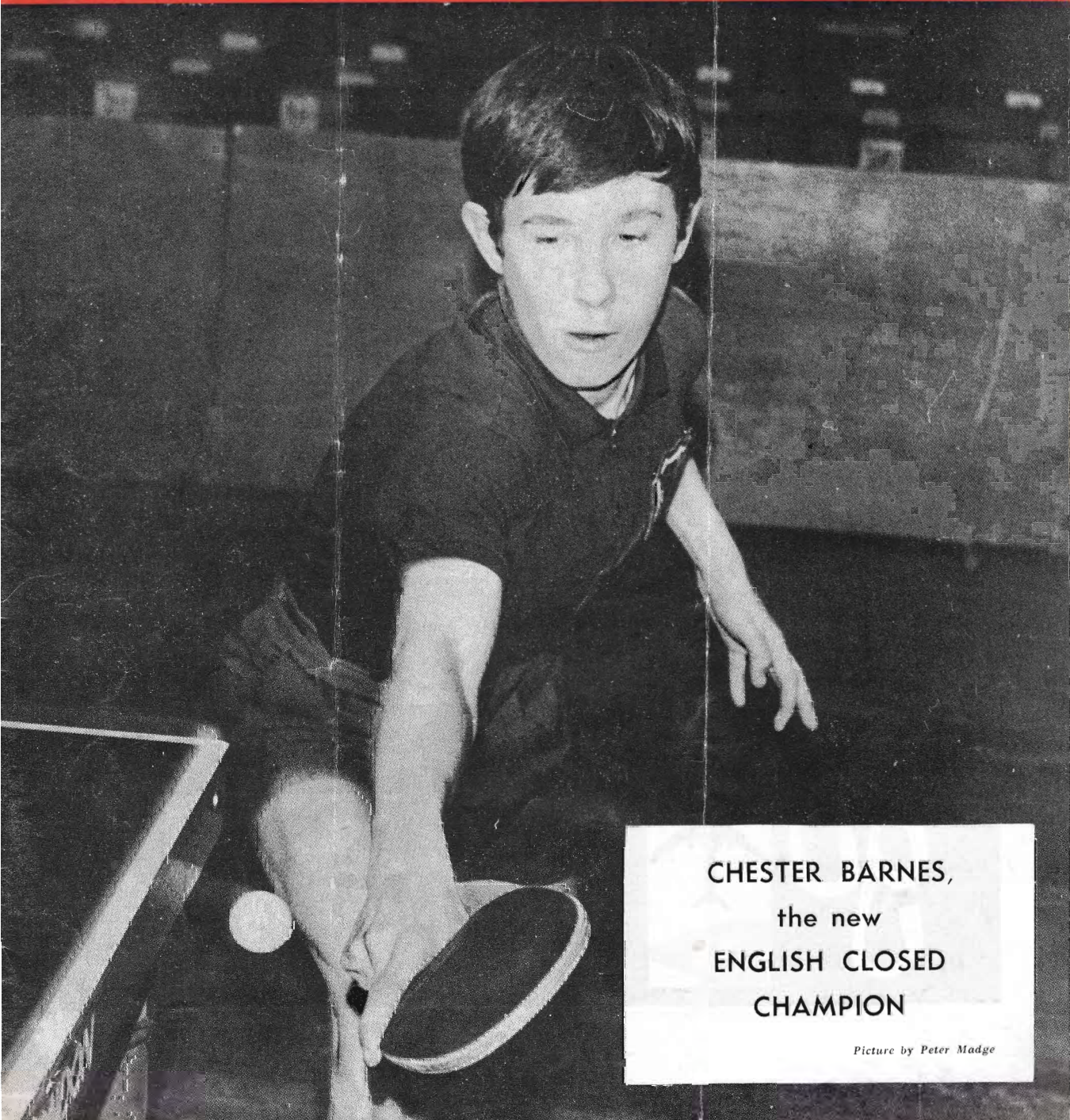


# Table Tennis

FEBRUARY, 1963  
ONE SHILLING

*The Official Magazine of the  
English Table Tennis Association*



CHESTER BARNES,  
the new  
ENGLISH CLOSED  
CHAMPION

*Picture by Peter Madge*

# Table Tennis

Official Magazine of the

English Table Tennis Association

Edited by W. HARRISON EDWARDS

Published by Walthamstow Press, Ltd., Guardian House, 644 Forest Road, London, E.17

Vol. 21

FEBRUARY, 1963

No. 5

## EUROPE CHALLENGES FOR ENGLISH OPEN

**AFTER** years of patient waiting, we sense a resurgence of interest in Table Tennis. Not only have bright young prospects like Chester Barnes, Mary Shannon, David Creamer and Lesley Bell shot into the limelight, but, largely through their influence, a new spirit of attack has appeared. This in itself will give an impetus to larger attendances at tournaments and matches and make the game the enjoyable recreation it was always meant to be.

While paying tribute to the youngsters, let us not forget such stalwarts as Diane Rowe, Ian Harrison, Bryan Merrett, Alan Rhodes and Jeff Ingber, who have struggled so hard in the intervening years to keep the game to the fore.

The big break through came at the English Closed. There Barnes hit his way through many of England's top ranked players to take the title; and Mary Shannon out-hit Diane Rowe to become women's champion. Their spirited play had the crowd in raptures.

### GOOD OMEN

It is a sign of greater things to come and a good omen for the English Open Championships at Brighton from February 28 to March 2.

It is play like this that is needed to bring the crowds back and it is perhaps coincidental that at Brighton the finals will move into the Dome which can accommodate a much bigger crowd.

Brighton awakened a new interest in audience value last year at the Corn Exchange when several hundreds had to be turned away. We have returned to Brighton once again to give those who missed out last time a chance to see what a great spectacle top-class table tennis can be.

This time the English Open Championships promises to be the best for several years with a large contingent of European players. No doubt they see the English Open as a chance to warm up against top-class competitors for the World Championships in Prague in April.

Countries expected to challenge the home talent at Brighton are Rumania, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Yugoslavia, West Germany, Sweden, Australia, New Zealand, Ireland, Scotland and Wales. It must be many years since Rumania took part in the English Open and they will send in their world doubles champions Maria Alexandru and Georgeta Pitica.

It would indeed be a fine attraction to see them up against Miss Rowe and Miss Shannon, the English champions, who also hold the European title.

Hungary may well send Zoltan Berczik, while Yugoslavia have the European men's doubles champions in Vojislav Markovic and Janez Teran.

**As an innovation there is to be a national teams competition, which will take place on the Thursday. This is for men and women's teams of two and will certainly be a big attraction.**

The names of individuals are not yet known, but it appears likely to be almost an unofficial European championships.

It will be interesting to see how Barnes, who has shown the way home to all the best home players, fares in international competition of this kind. And that is the experience he needs to fulfil the great promise he has already shown.

### WORLD'S TEAM

Barnes and Miss Shannon are to be members of England's world championships team along with Ian Harrison, Diane Rowe, David Creamer, and, providing sufficient funds are available, Bryan Merrett and Lesley Bell.

A championship like this will be a great fore-runner to the European Championships, which come to England next season and are to be played at the L.C.C. National Sports Centre at Crystal Palace.

All enquiries for tickets for the English Open must be made to the Dome Box Office, New Road, Brighton.

# OFFICIAL NEWS

**English Open Championships.** The English Open Championships will be played at The Dome and Corn Exchange, Brighton. Play will commence on Thursday, 28th February, at 10 a.m., and will continue all day Thursday, Friday, 1st March and Saturday, 2nd March. The Finals of all the Senior events will be played in the evening of Saturday, 2nd March, and will commence at 7 p.m.

Prices of admission for the Finals at The Dome will be 12s. 6d., 10s., 6s. 6d., 4s. and 3s. (all seats numbered and reserved) and bookings should be made direct to The Dome Box Office, New Road, Brighton..

Prices of admission to all other sessions will be 2s. 6d.—the session being timed from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. and 6.30 p.m.-10.30 p.m.—with the exception of the Saturday afternoon session which will be priced at 3s.

This season, for the first time ever, an **International Team Championship** for both Men's and Women's teams will be played. This will be staged on Thursday, 28th February, in the Corn Exchange and in view of the expected large and strong entry from abroad (see this month's Editorial) some very exciting matches should result. The matches will be played between 2 players a side (4 singles and 1 doubles) or in other words on the **Corbillon Cup** system.

With regard to accommodation for those who wish to spend a few days at Brighton, the office of the Association has copies of the official Brighton Corporation Accommodation List and any member desirous of receiving a copy should write to the E.T.T.A. office. All entrants will automatically receive a copy.

The Draw for the Championships will be made at Shell Mex House

**Published on the first Saturday of each month, October to May inclusive. Postal Subscription 10s. for eight issues, post free.**

**Advertisements: R. Boniface, 161 Hoe Street, Walthamstow, London, E.17.**

**Circulation Manager: Louis Hoffman, 180 Brick Lane, London, E.1. Tel.: Shoreditch 7391.**

**Editorial: W. Harrison Edwards, c/o Sports Press, 142 Fleet Street, London, E.C.4 (FLE 5352).**

(Room E.91), Strand, London, W.C.2, on Monday, 11th February, commencing at 7 p.m. The E.T.T.A. wish to record their appreciation to the Management of Shell Mex and B.P. Ltd. for all the facilities they have provided for the occasion.

All enquiries regarding the Championships should be made to the E.T.T.A. office, 652 Grand Buildings, Trafalgar Square, London, W.C.2 (TRAFalgar 2165).

**Germany D.T.T.B. Junior Tour of England.** A team of three boys and two girls, together with two non-playing captains from the Germany D.T.T.B. Association will be coming to England to take part in the English Open Championships and also to make a short tour. They will arrive on 27th February and will stay until 5th March. The following Junior International matches will be played:

28th February, 1963, at Bexhill Athletic Club, Bexhill, 7 p.m.

4th March, 1963, at Y.M.C.A., Leicester, 7 p.m.

5th March, 1963, at St. Luke's Youth Centre, Jude Street, London, E.16, 7 p.m.

The Junior England teams will be selected on the 3rd February.

**Australian T.T.A. Tour of England.**

A team consisting of four men and a non-playing captain will arrive in London from Australia on the 16th February. They have intimated in correspondence that they wish to take part in three or four tournaments. Their itinerary has been arranged by the E.T.T.A. office as follows:

February

16th—Arrive in London.

22nd/23rd—East of Ireland Championships.

28th/March 2nd—English Open Championships.

March

7th—versus Bedfordshire.

9th/10th—Bucks. Open Championships.

13th—versus Oxfordshire.

17th—versus Warwickshire.

21st—versus Middlesex.

22nd/24th—Stevenage Open Championships.

25th—versus Hertfordshire.

27th—versus Surrey.

29th/31st—Scottish Open Championships.

## English Table Tennis Association

**Patron: Her Majesty The Queen.**

**President: Hon. I. G. S. Montagu.**

**Chairman: I. C. Eyles.**

**Deputy Chairman: G. James.**

**Honorary Treasurer: T. Blunn.**

**Secretary: D. P. Lowen.**

**Office of the Association: 652, Grand Buildings, Trafalgar Square, London, W.C.2. (Telephone: TRAFalgar 2165).**

### TEAM SELECTIONS

**Germany D.T.T.B. Open Championships, Frankfurt on Main, 23rd/24th February, 1963:** Miss D. Rowe (Middlesex), I. O. Harrison (Gloucestershire). Miss Rowe will act as playing captain.

**World Championships, Prague, 5th/14th April, 1963** (subject to confirmation by The National Executive Committee, on 2nd February, 1963): I. O. Harrison (Gloucestershire), D. O. Creamer (Middlesex), C. G. Barnes (Essex), B. R. Merrett (Gloucestershire), Miss D. Rowe (Middlesex), Miss M. Shannon (Surrey), Miss L. Bell (Essex). Non-playing captain, R. J. Crayden (Surrey).

**Items available for sale at the E.T.T.A. Office:**

### BOOKS AND PUBLICATIONS:

Handy Pocket Edition of the Laws .....	4½
Table Tennis Quiz, by Alec Brook .....	1 6
Know the Game, Table Tennis .....	2 6
Table Tennis My Way, by Johnnie Leach .....	5 0
How to Win at Table Tennis, by Victor Barna ...	6 0
Modern Table Tennis, by Jack Carrington .....	10 6
Table Tennis Today, by Victor Barna .....	15 0
Table Tennis Complete, by Johnnie Leach .....	21 0
<b>OTHER ITEMS:</b>	
E.T.T.A. Ties .....	14 0
E.T.T.A. Metal Lapel Badges .....	2 3

# Soccer Players Take Up Table Tennis

## NATIONAL RANKINGS

**CHESTER BARNES** reaped quick reward for his win in the English closed championships and subsequent good play in the world championship trials, by being included in the National Senior Rankings for the first time. He comes in at No. 3.

Ian Harrison continues to head the list with David Creamer moving up to No. 2. Jeff Ingber, the previous No. 2, slumps to sixth place, but Bryan Merrett moves up two places to No. 4.

Alan Lindsay, unranked last time, comes in at No. 10.

Diane Rowe once again leads the women's list immediately followed by Mary Shannon, the new English closed champion, and Lesley Bell, who shared the No. 2 spot last time.

Pam Mortimer gets well deserved promotion from No. 10 to No. 6, while Cynthia Blackshaw and Mary Hicks come into the rankings for the first time.

The full list is:

### MEN:

1. **I. Harrison** (Glos.) (1).
2. **D. Creamer** (Middx.) (3).
3. **C. Barnes** (Essex) (-).
4. **B. Merrett** (Glos.) (6).
5. **A. Rhodes** (Middx.) (4).
6. **J. Ingber** (Lancs.) (2).
7. **R. Stevens** (Essex) (5).
8. } **M. Symonds** (Lancs.) (8).
9. } **B. Wright** (Middx.) (7).
10. **A. Lindsay** (Middx.) (-).

