, it does not bode well for their competition in Tianjin.
Jean-Philippe Gatien serves to Jean-Michel Saive at the last World-unit; they faced off again in the World Cup final. Gatien won.

Cheng Yinhua, representing the U.S. at the World Cup and the North American tape, defeated World Champion Jean-Philippe Gatien of France in the first match of the round robin, 19-16, 22-16. However, he lost to Zoran Primorac of Croatia (world #8), who in turn lost to Gatien. In the ensuing three-way tie, Gatien and Primorac advanced. Cheng did not. If Cheng had gotten a game off Primorac, he would have advanced. (In their previous meeting, at the 1991 U.S. Open in Oklahoma City, Cheng had gone five games with Primorac.) Gatien went on to win the tournament.

Final: Jean-Philippe Gatien (FRA) d Jean-Michel Saive (BEL), 17-15, 18-21, 16-14, 19-21.

Preliminary Groups:


Group C: 1st: Wang Tao (CHN), 3-0, d. Paul Langley, 9-10, 10-9, 10-9; d. Paul Langley, 9-10, 10-9, 10-9; d. Krek, 15-7, 15-7; 2nd: Kong Linghua (CHN), 18-16, 16-16, 16-16; d. Ho, 17-18, 19-21.

Group D: 1st: Wang Tao (CHN), 3-0, d. Paul Langley, 9-10, 10-9, 10-9; d. Paul Langley, 9-10, 10-9, 10-9; d. Krek, 15-7, 15-7; 2nd: Kong Linghua (CHN), 18-16, 16-16, 16-16; d. Ho, 17-18, 19-21.

Women’s Doubles-Final: Wang Chen/Wu Ying (CHN), 17-15, 15-17, 15-17, 15-17, 15-17.

Women’s Doubles-Final: Wang Chen/Wu Ying (CHN), 17-15, 15-17, 15-17, 15-17, 15-17.

Barcelona, Spain
November 13, 1994


Chinese chopping star Ding Song won the Swedish Open.

Men’s Singles—Final: Ding Song (CHN) d. Zoran Primorac (CRO), 21-18, 21-18, 21-18; d. Jean-Philippe Gatien (FRA), 18-16, 18-16, 18-16; d. Jean-Philippe Gatien (FRA), 18-16, 18-16, 18-16.

Women’s Singles—Final: Ding Song (CHN) d. Zoran Primorac (CRO), 21-18, 21-18, 21-18; d. Jean-Philippe Gatien (FRA), 18-16, 18-16, 18-16; d. Jean-Philippe Gatien (FRA), 18-16, 18-16, 18-16.

Women’s Doubles-Final: Wang Chen/Wu Ying (CHN), 17-15, 15-17, 15-17, 15-17, 15-17.

Swedish Open
November 23-27, 1994

Sagat Open
Doha, Qatar
December 2-4, 1994

Barcelona, Spain
November 13, 1994


Chinese chopping star Ding Song won the Swedish Open.

Men’s Singles—Final: Ding Song (CHN) d. Zoran Primorac (CRO), 21-18, 21-18, 21-18; d. Jean-Philippe Gatien (FRA), 18-16, 18-16, 18-16; d. Jean-Philippe Gatien (FRA), 18-16, 18-16, 18-16.

Women’s Singles—Final: Ding Song (CHN) d. Zoran Primorac (CRO), 21-18, 21-18, 21-18; d. Jean-Philippe Gatien (FRA), 18-16, 18-16, 18-16; d. Jean-Philippe Gatien (FRA), 18-16, 18-16, 18-16.

Women’s Doubles-Final: Wang Chen/Wu Ying (CHN), 17-15, 15-17, 15-17, 15-17, 15-17.

Swedish Open
November 23-27, 1994

Sagat Open
Doha, Qatar
December 2-4, 1994

Barcelona, Spain
November 13, 1994


Chinese chopping star Ding Song won the Swedish Open.

Men’s Singles—Final: Ding Song (CHN) d. Zoran Primorac (CRO), 21-18, 21-18, 21-18; d. Jean-Philippe Gatien (FRA), 18-16, 18-16, 18-16; d. Jean-Philippe Gatien (FRA), 18-16, 18-16, 18-16.

