

WORLD BADMINTON MAGAZINE

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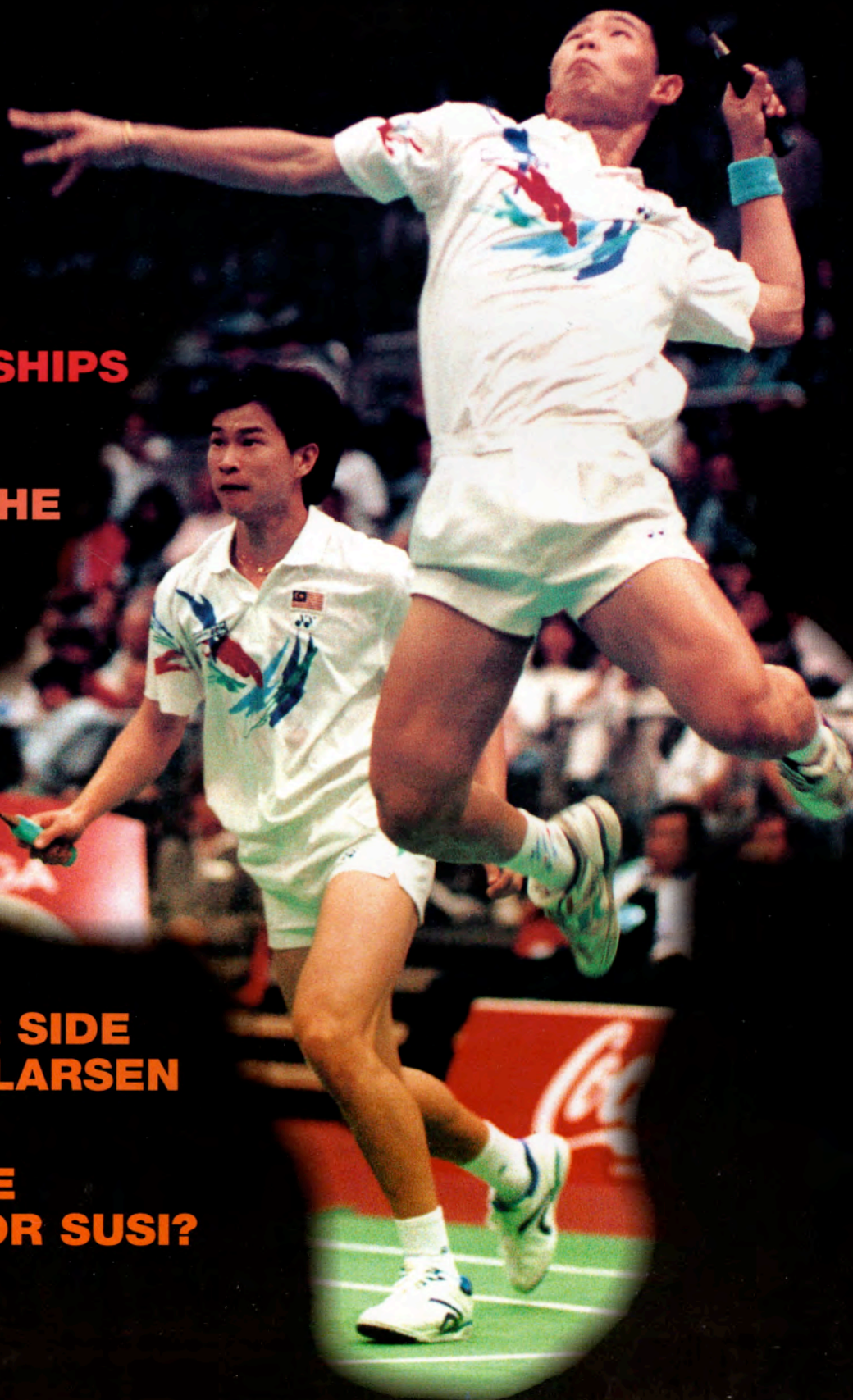
WORLD BADMINTON

**WORLD
CHAMPIONSHIPS
SPECIAL**

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TROPICS**

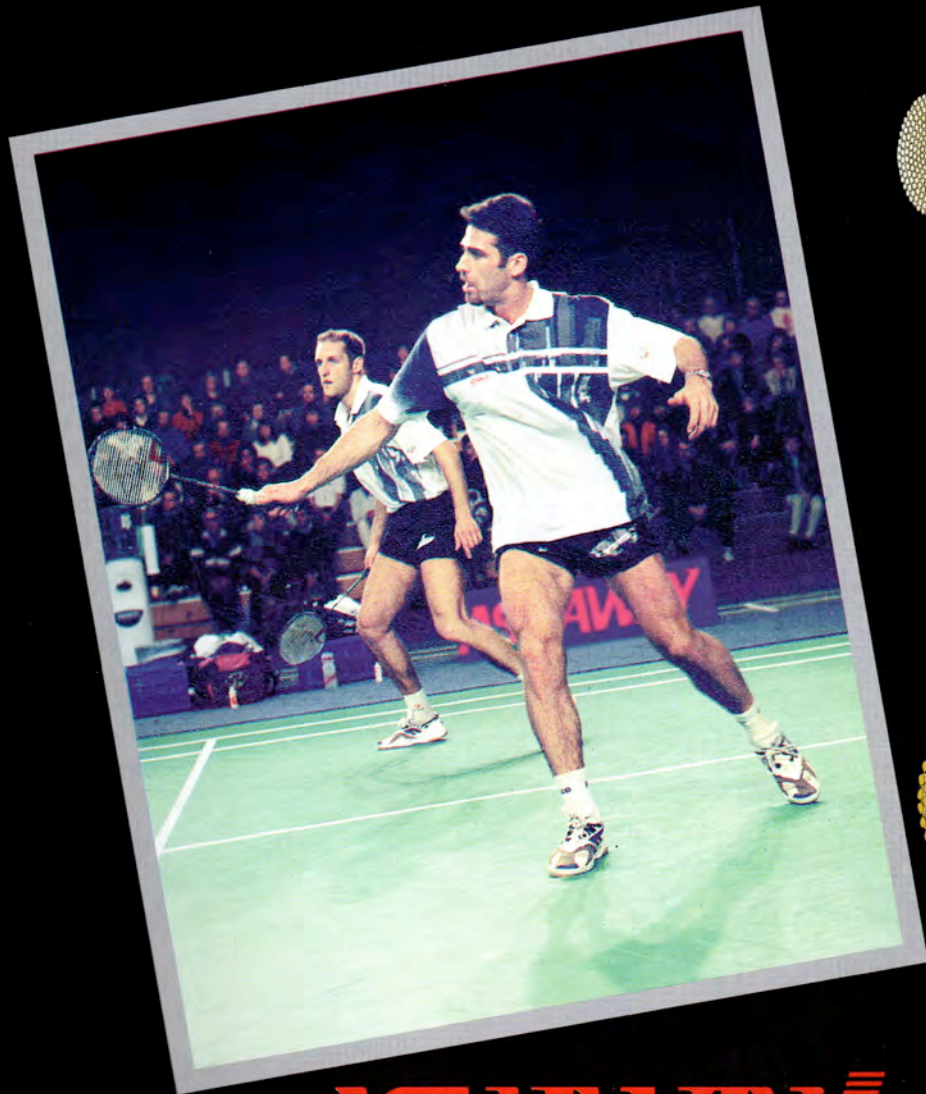
**THE OTHER SIDE
OF HOYER-LARSEN**

**END OF THE
WORLDS FOR SUSI?**

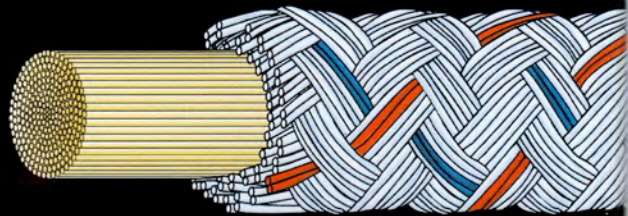


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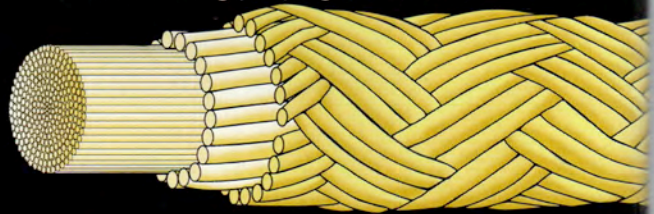


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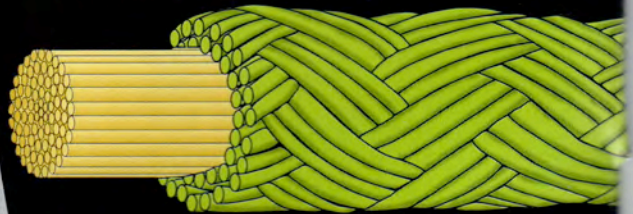


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end of the worlds for Susi?

She's an icon wanting to be a housewife. She's the favourite and yet cast in the role of avenger. It may be the ending but if so she will see it as a new beginning. Such wonderful paradoxes prove there has rarely been a sportswoman like Susi Susanti, who has won all the big tournaments, achieved almost all she could, and become the most titled player ever - yet still has the vision to see through the fame to other aims, more lasting, more important. For Susi and Allan Budi Kusuma were recently married. The Jakarta bride will probably play her last World Championships in Glasgow. It may also be her last major tournament, a cheerio, a climax, a celebration. It would be a final step through one of life's great doors.

Susi and Allan have been planning a new existence together for a long time, and the couple are close to ending their decade-long tour of the globe. These World Championships are likely therefore to feel very different from previous ones for Susanti.

She has become the only married woman in the top level game. She has also won back the World Cup and the World Grand Prix title (taking it for the sixth time!) and should be keen to complete another recovery, that of the World Championship trophy. At the same time she is transferring her attention from one world where will and competitiveness are paramount, to another characterised by love and cooperation. Will the transition be too confusing?

From Silver Cups to Kitchen Sink

Susanti is evasive about this. She's been equally cagey about precisely when she will retire. She was saying "One year" in Atlanta in August, she's in better form now than then, and the bugbear who took away her Olympic title has gone. So Glasgow could make a successful so-long.

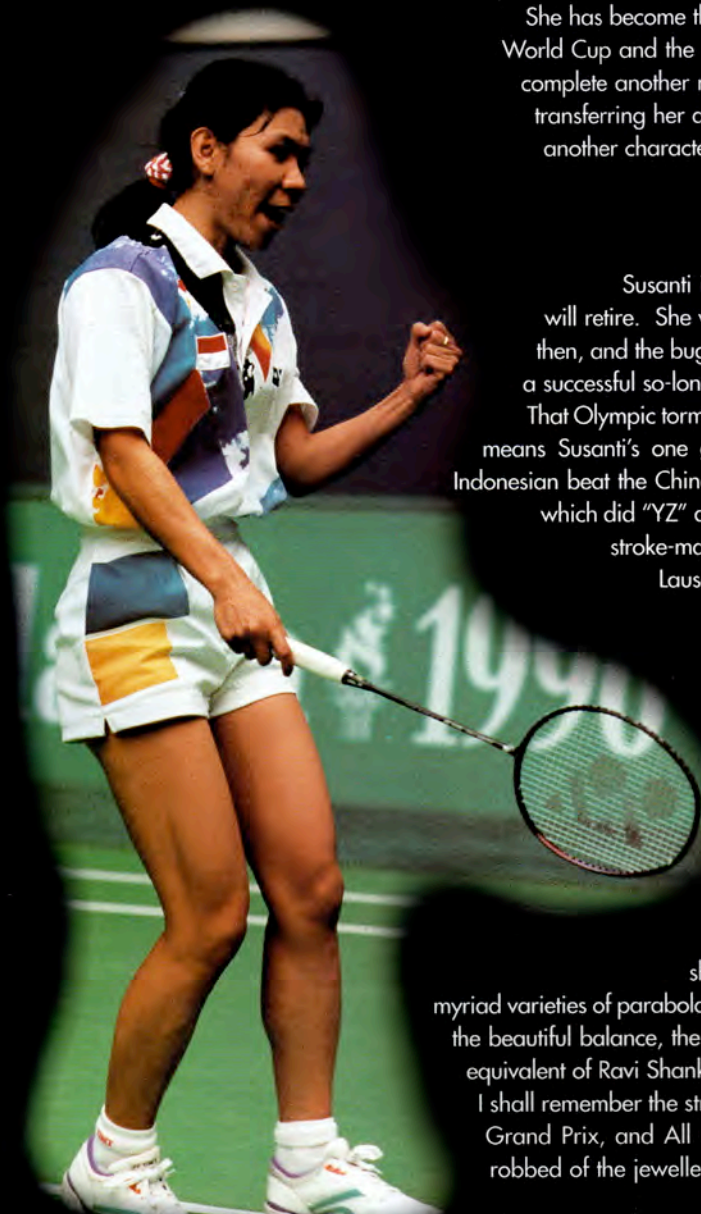
That Olympic tormentor was Bang Soo-Hyun, the charming and gifted Korean. Her retirement means Susanti's one great rival is likely to be Ye Zhaoying, the defending champion. The Indonesian beat the Chinese in both the World Cup and the World Grand Prix finals, in neither of which did "YZ" appear to have the self-belief to win. It was hard to identify her as the sharp stroke-maker who carved Susanti's title defence to ribbons two years ago in Lausanne.

On both occasions this season though, Ye Zhaoying was not only competing against a last-lap legend but against thousands of besotted supporters, prepared to screech Susanti to victory point by relentless point. Competing in the calm of Glasgow will be nothing like trying to survive a cauldron in Medan.

Not that Susanti hasn't secretly been clear in her mind all along about how and where to finish. "She's always been the tougher of the two of us, the one who has known what she wanted," admitted Allan, who described himself as the "patient" one of the partnership. He should not have to wait much longer.

If Glasgow is to be the place where auld acquaintance ends, I shall never forget the clears, flicks and lifts, punched pushed or placed in myriad varieties of parabola, and the mesmerising rhythm of her light-footed style. I shall miss watching the beautiful balance, the sudden lunges and the alarming uninhibited splits. It was like the athletic equivalent of Ravi Shankar interspersed with an Asian Folies Bergères.

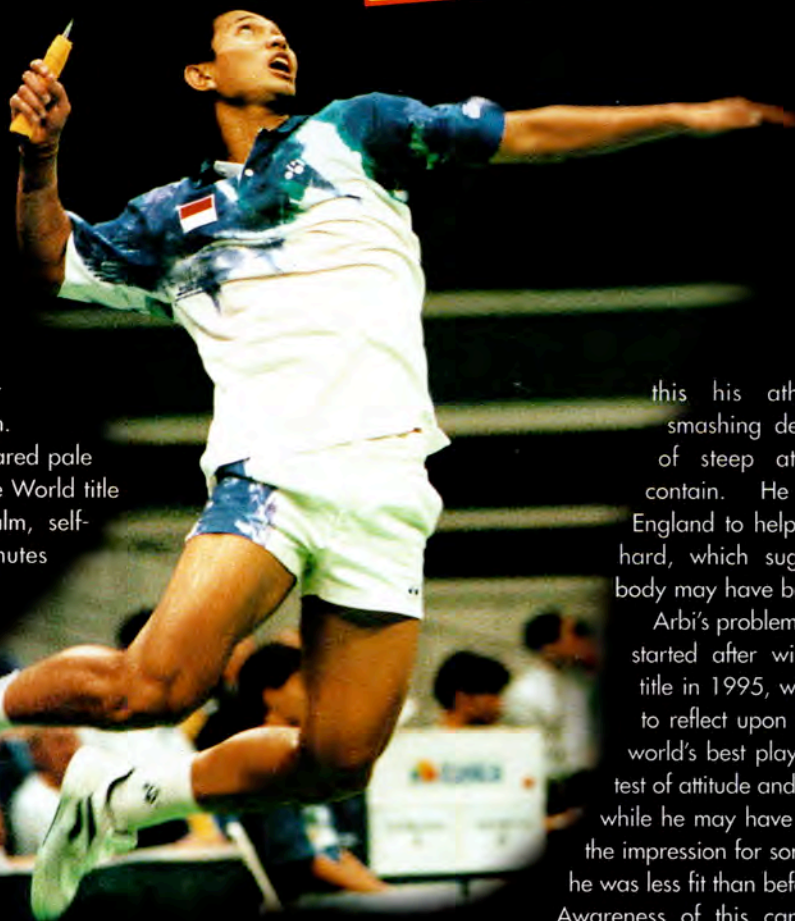
I shall remember the string of pearls that were her titles - the Olympic, World, World Cup, World Grand Prix, and All England, as well as most of the major opens. But even when she was robbed of the jewellery she disported herself like a queen. The erosion of that unequalled list



by **Richard Eaton**
of
The Sunday Times

previews
Glasgow '97

heryanto arbi



was like a spiritual dress rehearsal for life after death or at least domestic life after badminton.

When she lost the All England she appeared pale and shaky, but with a smile. After losing the World title she did something similar, providing a calm, self-effacing interview within ten minutes of disaster.

When she lost the Olympics in Atlanta she dissolved into desperation and tears for 15 minutes, but once again fronted up with courage and perspective. She had always been a great winner and now proved a transcendental loser.

Seven months later Susanti seems like a winner again. "She's more relaxed," says STAR television commentator Gill Clark. "There were such expectations upon her at the Olympics." But if it is not to be her, and, a completely new world champion is written in the zodiac, who might it be?

Maybe Mia Audina, the Olympic silver medallist. The 17-year-old has a resilient mentality and a famously flexible round-the-head shot. But has she a complete enough all-round game? She won the Japan Open but was beaten in the Taipei final by the Danish champion Camilla Martin.

There are a couple of other youngsters aiming for the centre stage and beginning to emerge from the wings. Wang Chen, the lively former world junior champion from China, also beat Audina, reaching the final of the Indonesian Open, and won the Thai Open too. An even more quickly rising Chinese, Gong Zhichao, was winner of the Danish Open and runner-up in the Japan and Korean Opens, but lost heavily to Ye in the All-England final. Bang's Seoul successor? Possibly Ra Kyung-Min, Olympic silver mixed doubles medallist, who ran Ye Zhaoying close in the singles semis in Korea.

Heryanto a Hero Again?

Whereas in theory there are probably two women's singles front runners, there must be at least half a dozen in the men's singles. My pick, if he's fit, is Heryanto Arbi. Why so, when he froze with nerves in the semi-finals of the Olympics, has been bothered by calf and back injuries, and lost to The Netherlands' Jeroen van Dijk in Japan?

Well, because he has a point to prove, and this could be the motivation to get him back to his very best. Arbi knows that if he does

this his athletic acrobatic smashing delivers sequences of steep attacks few can contain. He missed the All England to help him train really hard, which suggests his ailing body may have been repaired.

Arbi's problems appear to have started after winning the world title in 1995, when he was able to reflect upon being clearly the world's best player. That was a test of attitude and one which, for a while he may have failed. He gave the impression for some time after that he was less fit than before.

Awareness of this can easily lead to tension, and sometimes on a big occasion to hypertension. If Arbi is able to do enough work this time, he may set up a chain of physio-psychic reactions in a different, more positive direction.

Arbi's predecessor as world champion, Joko Suprianto, has also had injury problems. He collapsed and remained worryingly prone during the World Grand Prix finals, suffering a damaged hamstring which did not allow him to play again until the All England in March.

Past his best, we hear it gossiped again. Joko is used to that sort of stuff. It had better be uttered quietly because it was a similar misconception after the '93 World Championships which provoked the Indonesian to the best run of his career and to the number one ranking for the second time. He was number one again at the start of this year.

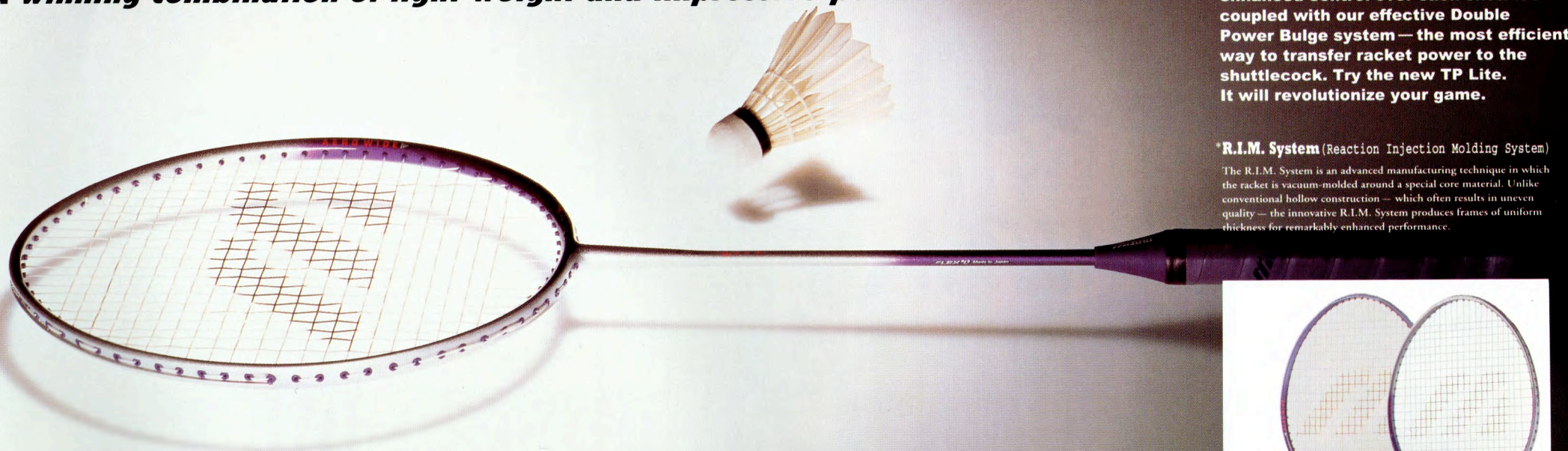
Wiranata and Kusuma, both former world finalists, both appear to have fallen back. By contrast the Malaysian, Rashid Sidek, a bronze medallist in Atlanta, also climbed to world number one (for the first time) in the first month of the year. Rashid appears to have benefited from an eye operation he had about three years ago, and has his sights on a third successive Commonwealth Games gold medal, in his home city of Kuala Lumpur next year. Meanwhile he may have become more dangerous than at any time in his career.

So too should the young Chinese players, Dong Jiong and Sun Jun, unless whispers about an alleged dispute with their national association grow louder. Dong, the Olympic silver medallist with the jet-propelled court coverage, and Sun, the Sudirman Cup hero with the unpredictable talent, have both had patches of fine form in recent months, not least Dong's All England triumph in the final against Sun Jun

continued on page 7...

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ye zhaoying



Sun beat the Olympic champion Poul-Erik Hoyer-Larsen to take the Dutch Open title, and Dong beat both Suprianto and Kusuma to win the Thai Open. But will they be affected by a backlash from the Chinese Badminton Association from which, allegedly, they asked for more than the usual percentage of their prize-money than is allowed to their players?

Hoyer's loss in Holland has been followed by a sequence of other disappointing defeats. "There was a lot of joy and happiness about the Olympic gold medal," he said. "But it took a long time to get over it. It was time I should have been using to prepare for playing, but I didn't. So the motivation for what will be the next target I postponed. It has not been until quite recently that I found it - but I believe I should be a 100 per cent for the World Championships."

This dispels any conjecture that Hoyer's efforts in defeating successively Kusuma, Arbi and Dong might have made the Olympic champion feel he can never achieve comparably again and should retire. He would like, he says, to go on playing until Sydney 2000, by which time he will be 34. But Hoyer may struggle to recover enough form to win a medal in Glasgow.

New Names For 2000

Europeans often don't regard themselves as too old in their early thirties. Indonesians are more likely to. The impression is that the PBSI sees young Indra Wijaya as a successor to Suprianto and a potential rival to Arbi. They may even have doubts about the ability of Ricky Subagja and Rexy Mainaky to go on to Sydney.

With the Indonesians perhaps inclined to plan their thinking in four-year cycles, Sigit and Chandra Wijaya are already being groomed to succeed the

World and Olympic men's doubles champions. However they may not be quite ready for it this year, and the PBSI would be unwise to discount the possibility of Ricky and Rexy still being gold contenders in three years time.

As for Indra Wijaya, he like Arbi seeks to play tight at the net to elicit lifts for smashes, sometimes jump smashes. But though this new young hope did well to reach the semis in the World Grand Prix finals, he too may find it a little beyond him to overtake the leading players in these World Championships.

Other up-and-coming threats? Perhaps Jeffer Rosobin, the Asian champion, or Budi Santoso, the runner-up in the Indonesian Open. Perhaps too Chen Gang, another former world junior champion from China.

Then there are the two new Danes, Peter Gade, who won the Taipei Open (beating Hoyer) and Peter Rasmussen, who won the Japan Open. They have been very much joined as a force by a familiar Danish name. That is, Thomas Stuer, who won both the Danish and Korean Opens and is at last getting near to the imposing form he was showing when he suffered that dreadful semi-final injury in the last World Championships fully two years ago.

It's hard to see past the two Rs in the men's doubles especially after their emphatic victory over Cheah Soon Kit and Yap Kim Hock in the World Grand Prix finals. It's even more difficult to see beyond the two Gs - Ge Fei and Gu Jun - in the women's doubles. This fine Chinese pair have moved even further ahead of the field since winning the Olympics.

That's partly because the retirement of the great Gil Young-Ah has weakened the Korean opposition considerably. Nevertheless it comes as a slight shock to realise that Ge and Gu do not come into the World Championships as defending champions which should make it all the more likely they depart as such. No-one should have greater motivation; no-one is more at the peak of their powers.

The destination of the mixed is as opaque as the form book in the women's doubles is clear. Park Joo-Bong has retired and Kim Dong-Moon, the surprise winner of Olympic gold instead of the older Korean, has been injured much of the time since. Gil, Kim's golden partner, will not return. Thomas Lund, the World Championships title holder, decided some time ago that his knees will no longer withstand the rigours of the male/female combination. Great names gone: new names may emerge from the melting pot.

Unless, that is, Trikus Heryanto and Minarti Timur completely defy the coaching manuals with the man-up woman-back formation with which they sometimes succeed. The Indonesians are possibly the new favourites, though the new Danish duo of Michael Sogaard and Rikke Olsen may continue to improve.

Just as possible is that the Koreans, as they did at the Olympics, will pitch in a new partnership who will ambush everyone and surge unheralded to the title. It's nice to have a little mystery.



ge fei & gu jun

sudirman



The Sudirman Cup heralds the arrival of the world championships to Glasgow next month but it will also bring with it an event which has doubled in popularity in just a decade.

The first Sudirman Cup was staged in 1989 with just 28 reluctant nations taking part. Today more than 60 will compete. It is a remarkable expansion of an event which enables the newest, weakest and least experienced to mix with the mightiest and no other international team event can match it.

Even badminton's own Thomas Cup can't compete; it began with 10 teams in 1948 and, now, 50 years later, still only has 56 teams. The Uber Cup, which began with 11 teams in 1957, only attracts 47 teams some 40 years on.

It is exactly 20 years since the first world championships in Malmo but for the last eight years the championships have also featured this exciting mixed team competition.

Looking back, past president Ian Palmer says: "It is hard to believe that there was so much initial opposition from the European zone when one would have expected that the Asians would have shown reluctance for a mixed competition."

And of Sudirman's contribution to the sport he added: "Dick's service to the game was monumental and the cup that bears his name will be a constant reminder of his dedication to badminton."

Of that first Sudirman Cup, another ex-president, Arthur Jones, said: "The inauguration was an auspicious one with Bulgaria and Mauritius participating at a major event for the first time. The aim was to provide a worthwhile competition for players at every level."

The first world mixed team championships in Jakarta enjoyed a spectacular opening and a welter of excitement. Sri Lanka employed a Chinese coach; Norway hired an Englishman Andrew Ryan - and won promotion Group 5 along with Scotland, who had brought Dan Travers out of moth-balls; Paul Stevenson won three singles matches for Australia out of nine games with two setting games.

Diana Lo's Hong Kong team had gone to extremes to simulate the climate of Senayan but the real conditions beat her team, which included the proven pair of Chan Chi Choi and Amy Chan, who later won the Commonwealth gold medal at Auckland.

Fiona Elliott caused some worries when she held two match points over the world junior champion, a young girl called Susi Susanti.

Gillian Clark and Gillian Gowers forced Chung Myung Hee and Hwang Hye Young to three games in England's match with Korea. And Han Aiping and Yang Yang blasted their way through the singles against Korea only for the Chinese to lose out in that semi-final thanks to Chung and Hwang and the might of Park Joo Bong and Kim Moon Soo.

So it was Korea v Indonesia in a final full of drama and intrigue. Photographer Louis Ross recalled: "Men's doubles was on first and Kim's jump smashes and Park's finishing off at the net gave Korea an early lead. But they lost the second game in 20 minutes and it wasn't until 50 minutes later, after a 100-minute match that they came through. The third end was a nail-biter; with the score 13-13 Park didn't set and suddenly there was silence as he claimed the serve and won the vital points."

The women's doubles was a walkover for Chung and Hwang against former world champion Verawaty Fajrin and 'Mightie Minnie Mo' Yanti Kusmiatie. So Korea led 2-0 when Susi Susanti took the court for part one of the Indonesian rescue act. Ross calls this singles clash with Lee Young Suk a 'classic.'

Susi led 10-7 but the Korean pulled back to take the first game 12-10. Then it was Susi's turn to display determination.

