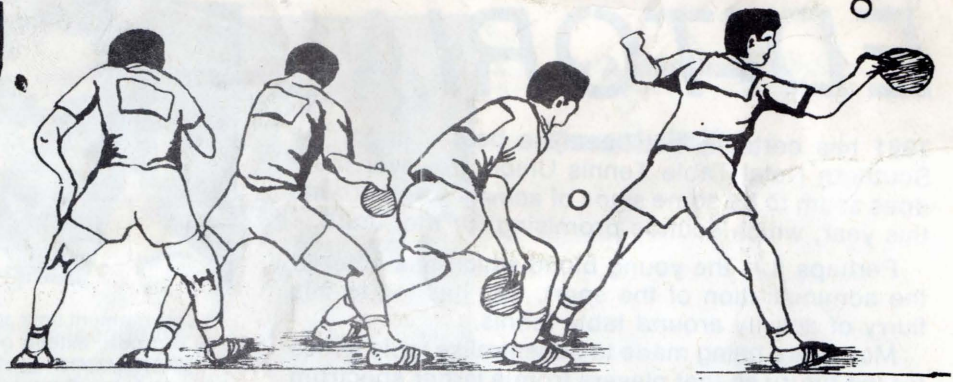


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S.N.T.T.U. NEWS. '81.



AN OFFICIAL ORGAN OF SOUTHERN NATAL TABLE TENNIS UNION
AFFILIATED TO SATTB AND SACOS



EDITORIAL

1981 has certainly not been the best year for the Southern Natal Table Tennis Union, however there does seem to be some signs of activity going around this year, which sounds promising for the future.

Perhaps it is the young blood which has entered the administration of the sport, that has led to this flurry of activity around table tennis.

Moves are being made to decentralise table tennis for the future so that players from a larger spectrum of areas can be encouraged to take up the sport more seriously which hopefully may result in a general upliftment in the standard of table tennis.

Demonstration matches were held in Isipingo, Phoenix and Sydenham during the course of the year at the requests of interested people from these areas and the signs are that we will be gaining a lot more table tennis enthusiasts in the near future. We hope that this will result in a bit more "oomph!" in the game, than is prevalent at the moment.

Credit must be given to those many table-tennis enthusiasts that so vigorously and sincerely took part in the demonstration matches and thereby played such an important role in introducing the game to the various areas.

We hope that they will retain their commitment to the promotion and upliftment of table tennis!

Interest has also been expressed by table tennis players from certain units in Chatsworth and Wentworth to join our Union, so next year does promise to hold an exciting table tennis period indeed.



**Message from
Mr. C.M. Bassa,**

President

- South African

Table Tennis Board

It is indeed a great pleasure for me to extend the best wishes of the South African Table Tennis Board to the Officials and members of the Southern Natal Table Tennis Union on the occasion of the 1981 Southern Natal Open Championships.

In these days when non-racialism has become such an important matter in the organisation of sport in this country, it is pertinent to observe that the Southern Natal Union is the successor to the Durban District Table Tennis Union which was one of the first sporting bodies to be organised on a complete non-racial basis and which was a foundation member of the Board. Throughout the years the Union has remained loyal to the principles of the Board and though it has passed through lean years caused by the uprooting of settled communities by the operation of the Group Areas Act, the Union has stood steadfast in its commitments to basic principles. In this regard I am pleased to observe the efforts being made by the Union to propagate the game over a wider area.

I believe that the Open Championships have attracted entries from a record number of players and table tennis enthusiasts are assured of some stirring clashes. It is my hope that the sportsmanship which has become a characteristic of the Union will be evident at all times.

May the Championships be an unqualified success and may the best players carry away the honours.

— C.M. BASSA



Message from

Natal

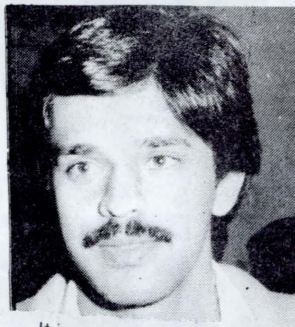
Council of Sport

It's tournament time again and may I, on behalf of the Natal Council of Sport, extend good wishes for a successful event.

We in NACOS have always been impressed by the manner in which the Southern Natal Table Tennis Union, administered almost entirely by a group of young people, is administered. The Union, though beset by many problems, continues to promote the sport — and does so in the truly non-racial spirit.

Let me congratulate the Union for the excellent job they are doing and I trust that the coming few days will provide some exciting and entertaining competition.

— MORGAN NAIDOO
President (NACOS)



Message from our

President

H.G.M. Ramdere

It is my sincere desire to see this 1981 Southern Natal Open Table Tennis Championships to be the long awaited turning point for table tennis in Southern Natal.

It is also encouraging to note the emergence of a band of young players, whose initiative and hard work has gone into organising this Championships. I would like to compliment them on their achievements.