Women’s Singles—Final: Ding Song (CHN) d. Zoran Primorac (CRO), 21-18, 21-18, 21-18; d. Jean-Philippe Gatien (FRA), 18-16, 18-16, 18-16; d. Jean-Philippe Gatien (FRA), 18-16, 18-16, 18-16.

Women’s Doubles-Final: Wang Chen/Wu Ying (CHN), 17-15, 15-17, 15-17, 15-17, 15-17.

Swedish Open
November 23-27, 1994

Sagat Open
Doha, Qatar
December 2-4, 1994

Barcelona, Spain
November 13, 1994


Chinese chopping star Ding Song won the Swedish Open.

Men’s Singles—Final: Ding Song (CHN) d. Zoran Primorac (CRO), 21-18, 21-18, 21-18; d. Jean-Philippe Gatien (FRA), 18-16, 18-16, 18-16; d. Jean-Philippe Gatien (FRA), 18-16, 18-16, 18-16.

Women’s Singles—Final: Ding Song (CHN) d. Zoran Primorac (CRO), 21-18, 21-18, 21-18; d. Jean-Philippe Gatien (FRA), 18-16, 18-16, 18-16; d. Jean-Philippe Gatien (FRA), 18-16, 18-16, 18-16.
JOHN VARGA OPEN
South Bend, Indiana
October 22-23, 1994
by Brad Balmer

Hair-flying Clark Yeh, John Varga Men's Singles Champion.

98 entries, including an enthusiastic 38 juniors, converged at the new South Bend Rec. Dept. Table Tennis Club for the first annual John Varga Open. Nineteen events, of which ten focused on the youth player, distributed $1100.00 to the winning participants from eight states.

Clark Yeh, from Indianapolis, took top honors by defeating Michigan's Bernie Pietrak, three games to one in the open finals. Bernie had an incredible tournament by defeating higher rated players, Victor Tolkachev (2354) and Florin Petroi (2361) on his way to the finals. Clark teamed up with brother Norman to win a close three game set over the team of Tolkachev/Pietrak in the open doubles.

Eight of the nineteen events were won by South Bend club players, including two-time winner (U800, U1000) Randy Hewitt. Other multiple winners included Haley Dittus and Mimi Bosika. Former top U.S. men's player and South Bend junior national champion, Dave Krizman, returned to competitive play by defeating Guenther Schroeder in the finals of the U1775's.

ST. LOUIS FALL OPEN
St. Louis, Missouri
October 22, 1994


Open Men's Singles Champion.


U1775— Dave Kuzman d. Dana Yoder 18,18.

U1600—Michael Head d. Branden Nintz -20,19,15.


U1000—Randy Hewitt d. Michael Christo -4,10,8.

Open Men's Singles Champion.

U800— Randy Hewitt d. Matt Welling 14,11.

Unrated Novice: Matthew Hazinski d. Kashif Shaik 18,19.


U2800 Doubles: Toth/Yoder d. Lynch/Clemmons 22,18.

Open Men's Doubles Champion.

1994 MILLCREEK OPEN
Erie, Pennsylvania
October 15-16, 1994
by Sam Steiner

Up-and-coming junior stars Mark Hazinski, above, and Nicole Balmer, below. Hazinski won the Under 10 event and made the finals of both Under 12 and Under 14.

This third and most successful of the annual Millcreek fall tournaments drew 85 entrants and finally turned a profit after 2 years of losses. 11 new tables, better scheduling, and free food and drink at the player's party made this tournament one of the highlights of the area circuit.

A newly-slimmed down Dan Seemiller (is he heavy before?) pocketed the $175 first place money by downing brother Randy, a not-so-slim Adio from Cleveland, and Chip Coulter in the final 4 round-robin. Adio played a tough match with Randy for 2nd, coming back from 20-16 down to win the 2nd game, only to lose the third at deuce.

Nearly 30 entrants cashed in on a total of $1350 prize money in 17 events. Special thanks to the Syracuse and Chicago/Moline contingents for making the long drive. Next year we'll have 5 more new tables and more prize money-don't miss it!


Under 1900: Jerry Denno, Warren d. Luis Houed, Chicago 8,14.


Open Women's Singles Champion.


Open Women's Doubles Champion.

Over 60: Harry Hawk, Ithaca 15,19.

U1800—Phil Panno, Youngstown d. John Ramirez, Pittsburgh 16,21,17.