At 10-7 Lee was one point away from securing the Cup but back came Susi to level the match 12-10. Was Lee Young Suk punished for failure? What was the shouting behind closed doors in the five-minute break?

Cup paved the way

by Roy Ward

A few know but won't say. It is clear that when Lee came on court for the third game she was crying. As Ross recalls: "Lee could not play in the final game because of her apparent emotional disturbance."

But it is history now that Eddy Kurniawan beat Sung Han Kuk to level the final and, in a rare occurrence, Park and Chung lost the mixed doubles to hand Indonesia that first Sudirman Cup.

In 1991 the entry had risen to 35 for the Sudirman Cup in Copenhagen with the Danes making every effort to make it a success.

But badminton scribe Hans Moller insisted: "Two weeks of concentrated badminton is too much for almost everybody and especially the players."

Well, all except the Koreans, perhaps. They reversed their Jakarta defeat to win 3-2.

Two years on and it was England's turn to drink from the Sudirman Cup: a record 40 entries, close and dramatic ties and a superb final. Indonesia led the final 2-1, making Finarsih and Lili Tampi's women's doubles clash with Chung So Young and Gil Young Ah the key to the contest.

The Indonesian girls took the first game and held two match points in the second before the Koreans turned the tables winning 17-14 and the third 15-9. Park Joo Bong and Kim Moon Soo, by now Olympic champions from badminton's Barcelona debut, finished the job and gave Korea their second Sudirman Cup with another 3-2 scoreline.

And so to Switzerland in 1995. Forty-nine nations and 4,000 fans came to see China win their first Sudirman Cup.

As *World Badminton* said: "What crowd wouldn't be left gasping when it sees a team with two Olympic champions, world champions and an All England singles champion beaten by the underdogs?"

The clash proved that there are no certainties in a Sudirman Cup final when the most unusual occurred: a youthful Sun Jun whipping Heryanto Arbi in the men's singles. A flag was thrown on to the court and an international incident was narrowly averted. Ge Fei and Gu Jun clinched the final in straight games to leave the Indonesians stunned by defeat.

But Sudirman's widow said: "The Sudirman Cup is an international event and it can't be expected that Indonesia should win it every time."

Today as we prepare for Glasgow and another Cup thriller, we should reflect on how the Sudirman Cup paved the way for mixed doubles to be part of the Olympic Games badminton programme as it was in Atlanta. The Sudirman Cup has a worthy place in the game and this year, that place is Scotstoun, Glasgow.



Photo: Louis Ross

Lee Young Suk



The Sudirman Cup enables the newest, weakest and least experienced to mix with the mightiest



Korea win their first Cup in 1991



Two years on and it was England's turn to drink from the Sudirman Cup

did you know that?

- The Sudirman Cup is named after former PBSI (Indonesia) president Dick Sudirman
- Sudirman was described as follows: 'His work was badminton and his hobby was a large pharmaceutical business.'
- The Sudirman Cup is 80cm high, made of 22 carat gold plated solid silver and is mounted on an octagonal base made of 'jati' wood. The body of the Cup is in the form of a shuttlecock and is surmounted by a replica of the Borobudur Temple. The handles are in the shape of stamens symbolising the seeds of badminton.



Dick Sudirman

- The Cup cost \$15,000 and was paid for by the Federation of Indonesian Pharmaceutical Enterprises.
- Titus Kurniadi oversaw the work to create a symbol of Indonesian legend, history and seeds of badminton.
- Dick Sudirman was born in 1922 and educated in Indonesia and the United States.
- Sudirman won the Indonesian singles title in 1948
- In 1951 Sudirman founded the PBSI and remained its president for 22 years. During that time Rudy Hartono won eight All England singles titles and Indonesia won eight Thomas Cups and one Uber Cup.
- It was Sudirman who in 1979 set up the Bandung conference which ended the split in international badminton and paved the way for reunification in 1981.
- Sudirman served on the IBF Council from 1973-75 and was vice-president from 1975-1983 when he retired.



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**1997 INTERNATIONAL
TOURNAMENT CALENDAR**

Month w/e	Event	Prize Money	GP StarWorld Rating	Ranking Grading
MAY '97				
4	Senior Balkan Championships (1-4 Sabac, YUG)			
11	Strasbourg International (FRA 9-11) Bermuda (7-10) Nigeria (Lagos 5-11)	FFR20,000		B C
18	2nd Pusan East Asian Games (Pusan City, KOR 11-13 Team Event & 15-18 Individual event)			
25	SUDIRMAN CUP (19-24 Glasgow, SCO) WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS (25-1 June)			
JUNE				
1	WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS (25-1 Glasgow, SCO)			
15	Badminton Gala for the Mediterranean Games (Bari, ITA 5-9)			
22	ABC Championships (18-22) Auckland International (Auckland NZL 20-21) Mozambique Frozen Prawns (Beira 25-19)			B
29				
JULY				
6	Island Games (Jersey 28/6-5/7) Indonesia (Jakarta 30/6-6/7) 11th Bumi Putera International Junior (Jakarta, INA 30/6-6/7)			A
13	MALAYSIA (Kota Kinabalu, Sabah 9-13) OCBC (Orange, California, USA 10-13)	US\$180,00 US\$10,000	5*	5 A
20	INDONESIA (16-20)			5
27	KONICA CUP SINGAPORE (21-27) Western Australia (26-27) All Africa Junior Championships (Gaborone, BOT 18-22) 18th World Games for the Deaf (Copenhagen, DEN 13-26) South African (Kroonstad, Free State 25-28)	US\$170,000	5*	5 B B
AUGUST				
3	Oceania Championships (North Harbour, Auckland, NZL, 30/7-2/8)			1*
10	Victoria International (AUS 8-10)			B
17	Manhattan Beach Junior Championships (CA, USA 11-17)			
24	15th Maccabiah Games (Israel 14-24)			
31	RUSSIAN (Central Stadium Hall, Moscow 26-31) Carabaco Championships (Barbados 24-30)	US\$100,000	3*	3 Team event not included Individual open to all - B
SEPTEMBER				
7	Australian (Sydney, New South Wales 3-6)			A
14	US (Orange County Badminton Club 9-14) New Zealand International and Under 21 Whangarei 11-14) Europe Cup (Lisburn, Northern Ireland 17-21) X Pan-American Badminton Championships (Winnipeg, CAN 15-21)	US\$200,000	5*	5 A Individual 1* World Grand Prix Team - See regulations
21				
28	Baltic International (Tallinn, Estonia 26-28) Guatemalan International			B

RED CAPITALS = IBF events, World Grand Prix and other Open Events.
calendar is subject to change. Please check with the latest IBF calendar for confirmation of dates

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the other side of hoyer-larsen

There is more to Poul-Erik Hoyer-Larsen than just his badminton, as anyone who has taken the trouble to talk to him well knows. Brigitta Isworo did just that in the grounds of the Bali Hilton during the Grand Prix Finals.

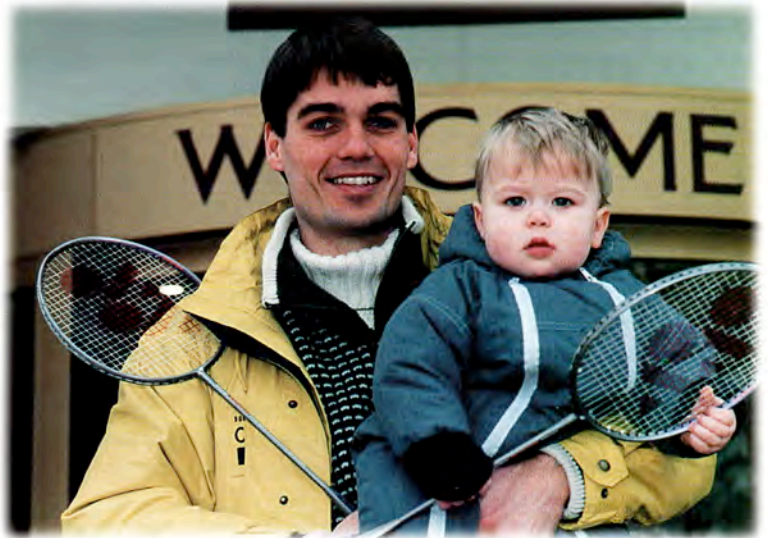
He likes nothing better than to talk about life, caring and loving. But first the badminton. For him the technical side is something that should be included in every step a champion takes. He has worked hard to make his defence near perfect and elevate him to the highest place in world badminton. He also realised that at his age (31) he couldn't play an attacking game any more and that he should play more rallies, combined with a surprise attack. With that style of playing he is now one of the most deceptive players. Former badminton great Eddy Choong certainly thinks so: "He is a very dangerous player because he is so deceptive," says Eddy.

Poul-Erik is also concerned that people remember him for the right reasons "I'd like to be remembered as a nice person. That is most important for me. I don't want to be remembered just as an Olympic gold medallist," he explained.

As he mentioned at every opportunity, for him, success came after his marriage to Heidi, and more so when his son, Lasse was born in May, 1995. It was just two months after he became the first Danish player to win the All England since Ib Frederiksen seven years ago. Many thought it was too late for a 30-year-old to win. To prove it wasn't, he did it again when he was 31! As if to emphasise that there is no substitute for experience he won the Olympic title in Atlanta as well.

"That's the biggest triumph that you can achieve. It is still difficult to realise. I feel so good about it," said the first son of Poul-Erik Hoyer-Larsen and Elvi. He had never dared dream about winning the Olympic gold medal just as he dare not think about the world title which is up for grabs next month.

Poul-Erik was only five years old when he was introduced to badminton by his parents. The shaft of the racket had to be cut shorter to make it easier for the little one to handle. His talent comes from his mother, who was one of the 10 best national doubles players in the Danish team



but dad was vital for practice. At an early age, he joined the Helsingør Badminton Club near to his home and soon fell in love with this energetic game. "At first I liked badminton because I could have many friends from other parts of the country. It was fun when we went together on the train to play in other cities, to sleep together sometimes in the hall, and even in the opponent's house," he recalled. "Everything was just fun until it then became more serious and I started to compete with the players of other countries in Europe."

At the age of 15 he won singles, doubles and mixed in the Six Nations Championships in England. It was his first big win. In 1993 he decided to quit his part-time jobs in a bank, and as a teacher in his old school, to concentrate on his sport.

Now, after 25 years in the game, he plans to put his family first. "I'll try something else other than badminton. Right now I'm thinking about an offer from TeleDenmark my sponsor. It's a job with good prospects. It involves marketing for computers and telecommunications," he said. Not that he's planning to stop playing just like that. "Once you start thinking like that, your performance drops very quickly." To make sure that doesn't happen he and his family have moved to England "I practise with Thomas Stuer-Lauridsen who moved to England about two years ago," said Hoyer.

But even that meant sacrifices. "I had to sell my house at home. I think about that house a lot. It was such a beautiful house, near the forest with a fantastic garden where Lasse could play." Everything is for his family. He recalled his own childhood when he was given so much love from his parents. "I would never change them. They are the best parents for me," Poul-Erik said.

He told *World Badminton* that he would find his life most fulfilling if he could do things not just for himself, but for other people and for the environment. But his biggest interest is his family and his greatest desire is to bring up Lasse as a loving and caring child in a loving and caring environment.



Success came after his marriage to Heidi

Cameron's tournament blueprint

Neil Cameron, the IBF's new Director of Tournaments, identifies three distinct objectives in his new role:

1 To ensure that major tournaments such as the world championships, the Thomas/Uber/Sudirman Cups and the World Grand Prix are organised and presented effectively - for example, with good playing conditions practical and fair playing schedules, effective officiating, good support to the media and increasing spectator satisfaction.

2 To supervise the work of IBF-appointed referees and to act as a source of advice and guidance for them, helping to achieve more consistent standards world-wide.

3 To research and introduce ideas that will improve the overall organisation of major tournaments and their presentation, especially when televised.

I have been in the role for three months, attending seven major World Grand Prix tournaments and would like to highlight some of the successes I've seen, together with one particular weakness which is occurring regularly.

Firstly, a successful innovation in Tokyo, at the finals of the Japan Open, where the sense of occasion was heightened by having the finalists emerge into the arena through a wall of swirling mist - although the first time that the machine generating the mist went into action, everyone nearby (including the players) received a severe fright because they had been unprepared for the sudden noise involved! I believe it is important that spectators, especially at the later stages of a tournament, feel that something important or special is happening, and presentational effects like this are useful to do that.

Another successful idea at the Chinese-Taipei, Korea and Indian Opens was the creation at the end of the court of a special backdrop with the tournament logo and sponsor information which showed up well on television. Care needs to be taken however, to ensure that the colours chosen do not detract from players' ability to sight the shuttle, or conversely, to avoid making sighting too good at one end compared to the other. The exact height of the backdrop content must also be carefully judged to ensure it actually appears properly in the TV picture.

Good aspects at the Swedish Open included temporary false flooring, a spectator cafeteria simulating a large badminton racket and all the A-boards of similar construction and colour.

On the negative side, insufficient control is being exercised regarding the background against which players are trying to sight the shuttle. In the worst cases, white was used as the background colour of a large backdrop or banner, or in A-boards, line-judges uniforms, tablecloths round officials tables etc. Not only does this adversely affect the playing conditions, it also frequently leads to poorer television pictures where the viewer too cannot see the shuttle as easily. I was therefore interested to discover that ATP Tour tennis tournaments completely ban white and yellow round the court in their regulations, and the officials will not allow the tournament to start if that requirement is not met.

In the next *World Badminton* I will comment further on other comparisons with the professional tennis circuit.

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regulations equal confusion

During the World Grand Prix Finals in Bali a recent change to the tournament regulations caused confusion and excluded one of the world's leading players from the final stages.

The regulation over the final ranking of players/pairs under the group or round robin system says: "if two players/pairs have won the same number of matches, the winner of the match between them will be ranked higher."

While this regulation may, on the surface, seem reasonable, it is, in fact, a direct contradiction of the philosophy behind, and purpose of a round-robin competition.

By definition, the whole idea of group competitions, and the reason why each player has to play everyone else, is to determine who has consistently performed the best in comparison to, not just one, but all the other players within the group. It is not to determine whether player A can beat player B, as in knockout play.

Isolating one match result within the group fails to take into consideration the players' overall performances. Therefore it is totally illogical to use the criteria of an individual head-to-head match result as a deciding factor in determining the ranking. If the IBF wants to use head-to-head match results they should dispense with the group format in events such as the Grand Prix Finals and just play a straight knockout competition.

The only way to determine the overall ranking is to consider a logical progression of performance related criteria from all matches. Obviously the most important determining factor is the number of matches won. If this cannot decide a ranking order, then the difference in total games won and lost should be considered. Surely it indicates a better performance to win in two straight

games rather than winning in three; or to lose in three games rather than in two straight. If players are still equal after this calculation, then by the same reasoning, the total points difference should then be considered.

Most major sports worldwide that play in a league, or within a group system, follow a similar performance related progression of criteria from all matches to determine their final placing. For instance soccer, after the number of match wins, considers goal difference, and then in some circumstances whether the goal was scored at home or away.

What seems so extraordinary is that the IBF, within the same tournament regulations, deem it appropriate to take into account the game difference, and if necessary, the points difference, when three rather than two players finish equal after calculating the number of matches won. Surely the players and the game need consistency in the principles behind the regulations.

At this year's GP Finals, Dong Jiong and Indra Wijaya both finished their group matches with two victories and one defeat. All of Dong Jiong's matches were in straight games, a total of four games won and two lost. Indra Wijaya needed three games to win one of his matches, therefore he also won a total of four games, but he lost a total of three. In this circumstance, logic tells us that Dong Jiong had achieved the better overall performance, but by virtue of the IBF's current regulations, Indra progressed to the semi-final! Sadly the climax of the year's major tournament circuit was robbed of one of the best players.

At present there appears to be confusion in the definition of, and therefore the understanding of the difference between knockout and group competition. Group competition is designed to determine the best overall performance. Any criteria that only examines the performance from one isolated match, rather than from all the matches, cannot by definition, determine overall performance.

success breeds success

Who could have predicted three different Danes winning the men's singles at the first three Grand Prix tournament of the year? And Denmark's Olympic Champion was not one of them! This extraordinary run of results started in Taipei when Peter Gade Christensen won the title by defeating the Grand Prix Finals champion Fung Permadi, and Olympic golden boy Poul-Erik Hoyer-Larsen.

The following week Peter Rasmussen, the left handed medical student, took his first Grand Prix title at the Japan Open, despite being unseeded and ranked outside the top 20. Finally, Thomas Stuer-Lauridsen showed a welcome return to form after numerous injury problems when he took the singles crown in Korea.

Perhaps in recent years the Indonesians could have been capable of dominance. But why has Denmark suddenly got four world-beaters? The answer is probably that success has bred further success. Of course, credit must also go to the coaching staff, but above all, the knock-on effect of Poul-Erik's Olympic gold has created belief, confidence and inspiration within the Danish camp. It is easier to self-motivate when the player who has set the standard is accessible. When players not only practice with, but also know the gold medalist on a personal level, both the physical and psychological barriers between them are broken down. The need and desire to achieve an equal standard and status, can also stir the emotions. Practising together enables the

other players to realise that the ultimate goal is not just some wild fantasy, that indeed it is actually attainable. In other words, they can bridge the gap: If he can do it, so can I. The momentum and range of the positive psychological affect on others, generated from one individual's success, is incredible.

Take Swedish tennis after Bjorn Borg won Wimbledon or the emergence of Africa as a major force in middle and long distance running after the barefooted Abebe Bikila won the marathon at the 1960 Olympic Games in Rome: or more specifically, the Kenyan dominance of the 3000m steeplechase since the 1968 Mexico Olympics. Jimmy Connors once said that "More than 95 per cent of tennis, at pro level, is mental; because everyone on the tour these days plays good tennis." That observation applies throughout elite sport. The reality is that in badminton there is not a great deal of difference physically or technically between the top 20 men's singles players. The real difference is mental.

Providing a nation has a good coaching and development programme that can identify and explore the natural talent of its athletes, then the psychological advantage of one individual's personal success can become an overriding influence. For sport is only partly about ability, talent, fitness and skill. To think otherwise is to be taken in by sport's great illusion. Talent is not enough in any sport; it is the superior belief that separates champions from contenders. And since his Olympic success, Poul-Erik has created that vital belief among his peers.

the point system discussed

The IBF used the World Cup in Jakarta to conduct further experiments regarding the setting and the possibilities of 'time outs'. It was only possible to set at 10-10 for women's singles or 14-14 for other events. Players had the option of setting to 15, 16 or 17, and for women's singles to 'set' to 11, 12 or 13. There was a 90-second interval during each game when the first player/pair reached eight points, or after six points in women's singles. There were also 'time outs' between games. During all intervals the players were able to sit at the side of the court and receive coaching.

The principle behind the change in the setting was to simplify the procedure, making it easier for the spectators to understand. There is no question that it is less complicated to set at game point all, rather than also at 13-13 (or at 9-9 in women's singles). While this initiative obviously achieved it's goal, it is doubtful that the actual setting had the same desired effect. If we are trying to simplify the game, why now give the players the option of three possibilities when setting rather than the two as happens at present.

The option of three variables (setting to one, two or three points) not only caused confusion in itself but also in the way the setting was shown on the scoreboard. From 14-14 after the first point was scored, the scoreboard showed 15-14! This actually signifies that the game has already been won and was not in a setting situation. How are the spectators supposed to know what is happening? There is nothing to indicate which option the player chose

at 14-14. Therefore, to avoid any confusion, it is imperative that the graphics both on television, and on the scoreboard, clearly indicate that play has progressed to the setting procedure.

The best way to do this is to still show 14-14 but also 0-0. Those unfamiliar with the rules may find this difficult to comprehend. But this is a lack of education rather than an actual problem with the rules of setting. After all, due to spectator knowledge, tennis does not have a problem with the 'tie break', at which time they suddenly introduce a completely different scoring structure.

The intervals between games suited and helped televisions requirements. But the mid-game 'time outs' did not achieve anything. The only logical reason for having them was to give television more commercial breaks, but they stayed with live pictures! However, this does not mean that every network will react in the same way. Which is precisely why any alterations we make should not be totally exclusive. Slight flexibility to suit various networks could enhance our chances of further exposure.

It has become even clearer since the World Cup, that if we want to become a major television sport worldwide, it is essential that we must first consult with the major television networks before we launch into any further decisions. Otherwise we will continue to stumble on, trying to find solutions to problems that may not even exist.

frost in the tropics

by Richard Eaton

A journey to a new challenge, or the escape from a deadlocked quarrel? An adventure in one of the world's most rapidly developing countries, or the exile from a home that failed him? A professional seeking a better salary for his family, or an idealist whose hopes have been frustrated? Not even Morten Frost could resolve all the contradictions of his move from his native Denmark to Malaysia to become their national coach.

There is no doubt that one of the game's greats will now be financially better off. Nor is there much dispute that there will be more potential for success. "In Denmark we have first the budget and then we make the programme for it," Frost said. In Malaysia they say, "you come up with the programme and we finance it." It's totally the other way round.



Punch Gunalan

On the other hand the former Danish Sportschief did not seek the move. He was approached by Punch Gunalan on behalf of the Badminton Association of Malaysia. "I was both surprised and flattered because it's never happened before for a European to be offered this. They must have heard about the results in Denmark."

Bullish though he sounded, flattered though he might have been, those same words betrayed a hint of

bitterness. For with results like that, why resign? It means the tearing up of some of his deepest roots, even though it creates the chance of exhilarating new personal growth.

It is hard to see how the Danish Badminton Forbund could have let him go. In three and a half years in charge Frost helped his players to an Olympic gold men's singles medal, a silver medal in the Thomas Cup, seven medals at the World Championships in Lausanne (something Denmark had never achieved before), the best All England in 25 years, and all six gold medals at the European Championships - something which had never previously been achieved by any country. "I have been under a lot of pressure to tell why I am going, and of course there is a reason, but it's a very tricky situation," Frost hesitated. It was followed by a long pause and a chuckle. "I can't



Danish president Hans Henrik Floe

even understand it in Danish," he said.

Then he decided to continue. "It has a lot to do with people to people relations and a lot to do with management by the executive committee. It's on many different issues, and about responsibility and authority, and in my view a lack of backing in critical situations. I am a very straightforward person and I was telling people what I thought about the situation.

"They wanted a person in the job who plans a strategy and is prepared to follow it through, even if it's not very popular at the time. I think I have done that. I would like to stress that this kind of job will always be difficult with reference to the players. You will always make decisions not everyone is happy about. I have just asked for a bit more support in a few cases that's all."

Frost's critics suggest that he is indeed very straightforward - perhaps too straightforward. He needed to have played the political games and negotiate the psychological maze with more stealth. They point to the fact that careers of Thomas Lund and of Jon Holst-Christensen failed to prosper under his regime.

There were some run-ins too with Poul-Erik Hoyer, who wanted a longer period of time concentrating on Olympic preparation without having to play for Denmark in the European Championships and Thomas Cup finals. It was alleged that Frost had very much run his own ship, and had not communicated with the rest of the DBF as much as some would have liked.

Yet it is also notable that the DBF does not appear to have made those criticisms publicly. Its President Hans Henrik Floe said: "His three and a half years as Sportschief have been a tremendous success. He has met with criticism, admittedly. But this has been a demonstration of attitudes related to the discussion between the elite and the social side in the clubs, and not a criticism of him and his much-respected work."



Photo: Stephen J. Line

Frost helped Hoyer-Larsen to an Olympic gold medal

What tended to get out of hand, in Frosts' view, was the strength and length of criticism by players and their families. It went on and on. "The management did not react to it," he said. "They let it go rather than say this is what we decided three and a half years ago. They could have said Morten Frost is doing a great job and achieving, so please shut up, but they didn't." I said "we can only spend so much negative time on this. If you are not happy with me and I'm not producing, sack me." But as long as I stayed within the guidelines politically decided, they should have backed me up. There came a point when I thought: This is too much."

Frost may, according to my knowledgeable colleague Hans Moller, be lost to Danish Badminton for ever. "I don't think I can imagine coming back without a change of personnel," Frost admitted. "I feel sad - definitely."

On the other hand there is also a feeling of thrill. "I can tell you I almost didn't dare come home and tell my wife I had been contacted by the Malaysians. But she was overjoyed."

It has since become clear that the Frost family are prepared to remain in Malaysia indefinitely. "What is good about the family is that we are open-minded," explained Frost. "It doesn't have to be four years in Malaysia (the length of time of his contract). We are not here for four years because we are forced to it. If you have the opposite attitude you will always think it will be a lot better back home. But who knows how long we will want to be staying in Malaysia, or what we are going to do afterwards?"

Frost sees the move as potentially a wide expansion of his personality. "In different situations you bring out different areas of yourself. This is a lifetime experience, something totally different. It's a great challenge living in another country, another culture and seeing what it is all about."

Frost may also bring an important bit of Danish culture to Malaysia. "Danish people are fairly self-confident, and I am not so sure Malaysian people are the same," he says. "It's one of the key areas, to give Malaysians confidence they can go out and beat the world."

Frost will settle not so far away from where he once won the World Grand Prix title in Stadium Negara, Kuala Lumpur - the only European ever to win a major title in the humid conditions of South-East Asia. He and his family will settle in the grounds of a golf course in Petaling Jaya. It is also not far from where Punch Gunalan lives, and there are plenty of expatriates around if the family gets lonely, but Frost doubts they will. The former world number one has many friends in Malaysia.

Frost's role will be similar to the one he occupied in Denmark, except that he will have more court work, which will suit him fine. If he does inject some Viking spirit into the Malaysians, the results could alter the balance of power in world badminton. There is enough talent and funds to make Malaysia great again. Now there is a famous and proven coach, with a legendary name. All that is required is for the mixture to gel.

That is a piece of chemistry which can never be guaranteed. But if it does happen it will be another step towards the international coming of age of badminton, towards helping it to break away from the spectre of becoming a regional oligopoly.

Recently a professor of sports science at Seoul University, Park Joo Bong, another all-time great, went to live and coach in England. But who would have thought that one of the great warriors of one of the North Sea nations would have travelled to be a teacher to some of the peoples of the Pacific rim?

"I don't think I can imagine coming back without a change of personnel"

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3 VANESTE Pedro	BEL	310
4 HAGBERG Martin	SWE	300
5 KALDAU Niels-Christian	DEN	250
6 KOCH Jurgen	AUT	230
7 JANUM Peter	DEN	220
8 VASCONCELOS Marco	POR	200
9 CONSTABLE Mark	ENG	190
10 GALLET Bertrand WENGBERG	FRA SWE	170 170

LADIES' SINGLES

1 BERG Tanja	DEN	500
2 HALLAM Tracy	ENG	340
3 ERICSSON Karolina	SWE	320
4 POHAR Maja	SLO	320
5 HOLGERSSON Johanna	SWE	230
6 DAKO Andrea	HUN	220
7 MORGAN Kelly	WAL	210
8 HARDER Pernille	DEN	200
9 DIMBOUR Sandra	FRA	200
10 EVERNAS Kristin	SWE	180

MEN'S DOUBLES

1 SILVA Fernando RODRIGUES Hugo	POR	350 350
3 THOLINSSON Johan ANDERSSON Henrik	SWE	340 340
5 RASMUSSEN Jonas	DEN	320
6 BERGSTROM Fredric WENGBERG Rasmus	SWE	260 260
8 ROBERTSON Julian	ENG	240
9 DUBRULLE Manuel LAIGLE Vincent	FRA	240 240

LADIES' DOUBLES

1 JORGENSEN Ann	DEN	320
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3 POHAR Andrej POHAR Maja	SLO	360 360
5 DUBRULLE Manuel LEFEVRE Sandrine	FRA	300 300
7 ROBERTSON Julian	ENG	260
8 WRIGHT Joanne	ENG	240
9 LARSEN Jesper VANGE Maiken	DEN	220 220

- The final results will be announced in the next issue of World Badminton
- The VICTOR European Circuit 1997/98 was arranged at the EBU Council meeting this month in Nymburk, Czech Republic and details will be announced shortly.

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prakash-still in a class of his own

Sanjay Sharma meets a badminton academic who is putting something back into the game he loves.

Prakash Padukone, the former All England and World Cup champion, retired from competitive badminton in 1988. He had all the honours and benefits his country could give him. The Indian President had himself bestowed upon him one of India's highest civilian honours. In a country starved of genuine sporting giants, Prakash Padukone remained an enigma. The shy, handsome, gentlemanly player had dominated his sport. He had done India proud.

But even in retirement he longed for something more. How could he give Indian badminton back something that would be his legacy? An institution which could coach and train new blood in a country where cricket not badminton ruled. Every sponsor thought only of cricket and many told him his dream was foolhardy.

As Prakash recalls: "I trained abroad in my own career. I feel that had I not gone to Indonesia back in 1977 to train with Rudy Hartono and other top Indonesians I would have struggled in vain to reach the top. Going to Jakarta, when I was developing my game, gave me my big break."

So now it was time to help a new generation. "I wanted an academy which could churn out well trained and ambitious players. For so long people had asked me what I intended to do about Indian badminton. Since I could not give any concrete answers there was also a hint of criticism from certain quarters. But what could I do without finance? I had to have a genuine commitment from some big corporations. I wanted an academy tied up with, basically a Bangalore-based company which could give me a free hand, coaching the future of Indian badminton."

The Padukone Academy, based at 'Prakash Courts' in suburban Bangalore, has already hit the national headlines in just three years. And one of his first students Aparna Popat, caused a surprise when she reached the finals of the 1996 world junior championships in Silkeborg, Denmark.