### WOMEN:

1. **D. Rowe** (Middx.) (1).
2. **M. Shannon** (Surrey) (2).
3. **L. Bell** (Essex) (2).
4. **J. McCree** (Essex) (5).
5. **A. Taft** (Middx.) (4).
6. **P. Mortimer** (Warwicks.) (10).
7. **J. Williams** (Herts.) (6).
8. **J. Fielder** (Kent) (7).
9. **C. Blackshaw** (Yorks.) (-).
10. **M. Hicks** (Middx.) (-).

(Figures in parentheses denote position in previous list).

**A FOOTBALLER** in a table tennis magazine? No, we have not mixed our pictures or sports (*writes Harrison Edwards*), be found with a table tennis bat in his hand.

It is his second game. For Ray plays regularly for Packhorse Mews Rovers in the Huddersfield and District Fourth Division.

And a closer look at this unusually named team reveals it is in fact



**RAY WILSON** of Huddersfield Town.

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Huddersfield Town F.C. in another guise. Wilson lines up with his footballing colleagues, **Les Massie, John McCann** and **Ken Taylor**, who is also an England and Yorkshire cricketer.

Yet another of their footballing colleagues, **Chris Balderstone**, who is also a Yorkshire cricketer, plays table tennis for Huddersfield Y.M.C.A.

Why this enthusiasm for table tennis as Huddersfield Town? "We have our own table at the club," explains Wilson. "Most of the players are of a good standard and all are keen. In fact, they are so keen on the game that the trainer often has a job to break us away for football training."

If ever the day should come when professional footballers have a table tennis championship as they do in golf, then it looks as though Huddersfield Town will be well to the fore.

SURREY NOTES

**A WORTHWHILE CAUSE**

THE aim of most leagues is "TO SPREAD, DEVELOPE OR ADVANCE THE GAME." How often do we really work on this aspect?

With a New Year this is an opportune time to put forward to the ordinary player, who subscribes to these beliefs, a way of carrying them out.

Some time ago the Surrey Executive received a letter from the Cheshire Home for Parapletics, requesting coaching or practice play. I have been there on several occasions and can state that any player who can keep the ball on the table and would drop in for as little as one hour per week, fortnight or even once a month, would be most welcome.

So why not do your good turn in this way. Just contact MISS JOAN ADCOCK, ATHOL HOUSE, 138, COLLEGE ROAD, UPPER NORWOOD, LONDON, S.E.19 and she will be able to make the necessary arrangements.

Congratulations to Dicky Clode, ex-Surrey junior, who won the R.A.F. singles title, captains Wiltshire and, so we understand, is in line to be one of the R.A.F. team which will play in Malta.

Cheam "A" lost their first match in 14 seasons in the Sutton League, to Nithsdale, who provided the Rose Bowl winning team last year. Cheam were represented by Emil Emecz, Dennis Rivett, and Zenon Schram, so had no excuse of being below strength. The Nithsdale winning trio was Mary Shannon, Jean Head and Trevor Williams.

Surrey still struggle from the playing point of view. Bad news is the mentioned retirement of Joe Somogyi. Joe has never quite fulfilled his overseas class in this country but one is all the time aware that it is there and we were hoping it would be fulfilled when he had settled down to the English habit of fitting in play with a full time job.

The shortage of girls among the juniors is becoming cronic. Janet Harrison is keen on too many sports to develop fully her talent with the little white ball. **Jim Forrest.**

**Herts. Go for Youngsters**

HERTFORDSHIRE are intent on developing their younger talent in a bid to produce players of the calibre of Chester Barnes. Older players like Brian Barr, David Seaholme, John Hunt, can be of great help in developing the

**Harrogate After Yorks. Title**

THERE are high hopes at Harrogate. No spa team has won a Yorkshire inter-club title since the war, but the young men of Wanderers aim to change that.

Having hurdled over Hull Y.P.'s first team they made no mistake against the second team and an 8-1 onslaught took Eric Hall, Mick Corneby and David Shaw into the youths' final.

Their success is especially heartening for that active veteran Norman Lusher, a Harrogate stalwart since 1935. He was behind the formation of the independent Wanderers club and now sees the youngsters preparing to succeed the town's experienced Lusher-Mitchelmore-Long-Adams line-up.

For Eric Hall, 1962 was a year studded with success. He won the Harrogate senior, junior and handicap events, which had never been done before, and the Knaresborough senior and junior. He was in the Harrogate team promoted from Division Three of the inter-league series and shared the section's individual merit award; and he was in the Yorkshire junior team which won the northern championship.

The year ended with this 17-year-old the only unbeaten player in the Harrogate League.

On the inter-league front, Leeds languish at the foot of Division One, but Huddersfield, champions nine

times in the last 11 seasons, must feel uncomfortable with only one more point. Sheffield "B" and Hull will also be concerned in the dog-fight to dodge the drop.

The stars were out for Huddersfield's table top tussle. Stuart Dyson played his second match for R.A.F.A. and David Stanley made a rare appearance for Y.M.C.A. Juniors.

Malcolm Mear beat Dyson and Trevor Cockcroft but lost to Brian Pennington. Hirst and Stanley won two each, though neither could topple Dyson, so Y.M.C.A. consolidated their lead with a 6-4 verdict.

R.A.F.A. have lost John Beaumont, who has started a chiropodist's business in Lincolnshire, where he was stationed in the R.A.F.



STUART DYSON

Howard Birch, Yorkshire champion in 1946, is playing for Kirkheaton Co-op. along with Philip and Donald Earnshaw and they have a good lead in Division Two.

In the Division One individual handicap final at Hull, Dave Bartlett beat Eddie Beedle. Paul Canham, the Yorkshire junior, had little difficulty winning the Hull schoolboys' title. Irene Allon took the senior girls' event to maintain the record of Ainthorpe High School, who have supplied the winner every year since the start in 1956.

Yorkshire's first team, relegated last season from the Premier Division for the first time, are not finding Division Two North easy going, though they have every hope of qualifying for the play-offs.

In contrast the second team are proving far too strong in the Midland Division and in three matches have yielded only two sets. Rod Oglesby, who moved up to No. 1 against Worcestershire, has not yet dropped a game.

The juniors, after lapsing against Lancs., are putting up a spirited fight in defence of their northern crown and outshone Durham 5-3.

C. Foster.

Malcolm Hartley

**SAD LEEDS LOSS**

JACK SUMMERSCALES, the veteran Leeds enthusiast, has died at the age of 62. When he retired from Bramley Liberals' team last year he was the league's oldest player.

Mr. Summerscales, chairman of an electrical engineering company, started playing for Ashby in 1930 when the league was formed.

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# Warwickshire Have Arrived

WARWICKSHIRE have at last arrived! After fighting for years to get into the Premier Division, and then last season fighting to stay there, they have now reached a position where they could quite easily challenge for runners-up to Middlesex.

With two great wins against Cheshire, 8-1 and Surrey 6-3, they have put themselves in a safe position this season.

In the match against Cheshire, Gunnion had an amazing win over the Cheshire No. 2, Crossley, when he was leading 20-love in the first game, and afterwards won 21-2.

Since he has been promoted to County No. 1 Gunnion has been playing extremely well. The only game he has lost being against Ingber, which was deuce in the third. He was presented with his County badge after the Surrey match and a player can scarcely deserve one more, as he has been the architect of our three victories this season, winning both his singles in all these matches.

The Surrey match saw an amazing start when we took the first three men's singles. After we had lost the men's doubles, Pam Mortimer went on to beat Mary Shannon in two straight games, the shock of the match. Pam, since getting to the semi-final of the English Closed, has been playing terrific attacking table tennis and if she continues like this, no one in the country can go on the table expecting to win. Certainly this should improve her position in the ranking list, as there seems to be certain anomalies in the current list.

Billington then clinched the match for

us and Gunnion held on to beat Ireland to make the score 6-3. Maurice Billington was playing well and in this match he really stuck his ground, for the first



RALPH GUNNION

time winning two matches in the Premier Division. I have the feeling that now this feat is accomplished, it will be quite a regular thing for him.

A good entry is expected for the Midland Open and we shall now be expecting some of our improved County players to be taking some more titles and perhaps for Gunnion to keep his. Certainly it will be interesting to see if Pam Mortimer can now regain the title she lost a couple of years ago.

Incidentally, a wonderful crowd turned up at Coventry Closed. Over 200 people braved the blizzard for this memorable match.

# LEICESTERSHIRE LEAGUES GOING WELL

ALL Leicestershire's four affiliated leagues are enjoying a successful season. The largest, **Leicester and District**, have thirteen divisions with Hinckley Y.M.C.A. currently top of the first division. The only individual with 100 per cent record is Bentley's Charlie Jacques. Only George Webster (Post Office) has taken him to three.

George is always a problem for the top players and he was the first player to beat Johnny Burraston this season. In 2A Hinckley Y.M.C.A. II look likely to top the division, having a sound trio in Arthur Cross, Alan Hydon and R. Jenkins. Wildt/Mellor Bromley are doing well enough in 2B to gain promotion. Jim Alvey, Gordon Pell and Mick Hibberd are all playing well.

Melvin Matts leads the 4B leaders. Leicester Y.M.C.A. VI, and is supported by newcomers Tony Willmin and Peter Church. Almost certain to top 5A are Viaduct I with T. Taylor, Paul Richards (ex-British Railways) and George Koltonowski, from Polish Orkan, in the team.

Perhaps the keenest player in the whole league is Tom Whiteman, whose team, Soccer Pools, look certain of promotion in 5B. Tom is also a student of the National Coaching Scheme.

In the Loughborough League, G. Greasley and J. Grimley are playing well, and their team, Shepshed, have a good chance of the league championship. E. Hallam leads Grieves, who currently top the Coalville League. In the Leicester Y.O.C. League, Caldecote Road are doing well.

In the Y.M.C.A. Open tournament, Ernest McLeish beat Charlie Jacques to retain his title. Jacques, partnered by Gordon Murray, took the men's doubles, while the mixed doubles went to Graham Newby and Marjorie Purser. Rita Beith won the ladies' singles, Steven White the junior singles and Bob Geary the under-15 singles.

Philip Reid.

# Bernard Crouch Trophy

THE Bernard Crouch Trophy has reached the half way stage with Essex, so far unbeaten, leading the table. Although this competition was originally inaugurated to "blood" young players this is only partly being carried out.

Essex rely on more experienced players who cannot find places in the normal county teams, while they use their young players in the second team in the National County Championship. Middlesex are using two of their juniors with an anchor of two or more seasoned players, while Surrey field their second team which includes one very young player. Kent, who are newcomers this season, are, however, using all young players, but are finding the going tough.

Results so far: Essex bt. Surrey 5-4; bt. Middlesex 6-3; bt. Kent 8-1. Middlesex bt. Surrey 8-1; bt. Kent 6-3. Surrey bt. Kent 6-3.

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## AROUND EAST ANGLIA

## V.I.P.'s for NORWICH

**H**ISTORY will be made when E.T.T.A. Chairman Ivor Eyles; Secretary, Peter Lowen; and Region 7's Elected Member, Harry Walker; visit Norwich on February 16th to meet Norfolk administrators. They will be guests of honour at Norfolk's first Annual Dinner at the Grosvenor Rooms in the evening.

The following day, Norwich League will hold their Championships at the Central Youth Hall, Duke Street, and will include this year a Consolation Singles.

Since Norfolk began to buy its thousand copies a season of TABLE TENNIS, local interest in our international game has grown enormously. We now have our own East Anglian page and need only another dozen subscribers for that hundred.

If anyone ever thought that table tennis in East Anglia was moribund, they will not think so now. Norwich Secretary, Harold Betts, reports growing numbers and hints at a new division for next season. Coaching is everywhere producing the best crop of juniors for years, and County Secretary, Eric Fairhead, now suggests matches between the various coaching groups, particularly between our junior girls, whom we shall need for our junior County Championship team.

In 18 months £27 has already been raised for this team from sales of this magazine. It has proved its value again and again. We thank Mr. Harrison Edwards and his Merry Men and wish them many more years of useful existence!

The East Anglian League now reads: **Div. I:** Ipswich 4, Norwich 4, Yarmouth 2, Lowestoft 0. **Div. II:** Norwich 'B' 4, Yarmouth 'B' 4, Lowestoft 'B' 0, Wymondham 0, Dereham 0. Norwich 'B' and Yarmouth 'B' will have decided the issue at the Units on Friday, January 11th. Norwich 'A' beat Yarmouth 6-4 and Lowestoft 7-3.

The County match at Wymondham Secondary Modern School was a great success. Although Norfolk lost to Berkshire 6-4, the new venue, new faces, and a greatly increased number of spectators, more than compensated. Keith Shaw, Derek Heaps, Tony Reeves, Miss Merril Upton and Mrs. D. Burdett gave us a most enjoyable evening on that cold night. We thank the school culinary staff and Mr. and Mrs. W. Kerrison for their warming refreshments.

Wymondham S.M. have an excellent sports master in Mr. G. H. Dye, and are noted for their record entries in the *Eagle/Girl* tournament. It was one of the surprises of the season to receive a telephone call later asking for 62 copies of TABLE TENNIS by return before the school broke up for Christmas. Let us hope that other schools, particularly girls' schools, will follow this example.

Please write, if interested, to me. Norfolk C.T.T.A. will also arrange to coach children of eleven plus, if desired, as is

already being done at Wymondham, at their request.

The Y.M.C.A. Schoolboys' Tournament results were: "Teams of 3": City of Norwich School beat Henderson 'A'; Over 14's: Terry Rymer (C.N.S.) beat Keith Fairweather; Under 14's: Neville Graver (C.N.S.) beat Lewis Betts (Wymondham). The C.N.S. team was T. Rymer, S. Hemsted and P. Alden. There were 128 entries and the finals were of a much higher standard this season. Neville Graver is a coming player.

J. S. PENNY

## SUFFOLK NOTES

**T**HE second event of the Suffolk "Leading Ladies" tournament was prominent for a welcome return to the competition by Pam Rogers. She was on her best form and had little difficulty in winning all her sets two-straight in Group A of the singles. Brenda Brown won Group B in a similar fashion.

The inter-group final began well with both players attacking hard. Pam won the first game 24-22 and the second 21-11 after her opponent had somewhat fallen away.

The doubles ties gave more examples of exciting play and Brenda Brown, partnered by Linda Barrett, went through unbeaten. However, all their sets went to the best of three so they could muster only six points compared to the seven by Mrs. Rogers and Catherine Cleary, who had two straight games wins to their credit.