I wish to call upon all table tennis players and enthusiasts to join the Union in its efforts to promote and also raise the standards of the game in Southern Natal. May the participants in the Championships enjoy their games and may the best players win the honours.

SECRETARIAL REPORT...

We are again at the point of time in the year when the highlight of the Union's competitive activity is staged. The tournament does not only serve as a pointer to the general standard of the game in Southern Natal but also indicates the very sportsmanlike atmosphere in which the game is played. May I take this opportunity of wishing every participant the very best of luck and hope that, in the end, table-tennis is the total benefactor.

The activities of the Union this year have centred around the promotion of the game to outlying areas. The response received by the exhibition team and the organisers could be summed up in one word "terrific". This reveals the vast amount of interest untapped until recently, and should encourage us to work feverishly in this regard in order to attract new players to our folds. Admittedly a few "teething" problems were encountered in these projects but what was achieved remains totally beyond our expectations. I wish to record the Unions deepest appreciation to the very many people who availed themselves so readily to render their services.

Then again, the question of forming an Umpire's Association which received the blessings of the SATTB many years ago, and recently initiated by Western Province needs serious consideration. I hereby urge interested parties to subscribe to the formation of this body in order to improve both the standard of play amongst the table tennis fraternity and also to facilitate the smooth running of tournaments.

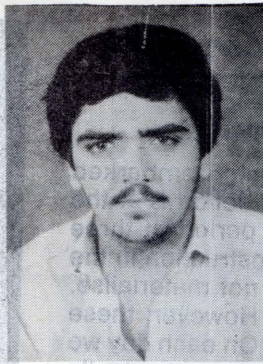
It is indeed interesting to note that for the first time in the history of table tennis in the Republic of Grqualand West Table Tennis Union will be staging the Champion of Champions Tournament. I would like to extend my most sincere wishes to the officials of Grqualand West and hope that they augur well in their venture.

Finally I wish to thank the entire cabinet who waged war against the lapse of the game and grittily emerged victorious.

— ESSOP SATTAR

ON THE LOCAL FRONT

League news



By A. Aboobaker

(record clerk)

SNTTU has completed more than half the league fixtures thus far, although the union has been going through great difficulty with the venue. This year the union has 17 teams as compared to last years 11, this is a clear sign that the union is now regaining its momentum. As far as the problem of the venue is concerned, the union has negotiated another venue, which is at the Imrand Squash Centre in Queen Street. This venue would not have been available were it not for the kind gesture shown by Natal Squash Federation. The venue will be available shortly and should be able to accommodate 2 boards. Therefore, the union will then have 2 venues available to complete the league fixtures. This should be sufficient to cater for the needs of the present membership of the union.

The log leaders thus far are players who have played 12 matches with 63 points, and close behind them are Olympic who have played 8 matches with 48 points. Module 99, which is thus far lying 3rd on the log have played 8 matches with 47 points. Rumlbers, who were last years league winners, have played 7 matches and scored 39 points. The competition is strong between these 4 teams and at this point in time it cannot be predicted who will emerge as winners. The teams that are lowly placed on the log have players who are newcomers to the league.

St Theresa, a team from the Sydenham area, travel at night by bus to fulfill their league matches and have thus far completed all their scheduled matches. This should serve as an eye opener for some of the teams. St Theresa has players who have just been introduced to the league especially young van der Merwe who has been introduced to the game very, very recently and is showing great zeal and enthusiasm for the game. If he continues in this manner he has the makings of a budding champion.

Another team which portrays the same degree of enthusiasm is Reservoir Hills Table Tennis Club. The members of this club arrive long before the scheduled time of the league match so that they are in the correct frame of mind to execute their league match. This factor, is singly, the most contributory for the making of a top team.

In conclusion I would like to emphasise that all players should be properly attired before playing a league match. The player must be attired in dark T-

shirts and shorts so that the opponents vision of the ball is not affected.

I myself being a playing member of a team, feel dutybound to recommend teams that the league matches should be taken far more seriously. The players should take cognizance of the fact that the league forms the basis of our organisation. When selection for a Southern Natal team is made, performance in league matches will be taken into consideration.

Teams	P	W	L	F	A	Pts
1. Players	12	9	3	45	15	63
2. Olympic	8	8	0	32	8	48
3. Mod 99	8	7	1	33	7	47
4. Orient Old B.	11	7	4	33	22	47
5. Rumlbers	7	6	1	27	8	39
6. RWITC	10	5	5	24	26	34
7. Apollo	6	5	1	20	10	30
8. Callies I	5	4	1	20	5	28
9. Callies II	10	4	6	20	30	28
10. Leopards	7	4	3	19	16	27
11. Callies III	11	4	7	19	36	27
12. Em nence	13	1	11	21	44	23
13. St. Theresa I	7	3	4	16	19	22
14. Back Eagles	8	2	6	12	28	16
15. Crescent	6	1	5	5	25	7
16. S. The Hill	5	0	6	0	4	21
17. Phoenix	6	0	6	0	30	0

The Natal Council of Sport will be staging it's annual Sportsperson of the Year function on Oct. 24 at the Himalaya Hotel. The criteria for the selection of the winner are as follows:-

- (i) The sportsperson must remain true to non-racialism and fully support the principles of SACOS.
- (ii) The person must be an active and outstanding player.
- (iii) Contribution by the candidate in the field of coaching and / or administration will weigh in the person's favour.