1994 ARKANSAS STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS
November 5, 1994

Open Singles—Final: Don Jackson d. Minors Elena 21,13, SF: Andy Bloxom, Jamey Hall.


B Singles—Final: Dan Casciano d. Frank Lee 12,9, SF: Scott McConnell, Danery Willis.


Wildcard: Don Jackson d. Vic Meredith 19,15.


Over 60: Vic Meredith d. Jack Haynes 17,19,8.


Open Doubles: Bloxom/Hadfield d. Jackson/Williams 14,14,14,12, 11.

U2900 Doubles: Atha Jr./Christine herman d. Smithcy/Leslie McIntire 1,6,3.

MATTIC NOVEMBER OPEN
Middletown, Pennsylvania
November 12-13, 1994


Open Men's Singles Champion.


Open Women's Singles Champion.

U1900: Reedy Kyker d. Matt Murad 7,8.


U1400: Steve Sheppard d. Pat O'Neil 15,21,15.


Open Men's Doubles Champion.

O40 U1600: Jim Troester d. Don Vastine 13,29.


40 Table Tennis Today

January/February 1995
Table Tennis Today 41
USA Table Tennis
Board of Director’s Meeting
November 18-19, 1994
Colorado Springs, Colorado
Motion No. 1: To accept the July 22, 1994 minutes as amended. Motion by Gus Kennedy, second by Sheri Pittman. Motion passed 10-0-0.

Motion No. 2: To accept revision to bylaws regarding HIPAC policies as proposed by Mal Anderson. Motion by Gus Kennedy, second by Jimmy McClure. Motion passed 10-0-0.

Motion No. 3: To accept Dr. Morris Jackson’s recommendation that Mr. Andre Scott be suspended for three months with a year probation commencing on January 1, 1995. Motion by Ben Nisbet, second by Jimmy McClure. Motion passed 10-0-0.

Motion No. 4: To accept contract agreement with performance licensing. Motion by Gus Kennedy, second by Terry Timmins. Motion passed 10-0-0.

Motion No. 5: To accept Larry Hodges as editor of Table Tennis Today for 1995 with printing and mailing to be done in Colorado Springs. Motion by Gus Kennedy, second by Donna Sakai. Motion passed 6-4-1.

Motion No. 6: To accept World Team trial qualifications as presented by Scott Butler. Motion by Terry Timmins, second by Gus Kennedy. Motion passed 11-0-0.

Motion No. 7: To adopt the Financial Policies and Procedures Manual. Motion by Gus Kennedy, second by Sheri Pittman. Motion passed 11-0-0.

Motion No. 8: To adopt Human Resource Policy as amended. Motion by Scott Butler, second Jimmy McClure. Motion passed 11-0-0.

Motion No. 9: To move that all coaches applying for certification must be members of USA Table Tennis. Motion by Gus Kennedy, second by Jimmy McClure. Motion passed 10-1-0.

Motion No. 10: To move the 1995 Junior Nationals to the USA Table Tennis National Championships. Motion by Sean O’Neill, second by Shoni Aki. Motion passed 9-1-0.

Motion No. 11: To accept ITTF Subcommittee nominations as amended. Motion by Terry Timmins, second by Scott Butler. Motion passed 7-0-3.

Motion No. 12: To accept 1995 budget as recommended by Budget Committee subject to changes from contract negotiations with coaches and training center. Motion by Terry Timmins, second by Gus Kennedy. Motion passed 10-0-0.

Motion No. 13: To accept Paul Montville’s contract with technical changes as amended. Motion by Shoni Aki, second by Terry Timmins. Motion passed 10-0-0.

Motion No. 14: To approve bank line of credit agreement for $25,000. Motion by Donna Sakai, second by Scott Butler. Motion passed 9-0-1.