At the close, Mrs. Rogers was winner on the day with 17 points, and now shared second place with Doris Fox. The leader is Brenda Brown with 21 points. Other near rivals are Hazel Hawkes and Linda Barrett on 15½ points and 15 points respectively.

News from junior spheres makes very interesting reading. Both divisions of the Stowmarket League are headed by youthful teams from the same club. Conservative Club "A" side, average age 18, head Division I and are unbeaten to date. Their junior "A" side, with an average age of 16, head division II with 61 sets out of 70 from seven matches. **Lowestoft report the discovery of 12-year-old twins, Diane and Jean Youngs, who with Marilyn Dallas, one month younger than the twins, are expected to be challenging for the junior county side in a year or two.**

Meanwhile, Ipswich are not to be outdone and one of the fruits of Jack Carrington's visit to the Chantry School is a crop of keen youngsters about 12 years old. In addition, Ipswich Lawn Tennis Club, which boasts the former Jean Nicoll as a member, are having regular sessions with two of the Ipswich coaches.

All of this is very satisfactory on the surface. Those on the inside of Suffolk

table tennis, however, cannot help deploring the apparent apathy in Lowestoft, once the hot-bed of the sport in the county, and a shortage of facilities for centralised practice and coaching in Ipswich.

D. J. Barrett.

## CAMBRIDGESHIRE

## BAD START

**T**HE record of the Cambridgeshire teams in the Senior and Junior Divisions of the National County Championships do not make very pleasant reading. In fact at the time of writing these notes they have not succeeded in winning a single game in either Junior or Senior Sections!

In the only match they have played in the Championships the Seniors lost to Hampshire by ten games to nil and a more disastrous beginning could not have been anticipated.

Now that John Cornwell is on the brink of retiring from competitive table tennis the Cambridgeshire team will take on a new look and we may see some Juniors next season taking on the roll of Seniors in the county team.

The main Junior at the moment is young Alan Ponder who is quite a steady player, but lacks a consistent attack.

The Juniors suffered two defeats at the hands of Middlesex and Herts. respectively and did not succeed in winning a game in either match.

It is a happier picture in the South-East Midlands League with Cambridge City leading the way with an unbeaten record. Unfortunately in the Ladies' Section Cambridge City are near the bottom, having suffered heavy defeats at the hands of Kettering (who head the Table) and Bedford.

Coaching still goes on in Cambs. and Junior sessions at the Y.M.C.A. Cambridge must bear fruit in the near future. Junior sessions are also held at Chesteron Youth Centre and at Milton Village as well as Swavesey Village College.. John Cornwell and Leslie Constable are in charge of these classes.

Y.M.C.A. top the Cambridgeshire League, closely followed by New Chesteron Institute. Also in the hunt are the University Press and Pest Control but I feel that Y.M.C.A. and New Chesteron Institute will have the last say! Of course, Y.M.C.A. II and Impington Village College are all in the top half.

Players who have served their Club well in these first four teams in Division I are John Loker, Albert Jackson and R. Hsu (Y.M.C.A. I), Alan Ponder and John Cornwell (Y.M.C.A. II), John Thurston (New Chesteron Institute), and Ron Nunn and Keith Chapman (University Press).

The Cambridgeshire Closed Championships, which are being held in March, promise to be great success and already players are getting "tensed up" for this big event in Cambridgeshire table tennis. The Radius Events usually bring in their quota of class players from the outlying districts and I know that they enjoy participating in this popular event.

Leslie Constable

# U.S.S.R. PREPARES FOR PRAGUE

By Victor Kollegorsky

(Executive Secretary of the  
U.S.S.R. Table Tennis Federation)

**SOVIET** table tennis players are training vigorously for the 27th world championships in Prague next April. This will be their second appearance in a world tournament.

The composition of the Soviet women's and men's teams is likely to be changed considerably compared with the 1961 line-up in Peking. Several dozen young players have since come to the fore with a modern aggressive style of play. Mastery of this style enabled Soviet players to win the Bucharest Cup in the European juniors matches in Bad Blankenburg in 1961 and Bled in 1962 and a number of first prizes in girls' competitions.

Selection of candidates for the Prague team was greatly helped by the tenth U.S.S.R. team championship held in November in Berezniki, a small town in the Urals.

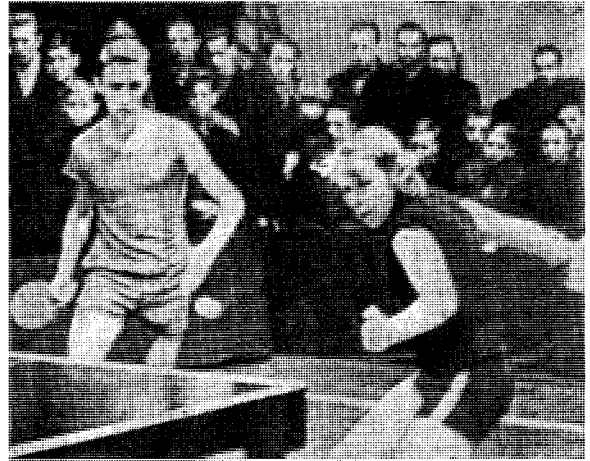
The Federation Challenge Cups were contested by 23 women's and 23 men's teams of urban and rural clubs.

Spartak, winners in all previous team competitions, suffered a resounding defeat in Berezniki, failing to get a place among the prize-winners.

The women's title was won by the **Labour Reserves** team headed by 22-year-old Signe Paisiary, recognised after the Peking championship as one of the best women players in Europe. They beat Stormy Petrel 5-2 in the final.

**Locomotive** headed by Nikolai Novikov, a 17-year-old member of the national team, defeated Trud with the same score in the men's final.

Valentin Ivanov, veteran coach of the national team



**GENNADY AVERIN** and **ZOYA RUDNOVA**, seen in action when winning the mixed doubles title.

and author of many books on table tennis, coached the team.

One of the most likely members of the national team is Anatoly Amelin, a 16-year-old schoolboy from Moscow. He first attracted attention in Bled, where he made a sensational ascent to the finals and finished as Europe's second-best junior.

A bold and energetic player, Amelin is in his element in attack and at the slightest opportunity pounds his opponent with powerful strokes. His attack is well prepared by good top-spins and vertical shots.

Mikhail Nasypaiko, of Odessa, is a year older than Amelin and is his equal in strength and aggressiveness. In Berezniki he overpowered Amelin 25-23 in the deciding set of a thrilling game.

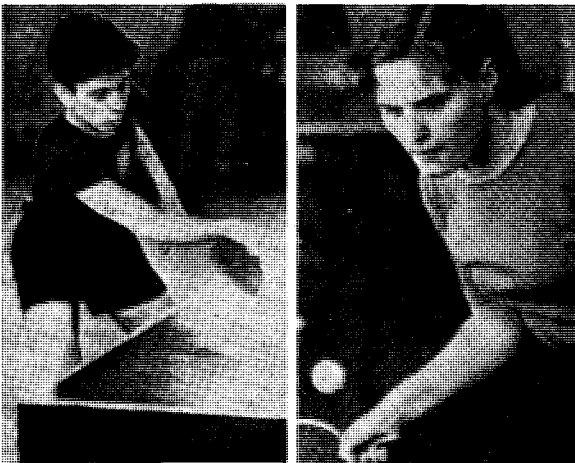
Moscow schoolboy David Brodsky, who put up a spectacular performance in Berezniki, also has a good chance of qualifying for Prague. With an excellent technique, he succeeded in beating many-times champion Algimantas Saunoris, a surgeon from Vilnius, who captains the Soviet national team. The "iron doctor," as he is called, is rarely beaten even by older players. Another defeat suffered by Saunoris in the Urals was inflicted by Shlyapochnikov, a 20-year-old Muscovite, who top-spins beautifully and scores killing aces.

A good showing was also made by 20-year-old Boris Kholodovsky from Moscow, who has wins over Novikov and Brodsky to his credit.

Among the women players, excellent skill was demonstrated by 16-year-old Moscow schoolgirl Zoya Rudnova, 1961 European girls' champion. In the final game with Signe Paisiary she defeated her experienced opponent with a run of powerful strokes.

Along with Rudnova and Paisiary, there is a good chance of qualifying for Laima Balaisite, a talented 14-year-old from Vilnius, who won the national title in February, 1962, and the European girls' title in July.

Other possibles include Niola Ramenauskaitė and Aldona Kondrataite, young Lithuanians who made their debut at the Peking championship, Alexandra Kosyakina and Svetlana Grinberg from Kiev, and Moscow University student Sofya Belotserkovskaya.



**NIKOLAI NOVIKOV** (left) and **SIGNE PAISIARY** (right), the respective leaders of Locomotive and Labour Reserves, winners of the U.S.S.R. team championships.



# MY TOUR OF WEST AFRICA

By DAVID CREAMER

I HAD, in the past, travelled a little to such countries as Belgium, France, Germany, Luxembourg and Switzerland, but a trip to West Africa was beyond my wildest dreams. So when Victor Barna invited me to accompany him on this trip I had no hesitation in accepting.

We left London Airport early on the morning of October 15 and arrived at Lagos the same evening. Our hotel was a short drive from the Airport and we were thankful to be able to climb into our air-conditioned bedrooms.

A practice with the Nigerian National team the next day was followed by exhibitions at the King's and Queen's Colleges, both attended by large and enthusiastic audiences.

The following Friday we left Lagos for Ibadan, a car journey of 90 miles on a very bumpy and winding road, breaking off to play at a school at Umaha. Green Springs Rest House was our headquarters for the next four days. We played an exhibition before some 750 spectators on the stage of the local cinema, and two more at the university and a school.

A 400 miles flight to Enugu came next and here we appeared on television and also played two more exhibitions, before moving on to Port Harcourt, a journey of 200 miles by car to show our skill to yet another enthusiastic crowd.

We then flew back to Lagos for further exhibitions, and where we attended a cocktail party at the residence of the Governor-General. Next we played at Kaduna after a flight of 600 miles, then flew on to Kano, where I left Victor and caught the plane back to London.

Overall the trip appeared to be a great success. This was particularly evident by the size of the crowds and their enthusiasm on each occasion.

The hospitality was excellent; nothing was too much for us, including a visit to the Trade Fair, and appearances on television.

I would like to thank Victor Barna, the Nigerian *Daily Times*, and the E.T.T.A. for making this trip possible. It was a great experience and I am sure that I have learned a lot from playing with Victor, which will show in my play later.



VICTOR BARNa and DAVID CREAMER mingle with the Nigerian International Football team, at the Nigerian Trade Fair, at Lagos, during their recent tour of West Africa. Our picture shows (right to left) Jack Farnworth (Treasurer Nigerian T.T.A.), Victor Barna, Dan Anyian (Nigerian football coach), David Creamer, and Peter Osugo (Sports Editor, Nigerian Daily Times), with the footballers in the background.

LANCS OPEN

By George R. Yates

# CLAYTON COMES THROUGH

**E**ARLY shocks in the Lancashire Open, staged by the Bolton SSS League in conjunction with the County Association in the cocoon that was the De Haviland Aircraft Company's Lostock factory on icy January 12, were not confined to the tables, for top seed Jeff Ingber, a flu victim, and fourth seed Bertie Kerr, snow-bound in Edinburgh, had to be scratched.

Rising from the dust of his demoted county ranking, Jack Clayton finally "landed" men's singles title holder Mike Symonds, proving too experienced an angler to let his younger opponent off the hook as had others before him.

Mounting a desperate offensive in the second game, again from a trailing position, Symonds failed to break Clayton's iron curtain defence despite hurtling everything into the attack.

Symonds had walked the tightrope from the third round onwards coming from behind to steal the thunder of David Bevan 21-19, 15-21, 26-24, George Livesey 16-21, 21-19, 23-21, and then Peter Duncombe and Denis Neale in two further pulsating sets.

New holder Clayton was never in any such difficulties in brief encounters with Cheshire junior Roger Hampson, Fred Kershaw, Cleve Judson and Brian Starkie. Ron Allcock was the only player to take the new champion to three games; Ralph Gunnion conceded the semi in two straight.

Coming through from Ingber's allotted place in the first quarter, Gunnion never dropped a game, similarly Neale took over Kerr's appointed rôle with equal success, Liverpool's Wally Allanson running him the closest.

Strewn in the wake of the forward marchers were Derek Schofield, out to Manchester's E. Ford in the first round, Cheshire county team-mate Peter Walmsley being axed by Douglas McGarry, Maurice Pitts going under to Duncombe.

Ivy Kershaw's utter capitulation to



JACK CLAYTON

Connie Moore in the second game of the women's singles final was quite inexplicable but fortunately followed by the men's doubles in which George Livesey and Bryn Farnworth excelled in opposition to Barnsley's Mike Dainty and McGarry.

Livesey claimed a second doubles title in the mixed with Linda Gordon and in the women's doubles the all-Yorkshire pairing of Lesley Proudlock and Cynthia Blackshaw got the better of Lancashire's Diane Fitzgerald and Miss Moore.

It is perhaps unfair to criticise Burnley's other successful candidate Brian Marsden, who brought about the downfall of David Stanley, but the boys' final was nonetheless uninspiring. All credit to Marsden though for this win was certainly a feather in his cap.

As expected Jackie Canham shed none of the glitter attaching to her similar national ranking to Stanley in the girls' singles against Pat Dainty.

Alone of the holders Harrogate's Norman Lusher retained his veterans' title but how unexpected was his opponent in the final, Mrs. Marjorie Wade, of Blackpool.

**Men's Singles: Quarter-Finals:** R. Gunnion (Warwicks.) bt G. Beardsworth (Lancs.) 21-16, 21-9; J. Clayton (Lancs.) bt R. Allcock (Lancs.) 21-15, 19-21, 21-10; D. Neale (Durham) bt D. McGarry (Yorks.) 21-11, 21-7; M. Symonds (Lancs.) bt P. C. Duncombe (Yorks.) 18-21, 21-19, 21-19.