The players train at the three courts in Malleswaram but will soon move to the new Karnataka Badminton Associations Stadium, which boasts 10 courts, modern training facilities and a swimming pool. "We made a research project on paper which looked viable and then submitted it to many corporations. We wanted a city-based company as it would be easy to liaise with them.

The nationally-renowned BPL corporation, which is one of India's mega-corporations, showed keen interest and called us to discuss what we had in mind," explained Prakash. The three people behind the project were Prakash himself, former Indian champion and Thomas Cup star Vimal Kumar and former state player Vivek Kumar.

Once the academy got going there were many unforeseen problems. For example, if the best juniors in the country were to come to Bangalore, accommodation had to be provided. So the academy hired two apartments, one each for boys and girls, as well as a big van for

transportation around the city. "The emphasis will always be on quality, rather than quantity," said Vimal. To that end, the academy invited a limited number of players to join.

Apart from having the best possible ex-players as coaches, they also wanted to have the best trainers. So they hired a former national athletics coach as well as a former Inspector General of Police, Mr Bam, to handle the psychological side of training. The result: three years on the academy is the best-known address for the game in India.

Aparna Popat used to train under former national champion Anil Pradhan at Bombay. In fact, for the better part of five years she played under her former coach until she became the Indian junior champion.

But the moment the BPL/Prakash Academy was announced she, like so many other nationally-recognised players headed for Bangalore...and many will follow in her footsteps.

Even Gopi Chand, the current senior national champion who a few weeks ago reached the final of the Indian Open, has moved to Bangalore from Hyderabad. "It was the entire environment as well as the prospect of playing under Prakash that finally motivated me," said Gopi, who played in the All England last month and will also play in the Malaysian and Indonesian Opens later this year.

"I did not even have the basic facilities in my day," recalls Prakash. "More importantly, even when I became a player of repute I missed out on international exposure, which is so important. There was no sponsorship or funds available. I wanted to make sure that the trainees at my academy did not suffer. I have always believed that the more you play against foreigners, the more chances you have of becoming world class." India needs more academies like Padukone's.

aparna popat



Photo: Stephen J. Line

gopi chand



King Asia Cup

The old hostility between Indonesia and Malaysia was decided in the indoor tennis court at the Senayan in Jakarta. It was the final of the first Asian men's team championship, the King Asia Cup, and Indra Wijaya, as the spearhead of the young Indonesian team, beat the Malaysian backbone, Ong Ewe Hock, 18-13, 4-15, 15-11 in a thrilling encounter.

But it was Indra's younger brother, Chandra, the new No1 Indonesian doubles player, who grabbed the big prize as best host player - \$5,000 - for his excellent performance of not losing any of his five games. For Malaysia it was Pang Chen who finished \$5,000 better off.

Four teams had been seeded in the event which consisted of two singles and one doubles match: Korea, Malaysia, Indonesia and with

China's shock withdrawal - Chinese-Taipei. The hosts were grouped with Chinese-Taipei, Thailand and India in group A while Malaysia, Korea, Hong Kong and Japan contested group B.

The Indians, who were invited to replace the Chinese, only arrived about four hours before the start. No wonder they lost to Indonesia 3-0 who were able to show-off their new stars like Indra Wijaya, Chandra Wijaya, Sigit, Jeffer Rosobin and Budi Santoso.

The four seeds came through to the semi-finals where Indonesia scored an easy win over Korea. In the other semi-final the Malaysians surprisingly lost the doubles to Chinese-Taipei with the young pair of Huang Shih Chung and Chien Yu Shun unexpectedly downing the senior

Malaysian pair Tan Kim Her and Lee Wan Wah 8-15, 15-5, 15-10.

The real fighting was in the final when the old Thomas Cup enemies did battle. Wijaya, who won the first set, against Ong Ewe Hock looked done for when he lost the second 15-4. But in the deciding set, Wijaya got back to form and took victory for Indonesia after being warned by the umpire for waving his racket over the net which provoked a complaint by Ong.

Brigitta Isworo

ZAGREB, CROATIA

There was never any doubt that Andrea Jurcic would win her sixth women's singles title and with such an all-round performance few are also in any doubt that her name will be on the trophy for some years to come **writes Ralko Cvetnic**.

A former member of the Croatian volleyball team, Andrea won a gold medal at the 1993 Mediterranean Games in France and turned to badminton when it became an official sport at the Games.

Apart from her singles success, she has won four doubles titles and four mixed titles with her brother Silvio. Working hard with her coach, Ukrainian Sergej Bondin, her ambition is to get in the top 100 in the world rankings.

Men's singles: Tomislav Furdin bt Anton Horvat 15-12, 15-6

Women's singles: Andrea Jurcic bt Renata Horvat 11-0, 11-0

Men's doubles: Tomislav Furdin/Anton Horvat bt Silvio Jurcic/Ivan Zoric 15-8, 15-10

Women's doubles: Jurcic/Snezana Milesovic bt Renata Horvat/Irena Sobota 15-8, 15-5

Mixed doubles: Jurcic/Jurcic bt Damir Ilic/Irena Crnic 15-11, 18-13

JUBLJANA, SLOVENIA

Illness and injury prevailed at the Slovenian championships held in February, **writes Miha Sepec**. Before the tournament began, there was little doubt as to who were the likely winners, however the tournament threw up a few unexpected results. Top seed in the women's singles, Maja Pohar was forced to pull out of her semi-final match against Ursa Plaiiutnik and was confined to bed with a high temperature for the rest of the tournament. One of the best matches was between Pohar and 16-year-old sensation, Nina Pulko. Pohar was a set down to the teenager but fought back hard in the second when Pulko tore the ligaments in her knee and will be out of the game for at least six months. Sharing the hospital ward will be her team-mate Mateja Slatnar, also suffering from a serious knee injury.

The absence of the three girls gave Darja Kranjc a great opportunity to win the singles title for the first time in an easy match against junior champion Ursa Plaiiutnik.

In the men's singles, Andrej Pohar won the title for the third time even though he was suffering with the flu. His opponent, Simon Hawlina failed to take advantage of the situation and Pohar won with ease.

The men's doubles event was one-sided with Pohar and Halina and Jovan and Kranjc, far superior to the rest of the pack and it was this pair who contested the final with Pohar and Hawlina the easy winners.

The mixed doubles final was a non-event with Hawlina and Tina Pelhan getting a walk-over against Andrej and Maja Pohar.

Men's singles: Andrej Pohar bt Simon Hawlina 15-10, 15-12

Women's singles: Darja Kranjc bt Ursa Plaiiutnik 11-3, 11-4

Men's doubles: Pohar/Simon Hawlina bt Jovan/Kranjc 15-5, 15-5

Women's doubles: Kranjc/Jovan bt Plaiiutnik/Sumi 15-9, 15-5

Mixed doubles: Hawlina/Pelhan bt Pohar/Pohar w/o

BERNE, SWITZERLAND

There were very emotional scenes at this year's national championships when Thomas Wapp won his sixth men's singles title and with his brother Stephan also won the men's doubles title for the first time, beating Remy Matthey de l'Etang and Morten Bundgaard, **writes Urs Rohner**. And it was Thomas Wapp whose name went on the mixed doubles trophy. With Santi Wibowo Wapp did not drop a set throughout the event.

The women's singles went to Santi Wibowo who beat local heroine Bettina Villars. This was Wibowo's first singles title after winning several doubles and mixed titles.

Although favourites for the women's doubles title, Wibowo and Sylvie Crippa-Godel were beaten by 17-year old Shafali Rolf and Fabienne Baumeyer, 18.

These championships showed that Swiss badminton still has a long way to go before matching the top nations of Europe but the rewards for the effort that has been put in show that the country is heading in the right direction.

Men's singles: T Wapp bt M Bundgaard 15-4, 15-4

Women's singles: S Wibowo bt B Villars 11-8, 12-10

Men's doubles: S Wapp/T Wapp bt R Matthey de l'Etang/M Bundgaard 18-14, 15-12

Women's doubles: F Baumeyer/Sh Rolf bt S Crippa-Godel/Wibowo 16-17, 15-7, 15-10

Mixed doubles: S Wapp/Wibowo bt S Dietrich/Villars 15-6, 15-1

GERMANY

Oliver Pongratz won his fifth men's singles title, beating Detlef Poste 15-2, 15-7 in the final **writes Steffan Mattheus**. The women's singles title went to Nicole

Grether, No 1 in the German rankings, who beat unexpected finalist, Katje Michalowsky.

It was the 'oldies' Katrin Schmidt and Kerstin Ubben who took the women's doubles title beating youngsters Nicol Pitro and Sandra Beissel.

Michael Helber and Bjorn Siegemund beat Kai Mitteldorf and Uwe Ossenbrink in the men's doubles final after Mitteldorf and Ossenbrink had a walk-over in the semis when Germany's top doubles player, Michael Keck was injured and had to scratch from both the men's and mixed semi-finals.

The mixed doubles title went to Siegemund and Schmidt who beat Stephan Kuhl and Nicol Pitro in three games.

This tournament was a triumph for youth. There were several youngsters in the latter stages and four players in the women's singles were under 18.

Kerstin Ubben was awarded the Markus Keck Memorial Cup which is awarded to the 'fairest' player. The cup will be awarded annually in memory of Markus Keck who died last year.

This year's national championships marked the retirement of Christine Skropke. Christine will now concentrate on her work for the German Badminton Association organising international events.

JONKOPING, SWEDEN

The Swedish championships were a breakthrough for the new generation of singles players and marked a farewell to international badminton for one of its veterans, Jan-Erik Antonsson, who finished his long career with a silver medal in mixed doubles with Astrid Crabo. Shortly after, however, 35-year-old Antonsson made his debut in veterans badminton, called 'The Old-timers' and won the men's singles title. Crabo will now play with Jens Olsson.

The new men's singles winner was Rikard Magnusson, winner of the 1996 Victor European Circuit, who beat Rasmus Wengberg in three games, but the most exciting matches were the semi-finals where Wengberg beat the three-times holder and defending champion, Jens Olsson, and Magnusson beat Henrik Bengtsson 18-17 in the third set.

Russian-born Marina Andrievskaya recaptured the women's singles title, but runner-up Karolina Eriksson was the player who caught the eye beating both Margit Borg and Catrine Bengtsson on the way to the final.

Peter Axelsson and Par Gunnar Jonsson are unequalled in the men's doubles. They beat Rasmus Wengberg and Frederik Bergstrom in the final and Axelsson captured his second title in the mixed doubles with Catrine Bengtsson.

Andrievskaya also took two titles when she and Christine Gandrup won the women's doubles.

Men's singles: Rikard Magnusson beat Rasmus Wengberg 9-15, 15-8, 15-5

Women's singles: Marina Andrievskaya bt Karolina Eriksson 11-1, 11-5

Men's doubles: Peter Axelsson/Par Gunnar-Jonsson bt Rasmus Wengberg/Frederik Bergstrom 15-8, 15-6

Women's doubles: Marina Andrievskaya/ Christine Gandrup bt Johanna Holgersson/Jenny Karlsson 15-7, 15-8

Mixed doubles: Axelsson/Bengtsson bt Jan-Erik Antonsson/Astrid Crabo 15-9, 15-13.

Hans Moller/Eva Edstrom

s'Hertogenbosch, Netherlands

Jeroen van Dijk took his fifth Dutch title in six years at the Sportscentre de Maaspoort in s'Hertogenbosch **writes Peter Kool**. He didn't drop a game on the way to the finals where he met Chris Bruil, who had taken 75 minutes to overcome young Gerben Bruijstens in the semi-finals. In the final Bruil tried to change his style of play but it could not stop van Dijk winning in two sets.

In the women's singles the big surprise came in the quarter-finals with the defeat of holder and top seed Judith Meulendijks by Lonke Janssen. But it was left to 1995 champion Brenda Beenhakker to emerge triumphant. She beat Monique Hoogland in the semi-finals and overcame Janssen's conqueror, Carolien Glebbeek, to take the final in three sets.

The men's doubles went to Dennis Lens and Quinten van Dalm while Erica van den Heuvel and Monique Hoogland beat holders Conijn and Nicole van Hooren. Van Hooren gained consolation in the mixed where she and van Dalm justified their top seeding to beat 1988 European silver medallists Alex Meijer and van den Heuvel 15-12 in the third game.

Men's singles: Jeroen van Dijk beat Chris Bruil 15-12, 18-15

Women's singles: Brenda Beenhakker bt Monique Hoogland 11-4, 11-5

Men's doubles: Dennis Lens/Quinten van Dalm bt Knut/Nolten 15-5, 15-1

Women's doubles: van den Heuvel/Hoogland bt Conijn/Van Hooren 18-17, 15-11

Mixed doubles: van Dalm/Van Hooren bt N Van Bareveld/Jonathans 15-4, 15-8

EDINBURGH, SCOTLAND

Anne Gibson and Elinor Middlemiss turned in record-breaking performances at the Hydro-Electric Scottish Nationals at Edinburgh's Meadowbank, **writes Elspeth Burnside**. For the eighth time in nine years Miss Gibson, now Mrs Robertson, won the women's singles title to surpass Joanna Flockhart's 1980 record number of wins. After her 11-4, 11-4 triumph over Gillian Martin she said: "This is one of the highlights of my career. Setting a record is a great feeling and this one is sure to stand for a long time. I know I'll be the holder for at least the next eight years!"

Mrs Middlemiss took her national titles tally to a women's record 18 by winning the doubles with Aileen Travers and then taking the mixed with David Gilmour, who was deputising for her husband, Kenny.

Jim Mailer retained the men's singles, beating 1994 and '95 champion Bruce Flockhart 10-15, 15-4, 15-11. And to think that Mailer only decided to play the night before the championships after being plagued by two torn calf muscles in the run-up to the nationals.

The men's doubles went to Russell Hogg and Kenny Middlemiss, who had decided against playing in the mixed because of a back problem. Still his victory gave Mr and Mrs Middlemiss 32 National titles between them.

KARACHI, PAKISTAN

Amir Islam retained the National title which made it four out of the last six, plus two runners-up slots for the top seed, **writes Rashid Javed**. In the women's singles, Asma Butt not only retained her title but added another feather to her hat by clinching the doubles title with Shamim Akhter.

Except for Islam, all the other seeded players went out prior to the quarter-finals. However, Islam had to call on all his experience to win a terrific battle against the unseeded Nadeem Arshad 15-10 in a three set final.

Asma had no problem in toppling her main rival Aysha Akram in straight sets in the women's singles final before she and Akhter beat Afshan and Ayesha Ikram to take the women's doubles title.

NORWICH, ENGLAND

The English Nationals at Norwich were without injured Darren Hall, who had planned to try for his ninth singles title, **writes Maryanne Henchy**. But he was there on finals day to present the men's singles trophy to Peter Knowles, who won his first National title with a 15-1, 15-1 over Steffan Pandya.

Julia Mann recaptured the women's title she won in 1995 with a 12-11, 11-4 victory over Jo Muggeridge.

Simon Archer and Chris Hunt continued their doubles supremacy with a 15-6, 15-4 win over Nick Ponting and John Quinn, while Archer completed a doubles double by taking the mixed with Jo Goode, despite her being four

months pregnant. They beat Hunt and young Donna Kellogg 15-5, 15-2.

The women's doubles went to Nicky Beck and Jo Davies, who beat Julie Bradbury and Jo Muggeridge 15-9, 15-4...and also stole the show with their matching skirts and tops.

YEREVAN, ARMENIA

Men's singles: Robert Gasparyan bt Hovannes Khachatryan 15-6, 5-15, 15-12
Women's singles: Alvard Hovsepyan bt Muradyan Mariam 11-8, 11-6

SERGEY VARDANOV

SINGAPORE

Held at the Singapore Badminton Hall, the Singapore National championships, as usual, attracted a good entry, **writes Robin Chan**. A water-shed for Singapore's young players, it was the youngsters who dominated these championships. Eight-times reigning champion Hamid Kahn was beaten by 22-year-old Tan Sian Peng who then deposed veterans Wong Shoon Keat and Hamid Khan to win the men's doubles with Patrick Lau, also 22. Tan became triple champion when he won the mixed doubles with Irene Lee.

As expected, Singapore No 1 Zarinah Abdullah retained her women's singles title as well as the doubles with Irene Lee.

COLOMBO, SRI LANKA

Duminda Jayakody regained the men's singles title and Kaushali Dissanayaka took the women's title for a record time at the 44th national championships in Colombo, **writes Lal Guneseekera**. Second seed Jayakody beat holder and top seed Thushara Edirisinghe 15-9, 16-18, 17-14. Dissanayaka had no trouble in the women's singles, beating Chandrika de Silva 11-5, 11-7 in the final.

By way of celebration, the champions then teamed up to win the mixed doubles at the expense of the singles runners-up. Edirisinghe gained some consolation by retaining the men's doubles with Palinda Halangoda, beating Jayakody and Niroshan in three sets.

SANTIAGO, CHILE

Men's singles: Mauricio Mumoz Burcos bt Juan Sobarzo Chaparro 17-15, 15-3, 15-0
Women's singles: Natalia Villegas Norambuena bt Monica Cordova Norambuena 11-1, 11-5

Men's doubles: Chaparro/Burcos bt Ernesto Cellino Brown/Hector Villegas Chavez 15-3, 15-7

Women's doubles: N Norambuena/Pamela Macaya Salina bt Susana Salinas Gomez/Carolina Moya Pena Y Lillo 18-16, 18-16

Mixed doubles: Ricardo Muroz Toledo/Gomez bt M Norambuena/Burcos 12-15, 18-17, 15-12

ERNESTO CELLINO BROWN

DENMARK

At the Thomas Cup finals back in 1988 the other teams envied the Danish manager because he could choose from world-class players for the three singles places, Morten Frost, Jens Peter Nierhoff, Ib Frederiksen and Michael Kjeldsen.

Today, just before the world championships, the Danish Badminton Association are in a similar position. Three different Danish players, Peter Gade, Peter Rasmussen and Thomas Stuer-Lauridsen between them won the three Grand Prix tournaments in January, - Chinese-Taipei, Japan and Korea. And one of the three musketeers, 22-year-old Rasmussen, underlined that he is a man to watch when for the first time he became Danish champion, beating Poul-Erik Hoyer-Larsen in the semi-final and Thomas Stuer in the final at the best Danish championships for years.

Since 1989 the men's singles titles have been shared by Hoyer (3), Stuer (3) and Frost (2) so Rasmussen's well-deserved triumph was an indication that the new Danish generation is about to mature.

Rasmussen's achievement is notable, as injuries kept him out of badminton for the last six months of 1996 and the medical student was surprised to be in such good form so soon after returning to top play. However, he was in no doubt who to thank "I'm grateful to Stuer, Gade and Hoyer. Their help during the difficult periods, especially on the psychological side, was invaluable" said Rasmussen, who beat Hoyer and Stuer for the first time.

Hoyer, the English-based Olympic champion, was philosophical after his 15-12, 15-11 semi-final defeat, saying: "Nobody can be on top during the whole season. My form should reach a peak at the world championships in Glasgow just as it did during the Olympics."

Camilla Martin is aiming at more than bronze in Glasgow after winning her seventh Danish title since 1991. The 23-year-old who can't find quality opposition in Denmark, is in an unenviable situation. "The expectations on me are so high that almost any point I lose is disappointing and today the national championships are only another tournament. It was much more fun seven years ago when I captured my first title."

Camilla beat Mette Sorensen 11-5, 11-6 in the final. The previous matches were won 11-0, 11-1: 11-1, 11-1 and 11-0, 11-1.

Jon Halst-Christensen set a record of eight titles in a row in the men's doubles winning this time with Michael Sogaard, who has taken over from the retired Thomas Lund. The pair beat up-and-coming Thomas Stavngaard and Jim Laugesen 15-7, 15-10 in the final.

Stavngaard and Ann Jorgensen repeated last year's mixed doubles win with a 15-17, 15-10, 15-8 victory over Sogaard and Rikke Olsen.

The women's doubles was also a repeat when Marlene Thomsen and Lisbet Stuer-Lauridsen beat Helene Kirkegaard and Rikke Olsen 15-10, 15-9.

Hans Moller

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alison's travels

by Gillian Dorricott

Alison Fulton has travelled the world on behalf of badminton, journeying as far afield as Peru, Iran and Botswana. Back from trips to Ghana and then to Nepal, just before Christmas, she has a definite lesson in mind for her next coaching session back home with the Scottish junior team. "If there is one thing that these trips show me, it is how lucky we are back here in Scotland and I will be telling my players all about my trips and the conditions that youngsters play in these developing nations," said Alison.

In Ghana, the training hall had a ceiling the height of my lounge and the walls were made of open slats which allowed drafts of air through. I found it impossible to make contact with the shuttle. They had a severe shortage of equipment in general.

On another trip to Africa that I was on recently, they had just one shuttle for three months between 30 juniors. Yet often the standard was better than I expect and they are really keen to learn and are very dedicated. "Ghana is a poor country. The average wage is less than £1 per day and typhoid and malaria are as common as the cold."

Fulton, a former Scottish and British coach of the year, travels to these countries to help players and coaches on behalf of Olympic Solidarity, who encourage the development of sports like badminton. She is privileged to be one of IBF's 70+ Development Technicians who are sent to develop the sporting expertise of countries who lack such skills. "It is a privilege to be a Development Technician, although not everyone would be keen to go to some of the places I have been," laughed Alison, "It's lucky that I have a strong constitution. About 10 years ago I travelled round the world and I was the only person in my group to escape illness in India."

She has certainly encountered many different cultures while representing Olympic Solidarity. On her trip to Iran, for example, she had to wear the traditional garb of Muslim women, who are not allowed to show any part of their body or even their hair in public. "I had to remain covered up and it was very uncomfortable and hot," she explained, "I was only allowed to coach women and when we trained we were locked into the hall and all the windows



All eyes on Alison... during her visit to Ghana

covered with newspaper so that no-one could look in. "I think that was the most difficult trip for me. I had to coach through an interpreter, and although my hotel had leisure facilities, I was not allowed to use them. Most of the time I was chaperoned wherever I went."

The levels of poverty in some of the countries she has visited was also a shock. Peru, for example, is a country of extremes, where very rich and very poor live side by side. "The club I coached at in Peru was fabulous," explained Alison. "It was better than anything we have here. However, the poverty on the streets was terrible. I managed to walk around quite a bit and there were little children living on the streets. In Africa too, families lived in mud huts with no water. It really brings you back down to earth to see these things."

Alison does see a way forward for some of the athletes she has worked with and a lot of natural talent among them. However, she believes it will take a long time to allow this talent to develop. "It would cost some of the people I have worked with the equivalent of two years salary to buy a plane ticket to the World Championships. I would love to see some of them again in Glasgow next month but I just don't think many of them will make it."

PHYSICAL TRAINING FOR BADMINTON

By Bo Omosegaard. Editor - Lars Tindholdt

International Badminton Federation Price £15.00 (plus £2.00 p & p)

Review by Graeme Robson

In 1991, Danish coach Martin Andersen, persuaded me to buy the original print of this book in Danish. The fact that I only understood a couple of dozen words was irrelevant, he said, because this book was the best book ever written on physical training for badminton.

Now that the English translation of this book has finally been published and I can now read and understand the whole book, I endorse Martin's comments. This book is superb - in its physiological background to the game, its applied nature and its practical examples of how to train for badminton.

The current edition has been updated slightly with information gathered from the Olympic Games '92 study carried out on Danish players, but remains essentially, the same format as the original edition.

The first two chapters critically analyse the workload required in badminton and how to obtain a profile of players. Chapters 3 & 4 examine how to train and plan training for players, and the final chapter gives sample programmes and 'help plans' for coaches. It uses photographs of well-known players (including the Olympic champion Poul-Erik Hoyer-Larsen) to demonstrate tests and exercises that can be used in physical programmes and practical badminton-specific examples of why training should be done as it is described in the book.

The only area that I am aware of that is not covered, is the fast feet exercises used by most Asian countries, and which are now increasingly being used by more European countries.

My one criticism of the book would be of some of the errors that have occurred in translation - there are some spelling mistakes and some headings or labels have been interchanged. Nevertheless, this book will become a real classic in badminton literature. I can only re-iterate - this book is superb.

I recommend that it should be in the library of all serious badminton coaches, trainers, sports scientists and players. It would also be a welcome addition to the library of trainers in other sports which do not have published resources of this standard.

Graeme Robson is a sport scientist, UniSports, University of Auckland, New Zealand

IBF APPROVAL SCHEME

The following feather shuttles are currently approved by the International Badminton Federation for international play

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Double Fish Sports Goods Factory	Jinque AAA
Gadjah Mada	International Red
Gadjah Mada	Samurai
Jago & Company	Snowpeak Superior C1101
Kao Ding Trading Co Ltd	Airshuttle Tournament
Loy Fok Hing	Tronex Tournament
Mizuno	Technoflite 400ED
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Nimatsu	Tournament
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Ruby Glamour	Yang Yang 300B
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Shanghai	Aeroplane G1130
Shankyo Sports Co Ltd	Shankyo First Grade
Trump Sports	Trump T-101
Union Perfect	Prima International Grade
Victor	Champion
Wenzhou Weiren Badminton Shuttlecocks	Mr Lee's L1000 Tournament
Xumax International	Xumax X1
Yehlex (UK)	Fleet A
Yonex	Tournament
Yueh Ma Sporting Goods	Kawasaki Top A
Zinston	Zinston International
Zhejiang Light Industrial Products I/E Corp	Sealion Superior Tournament

In addition, the following equipment has been approved for international play:

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Playing surfaces	Mondosport
	Nagase-Kenko
	Taraflex
	Victor Pro Court
Scoreboards	Mitsuba

When it comes to doing their homework few do it better than the Chinese. After winning just one of the five titles at last year's All England they went home knowing there was plenty of room for improvement. must do better, you might say.

And do better they did when they returned last month for the 87th Yonex All England Championships in Birmingham and finished top of the class...by a mile. You can't do much better than four titles out of five. All right, Denmark won all five but that was way back in 1948 before the Chinese ever took part in the event.

But four in the 1990s when the game has such worldwide strength in depth will take some matching in the years to come. China themselves have only managed three All England titles in one go, although they have achieved that feat four times - in 1983, '85, '88, and '92.

More interestingly, they have now won the men's singles title six times - and on all but one of those six occasions they have also won the women's singles (they had to settle for runners-up spot in the 1990 women's singles final). It suggests that when men's singles is strong in China, then so is women's singles.

Before the All England the talk was of Poul-Erik Hoyer-Larsen and his hat-trick bid. No-one

since Rudy Hartono had won three men's singles titles in a row. Who of the Indonesians was going to stop the honorary Englishman was considered himself merely 'a dark horse' (Well he's learned plenty English vernacular since arriving in December).

The answer none of them. For this was to be the year when tears turned to smiles for one young Chinese player. Dong Jiong will long be remembered for his silver tears when he lost the Olympic final to Hoyer-Larsen. But in Birmingham he flashed a golden grin after first beating Hoyer-Larsen 15-8, 15-10 in the semi-finals and Chinese team-mate Sun Jun 15-9, 15-5 in the final of the blue riband event. To think he had never been beyond the second round in Birmingham until this year.

In only one match did he drop a set. that was in the third round when he lost the opener 3-15 against Malaysian Ong Ewe Hock before roaring back 15-6 15-8. From then he never looked back, particularly in his late night disposal of the champion on semi-final day, Friday. Hoyer-Larsen never one to complain, is entitled to feel hard done by after playing matches late at night. It was nearly midnight when he finished his first round match. At Wimbledon the defending champion opens play. But it's not just in prize-money that badminton differs from tennis.

For all that Dong Jiong's win over Sun Jun was achieved easily enough, it didn't dilute the acclaim as he did his lap of honour round the National Indoor Arena in front of 5,500 fans. The grin says it all...which is just as well because it's impossible to tell you how he felt. In the po

ding dong but no gong

by William Kings, Assistant Sports Editor, London Evening Standard

men's singles winner

dong jiong



women's singles winner

ye zhaoying



men's doubles winners

ha tae-kwon & kang kyung jin



match interview he and Sun Jun drooled over the famous old trophy, no doubt spotting the great winners of the past, not the least Zhao Jianhua and Yang Yang.

But any chance of sharing their thoughts vanished first with the absence of an interpreter and then, when the arrogant young man finally arrived, the interview was terminated as soon as he sniffed out the presence of a gate-crashing Malaysian camera crew.

The Chinese obviously don't realise the sport needs all the publicity it can get, especially in Western Europe. Let's hope Dong Jiong will be allowed to express himself both on and off the court at the world championships.

The women's singles final, like the men's was an all-Chinese affair with world champion Ye Zhaoying doubtless desperate to make up for her dismal showing in the 1996 All England final. She was helped in her quest by the fact that first unseeded Dai Yun put paid to top seeded Indonesian Mia Audina and then knocked out Chinese team-mate and fifth seed Zhang Ning in the third round and quarter-finals respectively. That just left Ye to dispose of Dai Yun 11-3, 5-11, 11-1 and the door was open for her to atone for '96.

Meanwhile China's rising star Gong Zhichao blitzed his way through the bottom half of the draw. No respecter of reputations, she overwhelmed Susi Susanti 11-4, 11-7 in the quarter-finals and left you wondering if this was the last time we were to see the four-times champion at the All England. After the world championships she might feel that married life has more to offer in the same way Korea's '96 All England champion Bang Soo Hyun does.

But back to Gong as she surged relentlessly to the final by brushing aside '96 mixed doubles winner Ra Kyung Min of Korea 11-3, 11-2.

