

Week Commencing 9th October 2006

The new table tennis season is now up and running in Leamington and, in a club derby match, it was defending champions St Georges A who emphatically stamped their authority over their B side. Ian Packford, Mike Bishop and Earl Sweeney cruising to a 10-0 victory. The whitewashes continued as newly promoted Eathorpe A found the going a little tough against Free Church A and Colebridge A. For 'Church, Gary Webb, Alan Jones and Hugh Matthews inflicted the damage, while Michael Rinnhoffer, Nav Matharu and Thomas Gerald-Hearne reigned supreme for Colebridge. Wellesbourne also managed maximum points – Pete Dunnett, Gary Stewart and Michael Wilkins putting paid to two-man St Georges C. WCC B earned a creditable draw against Colebridge A. Michael Rinnhofer was unbeatable, with Neil Wheatley and Nav Matharu picking up singles. For WCC, Nilton Green picked up a brace, Simon Griew and Derek Harwood one each, with Simon and Nilton teaming up to take the doubles. WCC A showed they were determined to better their runners up spot from last year by thumping St Georges B 9-1. Phil Paine and Clive Irwin were too strong in singles and doubles for the Saints, with Pat McCabe adding two. Rob Warnes saved the point with a fine single. WCC A were denied a second win though, as Wellesbourne beat them 6-4. A hat-trick from Pete Dunnett was added to by two from Gary Stewart and one from Michael Wilkins. Clive Irwin pulled two back for WCC, Phil Paine one and the doubles together. Colebridge B were involved in a couple of tight matches - John Taylor (2), Bob Brown (1) and John Chandler (2) just edged out BGN A. (Gary Jackson 3, Steve Proctor 1). The two Johns taking the doubles to claim the 6-4 win. Against St Georges C, Bob Brown managed a brace, John Taylor and Chandler one each, plus the doubles together. For the Saints, Brian Aston won his three, Alf Chapman a brace - 5-5 the final score. BGN A suffered with only two players against WCC B. A brace from Bob Harman and a single from Gary Jackson were useful points, but neither could beat Simon Griew who took both his games. Nilton Green picked up a single and joined forces with Simon to win the doubles. Title hopefuls Flavels A had a sound start to their quest with a 7-3 win over Free Church A. Gary Webb won two, Alan Jones one for Church. Damon Fenton picked up a single for Flavels, Mark Jackson two, holding his nerve well against Hugh Matthews in the fourth set. Leamington newcomer Paul Savin made a great start by taking his three plus the doubles with Mark.

A lot of tight matches in what promises to be a competitive Division 2. First up, promoted Rugby B scraped past AP Sports A 6-4 in a match full of close games. Pete Morris claimed a maximum, plus doubles with Alum Durrani, who picked up a single, as did Alan Chan. Andrew Meredith claimed two for AP, Sam Apostol and Terry Smith one each. Whitnash were next to steal the honours. Their 6-4 win coming at the expense of RNA A. Dennis Woodhead won three for 'Nash, as did Paul Riman. Tony Thomas, Dot Macfarlane and Darryl Burgess all picked up a single. The doubles going to Tony and Dot. RNA C defied their club odds and beat their B side 6-4 courtesy of an Albert McKay treble, Steve Kurle and Pam Beedham singles and an Albert/Pam doubles combo. The B's replied came from Steve Pool (2), Ian Stevens (1), Dave Harding (1). Rugby A beat BGN B 6-4, with Ian Randle starting where he left off last year and easing to a straight sets treble. Len Coonan added a couple, and Ian combined with son Jack to take the doubles. Dong Wei managed two, Malc Macfarlane and Steve Proctor one each in reply. Rugby's B side were on the right end of their second 6-4 match. Pete Morris another three, Alan Chan and Alum Durrani one each. Copsewood's Gordon Tucker won a brace, as did Steve Smith. The crucial doubles was taken by Rugby's Pete and Alum. Flavels and Free Church B could not be separated and split the points in a 5-5 draw. Tom Brocklehurst and Chris Mulligan won two-a-piece plus the doubles for Church; Trevor Bradley and Mick Bennett two each for Flavels, with Roger Potts a single. Some bigger wins started to come through; Copsewood proved too strong for Free Church C as they romped to an 8-2 win. Gordon Tucker claimed a fine hat-trick for Copsewood, Steve Smith and Roy Joiner two each, with the doubles going to Steve and Gordon. Stuart Mills and Cherry Matthews fought hard to save two points for Church. Free Church B fared better against RNA B, Chris Mulligan and James Hodges taking

both their singles against two-man Navy. Steve Poole and Dave Harding salvaged a point a piece, but a Mulligan/Tom Brocklehurst doubles, added to the three forfeited points, completed an 8-2 win. RNA A proved themselves to be the Navy's top side as they navigated their way to a 9-1 win over their C side. Andy Davies and Tony Thomas took three, Kim Wong two. Dot Macfarlane came in to partner Andy for a doubles victory to make the ninth point. Steve Kurle saved the whitewash for the C's. BGN B were in fine form against AP Sports A, with Dong Wei only dropping one set on his way to a maximum. Steve Proctor joined him to win the doubles and added a couple of singles, as did Malcolm Macfarlane. Sam Apostol notched a couple for AP.