Cheng Yinghua
Jack Huang
Larry Hodges
Todd Sweevers
Sean Lonergan
Spring Break Camp at the National Table Tennis Center
April 17-21
$100 (NTTC members $70)

If interested, contact:
Larry Hodges
National Table Tennis Center
15916 Indiana Drive
Rockville, MD 20855
301-670-6882 (ph)
301-670-6967 (fax)

• Three hours of training each day
• Primarily a Junior camp, but adults welcome

USATT MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NAME: ____________________________________________________________  
LAST: ______________________  FIRST: ____________________________  

ADDRESS: ____________________________________________________________  
STREET: ____________________________________________________________  
CITY: ______________________  STATE: ______________________  ZIP CODE: _______  

BIRTH DATE: (required) MO. __  DAY __  YR. __  

TELEPHONE: ____________________________________________________________  
Area Code: ______________________  Number: ______________________  

Adult (One Year)...........................................$25.00  
Adult (Three Years).....................................$60.00  
*Junior (One Year).................................$8.00  
*Junior (One Year w/Today)......................$12.00  
**Family (One Year)...............................$45.00  

Are you a U.S. citizen?  Yes  No  

* A junior must be under 18 as of the last July 1st.  
**All members of one family living at the same address.

Please include names/birthdates of all family members.  
Please mail to: USATT, One Olympic Plaza, Colorado Springs, CO 80909-5769 (719) 578-4583.  
Make checks out to USATT.

Larry Hodges, Editor
National Table Tennis Center
15916 Indiana Drive
Rockville, MD 20855
301-670-6882 (ph)
301-330-6967 (fax)

January/February 1995
If you've had it with those hard to read, hard to handle and even harder to copy curled faxes, make sure your next fax machine is one of Brother's new ACS models. Why?

Well first of all, our unique ACS Anti-Curl System eliminates that annoying fax curl so your faxes come out perfectly flat, so that they're easy to read, copy and handle. And, all ACS models use standard (thermal) fax paper.

But flat faxes are only the beginning because these models are packed with the in-demand features you want. Like "smoothing", which enhances image quality so your faxes will be easier to read. Like time-saving auto document feeders and auto-cutters, memory dial, page memory, fax/TEL switch, TAD interface and their price is every bit as appealing as their features.

So, if you're ready to put an end to curling faxes, stop by your Brother retailer today.
And, get ready to get the fax straight.

We're at your side.
When it is received it will be manually processed

AND COULD NOT BE PROCESSED:
VA 2616 O'Neill, Sean Patrick
CA 2299 Wang, Wei
2646 Zhuang, Jhing David
ID 2558 Feng, Amy
TX 2609 Rop, Darko
CA 2281 Zakharyan, Anita
TOP MEN
TX 2446 Hhodi, Tahju
ID 1883 Shen, Jessica
MD 2549 Sweeris, Todd
PA 2478 Fernandez, David
PA 2431 Reed, Barney J.
TX 2477 Owens, Eric
CA 1796 Dahlin, Sally A.
IN 1692 Troyer, Nate
MI 1880 Jelkovaki, Stas
CA 1796 Dahlin, Sally A.
CA 1085 Mel, Priscilla
CA 1489 Cheng, Jeanie
CA 1796 Dahlin, Sally A.
CA 999 Cota, Alejandra
CA 721 Ike, Jackie

When it is received it will be manually processed

AND COULD NOT BE PROCESSED:
VA 2616 O'Neill, Sean Patrick
CA 2299 Wang, Wei
2646 Zhuang, Jhing David
ID 2558 Feng, Amy
TX 2609 Rop, Darko
CA 2281 Zakharyan, Anita
TOP MEN
TX 2446 Hhodi, Tahju
ID 1883 Shen, Jessica
MD 2549 Sweeris, Todd
PA 2478 Fernandez, David
PA 2431 Reed, Barney J.
TX 2477 Owens, Eric
CA 1796 Dahlin, Sally A.
IN 1692 Troyer, Nate
MI 1880 Jelkovaki, Stas
CA 1796 Dahlin, Sally A.
CA 1085 Mel, Priscilla
CA 1489 Cheng, Jeanie
CA 1796 Dahlin, Sally A.
CA 999 Cota, Alejandra
CA 721 Ike, Jackie