The final was a mouth-

watering prospect...world champion against a champion in the making. At least it should have been. Just as Ye had capitulated weakly 12 months before so Gong, who had dropped just a handful of points on the way to the final, went tumbling 11-1, 11-3.

Could Ye explain why she was dominant? Could Gong explain what went wrong? Who knows? Certainly Mr Arrogant wasn't going to reveal too many trade secrets as he explained that Gong just didn't feel right. Neither did the translation. I'm going to bring my pal from the Eat Well Chinese restaurant in Eastcote with me next time! If we have neutral umpires and referees then why not neutral translators.

The women's doubles was a foregone conclusion with Ge Fei and Gu Jun retaining their title and continuing in '97 where they left off in '96 (the year where they lost just once). They left no-one least of all the Indonesians - in any doubt what it takes to be the best as they took the title 15-6, 15-9 against Eliza and Resiana Zelin. Those nine points they conceded in that second game of the final were as many as they gave away in any other match.

But Ge Fei wasn't finished there. She and Liu Yong were just as impressive in the mixed doubles final where they surprised Indonesia's top seeds Trikus and Minarti 15-10, 15-2... and that after trailing 0-4 in the opening game.

It all adds up to an ominous outlook as we head for Glasgow and next month's world championships.

The Indonesians, in particular, will be licking their wounds, especially as the one title which eluded China didn't end up in their back pocket!

For all that they had top seeds in Sigit and Chandra Wijaya, as well as Antonius and Kantonono and the enigmatic Ricky and Rexy, they could not even produce a finalist. Korean new boys Ha Tae Kwon and Kang Kyung Jin put out Antonius and Kantonono as well as Sigit and Wijaya on the way to the title.

In the final they were simply too good for Jon Holst-Christensen and Michael Sogaard, winning 15-11, 17-16. But the Danes can look back with satisfaction that they won probably the match of the championships with a magical Friday night special - a 15-8, 12-15, 15-11 crackerjack against Malaysia's Cheah Soon Kit and Yap Kim Hock.

Final result:

China 4, Korea 1, Indonesia and the rest 0!

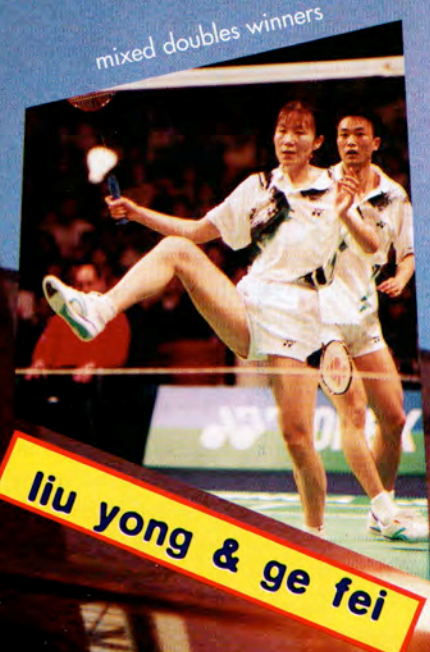
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Your chance to have your say.

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I recently read your article: The American way - play at your own risk (July/August). It's sad that such wording has to be used here in the USA, instead of 'enjoy badminton, it's a great game'. Most people would enjoy such a statement on their entry forms regardless of the sport, however, you are not at all familiar with our legal system.

According to American lawyers, you do not have any personal responsibility. It's always someone else's fault and if you do not have enough money to pay them, they will sue the next 'deep pocket' they can find. Have a hang nail - sue your boss for not making sure that you were protected from anything that can cause a hang nail. Even if you are a criminal and you are hiding, and a police dog should bite you, you can sue and WIN. We have more ambulance chasers and shysters than you can count. A good many people sue for imaginary reasons to get a buck.

Unfortunately, that is why you see 'play badminton at your own risk' and not 'enjoy badminton, it's a great game'.

Regarding the rest of your article. If you want some solid information on what's happening in our schools concerning badminton, send a reporter here to interview Dean Schoppe. Dean travels all over the US and many countries in South America putting on coaches clinics and exhibitions. It's true that he's in the badminton business, but it is his love of the game that makes him successful. Why not give him some recognition.

The reason, as I see it, that badminton does not take off here is the lack of facilities for people to play. I hope that Don Chew's club is a roaring success then maybe someone in the mid-west or east will do the same thing.

You leave high school and then what? You could put up a million dollar purse and it would not affect the game here. Witness Atlanta. Take that million and get a warehouse and make it into a club and then you will be making inroads to getting more people playing.

I know someone will say 'look at all the high school gyms that you have' and this is true, however it's basketball and volleyball which take priority. If you have any answers or suggestions, I would sure like to hear them. I kinda like the game, myself ...

Finally, on your \$2,000 a minute article - no comment!

Wes Schoppe
Manhattan Beach
California, USA

The poster of Imam Tohari and Ema Emawati of Indonesia playing in the World Grand Prix finals in Bali leaves me lost in wonder.

First, we have the lady playing the net with the head of her racket below the level of her knees. One would have thought that one of her no doubt many coaches would have explained to her that the shuttle comes over the net, not under, and it is the most primitive of tactics to position the head of one's racket for this eventuality.

Secondly, both players are holding their rackets well down the handle. This has certain results -

1 The player loses reach of several inches. 2 In playing a smash or similar power stroke the length of the hitting arc is reduced leading to loss of power. 3 Inevitably in certain shots the butt of the handle impedes the player's stroke.

This pair are not the only players using a shortened grip. Would someone explain the advantages (if any)? Why don't the manufacturers produce shortened rackets for this market?

I note from the results that this pair did not reach as far as the semi-finals. I am not surprised. Incidentally, why did you publish this poster, what message was it supposed to get across?

F W Peard
Lucan, Dublin

Well, you certainly got the message, Frank! Anyway, it gives experts like you the chance to put everyone right.

I must congratulate you and your team for putting out such an excellently produced issue of World Badminton (January/February). I love the use of the watermarks and the change in fonts and sizes. It's much more attractive and makes for better reading.

Robert Richards
President
Jamaica Badminton Association

I am a little disappointed not to see the results of the Pan American Junior published with the rest of the results in the January/February issue. Seldom do Canadians do as well as they did in Puerto Rico and they should be rewarded with the publishing of results.

Hopefully we will be able to read the results of the Pan Am juniors in the next issue.

Sonny Lee
Provincial coach
Alberta, Canada

Because of space restrictions, in general, we only publish world ranking tournaments but where possible we do include tournament reports as we did with the Pan Am juniors.

I am afraid you are wrong on the siblings Pohar's nationality. They are from Slovenia (a former part of Yugoslavia), not from Slovakia (a former part of Czechoslovakia) as stated on page 20 (January/February issue).

I was an umpire in Nitra so I was able to see their victory in person and I must admit I kept my fingers crossed for them. Maja in particular is a very determined player who has great stamina and I think she is on her way up.

Danish players will gain many other

titles, but I am convinced that it is better for the game if we have new names on the scene, especially from the lesser known countries.

And the title reflects the author's unusual way of thinking. Why not 'Pohars win in Slovakia' or 'Lucky Maja in Slovakia' instead of 'Sara out of luck in Slovakia'?

I know the answer, Sara and Danes matter - others do not.

Vladislav Cerny
Prague, Czech Republic

First of all, I think that, in a magazine carrying the word 'world' in its name, there are not enough articles on stroke techniques or tactics.

Each year the coaches of countries that take part in big international events have one or more meetings, though we never see any articles on these meetings.

In the past, via the IBF one could buy video tapes of big international competitions, but since the 1995 Grand Prix Finals I have seen no publicity regarding the most recent big events. Why?

Emiel Pardon
Heverlee, Belgium

We do have plans to introduce a series of coaching articles with guest coaches from around the world Emiel. We have not included an advertisement for tapes recently due to lack of space, but we hope to include details of new tapes available in the next issue. Tapes are currently available for the 1996 World Grand Prix Finals and the 1996 Olympic Games. To obtain an order form, readers should contact the IBF Office - Manor Park Place, Rutherford Way, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire GL51 9TU, UK. Tel: +44 (0)1242 234 904 Fax: +44 (0)1242 221030

They just missed the gold medal in the Olympics and it hurt. They had led in each game against World No.1s Ricky Subagja and Rexy Mainaky. But the games went - and with it their chance.

It was the Malaysian pair, Cheah Soon Kit and Yap Kim Hock, who had that bitter experience. "It was the most disappointing result of my life. And the chance won't come again," said Cheah, recalling his experience in Atlanta. Yap feels the same way and knows they won't get a better chance because they are both 29 this year. "But after the game ended I tried to accept it. Anyway, we made history for Malaysia. They had won an Olympic silver medal for the first time," said Yap.

Even though he and Cheah weren't given any financial reward, a place in history was a big enough present. "Of course we were sad. But, win or lose is only a choice - to win or to lose. We weren't disappointed with the way we played. After the Olympics we rested for a while, took things easy," said Cheah.

But how did they get together in the first place? It was thanks to their coach, Razif Sidek, once one of the best doubles players himself. Before making his debut with Cheah, Yap was already on the international stage with Tan Kim Her. They were ranked as high as No.2 in the world in 1994. But Ricky and Rexy were already in top spot. "I thought I would try playing with Cheah, to see what I could do. And the results got better and better, just as they had when playing with Tan," said the man from Johor. "We produced good results quickly, winning the ABC Asian Championships in April 1995, only three months after teaming up," said Cheah.

Based on those early results, they thought they could maintain their position near the top. "At least we tried to keep our position in the top three in the world," added Cheah, who was paired with Ong Beng Teong and Soo Beng Kiang before he played with Yap.

Cheah was 18 and Yap 23 when they burst into the National team full of optimism. "At least, throughout our career, we've beaten all the best doubles pairs in the world," Yap said.

As for fresh challenges, like Chandra Wijaya and Sigit, they see it as they see life. "One day the young players come up and the old fade away, just like life itself. We have to face the problems ahead. We have to find out whether we can improve. Discipline is the key," said Yap. "As senior players, we must maintain our fitness," added Cheah.

Throughout their career, they've never been disappointed about their results even though "it could have been much better if it was gold," said Cheah, still referring to the Olympics. But he admitted that it was nearly always the Indonesian players who barred their way to the top. "It was Ricky and Rexy or Kantonio and Antonius. Now it's Sigit and Wijaya. The Indonesians are always the toughest opponents," said Cheah, who has already been at the top level for 10 years.

For Cheah and Yap the word 'retired' has not entered their heads. "We can still stand the pressure both in practice and in tournaments. So I don't know when I will stop playing," said Cheah.

For Yap, next year will be the happiest when he will marry Tay Lay Koon. But both players plan to devote the rest of their life to badminton - either as coaches or sport businessmen.



M

orten Frost's arrival in Malaysia coincided with a Chinese exodus. Dr Abdullah Fadzil Che Wan, president of the Malaysian Badminton Association, said that all the Chinese coaches had left apart from 1985 world champion Han Jian. BAM has 13 coaches lined up to work with head coach Frost, who succeeds Razif Sidek.

After 12 years at the top of the badminton tree you would think Rashid Sidek was thinking about winding down. Not a bit of it. The spirit is still there and so is the motivation.

That was never better illustrated than in the Olympic bronze medal play-off against Heryanto Arbi. The 29-year-old Malaysian used sheer self-belief to overcome a younger player with a bigger reputation.

"You have to think positively," he said. "If you don't what will happen? I haven't been thinking about giving up badminton because I'm not yet satisfied with my results," he explained "As long as I can still get quality practice and can still put up with the burden of practising I will carry on playing."

As far as Sidek is concerned the will to play badminton is all in the mind. "A player younger than me may start to think he can't play any more. If that's how he thinks then that's how it will be. But me? I'm sure I can still improve," said the youngest of the Sidek brothers. "In any case, what else can I do if I give up badminton?"

Many players can't stand practising so they give up. But Rashid is mature enough to know that what he needs to do is improve his skill and physical condition. "I started to be aware of my lack of practice so sometimes I make myself do extra work. Also I still search for my weaknesses. For instance, sometimes in a tournament I can't relax because the pressure is high. Often I'm influenced by the outcome of the first set."

Rashid also believes that a strong mental condition could help his physical condition...but not the other way round.

He still has one big goal...to win the world championship and maybe even to strike gold in the Sydney Olympics in 2000.

He has nearly been No1...back



in 1992 he climbed to second spot and would probably have gone all the way to the top but for the rise and rise of Zhao Jianhua.

But at that time he enjoyed one of his biggest successes. He did not lose a match in the Thomas Cup finals in Kuala Lumpur and Malaysia won the cup. "That was so meaningful to me," he recalled.

Today, for all that Rashid can still stand the pressure of top tournament play, he is becoming more selective because of his age. Consistency has helped him live through the Frost, Yang Yang and Sugiarto era and then the Wiranata, Kusuma and Suprianto dominance. And he knows all about the Hoyer-Larsen age, especially after the 1996 All England final.

Now he is in the middle of the Dong Jiong, Sun Jun and Wijaya rise in the East and the emergence of Rasmussen and Gade in the West.

But Sidek isn't the only one with targets.

His Malaysian team-mate Ong Ewe Hock is just as ambitious. The Malaysian No 2 gained his first taste of big international success at last year's Malaysian Open. That victory has given him more self-confidence, something he needed, considering he was a late starter (he didn't begin playing at the Penang State Club until he was 14). "I played football first before I got interested in badminton," he said.

Like Rashid he wants to improve...so much so that he does extra training by playing the juniors on top of practising with Yong Hock Kin, Sidek and Pang Chen.

His goal? The world title. "I know it will be hard but I must set my target. Beside that, I also want to win an All England title." But that's for the future...as is a career outside badminton. "I don't want to be a coach when I finish playing. I will have spent long enough in badminton. I want to do something in business."



ardy wiranata

At long last the balance of power is being redressed as Europe for once steal a march on the Asian players. Look how the men from Denmark dominated in January.

Nowadays the explosive smashes and exciting flicks are coming from Europe as well as the East. It makes the game more interesting and serves as a warning to Asia that they must work on taking badminton to another dimension if they are to control the threat from Europe.

In the 1970s it was hard to find a European apart from Morten Frost, who could match Rudy Hartono for style and grace but he did not have the speed. Then along came China with their power and speed merchants as well as stroke play. That was followed in more recent years by the Indonesian skills of Heryanto Arbi, Allan Budi Kusuma and now Indra Wijaya. Quick movers and big hitters.

But amid all this one man from the West stood out. Poul-Erik Hoyer-Larsen. He showed the world at the All England two years ago that he could match the Asians for pace and could smash, if not as powerfully, certainly with greater accuracy. "I don't see any difference between the Asians and the Europeans now," said Misbun Sidek, the Malaysian international star turned coach. "The Europeans used to be slower than the Asians because of their bigger build. But it is not so much the case now."

Ardy Wiranata and Kusuma agree after experiencing the changes at first hand for the last 10 years. Ardy recalled: "When I used to play Morten Frost he didn't move quick enough even though his strokes were quite good. "But all the Europeans could smash with penetration and most had a good backhand for drops, smashes and drives."

continued on page 28...

continued from page 27...

But Ardy accepts that they have caught up but still pinpoints a weakness: "They aren't as good if we hit straight at their body and they still have trouble picking up drop shots low under the net."

But Misbun highlighted one area which gives Europeans the edge...Asians are spoiled compared to their Western rivals. "Asians can hardly make decisions by themselves on the court. They depend on their coach compared to the Europeans. That is the negative side of the Asians," he said, explaining that it stems from their social life and the way they guide their children in society. "Europeans are more independent. They are treated as an adult when they are 16. It helps them with their ability to make their own decisions on court."

Interestingly, Kusuma pinpointed another factor. "Physically we Asians have already been left behind by the Europeans. Their nutrition is good since childhood. In weight training they also have better equipment compared to us. We depend on the natural way of training."

It will be interesting to watch which way the scales tilt over the next few years in the never-ending battle for supremacy.

The Plan worked perfectly. Korea's Bang Soo Hyun won the Olympic gold medal - then married her fiance, Sin Hun Kyun, and promptly retired.

Today she is preparing to enjoy Atlanta life as the wife of, would you believe it, Dr Sin! Amazingly though, she is still in Seoul, where she is finishing her education. "Of course, I'll move to the States but at the moment I must finish my studies in physical education. I'd like to be a coach one day. I would like coaching kids...and, of course, we would like to have one or two or our own. No more than two though!"

Of her new life, she expects to live in the States for 15 years or so but first she says: "I finish my degree this month and will move to Atlanta in September. I'll have to take an English course for a few months."

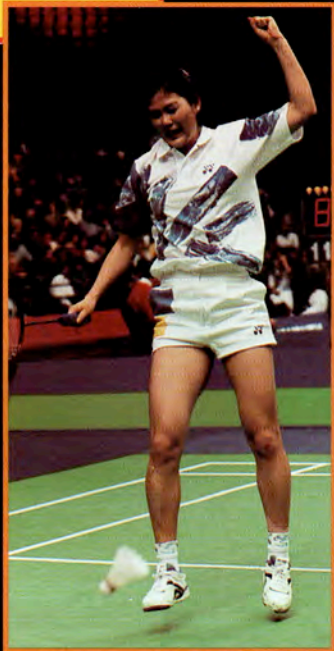
It was at the 1995 US Open that the couple met. "He came to watch," said Bang, who was a feminine and elegant VIP guest at the Korean Open in January.

After their first meeting the telephone never stopped ringing. "He called me every day," said Bang shyly. "We only communicated by phone and had to wait until the end of the year for our second meeting. Christmas in fact."

Sin Anthony and his mother, An Oung-Ok came over to Seoul. "That's when he proposed," said Bang. "Sin is a very kind and calm man and so understanding."

Finally last October the couple married at the Catholic Church, Myong Dong, in Seoul. The reception for 1,500 guests was at a big restaurant.

With that she is now ready for her new life as a housewife, although she will need to draw on Anthony's experience of living 14 years in the United States. He studied at Johns Hopkins University and now works at the Emory Hospital in Atlanta.



There's also romance in the air, at least on the Asian badminton circuit. It's not just Bang Soo Hyun who has got married.

The long awaited wedding of Allan Budi Kusuma and Susi Susanti finally took place in February and it culminated at a reception for 3,000 at the Grand Melia Hotel in Jakarta. "We decided to accept a friend's offer to use the hotel," said Kusuma.

The couple were married in front of 1,000 guests including the Vice President of Indonesia, Try Soetrisno, at the Bonaventura Church in Kelapa Gading, the area where they plan to live. One of Jakarta's top designers, Kim Thong, designed their wedding suits and Susi wore a diamond tiara.

It took four hours for Susi and Allan to greet all their guests. The event was covered by STAR TV and CNN as well as foreign journalists.

It was the prefect end to a love story which began when Susi was just 16 and Kusuma 19. At the start romance was difficult because their respective parents were worried that their badminton would suffer, but former player Minarni Kusdaryanto helped smooth the way.

**romance in the air
on the asian circuit**

The couple plan on playing for at least a further two years. "The baby can wait," said Susanti "But if it happens, it happens." The honeymoon in Lombok has gone on hold - two days after the wedding, the couple were back in training for the All England.

Another romantic story ended in a big wedding party for Lily Tampi and Hendra Gunawan at Puri Agung Sahid Jaya in Jakarta. The only pity for Lily was that she couldn't share her big day with the national players she had lived with for five years because they were playing at the World Grand Prix finals in Bali.

The pair fell in love the first time Gunawan saw Tampi at the Indonesian Open in 1993.

Gunawan remembers his first date: "We went out for dinner at Sizzler in Pondok Indah Mall to celebrate Tampi and Finarsih's success in that Indonesian tournament."

Gunawan is to graduate from the University of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, but the couple already have a house in Bintaro, south of Jakarta...and they are already planning to have three children!



S

imilarity
brought
J o k o

Suprianto and his girlfriend Resiana Zelin together. It all started at the Korean Open in 1995...after Eliza and Resiana had lost to Julie Bradbury and Joanne Wright!

Resiana is quite shy and at first she refused to go out with Joko. But finally she relented. Now they enjoy the peace and quiet of the countryside. As Joko says: "We like to go into the rural areas or mountain areas like Puncak."

The quiet life has led to a quiet approach...Joko isn't rushing her to get married. He wants to get married in three or four years when he's 35. "Every time we are asked we say - next year." One thing Joko has been quick to stamp out: Resiana's love of shopping.

Joko Suprianto's coach Triadji Arsa has died of a heart attack. He passed away on Boxing Day while spending a family Christmas in his home town. Triadji, who also coached Budi Santosa, had been teaching his four children carols the night before he died.

On the last day of practice at the national training camp in Cipayung, Cilangkap, he had even played a set with Cindana. Ironically, Mia Audina's coach Retno Kustiyah, who had seen how tired and out of breath he looked, had warned him then: "You have to be very careful with your health. Look, you can't even resist playing one set."

The warning came too late and now the smiling coach has gone forever.

We once had an argument over an interview and he subsequently refused to speak to me. However we had a long talk and we began to understand each others point of view. From then on we became very close friends - for me, he was one of the most open-hearted and open-minded people I have ever met.

Brigitta Iswora



Photo: Edwin Leung

In a three month spell, Indonesia's new men's doubles pair really made their mark. That's how long it took for Chandra Wijaya and Sigit Budiarto to win three titles from five tournaments and to beat all three Olympic medallists into the bargain. With his quick movement in front of the net, Budiarto can do anything he wants to foil the opposition. He can give a drop, or a penetrating smash that most of the time makes their opponents lose control. Behind Budiarto, Wijaya produces smashes, chops or drops to end the rallies.

It all started in the US Open last September when they beat Olympic silver medallists Denny Kantono and Antonius Iriantho, their fellow Indonesians. Success was even more sweet because in that first appearance they came out winners. Before the US Open they had never trained seriously with a view to being a pair. In daily practice, they sometimes played together just to be sparring partners for others.

One of the keys to success is understanding and unity. That kind of feeling soon began to grow into genuine togetherness at the national training centre. The other key, Wijaya explained, was being relaxed in a match, so that they never put pressure on themselves. Chandra, with Ade Sutrisna as his

partner, had already made the world ranking list and they were to rise as high as No7 in 1995. But that was as good as it was to get for the 21-year-old even though they won the Swedish title last year and two years ago grabbed the Canadian, US and Polish Opens. "Even so, we couldn't make it in the bigger championships," said Wijaya. The main obstacle was something to do with communication between them. And so it was time for a change...although as Wijaya says, it wasn't his idea; it was their coach.

Unlike Wijaya and Sutrisna, this pair communicate. "We fill in for each other, we have a good understanding, we're so open with each other, support each other and have the same feelings," said Wijaya, who is two months older than Sigit

Judging by how far they have come in such a short time, don't be surprised if they pick up a big title before long. They nearly did it at the All England championships in Birmingham last month but lost to the eventual winners, Koreans Ha Tae Kwon and Kang Kyung Jin, in the semi-finals.

For the time being, they can only see Ricky Subagja and Rexy Mainaky as their target. The pair, who have Christian Hadinata as their idol, now want to be as successful as Ricky and Rexy. "Of course, we want to prove ourselves in every championships. But we also want to do it step by step, just like them," said Budiarto. "Excellent? We're not that good but we try to be," said Sigit modestly. "At the moment, we are good and we must try to maintain that. There are still many pairs that we haven't played yet. It's too early to feel excellent."



Photo: Peter Richardson

Chandra & Sigit - Christian (inset) is their idol

1 9 9 7

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News from Austria

Hannes Fuchs, Austria's top player for many years has opened the 'Hannes Fuchs Badminton Academy' in Wellness Park, Oberlaa in Vienna.

Austria is to continue experimenting with the 5 x 9 scoring system at the Austrian National Championships which will be held in Pressbaum this month. In addition, the televised event will use yellow Victor Champion shuttles.

The Austrian International from the 24-27 of April will also be experimenting with yellow shuttlecocks.

Sweden beat Austria 2-1 in an international tie played in the indoor courtyard of the biggest Viennese Business centre and attracted a huge crowd. The 'Ericsson Cup' was promoted by Wolfgang Han's Champ Sportsmarketing Company on behalf of the Austrian BA.

The next international tie - Austria v USA - to be organised by Champ will be the 'Nexcare Challenge' at the Lugner City Shopping Centre in Vienna.

The international badminton summer camps run under the umbrella of the Austrian Badminton Association by the Badminton Zentrum Sacre Coeur Pressbaum are possibly one of the most successful badminton camps in Europe. Held for the last 16 years in the beautiful centre in the Vienna Woods. This year camp weeks will also be held in Porec, Croatia (on the Adriatic Sea), Prague and Cesky Krumlov. Coaches will be Korea's Lee Jae Bok, Richard Purser from New Zealand, Jason Ganner, England, Soren Schultz-Pedersen and Helene Jansen from Denmark, Ronald Langthaler, Austria together with

several other coaches from other countries.

In 1996 these camps were one of the few sports activities supported by the European Union.

Also taking place in Pressbaum will be an International Coaches Workshop held by Lee Jae Bok. The Workshop will be held from the 3 - 9 August and is aimed at club coaches and teachers. Topics covered will include the 'new philosophy' of the game, basic posture, new stroke skills, new movement and tactics. The Workshop is supported by the European Badminton Union and the Austrian Badminton Association.

HORST KULLNIGG



For further information contact: S C Badminton, PO Box 100, A-3021, Pressbaum, Austria.

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Final rankings in the Austrian Team Championships are:

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TV - THE BIG DEBATE

The search goes on for ways to improve the television coverage of the sport, to make it more attractive for viewers and thus more attractive for sponsors.

In Austria last November a team, led by Chris Ryan from Vario TV Film and Productions and assisted by Horst Kullnigg and Heinz Klimetschek from the Austrian B.A. came up with some interesting results.

Austrian players Hannes Fuchs and Armin Kreulitsch played with a variety of coloured shuttles, on different coloured courts, TV camera positions were changed, advertising boards or different heights and colours were used - and below is a summary of the results:

SHUTTLES - feather shuttles with white, bright yellow, pink, orange and blue feathers were tested - white and yellow proved more suitable for TV - the other colours were too dark - yellow had the advantage over white for clarity of pictures:

- Clear - for long shots, very little difference between white and yellow
- Drive - again very little difference between the two colours, however the yellow shuttle stood out against the white tape on the top of the net
- For net play and close-ups of the shuttle yellow was more visible, especially when using slow-motion.
- Players felt the yellow shuttle was easier to see
- In general, line judges, umpires and spectators were of the same opinion
- Filming was done under low lux lighting. It could therefore be assumed that with full lighting the advantages of the yellow shuttle would have been even more obvious.

• It was also suggested that a fluorescent ribbon round the base of the shuttle should be used instead of the usual green

COURTS - most suitable colours are green and blue - blue looked better on TV pictures - if using white shuttles, the lines should be yellow. When using yellow shuttles, lines should be white.

RECOMMENDATION badminton should be identified with blue

courts. There are few sports which use blue playing surfaces. With blue courts TV pictures looked first-class and blue could become a characteristic feature for the sport. They should be the same colour as the court and/or of matching tones - blue court/blue bards, green court/green boards

COLOUR FOR ADVERTISING BOARDS AROUND THE COURT - boards should not exceed a height of 60cm - at all times white boards should be avoided

TV CAMERA POSITION - broadcast with 4-5 cameras:

Camera 1 in the middle behind the back boundary line, positioned at a higher level with sufficient space between camera and court. Standard live camera during rallies.

NOTE: the angle should not be too steep nor too flat.

Camera 2,3 at the side-lines between net and shot service line. Each camera should be directed to one half of the court. Range of application: super slow-motion (slow-motion but with much better clarity), for studies of individual players, service and net play.

Camera 4 behind the back boundary line (distance 2-3m) - behind the side-line for singles or the side-line for doubles. Ideal position for super slow-motion. Range of application: super slow-motion diagonally, close-ups of the player in the opposite half of the court (service, studies), also an alternative for live rallies.

Camera 5 special effects camera (ideal case for a mobile camera, otherwise ceiling camera)

If using a mobile camera: deep position behind the back boundary line (jumps look higher) Broadcast with 2-3 cameras: **CAMERA 1** as above, **CAMERA 2** position 2 & 3 in turn (possibly 4), **CAMERA 3** position 4 **LIGHTING CONDITIONS** - for colour broadcasting 1500 lux - installed at the side-lines

HORST KULLNIGG



Hans Moller reports from Copenhagen

Lin Xiao Qing, the 1995 All England women's singles champion, is no longer the only Chinese player in Sweden's Aura team in Malmo.

Men's singles player Lin Liwen has joined the club led by Kjell Persson. Persson predicts that 27-year-old Lin will be a big attraction in the Swedish First Division and that Aura are likely to take the national championships from Taby.

Lin, who is in the world's top 30, played all four encounters for China in the Thomas Cup as second or third singles and put out top seed Joko Suprianto in the second round of the 1996 All England and reached the quarter-finals of the event in Birmingham last month.

A dramatic prelude and a tremendous finish were the talking points of the Copenhagen Masters in December. Morten Frost, who resigned as sportschief on the last day of the old year, was doing his last big job for the Danish Badminton Association and everything was in order when he left his office on December 23rd.

The 12 singles players and six men's doubles were ready and the programme was printed when - on Christmas Eve - a telegram arrived saying that the Chinese players would have to withdraw because of visa problems. The sender wished Frost a good tournament and expressed the hope that he would be able to find some decent reserves.

Frost didn't spend Christmas Eve with his wife, Charlotte and their daughter Josephine as planned. He spent most of his time on the phone speaking with the Chinese Association, the Danish Embassy in Beijing and even the IBF president Madame Lu Shengrong. According

to Frost Madame Lu made use of all her influence and suddenly almost all the problems were solved.