ALL CLUBS AND PLAYERS PLEASE SEND YOUR NOMINATION TO THE SECRETARY

P.O. Box 48399

Coaching Clinic

By Cheryl Roberts (convenor)

The Southern Natal Table Tennis Union embarked on a coaching clinic during the July holidays at the Kajee Hall. Initially scheduled for a period of three weeks, this was not to be. Due to construction in the hall the third week of coaching did not materialise. Four tables were set up in the hall. However, these tables proved much too inadequate. On each day we had to contend with no less than forty enthusiastic and eager table tennis players. I must admit that the sports shops must have done a roaring trade during this two week period judging by the vast number of table tennis bats that were bought.

Anyhow, let us come back to our enthusiastic players. The response was no doubt overwhelming. On each day there were about ten to fifteen new players attending the clinics, not to mention the other dedicated and committed players who came to the clinic every day intent on improving their game.

What was blatantly obvious from the two weeks of coaching was the disinterest of Southern Natal's senior players. Southern Natal has National Champions and nationally ranked players within their ranks. These players can easily plough back their experience to the new table tennis enthusiasts, however, this was not found. Nonetheless, all praise must go to the junior players who tried to help in every way that they could. Because of the disinterest shown by the senior players it is apparently obvious that the SNTTU must centre all their attention on the youth because it is in our youth that the future of SNTTU lies. Of course, like all non-racial sporting organisations, our coaching endeavour also had its problems. But do not think for one moment that it was problems concerning 'mixed' play, permits or racial problems. This time it was the repressive conditions under which we had to play. **There were only 2 coaches helping about 40 players as compared to England, where for every 6 players there is 1 coach.**

As mentioned before the proportion of T.T. Players to tables was very large. It is apparent that the SNTTU needs a large centralized venue. The problem of bigger venue must be seen in a broader context. **Because of the shortage of land, rents are very high and proprietors will rather rent out their premises to businesses from which they will rather gain a bigger profit than to non-racial sporting organisations.** I would like to point out that there are some senior players and administrators who in my opinion would have liked to have offered their services. One must bear in mind that our administrators have to work 8-5 to earn their living. **Their means of earning their living is in direct contrast to that of Danie Craven and Owen Williams. (Danie Craven SARB and Owen Williams SATTU). These two 'ambassadors' for South Africa's cause are paid full time by the State to promote White S.A.'s cause. They do not have to work 8-5 instead they work 8-5 attempting to get White South Africa back into international sport. Our non-racial sports administrators have to work 8-5 for their daily piece of bread, devote time to their families, then to their associated sports. One may ask what it is that drives our non-racial administrators, it must almost certainly be the imminent victory that is in sight.**



What emerged from the clinics was the great need for qualified table tennis coaches. It must be borne in mind that the players helping out with the coaching have never witnessed an international tournament neither have they seen an international player in action. Therefore all their table tennis knowledge is drawn out of books. The SATTB did make attempts to bring an international coach to S.A.

However, Tone Teff (the coach who was supposed to have come to coach the non-racial SATTB) was refused a working permit by the S.A. government. It must also be remarked that players playing under the non-racial fold, namely SATTB will only witness or themselves when take part in an international tournament when there is true merit selection of players in S.A. and we all know that merit selection must be preceded by equal facilities, equal opportunities and equal coaching. Anything less will ensure the maintenance of the status quo which is loaded with inequalities.

Another point which pushed itself to the forefront during the clinics was individuality of the players. Needless to say it is the materialistic society under which we live that 'drills' this individualistic nature into us. What we need to develop is a collective spirit about us. What I am trying to say is that we must not only worry about ourselves getting to the top, we must also assist the less fortunate where they need help and advice. In conclusion I want to offer some advice to the up and coming players to the player who is aspiring to reach to the top. To become a champion you must put in lots of practice, day in and day out, never think for one moment that you are too good or better than the next player because remember, there is always somebody better than you. Always be modest in your victory. Always bear in mind the words of the Olympic Charter:

'It is not the winning that is important
But the taking part, it is not the
Triumph that is important but the
Struggle'

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FOCUS ON CHERYL ROBERTS

Cheryl Roberts is a sportswoman who adheres to the principles of non-racialism not only in sport and its related activities but also as far as possible in everyday life. She attends the University of Natal (Durban) whose sports union is affiliated to the multiracial or multinational sporting bodies. She has been approached on numerous occasions to join the sports union but has refused to do so purely because of the permit system involved, even though the university has the best sports equipment available to them.

