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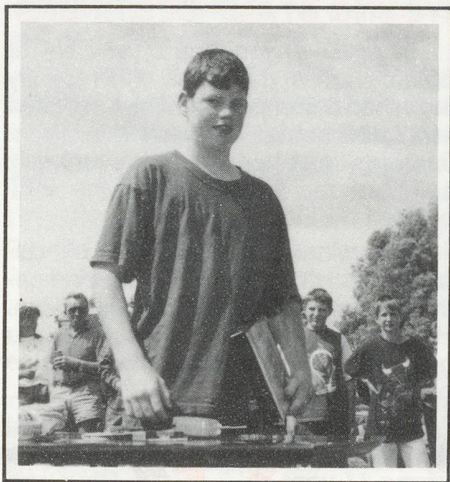
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ers... eh Heidi!

Our grateful thanks to you all for your support and to everyone who helped in any way to make the day such a great success. Don, we are truly appreciative of your efforts in keeping the place immaculate...Thanks!!!



Nic, our wonderful organiser with his daughter.



8) Janick Ruchti, winner of the juniors.

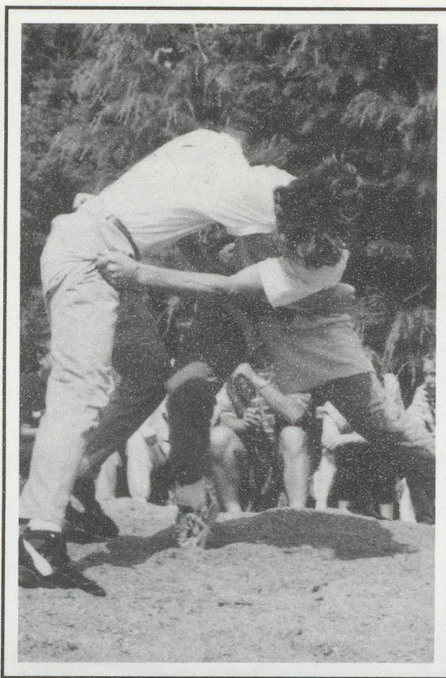
WELLINGTON SWISS CLUB

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

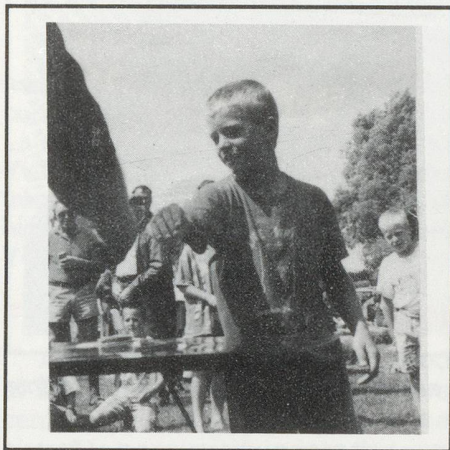
22 March: Bicultural Event. We shall visit the Porirua Bone Carver. Start 2pm. Ring Maya (478 2324) for details.

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Margot and Greg Ross-Pfister on the birth of their daughter Sarah, born 7 February 1997. A new sister for Jeremy. Best wishes to the four of them from the Wellington Swiss Club.



Final of the seniors between Peter Bigler and Nicol Ruchti.



Sami Werder, winner of the midgets.

EMIGRATION

More and more Swiss people are emigrating to foreign lands. Whilst in the old days, emigrants were mainly adventurers or young people seeking to start a new life and career in a foreign place, the new wave of emigrants comes now more and more from well established people who are looking for better investment opportunities or from people well in their fifties who are planning for an early retirement and want to enjoy the rest of their lives in a better financial and climatic environment.

Over the past 15 years, an average of 30,000 Swiss left their homeland every year. This number is steadily increasing whilst at the same time, the number of Swiss returning home permanently is going down all the time mainly because it has become almost impossible for Swiss returning from abroad to re-establish themselves in Switzerland, let alone find a job.

With over 540,000 Swiss living outside Switzerland, the Swiss abroad are now equal in numbers to the 5th most populated canton of Switzerland.

TOP SWISS FIRMS

Every year statistics are produced to list the 200 most important and best performing Swiss companies.

Once again Nestlé from Vevey comes up tops with the largest turnover (about 57 billion SFR), the largest cash flow and the biggest number of staff (over 220,000 worldwide).

The second largest company is the far less known Metro from Zug with some 55 billion SFR turnover and 180,000 staff worldwide.

Third is ABB (Asea Brown Boveri) and fourth a rather little known company from Baar called Glencoe International.

Then we get into a whole row of well known household names such as Ciba-Geigy, Migros, Sandoz, PTT, La Roche, Kraft Jacobs-Suchard, Coop and Holderbank. Swissair comes in 15th position followed by the SBB (17th), Danzas and Sulzer whilst Schindler has lifted itself up to position 25.

Lower down you find Kuoni (37), Landis & Gyr (38), Merkur (39), Rieter (50), Rolex (51), Jelmoli (53), Von Roll (60), Saurer (63), Globus (67), Denner (71), Ringier (72), Zellweger (102), Feldschlösschen (107), Bally (110), Mövenpick (117) and Lindt & Sprüngli (118).

Amongst the 20 companies with the highest turnover abroad, you will find in that order Nestlé, Ciba-Geigy, Sandoz, La Roche, Kraft Jacobs-Suchard and Holderbank.

Largest employers abroad are again Nestlé, ABB (Asea Brown Boveri), Ciba-Geigy, Sandoz, La Roche and Holderbank.

Only when it comes to net profit did Nestlé get beaten for the first time to second place by the smallest of the three Basle pharmaceutical companies, La Roche (3.3 billion SFR profit) which shows a far better profit margin than its two competitors Ciba-Geigy (3) and Sandoz (4). The Swiss Banks start appearing here with the Union Bank of Switzerland (5), Credit Suisse (8) and Swiss Bank Corporation (9).

If you are interested to know where your favourite Swiss Bank stands, here is the list in order of importance:

- 1) Union Bank of Switzerland (UBS) with assets worth in excess of 386 billion SFR.
- 2) Swiss Bank Corporation
- 3) Credit Suisse
- 4) Zürcher Volksbank
- 5) Volksbank
- 6) Banque Cantonale Vaudoise
- 7) Berner Kantonalbank
- 8) St. Gallische Kantonalbank
- 9) Luzerner Kantonalbank
- 10) Banque Cantonale de Genève
- 11) Bank Leu
- 12) Thurgauer Kantonalbank
- 13) Union Bancaire Privée
- 14) Basellandschaftliche Kantonalbank
- 15) Migros Bank
- 16) Raiffeisen Zentralbank
- 17) Neue Aargauer Bank
- 18) Graubündner Kantonalbank