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ONE of the much-vaunted "Indian" soccer teams of the apartheid era was Vredons Football Club.

This is part of our series on the history of old soccer clubs, which is brought to you courtesy of Gems Archives of veteran photographer Gopal Naransamy.

Vredons was founded by the late Reverend B L Sigamoney, a well-known community figure and activist of the time. The team's players came from Pageview, Malay Camp and Doornfontein. Rev. Sigamoney also founded the Vredons Cricket Club.

The captain of Vredons was Harry (Arumugam Padiachee) Morgan, a noted inside right who was selected at the age of 17 for the South African Indian XI against the All India touring team.

Another outstanding player was Aggie Poonen of the illustrious Poonen family of Vrededorp who had representatives in subsequent

Vredons Football Club — 1948

teams in the Sam China Cup tournaments. He was a natural right halfback.

Another outstanding player was tennis star, Wesley Thomas. Although he hailed from Natal, he represented Transvaal on several occasions.

V Gopaul, who was nicknamed "Vella" because of his light complexion, was one of the teams' unfortunate players.

Through his soccer abilities he could have walked into the national team.

Kannaga (Ken) Pillay — now living in London — was a natural left half and is remembered for his ability against visiting teams.

The dynamite in small package was T (Tarzan) Naidoo. Despite his shortness, he feared no one and defenders dreaded him.

Line-up of some of

the Vredons players of 1948 who won the League, Hockings Trophy and the KO shield is as follows:

Back Row — T Perumal, J Christians, R Padiachy, W Thomas, V Gopaul, Robert Thomas, G Williams, D Marian and H Thumbbran.

Middle Row — S Tozer (patron), Rev B L Sigamoney (president), A Poonen, J Thomas, V Govender and S Poonen (vice president).

Front Row — K Pillay and T "Tar-

zan" Naidoo (with the League and Hockings Trophy and the KO shield).

Perhaps readers can fill in some missing names of Vredons players in the picture by sending it to Gopal Naransamy at P O Box 667, Lenasia. 1820.

● Next month we hope to feature another team photo from the Gems Archives, perhaps the Pretoria and Districts Indian Football Association champions of yesteryear.

Libra Primary's table tennis girls get ready for Durban

By Iqbal Gaffoor

A WAVE of excitement has gripped Libra Primary School as their girls' table tennis team get ready to hit the road to the Banana City during the school holidays to participate in the inaugural USSASA

Love Life Games.

Team members — Nabelah Fakir, M a m a t h a p e l o Villozho, Karmaniy Pillay, Kimberely Marais and Raesha Ahmed — will be up against other schools at the University of Natal from October 4 to 6.

Abdul Samad "Sampie" Essack, who will coach the squad, also happens to be the principal of the school as well as the chairperson of the LPSSC.

Libra qualified for the national event at

the provincial Love Life Games at the Pretoria Technikon earlier this month.

Although Model's and Flamingo's 11-years and under volleyball teams received gold they will not be participating in the nationals as this age group is not being catered for.

Their 13-years and under teams lost narrowly in the semi-finals.

Model's under 11 soccer team received silver for their efforts after being beaten by Umtholo Primary in the finals.

Last month the LPSSC hosted their cross country race at the Vaal Techno Rama in Sedibeng.

An excited Flamingo sportsmaster, Abubaker Sali, an-

nounced that Angilina Selowa, received her under 9 provincial colours. She will be participating in the USSASA Cross Country Championships in Umtata, Transkei on September 29.

Solly Chantel and Rabie from Sharicrest Primary have been selected for the South Gauteng Schools Volleyball Association team to participate in the Spring Volleyball Tournament.

This showpiece event will be held in Oudtshoorn from September 24.

These two learners were fortunate that the Southern Africa Enterprise Development Fund made a R1 000 donation to their school.

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