Free Church E made a strong start to their Division 3 campaign as they demolished Ashorne 9-1. Luke Hobbins, Tom Hunt and Chris Blowey all took three, but the guile of Steve Bolton and Chris Knowles in the doubles prevented the whitewash. With four games going to the wire, Eathorpe C might consider themselves a little unlucky to have lost 9-1 to Rugby D, but Rugby were the better finishers on the night. Pete Gierth and Tristan Mobbs both won three, Ben Meakin two, plus doubles with Pete. Ron Coats won a five-setter to take 'Thorpe's solitary point. An improvement for Eathorpe C against their B side – this time only going down 7-3. Allan Stockham won his three and the doubles with Phillip Hill who won two himself. Alastair Nicholson picked up one. Paul Deavall, Charles Wragg and Michael Rossington all collected a single for C. An on-form Dave Milton didn't taste defeat all night as FISSC A beat Free Church D 7-3. Tony Scott added one, John Hunt two. Pete Rourke and Ron Stanbridge won two and one respectively for FC. A young Free Church F performed well in their first three-a-side fixture, taking three points (Jake Harrison 2, Charlotte Spencer 1) against experienced WCC D (Tony Ford 3, Pat Woolvin 2, Andy Woodfield 1). The doubles went to Tony and Andy and the 7-3 win was complete. A reversal of fortunes for WCC D against Ashorne though. Doug Lowe produced the goods with all three of their points. Chris Bowles, Roger Kelly and Steve Bolton two-a-piece for Ashorne and the double to Chris and Roger for the 7-3. Rugby C were far too strong for their D side – Dave Cox, Don Pritchard and Dave Reid all taking maximums. A fine five-set doubles win for Ben Meakin and Jack Koumi saved a point for 9-1.

In the two-aside competition, a brave performance by lone-man Phillip Morby, couldn't stop Eathorpe E beating St Georges E 5-0. James Matharu and Ryan Oldham won their singles to add to three forfeited points. A lot tougher for newly promoted 'Thorpe E against St Georges D. Paul Nason and Lawrence Sweeney inflicting the 5-0 punishment. Paul and Lawrence continued the winning streak by pipping Free Church G 3-2. Another two from the stylish Nason, a single from youngster Loz. Keith Knott won a single and took the doubles with Estyn Williams. Estyn had a tough task as he took on Rugby E alone. He managed to win one, as did Marion Dixon for Rugby, but the three dropped points saw Church G go down 4-1. World Transplant Games gold medallist Grace Newman played well for Rugby E, but George Mudie and Gareth Conway still managed to run up a 5-0 win for FISSC B. FISSC continued their winning ways by taking out Eathorpe F 4-1. Gareth Conway making light of his twelve-year absence from the game to win another two, Mark Kingham adding one plus the doubles together. Dave Hawker held his nerve to take the saving point. A second 4-1 loss for the F's, this time against their D side. Dave Hawker another single, but Peter Nicholson's brace and Sophie Niepceron's single and the doubles eased the D's across the line. Free Church I beat stablemates J 3-2. Russell Spencer won both his games for I, along with the doubles with son Luke. Holly Thompson and Scott Delday taking one each for J.

The Division B title would seem to be a realistic goal for Eathorpe G. Richard Freeman and Mark Hancock beat Free Church J 5-0, then followed up with a 4-1 win over Eathorpe H. Hannah Saville did well to save a point for H. Better for the H side against Free Church K though. Allan Stockham's experience and ability was far too great for Roald and Lindy Myers, who did pick up one each on the night. Allan partnered hard-hitting Elizabeth Hancock to a doubles victory and secured the 3-2 win.

Eathorpe I were quick out of the Division C blocks, romping to a 5-0 win over LCP Groovers. Pauline Parkes and Eugene Mawn the comfortable victors. The I's made it maximum points from two games by demolishing very young first-timers Free Church Q 5-0; John Gymer coming in to partner Pauline Parks this time. Rugby G's Jack Davies and Liam Hobson Hobday won their singles against Free Church P, but couldn't find a way past John and Ashley Edwards in the doubles and had to settle for 4-1. A strong Free Church M side rode over their O side 5-0. Phillip Booth and Richard Pittaway Jnr taking singles, with Dan Ward joining Phillip for the doubles. Church M made it two wins from two with a 4-1 win over Rugby H. Phil Booth lead his side with a brace, Dan Ward one and the doubles with Richard. Simon Pook took a consolation for Rugby. A 5-0 win for Eathorpe J against Eathorpe K, with Robert Young and William Henry making their experience count. A courageous performance, though, from newcomer Holly Savage in her first competitive match.