

Week Commencing 21st November 2005

Birmingham Table Tennis

By Bob Brown

Helen Turner and Derek Backhouse were both unbeaten to ensure Sutton 'A' gained their first victory of the season in the Premier Division of the Birmingham League, with a 7-3 scoreline against fellow strugglers Land Rover 'A'. Edward Lynn, who has returned to the sport this season, was in quite magnificent form for Colebridge Braves at Streetly 'A', where arguably the quickest player in the city won his three singles in a 5-5 draw. Colebridge Aces crushed West Mids Phones 'A' 9-1, with Pete Roddy's 12-10 in the fifth success over Andy Evans the pick of the sets. Kingshurst Bribar 'B' beat their 'C' team 6-4 as Karl Manning registered a hat-trick, although county star Sarah Riach took him to 11-9 in the deciding game. Jack Williamson, the 12 year old sensation, continues to grab the headlines in Division One, this time with an unbeaten performance for Kingshurst Bribar 'D' in the 6-4 win over Sutton 'C'. Sutton suffered another 6-4 reverse against Jocombs 'A', despite a magnificent treble from Howard Knight. Bavesh Amlani was another player in fine form in the section, winning his three against Land Rover 'B' all in straight games in a 5-5 draw. Hockley Heath 'A' swept to a 7-3 success at Sandwell Unison, with Mark Cornwell, Dean Hicks and Dean Harvey all winning two singles. Ann Lloyd with a treble helped Colebridge Falcons upset the form book by winning 6-4 against promotion favourites Colebridge Eagles in Division Two, which included a three straight success over ace pen holder Mark Hadley. Walmley 'A' showed some of last seasons promotion form in an 8-2 victory over St Chads, with Colin Lewis at his consistent best. Frank Cotter won three as Colebridge Giants continue to climb the table following a 7-3 home success over Sutton 'D'. Bournville 'B' and Hockley Heath 'B' drew 5-5 in Division Three, with the surprise here being three defeats from early individual leader Bernard Oliver of Heath. Gerald Billington was at his baffling best for Sutton 'E' in their 6-4 win over Colebridge Indians, although Tim Fell took him to the wire in an 11-9 in the fifth defeat. Indians won 6-4 at Beaufort Sports 'B', as Fell beat Ron Kite, Alan Thompson and Robert Sheldon all in the fifth. John Dineen did all he could for Land Rover at Walmley 'B' winning three singles and a doubles with Jim Whitehead, but Walmley won the rest to register a 6-4. Sutton 'E' got their act together after slipping 4-2 behind at Lodge Road, gaining the last four sets, with Farhan Petkar clinching the win against Gordon Baker. Dave Lyne and Simon Russell ensure West Mids Phones 'B' go marching on with trebles in the 8-2 mauling of Walmley 'C'. Walmley beat Land Rover 'F' 7-3, thanks to a maximum from Bob Hawthorne. Quinborne 'B' gained a 7-3 victory at West Midlands Police in Division Five, despite the usual treble from Ron Fraser, although David Ranford gave Fraser his toughest game of the campaign so far, going down 11-5 in the fifth.