On the scheduled day the two women's singles players Yao Jie and Yao Yan, accompanied by Hu Zhilan, who substituted for the Olympic men's runner-up Dong Jiong, were welcomed at Kastrup Airport.

One problem, however, was impossible to solve for Da Lu. The Danish spectators had been looking forward to a revenge match from the Olympic final between Dong and Poul-Erik Hoyer. Unfortunately a few days earlier Dong fell when walking on The Great Wall and injured a foot. But Hu Zhilan was a worthy substitute and beat both Indonesia's Budi Santoso and Denmark's Thomas Stuer-Lauridsen before losing the final 15-10, 15-10 to Hoyer.

The finals turned out to be three Danish-Asian matches and the sell-out audience were more than satisfied with a Danish clean-sweep when Camilla Martin beat Yao Yan 11-7, 11-5 and Thomas Lund and Jon Holst-Christensen won their last victory in Denmark 17-15, 15-10 over Lee Dong Soo and Yo Yung Sung from Korea.

The final in the men's doubles was the irrevocable last match on Danish soil for Lund, who was feted with speeches, flowers and champagne. During a long career he has been a first-class ambassador for Danish badminton and an excellent spokesman for the international players but - as we would learn later - the celebration was only a good-bye to Lund the player. He will still be very much involved in badminton as administrator and may perhaps be the man who shall spend his next Christmas in the company of a telephone.

Photo:Ednam Leang

For the first time since 1976 when he was an 18-year-old youngster, Morten Frost missed the All England.

At the end of February he and his family went to Malaysia, where he has signed a four-year contract as sportschief with the Badminton Association of Malaysia.

While his badminton elite were in the National Indoor Arena in Birmingham, Frost and his wife, Charlotte were busy furnishing their house in Kuala Lumpur.

It is not the first time Frost has lived in the tropical city. In 1987 Morten had a four-month spell trying to improve his form during the summer but with limited success.

Frost has always been fond of Malaysia: the nature, the people, the conditions. As his new job is not so demanding physically, as the training 10 years ago, there will be no problems with dehydration

Q "What shall you do for the BAM?" Frost was asked.

"The same as I did for the Danish association. That means first and foremost organising, co-ordinating, negotiating, arranging with coaches and so on. The BAM is organised in working groups and I'll be head of the group involved in international affairs."

Q "The salary?"

"The conditions are OK"

Q "There are two badminton bodies in Malaysia at present"

"No there is only one. It is correct that a group has made what could be called a sub-organisation. Part of my job is to get the most out of the system which means co-operation with everybody. But as the new man who has only just started in the job I'm not the right one to ask."

Frost takes to Malaysia the experience gained from four All England wins, was runner-up in the world championships in 1985 and 1987 and has a lot of victories in Grand Prix and other tournaments. And as a sportschief he created an Olympic gold medal winner in Hoyer and a 'silver team' in Denmark at the Thomas Cup.

It is this highly experienced character that the Malaysians have now acquired.

Read Richard Eaton on Morten Frost on page 14



Past and present ... Morten Frost at his farewell party



Denmark's eternal badminton youngster Erland Kops on his 60th birthday.

However, some of the arrangements may have been in honour of Margrethe II, who very appropriately had chosen Erland's birthday to celebrate her 25th anniversary as Queen of Denmark.

Copenhagen had plenty to celebrate on January 14 with flags and flowers all over the city, a parade of the Royal Guard and the Queen and the Prince driving through the centre in a horse-drawn coach. In the evening there was a gala performance in the Royal Theatre with kings and presidents present and later the inevitable spectacular fireworks. At a pub in Inner Copenhagen people from all over Denmark flocked to celebrate the great day and congratulate

“I wish you and your family the best of luck wherever you may go but I hope that your players will get miserable results. If not it will be on our account,” said the chairman of the tournament committee Rene Toft when the Danish Badminton Association said good-bye to Morten Frost.

Neither Toft nor Frost knew by then - at least not 100 per cent - that the great Dane's new employer would be the Badminton Association of Malaysia.

The sportschief's chair was vacant for one month until the DBF announced the appointment of Thomas Lund as Frost's successor on February 1.

goodbye morten hello thomas

Like his predecessor, Lund walks directly from the court into administration: He played his last match at the All England last month.

Hopefully, Lund will pay the same attention to the singles players as to the doubles players. He was one of Frost's strongest critics, claiming that Frost was not interested in the doubles and only paid attention to the singles.

However a few days after the official announcement, the DBF altered the conditions for the sportschief. Lund and national coach Henrik Lyngby had presented a joint scheme which split the job into two posts, both responsible to the executive committee. But the DBF wanted only one person to be responsible and rejected the scheme. Lyngby felt so rejected that he gave in his notice.

The DBF however, wouldn't accept losing such a key figure and acknowledged the proposed scheme, which in outline makes Lund responsible for the administrative side and international contacts while Lyngby takes care of the playing side such as training, coaching and tournaments.

Lyngby, however, will solely take care of the job for the next four months until Lund, who at the moment is based in France, takes up his appointment on July 1 when he has finished his studies for a Bachelor of Commerce degree.

If Lund's success as sportschief matches his success during 10 years as a player, Denmark will be well off.

The lanky player, who will be 29 in August, is still world mixed doubles champion with his fiancée Marlene Thomsen. The pair have never lost a match. He also has a collection of victories in men's doubles, first with Max Gandrup and later with Jon Holst-Christensen, with whom he became All England champion in 1993 and runner-up at the world championships in 1991 and 1995.



the air-india open

Sanjay Sharma reports

Badminton has no respect for reputations as Olympic champion Poul-Erik Hoyer-Larsen found out at the Air-India Open in New Delhi's Indira Gandhi Stadium.

The top seed in an event hit hard by lack of entries found world champion Heryanto Arbi too hard a nut to crack.

There were only three big names in the draw and Hoyer-Larsen drew the other two! First he had to face former world No1 Ardy Wiranata then Arbi but the Danish left-hander remained favourite because Arbi was recovering after injury and Ardy had been out with hepatitis.

But as Hoyer-Larsen said of the draw: "I can't believe this. First of all there are only 20 entries in the men's singles - probably the smallest entry in such a big prize-money championships. And then I meet Ardy in the very first match. He may have missed a lot of matches recently, yet I cannot explain how this can happen."

This match could well have been the final. Ardy started off in a devastating fashion despite the Dane rushing to a 5-1 lead. A couple of long rallies coupled with smart play on the net had Hoyer reeling. He was not allowed to play his favourite downward angled strokes. With the score at 7-7, Wiranata surged ahead. The Indonesian is probably the shortest shuttler ever to be world No1 but the real measure of his talent has been his ability to prosper in a game where he was frequently overpowered by big men. To answer them Ardy always used his feet as well as his brains and he showed that in winning the first game 15-8.

But hepatitis has taken its toll and Ardy is slower on court. It meant Larsen could bring into play those exquisite net dribbles and those impossible-looking angled drops, which had the Indonesian in all sorts of trouble.

The Dane took the second game 15-10 and, despite a full-frontal attack from Ardy at the start of the third, Hoyer went from 6-5 to 15-5. Job done!

He had no problem in the next round where he toyed with Malaysian youngster Wong Choon Han, a find of the tournament according to Punch Gunalan, overcoming a slight hiccup in the second game 15-9, 15-13.

The stage was now set for the dream clash between the reigning Olympic champion and the reigning world champion Arbi.

Arbi, out of competition for some time because of recurring injuries, had an easy couple of days, hammering Rageev Bagga, the former Indian No1, in two easy games 15-4, 15-4 and then devastating Tam Kau Cheun 15-3, 15-6 to reach the semi-finals.

Arbi was determined not to let Hoyer get into a rhythm...and the plan worked. He won the first game 15-5 in just eight minutes. The smashes, on either flanks, had so much speed and zip that Hoyer was left floored. In the second game, Hoyer moved up a bit and caught the bird early on the net to put pressure on Arbi. This paid off as he first led 7-4 and then 12-8, and finally the rattled Arbi lost the game 15-12.

But in the third, aided by fast shuttles Arbi was relentless. He caught Hoyer with his smashes down the line with his sliced forehand crosscourt. Hoyer had no answer and caved in 15-2. "I guess Heryanto was dazzling today. I have not seen him play faster than this. He was so quick at the net that many a time he attacked my drops even before the follow-through of my drop-action," said Hoyer with a smile.

Arbi was on song. In the finals he demolished Indian national champion Gopi Chand 15-4, 15-7. Some of the attacking shots at the net, actually the shots after recovering from the leaping smashes, had the crowd gasping. So Arbi is back and, with his new deadly weapon - a smash inches off the tape - will be a danger at the world championships.

In the absence of any big names, all other events suffered miserably. Cindana of Indonesia did not lose a single game on the way to the women's singles crown. In her second match she accounted for home favourite, the world junior championships runner-up Aparna Popat 11-3, 11-7. Second seed Jo Muggeridge of England found new Korean girl Lee Soon Deuk too hot to handle and lost 11-3, 11-8. Then Cindana easily beat the Korean in the final.

The Indonesian second-string team were so strong that they captured every title at stake at Delhi. Cynthia and Ette Tantri won the women's doubles against Lee Soon Deuk and Choi Mai Ree of Korea while in an all-Indonesian men's doubles final Lucas and Ade Sutrisno captured the title 15-5, 15-12 against Hadi Susanto and Aras Razak.

heryanto arbi

Photo: Stephen J. Lane

denmark's new year message

by Brigitta Isworo

The Danish dominance of the men's singles was the big surprise of the first three Grand Prix events of the year.

But the other surprise came from the Chinese pairs in the women's doubles - especially as China tried a new approach by pairing singles players.

The new pairs were Ye Zhaoying and Dai Yu and Gong Zhichao and Zhang Ning. Even though they didn't win a title, they did enough to smooth the way for their best two pairs, Olympic gold medallists Ge Fei and Gu Jun and Qin Yiyuan and Tang Yongshu.

The newcomers reached the last eight in both the Japan and Korean Opens. They introduced a new style of play by applying pressure individually - as would two singles players - but it certainly worked against the less inexperienced partnerships.

chinese taipei open

The 1997 World Grand Prix series began in January with the five-star \$170,000 Chinese-Taipei Open where the Danes caught everybody on the hop winning both singles titles.

The men's singles was an all-Danish final with Peter Gade Christensen beating Olympic champion Poul-Erik Hoyer-Larsen in two sets. Christensen in the semi-final had put out Fung Permadi who only the previous month had won the Lipton Grand Prix finals in Bali.

One of the biggest upsets in the men's singles was the defeat of reigning world champion Heryanto Arbi by Jeroen van Dijk of the Netherlands in the last 16.

In the women's singles final, Denmark's Camilla Martin, the only European player with a realistic chance of taking on the Asians, did so in their own back-yard and avenged her quarter-final Olympic defeat by Mia Audina, trouncing the Indonesian teenager 11-2 in the second game. However, apart from Audina, there were no other women's singles players in the world's top ten who had entered.

In the men's doubles, the top three Indonesian pairs were joined in the semi-finals by Kang Kyung Jin and Ha Tae Kwon of Korea.

Antonius and Denny Kantono put paid to the Koreans in one of the best matches of the tournament, whilst the Olympic champions, Ricky and Rexy lost to the young pretenders Chandra Wijaya and Sigit. The Indonesian youngsters then disposed of Kantono and Antonius 15-11, 15-2.

In the absence of any of the world's top 20 women's doubles players (apart from Denmark's Rikke Olsen who teamed up with Finarsih from Indonesia) the title went to Park Soo Yun and Yim Kyung Jin of Korea who beat Haruko Matsuda and Mayumi Yoshiko Iwata of Japan.

Finarsih teamed up with Sandiarto in the mixed doubles to beat Lee Dong Soo and Park Soo Yun of Korea in the final after beating the favourites and World Grand Prix Finals champions, Michael Sogaard and Rikke Olsen in the semi-finals.



peter gade christensen



heryanto arbi

yonex japan open

by Brigitta Isworo

Biggest shock in the five star \$170,000 Yonex Japan Open was the defeat of top seed Dong Jiong by Ardy Wiranata. For Wiranata, the Japan Open was just his fourth tournament after three months out with hepatitis.

"I knew if I played fast against Dong, I would lose. After being out for so long, I am now about 80 per cent recovered," said Ardy "I started practising seriously about six weeks ago and have worked particularly hard for the past three weeks."

The missing 20 per cent told when Wiranata met Peter Rasmussen in the semi-final. Rasmussen, fit again following a knee injury, was just too fast for Wiranata.

In the other semi-final, the youngest Danish player, Peter Gade Christensen, ran out of steam following his three-set quarter-final with Indonesian Budi Santosa. He lost to Korean Park Sung Woo who had already beaten Olympic gold medallists Poul-Erik Hoyer-Larsen in three sets.

But young Rasmussen provided the proof that Denmark are one of the big boys of badminton now by winning the final against Park by an emphatic 15-3, 15-1 scoreline. "I was very tired after going to three sets with Christensen and I had no power" said the Korean after his match.

In the women's singles, teenager Mia Audina proved to be best right now. In the absence of Susi Susanti, who played doubles with Finarsih, Mia was really up for it.

In the final against Ye Zhaoying, Mia was always in control absorbing Ye's smashes easily and often wrong-footing her. The Chinese player just couldn't make any attacking shots and Mia, the Olympic silver medallist, added the Japan title to her US win.

"It was my strategy right from the start," said Mia "I kept the shuttle flat whenever I could to give her little opportunity to attack."

In the mixed doubles, Ge Fei and Liu Yong of China beat Danish pair Marlene Thomsen and Jens Eriksen and did it again in the Korean final.

Ge Fei and Gu Jun, who undoubtedly were the strongest pair in the event, repeated their success of 1995 in the women's doubles.

In the men's doubles, Thomas Lund played his last tournament as a professional player. Lund, who partnered Jon Holst-Christensen, made it to the semi-final before being beaten by Ricky Subagja and Rexy Mainaky as the Olympic champions swept to another title.



ardy wiranata



Photos: Michael Dickbauer

mia audina



thomas lund

TOP 20 WORLD RANKINGS

AFTER THE SWISS OPEN

(18-23 MARCH)

MEN'S SINGLES

- 1 Dong Jiong (CHN)
- 2 Poul-Erik Hoyer-Larsen (DEN)
- 3 Sun Jun (CHN)
- 4 Fung Permadi (TPE)
- 5 Joko Suprianto (INA)
- 6 Thomas Stuer-Lauridsen (DEN)
- 7 Ong Ewe Hock (MAS)
- 8 Rashid Sidek (MAS)
- 9 Park Sung Woo (KOR)
- 10 Indra Wijaya (INA)
- 11 Peter Gade Christensen (DEN)
- 12 Heryanto Arbi (INA)
- 13 Budi Santosa (INA)
- 14 Allan Budi Kusuma (INA)
- 15 Peter Rasmussen
- 16 Luo Yigang (CHN)
- 17 Hermawan Susanto (INA)
- 18 Salim (INA)
- 19 Ardy B Wiranata (INA)
- 20 Chen Gang (CHN)

WOMEN'S SINGLES

- 1 Ye Zhaoying (CHN)
- 2 Mia Audina (INA)
- 3 Gong Zhichao (CHN)
- 4 Susi Susanti (INA)
- 5 Camilla Martin (DEN)
- 6 Zhang Ning (CHN)
- 7 Wang Chen (CHN)
- 8 Ra Kyung Min (KOR)
- 9 Kim Ji Hyun (KOR)
- 10 Han Jingna (CHN)
- 11 Yao Yan (CHN)
- 12 Lee Joo Hyun (KOR)
- 13 Zeng Yaqing (CHN)
- 14 Meiluwati (INA)
- 15 Dai Yun (CHN)
- 16 Cindana (INA)
- 17 Yasuko Mizui (JPN)
- 18 Marina Andrievskaya (SWE)
- 19 Christine Gandrup (SWE)
- 20 Anne Sondegaard (DEN)

samsung korean open

by Brigitta Isworo

SAMSUNG PROVIDE RECORD \$250,000 PRIZE-MONEY

If Denmark provided the talking points in Japan, the hosts were the talk of the six star Samsung Korean Open, with players competing for a purse of \$250,000 - a record for a Grand Prix tournament.

Chinese players won three out the five events, Thomas Stuer-Lauridsen proved he is now fully recovered to win the men's singles title whilst there was consolation for the host nation when Kang Kyung Jin and Ha Tae Kwon won the men's doubles.

But, the Koreans are in a period of transition, highlighted by the end for Kim Hak Kyun, who played his last tournament before joining the Army. Kim who was trying to regain the title he won last year had to settle for a place in the semi-finals. "Of course I'm not satisfied with the result, especially as this tournament is my last before I join the army," said Kim, who will be doing service for about two years.

It took two hours for Kim to beat Malaysian star Rashid Sidek. Then he had to battle past Indra Wijaya, who couldn't take advantage of Kim's exhaustion. Then Kim ran into Denmark's Thomas Stuer Lauridsen.

Stuer-Lauridsen came out on top on the way to making it a Danish hat-trick from Japan and Chinese-Taipei and now Korea.

By way of consolation, Korea surprisingly succeeded in the men's doubles with Kang Kyun Jin and Ha Tae Kwon defeating Olympic silver medallists, Cheah Soon Kit and Yap Kim Hock.

The Chinese though, proved the strongest in Seoul, sweeping the other three titles. The women's singles was an all-Chinese final with Ye Zhaoying beating Gong Zhichao. The Olympic gold medallists, Ge Fei and Gu Jun, needless to say remained unbeatable whilst Liu Yong and Ge Fei proved a formidable partnership in the mixed doubles beating Jens Eriksen and Marlene Thomsen of Denmark.

But the main message which came from not just the Korean Open but also from Taipei and Japan was that the Asian players who have dominated these three tournaments for so long, will not have it all their own way in Glasgow - if the Danes have anything to say about it that is!



ye zhaoying



yap kim hock

MEN'S DOUBLES

- 1 Chandra Wijaya & Sigit (INA)
- 2 Cheah Soon Kit & Yap Kim Hock (MAS)
- 3 Ricky Subagja & Rexy Mainaky (INA)
- 4 Antonius & Denny Kantono (INA)
- 5 Kang Kyung Jin & Ha Tae Kwon (KOR)
- 6 Gunawan & Rudy Wijaya (INA)
- 7 Tao Xiaoping & Ge Cheng (CHN)
- 8 Thomas Lund & Jon Holst-Christensen (DEN)
- 9 Lee Wan Wah & Choong Tan Fook (MAS)
- 10 Liu Yong & Zhang Wei (CHN)
- 11 Nikolaj Zuev & Andrej Antropov (RUS)
- 12 Chris Hunt & Simon Archer (ENG)
- 13 Peter Axelsson & Par-Gunnar Jonsson (SWE)
- 14 Jim Laugesen & Thomas Stavngaard (DEN)
- 15 Siripong Siripool & Khunakorn Sudhisodhi (THA)
- 16 Michael Sogaard & Henrik Svarrer (DEN)
- 17 Lee Dong Soo & Yoo Yong Sung (KOR)
- 18 Aras Razak & Hadi Sugianto (INA)
- 19 Hermono & Hian (INA)
- 20 Rosman Razak & Chew Choon Eng (MAS)

WOMEN'S DOUBLES

- 1 Ge Fei & Gu Jun (CHN)
- 2 Eliza & Rosiana Zelin (INA)
- 3 Qin Yiyuan & Tang Yongshu (CHN)
- 4 Indarti Isoliana & Denyana Lomban (INA)
- 5 Lisbet Stuer-Lauridsen & Marlene Thomsen (DEN)
- 6 Helene Kirkegaard & Rikke Olsen (DEN)
- 7 Christine Gandrup & Marina Andrievskaya (SWE)
- 8 Qiang Hong & Liu Lu (CHN)
- 9 Peng Xingyong & Zhang Jin (CHN)
- 10 Ann Jorgensen & Majken Vange (DEN)
- 11 Julie Bradbury & Joanne Goode (ENG)
- 12 Eline Coene & Erica Van Den Heuvel (NED)
- 13 Nichola Beck & Joanne Davies (ENG)
- 14 Tung Chau Man & Ng Ching (HKG)
- 15 Joanne Muggerridge & Joanne Davies (ENG)
- 16 Nicole Van Hooren & Brenda Conijn (NED)
- 17 Hisako Mizui & Yasuko Mizui (JPN)
- 18 Zanati Nonong Denis & Carmelita (INA)
- 19 Zhang Ning & Gong Zhichao (CHN)
- 20 Maria Bengtsson & Margit Borg (SWE)

MIXED DOUBLES

- 1 Trikus Heryanto & Minarti Timur (INA)
- 2 Jens Eriksen & Marlene Thomsen (DEN)
- 3 Michael Sogaard & Rikke Olsen (DEN)
- 4 Chen Xingdong & Peng Xingyong (CHN)
- 5 Liu Yong & Ge Fei (CHN)
- 6 Nimpele Flandy & Rosalina Riseu (INA)
- 7 Ha Tae Kwon & Kim Shin Young (KOR)
- 8 Lee Dong Soo & Park Soo Yun (KOR)
- 9 Imam Tohari & Emma Ermawati (INA)
- 10 Nick Ponting & Joanne Goode (ENG)
- 11 Thomas Stavngaard & Ann Jorgensen (DEN)
- 12 Peter Axelsson & Catrine Bengtsson (SWE)
- 13 Chris Hunt & Helene Kirkegaard (ENG/DEN)
- 14 Kang Kyung Jin & Kim Mee Hyang (KOR)
- 15 Sandiarto & Finarsih (INA)
- 16 Jonas Rasmussen & Ann-Lou Jorgensen (DEN)
- 17 Erica van den Heuvel & Michael Keck (NED/GER)
- 18 Simon Archer & Julie Bradbury (ENG)
- 19 Nikolaj Zuev & Marina Yakusheva (RUS)
- 20 Jesper Larsen & Majken Vange (DEN)

sanyo world cup

by Brigitta Isworo



ge fei & gu jun

The World Cup was a nightmare for the players, at least off the court. Tummy troubles, traffic jams and car problems. Most of the Europeans were affected by the stomach problems...not a pleasant situation, especially if they were stuck in the traffic jams on the one hour journey to the stadium!

If that weren't bad enough, the size of the cars didn't help matters. They were simply too small for many of the tall Europeans.

The Danes were particularly hard hit by the tummy problems, with Michael Sogaard, Poul-Erik Hoyer-Larsen, Martin Lundgaard Hansen, Camilla Martin and Thomas Stavngaard among the worst hit. "I had no energy at all because I was being physically sick," said Sogaard.

On court there were problems too, with the new experimental 90-second break. Olympic silver medallist Dong Jiong said: "As a player, I just have to follow the rules."

And Hoyer-Larsen favoured it because it helped TV coverage and therefore helped to promote the game. "I'd also had chance to get used to the different scoring system having played in Holland," said Hoyer.

But young stars like the less experienced Jeffer Rosobin could see real benefits to the players. "The break is helpful because you can get guidance from your coach," he said.

More experienced players like Susi Susanti highlighted the disadvantage, however "It breaks your concentration especially when you're leading. It happened when I led 6-0 in the second set. After the break I lost my concentration and it was a bit difficult to get it back."

It was no surprise that the Chinese and Indonesians dominated the tournament. China took two of the titles and the hosts the other three - the men's and mixed doubles and the women's singles.

For China it was the women's doubles and the men's singles through Dong Jiong. The men's doubles was an all-Indonesian final with Rexy and Sigit losing out to Denny Kantono and Antonius. In the mixed Sandiarto and Minarti Timur came out on top against Indonesian team-mates Flandy Nimpel and Rosalina Riseu.

China had one final to themselves - the women's doubles - where Tang Yongshu and Qin Yiyuan lost out inevitably to Olympic golden girls Ge Fei and Gu Jun.

Susanti came out on top in the Indonesia v China women's singles where she beat Wang Chen but Dong Jiong levelled the score by beating Rosobin in the men's singles.

As if the Europeans had not had enough to contend with the last straw came when Darren Hall untypically threw down his racket in frustration after being beaten by Rosobin in the semi-finals. The racket rebounded and hit the mouth of Jakarta Post photographer Ign Oke Budi Yogasware.

Despite Hall's apologies the matter was to be reported to the IBF by referee Jeff Robson.



susi susanti



dong jiong

people & places

Sri Lanka - Top Seeds Triumph in Colombo

Top seeds Thushara Edirisinghe and Chandrika de Silva won the men's and women's singles titles at the Maharaja-sponsored 13th Ariyadasa Silva Memorial Open Championships in Colombo.

Edirisinghe triumphed over second seed Subash Janka in a 75-minute tussle 18-17, 11-15, 15-12. Chandrika was also given quite a fright before she overcame second seed Dilhani de Silva in the women's singles final 6-11, 11-4, 12-9.

In the men's doubles final top seeds Duminda Jayakody and Niroshan Wijekoon beat Subash Janaka and Kamal Gamlath. Chandrika again reigned supreme to win the women's doubles with K T Thushari. They beat Chamalka Tillekeratna and T Nishanthi 15-12, 12-15, 18-15.

Former national champion Kinglsey Nallathamby won the veteran's singles title, beating Hiran Fernando 15-1, 15-3. The president of the SLBA, Eraj Wijesinghe, won the Masters Singles event, beating former president Sam Chandrasana 15-2, 15-5. But Sam gained revenge in the Masters Doubles where he and M L Jumar beat Winesinghe and Major S J Weerasena 15-6, 12-15, 15-6.

Air Lanka took major honours at the World Airlines Championship in Portugal by winning four titles - men's singles and doubles and the veteran singles and men's doubles plate. Palinda Halangoda won the men's singles beating Air Lanka team-mate Anuraji de Silva 15-6, 15-11. They teamed up to win the men's doubles, beating Malaysian Airline System's pair of Moorthy and Hassiam 15-10, 17-14.

India dominated the finals of both the team and individual events at the 3rd South Asian Association of Regional Co-operation championships of the South Asian Badminton Federation at Mount Lavinia, which was sponsored by the Maharaja organisation and co-sponsored by the Commercial Bank.

In the team event India beat Sri Lanka in both the men's and women's team events and in the individuals it was an all-India affair with Gopi Chand beating team-mate Rajiv Bagga in the men's singles whilst P V V Lakshmi took the women's title beating Madhumitha Bisht.

India also won both the men's and women's U18 junior singles events.

Lal Gunsekera

Canada - Raphi Kanchanaraphi Retires After 23 Years at Granite Club

It was a very special evening for the 300 people who attended Raphi Kanchanaraphi's retirement party at the Toronto Granite Club towards the end of last year. Guests from all over Canada - including Calgary Glencoe Club's pro Channarong, Raphi's doubles partner - joined Granite members to celebrate and honour 'Rap' for his 23 years as head badminton professional at the club.

The day began when players got together for matches including Raphi and Channarong v James Muir and Lucio Fabris, which was a rematch of the 1976 Canadian nationals finals - Lucio and James narrowly avenging the defeat of 20 years ago.

The evening festivities began with a Thai dinner followed by Master of Ceremonies Tom Muir's description of Raphi's countless achievements in badminton - he was a former world ranked No 2 doubles player, Canadian Open champion, a member of Thailand's Thomas Cup team and later a Canadian Thomas Cup team player. We then heard from several of Raphi's friends and former students including Don Smith, Jamie McKee and Sarah Gibbings who all spoke as much of Raphi's warmth, generosity and selflessness as of

South Africa - £300,000 Boost for the Development of Badminton in South Africa

Badminton in South Africa is to receive a significant boost following a £300,000 deal between the South African Badminton Union, the Danish Badminton Federation and the Danish government.

Following an initiative by the South African Embassy in Denmark, Henrik Andersson, who has been in charge of the Danish coaching education programme, is to be stationed in South Africa for a two year period and will help the SABU with its development programme. Also included in the project is financial assistance for the setting up of courts and the purchase of new equipment with the aim of establishing up to 800 new clubs in the townships.

A Danish team toured South Africa to launch the scheme last month playing matches in some of the provinces and were involved in development clinics. The Danish squad also played two matches against South Africa to help them in their preparation for the world championships next month.

Albie Slim



Larry Keys, (L) president of the South African Badminton Union hands over the IBF Meritorious Service Award to Kevin Ryan. Kevin was honoured for his services to the game since 1968 during which time he has served as both treasurer and as a member of the national executive.



his prowess on court. Granite Club director, Sheryl Kerr and president-elect Milton Hess presented Raphi with an honorary lifelong membership of the club - the first employee in the club's 126-year history to receive such a gift. In a speech that touched everyone, Raphi,

thanked members and friends for their support and kindness over the years and 'passed the torch' over to his successor, Mike de Belle.

It was a special night that none of us will forget. Thanks to the many members and staff of the Granite Club who helped put the evening together and a big hand for James Muir for organising the event.

Mike De Belle

continued on page 40...

people & places

Jamaica

Robert Richards, past national captain, Caribbean, CAC champion and many times national champion has been elected as president of the Jamaica Badminton Association. Richards was nominated at the AGM held at the Constant Spring Golf Club in February. The entire executive has also changed and the new team has on its agenda to rebuild the infrastructure of badminton in Jamaica and their main objectives are: to rebuild club life to its



Robert Richards and the new Jamaican executive Committee

former status in Kingston, Mandeville and Montego Bay; to rebuild the school's league to its former status; to increase public awareness of the sport through the media, especially TV, by showing top-class badminton on sports specials; to ensure that the media has information of tournaments and events in advance so that they can schedule events in their coverage; communication between clubs, individual members and overseas associations will be given priority.