She was nominated for sports person award at the university but she refused to let her name go forward. However, despite all the opportunities available to her with the white union she refused to join them. She maintains that they are just using her as window dressing to get back to international sport.

Last year she was invited to tour the country with the university's table tennis team but rejected the invitation.

On the playing field, Cheryl started table tennis at the age of 13 and during her 7 years in competitive table tennis, she rose to her present number two ranking in the country.

In 1974, in her first year in competitive table tennis, she won a title, the Apollo women's singles championships. In 1979 she won the S.A. "Champion of Champion" title and was a member of the 1980 Southern Natal Women's Inter-Provincial team that won the S.A. Inter-provincial trophy. Cheryl came second in the Sacos Super Sportsperson of the Year Competition in 1980.

Cheryl will defend the S.A. "Champion of Champion" title in Kimberly this year. The union wishes her every success for the Kimberly tournament.

This year, Cheryl has been a tremendous asset to the Union. She has single handedly undertaken the task to coach youngsters, as held during the July vacation. She had sacrificed her holidays to teach our future table tennis players, and made a darn good job of it too!

We hope that Cheryl, will retain her commitment to the sport.



League Fixtures for the Week ending 27/8/81

Ramblers vs St. Theresa I Black Eagles vs Callies II	6.30 p.m.	
		Mon 24/8/81
Black Eagles vs Ramblers St. Theresa I vs Callies II	8.00 p.m.	
Loopers vs St. Theresa II Module 99 vs Crescent	6.30 p.m.	
		Tues 25/8/81
St Theresa II vs Module 99 Crescent vs Loopers	8.00 p.m.	
Phoenix vs Players Callies I vs Callies II	8 p.m.	Wed 26/8/81,
Olympic vs Black Eagles Crescent vs Callies III	6.30 p.m.	
		THURS 27/8/81
Olympic vs Players Callies vs Loopers	8 p.m.	

PROGRAMME FOR THE REMAINING OF THE YEAR

- (1) Friendly Inter Provincial
S. Natal vs N. Natal
Venue P.M.B. Date Aug. 30
- (2) 'Module 99' - Juvenile and Junior Championships
Central venue
- (3) 'Champions of Champions'
Kimberly Oct. 1 2 & 3
- (4) Western Areas Open Table Tennis Championship
R500 Cash prizes to be won
Date Dec 11, 12, & 13
Venue - Lenasia Transvaal
All Provincial Association are invited
Accommodation and meals provided.

Further detail will be released later

(Dates and venue are subjected to alteration.)

CHAMPION OF CHAMPIONS TOURNAMENT

The 1981 Champion of Champions tournament of the South African T.T.U. Board will be held in Kimberly on October 1st, 2nd and 3rd. The tournament promises to be exciting and of high standard. Only the country's best table tennis players will participate. From Southern Natal Table Tennis Union players will be represented in:-

- (a) Men's singles (b) Women's singles
- (c) Junior singles (open to both sexes)

It is hoped that as many people as possible would be able to attend this championships.

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THE BIG SHOTS

TIBOR KLAMPAR

Backhand Loop

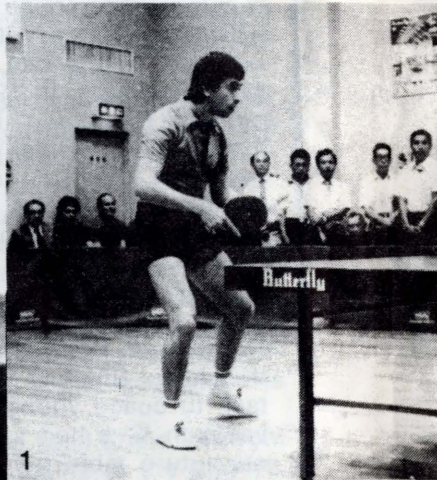


Tibor Klampar lost his European number one ranking after 1979 Europeans, in which he lost in the last 16 to Josef Dvoracek and was beaten by Desmond Douglas and John Hilton in the bronze medal play-off in the team event. He returned to form immediately in the Norwich Union Masters in Preston,

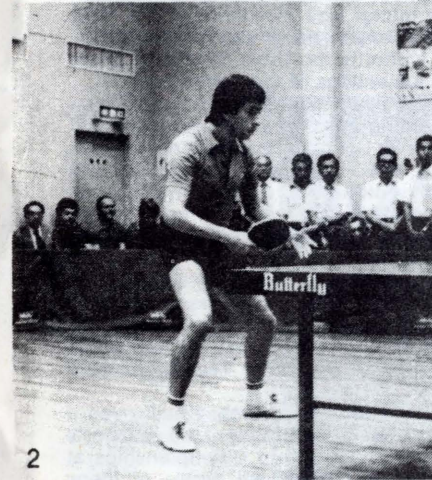
when he destroyed Milan Orlovski in the final. He remains a devastatingly quick player regarded by some as the outstanding talent of European table tennis. Currently he is ranked No 5 in the world.