**Semi-Finals:** CLAYTON bt Gunnion 21-19, 21-13; SYMONDS bt Neale 21-19, 21-17.

**Final:** CLAYTON bt Symonds 21-19, 21-17.

**Women's Singles: Semi-Finals:** I. KERSHAW (Lancs.) bt M. Leigh (Lancs.) 21-17, 18-21, 21-18; C. MOORE (Lancs.) bt J. Canham (Herts) 18-21, 21-13, 23-21.

**Final:** MOORE bt Kershaw 21-17, 21-5.

**Men's Doubles: Semi-Finals:** G. LIVESEY / B. FARNWORTH (Lancs.) bt F. R. Kershaw/P. Dixon (Lancs.) 21-13, 21-9; M. DAINTY (Yorks.)/McGARRY bt Symonds/D. H. Stanley (Yorks.) 21-19, 19-21, 24-22.

**Final:** LIVESEY/FARNWORTH bt Dainty/McGarry 22-20, 21-18.

**Women's Doubles: Semi-Finals:** D. FITZGERALD (Lancs.)/MOORE bt Kershaw/L. Gordon (Yorks.) 18-21, 21-15, 21-19; L. S. PROUDLOCK/C. BLACKSHAW (Yorks.) bt W. Swift (Lancs.)/Leigh 21-14, 13-21, 21-17.

**Final:** PROUDLOCK / BLACKSHAW bt Fitzgerald/Moore 25-23, 21-16.

**Mixed Doubles: Semi-Finals:** LIVESEY/GORDON bt Allcock/Moore 21-14, 14-21, 21-17; GUNNION/FITZGERALD bt Duncombe/Blackshaw 6-21, 22-20, 25-23.

**Final:** LIVESEY/GORDON bt Gunnion/Fitzgerald 21-17, 21-12.

**Boys' Singles: Semi-Finals:** STANLEY bt R. Hampson (Ches.) 21-17, 21-12; B. J. MARSDEN (Lancs.) bt B. W. Cain (Ches.) 21-15, 21-19.

**Final:** MARSDEN bt Stanley 21-11, 14-21, 21-17.

**Girls' Singles: Semi-Finals:** CANHAM bt J. Harrison (Lancs.) 21-14, 21-6; P. DAINTY (Yorks.) bt M. Hepple (Northumberland) 21-16, 21-8.

**Final:** CANHAM bt P. Dainty 21-16, 21-15.

**Veterans' Singles: Semi-Finals:** N. LUSHER (Yorks.) bt H. Greaves (Lancs.) 21-13, 21-19; M. A. WADE (Lancs.) bt H. M. Nixon (Lancs.) 21-17, 21-14.

**Final:** LUSHER bt Wade 21-16, 21-12.

## CHANGED

**T**HE GWENT OPEN, originally scheduled for February 3 at Newport, Monmouthshire, has become so popular outside of Wales, that the date has now been changed at the request of English players to avoid a clash with National County Championships. The new date is April 6. Entries close on March 23 to Grove Motlow at 29, Carisbrooke Road, Newport, Monmouthshire.

## CANCELLED

**A** PANTO put paid to the Pontefract Open on January 19. Mr. T. Horrocks, the organiser, states that a new superintendent at the town hall, where the event is held, was not aware of the annual table tennis booking and let the hall to the local parish church drama group for their pantomime before the tournament date was confirmed. No other venue could be found.

## "SOUTH-EAST MIDLANDS LEAGUE CHATTER"

AT the end of the first half season of the South-East Midlands League Cambridge City head the Men's Section and Kettering the Ladies' Section. Cambridge are so far unbeaten but the system of points scoring finds Northampton hard on their heels with a much inferior games record! This makes the League more competitive and Cambridge still have to go all out to ensure final reward.

Recent matches in the League show that Huntingdonshire are not quite up to the standard of the other teams but with players like Twigden and Saywell they still can provide tough opposition.

It is strange that at the end of the first half of the season only Cambridge and Northampton have succeeded in winning games and Bedford, Kettering and Huntingdon have yet to annex a victory! Northampton have the services of Bob Ingle, former Bedford player, and he can still produce some effective table tennis!

In the Ladies' Section Kettering Ladies are having it all their own way. It will take a very good team to beat these hard and accurate hitters from Kettering.

Huntingdon are again at the bottom of the Division and have yet to win a match but I know they will not give up trying and they are so very keen and well dressed which goes a long way towards achieving success!

## STAFFORDSHIRE NOTES

THE form shown this season by Walsall and West Bromwich juniors is certainly heartening, as far as the future of table tennis in Staffordshire is concerned.

Players like Malcolm Lockley from West Bromwich and Walsall's Glyn Warwick and J. Morris will soon be challenging for a place in the county second team. Already they are showing up well against senior players.

It is somewhat of a surprise to see the county selectors giving the West Bromwich men a miss from the current county teams. Sam Ward, who has a very impressive record this season, can count himself unlucky not to have been included in the team to meet Derbyshire. The axe certainly fell heavy after the "B" team's 10-0 defeat by Yorkshire.

It will be interesting to see what ruling the E.T.A. give on the "A" team's match with Warwickshire. This was cancelled at short notice before Christmas and it is a question now of whether the points are awarded to Staffordshire or the match played at a later date.

Whatever the outcome of this it still looks like the championship will be settled when Staffordshire visit Glamorgan in March.

Mac Evans, who was a regular member of the Wolverhampton team last season, has just arrived in New Zealand. He will spend a time there with N.A.L.G.O. before returning home Christmas, 1964.

John Pike.

## UMPIRES' CORNER

# The Qualities Required

**AFTER a break, such as this feature has had this season, it is often a good idea to think again about first principles, and I should like this month to discuss the main qualities that are required of a good umpire.**

It seems to me that these qualities come under three headings, KNOWLEDGE, CONTROL and PRESENTATION. Although it is always difficult to say which is the most important, I think that the most basic quality is knowledge.

Without a sound, and accurate, knowledge of the Laws an umpire cannot hope to establish the confidence in his authority that is essential to his being able to control and present a match in the best possible manner. This is why the first test that we ask a prospective umpire to take is the written paper. We do not try to assess a candidate's practical ability until we are satisfied that he is sufficiently familiar with the Laws.

For those who have never seen this Test Paper, it is designed so that, to be successful, a candidate must know not only the wording of the Laws, but how their provisions are applied in practice.

## BOOKS ALLOWED

**To answer the questions, he is allowed, in fact encouraged, to use any reference books he chooses, and it is really a part of the qualifying process to make the prospective umpire look up and interpret any Laws that he does not already know.**

Of course, no method of examination is perfect but from a number of seasons' experience we feel satisfied that a successful candidate has sufficient knowledge to deal with the large majority of situations he may meet while umpiring.

Having acquired this knowledge his next task is so to familiarise himself with it that he can call on the relevant part to enable him to make a decision during a match with no hesitation, an ability that comes only with practice.

This sound theoretical background generally leads directly to the umpire being able to assume firm, but not overbearing, control of a match, his confidence in his knowledge helping to build up the players' confidence in his decisions.

It is more true of umpiring than of many other activities that almost any decision is better than indecision, and the more sound his basic knowledge

the more easily will an umpire be able to keep to this rule.

Once again, practice is the essential, and although few of us are born schoolmasters, there are not many who cannot eventually attain that air of assurance that engenders respect without resentment, authority without domination.

My third category, presentation, becomes more important as the umpire progresses from controlling local matches with few or no spectators to officiating at events staged before larger and probably more critical audiences. It is in a sense a refinement rather than a fundamental quality, but it is, nevertheless, an important one.

As part of the process of acquiring proper control the umpire will have learnt the value of good timing and of clearly audible speaking. These are two characteristics that he must develop so that he can contribute fully to the matches he controls, from both the players' and the spectators' points of view.

He must remember as his scope increases that his audiences will include many people who did not know the game well, and his aim should be to "manage" every match in such a way that everyone is sufficiently aware of what is happening. By learning to do his job well he can contribute greatly to the success of any match, and enable both players and spectators to derive the most enjoyment from it.

I am reminded of a question that George White has often asked N.U. candidates. It concerns a friend of his who was asked his opinion of a match he had attended. He replied, "I didn't think much of the game, but I certainly noticed what a good umpire there was."

"What," asks George, "do you think of that umpire?"

Well, what do you think?

## WORCESTERSHIRE CLOSED

(Malvern, January 20)

Men's Singles: R. Lush bt M. Hawkins 21-10, 18-21, 10-21, 23-21, 21-16. Women's Singles: Mrs. J. Lloyd bt S. Melley 21-13, 16-21, 21-14. Boys' Singles: M. Stanford bt J. Such 19-21, 21-15, 21-8. Girls' Singles: A. Wood bt J. Emery 21-7, 21-5. Veterans' Singles: R. S. Lewis bt J. Porter 21-18, 19-21, 21-4.

Men's Doubles: M. Hawkins/R. M. Goode bt R. Lush/G. Holland 21-15, 20-22, 21-11. Women's Doubles: Mrs. D. Henderson/Mrs. D. Edwards bt Mrs. J. Lloyd/S. Melley 21-17, 21-19. Mixed Doubles: R. Lush/Miss Melley bt K. Firkins/Mrs. Edwards 21-17, 21-18. Junior Doubles: J. Such/M. Stanford bt I. McCallum/J. Shannon 21-15, 26-24.

# MARJORIE'S PRIZE BAT

"TABLE TENNIS" (the magazine) not the game has helped to give a new lease of life to that stalwart among Yorkshire women players, Marjorie Lightfoot (writes *Malcolm Hartley*).

Last April she was one of the winners of our forecasting competition and her prize was a new sandwich bat.

Never having used sponge she was not altogether impressed but decided



MARJORIE LIGHTFOOT

to give it a trial. Now she says: "It takes less out of me and the ball goes away harder."

Marjorie must have played for Leeds well over 100 times since her first match for the city in 1938.

She represented Yorkshire 51 times and holds a record number of 16 wins in the Yorkshire Closed. She is a county umpire; holds a special badge for services to Yorkshire; and has helped Leeds to the women's inter-league title 12 times in the last 17 years.

She remembers with some pride a win over Di Rowe, then a teenager, in the semi-final of the North-East of England. Rosalind then took revenge in the final!

Although a rubber loyalist for so many years, Marjorie says her style has become more orthodox. She explains: "I have double-jointed wrists. I used to play the ball on the normal backhand and then swing my wrist over and play from the same side of the bat on the forehand with my wrist the wrong way round."

No wonder she bewildered her opponents!

## HAMPSHIRE LOOK FOR JUNIORS

BOURNEMOUTH hold a dominating position in Hampshire table tennis this season heading the First, Second and Junior Divisions of the Inter-Towns League. In the two senior divisions their sides have dropped only one point each, while their juniors have a hundred per cent record from their four matches so far with the fine games average of 34-6.

With the Holes twins soon making their exit from the junior scene, Hampshire must look for replacements in the county junior side. One promising recruit is Angeline Mills from the Bitterne Park Club, Southampton. Recently this lively 15 year-old won the EAGLE/GIRL preliminary round at Havant and competes further in London.

Hampshire's most promising boy is Derek Holman, who still has another season as a junior.

Southampton are making plans to stage their first ever junior international at a local school.

T. W. Grant.

## Four Unbeaten Sides in Western Counties League

NEWPORT will not forget their visit to Swindon in a hurry. They not only braved some shocking weather conditions to save disappointing their hosts, but were held up by a train derailment on the return journey and did not arrive home until 4.30 a.m. But it was all worth while for they won the match 6-3 to preserve a 100 per cent record in the Western Counties League.

Newport had a shock start when international Brian Everson was beaten by an exciting 24-22, 24-22, in the opening match by Ernie Howell. However, Newport took hold of the match running to a 5-1 lead.

Three other sides are so far unbeaten, Cheltenham, who head the table with four wins, Cardiff, who are in third place behind Newport with two wins, and Bristol.

Little Johnny Mansfield, the Welsh junior international, won all his matches in helping Abergavenny to a 5-4 win over Weston, who sadly missed Ray Philpott. The result was in doubt right to the end before Pat Arkell beat A. Kensey to decide the issue.

Weston were back at full strength for their home match against newcomers Swindon, but once again they suffered a 5-4 defeat. Weston had looked set for victory when they led 4-3, but E. Howells and Tony Wolfe with respective wins over Kinsey and Philpott snatched the match out of the fire with a grandstand finish.

Kinsey, who is only 16, created a good impression and given a little more experience should prove a valuable asset for Weston.

West Wiltshire are finding it hard going in their first season of the Western Counties League, and are still without a win, their defeat being at the hands of Bristol Seconds by 7-2.

Grove Motlow.

# Relum

3-5	6-11
15'11	17'6

## ALWITE

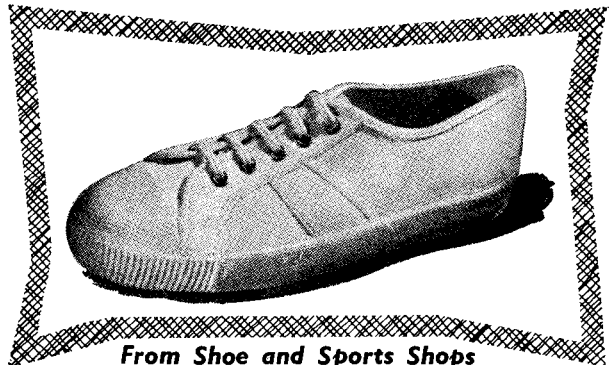
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ENGLISH CLOSED SPECIAL**YOUTH BREAKS THROUGH**● **SENSATIONAL WIN  
FOR BARNES**● **MARY SHANNON  
DETHRONES DI ROWE**

by HARRISON EDWARDS

**YOUTH** made its big break through in the English Closed Championships at Manor Place Baths, London, on January 2-5, when 15-year-old CHESTER BARNES, of Forest Gate, and 18-year-old Mary Shannon, of Worcester Park, carried off the singles titles.

With the emphasis on attack, they herald an exciting new change in the game. It was almost a revolution as that boring defensive, which has been so prevalent in the English game, was firmly pushed into the background . . . and we hope finally so.