January/February 1995
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>State Abbreviation</th>
<th>City</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Abraham</td>
<td>NY</td>
<td>New York</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abraham</td>
<td>CA</td>
<td>Los Angeles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abraham</td>
<td>TX</td>
<td>Dallas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abraham</td>
<td>FL</td>
<td>Miami</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abraham</td>
<td>PA</td>
<td>Philadelphia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abraham</td>
<td>GA</td>
<td>Atlanta</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abraham</td>
<td>NC</td>
<td>Charlotte</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abraham</td>
<td>IL</td>
<td>Chicago</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abraham</td>
<td>IN</td>
<td>Indianapolis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abraham</td>
<td>OH</td>
<td>Columbus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abraham</td>
<td>MI</td>
<td>Detroit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abraham</td>
<td>CT</td>
<td>Hartford</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abraham</td>
<td>WI</td>
<td>Milwaukee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abraham</td>
<td>MA</td>
<td>Boston</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abraham</td>
<td>MD</td>
<td>Baltimore</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abraham</td>
<td>WV</td>
<td>Charleston</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abraham</td>
<td>TN</td>
<td>Nashville</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abraham</td>
<td>IL</td>
<td>Springfield</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abraham</td>
<td>KS</td>
<td>Kansas City</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Table Tennis Today**

January/February 1995
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Player</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>State</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Seed</th>
<th>Rating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Player A</td>
<td>City</td>
<td>State</td>
<td>Position</td>
<td>Seed</td>
<td>Rating</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Player B</td>
<td>City</td>
<td>State</td>
<td>Position</td>
<td>Seed</td>
<td>Rating</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Player C</td>
<td>City</td>
<td>State</td>
<td>Position</td>
<td>Seed</td>
<td>Rating</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Player D</td>
<td>City</td>
<td>State</td>
<td>Position</td>
<td>Seed</td>
<td>Rating</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Player E</td>
<td>City</td>
<td>State</td>
<td>Position</td>
<td>Seed</td>
<td>Rating</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If higher rated player wins, higher rated player gains more points. If lower rated player wins, higher rated player gains more points.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Men</th>
<th>New Old</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Score</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Jean-Michel SAIPE</td>
<td>2000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>WANG Tao</td>
<td>2000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Jan-Ove WALKERD</td>
<td>2000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>PETER KARLSSON</td>
<td>2000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>KIM TaeKoo</td>
<td>2000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Jean-Philippe GATIEN</td>
<td>2000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
January 28-29, Orlando Winter Open, Orlando, FL. Contact: Olga Soltesz, 1739 Shady Ridge Court, Orlando, FL 32807, 407-830-4009. **


January 28, Calvary Chapel Open, Santa Ana, CA. Contact: John Nguyen, 603 Laurie Avenue, Santa Ana, CA 92607, 949-292-0034. **


February 4-5, Maryland Circuit, Columbia, MD. Contact: Yvonne Kronlage, 14160 Forsythe Road, Sykesville, MD 21784, 410-489-7291. ★

February 4-5, Sooner State Games, Oklahoma City, OK. Contact: Qiumars Hedayatian, 15 30th Ave., Oklahoma City, OK 73126, 405-755-2062. ★

February 10-11, MATTC State Teams Championships (Closed), State College, PA. Contact: Samuel Steiner, 3616 Zimmerman Rd., Erie, PA 16506, 814-833-8709. ★

March 4-5, Lake Osteria Giant RR, Rochester, NY. Contact: Jeff Koch, 217 Hamlin Center Road, Hilton, NY 14468, 716-964-7243. ★

March 4-5, Arizona Open, Tempe, AZ. Contact: Bill Gilbert, 5618 E. Windsor Ave., Scottsdale, AZ 85257, 602-946-1319. ★

March 4-5, Maryland Circuit, Columbia, MD. Contact: Yvonne Kronlage, 14160 Forsythe Road, Sykesville, MD 21784, 410-489-7291. ★

March 5-8, Waltham March RR, Waltham, MA. Contact: Qiumars Hedayatian, 15 30th Ave., Somerville, MA 02145, 617-776-2458. ★

March 11-12, Westfield March Open, Westfield, NJ. Contact: Larry Bavly, 226 North Avenue, Westfield, NJ 07090, 908-654-9009. ★

March 11-12, Hawthorne/Northrop Open, Hawthorne, CA. Contact: Muriel Kay, 416 Walnut Ave., Long Beach, CA 90807. ★

March 17-19, Wisner Open, Wisner, NE. Contact: Leroy Petersen, 1000 5th St., Wisner, NE 68791, 402-529-6253. ★

March 18-19, Jersey Coast Spring Open, Matawan, NJ. Contact: Roger Cormier, 64 Shady Brook Dr., Matawan, NJ 07748, 908-671-8782. ★