The senior players will be attending three major international events this year: the world championships and Sudirman Cup in Glasgow, the Pan-American Games in Vancouver, Canada and the 25th Caribbean Badminton Championships in Barbados in August.

The juniors will also take part in three international events: the Manhattan Beach Tournament in Los Angeles in August, the Caribbean Championships in August and an international junior event to be arranged. **Robert Richards**

Milton Keynes, England



Photo: Alan Spink

Jo Muggeridge has been thrown out of the national squad indefinitely after a row with Steve Baddeley, England's director of elite play. The row ended with Muggeridge tipping a can of Cola over Baddeley's head and threatening never to play for England again - although she later issued a statement denying that she had said this. According to Muggeridge she said: "You can stuff your tournaments - I have had enough."

Baddeley has received an open letter signed by 17 of the elite squad which said: "We wholeheartedly support Steve

Baddeley in his actions against Joanne."

At the beginning of March the Badminton Association of England issued a statement saying that Muggeridge would not be considered for future international selection because of her dispute with Baddeley. She will not receive funding for tournaments or train with the national squad until she can demonstrate her commitment and fitness.

Mozambique

Over 150 juniors from primary and junior schools in Beira took part in the School Badminton Games organised by the Federacao Mocambicana de Badminton. Winners received cups donated by the FMB whilst the runners-up received rackets donated by the IBF's development department.

An Olympic Solidarity course also took place in Beira run in conjunction with the IBF by Luis de Carvalho from Portugal.

Mariano Diogo Da Silva

Netherlands

Joris van Soerland missed the Dutch Nationals after a life-threatening perforated appendix which left him in intensive care for five days. Happily he is now fully recovered and has just returned to action. Better still, he is all set for his wedding in May to doubles player Georgy Trouerbach. Just beating them to the altar are Eline Coene and Chris Bruil, whose wedding was mid-April.

Eddy Choong honoured



Eddy Choong, the former seven-times All England champion has recently been named a Dato by the Governor of Penang in his birthday honours list.

The equivalent of a British knighthood, the award was given to Choong not only in recognition of his services to badminton but also as Chairman of the Ratepayers Association of Penang and for representing the private sector on the Housing Developers Association of Malaysia. "I'm very proud," said Eddy "it's a great honour for me. My father was a Dato and my brother David was made a Dato 10 years ago."

Eddy was also recently honoured by his inclusion in the Malaysia's Olympic Hall of Fame. Now aged 67 and never afraid to speak his mind, Choong said of Morten Frost's recent appointment as coach to the Malaysian National team: "It will be good for Malaysia, Morten's more than qualified to do the job - politically though, I don't know if he's up to it. But his experience as a player will be an inspiration - this is his biggest asset."

people & places

Portland, Oregon, USA - 1998 Nike World Masters Games

Every four years, the World Masters Games bring together thousands of athletes from across the globe for the largest participatory multisport competition in the world.

The Games are open to all competitors - past champions people who have never competed at an elite level and others who are returning to their sport after retiring. Athletes compete as individuals or as teams and not for their country.

The 1998 NIKE World Masters Games in Portland will make the fourth time this exciting event has been held. The first Masters Games were held in 1985 in Toronto, Canada. Subsequent Games have been held in Denmark in 1989 and Brisbane, Australia in 1994. At the Australia Games, the competition drew an amazing 24,000 men and women from 71 countries. In 1998, 25,000 athletes from more than 100 countries are expected.

In addition to Olympic - quality competition in 25 sports, the 1998 Games will also feature 'reunion' competitions in several sports to give spectators a chance to watch their heroes of yesterday compete.

Minimum age for badminton competitors is 30 and official registration for athletes, companions and friends is now open. By calling the Games' worldwide toll-free AT & T number 1-900-98-GAMES (1-800-984-2637) participants can receive instant registration confirmation and travel arrangements. Contact can also be made via the Internet at www.worldmasters.org. Or write to: 1998 NIKE World Masters Games, 55 SW Yamhill St Ste 300, Portland, Oregon, 97204-331, USA

Tehran, Iran

The annual national championships are held in three categories: junior for under 12, 16 and 18, open-age and women's events.

The women's events also incorporate training courses organised by the Women's Badminton Committee. Junior events are held every three months.

In addition, the Badminton Federation of Iran also holds two major championships in which foreign teams participate: The Commemoration of the Seventh Tir Martyrs Championship (which will be held next month), and the International Badminton Tournament of 10 Days Dawn (Fajr) Ceremonies which were held in February at the Shahid Shiroudi Sports Complex.

Players from Khazakstan, Turkmenistan, Azerbaijan and Armenia together with 21 Iranian players took part in the event, the winners, both from Iran were:-

Men's singles: Morteza Vlidarvi beat Alireza Shafie 15-7, 15-11.
Men's doubles: Bahador Zakizadeth-Alireza Shafie bt Hamid Nasimi-Mansour Shakuri.

Presentations to the players were made by Mr Hashemi Taba, president of physical education, Mr Amir Hoseini, General Secretary of the National Olympic Committee and Mr Mahdi Karbassian, president of the Badminton Federation of Iran.

A Alemi, Secretary



the president of the Physical Education Organisation presents the singles awards



New partner for Rexy Mainaky...it's his bride Henny!



Park Joo Bong received the IBF's Herbert Scheele Trophy which was presented to the former world and Olympic champion on finals day of the All England championships. The trophy is presented by the Council of the IBF for outstandingly exceptional services to badminton.

SAS TO SPONSOR INTERNATIONAL BADMINTON IN AUSTRIA

Scandinavian Airlines recently announced its sponsorship of the SAS Trophy, an international tournament to be held in Dornbirn from the 28-30 November this year.

The invitational SAS Trophy will be played in a round-robin group format and it is hoped to have the top players from Asia and Europe competing. SAS say they confine their sponsorship activities to events and sports which are in line with the basic philosophy of the airline. Badminton fits the SAS criteria as it is associated with technical skill, speed of movement and fair play coupled with the fact that Scandinavian players continue to figure at the top level of the game.

The event is being organised by Wolfgang Hahn's CHAMP Sportmarketing company in conjunction with the Austrian Badminton Association. Hahn intends to make the event one of the most spectacular ever. The players will be introduced to the crowd to rock music themes and there's a brand new motor bike and a 27kg golden racket for the winner of the men-only event.

The SAS Trophy was launched at a lavish press-conference during the All England championships last month - and even the Press were on to a winner. In a raffle held during the Press conference, one lucky Indonesian journalist won a five-star trip to Dornbirn courtesy of SAS.

archive corner

by Arthur Jones

With the approach of the millennium there is a great deal of interest in the past century. The advances and developments during the 20th Century would appear magical, if not frightening, to someone of mature years in 1897.

Now we have the ability to record and preserve the history of our time a great deal easier than any earlier generation. One hopes that every effort will be made to do this with badminton history and leave a base to be built on. No doubt we would be frightened, if we could see badminton in 2097!

This reflective paragraph arises from my departure from the badminton scene after some 50 years involvement. Becoming a club secretary in 1947 and attending my first Badminton Association of England annual meeting in March 1948, there was a great desire to get the game moving after the vacuum of the Second World War. Names like Herbert Scheele and Sir George Thomas were major, active administrators and the top pre-war players were some eight years older, but still awaiting the assault from a generation deprived of a teenage badminton development.

There was little thought of preserving history, although Herbert Scheele, as befits a member of the Society of Cricket Statisticians, was diligent in keeping records of tournaments and international matches. He, too, edited and wrote a great deal of 'The Badminton Gazette' which stands as a fine record of what was happening at the time.

Herbert also had a marvellous fund of anecdotes about the leading players of the 20s and 30s. Efforts were made at the end of his life for him to write a history or reflections on the game but illness and age had dulled his enthusiasm for such a task. Oh that I could remember his tales of 20s and 30s tournaments and personalities.

I well remember his recounting that Sir George was not completely at ease in the company of ladies. Betty Scheele remembers him as a shy man, who would prefer Herbert not to send her with messages if at all possible.

Sir George did not like the telephone. Indeed, he probably did not have one despite being a reasonably wealthy man and Herbert either had to send him a telegram or arrange to meet him after lunch at whichever London hotel Sir George was dining that day. He had a regular rota known to Herbert.

Sir George's partner in men's doubles could expect a ride in his chauffeur-driven car to the tournament but his mixed doubles partner would not be so lucky. Despite this he still won the All England mixed doubles four times with Miss Hogarth between 1914 and 1921. Sir George's great ambition was to improve and increase the amount of international play for which he donated the Thomas Cup. Having been involved in its development over the past 20 years I am sure he would have been happy at the manner in which it has grown.

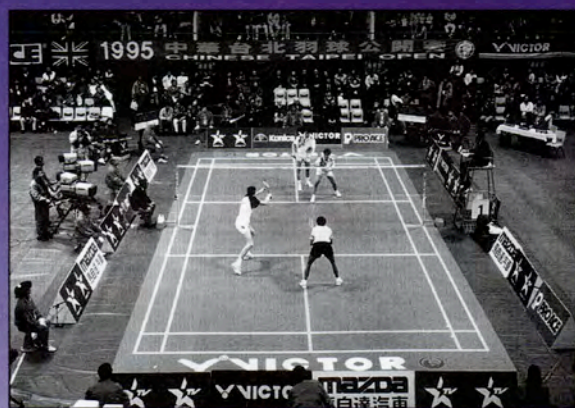
Betty Scheele's lasting memory is of a shy but kind man, who was a fine administrator as well as fine player. Sir George had great faith in Herbert Scheele and, if as envisaged, there is to be a badminton 'Hall of Fame', then their two names surely stand among the greats.

So it is that my final plea is for everyone to record the detail that fills out the bare results and names of the past. Hopefully the tentative steps of Heather Nielsen and myself as the IBF's honorary archivists have started something that will suitably illustrate the colourful history of our great game.



Sir George Thomas

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VIETNAM OPEN 20-24 November 1996

Men's singles

Quarter-finals: Jason Wong (MAS) beat Xiao Ting (CHN) 7:15 17:15 15:13, Nunung Subandoro (INA) beat Hendrawan (INA) 17:14 17:16, Yan Wei (CHN) beat Lo Ah Heng (MAS) 15:2 15:8, Tam Kai Chuen (HKG) beat R. Jeffer (INA) 15:11 2:15 15:12 **Semi-finals:** Subandoro beat Wong 15:8 15:2, Yan beat Tam 15:13 15:7 **Final:** Subandoro beat Yan 15:6 15:3.

Ladies' singles

Quarter-finals: Zeng Yaqiong (CHN) beat Amparo Lim (PHI) 11:1 11:3, Choi Ma Ree (KOR) beat Hisako Mizui (JPN) 3:11 11:6 12:11, Sun Jian (CHN) beat Kennie Asuncion (PHI) 11:6 11:0, Lidya Djaelawidjaya (INA) beat Yasuko Mizui (JPN) 11:3 11:4 **Semi-finals:** Zeng beat Choi 6:11 11:1 11:0, Sun/Djaelawidjaya 11:5 11:0 **Final:** Zeng beat Sun 11:5 12:9

Men's doubles

Quarter-finals: Liu Yong/Zhang Wei (CHN) beat Khoo Boo Hock/Cheah Soon Toe (MAS) 15:6 15:3, Rosman Razak/Chew Choon Eng (MAS) beat Pang Cheh Chang/Lee Chee Leong (MAS) 15:7 15:7, Ade Sutrisna/Victo Wibowo (INA) beat Yap Yee Hup/Yap Yee Guan (MAS) 15:11 15:10, Choong Tan Fook/Lee Wan Wah (MAS) beat Chow Kin Man/Ma Che Kong (HKG) 15:10 15:10 **Semi-finals:** Liu/Zhang beat Razak/Chew 7:15 15:6, 15:13, Choong/Lee beat Sutrisna/Wibowo 15:7 15:9 **Final:** Choong/Lee beat Liu/Zhang 15:6 15:6

Ladies' doubles

Quarter-finals: Sun Jian/Zeng Yaqiong (CHN) beat Tung Chau Man/Ng Ching (HKG) 15:12 15:4, Finarsih/Lidya Djaelawidjaya (INA) beat Tantry ETTY/Cynthia (INA) 17:16 15:9, Choi Ma Ree/Chung Jung Hee (KOR) beat Nucharee Teekhatrakul/Nucharin Teekhatrakul (THA) 6:15 15:6 15:3, Peng Xingyong/Zhang Jin (CHN) beat Amparo Lim/Kennie Asuncion (PHI) 7:15 15:4 15:5 **Semi-finals:** Sun/Zeng beat Finarsih/Djaelawidjaya 15:5 8:15 15:12, Peng/Jin (CHN) beat Choi/Chung (KOR) 15:8 15:2 **Final:** Peng/Zhang beat Sun/Zeng 15:9 12:15 15:8

Mixed doubles

Quarter-finals: Liu Yong/Zhang Jin (CHN) beat Tam Kai Chuen/Tung Chau Man (HKG) 15:12 15:3, Victo Wibowo/Tantry ETTY (INA) beat Chatchai Boonmee/Methinee Narawitawuth (THA) 15:10 15:6, Sandiarto/Finarsih (INA) beat Kim Chul Joong/Choi Ma Ree (KOR)

15:7 15:4, Ho Van Loi/Nguyen Thi Thanh Tien (VIE) beat Chang Kim Wai/Lee Yin Yin (MAS) 10:15 15:7 15:11 **Semi-finals:** Liu/Zhang beat Wibowo/ETTY 15:4 15:10, Sandiarto/Finarsih beat Ho/Nguyen 15:11 15:2 **Final:** Liu/Zhang beat Sandiarto/Finarsih 15:9 18:15

SCOTTISH OPEN 20-24 November 1996

Men's singles

Quarter-finals: Peter Janum (DEN) beat Pontus Jantti (FIN) 15:8 15:4, Anders Boesen (DEN) beat Broddi Kristjansson (ICE) 15:7 15:3, Henrik Bengtsson (SWE) beat Iain Sydie (CAN) 17:14 15:4, Ji Xinpeng (CHN) beat Peter Knowles (ENG) 15:11 15:5 **Semi-finals:** Gade-Christensen beat Boesen 15:4 15:10 Ji beat Bengtsson 15:2 18:15 **Final:** Gade-Christensen beat Ji 15:8 15:10

Ladies' singles

Quarter-finals: Wu Huimin (CHN) beat Anne Gibson (SCO) 11:2 11:4, Mette Sorensen (DEN) beat Anthea Poon (CAN) 11:2 12:9, Liu Yufang (CHN) beat Karolina Ericsson (SWE) 11:9 11:1, Margit Borg (SWE) beat Emma Chaffin (ENG) 11:6 11:1 **Semi-finals:** Wu beat Sorensen 11:5 9:12 11:5, Liu beat Borg 11:2 11:6 **Final:** Liu beat Wu 11:6 11:3

Men's doubles

Quarter-finals: Jesper Larsen/Peder Nissen (DEN) beat Nick Ponting/Ian Sullivan (ENG) 15:5 15:4, Chen Wei/Ji Xinpeng (CHN) beat Graham Rankin/Bruce Flockhart (SCO) 15:8 15:4, Kenny Middlemiss/Russell Hogg (SCO) beat Zhang Jun/Min Zyengyu (CHN) 15:7 15:1, Jim Laugesen/Thomas Stavngaard (DEN) beat Julian Robertson/Nathan Robertson (ENG) 15:12 15:10 **Semi-finals:** Chen/Ji beat Larsen/Nissen 15:11 4:15 15:10, Laugesen/Stavngaard beat Middlemiss/Hogg 15:7 15:9 **Final:** Laugesen/Stavngaard beat Chen/Ji 15:9 15:11

Ladies' doubles

Quarter-finals: Liu Zhong/Huang Nanyan (CHN) beat Nicola Beck/Joanne Davies (ENG) 15:3 15:9, Qiang Hong/Liu Lu (CHN) beat Elinor Middlemiss/Lorraine Cole (SCO/ENG) 15:10 15:7, Robbyn Hermitage/Milaine Cloutier (CAN) beat Liu Yufang/Wu Huimin (CHN) 15:18 15:6 15:7, Gillian Gowers/Joanne Goode (ENG) beat Katrin Schmidt/Kertin Ubben (GER) 15:2 15:5 **Semi-finals:** Qiang/Liu beat Liu/Huang 15:7 9:15 15:9, Gowers/Goode beat Hermitage/Cloutier 15:5 15:13 **Final:** Qiang/Liu beat Gowers/Goode 8:15 15:3 15:5.

Mixed doubles

Quarter-finals: Nick Ponting/Joanne Goode (ENG)

RESULTS RESULTS RESULTS RESULTS RESULTS

beat Gudmundur Adolfsson/Vigdis Asgeirsdottir (ISL) 15:9 15:7, Nathan Robertson/Sara Hardaker (ENG) beat Min Zyengyu/Qian Hong (CHN) 15:5 17:14, Julian Robertson/Lorraine Cole (ENG) beat Ji Xinpeng/Huang Nanyan (CHN) 15:5 15:10, Jens Olsson/Astrid Crabo (SWE) beat Jesper Larsen/Majken Vange (DEN) 15:10 3:15 15:11 **Semi-finals:** Ponting/Goode beat Robertson/Hardaker 15:7 15:2, Olsson/Crabo beat Robertson/Cole 10:15 18:14 15:6 **Final:** Olsson/Crabo beat Ponting/Goode 15:12 11:15 15:8

WELSH

INTERNATIONAL

28 November - 1 December 1996

Men's singles

Quarter-finals: Chris Bruil (NED) beat Frederik Bergstrom (SWE) 15:4 15:4, Dicky Palyama (NED) beat Fernando Silva (POR) 15:6 18:16, Gerben Bruijstens (NED) beat Richard Doling (ENG) 15:11 18:13, Geraint Lewis (WAL) beat Marco Vasconcelos (POR) 15:9 15:6 **Semi-finals:** Bruil beat Palyama 15:5 15:6, Bruijstens beat Lewis 15:8 15:8 **Final:** Bruil beat Bruijstens 15:12 15:5.

Ladies' singles

Quarter-finals: Kelly Morgan (WAL) beat Sandrine Lefevre (FRA) 10:12 11:3 11:0, Tanya Woodward (ENG) beat Gillian Martin (SCO) 11:5 10:12 11:5, Tracy Hallam (ENG) beat Kristin Evernas (SWE) 5:11 11:2 11:4, Karolina Ericsson (SWE) beat Donna Kellogg (ENG) 11:3 11:6 **Semi-finals:** Morgan beat Woodward 11:1 11:1, Ericsson beat Hallam 11:3 11:8 **Final:** Morgan beat Ericsson 11:4 11:4.

Men's doubles

Quarter-finals: Julian Robertson/Richard Vaughan beat Johan Tholinsson/Henrik Andersson (SWE) 15:7 15:5, James Anderson/Ian Pearson (ENG) beat Bryan Moody/Michael Beres (CAN) 15:5 15:12, Frederik Bergstrom/Rasmus Wengberg (SWE) beat Quinten Van Dalm/Dennis Lens (NED) 15:3

15:11, Hugo Rodrigues/Fernando Silva (POR) beat Manuel Dubrulle/Vincent Laigle (FRA) 15:9 8:15 15:8 **Semi-finals:** Anderson/Pearson beat Robertson/Vaughan 15:12 7:15 15:7, Bergstrom/Wengberg beat Rodrigues/Silva 15:7 8:15 15:8 **Final:** Anderson/Pearson beat Bergstrom/Wengberg 18:16 15:9

Ladies' doubles

Quarter-finals: Nicole Van Hooren/Brenda Conijn (NED) beat Lorraine Cole/Gail Emms (ENG) 15:17 15:7 18:14, Joanne Wright/Donna Kellogg (ENG) beat Wendy Taylor/Joanna Sullivan (ENG) 15:10 15:1, Dolores Marco/Esther Sanz (ESP) beat Tracy Dineen/Tracey Middleton (ENG) 15:11 5:15 15:2, Kelly Morgan/Sara Hardaker (WAL/ENG) beat Karen Peatfield/Tracy Hallam (ENG) 15:3 15:8 **Semi-finals:** Van Hooren/Conijn beat Wright/Kellogg 17:14 15:11, Morgan/Hardaker beat Marco/Sanz 11:15 15:2 15:9 **Final:** Van Hooren/Conijn beat Morgan/Hardaker 6:15 15:10 15:4

Mixed doubles

Quarter-finals: Johan Tholinsson/Johanna Holgersson (SWE) beat Norbert Van Barneveld/Lotte Jonathans (NED) 15:0 15:7, Ian Pearson/Joanne Wright (ENG) beat Lee Boosey/Karen Peatfield (ENG) 11:15 15:9 15:12, Julian Robertson/Lorraine Cole (ENG) beat Ian Sullivan/Gail Emms (ENG) 18:16 15:13, Quinten Van Dalm/Nicole Van Hooren (NED) beat Dennis Lens/Brenda Conijn (NED) 15:1 15:9 **Semi-finals:** Pearson/Wright beat Tholinsson/Holgersson 14:18 18:15 15:12, Van Dalm/Van Hooren beat Robertson/Cole 15:9 18:15 **Final:** Van Dalm/Van Hooren beat Pearson/Wright 18:14 15:2

IRISH

INTERNATIONAL

5-7 December 1996

Men's singles

Quarter-finals: Craig Robertson (SCO) beat Saqib Mohammed Majeed (PAK) 15:13 15:9, Colin

Haughton (ENG) beat Bruce Flockhart (SCO) 15:8 15:9, Anders Boesen (DEN) beat Nicholas Hall (NZL) 15:3 15:7, Kenneth Jonassen (DEN) beat Pontus Jantti (FIN) 14:17 17:15 15:4 **Semi-finals:** Haughton beat Robertson 15:8 15:9, Jonassen beat Boesen 17:15 18:13 **Final:** Jonassen beat Haughton 8:15 15:4 15:8.

Ladies' singles

Quarter-finals: Mette Pedersen (DEN) beat Christina Sorensen (DEN) 11:6 11:6, Anu Weckstrom (FIN) beat Michelle Rasmussen (DEN) 11:4 11:3, Tanya Woodward (ENG) beat Tanja Woodward (ENG) beat Tanja Berg (DEN) 11:1 12:10, Pernille Harder (DEN) beat Justine Willmott (ENG) 11:6 12:9 **Semi-finals:** Pedersen beat Weckstrom 11:6 11:7, Harder beat Woodward 11:8 11:7 **Final:** Harder beat Pedersen 11:6 11:5.

Men's doubles

Quarter-finals: Lee Sung Yuan (TPE) beat Jesper Larsen/Peder Nissen (DEN) 15:10 15:12, Wei Chun-Yi/Lin Wei Shian (TPE) beat Alistair Gatt/Graig Robertson (SCO) 15:11 15:10, Jonas Rasmussen/Ove Svejstrup (DEN) beat Cheng Yeone-Chyuan/Ger Shin-Ming (TPE) 15:7 15:11, Liao Wei-Che/Lin Shyau-Hsin (TPE) beat Kenny Middlemiss/Russel Hogg (SCO) 15:9 15:4 **Semi-finals:** Lee/Yong beat Wei/Lin 15:9 15:9, Rasmussen/Svejstrup beat Liao/Lin 15:9 15:10 **Final:** Lee/Yong beat Rasmussen/Svejstrup 15:10 15:5.

Ladies doubles

Quarter-finals: Tanja Berg/Mette Pedersen (DEN) beat Sonja Mcginn/Keelin Fox (IRE) 15:8 15:4, Joanne Wright/Donna Kellogg (ENG) beat Yvonne Naef/Judith Baumeyer (SUI) 15:8 15:1, Christina Sorensen/Ann-Lou Jorgensen (DEN) beat Jayne Plunkett/Santi Wibowo (IRE/SUI) 10:15 15:11 15:5, Majken Vange/Michelle Rasmussen (DEN) beat Alison Greenfield/Lyndsey Seaton (IRE) 15:1 15:5 **Semi-finals:** Berg/Pedersen beat Wright/Kellogg 18:16 15:12, Vange/Rasmussen beat Sorensen/Jorgensen 15:4 15:11 **Final:** Berg/Pedersen beat Vange/Rasmussen 15:3 12:15 15:12.

Mixed doubles

Quarter-finals: Jesper Larsen/Majken Vange (DEN) beat Nicholas Hall/Nicole Gordon (NZL) 7:15 15:9 15:8, Remy Matthey DeL'Etang/Santi Wibowo (SUI) beat Ian Sullivan/Joanne Wright (ENG) 14:18 15:7 17:15, Ove Svejstrup/Ella Miles (DEN/ENG) beat Graham Henderson/Jayne Plunkett (IRE) 15:0 15:6, Jonas Rasmussen/Ann-Lou Jorgensen (DEN) beat Ian Plunkett/Elaine Kiely (IRE) 15:6 15:7 **Semi-finals:**

Larsen/Vange beat Matthey De L'Etang/Wibowo 15:8 15:6, Rasmussen/Jorgensen beat Svejstrup/Miles 15:11 15:6 **Final:** Larsen/Vange beat Rasmussen/Jorgensen 15:10 8:15 15:9_

WORLD CUP

11-15 December 1996

Men's singles

Semi-finals: R. Jeffer (INA) beat Darren Hall (ENG) 9:15 17:14 15:12, Dong Jiong (CHN) beat Park Sung Woo (KOR) 17:14 15:2 **Final:** Dong beat Jeffer 15:5 15:8.

Ladies' singles

Semi-finals: Wang Chen (CHN) beat Mia Audina (INA) 11:9 3:11 11:7, Susi Susanti (INA) beat Ye Zhaoying (CHN) 11:2 6:11 11:2 **Final:** Susanti beat Wang 11:7 11:4

Men's doubles

Semi-finals: Remy Mainaky/Sigit (INA) beat Andrej Antropov/Nikolaj Zuev (RUS) 9:15 15:3 15:3, Denny Kantono/S. Antonius (INA) beat Cheah Soon Kit/Yap Kim Hock (MAL) 15:11 13:15 15:13 **Final:** Kantono/Antonius beat Mainaky/Sigit 15:8 15:2

Ladies' doubles

Semi-finals: Qin Yiyuan/Tang Yongshu (CHN) beat Eliza/Rosiana Zelin (INA) 15:9 15:3, Ge Fei/Gu Jun (CHN) beat Kim Mee Hyang/Kim Shin Young (KOR) 15:2 15:4 **Final:** Ge/Gu beat Qin/Tang 15:6 15:12

Mixed doubles

Semi-finals: Nimpele Flandy/Rosalina Riseu (INA) beat Chen Xingdong/Qin Yiyuan (CHN) 15:9 15:13, Sandiarto/Minarti Timur (INA) beat Michael Sogaard/Rikke Olsen (DEN) 15:6 13:15 15:8 **Final:** Sandiarto/Timur beat Flandy/Riseu 17:14 15:7

COPENHAGEN MASTERS

26-29 December 1996

Men's singles

Group 1: Poul-Erik Hoyer-Larsen (DEN) beat R. Jeffer (INA) 15:6 15:10, Poul-Erik Hoyer-Larsen (DEN) beat Kim Hak Kyun (KOR) 15:9 15:5, R. Jeffer (INA) beat Kim Hak Kyun (KOR) 15:7 15:10. Group 2: Thomas Stuer-Lauridsen (DEN) beat Budi Santoso (INA) 15:12 15:12, Thomas Stuer-Lauridsen (DEN) beat Hu Zhilan (CHN) 15:12 12:15 13:15, Budi Santoso (DEN) beat Hu Zhilan (CHN) 10:15 12:15. **Final:** Hoyer-Larsen beat Hu 15:10 15:10.

Ladies' singles

Group 1: Camilla Martin (DEN) beat Meiluwati (INA) 11:1 11:4,

Camilla Martin (DNE) beat Yao Jie (CHN) 6:11 11:4 5:11, Meiluwati (INA) beat Yao Jie (CHN) 11:8 11:5, Group 2: Mette Pedersen (DEN) beat Yao Jie (CHN) 5:11 8:11, Mette Pedersen (DEN) beat Lim Xiaoqing (SWE) 4:11 12:10 7:11, Lim Xiaoqing (SWE) beat Yao Yan (CHN) 11:3 11:1 **Final:** Martin beat Yao 11:7 11:5.

Men's doubles

Group 1: Lee Dong Soo/Yoo Yong Sung (KOR) beat Jim Laugesen/Thomas Stavngaard (DEN) 4:15 10:15, Andrej Antropov/Nikolaj Zuev (RUS) beat Jim Laugesen/Thomas Stavngaard (DEN) 13:18 9:15, Lee Dong Soo/Yoo Yong Sung (KOR) beat Andrej Antropov/Nikolaj Zuev (RUS) 18:14 6:15 17:15. Group 2: Jon Holst-Christensen/Thomas Lund (DEN) beat Chris Hunt/Simon Archer (ENG) 15:9 15:6, Jon Holst-Christensen/Thomas Lund (DEN) beat Trikus Heryanto/Nimpele Flandy (INA) 15:3 2:15 15:3, Trikus Heryanto/Nimpele Flandy (INA) beat Chris Hunt/Simon Archer (ENG) 17:15 12:15 12:15. **Final:** Holst-Christensen/Lund beat Lee/Yoo 17:15 15:10

SPANISH INTERNATIONAL

12-15 December 1996

Men's singles

Quarter-finals: Lee Hou-Cou (TPE) beat Arturo Ruiz (ESP) 15:3 15:4, Liao Chun-Yi (TPE) beat Fernando Silva (POR) 15:3 6:15 15:7, Jurgen Koch (AUT) beat Marco Vasconcelos (POR) 15:9 15:6, Pedro Vanneste (BEL) beat Andrej Pohar (SLO) 15:0 15:4. **Semi-finals:** Lee Hou-Cou beat Liao Chun-Yi w/o, Koch beat Vanneste 15:6 15:8 **Final:** Lee beat Koch 15:6 15:3.