The excitement of the bold play of Barnes and Miss Shannon could be keenly felt in the electrified atmosphere of the crowd. It was not merely that they were witnessing unexpected upsets, but that they were seeing a type of play that has for so long been missing. This was the type of play that can bring back crowd-appeal to table tennis, and perhaps one day pack Wembley with a ten thousand crowd as in those boom years of the immediate post-war period.

Moreover it was not Barnes and Miss Shannon alone who provided all the excitement. For these finals of the fourth English

closed will go down as the best yet. There were thrills and excitement as **Bobby Stevens** and **Bobbie Raybould** retained their men's doubles against an intense challenge from Stan Jacobson and Alan Lindsay, and again when **Diane Rowe** and **Mary Shannon** won the women's doubles. The only disappointment was perhaps in the mixed doubles, which was somewhat of an anti-climax when **Brian Wright** and **Mary Shannon** easily won the final against Barnes, possibly suffering from a reaction from his singles win in the preceding event, and Lesley Bell.

But the general verdict of those who saw the finals was "If this is table tennis then we'll come again."

Throughout the season we have seen the great promise of Barnes, but not even the most optimistic could have foreseen him maintaining such consistent form throughout the six rounds to become the youngest ever holder of the title.

There was no question of a fluke about his success, with others clearing the established players from his path. He did that himself and indeed accounted for three of the top four ranked players to land the title—Jeff Ingber, David Creamer and Alan Rhodes.

Barnes opened his challenge on the Thursday night by beating first Brian Hill, the English junior champion, 17, —20, 11, 18, then Terry Densham, the former international, 17, —11, 22, 18.

His match against Densham was a thriller all the way and revealed his courageous fighting spirit, for he trailed 12-18 and 18-20 in the third game and in the fourth he came back from 4-11 down, opening the game up with a fine two wing attack and good use of the top spin loop.

**High Praise**

He earned high praise from Densham, who said "He is a great prospect. I like the courageous way he goes for his shots."

Certainly there are no half measures about Barnes for he hits his drives cleanly.

Having beaten Densham, Barnes came up against Jeff Ingber, of Manchester, England's No. 2, on the Friday night. It looked as though this would be the end of the road for him, but young Barnes has no respect for reputations and it was typical of his confidence that when I asked what he thought of his prospects he should reply, "I have not played him before, so I guess my chances are as good as his."

And indeed it was Ingber who faltered against this eager youngster, determined no one should stand in his way.

Ingber started as though he would

**THE CHAMPIONS RECEIVE THEIR TROPHIES**

CHESTER BARNES



MARY SHANNON

**ENGLISH CLOSED SPECIAL**

cut Barnes down to size when he won the first two games at 16 and 19 but the match took a dramatic turn leaving Barnes to sweep through the next three games at 10, 16 and 10.

Ingber made the mistake of being lured into complacency when he led 19-8 in the second game.

It looked all over bar the shouting but we had reckoned without that Barnes' fighting spirit. He won eight successive points to get right into the battle.

Although Ingber won that game he admitted afterwards, "I was given such a fright that it shook my confidence and I lost my edge. It is all very well to be wise afterwards but I know now I should have forced the issue when I had that long lead, instead of relaxing."

This gave Barnes just the confidence he needed to face Michael Thornhill for a place in the semi-final and apart from the loss of the second game, he was well in control to win 14, —21, 10, 14.

So he moved into the semi-final against that other bright new hope, 19-year-old David Creamer, the only one of the top six ranked players whom he had not beaten this season.

**But there was no stopping Barnes now and after losing the opening game he swept Creamer aside at —14, 17, 10, 19, to take his appointed place in the final against Alan Rhodes.**

And what a great final it proved to be—hit and counter-hit with no quarter asked and none given. They were well matched, with the ever so confident Barnes just having the edge to win 10, —15, 19, 22.

Those last two games were packed with thrills. In the third Rhodes had fought back from 7-13 to 17-all but just failed to get in front, while in the fourth the lead see-sawed.

Barnes led 13-8 only for Rhodes to go ahead at 16-15. Back came Barnes to 19-17, but Rhodes won the next three points to reach game point, then hit off. It was a lucky break for Barnes and there was a nail-biting tussle over the next six points before Barnes finally clinched the issue.

Rhodes, obviously smarting at being passed over for the world championship trial had tackled these championships with a grim determination to hit back at the selectors and

**THE CHAMPIONSHIP ROLL**

*Men's Singles*

**CHESTER BARNES**  
(Essex)

*Men's Doubles*

**BOBBY STEVENS**  
(Essex)  
**BOBBIE RAYBOULD**  
(Essex)

**BRIAN WRIGHT**  
(Middlesex)

*Women's Singles*

**MARY SHANNON**  
(Surrey)

*Women's Doubles*

**DIANE ROWE**  
(Middlesex)  
**MARY SHANNON**  
(Surrey)

*Mixed Doubles*

**MARY SHANNON**  
(Surrey)

had the satisfaction of well beating Ian Harrison, England's No. 1, in the semi-final with a score of 14, 20, 19.

Rhodes had also beaten Derek Boddeley, of Warwickshire, England's No. 12, in straight games in an earlier round, but surprisingly dropped games to both Bob McCree and Alan Cornish.

The defending champion, Bobby Stevens, lost his crown in the quarter-finals when he was well beaten by Harrison, who appeared to have found his form after an indifferent start to the championships when he was hard pressed to beat Derek Burridge, making one of his rare competitive appearances, 16, —17, —16, 13, 9.

David Creamer had a good run, until he met Barnes, sweeping aside Tony Miller, Johnny Leach, George Muranyi and Stan Jacobson, all in straight games.

The unluckiest player of the championships was former champion Bryan Merrett. He was knocked out by the arctic weather conditions which so delayed his journey that although he had left Gloucester at 9 a.m. he failed to arrive by 10.30 p.m. and was scratched. Merrett had phoned to say he was on the way and his match was held back for over an hour—indeed until the last match went on. But the weather had beaten him without striking a ball.

Mary Shannon's win over Diane Rowe in the women's singles final must go down as the biggest upset of the meeting. Miss Rowe had won this title since its inception four years ago and holds such a dominating position among our girls that the continuance of her reign, especially as she is also English Open champion,

was regarded as a foregone conclusion. Yet Miss Shannon beat her in straight games, 16, 16, 18.

This was a new Miss Shannon, a Miss Shannon who gambled on an all out attack and won, but could hardly believe her good fortune at the finish.

"I had nothing to lose so went to the table with a plan to attack I knew I never had a chance of defending against Diane," said the fair-haired Mary afterwards.

Never have I seen Mary hit over the table so consistently hard. She just never let up and gave Diane no chance to settle into any rhythm. She was like a tornado.

So unexpected was this turn of events that when Mary had won the first game, no one was unduly worried. Indeed, it looked to be a flash in the pan, particularly when Diane went to a 7-2 lead in the second, but she saw it steadily whittled away and it was Mary who took the game to be two up.

Even at this stage there were few who would have suggested there was to be a new champion. After all it looked impossible that Mary could keep up her attack with such consistency.

Diane appeared to be getting nicely on top when she forged ahead to 12-8 but she was caught at 13-all and from that stage slowly and gracefully slipped to defeat.

Mary's win was all the more remarkable in view of earlier struggles. She dropped a game to Barbara Andrews, then came near to being beaten in the quarter-final before eventually overcoming Jackie Redfern at —18, 10, —19, 12, 18. It

**ENGLISH CLOSED SPECIAL**

was a little too close for comfort. She then had a tight semi-final with Pam Mortimer before getting home at 18, 17, —12, 17.

**Miss Mortimer—in private life Mrs. Alan Lake and mother of two—staged a great come-back this year for she beat Lesley Bell in the second round, and Joyce Fielder in the third—a great performance.**

Miss Bell is England's joint No. 2 with Miss Shannon, and it was indeed a big blow to her growing prestige to be eliminated in her first match.

Another player making a welcome re-appearance was Jean Head, who came near to upsetting one of the new brigade when she won the first two games against Judy Williams. However, because of lack of match practice and stamina, she failed to keep it up and was beaten —25, —19, 16, 18, 15. Miss Williams then went on to beat Alma Taft, England's No. 4, before going down to Miss Rowe in the semi-final.

Miss Bell, making some amends for her early singles exit, partnered Pauline Martin, another Essex youngster, to provide a seeding upset in the women's doubles when they beat Alma Taft and Judy Williams. They went on to reach the final, where they found the experience of Miss Rowe and Miss Shannon just too much for them and were beaten 15, 15, —12, 8.

Miss Bell was again on the losing end in the final of the mixed doubles with Chester Barnes, after gaining some fine wins over Brian Brumwell and Alma Taft, Ian Harrison and Irene Ogus, and Stan Jacobson and Elsie Carrington.

They were beaten in the final by Brian Wright and Mary Shannon at 16, 18, 10. It was Mary's third title and in the semi-final they scored their greatest win when they beat the seeded Bobby Stevens and Jean McCree —16, 19, —16, 22, 18—a match of sustained excitement and fluctuating fortunes.

The biggest upset of the mixed was the quarter-final defeat of the defending champions Johnny Leach and Diane Rowe by Jacobson and Mrs. Carrington at —14, 15, 17, —12, 13. Leach and Miss Rowe certainly found the going tough for in their opening game they just survived over five games against Roger Chandler and Peggy Piper.

The first shock of the men's doubles was the defeat in the opening match

of seeded Ian Harrison and Brian Wright by Ralph Gunnion and Laurie Landry. Then in the next round the other seeds in the bottom half, Henry Buist and Tony Piddock crashed to Jeff Ingber and Kevin Forshaw. This left the way clear for Stan Jacobson and Alan Lindsay to go through to the final where they gave a great display before narrowly losing to the

defending champions Raybould and Stevens, who in their semi-final had accounted for the other seeds, Johnny Leach and David Creamer.

Looking back. This was a championships to remember and should be the start of a new era for table tennis, one in which youth leads the way and raises optimism for the future.



**PAM MORTIMER** interviewed by **HARRISON EDWARDS** (left) and **PETER LAKER** (Daily Mirror).

**RESULTS IN FULL****MEN'S SINGLES**

**First Round.** J. Ingber (Lancs.) bt A. Lindsay (Middx.) 18, 12, 19; G. Basden (Kent) bt E. Hodson (Middx.) —17, —12, 15, 16, 14; T. Densham (Herts) bt L. Landry (Middx.) 13, 17, 14; C. Barnes (Essex) bt B. Hill (Lines.) 17, —20, 11, 18; G. Chapman (Surrey) bt L. Kerekes (Surrey) bt —16, 14, 14, 17; D. Wall (Surrey) bt L. Gresswell (Middx.) 20, 5, 5; M. Thornhill (Middx.) bt D. Lowe (Surrey) —13, 15, 19, —17, 16; B. Wright (Middx.) w.o.; K. Edwards (Glos.) scr.

A. Piddock (Kent) bt K. Craigie (Surrey) 19, 17, 20; L. Cooper (Kent) w.o.; F. Walmsley (Ches.) scr.; S. Jacobson (Middx.) bt A. Gilbert (Surrey) 15, 16, 15; K. Forshaw (Lancs.) bt M. Meisel (Kent) —22, 14, 23, 17; G. Muranyi (Surrey) bt H. Buist (Kent) 12, 17, 9; S. Ghosh (Middx.) bt R. Etheridge (Kent) 14, —19, 16, 13; J. Leach (Essex) bt K. Baker (Surrey) 11, 17, 19; D. Creamer (Middx.) bt A. Miller (Surrey) 12, 17, 19.

A. Rhodes (Middx.) bt P. Sleeman (Devon) 9, 15, 7; R. McCree (Essex) bt A. Miller (Essex) 12, 18, —13, 19; D. Badderley (Warwicks.) bt G. Golding (Essex) 11, 9, 19; G. Whalley (Sussex) bt D. Hawkey (Kent) 15, 13, 8; B. Brumwell (Essex) bt D. Whittaker (Kent) 19, 13, —23, 18; M. Creamer (Middx.) bt M. Ellis (Kent) 17, 10, 10; P. Mohan (Devon) w.o.; D. Heaps (Berks.) scr.; A. Cornish (Kent) w.o.; B. Merrett (Glos.) scr.

R. Stevens (Essex) bt V. Ireland (Surrey) 14, 16, 19; K. Hurlock (Surrey) w.o.; D. Schofield (Ches.) scr.; R. Gunnion (Warwicks.) bt D. Bloy (Kent) —20, 10, 16, —17, 12; M. Westoby (Kent) bt J. Martin (Middx.) 16, 15, —17, 16; C. Warren (Surrey) w.o.; E. Lloyd (Oxford) scr.; H. Venner (Surrey) bt A. Cooklin (Middx.) 10, 5, 10; R. Raybould (Essex)

bt R. Chandler (Sussex) —17, —10, 18, 20, 18; I. Harrison (Glos.) bt D. Burrige (Middx.) 16, —17, —16, 13, 9.

**Second Round:** Ingber bt Basden 14, 7, —16, 16; Barnes bt Densham 17, —11, 22, 18; Wall bt Chapman 19, —20, 16, 11; Thornhill bt Wright —19, 14, 20, 19.

Piddock bt Cooper 16, 12, 16; Jacobson bt Forshaw 18, 21, 19; Muranyi bt Ghosh —18, 17, 17, 18; D. Creamer bt Leach 18, 17, 23.

Rhodes bt McCree —17, 11, 9, 10; Badderley bt Whalley 11, 17, —20, 16; Brumwell bt M. Creamer 13, 19, 16; Cornish bt Mohan —18, 9, —16, 9, 11.

Stevens bt Hurlock 6, 16, 16; Westoby bt Gunnion 18, —16, —11, 19, 22; Warren bt Venner —15, 15, 14, 15; Harrison bt Burrige (Middx.) 20, 16, 15.

**Third Round:** Barnes bt Ingber —16, —19, 10, 16, 10; Thornhill bt Wall 11, 7, 10; Jacobson bt Piddock —19, 17, 19, —17, 15; D. Creamer bt Muranyi 13, 12, 15.

Rhodes bt Baddeley 13, 15, 14; Cornish bt Brumwell 16, —14, 24, 20; Stevens bt Westoby 14, 13, 14; Harrison bt Warren 14, 12, 18.