March 25-26, NTTC March Open, Rockville, MD. Contact: Larry Hodges, National Table Tennis Center, 15916 Indiana Dr., Rockville, MD 20855, 1-800-671-6882. ★★★

March 25-26, RPI Open, Troy, NY. Contact: Kevin Ko, Rm. 101 Crockett Hall, Rpi, Troy, NY 12180-7108, 518-276-7108. ★★★

March 25-26, $1800 Pennsylvania State Team Championships (Closed), State College, PA. Contact: Samuel Steiner, 3616 Zimmerman Rd., Erie, PA 16506, 814-833-8704. ★★★

April 1-2, Maryland Circuit, Columbia, MD. Contact: Yvonne Kronlage, 14160 Forsythe Road, Sykesville, MD 21784, 410-489-7291. ★

April 1-4, Fourth Annual Salina Open, Salina, KS. Contact: Clifford Metzger, 2026 Rouch St., Salina, KS 67401. ★★★

April 8-9, Westfield April Open, Westfield, NJ. Contact: Larry Bavly, 226 North Avenue, Westfield, NJ 07090, 908-654-9009. ★★★

April 15-16, Potomac Spring Open, Potomac, MD. Contact: David Cheung, 9305 Parkhill Terr., Bethesda, MD 20814, 301-530-4057. ★★★

April 22-23, Arizona State Closed, Tempe, AZ. Contact: Bill Gilbert, 5618 E. Windsor Ave., Scottsdale, AZ 85257, 602-946-1319. ★

April 23-24, Indiana State Closed, Indianapolis, IN. Contact: John Boyle, 7845 Bonita Court, Indianapolis, IN 46219, 317-357-7833. ★


April 29, Strike One April Open, Burlington, MA. Contact: Lim Ming Chui, 347 Bedford St., Lexington, MA 02173-3351, 617-862-1551. ★

April 30, 2nd Annual Chris Manglitz Memorial Doubles Tournament, Rockville, MD. Contact: Larry Hodges, National Table Tennis Center, 15916 Indiana Dr., Rockville, MD 20855, 1-800-671-6882. ★★★

February 4-5, President’s Day Holiday Open, Burlington, MA. Contact: Lim Ming Chui, 347 Bedford St., Lexington, MA 02173-3351, 617-862-1551. ★

February 26, Battlevilles Winter Open, Westfield, OK. Contact: James Winn, 600 Brookhollow Ct., Bartlesville, OK 74006. ★

March 4-5, Lake Osteria Giant RR, Rochester, NY. Contact: Jeff Koch, 217 Hamlin Center Road, Hilton, NY 14468, 716-964-7243. ★


March 4-5, $800 Pennsylvania State Team Championships (Closed), State College, PA. Contact: Samuel Steiner, 3616 Zimmerman Rd., Erie, PA 16506, 814-833-8704. ★★★
For more than 50 years, Stiga has developed and produced the world's best table tennis equipment through quality craftsmanship and advanced technology. Decades of world champions have come to rely on Stiga for their competitive edge. If you're striving for the best in your game, turn to Stiga for the best in equipment... year, after year, after year.

The Allround Classic has been the world standard for competition blades for more than 30 years. This blade offers maximum ball feel to suit the allround champion and the speed needed for the more aggressive fast offensive game. The Allround Classic is constructed of selected fine veneers that are laminated with a special process to produce the perfect combination of speed, weight and control. Because of its unique construction, the Allround Classic actually increases its performance with age. Try the Allround Classic and see why it has been the choice of champion, after champion, after champion.

For more information see your local dealer or write:
Escalade Sports
P.O. Box 889, Evansville, IN 47706
Las Vegas, December 1994

1994 U.S. NATIONAL CHAMPIONS

Amy Feng
Titles: Women's Singles
Women's Doubles
Mixed Doubles
Equipment: Keyshot-FL
Ekrips 2.1
Sriver-FX 2.0

David Zhuang
Titles: Men's Singles
Men's Doubles
Mixed Doubles
Equipment: Chinese-Carbon
Resilon 1.7
Tackiness-C 1.3

Lily Yip
Title: Women's Doubles
Equipment:
Chinese-Carbon
Resilon 2.0
Feint-OX

Dan Seemiller
Title: Men's Doubles
Equipment: Grubba Pro-FL
Sriver 2.0
Super Anti 2.0 w/
Seemiller Sponge

Butterfly®