Improve your game 12 point plan

- 1) Keep knees bent
- 2) Watch the ball
- 3) Watch your opponent's bat – it has a message for you.
- 4) Move after every stroke / do not stand in one position.
- 5) Do be industrious
- 6) Do not play your opponent's game / play your own game.
- 7) Concentrate
- 8) Enjoy and love playing table tennis
- 8) practise day in and day out
- 9 think about every stroke / do not rush the stroke
- 10 Smile when you play
- 11) Enjoy and love playing table tennis



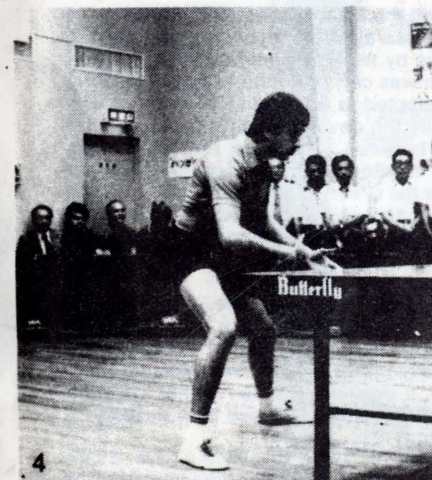
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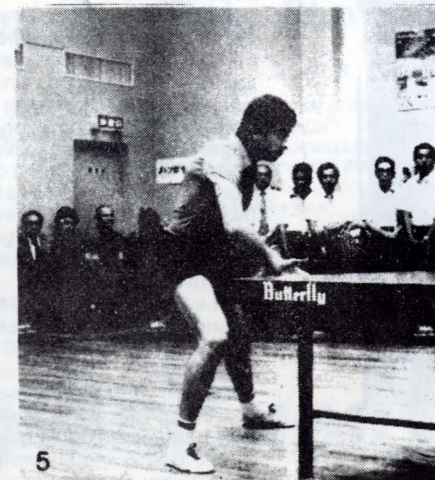
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3



4



5

1. Klampar moves into position to play the backhand loop. Feet wide apart, knees slightly bent in line with the path of the ball, shoulders and head slightly forward.

2. As the ball approaches Klampar crouches, bending his knees and moving his bat between his legs, just below the table top.

3. Klampar bends further and lines his body up so that the ball is just to the left of centre, the shoulder slightly turned so that the stomach is opposite the ball at point of contact.

4. Klampar straightens his body as he hits the ball, throwing his body and flicking his wrist upwards. He turns his arm from the elbow so inflicting a great deal of pressure at the back of the ball.

5. His bat recovers to a central position ready for his next stroke.

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MR. R. JITHOO AND FAMILY

S.A.T.T.B. — AN OVERVIEW

The South African Table Tennis Board was formed at a Conference held in Durban on 26th September, 1948, attended by representatives of the Western Province Table Tennis Union, the Eastern Province Table Tennis Association and the Durban and District Table Tennis Union. In the constitution adopted at the Conference, the Board accepted the principles of the International Table Tennis Federation which state that there shall be equal opportunity for all who wish to take part in the sport and thus it became the first National sporting organisation in South Africa to rule out discrimination of race, colour or creed in its operations.

The task facing the Board was not easy. Long before 1948 many (if not most) of the controlling bodies had clauses in their constitutions restricting membership to persons of white descent or a particular racial group. Official Government policy in South Africa has always been opposed to integration between white and non-white and the Board thus faced a formidable task in its early years.

The International Table Tennis Federation having been notified of its formation, the Board approached the South African Table Tennis Union, an exclusive white body which had been in existence for some time and suggested an amalgamation. This was rejected out of hand and so an application for affiliation was lodged with the International Table Tennis Federation.

In February, 1950, the Budapest Congress of the Federation decided to accept the Board into "Good Standing" membership. "Good Standing" meant that the Board could participate in all international competitions and be represented at I.T.T.F. meetings but without a vote. Full membership was refused solely on the ground that the Board did not include all or the majority of South African players. It should be noted that an earlier application for membership by the Union had been rejected in 1948 because of its restrictive "White Only" Policy.



Mr. R. Maurice (South Africa), addressing the Inaugural Meeting of the African Table Tennis Federation at Cairo 1961

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The Board fearlessly pursued its policy of non-racialism and as we turn back the pages of history, several outstanding milestones are observed.