**PICTURE PARADE**

**Top: BOBBY STEVENS and BOBBIE RAYBOULD** (left); **ALAN LINDSAY and STAN JACOBSON**. Centre: **MARY SHANNON and DIANE ROWE** (left); **PAULINE MARTIN and LESLEY BELL**. Bottom: **BRIAN WRIGHT and MARY SHANNON** (left); **CHESTER BARNES and LESLEY BELL**.

SHOTS FROM ENGLISH CLOSED

by PETER MADGE

# THE DOUBLES CHAMPIONS and ... RUNNERS-UP





## ENGLISH CLOSED SPECIAL

**Quarter-Finals:** Barnes bt Thornhill 14, —21, 10, 14; Creamer bt Jacobson 14, 16, 14.

Rhodes bt Cornish —12, 19, 5, 5; Harrison bt Stevens 18, 13, 17.

**Semi-Finals:** BARNES bt Creamer —14, 17, 10, 19; RHODES bt Harrison 14, 20, 19.

**Final:** BARNES bt Rhodes 10, —15, 19, 22.

## WOMEN'S SINGLES

**First Round:** D. Rowe (Middx.) bye; Mrs. J. Carrington (Essex) bt M. Hicks (Middx.); D. Spooner (Middx.) bt Mrs. Lauper (Surrey) —9, 20, 18, 11; M. Piper (Surrey) bye; Mrs. J. Head (Surrey) bt W. Grove (Warwicks.) 9, 13, 9; J. Williams (Herts) bt M. Beglan (Surrey), 9, 16, 16; S. Hession (Essex) bt J. Williams (Bucks.) 11, 19, —18, 16; A. Taft (Middx.) bye.

M. Shannon (Surrey) bye; Mrs. Andrews (Herts) bt P. Venus (Middx.), 13, 18, —11, —19, 12; Mrs. I. Redfearn (Middx.) bt P. Martin (Essex) 5, 20, 16; J. Smith (Kent) w.o.; P. Holes (Hants), scr.; C. Carter (Kent) bt Mrs. Mohan (Devon) 14, 12, 7; J. Fielder (Kent) w.o.; C. Holes (Hants) scr.; P. Mortimer (Warwicks.) bt I. Ogus (Middx.) 14, 15, 13; L. Bell (Essex) bye.

**Second Round:** Rowe bt Carrington 13, 18, 17; Piper bt Spooner 15, 13, 18; Williams bt Head —25, —19, 16, 13, 15; Taft bt Hession 15, 20, 18.

Shannon bt Andrews 9, 8, —19, 15; Redfearn bt Smith 6, 9, 17; Fielder bt Carter 16, 14, 13; Mortimer bt Bell —15, 10, 9, 16.

**Quarter-Finals:** Rowe bt Piper —19, 15, 6, 15; Williams bt Taft 16, 17, —20, 8; Shannon bt Redfearn —18, 10, —19, 12, 18; Mortimer bt Fielder 14, 7, 17.

**Semi-Finals:** ROWE bt Williams 12, 15; S. SHANNON bt Mortimer 18, 17, —12, 17.

**Final:** SHANNON bt Rowe 16, 16, 18.

## MEN'S DOUBLES

**First Round:** R. Raybould/R. Stevens (Essex) bye; D. Baddeley (Warwicks.)/E. Hill (Lincs.) bt A. Chapman/L. Kerekes (Surrey) —13, 19, 18, 17; L. Cooper/R. Etheridge (Kent) bt A. Clarke (Herts)/P. Sleeman (Devon) 10, 8, 10; K. Craigie (Surrey)/M. Creamer (Middx.) bt B. Meisel (Kent)/P. Mohan (Devon) 12, 13, 10.

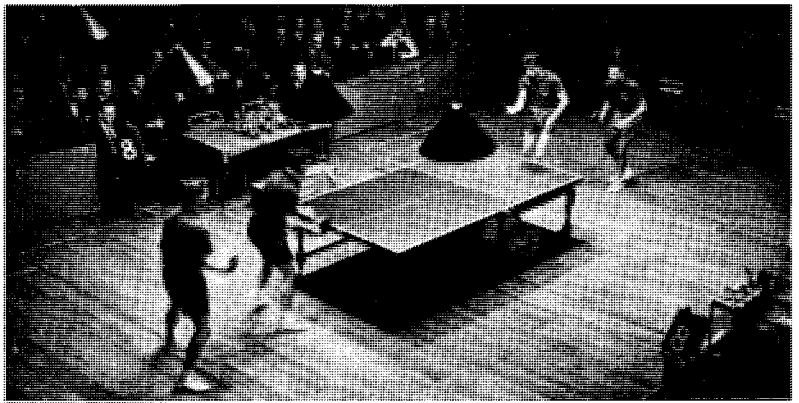
H. Venner/D. Wall (Surrey) w.o.; D. Heap (Berks.)/E. Lloyd (Oxford) scr.; C. Barnes (Essex)/K. Edwards (Glos.) bt D. Lowe/G. Muranyi (Surrey) —19, —15, 11, 11, 20; N. Brabrook (Surrey)/L. Gresswell (Middx.)/w.o.; S. Ghosh/A. Malhorta (Middx.) scr.; D. Creamer (Middx.)/J. Leach (Essex) bt R. Thorn/D. Whittaker (Kent) 10, 7, 16.

H. Buist/A. Piddock (Kent) w.o.; D. Schofield/P. Walmsley (Cheshire) scr.; A. Rhodes/M. Thornhill (Middx.) w.o.; C. Edwards/D. Davies (Hants) scr.; D. Burton/P. Fenwick (Essex) w.o.; B. Hamill (Devon)/K. Hurlock (Surrey) scr.; K. Forshaw/I. Inger (Lancs.) bt D. Bloy/A. Cornish (Kent) —17, 12, 15, —15, 13.

S. Jacobson/A. Lindsay (Middx.) bt D. Hawley/M. Holmes (Kent) 11, 13, —12, 12; B. Brumwell (Essex)/C. Warren (Surrey) w.o.; A. Jacobs/B. Knight (Middx.) scr.; R. Gunnion (Warwicks.)/L. Landry (Middx.) bt K. Daniel/J. Griffiths (Kent) —16, 15, 19, 7; I. Harrison (Glos.)/B. Wright (Middx.) bye.

**Second Round:** Raybould/Stevens bt Baddeley/Hill 14, 17, 16; Craigie/M. Creamer bt Cooper/Etheridge 18, 14, 19; Venner/Wall bt Barnes/Edwards —15, 18, 17, —10, 10; D. Creamer/Leach bt Brabrook/Gresswell 11, 9, —21, 6.

Buist/Piddock bt Rhodes/Thornhill 19, 14, 16; Forshaw/Inger bt Burton/Fenwick 19, 17, —22, —19, 11; Jacobson/Lindsay bt Brumwell/Warren 19, 18, 8; Gunnion/



Scene at Men's Doubles Final.

Landry bt Harrison/Wright 24, 14, —9, 19.

**Quarter - Finals:** Raybould/Stevens bt Craigie/M. Creamer 17, 21, 21; D. Creamer/Leach bt Venner/Wall 18, 9, 19; Forshaw/Inger bt Buist/Piddock 13, 16, 20; Jacobson/Lindsay bt Gunnion/Landry 19, 14, —19, 22.

**Semi-Finals:** RAYBOULD/STEVENS bt Creamer/Leach 8, —15, 13, 21; JACOBSON/LINDSAY bt Forshaw/Inger 13, 16, —8, 12.

**Final:** RAYBOULD/STEVENS bt Jacobson/Lindsay —21, 11, 24, 14.

## WOMEN'S DOUBLES

**First Round:** A. Taft (Middx.)/J. Williams (Herts) bye; L. Bell/P. Martin (Essex) bt M. Fry/A. Venus (Middx.) 10, 18, 19; M. Austin/H. Lambert (Surrey) bt M. Hicks/J. Redfearn (Middx.) 17, —16, 19, —8, 19; J. McCree (Essex)/M. Piper (Surrey) bye.

P. Mortimer (Warwick.)/J. Williamson (Middx.) bye; E. Carrington (Essex)/D. Spooner (Devon) bt M. Beglan (Surrey)/P. Mohan (Devon) 10, 12, 6. S. Hession (Essex)/I. Ogus (Middx.) bt C. Carter

(Kent)/J. Williams (Bucks.) 19, 15, —17, 18; D. Rowe (Middx.)/M. Shannon (Surrey) bye.

**Quarter-Finals:** Bell/Martin bt Taft/Williams 15, 16, —14, —18, 12; McCree/Piper bt Austin/Lambert 10, 15, 10; Mortimer/Williamson bt Carrington/Spooner 16, 15, —11, 17; Rowe/Shannon bt Hession/Ogus 13, 20, 14.

**Semi-Finals:** BELL/MARTIN bt McCree/Piper 19, 8, —18, 17; ROWE/SHANNON bt Mortimer/Williamson 12, 19, —14, 12.

**Final:** ROWE/SHANNON bt Bell/Martin 15, 15, —12, 8.

## MIXED DOUBLES

**First Round:** R. Stevens/Mrs. J. McCree (Essex) bye; L. Landry/Mrs. J. Redfearn (Middx.) bt G. Chapman (Surrey)/Miss M. Hicks (Middx.) 9, —12, 12, —14, 17; P. Leckie/Miss J. Williams (Bucks.) w.o.; D. Basden/Miss C. Carter (Kent) bye.

N. Brabrook (Surrey/Miss P. Venus (Middx.) bye; V. Ireland (Surrey)/Miss J. Williams (Herts) w.o.; K. Edwards

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(Glos.)/Miss S. Hession (Essex) bt P. Mohan/Mrs. Mohan (Devon) 16, 12, 13; E. Wright (Middx.)/Miss M. Shannon (Surrey) bye.

C. Barnes/Miss L. Bell (Essex) bye; B. Brumwell (Essex)/Miss A. Taft (Middx.) bt N. Isbell/Miss J. Williamson (Middx.) 15, 13, 18; I. Harrison/Miss J. Ogus (Middx.) bt A. N. Other/Miss H. Lambert (Surrey) 19, 12, 22; D. Baddeley/Miss P. Mortimer (Warwicks.) bye.

S. Jacobson (Middx.)/Mrs. E. Carrington (Essex) bye; C. Warren (Surrey)/Miss D. Spooner (Devon) bt L. Blackie/Miss M. Beglan (Surrey) 14, 12, 11; R. Chandler (Sussex)/Miss M. Piper (Surrey) bt B. Hill (Lincs.)/Miss P. Martin (Essex) 17, 9, —17, 17; J. Leach (Essex)/Miss D. Rowe (Middx.) bye.

**Second Round:** Stevens/McCree bt Landry/Redfearn 13, 15, 18; Leckie/Williams bt Basden/Carter —17, 14, 17, 16; Ireland/Williams bt Brabrook/Venus 14, 11, 4; Wright/Shannon bt Edwards/Hession 17, 20, 21.

Barnes/Bell bt Brumwell/Taft 17, 18, —11, —18, 18; Harrison/Ogus bt Baddeley/Mortimer —15, 19, —18, 16, 11; Jacobson/Carrington bt Warren/Spooner 18, 14, 18; Leach/Rowe bt Chandler/Pipes —21, —14, 14, 18, 18.

**Quarter - Finals:** Stevens/McCree bt Leckie/Williams —17, 12, 8, 20; Wright/Shannon bt Ireland/Williams 10, —19, 13, 16; Barnes/Bell bt Harrison/Ogus 16, 13, 14; Jacobson/Carrington bt Leach/Rowe —14, 15, 17, —12, 13.

**Semi - Finals:** WRIGHT/SHANNON bt Stevens/McCree —16, 19, —16, 22, 18; BARNES/BELL bt Jacobson/Carrington 16, 19, —12, 15.

**Final:** WRIGHT/SHANNON bt Barnes/Bell 16, 18, 10.

**ESSEX NOTES**

**Best Season Ever**

**C**ONGRATULATIONS to Chester Barnes and Lesley Bell on being selected to represent England in the World Championships in Prague.

Essex county teams are having their best season ever. The first team is equal third in the Premier Division—with high hopes of eventually finishing second; the "seconds" top the Southern Division and the juniors hold a similar place in the Junior Division East. The Bernard Crouch Trophy team head their table.

Bobby Stevens and Lesley Bell won two titles each in the East London League championships. Stevens beat Tony Condon in the men's singles final, and won the doubles with Brian Brumwell, while Miss Bell took the women's singles and the mixed doubles with Chester Barnes.

**Detailed Scores:**

Men's Singles: R. STEVENS bt A. Condon 21-17, 21-15. Women's Singles: L. BELL bt E. Carrington 21-19, 21-17.

Men's Doubles: CARRINGTON/J. McCREE bt Bell/P. Martin 21-17, 21-19. Mixed Doubles: C. BARNES/Miss BELL bt J. Smithers/Miss Martin 21-9, 21-8.

**Little Linda Henwood dominated the Romford League Championships by winning four titles, a league record.**

The men's title was won by Ken Beamish.

**A Reminder:** Nomination for the Corti Woodcock Memorial award and recommendations for County Life Membership must reach me at Cromer Lodge Hotel, Cambridge Park, Wanstead, London, E.11, before the end of February.  
**Frank Bateman.**



**TERENCE STAMP**, former East London League player, who caused a sensation in the title role Peter Ustinov's film "Billy Budd" and **JULIE CHRISTIE** starred in "A for Andromeda" on TV and is now filming in "Billy Liar", talking to **TERRY DRESHAM** and **IAN HARRISON** at the English Closed.

**TOURNAMENT TALKING POINTS** Conducted by **LAURIE LANDRY**

**A REAL HOPE FOR THE FUTURE?**

**N**OT surprisingly, the talking point of the month has been the phenomenal success of 16-year-old Essex star Chester Barnes. Unlike some of our big hopes of the past and present, he has actually had wins over our top players. Within five weeks from Newbury to the English Closed, his scalps included the Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 8, and 12 ranked players—a record that anyone would be proud of. Not surprisingly, he has now been ranked in the National Senior Ranking List at No. 3 and been selected for the World Championships at Prague from April 5th-14th.

