

Week Commencing 13th February 2006

Birmingham Table Tennis

By Bob Brown

Helen Turner may have to change clubs next season if she wishes to continue playing in the Premier Division of the Birmingham League, as her club Sutton are deep in relegation trouble. Streetly 'A' crushed Sutton 'A' 8-2, following maximums from both John Waters and Terry Cooper. Land Rover 'A', who also look set for the drop, were thumped 9-1 by champions Curdworth, while the only other top flight fixture ended in a 6-4 win for Colebridge Braves against Kingshurst Bribar 'B', Navinder Matharu clinching a superb treble for Braves. Sutton 'C' are also in trouble in Division One, but shared the spoils in a hard fought 5-5 draw with Bournville 'A', with the visitors Les Minott unbeaten. Youngster Nabil Khalfey recorded wins over Silvanus Ward and Dean Opbroek as Sutton 'B' beat high fliers Land Rover 'B' 7-3. Colebridge Giants gained 6-4 wins over Walmley 'A' and Colebridge Hawks in their Division Two promotion bid, while bottom club St Chads achieved a stunning 5-5 draw with Sutton 'D'. Pete Jeffries in fine form for St Chads. Dean Hicks of Hockley Heath 'B' lost for only the second time this season to Graham Fleet of Streetly 'B', but Heath gained a crucial 7-3 success in Division Three. Heath are also going great guns in the TS Callaghan Cup, reaching the semi-final with victory over West Midlands Phones 'B'. John Swinburne was the star of the show with an unexpected 3-1 victory over Sally Russell. Heath now play Land Rover 'D', with Hockley Heath 'C' meeting Baverstock in the last four of the League Cup. Land Rover 'D' lost their unbeaten league record to Bournville 'B' by a 6-4 margin, with the impressive Darren Williams the difference between the teams. Tim Fell was unbeaten as Colebridge Indians pipped Bournville 'C' 6-4. Dave Butler, Alan Healey and Derek Ellis were all unbeaten for Sutton 'F' in their 9-1 win at Walmley 'C' in Division Four. Butler beat Tony Williams 12-10 in the fifth after an excellent encounter. Sutton 'H' also inflicted a heavy defeat over Walmley, as Andrew Nicol was unbeaten in an 8-2 scoreline. Walmley bounced back to beat Lodge Road 8-2, as Bob Hawthorne and Bob Mason had maximums. Mark Cohen won three singles as Lodge Road beat Beaufort Sports 'C' 7-3. West Midlands Phones 'B' had a crucial 6-4 success over Sutton 'G'. Ron Fraser gained his usual maximum for West Midlands Police in their 5-5 draw with Streetly 'D' in Division Five. Streetly 'C' gained an 8-2 triumph over Jacombs 'B', Stuart Oakes unbeaten.