Ladies' singles

Quarter-finals: Sandra Dimbour (FRA) beat Ana Ferreira (POR) 11:6 11:6, Dolores Marco (ESP) beat Verena Fastenbauer (AUT) 11:7 11:6, Maja Pohar (SLO) beat Andrea Dako (HUN) 2:11 11:7 11:8, Tanja Berg (DEN) beat Esther Sanz (ESP) 11:0 11:4. **Semi-finals:** Dimbour beat Marco 11:6 11:6, Berg beat Pohar 11:3 11:5. **Final:** Berg beat Dimbour 8:11 11:2 12:10

Men's doubles

Quarter-finals: Wei Chun-Yi/Yong Shyu Jeng (TPE) beat Manuel Dubrulle/Vincent Laigle (FRA) 9:15 15:4 15:4, Hugo Rodrigues/Fernando Silva (POR) beat Cheng Yeung Chuan/Ming Sin Ger (TPE) 10:15 15:6 15:10, Liao Wei-Che/Lin Syau-Hsin (TPE) beat Jean-Frederic Massias/Bertrand Gallet (FRA) 15:12 15:7, Lin Wei-Shian/Lee Sung Yuan (TPE) beat Arturo Ruiz/Ernesto Garcia (ESP) 15:1 15:4. **Semi-finals:** Wei/Yong beat Rodrigues/Silva 15:8 15:9,

Liao/Lin beat Lin/Lee 15:2 15:4 **Final:** Wei/Yong beat Liao/Lin 11:15 15:11 15:10.

Ladies' doubles

Quarter-finals:

Dolores Marco/Esther Sanz (ESP) beat Christelle Szyal/Tatiana Vattier (FRA) 15:13 15:10, Monica Memoli/Maria Luise Mur (ITA) beat Mercedes Cuena/Ana Ferrer (ESP) 15:3 15:12, Sandra Dimbour/Isabelle Lefevre (FRA/BEL) beat Barbara Italiano/Silvie Carnevale (ITA) 15:2 15:2, Ana Ferreira/Verena Fastenbauer (POR/AUS) beat Mateja Slatnar/Darja Kranjc (SLO) 15:11 15:9. **Semi-finals:** Marco/Sanz beat Memoli/Mur 15:7 15:5, Dimbour/Lefevre beat Ferreira/Fastenbauer 15:4 15:9 **Final:** Dimbour/Lefevre beat Marco/Sanz 17:15 15:9

Mixed doubles

Quarter-finals: Andrej Pohar/Maja Pohar (SLO) beat Gianmarco La Rosa/Maria Luise Mur (ITA) 15:9 15:5, Jurgen Koch/Andrea Dako (AUT/HUN) beat Ernesto Garcia/Patricia Perez (ESP) 15:5 15:5, Arturo Ruiz/Esther Sanz (ESP) beat Vincent Laigle/Tatiana Vattier (FRA) 14:18 15:12 15:9, Manuel Dubrulle/Sandrine Lefevre (FRA) beat Sergio Llopis/Ana Ferrer (ESP) 15:0 8:15 15:6. **Semi-finals:** Andrej Pohar/Maja Pohar (SLO) beat Koch/Dako 12:15 15:13 15:8, Dubrulle/Lefevre beat Ruiz/Sanz 15:5 15:9. **Final:** Dubrulle/Lefevre beat Pohar/Pohar 15:9 15:12.

CHINESE-TAIPEI OPEN

January 1997

Men's singles

Quarter-finals: Fung Permadi (TPE) beat Yong Hock Kin (MAL) 16:18 15:11 15:10, Peter Gade-Christensen (DEN) beat Jeroen Van Dijk (NED) 15:4 15:9, Hermawan Susanto (INA) beat Marleve Mainaky (INA) 15:6 15:11, Poul-Erik Hoyer-Larsen (DEN) beat Salim (INA) 15:4 15:13 **Semi-finals:** Gade-Christensen beat Permadi 17:14 15:0, Hoyer-Larsen beat Susanto 10:15 15:11 15:9 **Final:** Gade-Christensen beat Hoyer-Larsen 15:10 18:15.

Ladies' singles

Quarter-finals: Mia Audina (INA) beat Lotte Thomsen (DEN) 11:1 11:2, Pornsawan Plungwech (THA) beat Jeng Shwu-Zen (TPE) 11:5 12:10, Lee Joo Hyun (KOR) beat Ida Takako (JPN) 11:7 11:4, Camilla Martin (DEN) beat Yasuko Mizui (JPN) 11:5 11:6 **Semi-finals:** Audina beat Plungwech 11:7 11:5, Martin beat Lee 11:8 11:4. **Final:** Martin beat Audina 12:10 11:2

Men's doubles

Quarter-finals:

Ricky Subagja/Remy Mainaky (INA) beat Hwang Sun Ho/Lee Dong Soo

(KOR) 15:0 15:3, Chandra Wijaya/Sigit (INA) beat Choong Tan Fook/Lee Wan Wah (MAL) 16:18 15:5 15:4, Kang Kyung Jin/Ha Tae Kwon (KOR) beat Pramote Teerawiwatana/Kitipon Kitikul (THA) 15:9 15:5, Denny Kantono/S. Antonius (INA) beat Rosman Razak/Chew Choon Eng (MAL) 15:10 15:0 **Semi-finals:** Wijaya/Sigit beat Subagja/Mainaky 15:7 9:15 15:12, Kantono/Antoniuss beat Kang/Ha 17:14 8:15 18:17 **Final:** Wijaya/Sigit beat Kantono/Antoniuss 15:11 15:2

Ladies' doubles

Quarter-finals: Finarsih/Rikke Olsen (INA) beat Chen Li-Chin/Tsai Huey-Min (TPE) 15:9 15:6, Haruko Matsuda/Iwata Mayumi Yoshiko (JPN) beat Chen Mei-Cun/Peng Ru-Yu (TPE) 15:8 15:8, Park Soo Yun/Yim Kyung Jin (KOR) beat Nonong Denis Zanti/Carmelita (INA) 15:5 15:8, Hisako Mizui/Yasuko Mizui (JPN) beat Chao Hwa-Ching/Tsai Chia-Chun (TPE) 15:2 15:9 **Semi-finals:** Matsuda/Iwata beat Finarsih/Olsen 15:11 15:8, Park/Yim beat Mizui/Mizui 15:12 15:3 **Final:** Park/Yim beat Matsuda/Iwata 15:2 15:8

Quarter-finals:

Michael Sogaard/Rikke Olsen (DEN) beat Anurak Thiraratrakul/Ticha Boonyarak (THA) 15:5 15:9, Sandiarto/Finarsih (INA) beat Ha Tae Kwon/Yim Kyung Jin (KOR) 12:15 15:5 18:16, Lee Dong Soo/Park Soo Yun (KOR) beat Tesana Panvisvas/Pornsawan Plungwech (THA) 15:8 15:2, Iman Tohari/Ema Ermawati (INA) beat Chang Wen-Sung/Chen Yu Fun (TPE) 15:12 15:3 **Semi-finals:** Sandiarto/Finarsih beat Sogaard/Olsen 4:15 17:14 15:10, Lee/Park beat Tohari/Ermawati 15:13 15:11 **Final:** Sandiarto/Finarsih beat Lee/Park 15:11 15:8

JAPAN OPEN

14-19 January 1997

Men's singles

Quarter-finals: Ardy Wiranata (INA) beat Allan Budi Kusuma (INA) 15:5 15:7, Peter Rasmussen (DEN) beat Jeroen Van Dijk (NED) 15:8 15:12, Park Sung Woo (KOR) beat Indra Wijaya (INA) 15:11 15:6, Peter Gade Christensen (DEN) beat Budi Santoso (INA) 9:15 15:10 15:8 **Semi-finals:** Rasmussen beat Wiranata 15:2 15:5, Park beat Gade Christensen 13:18 15:10 15:5 **Final:** Rasmussen beat Park 15:3 15:1.

Ladies' singles

Quarter-finals: Mia Audina (INA) beat Zhang Ning (CHN) 10:12 12:10 11:5, Ye Zhaoying (CHN) beat Ra Kyung Min (KOR) 12:11 11:8, Camilla Martin (DEN) beat Lee Joo Hyun (KOR) 11:4 11:3, Gong

Zhichao (CHN) beat Kim Ji Hyun. **Semi-finals:** Audina beat Ye 12:9 11:6, Gong beat Martin 12:11 6:11 11:2. **Final:** Audina beat Gong 11:3 2:11 11:5

Men's doubles

Quarter-finals: Ricky Subagja/Rexy Mainaky (INA) beat Kang Kyung Jin/Ha Tae Kwon (KOR) 18:14 18:15, Jon Holst-Christensen (DEN) beat Chandra Wijaya/Sigit (INA) 15:12 15:8, Denny Kantono/S. Antonius (INA) beat Liu Yong/Zhang Wei (CHN) 15:9 15:9, Cheah Soon Kit/Yap Kim Hock (MAS) beat Chris Hunt/Simon Archer (ENG) 15:8 15:12. **Semi-finals:** Subagja/Mainaky beat Holst-Christensen/Lund 15:4 15: 15:9, Kantono/Antoniuss beat Cheah/Yap 15:11 15:6. **Final:** Subagja/Mainaky beat Kanotno/Antoniuss 15:11 7:15 15:7.

Ladies' doubles

Quarter-finals: Eliza/Rosiana Zelin (INA) beat Ye Zhaoying/Dai Yun (CHN) 15:8 15:7, Qin Yiyuan/Tang Yongshu (CHN) beat Satomi Igawa/Nagamine Hiroko (JPN) 15:5 15:4, Lisbet Stuer-Lauridsen/Marlene Thomsen (DEN) beat Zhang Ning/Gong Zhichao (CHN) 15:7 15:8, Ge Fei/Gu Jun (CHN) beat Chikako Nakayama/Takae Masumo (JPN) 15:10 15:3 **Semi-finals:** Eliza/Zelin beat Qin/Tang 8:15 15:7 15:9, Ge/Gu beat Stuer-Lauridsen/Thomsen 15:10 15:4 **Final:** Ge/Gu beat Eliza/Zelin 12:15 15:12 15:1

Mixed doubles

Quarter-finals: Jens Eriksen/Marlene Thomsen (DEN) beat Trikus Heryanto/Minarti Timur (INA) 18:14 15:18 18:15, Chen Xingdong/Peng Xingyong (CHN) beat Ha Tae Kwon/Yim Kyung Jin (KOR) 18:17 15:12, Liu Yong/Ge Fei (CHN) beat Lee Dong Soo/Park Soo Yun (KOR) 15:10 15:11, Michael Sogaard/Rikke Olsen (DEN) beat Peter Axelsson/Catrine Bengtsson (SWE) 10:15 15:4 15:8. **Semi-finals:** Eriksen/Thomsen beat Chen/Peng 15:6 15:11, Liu/Ge beat Sogaard/Olsen 15:12 17:15 **Final:** Liu/Ge beat Eriksen/Thomsen 15:8 15:10

PORTUGAL INTERNATIONAL

16-19 January 1997

Men's singles

Quarter-finals: Martin Hagberg (SWE) beat Niels Christian Kaldau (DEN) 15:6 15:8, Fernando Silva (POR) beat Andrej Pohar (SLO) 15:4 15:3, Pedro Vanneste (BEL) beat Marco Vasconcelos (POR) 13:15 15:3 15:2, Peter Janum (DEN) beat Bruce Flockhart (SCO) 15:12 15:5 **Semi-finals:** Silva beat Hagberg 11:15 15:5 15:7, Janum

beat Vanneste 15:6 15:4 **Final:** Janum beat Silva 15:9 15:2.

Ladies' singles

Quarter-finals: Karolina Ericsson (SWE) beat Lucia Tavera (ITA) 11:2 11:5, Tracy Hallam (ENG) beat Gillian Martin (SCO) rtd. Tanja Berg (DEN) beat Ana Ferreira (POR) 11:5 11:7, Anne Gibson (SCO) beat Dolores Marco (ESP) 11:1 11:6 **Semi-finals:** Hallam beat Ericsson 6:11 12:9 11:8, Gibson beat Berg w/o **Final:** Gibson beat Hallam 12:10 11:4

Men's doubles

Quarter-finals: Kenny Middlemiss/Russell Hogg (SCO) beat Marco Tatay/Jordy Aparisi (ESP) 15:6 15:2, Antonio Miranda/Francisco (ESP) beat Jose Nascimento/Jorge Santos (POR) 15:1 15:10, Hugo Rodrigues/Fernando Silva (POR) beat Emanuel Bandeira/Carlos Goncalves (POR) 15:4 15:2, Arturo Ruiz/Ernesto Garcia (ESP) beat Gianmarco La Rosa/Klaus Raffaeiner (ITA) 15:4 15:2 **Semi-finals:** Middlemiss/Hogg beat Miranda/Molina 15:6 15:4, Rodrigues/Silva beat Ruiz/Garcia 15:4 15:6 **Final:** Rodrigues/Silva beat Middlemiss/Hogg w/o.

Ladies' doubles

Quarter-finals: Dolores Marco/Esther Sanz (ESP) beat Andrea Dako/Helena Berimbau (HUN/POR) 15:10 16:18 15:4, Ana Ferreira/Francis Pereira (POR) beat Noelia Corboba/Laura Falces (ESP) 15:1 15:1, Karen Peatfield/Tracy Hallam (ENG) beat Helena Bartolomeu/Filipa Lamy (POR) 15:3 15:1, Patricia Perez/Maria Torres (ESP) beat Elinor Middlemiss/Sandra Watt (SCO) 15:0 15:0 **Semi-finals:** Marco/Sanz beat Ferriera/Pereira 15:7 15:8, Peatfield/Hallam beat Perez/Torres 15:9 15:8 **Final:** Peatfield/Hallam beat Marco/Sanz 15:1 15:10

Mixed doubles

Quarter-finals: Andrej Pohar/Maja Pohar (SLO) beat Marco Vasconcelos/Andrea Dako (POR/HUN) 15:6 15:4, Russell Hogg/Karen Peatfield (SCO/ENG) beat Alberto Carazo/Lucia Tavera (ESP/ITA) 15:3 15:4, Hugo Rodrigues/Ana Ferreira (POR) beat Ana Lopes/Sonia Lopes (POR) 15:4 17:18 15:7, Kenny Middlemiss/Elinor Middlemiss (SCO) beat Ricardo Silva/Filipa Lamy (POR) 15:8 15:3 **Semi-finals:** Hogg/Peatfield beat Pohar/Pohar 15:4 15:8, Middlemiss/Middlemiss beat Rodrigues/Ferreira 15:8 15:9 **Final:** Hogg/Peatfield beat Middlemiss/Middlemiss w/o

KOREA OPEN

21-26 January 1997

Men's singles

Quarter-finals: Yong Hock Kin

(MAL) beat Kim Chul Joong (KOR) 15:12 17:14, Park Sung Woo (KOR) beat Ong Ewe Hock (MAL) 15:13 15:3, Thomas Stuer-Lauridsen (DEN) beat Sun Jun (CHN) 15:9 15:11, Kim Hak Kyun (KOR) beat Indra Wijaya (INA) 15:12 15:6 **Semi-finals:** Park beat Yong 11:15 15:5 15:7, Stuer-Lauridsen beat Kim 15:5 15:12 **Final:** Stuer-Lauridsen beat Park 15:12 15:10

Ladies' singles

Quarter-finals: Gong Zhichao (CHN) beat Lee Joo Hyun (KOR) 11:8 11:8, Dai Yun (CHN) beat Kim Ji Hyun (KOR) 11:3 11:7, Ra Kyung Min (KOR) beat Zhang Ning (CHN) 11:8 11:0, Ye Zhaoying (CHN) beat Yasuko Mizui (JPN) 11:2 11:2 **Semi-finals:** Gong beat Dai 11:7 11:2, Ye beat Ra 10:12 11:7 11:8 **Final:** Ye beat Gong 6:11 12:10 11:4.

Men's doubles

Quarter-finals: Cheah Soon Kit/Yap Kim Hock (MAL) beat Andrej Antropov/Nikolaj Zuev (RUS) 15:7 15:9, Lee Dong Soo/Yoo Yong Sung (KOR) beat Jon Holst-Christensen/Michael Sogaard (DEN) 15:6 18:16, Kang Kyung Jin/Ha Tae Kwon (KOR) beat Tao Xiaoqiang/Ge Cheng (CHN) 15:9 15:12, Tony Gunawan/Rudy Wijaya (INA) beat Choi Ji Tae/Kim Joong Suk (KOR) 8:15 15:3 15:7 **Semi-finals:** Cheah/Yap beat Lee/Yoo 15:8 15:2, Kang/Ha beat Gunawan/Wijaya 15:2 15:8 **Final:** Kang/Ha beat Cheah/Yap 4:15 15:3 15:5.

Ladies' doubles

Quarter-finals: Ge Fei/Gu Jun (CHN) beat Eliza/Rosiana Zelin (INA) w/o, Lisbet Stuer-Lauridsen/Marlene Thomsen (DEN) beat Ye Zhaoying/Dai Yun (CHN) 6:15 15:5 15:12, Qin Yiyuan/Tang Yongshu (CHN) beat Cha Yoon Sook/Kim Mee Kyung (KOR) 15:0 15:0, Park Soo Yun/Jang Hye Ock (KOR) beat Zhang Ning/Gong Zhichao (CHN) 15:1 15:1 **Semi-finals:** Ge/Gu beat Stuer-Lauridsen/Thomsen 15:0 15:0, Qin/Tang beat Park/Jang 15:12 15:12 **Final:** Ge/Gu beat Qin/Tang 15:10 15:10

Mixed doubles

Quarter-finals: Trikus Heryanto/Minarti Timur (INA) beat Ha Tae Kwon/Kim Shin Young (KOR) 15:11 17:15, Jens Eriksen/Marlene Thomsen (DEN) beat Chen Xingdong/Peng Xingyong (CHN) 15:4 15:5, Liu Yong/Ge Fei (CHN) beat Kang Kyung Jin/Kim Mee Hyang (KOR) 15:7 10:15 15:12, Yoo Yong Sung/Jang Hye Ock (KOR) beat Choi Ji Tae/Cha Yoon Sook 18:17 15:5 **Semi-finals:** Eriksen/Thomsen beat Heryanto/Timur 15:4 15:9, Liu/Ge beat Yoo/Jang 15:4 15:7 **Final:** Liu/Ge beat Eriksen/Thomsen 15:13 15:5.

NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

w/e 5 February 1997

Men's singles

Quarter-finals: Oliver Pongratz beat Marc Hannes 15:5 15:1, Bjorn Decker beat Frank Wernicke 15:5 15:4, Mike Joppjen beat Michael Helber w/o, Detlef Poste beat Jens Roch 15:13 15:3 **Semi-finals:** Pongratz beat Decker 15:10 15:4, Poste beat Joppjen 17:16 15:6 **Final:** Pongratz beat Poste 15:7 15:2.

Ladies' singles

Quarter-finals: Nicole Grether beat Anika Sietz 11:5 11:1, Nicole Tummer beat Christine Skropke 8:11 11:6 11:2, Katja Michalowsky beat Kirsten Sprang 11:5 11:4, Stefanie Muller beat Anja Weber 11:3 11:2 **Semi-finals:** Grether beat Tummer 11:4 6:11 11:3, Michalowsky beat Muller 11:3 11:7 **Final:** Grether beat Michalowsky 11:3 11:7

Men's doubles

Quarter-finals: Helber/Siegemund beat Farries/Patz 15:1 15:7, Kranitz/Muller beat Decker/Khan 15:9 15:4, Keck/Mohr beat Bottger 15:5 15:4, Mitteldorf/Ossenbrink beat Schroder/Wichmann 15:6 16:18 15:8 **Semi-finals:** Helber/Siegemund beat Kranitz/Muller 15:6 15:12, Mitteldorf/Ossenbrink beat Keck/Mohr 15:17 15:7 **Final:** Helber/Siegemund beat Mitteldorf/Ossenbrink 15:11 18:13

Ladies' doubles

Quarter-finals: Schmidt/Ubben beat Piotrowski/Tummer 15:4 15:4, Rathgeber/Sietz beat Cramer/Seid 9:15 15:11 15:10, Grether/Michalowsky beat Weber/Westerman 9:15 15:11 15:3, Beissel/Pitro beat Schwarz/Stohlmann 15:8 10:15 15:4 **Semi-finals:** Schmidt/Ubben beat Rathgeber/Sietz 15:6 15:4, Beissel/Pitro beat Grether/Michalowsky 15:9 15:7 **Final:** Schmidt/Ubben beat Beissel/Pitro 17:15 15:5.

Mixed doubles

Quarter-finals: Keck/Stechmann beat Entzel/Vogelsang 15:3 15:2, Siegumund/Schmidt beat Frey/Ubben 15:8 15:7, Mohr/Beissel beat Tesche/Ottrembka 15:8 15:6, Kuhl/Pitro beat Ottrembka/Weber 15:12 15:7 **Semi-finals:** Siegumund/Schmidt beat Keck/Stechmann w/o, Kuhl/Pitro beat Mohr/Beissel 15:12 15:1 **Final:** Siegumund/Schmidt beat Kuhl/Pitro 15:4 9:15 15:11.

10 Days of Dawn (4-9 February 1997)

Men's singles

Quarter-finals: Bahador Zakizadeh (IRN) beat Mohammad Golkar (IRN) 15:9 15:10, Mortiza

Walidarwi (IRN) beat Mansur Shakori (IRN) 14:17 15:5 15:1, Hameed Nasimi (IRN) beat Mansur Mubini (IRN) 15:4 10:15 10:15, Alireza Shafiee (IRN) beat Sadegh Karbasi (IRN) 18:15 17:14 **Semi-finals:** Walidarwi beat Zakizadeh 6:15 15:8 15:10, Shaffie beat Nasimi 15:12 11:15 15:11 **Final:** Walidarwi beat Shaffie 15:9 15:11.

Men's doubles

Quarter-finals: B. Zakizadeh/A. Shaffie (IRN) beat A. Shahhosaini/F. Sulimany (IRN) 15:0 15:0, M. Walidarwi/M. Mubini (IRN) beat A. Albuya/M. Motte (IRN) 15:1 15:7, M. Golkar/A. Bozorgzadeh (IRN) beat B. Arabi/S. Karbasi (IRN) 15:6 12:15 15:6, H. Nasimi/Shakori (IRN) beat A. Popov/M. Kauglik (KAZ) 15:4 15:8 **Semi-finals:** Zakizadeh/Shaffie beat Mubin/Walidarwi 15:7 15:5, Shakore/Nasimi beat Golkar/Bozorgzadeh 15:11 12:15 15:11 **Final:** Zakizadeh/Shaffie beat Shakore/Nasimi 15:4 15:5.

LA CHAUX DE FONDS

6-9 February 1997

Men's singles

Quarter-finals: Mark Constable (ENG) beat Michael Edge (ENG) 15:9 15:5, Rasmus Wengberg (SWE) beat Konstantin Tatranov (UKR) 11:15 15:10 15:2, Yangchun Xie (CHN) beat Vladislav Druzchenko (UKR) 15:8 15:3, Daniel Eriksson (SWE) beat Bertrand Gallet (FRA) 15:7 15:4 **Semi-finals:** Constable beat Wengberg 15:4 15:2, Xie beat Eriksson 15:7 17:14 **Final:** Constable beat Xie 15:11 15:11.

Ladies' singles

Quarter-finals: Irina Yakusheva (RUS) beat Anu Weckstrom (FIN) 11:6 11:3, Tracy Hallam (ENG) beat Lotta Andersson (SWE) 9:12 11:1 11:5, Kristin Evernas (SWE) beat Katja Michalowsky (GER) 11:3 12:10, Heidi Dossing (DEN) beat Johanna Holgersson (SWE) 11:2 11:1 **Semi-finals:** Hallam beat Yakusheva 2:2 rtd, Dossing beat Evernas 12:10 11:4 **Final:** Hallam beat Dossing 12:10 7:11 12:10.

Men's doubles

Quarter-finals: Jurgen Koch/Harald Koch (AUT) beat Svetoslav Stojanov/Mikhail Popov (BUL) 8:15 15:4 17:14, Michael Helber/Bjorn Siegumund (GER) beat Julian Robertson/Nathan Robertson (ENG) 11:15 15:10 15:10, Konstantin Tatranov/Vladislav Druzchenko (UKR) beat Yoseph Phoa/Dharma Gunawi (INA) 18:16 11:15 15:12, Ian Sullivan/Anthony Clark (ENG) beat Boris Reichel/Chris Blair (GER/NZL) 15:9 15:6 **Semi-finals:** Helber/Siegumund beat Koch/Koch 15:11 15:9 Sullivan/Clark beat Tatranov/Druzchenko 15:10 15:8 **Final:** Helber/Siegumund beat Sullivan/Clark 15:12 18:17.

Ladies' doubles

Quarter-finals:

Karen Stechman/Nicole Grether (GER) beat Diana Koleva/Neli Nedjalkova (BUL) 15:6 15:3, Monique Hoogland/Erica Van Den Heuvel (NED) beat Marina Yakusheva/Irina Yakusheva (RUS) 15:8 15:4, Katrin Schmidt/Katja Michalowsky (GER) beat Andrea Odor/Marketa Koudelkova (HUN/CZE) 15:9 15:1, Emma Chaffin/Sara Hardaker (ENG) beat Sandra Beissel/Nicol Pitro (GER) 15:7 15:8 **Semi-finals:** Hoogland/Van Den Heuvel beat Stechmann/Grether 15:9 11:15 15:3, Chaffin/Hardaker beat Schmidt/Michalowsky 15:6 15:5 **Final:** Hoogland/Van Den Heuvel beat Chaffin/Hardaker 15:12 15:12.

Mixed doubles

Quarter-finals:

Svetoslav Stojanov/Diana Koleva (BUL) beat Stephen Wapp/Santi Wibowo (SUI) 15:10 15:10, Nathan Robertson/Sara Hardaker (ENG) beat Sebastian Ottrembka/Karen Stechmann (GER) 15:5 15:12, Stephen Kuhl/Nicol Pitro (GER) beat Julian Robertson/Lorraine Cole (ENG) 6:15 15:4 15:6, Vladislav Druzchenko/Marina Yakusheva (UKR/RUS) beat Bjorn Siegumund/Katrin Schmidt (GER) 15:7 15:3 **Semi-finals:** Robertson/Hardaker beat Stojanov/Koleva 18:13 15:1, Druzchenko/Yakusheva (UKR/RUS) beat Kuhl/Pitro 12:15 15:11 15:4 **Final:** Druzchenko/Yakusheva beat Robertson/Hardaker 15:9 3:15 15:10.

INDIA OPEN

11-16 February 1997

Men's singles

Quarter-finals: Poul-Erik Hoyer-Larsen (DEN) beat Wong Choon Han (MAL) 15:9 15:3, Heryanto Arbi (INA) beat Tam Kai Chuen (HKG) 15:3 15:6, P. Gopichand (IND) beat Jang Chun Woong (KOR) 8:15 15:3 15:4, Kim Hyung Joon (KOR) beat Jason Wong (MAL) 18:17 15:10 **Semi-finals:** Arbi beat Hoyer-Larsen 15:4 12:15 15:2, Gopichand beat Kim 15:8 15:9 **Final:** Arbi beat Gopichand 15:4 15:7.

Ladies' singles

Quarter-finals: Cindana (INA) beat Aparna Popat (IND) 11:3 11:7, Choi Ma Ree (KOR) beat Manjusha Kanwar (IND) 11:6 11:4, Lee Soon Deuk (KOR) beat Olivia (INA) 11:12 11:6 11:6, Joanne Muggeridge (ENG) beat Neelima Choudhary (INA) 11:7 11:4 **Semi-finals:** Cindana beat Choi 11:6 11:4, Lee beat Muggeridge 11:3 11:8 **Final:** Cindana beat Lee 11:6 11:4.

Men's doubles

Quarter-finals: Aras Razak/Hadi Sugianto (INA) beat Pang Cheh Chang/Khoo Boo hock (MAL) 15:7

15:3, Tan Kim Her/Lee Chee Leong (MAL) beat Bae Gi-Bae (KOR) 15:10 15:13, Yim Bong Fon/Kim Yong Hyun (KOR) Vinod Kumar/Bhushan Akut (IND) 17:14 17:16, Ade Sutrisna/Ade Lucas (INA) beat Yap Yee Hup/Yap Yee Guan (MAL) 15:9 15:4 **Semi-finals:** Razak/Sugianto beat Tan/Lee 15:6 15:5, Sutrisna/Lucas beat Yim/Kim 15:12 15:4. **Final:** Sutrisna/Lucas beat Razak/Sugianto 15:5 15:12.

Ladies' doubles

Quarter-finals: Lee So Young/Park So Yun (KOR) beat Tung Chau Man/Ng Ching (HKG) 15:4 15:7, Choi Ma Ree/Lee Soon Deuk (KOR) beat Neelima Choudhary/Manjusha Kanwat (IND) 18:14 17:16, Cha Yoon Sook/Yim Mee Kyung (KOR) beat P.V.V. Lakshmi/P.V. Sarada (IND) 15:1 15:4, Ety Tantri/Cynthia (INA) beat Joanne Muggeridge/Felicity Gallup (ENG) 15:6 15:7 **Semi-finals:** Choi Ma Ree/Lee Soon Deuk (KOR) beat Lee So Young/Park So Yun (KOR) 15:9 15:6, Ety/Cynthia beat Cha/Kim 5:15 17:16 15:5 **Final:** Ety/Cynthia beat Choi/Lee 15:8 14:17 15:5.