Another discussion point that has already been dealt with firmly by Alan Lindsey in his letter last month, was the suggestion that Vic Ireland of Surrey can hardly be classed as a Premier Division player. Vic Ireland knocked his critic for a good deal more than six when he won the Cardiff Open at the end of last November.

In the Welsh Open, more recently, he reached the semi-final and was the only player to take a game from the winner, David Creamer, who won in good company. **Ireland's victims included Chester Barnes, the new English Closed champion, and Bobby Stevens, the immediate past champion. In a county match, earlier this season, he beat Bobbie Raybould and has thus beaten the whole of the Essex team.**

Are Essex Premier Division standard? This will be shown in the final table.

Again, this year, the Yorkshire, Newbury and Middlesex Opens have been a great success. The venues are so situated that most players in the country can benefit by entering one of them. The temperature of the lower hall in the Middlesex Open was the one big complaint but this is surely the case with any really

large hall and this includes the Empire Pool.

The English Closed Championships were, as usual, a complete success. The checking of bat surfaces was received with mixed feelings. In general players doubt whether the surface makes any difference and some tend to treat the inspection as a bit of a joke.

Now to the unfortunate Welsh Open: despite efforts on the part of the organisers, things just did not go right. A power failure upset the heating arrangements for the best part of the tournament and a dance which had been held earlier in the week made the floor quite slippery. In spite of these technical hitches and the bitterly cold weather, the organisers and players did a great job in getting this tournament through at a reasonable time.

## WELSH OPEN

## IRELAND SHOCKS BARNES

**COULD** Chester Barnes repeat Bobby Stevens' feat? This was the talking point before the Welsh Open started. Last season, Bobby fresh from his English Closed triumph, came to Cardiff and carried off two Welsh titles, and it looked as if the shock fifteen year old winner of this season's English Closed was all set to emulate this performance.

But it was not to be, Dark Horse Vic Ireland of Surrey, who had beaten Chester in the Cardiff Open, repeated the dose, and the new Closed Champion made an undignified exit in Round 3.

This was not a "flash in the pan" for Ireland was positively brilliant in the quarters against holder Bobby Stevens, and although the latter tried all he knew, Ireland literally blasted him off the table.

This was a tournament of good table tennis all through, and although an unkind power cut reduced the Drill Hall to an arctic temperature, it seemed to inspire the players to do better.

Certainly the finals were better than we had seen for some time, with the possible exception of one men's semi-final, when both David Creamer and Vic Ireland seemed obviously too afraid of each other for either to make much attempt to open the game up.

David more than made amends for this, and not only was his final with Ian Harrison a tremendously interesting battle of wits, but in the second game David reached such heights that Ian was almost demoralised. Young Creamer was a worthy winner indeed, and it was fitting that his steady improvement this season should have reached a climax just before selection of the World Championship team.

In the other semi-final, we had another great battle between Ian Harrison and Alan Rhodes, the verdict going this time to Ian at 17 in the third. Earlier we had seen Ian hit himself out of trouble in the last few points of a great fight with New Zealander Alan Tomlinson, and although one must admire Ian for his courage in going for so many winners when 19/16 down, it would seem that he is far too defensive these days, and frankly, should never have been in that state against the much improved Tomlinson.

Nor was that Ian's only fall from grace, for he dropped a game to young Dennis Holland, once again, it seemed, through being too passive.

David Creamer earlier accounted for Bobbie Raybould, and Stan Jacobson without dropping a game, leaving Ireland the only player to take a game from him.

There was plenty of piquancy

about the women's singles, too, for it looked odds on a repeat of the English Closed Final between Diane Rowe and Mary Shannon, and this it proved to be, with Diane emerging a definite winner in the third game. But it need not have been so, for Mary, playing brilliantly, lead 14/8 in the first, only to go absolutely to pieces and lose every other point but one! It was surprising that she recovered her morale enough to take the second, but Diane was on top in the decider.

Earlier Diane had beaten Audrey Bates, who had previously accounted for Jean McCree in straight games. In the semi-final, Diane disposed of Lesley Bell without much trouble. Mary's victims included Peggy Piper, but only after dropping the first game, and, in the semi-final, Judy Williams. Bristol's Joan Collier did well to beat 4th ranked Alma Taft.

Stevens and Raybould retained their doubles title, beating Creamer Brothers in the third game of the final. The latter had a two straight semi-final winner over Harrison and Brian Wright, but the winners had a much harder task to eliminate Alan Rhodes and Michael Thornhill, who had earlier disposed of Barnes and Jacobson.

The women's doubles gave Diane a second title, when she partnered Mary Shannon to beat Alma Taft and Mary Hicks in the semi-final, then Lesley Bell and Judy Williams in the Final. The latter's semi-final victims were Jean McCree and Peggy Piper.

Diane collected the triple crown in the mixed with Ian Harrison having little trouble in the final with Tomlinson and Alma Taft, who just scraped home at 22-20 in the third against Michael Creamer and Mary Hicks in the semi-final. Harrison and Rowe had an easier task against Barnes and Lesley Bell.

Chester, as expected, took the boys' final without much trouble, against Dennis Holland, who failed to re-

## CHAMPION NOT RANKED

## THE Welsh Champion not ranked!

This was the shock when the Selection Committee of the Table Tennis Association of Wales issued their ranking lists in December.

Reason? Insufficient evidence as to his actual present playing ability, and truth to tell, Bernard Dimascio's appearance in top class play these days do not provide enough of a guide to the Selectors in their task. So they decided against his inclusion, putting Stan Jones (Swansea), Emil Emecz (London), Colin Thomas (North Wales—but now in London) and Norman Parker (now playing for Bedfordshire) in the same category.

Careful examination was made of tournament results and of the individual percentages gain by those who play in the Welsh League, and the following list was issued. **MEN:** 1 Alan Thomas (Cardiff); 2, George Evans (Barry); 3, Ron Davies (Pontypridd); 4, Brian Everson (Newport); 5, Donald Norris (Chepstow); 6, Alan

Morris (Swansea) and Philip Bevan (Cardiff); 8, Roy Fowler (Cardiff) and Tony Huish (Newport); 10, John Mansfield (Abergavenny).

The Committee was unable to go beyond five places in the women's list, which is as follows: 1, Audrey Bates (Cardiff); 2, Margaret Phillips (Cardiff); 3, Betty Gray (Swansea); 4, Sandra Morgan (Cardiff); 5, Elizabeth Gray (Newport).

After being dominated for some years by the Abergavenny boys, the junior list takes on a new look. John Mansfield (Abergavenny) is still tops, but he is followed by John Buck (Eastern Valleys) and at No. 3 Geoff Trenchard (Eastern Valleys). At No. 4 is Brian Lloyd (Tredgar), then come three Aberdare boys—No. 5 Dennis Samuel, son of the veteran Welsh International Len Samuel, No. 6 Martin Davies, and No. 7 Bill Bird. Rowlands of Newport comes 8, and Geoff Skinner (Easter Valleys) is not ranked because of insufficient evidence.

**Men's Singles: Semi - Finals:** 1. HARRISON (Glos.) bt A. Rhodes (Middx.) 12-21, 21-12, 21-17. D. CREAMER (Middx.) bt V. Ireland (Surrey) 16-21, 21-9, 21-13.

**Final:** CREAMER bt Harrison 21-17, 21-9.

**Women's Singles: Semi - Finals:** D. ROWE (Middx.) bt L. Bell (Essex) 21-17, 21-14. M. SHANNON (Surrey) bt J. Williams (Herts) 21-12, 21-18.

**Final:** ROWE bt Shannon 21-15, 18-21, 21-16.

**Men's Doubles: Final:** R. STEVENS/R. RAYBOULD (Essex) bt M. Creamer/D. Creamer (Middx.) 21-15, 13-21, 21-14.

**Women's Doubles: Final:** ROWE/SHANNON bt Williams/Bell 21-17, 21-19.

**Mixed Doubles: Final:** HARRISON/ROWE bt A. Tomlinson (New Zealand)/A. Taft (Herts) 21-12, 21-15.

**Boys' Singles: Final:** C. BARNES (Essex) bt D. Holland (Glos.) 21-19, 21-16.

## TEENAGE TOPICS

by BRIAN WRIGHT

## TEENAGERS STEAL THE LIMELIGHT

**O**F the five titles, three were won by young players, with the ladies' doubles shared. As the report of this championship is elsewhere in the magazine I shall give only the highlights.

**Pride of place belongs equally to Chester Barnes and Mary Shannon, the two youngest ever winners of the "Closed" singles titles.**

Chester played through in masterly fashion, beating Brian Hill, Lincolnshire, three games to one, Terry Densham, Hertfordshire, three games to one, Jeff Ingber, Lancashire, three games to two after losing the first two games, Michael Thornhill, Middlesex, 3-1, David Creamer, Middlesex, 3-1 and in the final Alan Rhodes, three games to one. Even this did not overshadow the three titles won by eighteen-year-old Mary Shannon; the three straight defeats of Diane Rowe in the Women's Singles final was probably the shock of the whole tournament. It was Miss Rowe's heaviest defeat for years by a home player. By and large, it must have been the first national tournament that was absolutely dominated by youth and partly due to this the finals turned out to be excellent.

## YORKSHIRE JUNIOR OPEN

The Yorkshire Junior Open had many shock results. With Chester Barnes and Lesley Bell the top two juniors competing in the English Closed, the Junior under seventeen events were wide open. The winner of the Boys' Singles was Alan Ransome, Yorkshire, the only junior to beat Chester Barnes this season. In an exciting final he beat Erice Marsden 20, —18, 19, to win his first junior title. Of the four seeds in this event, only Les Gresswell Middlesex reached his appointed place in the semi-final, losing to the winner in straight games.

Number one seed, Dave Stanley, also lost to Ransome in the quarter final. Ranked players Tony Robertson, who was number two seed and Peter Williams, were both defeated by little known M. Hampson, Stockport, whose fine run was ended by Marston. The fourth seed, Stuart Seaholme, lost in the first round to J. Warwick of Walsall, —19, 17, 15.

The Girls' Singles title was also kept in Yorkshire by "News of the World" girl of the year, Pat Dainty, who beat top seeded Jacky Canham 22-20, 22-20 in the final.

A promising performance in the

under fifteen event was the appearance in the Girls' final of Maureen Hackle. To reach this stage she beat the second seeded Irene Allom, 23 —11, 17. Maureen, who hails from Northumberland, is only thirteen years old and has been playing table tennis for six months. In fact this was her first open tournament. Quite an achievement to reach the final in such a short playing career.

## GERMAN JUNIOR TOUR

The German Junior team will be coming to England for a short tour from February 27th to March 6th. Their list for fixtures is: February 27th arrive; February 28th versus England at Bexhill; March 1st and 2nd English Open; March 3rd a rest day; March 4th versus England at Leicester; March 5th versus England

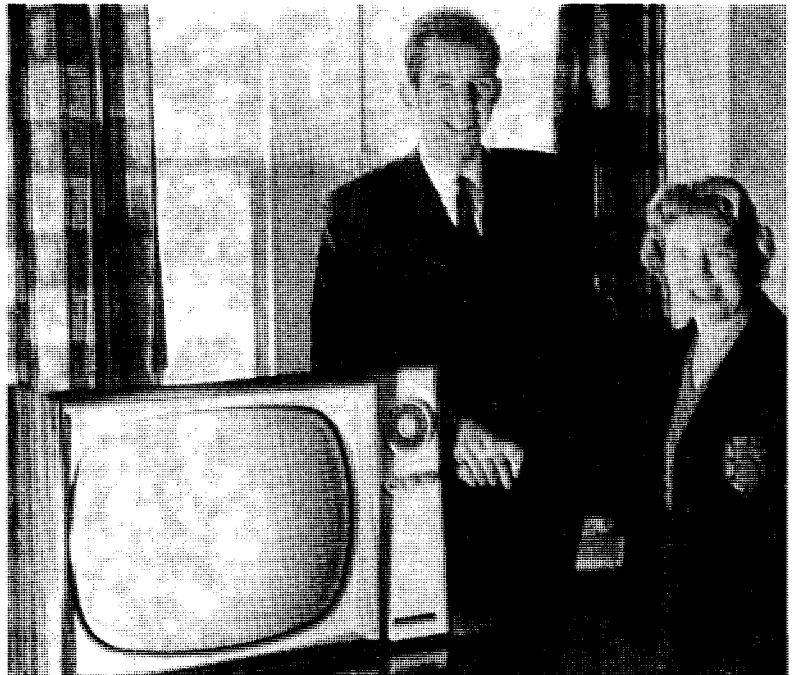
at St. Luke's, Canning Town. March 6th return to Germany.

The team of three boys and two girls will include Willy Grobe, who won the Kent junior in November. It will be interesting to see how he fares against the new Chester Barnes whom he beat in the final of the Kent junior.

## WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

The team for the World Championship includes four youngsters in David Creamer, Chester Barnes, Mary Shannon and Lesley Bell and must be one of the youngest ever to represent England in the Swathling and Corbillon Cups. These four players earned selection by consistently good results throughout the present season and not as part of a deliberate youth policy.

## "A TELLY FOR A TANNER"



MR. R. A. BONE, of 5, Durban Road West, Watford, a member of G.E.C. Stanmore, receiving the 21 inch Ultra Bermuda Television with V.H.F. Radio combined, which he won in the competition in aid of the European Championships Fund. MRS. L. R. PHILLIPS who did such sterling work in organising the competition, made the presentation.

COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS ROUND UP

by FRANK BATEMAN

# PRAISE FOR ESSEX

"THE best county side of the lot." That was the opinion of a Gloucestershire official after seeing Essex defeat the home county 6-3. The Bristolians appreciated the way the visitors prefer to win the points themselves and not have them given to them.

Ian Harrison was at his best, winning both his singles for Gloucestershire, but Kevin Edwards was right off form.

Kent again went down 5-4—this time to Lancashire. At one stage they trailed 2-4 but levelled at 4-all. Tony Piddock made a great effort against Jeff Ingber in the final set, but the Mancunian was just a little too steady. Joyce Fielder had a very close match against Diane Fitzgerald, winning on a net cord 24-22 in the third.