There is the attendance of Mr R. Maurice the Honorary Secretary of the Board at the 1955 Congress of the I.T.T.F. held at Utrecht in Holland. He was able to give invaluable information to the Federation officials thus enabling them to have a better appreciation of the South African situation.

At about this time a team from Israel undertook a visit to South Africa as guests of the Union without the prior approval of the Board or the I.T.T.F. The Federation took strong exception to the billing of the matches against the Israeli team as "Internationals" against "South Africa". The matter was discussed at the 1956 Congress of the Federation in Tokyo when it was resolved to install the Board as the sole authority for Table Tennis in South Africa with one vote at future meetings of the Federation.

This gave a great boost to the Board and led to the historic participation of the Board team in the 24th World Championships at Stockholm, Sweden. The first ever South African team comprised: C.M. Peer (Captain), A. Valjee, M.G.H. Moola, D. Groenewald and P.R. Mandan with the President of the Board, Mr C.M. Bassa, as manager and delegate to the I.T.T.F. Congress. The team played friendly matches in Belgium, Denmark and participated in the English Open Championships.

Another highlight was the visit to South Africa of Judge Amin Abou Heif, Vice-President for Africa of the I.T.T.F. as the guest of honour at the 5th National Championships held in Cape Town during July, 1958. During his stay in South Africa, the first seeds for the formation of the African Continental Federation were planted.

The bold venture of sending the team overseas had given a tremendous fillip to the game, but the withdrawal of the passports of the players on the eve of the 1959 World Championships at Dortmund, Germany threw a damper on the hopes of many hopefuls.

Mr C.M. Bassa represented the Board at the 1959 Congress of the I.T.T.F. but his passport was also withdrawn on his return to the country. This interference by the Government in the affairs of sporting organisations which was carried to the extent of refusing visas to an Egyptian team selected to visit South Africa as guests of the Board served to stultify the development of the game and aggravate the relationship between the Board and the Union. Despite the curbs placed on its efforts, the Board granted permission on several occasions for the Union to bring out visiting teams, though the Union declined to accept the conditions under which Board permission was granted. Likewise permission has been granted on several occasions by the Board for Union players to play overseas.

The Board President, Mr C.M. Bassa was refused permission to attend the Inaugural meeting of the African Table Tennis Federation in Cairo during 1961 but Mr R. Maurice represented the Board at the meeting at which Mr Bassa was elected Vice-President of the Federation, a position to which he has been re-elected at every meeting of the Federation since then despite his being unable to be present.

The Board was accepted as full member of the I.T.T.F. at the Stockholm Congress in 1967 thus crowning many teams of dedicated effort to be recognised as a full fledged member of the World Family, willing and able to organise table tennis for all South Africans without any restrictions of race, colour or creed.

In 1970, a team comprising: H. Naidoo, C. Brooks, Y.G.H. Randeree and M. Cornelius was selected by the Board to participate in the 1971 World Championships at Nagoya, Japan. Passports were again refused.

The recent tour by members of the Austrian Table Tennis association caused a tremendous stir amongst the member states of the I.T.T.F. This sinister tour promoted and sanctioned by the rebel white racist union caused a lot of embarrassment for the Austrian Association and measures were implemented reprimanding the players. However these measures (suspension of the captain of the tour for one year and suspended sentence for the rest of the team) were seen as very lenient by the I.T.T.F. and it asked the Austrian association to reconsider the sentences in order to equate them with the crime committed.



The South African team which was stopped from participating in the 1971 World Championships in Japan by the refusal of passports.

As the years passed there is much that those who have been connected with it over the years can be proud. Despite its efforts to include all lovers of the game under the banner of the Board being shunned by their fellow countrymen and the curbs placed on its endeavours to provide International experience for its players, the Board has refused to be deviated from its principles. It has striven persistently by patience and goodwill to foster friendship among all South Africans confident that human beings cannot for ever live in isolation and that the day will surely come soon when all South Africans will accept merit as the only yard stick to assess the worth of their sportsmen.

Presently the board endorses the SACOS moratorium on sport. The moratorium forbids any South African black or white from playing international sports. The United Nations organisation, the Third World including The African Continent and the numerous Eastern European countries except the West (New Zealand and the USA) are all against South African participation in international sports until such time all repressive legislation are eliminated. By South African participating in the international arena a false image of the true condition in the Republic would be created. Such a picture would not be a valid reflection of the recent unrests that are so characteristic of the South African way of life.

SACOS and SATFB were not unmindful of the sacrifice that the players would have to make. They did so knowing that the players would understand and that it was circumstances beyond the control of the Board that dictated its decision. It did so knowing that it enjoys the full confidence of its players.

SNTTU places on record its sincere gratitude to the officials and member nations of the International and African Table Tennis Federation for the support and encouragement given to the Board at all times in its efforts to promote sports, goodwill and friendship for all South African and renew our undertakings to win acceptance in our country of the universally respected principles of true sport.

