

Week Commencing 18th December 2006

AP Sports B moved closer to securing the Division A title this week, beating Free Church H 5-0. Tony Williams and Carol Meredith leaving themselves needing eight points from their remaining two games to guarantee the honours. FISSC B suffered an unfortunate setback in their quest to catch AP as they slipped to a 4-1 defeat at the hands of St Georges E. Gary Edwards won one for Saints and Brian Marston one for FISSC. The remaining points were awarded to St Georges by walkover as FISSC's Tony Scott was delayed in Leicester and unable to make the match. Saints claimed a second 4-1 win, this time against a full compliment of Free Church G players. Gary Edwards won his two and the doubles with Phil Morby, who also took one. Church's reply came from Adam Cooper. A win and a loss for Rugby E. They beat Eathorpe D 3-2, with Marion Dixon and Grace Newman claiming one each and the doubles. Peter Nicholson took both of Eathorpe's points. Rugby fell 4-1 to Free Church I though. Grace Newman saved a single, but a maximum from Russell Spencer, a single from Luke Spencer and the doubles eased Church past. Not such a positive outcome for Church I when they met St Georges E though. Luke Spencer picked up a well fought single, but another Gary Edwards maximum, a Phillip Morby single and the doubles gave Saints a 4-1 victory. Church I completed a busy schedule by overpowering Eathorpe F 5-0. The introduction of the experienced Llyrn Brocklehurst as a reserve paid dividends as she guided Russell Spencer through some potentially tricky games. Another Free Church side for 'Thorpe F and another 5-0 defeat. Jake Harrison and Charlotte Spencer hitting form for the H squad. Eathorpe E won a tight 3-2 encounter with LCP Dreamers thanks to a Ryan James Oldham brace, a James Matharu single and the doubles. Simon Walmesley came through a five setter to save the whitewash for the Dreamers.

A sound Division B display by Eathorpe G gave them a 5-0 win against LCP Packers. Richard Freeman and Mark Hancock supreme in singles and doubles. Free Church J finally registered their first win of the season by beating LCP Packers 3-2. Tom Smith a fine brace for Church and the doubles with Michael Turner. Douglas Smith and Nicky Barrett both held one for LCP.

Two unbeaten sides met in Division C in a match that was going to influence the destination of the title. Something had to give and that was Eathorpe J who, despite a plucky effort by William Henry found Free Church M, as most have, just too strong for this Division. Dan Ward, Richard Pittaway and Phillip Booth secured the 5-0 win between them and with it the title. Normal service was resumed for 'Thorpe against Free Church O though. Robert Young won one, Paul Deavall two and the doubles together. James Payne held Church's consolation. Eathorpe J, with that 4-1 win and games in hand, should have done enough to finish as runners up and can expect to do well in Division B after Christmas.

A convincing win for Eathorpe B in Division 3 with maximums from Allan Stockham and Phillip Hill being added to by Alastair Nicholson's brace. John Hunt claimed one for FISSC A, but Nicholson and Stockham took the doubles to secure the 9-1. Eathorpe C succumbed to the experience of WCC C, with James Owen leading the way for County Council by claiming a convincing hat-trick. Sue Clarke won two and the doubles with James; Reg Warnes a single. Michael Rossington picked up two for Eathorpe; Ron Coats one. 7-3 the final result. A dogged performance by Free Church F, but they couldn't quite stave off defeat against Ashorne, who edged the match 6-4 thanks to a Roger Kelley hat-trick, a Steve Bolton brace and, crucially, a Chris Bowles single. Jake Harrison won two for Church, Phil Blowey one and the doubles together. Free Church E leapt up to the top of the table with a very good 8-2 win against Rugby C. Luke Hobbins and Tom Hunt both took three and Chris Blowey two. Don Pritchard pulled one back for Rugby and took the doubles with Dave Cox. Rugby C got the better of WCC C by six points to four, with Don Pritchard taking his three. Dave Cox picked up a couple and Dave Reid joined Don for the doubles. WCC picked up their four thanks to two from Sue Clarke and one each from Reg Warnes and Graham Roberts. Free Church D faced

WCC D and emerged with a 7-3 victory. Two each from Ron Stanbridge, Adam Cooper and Lleryn Brocklehurst plus doubles from the latter two secured the win, but none could beat Council's Tony Ford. Church D then had to take on Church E. A resilient display by the younger E side gave them a well deserved four points, but the D's six just shaded it. Lleryn Brocklehurst took her three for D, Pete Rourke two and Adam Cooper one. Phil Blowey and Scott Delday won the doubles for E and picked up two and one respectively from their singles.

A week of emphatic Division 1 results started with defending champions St Georges crushing Eathorpe A 10-0. Ian Packford, Earl Sweeney and Mike Bishop wrapping things up. Not to be outdone, Flavels A posted a 10-0 of their own – their opponents, St Georges C. Paul Savins, Pete Dasher and Damon Fenton the untroubled trio. Free Church A, boosted by new signing Andy Woodcock, hammered WCC B 9-1. Andy took his three, as did Gary Webb. The two joined for the doubles and a brace from Hugh Matthews completed proceedings. Simon Griew replied for WCC. County Council B just missed out against Colebridge B. William Fletcher's two, Nilton Green's single and the doubles together gave them four points. Colebridge's match-winning six were won by John Taylor, John Chandler and Pete Roddy – all picked up braces. Unlucky once more for WCC B – another 6-4 defeat, this time by Wellesbourne. Nilton Green won two for WCC, Simon Griew and Derek Harwood one each. Michael Wilkins took three for 'Bourne, Pete Dunnett two and the doubles together. Wellesbourne then crushed BGN A 9-1. Dunnett and Wilkins both winning maximums, Gary Stewart two plus the double with Dunnett. Jason Adams saved the whitewash for BGN.

A man of the match performance by Richard Jardim led Copsewood to a 7-3 win against RNA A in Division 2. Richard dropped only one set as he won his three, then led the way to a five set doubles win with Steve Smith. Steve Smith picked up two himself and Roy Joiner one. RNA's points were scored by Tony Thomas, Andy Davies and Darryl Burgess. Two 7-3's for AP Sports A. They beat Free Church C, thanks to Andy Meredith's hat-trick, which was added to by Sam Apostol's two, Edward Freeman's one and the doubles by Sam and Andy. Cherry Matthews won a good two in reply, Les Hoggins one. Len Coonan returned to action for Rugby A as they beat AP 7-3. Len won his three, as did Ian Randle – the two then combining for the doubles. Andy Meredith, Sam Apostol and Terry Smith all picked up singles. Free Church B ran out 7-3 winners against BGN B. Chris Mulligan and Tom Brocklehurst took singles and doubles for Church. Malcolm Macfarlane, Steve Proctor and Dave Smye all kept one each in reply.