

Tennis sides start league strongly

By **Kate Caldwell**

THE new season of the Bolton Ladies Tennis League got underway on May 6, with last season's top two sides both making strong opening statements.

Defending champions David Lloyd Nautago started their season in dominant fashion, sweeping aside Markland Hill with a commanding 9–0 win to immediately lay down a marker in the title race. Last season's runners-up, Holcombe Brook A, also opened their campaign with an impressive 6–3 victory over David Lloyd Chorley, showing early signs that they will once again be among the teams to beat this season.

Attention then turned to week two, where Hawkshaw and Bradshaw began their seasons and look set to join the battle at the top in what promises to be another highly competitive campaign. Bradshaw were narrowly pipped to a 5–4 defeat by David Lloyd Nautago, while Holcombe Brook A continued their strong start by overcoming Hawkshaw 6–3.

Meanwhile, in Division Two, both Hawkshaw B and Holcombe Brook B enjoyed strong starts as they begin their push for promotion to Division One. With early momentum on their side, both teams winning their opening two fixtures, they will be hoping to establish themselves as serious contenders in the race for the title and promotion places. However, Lostock B and Walmer, having each won one of their opening two matches, cannot be ruled out of contention for the top spots as the season progresses.