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Report on S.A.S.S.S.A. tournament

A report on the South African Table Tennis Championships held under the aegis of the South African Senior Schools Sports Association at East London from Monday 6 July 1981 to Friday 10 July 1981.

The team that represented the Natal High Schools Sports Federation comprised the following:

BOYS

1. Stephen Sutherland (Captain)
2. Sanjay Jithoo
3. Junaid Hassim
4. Fareed Abdullah

GIRLS

1. Katy Valjee
2. Asha Nathoo
3. Fii Valjee
4. Anusha Nithoo.

The following 9 units participated in the S.A.S.S.S.A. Table Tennis Tournament:

1. Western Province, 2. Eastern Province, 3. Natal, 4. Border, 5. Transvaal, 6. Central, 7. Boland, 8. Karoo, 9. South Cape.

There was a definite distinction between the strong units and the weaker ones. The weak units were Boarder, S. Cape, Central and Karoo.

The standard of play, especially of the boys was quite high. Western Province showed their superiority of skill and emerged winners with 72 points out of a possible 72 points. Natal performed exceptionally well, finishing 2nd with 54 points and Eastern Province was 3rd with 47 points.

The ladies in the Natal contingent did display tremendous amount of spirit and dedication. However the playing strength of the other provinces proved to be overwhelming and they went down fighting. This is a clear indication for the SNTTU to implement some sort of table tennis activities for women (by creating a women's division in the league) so that a wider spectrum of the female sex may be embodied in our folds.

Our outstanding player was Stephen Sutherland who captained the Natal team. He performed very well in knockout competition. He was beaten in the semi-finals by Glen Jackson (No. 1 seed of Western Province) in a tense and exciting three-set match, 11-21, 21-11, 21-18.

Sanjay Jithoo (just 14 years old) has great potential and will be future champion if he shows the same zeal and enthusiasm that he displays at present. He won all his matches except those against Western Province. I feel strongly that table tennis should be cultivated at an early age and that primary schools should in-

The recent tour by members of the Austrian Table Tennis Association caused a tremendous stir amongst the member states of the I.T.T. This initial tour, promoted and sanctioned by the I.T.T. This initial tour caused a lot of embarrassment for the I.T.T. while the Austrian Table Tennis Association and members were implemented measures (suspension of the players). However these measures (suspension of the players) were seen as very lenient by the I.T.T. and it asked the Austrian Association to reconsider the sentences in order to equate them with the crime committed.



roduce this on a competitive basis. This would allow the pupils who reach high school, the opportunity to master the technique. I fervently hope and pray that more youngsters would take up this sport and that more high schools would affiliate to this code of sport.

M.S. Naidoo

(President of Natal High Schools Table Tennis Association.)

S.N.T.T.U. ON THE INTERNATIONAL FRONT — THE CHINESE TAKE AWAY

For the first time since their return to the international arena in 1971, the Peoples Republic of China fully dominated the 36th World Championships in Novi Sad, Yugoslavia. The championships held from April 14-26, this year, went according to plan — and that plan was Chinese. This time the Chinese left no doubts. They won both team titles and all five individual titles, the first time this has happened in the history of the federation.

From the Chinese viewpoint Hungary was the only country that seriously concerned them. So their selection of players for the Swaythling Cup competition consisted of those who could do well against the Hungarian loop players. The Hungarians had to take almost impossible risks to play their only winning game, the big loop. The Hungarians tried everything but their gambles did not pay off and thus sending the Swaythling Cup back to China with the score 5-2.

The women's Corbillon Cup was totally dominated by the orientals. The Chinese were easy winners, retaining the Corbillon Cup without the loss of a single set. The Koreans, North and South were the only teams to provide some opposition to the indomitable Chinese.

The individual events were dominated by the Chinese who enjoyed the opportunity on the finals afternoon of being able to put on a display at the Vojvodina Sports Centre in which they supplied all the finalists. It could have been the Chinese Closed? But the afternoon turned out to be a complete anti-climax. It is true that the individual finals were a disappointment, but it would be churlish to blame the Chinese for being so successful that their players figured in all the finals, with a consequent lack of atmosphere and interest. The solution to that problem is for the Europeans to improve so that it does not happen again. Even the Chinese would agree that the best in our game happens when Asians meet Europeans, but one can hardly complain if the Europeans can't provide their side of that arrangement.

One must give credit where it is due. The Chinese left no doubt in anyone's mind that they are the best in the world. Table Tennis is the national sport, they have the population to produce large numbers of world-class players and their approach to the sport is scientifically thorough.

While the finals play lacked the atmosphere of international competition, play in the individual events reached an excellent stage. Over the four days leading up to the finals the number of marvellous games to be witnessed was incalculable.