Mixed doubles

Quarter-finals: Iman Tohari/Ema Ermawati (INA) beat Khoo Boo Hock/Lee Winnie (MAL) 15:4 15:1, Tan Kim Her/Chor Hooi Yee (MAL) beat Kim Yong Hyun/Kim Mee Kyung (KOR) 15:7 15:10, Vinod Kumar/Madhumita Bisht (IND) beat Pang Cheh Chang/Lim Pek Siah (MAL) 15:12 15:7, Lee Chee Leong/Lee Yin Yin (MAL) beat Ma Che Kong/Tung Chau Man (HKG) 4:15 15:12 15:12 **Semi-finals:** Tohari/Ermawati beat Tan/Chor 15:5 15:3, Lee/Lee beat Kumar/Bisht 15:9 15:8 **Final:** Tohari/Ermawati beat Lee/Lee 15:3 15:9.

ASIA CUP

19-23 February 1997

Indonesia beat Chinese-Taipei 2:1, Japan beat Hong Kong 2:1, Malaysia beat Korea 2:1, India beat Thailand 2:1, Korea beat Hong Kong 3:0, Indonesia beat Thailand 3:0, Chinese-Taipei beat India 3:0, Malaysia beat Japan 3:0, Korea beat Japan 3:0, Chinese-Taipei beat Thailand 2:1, Indonesia beat India 3:0, Malaysia beat Hong Kong 3:0, Indonesia beat Malaysia 3:0, Chinese-Taipei beat Korea 2:1, Malaysia beat Chinese-Taipei 2:1, Indonesia beat Korea 3:0 Winner Indonesia, Runner-up Malaysia, Third Chinese-Taipei Fourth Korea

ERICSSON

SWEDISH OPEN

5-9 March 1997

Men's singles

Quarter-finals: Ardy Wiranata (INA) beat Ji Xinpeng (CHN) 15:7

15:9, Lin Liwen (CHN) beat Oliver Pongratz (GER) 15:10 18:13, Park Sung Woo (KOR) beat Roslin Hashim (MAL) 15:8 15:5, Budi Santoso (INA) beat Luo Yigang (CHN) 18:13 15:5 15:6, **Semi-finals:** Wiranata beat Lin 9:15 15:12 15:6, Santoso beat Park 15:8 15:11 **Final:** Wiranata beat Santoso 15:10 15:10

Ladies' singles

Quarter-finals: Gong Zhichao (CHN) beat Lee Joo Hyun (KOR) 11:2 11:1, Park Jin Hyun (KOR) beat Yao Yan (CHN) 11:8 12:11, Kim Ji Hyun (KOR) beat Donna Kellogg (ENG) 11:1 11:5, Ra Kyung Min (KOR) beat Zhang Ning (CHN) 11:9 11:7 **Semi-finals:** Gong beat Park 11:3 11:3, Ra beat Kim 11:2 11:3 **Final:** Gong beat Ra 11:4 11:4

Men's doubles

Quarter-finals: Kang Kyung Jin/Ha Tae Kwon (KOR) beat Nick Ponting/John Quinn (ENG) 15:6 15:3, Bambang Suprianto/Dicky Purwotsugiono (INA) beat Jens Eriksen/Jesper Larsen (DEN) 15:11 15:9, Lee Dong Soo/Yoo Yong Sung (KOR) beat Peter Blackburn/David Bamford (AUS) 15:4 15:2, Peter Axelsson/Par-Gunnar Jonsson (SWE) beat Peder Nissen/Jonas Rasmussen (DEN) 15:11 15:9 **Semi-finals:** Kang/Ha beat Suprianto/Purwotsugiono 15:4 13:18 15:7, Axelsson/Jonsson beat Lee/Yoo 15:7 15:11 **Final:** Kang/Ha beat Axelsson/Jonsson 15:3 15:11

Ladies' doubles

Quarter-finals: Qiang Hong/Liu Lu (CHN) beat Kim Ji Hyun/Park Jin Hyun (KOR) 13:15 17:15 15:11, Kim Shin Young/Jang Hye Ock (KOR) beat Erica Van Den Heuvel/Karen Stechmann (NED/GER) 18:14 15:6, Julie Bradbury/Donna Kellogg (ENG) beat Zhang Ning/Gong Zhichao (CHN) 15:5 15:7, Christine Gandrup/Marina Andrievskaya (SWE) beat Lee Joo Hyun/Ra Kyung Min (KOR) 15:0 3:15 18:14 **Semi-finals:** Qiang/Liu beat Kim/Jang 15:11 15:18 15:10, Bradbury/Kellogg beat Gandrup/Andrievskaya 15:12 9:15 15:12 **Final:** Qiang/Liu beat Bradbury/Kellogg

Mixed doubles

Quarter-finals: Nick Ponting/Julie Bradbury (ENG) beat Jesper Larsen/Helene Kirkegaard (DEN) 15:4 15:2, Jon Holst-Christensen/Karen Stechmann (DEN/GER) beat Lee Dong Soo/Yim Kyung Jin (KOR) 15:8 15:6, Erica Van Den Heuvel/Michael Keck (NED/GER) beat Jens Olsson/Astrid Crabo (SWE) 15:10 15:11, Ha Tae Kwon/Kim Shin Young (KOR) beat Julian Robertson/Lorraine Cole (ENG) 15:12 15:5 **Semi-finals:** Holst-

Christensen/Stechmann beat Ponting/Bradbury 12:15 15:5 15:12, Van Den Heuvel/Keck beat Ha/Kim 15:9 15:8 **Final:** Van Den Heuvel/Keck beat Holst-Christensen/Stechmann 15:17 15:12 15:12

DUTCH JUNIOR CHAMPS

6-9 March 1997

Men's singles

Quarter-finals: Keita Masuda (NED) beat Frederik Koehler (DEN) 15:6 15:5, Kasper Fangel (DEN) beat Syuichi Nakao (JPN) 15:12 15:12, Kasper Oedum (DEN) beat Ville Kinnunen (FIN) 15:8 15:11, Taufik Hidayat (INA) beat Johan Holm (SWE) 15:7 15:6 **Semi-finals:** Masuda beat Fangel 15:6 15:10, Oedum beat Hidayat 15:5 15:10 **Final:** Masuda beat Oedum 15:12 15:17 15:9

Ladies' singles

Quarter-finals: Satomi Igawa (JPN) beat Hanny Setiani (INA) 11:8 11:4, Kaori Mori (JPN) beat Jie Eleny (HKG) 11:4 11:5, Hiroko Nagamine (JPN) beat Kamila Augustyn (POL) 11:7 3:11 11:1, Tine Rasmussen (DEN) beat Melisa Sewi Tjahjono (INA) 11:6 3:11 12:9 **Semi-finals:** Mori beat Igawa 11:7 11:1, Rasmussen beat Nagamine 11:2 7:11 11:8 **Final:** Rasmussen beat Mori 11:3 9:12 11:4

Men's doubles

Quarter-finals: Kasper Oedum/Ove Svejstrup (DEN) beat Marcin Burzyynski/Piotr Zoladek (POL) 15:10 15:4, Keita Masuda/Tadashi Ohtshi (JPN) beat Choi Min Ho/Park Tae Sang (KOR) 18:14 15:9, Heo Hyung Sun/Jung Sung Kyun (KOR) beat Frederik Koehler/Kasper Fangel (DEN) 15:6 15:1, Thomas Roejkjaer/Tommy Soerensen (DEN) beat Kamil Turonek/Zbigniew Serwetnicki (POL) 11:15 15:11 15:5 **Semi-finals:** Masuda/Ohtsuka beat Oedum/Svejstrup 13:15 15:4 15:7, Roejkjaer/Soerensen beat Heo/Jung 15:7 5:15 15:8, **Final:** Masuda/Ohtsuka beat Roejkjaer/Soerensen 15:13 15:10.

Ladies' doubles

Quarter-finals: Britta Andersen/Jane Jacoby (DEN) beat Jun Woul/Lee Ji Sun (KOR) 15:2 15:3, Kaori Mori/Mika Anjo (JPN) beat Choi Young Ah/Lee Jung Hwa (KOR) 15:11 17:15, Hiroko Nagamine/Satomi Igawa (JPN) beat Lene Moerk/Tine Rasmussen (DEN) 3:15 15:10 18:17, Alison Reed/Katy Brydon (ENG) beat Kim Hee Jung/Lee Hyo Jung (KOR) 4:15 17:14 15:9 **Semi-finals:** Andersen/Jacoby beat Mori/Anjo 15:10 11:15 15:11, Nagamine/Igawa beat Reed/Brydon 15:7 15:10 **Final:**

Andersen/Jacoby beat Nagamine/Igawa 10:15 15:4 15:6

Mixed doubles

Quarter-finals: Ove Svejstrup/Britta Andersen (DEN) beat Thomas Tesche/Jeanette Ottrembka (GER) 15:6 15:1, Joachim Tesche/Karin Piotrowski (GER) beat Choi min Ho/Lee young Hwa (KOR) 15:11 15:6, Andreas Woelik/Wiebke Schrepf (GER) beat Dmitri Myznikov/Ganna Homenko (UKR) 15:10 15:9, Kristian Langbak/Lene Moerk (DEN) beat Pawel Kaczynski/Joanna Szleszynska (POL) 15:5 18:13 **Semi-finals:** Svejstrup/Andersen beat Langbak/Moerk 15:4 2:15 15:12 **Final:** Svejstrup/Andersen beat Langbak/Moerk 15:8 15:3

ALL-ENGLAND OPEN

10-15 March 1997

Men's singles

Quarter-finals: Poul-Erik Hoyer-Larsen (DEN) beat Budi Santoso (INA) 15:7 15:12, Dong Jiong (CHN) beat Peter Rasmussen (DEN) 15:12 15:8, Sun Jun (CHN) beat Lin Liwen (CHN) 15:9 15:9, Heryanto Arbi (INA) beat Luo Yigang (CHN) 8:15 15:9 15:6 **Semi-finals:** Dong beat Hoyer-Larsen 15:8 15:10, Sun beat Arbi 15:10 15:11 **Final:** Dong beat Sun 15:9 15:5.

Ladies' singles

Quarter-finals: Dai Yun (CHN) beat Zhang Ning (CHN) 5:11 12:11 11:8, Ye Zhaoying (CHN) beat Kim ji hyun (KOR) 11:7 11:1, Ra Kyung Min (KOR) beat Camilla Martin (DEN) 11:7 11:12 11:6, Gong Zhichao (CHN) beat Susi Susanti (INA) 11:4 11:7 **Semi-finals:** Ye beat Dai 11:3 5:11 11:2, Gong beat Ra 11:3 11:2 **Final:** Ye beat Gong 11:3 11:1.

Men's doubles

Quarter-finals: Chandra Wijaya/Sigit (INA) beat Liu Yong/Zhang Wei (CHN) 15:10 15:6, Kang Kyung Jin/Ha Tae Kwon (KOR) beat Denny Kantono/S. Antonius (INA) 18:17 7:15 15:6, Jon Holst-Christensen/Michael Sogaard (DEN) beat Ricky Subagja/Rexy Mainaky (IN) 15:8 15:11, Cheah Soon Kit/Yap Kim Hock (MAL) beat Andrej Antropov/Nikolaj Zuev (RUS) 11:15 15:11 15:3 **Semi-finals:** Kang/Ha beat Wijaya/Sigit 15:11 15:7, Holst-Christensen/Sogaard beat Cheah/Yap 15:8 12:15 15:11 **Final:** Kang/Ha beat Holst-Christensen 15:11 17:16

Ladies' doubles

Quarter-finals: Ge Fei/Gu Jun (CHN) beat Christine Gandrup/Marina Andrievskaya (SWE) 15:3 15:2, Helene Kirkegaard/Rikke Olsen (DEN) beat Indarti Isoliana/Denyana Lompan (INA) 12:15 17:15 15:8, Liu

zhong/Huang Nanyan (CHN) beat Lisbet Stuer-Lauridsen/Marlene Thomsen (DNE) 15:5 10:15 15:10, Eliza/Rosiana Zelin (INA) beat Ye Zhaoying/Han Jingna (CHN) 15:9 15:5 **Semi-finals:** Ge/Gu beat Kirkegaard/Olsen 15:3 15:6, Eliza/Zelin beat Liu/Huang 15:12 15:8 **Final:** Ge/Gu beat Eliza/Zelin 15:6 15:9.

Mixed doubles

Quarter-finals: Trikus Heryanto/Minarti Timur (INA) beat Zhang Wei/Liu Lu (CHN) 15:5 15:7, Chen Xingdong/Gu Jun (CHN) beat Jens Eriksen/Marlene Thomsen (DEN) 15:5 15:10, Chris Hunt/Donna Kellogg (ENG) beat Nikolaj Zuev/Marina Yakusheva (RUS) 15:8 18:16, Liu Yong/Ge Fei (CHN) beat Michael Sogaard/Rikke Olsen (DEN) 15:6 15:9 **Semi-finals:** Heryanto/Timur beat Chen/Gu 15:11 12:15 15:2, Liu/Ge beat Hunt/Kellogg 15:6 15:4 **Final:** Liu/Ge beat Heryanto/Timur 15:10 15:2

MALAYSIA INTERNATIONAL

12-16 March 1997

Men's singles

Quarter-finals: Marleve Mainaky (INA) beat James Chua (MAL) 16:18 15:7 15:9, Sidney Michael (MAL) beat Hoo Kim Loong (MAL) 5:15 15:10 15:10, Wong Ewee Mun (MAL) beat Foo Yoon Keang (MAL) 15:3 15:11, Herry G. (INA) beat Kantharopan (MAL) 15:8 15:9 **Semi-finals:** Mainaky beat Michael 15:1 18:15, Herry beat Wong 15:10 15:8 **Final:** Mainaky beat Herry 15:9 15:5

Ladies' singles

Quarter-finals: Zarinah Adbullah (SIN) beat Lee Yin Yin (MAL) 11:6 11:1, Olivia (INA) beat Fen Ng Mee (MAL) 11:1 11:3, Ishwaari (MAL) beat Winnie Lee (MAL) 11:5 11:3, Ellen Angelina (INA) beat Law Pei Pei (MAL) 11:6 11:1 **Semi-finals:** Abdullah beat Olivia 11:2 7:11 11:2, Angelina beat Ishwaari 11:8 11:3 **Final:** Angelina beat Abdullah 11:9 11:7.

Men's doubles

Quarter-finals: Lim Theam Teow/Khoo Kok Kheng (MAL) beat Mohamad Mak hazim/Fah Lee Kien (MAL) 15:4 15:4, Pang Cheh Chang/Khoo Boo Hock (MAL) beat Jamie Llanes/Arolas Amahit (PHI/MAL) 15:7 15:2, Ade Sutrisna/Ade Lucas (INA) beat Cheah Soon Toe/Chang Kim Wai (MAL) 12:15 15:13 15:7, Chan Chong Ming/Jeremy Gan (MAL) beat James Chua/Yeoh Kay Bin (MAL) 15:11 15:10 **Semi-finals:** Pang/Khoo beat Lim/Khoo 15:12 15:8, Sutrisna/Lucas beat Chan/Gan 15:9 15:3 **Final:** Sutrisna/Lucas beat Pang/Khoo 15:5 15:2

Ladies' doubles

Quarter-finals:

Zarinah Adbullah/Chin Yen Ping (SIN) beat Woon Sze Mei/Norfhara Idayu (MAL) 15:9 15:5, Yenni/Anita (INA) beat Norhashakin Amin/Joanna Quay (MAL) 9:15 15:5 15:5, Lim Pek Siah/Choi Hooi Yee (MAL) beat Amparo Lim/Mylen Delgado (PHI) 15:2 15:7, Angelina/Upri Ch. (INA) beat Ang Li Peng/Chong Nga Fan (MAL) 15:2 15:7 **Semi-finals:** Yenni/Anita beat Adbullah/Chin 17:14 15:4, Angelina/Upri Ch. beat Lim/Chor 15:8 15:10 **Final:** Angelina/Upri Chi/ beat Yenni/Anita 15:9 15:6.

Mixed doubles

Quarter-finals:

Rosman Razak/Joanna Quay (MAL) beat Eddeeza Saha/Geevien Saha (MAL) w/o, Agung/R. Anastasia (INA) beat M. Subramanian/Noraizah Abu Samah (MAL) 15:5 15:4, Chew Chong Eng/Norhashakin Amin (MAL) beat Rizal/Neneng (INA) 15:11 15:11, Pang Cheh Chang/Lim Pek Siah (MAL) beat Soon Lew Yan/Ping Lew Yang (MAL) 15:1 15:3 **Semi-finals:** Razak/Quay beat Agung/Anastasia 6:15 15:7 15:12, Chew/Amin beat Pang/Lek 15:11 15:11 **Final:** Razak/Quay beat Chew/Amin 15:9 15:4

SWISS OPEN

18-23 March 1997

Men's singles

Quarter-finals: Poul-Erik Hoyer-Larsen (DEN) beat Park Sung Woo (KOR) 17:18 15:9 15:12, Sun Jun (CHN) beat Indra Wijaya (INA) 12:15 15:11 15:1, Dong jiong (CHN) beat Peter Gade Christensen (DEN) 15:8 15:7, Peter Rasmussen (DEN) beat Allan Budi Kusuma (INA) 17:14 15:5 **Semi-finals:** Hoyer-Larsen beat Sun 15:2 12:15 15:10, Dong beat Rasmussen 15:7 15:5 **Final:** dong beat Hoyer-Larsen 17:15 15:11.

Ladies' singles

Quarter-finals: Camilla Martin (DEN) beat Kim Ji Hyun (KOR) 11:3 8:11 11:6, Lee Joo Hyun (KOR) beat Wang Chen (CHN) 11:8 11:6, Susi Susanti (INA) beat Han Jingna (CHN) 11:1 11:7, Ye Zhaoying (CHN) beat Mette Sorensen (DEN) 11:6 11:1 **Semi-finals:** Martin beat Lee 11:0 7:11 11:5, Ye beat Susanti 5:11 11:3 11:3 **Final:** Martin beat Ye 9:12 11:6 11:5.

Men's doubles

Quarter-finals:

Chandra Wijaya/Budiarto Sigit (INA) beat Peter Axelsson/Par-Gunnar Jonsson (SWE) 15:6 15:8, Kang Kyung Jin/Ha Tae Kwon (KOR) beat Jim Laugesen/Thomas Stavngaard (DEN) 15:5 15:5, Lee Dong Soo/Yoo Yong Sung (KOR) beat Liu Yong/Zhang Wei (CHN) 7:15 15:2 15:2, Ricky Subagja/Rexy

Mainaky (INA) beat Chris Hunt/Simon Archer (ENG) 15:11 15:8 **Semi-finals:** Wijaya/Sigit beat Kang/Ha 15:12 15:6, Lee/Yoo beat Subagja/Mainaky 15:8 15:12 **Final:** Lee/Yoo beat Wijaya/Sigit 15:11 15:4.

Ladies' doubles

Quarter-finals: Ge Fei/Gu Jun beat Chung Jae Hee/Yim Kyung Jin (KOR) 15:5 15:2, Helene Kirkegaard/Rikke Olsen (DEN) beat Nicola Beck/Joanne Davies (ENG) 9:15 15:9 15:1, Ye Zhaoying/Han Jingna (CHN) beat Cha Yoon Sook/Lee So young (KOR) 15:2 15:7, Kim Shin young/Jang Hye Ock (KOR) Rosiana Zelin/Denyana Lomban (INA) 15:8 7:15 15:10 **Semi-finals:** Ge/Gu beat Kirkegaard/Olsen 15:8 15:10, Ye/Han beat Kim/Jang 15:9 15:12 **Final:** Ge/Gu beat Ye/Han 9:15 15:2 15:11.

Mixed doubles

Quarter-finals: Liu yong/Ge Fei (CHN) beat Trikus Heryanto/Eliza (INA) 15:12 15:11, Iman Tohari/Ema Ermawati (INA) beat Ha Tae Kwon/Kim Shin Young (KOR) 15:10 15:9, Nimpele Flandy/Minarti Timur (INA) beat Erica Van Den Heuvel/Michael Keck (NED/GER) 15:11 15:8, Lee Dong Soo/Yim Kyung Jin (KOR) beat Jens Eriksen/Marlene Thomsen (DEN) w/o **Semi-finals:** Liu/Ge beat Tohari/Ermawati 5:15 15:4 15:4, Flandy/Timur beat Lee/Yim 15:10 15:7 **Final:** Liu/Ge beat Flandy/Timur 15:9 15:9

FRENCH OPEN

(19-23 March 1997)

Men's singles

Quarter-finals: Chris Bruil (NED) beat Dicky Palyama (NED) 15:1 15:6, Peter Janum (DEN) beat Frederik Bergstrom (SWE) 18:16 15:9, Daniel Eriksson (SWE) beat Joris Van Soerland (NED) 15:2 15:2, Ronny (INA) beat Irwansyah (INA) 15:5 15:10 **Semi-finals:** Bruil beat Janum 12:15 15:5 15:7, Eriksson beat Ronny 18:13 17:16 **Final:** Bruil beat Eriksson 17:14 15:7.

Ladies' singles

Quarter-finals: Kelly Morgan (WAL) beat Monique Hoogland (NED) 11:9 11:8, Carolien Giebbeck (NED) beat Gillian Martin (SCO) 11:1 11:1, Heidi Dossing (DEN) beat Dolores Marco (ESP) 11:4 11:2, Karolina Ericsson (SWE) beat Heike Schoenharting (GER) 11:7 12:10 **Semi-finals:** Morgan beat Giebbeck 8:11 11:5 12:11, Ericsson beat Dossing 10:12 11:7 11:5 **Final:** Morgan beat Ericsson 12:9 11:3

Men's doubles

Quarter-finals: Davis/Halim (INA) beat Jurgen Koch/Harald Koch (AUT) 15:7 15:8, Seng Kok

Kiong/Rudy Wijaya (INA) beat Michael Lamp/Patrick Ejerskov (DEN) 15:9 15:9, David Gilmour/Gordon Haldane (SCO) beat Steffen Pandya/Richard Doling (ENG) 17:14 15:13, Tony Gunawan/Victo Wibowo (INA) beat Uwe Ossenbrink/Kai Mitteldorf (GER) 15:4 15:6 **Semi-finals:** Davis/Halim beat Seng/Wijaya 12:15 15:4 15:11, Gunawan/Wibowo beat Gilmour/Haldane 15:7 15:1 **Final:** Gunawan/Wibowo beat Davis/Halim 15:10 15:8

Ladies' doubles

Quarter-finals:

Elinor Middlemiss/Sandra Watt (SCO) beat Emma Chaffin/Sara Hardaker (ENG) 15:5 15:8, Etti Tantri/Cynthia (INA) beat Anika Sietz/Viola Rathgeber (GER) 15:2 15:9, Karen Peatfield/Rebecca Pantaney (ENG) beat Nicole Gordon/Heike Schoenharting (NZL/GER) 7:15 15:5 15:5, Sara Sankey/Ella Miles (ENG) beat Dolores Marco/Esther Sanz (ESP) 15:8 15:7 **Semi-finals:** Tantri/Cytha beat Middlemiss/Watt 15:6 15:6, Sankey/Miles beat Peatfield/Pantaney 11:15 15:1 15:6 **Final:** Tantri/Cynthia beat Sankey/Miles 14:17 15:3 15:7.

Mixed doubles

Quarter-finals:

Michael Lamp/Rikke Broen (DEN) beat Andrej Pohar/Maja Pohar (SLO) 17:16 15:7, Peter Jeffrey/Sara Hardaker (ENG) beat Hugo Rodrigues/Ana Ferreira (POR) 15:11 15:10, Kenny Middlemiss/Elinor Middlemiss (SCO) beat Lars Paaske/Joanne Mogensen (DEN) 15:7 8:15 15:10, Norbert Jonathans/Lotte Jonathans (NED) beat Manuel Dubrulle/Sandrine Lefevre (FRA) 15:8 15:5 **Semi-finals:** Jeffrey/Hardaker beat Lamp/Broen 15:10 17:18 15:9, Middlemiss/Middlemiss beat Van Barneveld/Jonathans 15:9 15:13 **Final:** Jeffrey/Hardaker beat Middlemiss/Middlemiss 15:8 15:11.

WORLD GRAND PRIX FINALS 1996

Men's singles

Semi-finals: Fung Permadi (TPE) beat Indra Wijaya (INA) 15:6 15:8, Sun Jan (CHN) beat Allan Budi Kusuma (INA) 15:9 15:10 **Final:** Permadi beat Sun 15:12 15:8

Ladies' singles

Semi-finals: Susi Susanti (INA) beat Camilla Martin (DEN) 11:1 11:3, Sun Jan (CHN) beat Budi Kusuma 15:9 15:10 **Final:** susanti beat Ye 11:4 11:1

Men's doubles

Semi-finals: Ricky Subagja/Rexy Mainaky (INA) beat Chandra Wijaya Sigit (INA) 15:10 15:6, Cheah Soon Kit/Yap Kim Hock

(MAL) beat Denny Kantono/Antonius (INA) 15:5 15:6 **Final:** Subagja/Mainaky beat Cheah/Yap 15:4 15:9

Ladies' doubles

Semi-finals: Ge Fei/Gu Jun (CHN) beat Lisbet Stuer-Lauridsen/Marlene Thomsen (DEN) 15:8 10:15 15:7, Eliza Rosiana Zelin (INA) beat Qin Yiyuan/Tang Yongshu (CHN) 15:6 15:11 **Final:** Ge/Gu beat Elizaq Zelin 15:4 15:4

Mixed doubles

Semi-finals:

Michael Sogaard/Rikke Olsen (DEN) beat Thomas Stavngaard/Ann Jorgenson (DEN) 18:13 15:6, Trikus Heryanto/Minarti Timur (INA) beat Peter Axelsson/Catrine Bengtsson (SWE) 15:4 17:16 **Final:** Sogaard/Olson beat Heryanto/Timur 15:10 15:11

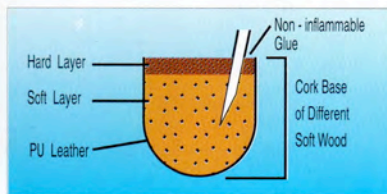
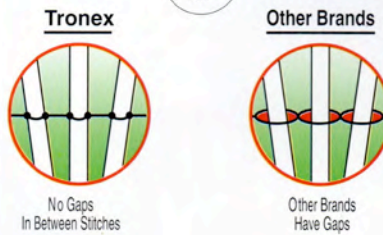
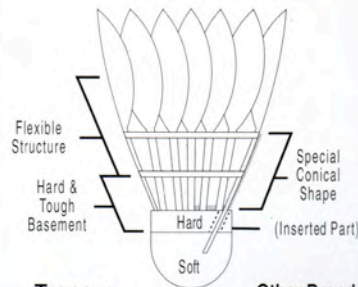
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Tronex Feather Shuttlecocks are specially structured & manufactured under the guidance of technical experts to maintain their world-class performance in international tournament.



THE UNIQUE METHOD IN STITCHING

Stitching - it is divided into upper and lower strings. The lower string is stitched by using automatic stitching machine. For upper string, it is stitched with a special mould cover. This mould cover has a smaller diameter than the diameter of the shuttlecock. Its advantage is to have the shuttlecock into bend shape between the two stitched parts of the feathers. Because of the bend shape, the body of shuttlecock won't be changed easily, thus the durability of the whole shuttlecock is increased. Also, the upper string is stitched by using a special technique to ensure that there has no gap in between stitches. So, the bend shape can be maintained tightly.

SPEED AGAINST TEMPERATURE

As temperature and barometric pressure determine the correct flight of the shuttlecocks to be used in play, Tronex rates the speed in a way that makes selection easy - according to the temperature condition under which the game is played.

RANGE OF TEMPERATURE	PROPER SPEED NUMBER
Over 30°C	T2
22°C - 29°C	T3
17°C - 23°C	T4
12°C - 18°C	T5
Below 12°C	T6

These Speeds Will Differ At High Altitude

APPROVED BY I.B.F FOR INTERNATIONAL PLAY



THE OFFICIAL SHUTTLECOCK OF

- HONG KONG BADMINTON ASSOCIATION
- '93 PRINCE JUNIOR BADMINTON INVITATIONAL
- '94 PRINCE ASIAN JUNIOR BADMINTON INVITATIONAL
- '94 HONG KONG OPEN (5 STARS)
- '94 TRONEX SUMMER TOURNAMENT IN CANADA
- '95 FINISH NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS
- TAIPO OPEN (IN H. K.)



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SPT
SMASH POWER THEORY

FOR SMASHES WITH GREATER POWER AND CONTROL

Having witnessed the success of doubles players using Isometric racquets, singles players have asked Yonex to create an Isometric racquet to suit their game. The new Isometric Power-600 using the exclusive Smash Power Theory is our response. The power is generated by creating a head-heavy frame, with weight being transferred from the area around the joint to the top of the frame. With the frame stability enhanced by the box-shape cross section design and Yonex's patented built-in T-joint, the Isometric Power-600 will bring a new and greater force to the singles game.

ISOMETRIC POWER 600
SQUARESPOT



World #1 in badminton