The winner of the men's singles was the man who lost in the two previous world finals, Guo Yuehua. On his path to the finals he lost only one game and that was to the Hungarian, Tibor Klampar, the man the Chinese most feared. Guo Yuehua won the all Chinese finals by beating fellow team mate Cai Zhendua by 3 games to one.

The women's singles proved to be an Asian benefit. All eight quarter-finalists were either one of the Korea's or China. Tong Ling of China beat fellow team mate Cao Yanhua 3-2 in the finals.

With the Chinese operation accomplished, this 36th World Championship will long be remembered. The absolute mastery of the Chinese, the warm reception of Navi Sadians and excellent organisation of one of the World's premier event by the Yugoslov Table Tennis Association all served to make the Navi Sad championships so eventful that the Japanese, who are to stage the next World Championships must surely wonder whether they will be able to meet the expectation of the players and spectators who will converge in Tokyo two years hence.

WATHLING MEN'S CUP

- | | |
|--------------------|----------------|
| (1) China | (9) Korea R |
| (2) Hungary | (10) Korea DPR |
| (3) Japan | (11) Sweden |
| (4) Czechoslovakia | (12) Italy |
| (5) France | (13) Germany |
| (6) England | (14) USSR |
| (7) Yugoslavia | (22) Nigeria |
| (8) Poland | (58) Palestine |



Guo Yuehua: the man who made it, finally



CORBILLON CUP

- (1) China
- (2) Korea
- (3) Korea DPR
- (4) USSR
- (5) Germany
- (6) Rumania
- (7) Hungary
- (38) Nigeria
- (8) Sweden
- (9) Japan
- (10) Czech
- (11) Yugoslavia
- (12) England
- (13) Finland
- (14) France

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The Hungarian and Chinese versus the South African system

There is no doubt in the minds of all table tennis players, that some of the world's best table tennis come from either Hungary or China. It may be interesting to examine the reasons for this and compare it to the South African System.

HUNGARIAN SYSTEM

In the schools of Hungary + special attention is given to the talented child whether in table tennis or in any other field. In Budapest's Central Schools talented children between the ages of 8 and 10 are given the opportunity to try different sports. These children are then monitored by different national coaches.

If a Student proves adept at table tennis the national table tennis coaches at the school will give him special coaching on five evenings of the week after normal school hours. Gabor Gergely and Judit Magos — the 1978 European Champion — both started to learn table tennis at this school.

CHINESE SYSTEM

The People's government of China promotes table tennis actively in the way of providing finances, coaches and facilities. Table tennis is the Chinese national sport. Table tennis boards are found everywhere:- in factories, flats, schools, halls, etc. Consequently the sport is played by all the people irrespective of their occupation, class or colour. Thus China is able to produce 300 million table tennis players and many of them are world class players. A Chinese second rate team is capable of beating an English team in straight sets.

THE SOUTH AFRICAN SYSTEM

As far as the blacks sports persons in South Africa are concerned very little is done by the South African Government to promote table tennis or any other sport in the country, as compared to either Hungary or China. Table tennis in South Africa is restricted mainly to the people who have access to facilities and have necessary finances to play competitively. The South African Government pumps no money into the non-racial table tennis body, so that funds are always a limiting factor.

In fact the South African Government has gone out of its way to repress and crush any form of table tennis enthusiasm displayed by black table tennis players eg:-

A) From 1957 to 1975 the South African Government has refused passports to players from our non-racial bodies, to play internationally.

B) Teachers in schools who promote non-racial sport are victimised by various education departments in the sense that they are not given promotion to HOD's, principals or vice principals very easily. They also have difficulty in getting schools nearer their homes.

C) No attempts are being made to provide table tennis facilities, coaches, etc. in schools. In fact Tony

DID YOU KNOW?

- (1) Dr G.M. Naiker an activist of the South African Indian Congress was the first president of SNTTU. He was instrumental in forming the first-ever "open" non-racial constitution of the Union.
- (2) The S.N.T.F.U. is 42 years old this year. It began in 1939.
- (3) Southern Natal won the Women's inter-provincial Coo-ee Cup for the first time in 1980 since the event was introduced in 1958.
- (4) Mr C.M. Peer — has not missed a council meeting in the last 25 years. He was also a treasurer of the Union for 10 consecutive years. He held almost all executive position of the Union. In addition he won 2 national "open" titles and in "champion of champions" title.
- (5) Chairman Mao — unlike the many Chinese players played with the Shakehand grip.
- (6) The I.T.F. member associations now total 125 — the three new member associations are:-
 - (i) Table Tennis Associations of the Popular Republic of Angola.
 - (ii) The popular Republic of Congo, and
 - (iii) Zimbabwe.
- (7) In Hungary there were 1372 clubs with 13,600 registered players and 560 qualified coaches of which 28 are professional.
- (8) Table Tennis is now an Olympic sport.

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