**Warwickshire keep themselves well up the table with a 6-3 win over Surrey. Pam Mortimer had a shock two-straight win over Mary Shannon.**

February is an important month for Surrey for they not only play Lancashire, but relegation rivals Cheshire and Kent as well.

Lincolnshire decisively beat Northumberland 9-1 in the Second Division North. Apart from the women's singles, in which Philemena Clark beat Wendy Eanor in a close game, Northumberland were only impressive in the men's and women's doubles and Colin Archibald's singles against Brian Hill. This was probably the best match of the evening, but Hill's experience and unreturnable service at the vital stages gave him victory. Stewart Lennie showed promise when partnering Dignam in the men's doubles.

Bucks. had the misfortune to be three players short at the start of

their Southern Division match with Hertfordshire due to the blizzard. Fortunately Leo Thompson was at the venue and was coaxed into playing. When he went to change he found he had only one shoe. He managed to borrow another shoe and played with one snow white and the other dirty. Leo's odd appearance did not put off his opponents for he lost two straight to Derek Grant and Brian Sykes. A word of praise for Jean Williams, who had a fine win over Jackie Canham. Jim Healy maintained his unbeaten record with wins over Grant and Smith.

**Huntingdon were snow bound on their way to Witham and their match against Essex had to be postponed.**

After crashing 10-0 to Middlesex in the Junior Division East, the Suffolk boys and girls put up a much better show the following week before losing 7-3 to Hertfordshire.

This was a fighting Suffolk team, putting up one of the best displays from that county for several seasons. David Mann played well in an excellent boys' doubles and in both singles matches, though Peter Williams was much too good for him. Linda Barrett played a consistently sound singles and with a little more experience would have given Suffolk the girls' doubles.

Dorset and Somerset had a very entertaining game just before Christmas, the report of which came just too late for the January issue. I am told the match composed of everything . . . orthodox and unorthodox play, top spin, side spin, close-up play, vicious driving and even a backhand kill was introduced by one player.

The players themselves ranged from the very young to the not so young, experienced and inexperienced.

Dorset were at the winning end (8-2). Somerset fought hard but were perhaps prepared to lose in order to allow youth to gain county experience.

Bassett and Champion were in fine form for Dorset, and made a formidable doubles combination. In the women's singles Pat Frampton successfully prevented 15-year-old Daphne Bonner from attacking, by carrying the attack herself. Given a little more experience Miss Bonner should make quite a name for herself.

## COUNTY DIARY

### PREMIER DIVISION

February 2	Essex v Warwickshire, London Schools, Laindon	7 p.m.
February 2	Lancashire v Surrey, Mereside Methodist Hall, Grizedale Road, Marton, Blackpool	7 p.m.
February 22	Surrey v Cheshire	
February 23	Middlesex v Cheshire, Finchley Youth Hall, 142 High Road, E. Finchley, N.2.	7.15 p.m.
February 23	Surrey v Kent, Ronson Canteen, Leatherhead	7 p.m.
February 23	Lancashire v Gloucestershire, Osram Lamp Works, Shaw, Nr. Oldham	7 p.m.

### SECOND DIVISION (SOUTH)

February 2	Cambridgeshire v Sussex
February 9	Suffolk v Cambridgeshire

### SECOND DIVISION (WEST)

February 23	Wiltshire v Devonshire	
February 23	Somerset v Cornwall, Y.M.C.A., High Street, Weston-Super-Mare	7.15 p.m.

### SECOND DIVISION (MIDLAND)

February 2	Monmouthshire v Oxfordshire, Emmanuel Congregational Church Hall, London Street, Newport	7 p.m.
February 16	Warwickshire v Monmouthshire, Mitchells & Butlers Ltd., Portland Road, Edgbaston	7 p.m.
February 23	Worcestershire v Bedfordshire, Shirehall, Worcester	7 p.m.

### SOUTHERN DIVISION

February 23	Buckinghamshire v Berkshire, Slough Community Centre	7.30 p.m.
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### MIDLAND DIVISION

February 23	Yorkshire v Nottinghamshire	
February 23	Worcestershire v Derbyshire, Athletic Club, Evesham	7 p.m.

### JUNIOR DIVISION (NORTH)

February 22	Lancashire v Durham, Y.M.C.A., Mount Pleasant, Liverpool	7 p.m.
February 23	Cheshire v Durham	

### JUNIOR DIVISION (SOUTH)

February 9	Kent v Sussex	
February 23	Berkshire v Hampshire, Y.M.C.A., Parkside Road, Reading	3.30 p.m.

### JUNIOR DIVISION (EAST)

February 23	Cambridgeshire v Essex
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### JUNIOR DIVISION (MIDLAND)

February 2	Monmouthshire v Oxfordshire, Tye Maws School, Gilwern, Nr. Abergavenny	3 p.m.
February 16	Warwickshire v Monmouthshire, Mitchells & Butlers Ltd., Portland Road, Edgbaston	2.30 p.m.

# DETAILED RESULTS

## PREMIER DIVISION

**Gloucestershire 3, Essex 6**  
 B. Merrett bt R. Raybould 14, 12; lost to C. Barnes —17, 17, —12. I. Harrison bt Barnes 10, 19; bt R. Stevens 20, 15. K. Edwards lost to Stevens —10, —14; lost to Raybould —14, —17.  
 Mrs. J. Golding lost to Miss L. Bell —12, —7.  
 Harrison/Edwards lost to Stevens, Raybould —11, —19.

Merrett/Mrs. Golding lost to Barnes/Miss Bell —12, 18, —15.

## Warwickshire 6, Surrey 3

M. Billington bt G. Muranyi 18, 13; bt J. Moore —21, 15, 14. R. Gunnion bt Moore 17, 10; bt V. Ireland 19, 19. D. Baddeley bt Ireland 22, —20, 14; lost to Muranyi —17, —16.  
 Miss P. Mortimer bt Miss M. Shannon 17, 18.  
 Billington/Gunnion lost to Ireland/Moore —24, 18, —10.  
 Baddeley/Miss Mortimer lost to Muranyi/Miss Shannon —15, —23.

bt Symonds 6, —17, 17; lost to J. Ingber —14, —19. H. Buist lost to Ingber —15, —15; bt Forshaw 11, 19.  
 Miss J. Fielder bt Miss D. Fitzgerald 18, 6.  
 Buist/Whittaker lost to Symonds/Forshaw —8, —11.  
 Piddock/Miss Fielder bt Ingber/Miss Fitzgerald 18, 6.

## SECOND DIVISION (NORTH)

Northumberland 1, Lincolnshire 9

## SOUTHERN DIVISION

Buckinghamshire 5, Hertfordshire 5

## MIDLAND DIVISION

Derbyshire 5, Staffordshire 5

## JUNIOR DIVISION (EAST)

Suffolk 3, Hertfordshire 7  
 Middlesex 10, Suffolk 0

# DIVISIONAL TABLE

## PREMIER DIVISION

	P.	W.	L.	F.	A.	P.
Middlesex	5	5	0	33	12	10
Lancashire	4	3	1	21	15	6
Essex	5	3	2	25	20	6
Warwickshire	5	3	2	25	20	6
Gloucestershire	5	2	3	23	22	4
Surrey	3	1	2	9	18	2
Cheshire	4	1	3	9	27	2
Kent	5	0	5	17	28	0

## SECOND DIVISION (SOUTH)

	P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.	P.
Hertfordshire	3	3	0	0	26	4	6
Hampshire	4	2	0	2	23	17	4
Sussex	2	1	0	1	10	10	2
Suffolk	2	0	0	2	1	19	0
Cambridgeshire	1	0	0	1	0	10	0

## SECOND DIVISION (NORTH)

Lancashire	2	2	0	0	14	6	4
Yorkshire	3	2	0	1	19	11	4
Lincolnshire	3	1	1	1	17	13	3
Durham	3	1	1	1	16	14	3
Northumberland	3	0	0	0	4	26	0

## SECOND DIVISION (WEST)

Devonshire	3	2	1	0	22	8	5
Dorset	2	1	1	0	12	8	3
Wiltshire	2	1	1	0	12	8	3
Cornwall	3	0	1	2	8	22	1
Somerset	2	0	0	2	6	14	0

## SECOND DIVISION (MIDLAND)

Glamorgan	4	4	0	0	36	4	8
Staffordshire	3	3	0	0	26	4	6
Warwickshire	3	2	0	1	16	14	4
Oxfordshire	3	1	1	1	13	17	3
Bedfordshire	4	0	1	3	11	29	1
Worcestershire	3	0	0	3	8	22	0
Monmouthshire	2	0	0	2	0	20	0

## SOUTHERN DIVISION

Essex	3	3	0	0	26	4	6
Buckinghamshire	3	2	1	0	22	8	5
Berkshire	3	2	0	1	16	14	4
Hertfordshire	3	1	1	1	17	13	3
Norfolk	4	0	0	4	8	32	0
Huntingdonshire	2	0	0	2	1	19	0

## MIDLAND DIVISION

Yorkshire	3	3	0	0	28	2	6
Staffordshire	4	1	2	1	20	20	4
Derbyshire	3	1	1	1	14	16	3
Nottinghamshire	2	0	1	1	8	12	1
Worcestershire	2	0	0	2	0	20	0

## JUNIOR DIVISION (NORTH)

Yorkshire	4	3	0	1	22	10	6
Durham	4	2	0	2	16	16	4
Lancashire	2	1	0	1	7	9	2
Cheshire	2	0	0	2	3	13	0

## JUNIOR DIVISION (SOUTH)

Sussex	3	3	0	0	24	6	6
Kent	3	3	0	0	21	9	6
Hampshire	3	1	0	2	13	17	2
Surrey	3	0	0	3	9	21	0
Berkshire	2	0	0	2	3	17	0

## JUNIOR DIVISION (MIDLAND)

Gloucestershire	2	1	1	0	14	6	3
Monmouthshire	1	1	0	0	6	4	2
Warwickshire	1	0	1	0	5	5	1
Staffordshire	1	0	0	1	4	6	0
Oxfordshire	1	0	0	1	1	9	0

## JUNIOR DIVISION (EAST)

Hertfordshire	4	3	0	1	26	14	6
Essex	2	2	0	0	17	3	4
Middlesex	3	2	0	1	24	6	4
Suffolk	4	1	0	3	13	27	2
Cambridgeshire	3	0	0	3	0	30	0

## Key 4, Lancashire 5

D. Whittaker lost to K. Forshaw —14, —15; lost to M. Symonds —8. A. Piddock

## LANCS. and CHESHIRE

# GREAT WILMOT CUP CLASH

ENGENDERING an atmosphere reminiscent of a bygone era the inter-zone Wilmot Cup clash between Manchester and Bolton produced table tennis par excellence, which did much to offset the arctic conditions prevailing at the Stretford Lawn Tennis Club on January 21.

Fully represented by Jeff Ingber, Jack Clayton and Kevin Forshaw, the holders took an initial knock when Mike Symonds avenged his Lancashire Open defeat in accounting for Clayton 21-17, 21-18. Thereafter the visitors failed to capitalise on their bright beginning, surrendering the next five sets in a row despite Bryn Farnworth and Gordon Beardsworth taking Clayton and Forshaw to deciders. Greater experience told in the end as did that of Ingber's after going under in a first game avalanche to Symonds.

Prominent as always at matches of such significance was Manchester's and Lancashire's president, Jack Livingstone, still very much actively concerned with the game as he has been ever since starting out in 1909 as a member of Grove House in the Manchester and Salford Lads' Club Ping Pong League. Mr. "Peter Pan" Livingstone continued to play after the 1914-18 war in the Lads' Club League, right up to the Manchester League being formed, in fact, attending the first meeting as a founder member 36 years ago. Any challenger to this impressive span of active interest?

Manchester Banks and Insurance Offices League were also concerned in a big match promotion in January when they entertained the London Insurance Offices League. The Mancunians included Terry Cooper—recent conqueror of Ingber when representing Oldham in an earlier Wilmot Cup tie—who won both his singles as well as partnering Alan Summerfield to a doubles victory.

Somewhat overshadowed by their neighbours across the Irwell, Salford, Eccles and District League continue to flourish and indeed expand from their modest beginnings in 1950 when membership consisted of 4 teams. Today that number has swollen to 43 comprising 4 divisions.

No. 1 player Derek Cartwright has not lost a league set in three seasons, having a background of many inter-league appearances on behalf of Manchester and a representative game for the county.

Most promising junior is Bill Rouse, 16, a member of St. Paul's Youth Club. Rodney Wilks is another teenager catching the eye, as is Melvyn Waite, son of Arthur Waite, the former England international.

Present hon. secretary is Mr. G. Thomas, who was a founder member and the League's first secretary up to 1952. Chairman in 1958/60, G.T. again took over the secretarial reins in 1960, still being in office today and just qualified as a veteran.

Lancashire II's third repetitive 7-3 victory in Division 2 (North) of the National County Championships leaves Northumberland as the only stumbling block to a team that has thus far been unchanged, viz: Roy Crusham, George Livesey, Bryn Farnworth, Connie Moore and Ivy Kershaw.

Could be Crusham will figure in Lancashire's premier team opposed to Surrey at Blackpool on February 2 as partner to Di Fitzgerald in the mixed.

George R. Yates.

## BUCKS, CLOSED

### FINAL RESULTS

Men's Singles: J. HUSBANDS (Slough) bt D. Jones (Chalfont) 21-19, 22-20.  
 Women's Singles: J. WILLIAMS (Slough) bt Miss J. Dalton (Bletchley) 21-14, 21-10.  
 MEN'S DOUBLES: P. MORECROFT/A. CARTER (Slough) bt L. Wooding/K. Jeffrey (Aylesbury) 21-14, 21-19.  
 Women's Doubles: J. WOODING/J. DALTON (Bletchley) bt J. Williams/M. Roitman (Slough) 16-21, 21-14, 23-21.  
 Mixed Doubles: L. WOODING (Aylesbury)/Miss J. WOODING (Bletchley) bt L. Thompson/Miss J. Williams (Slough) 21-17, 21-19.  
 Boys' Singles: P. SHIRLEY (Slough) bt L. Boon (Slough) 21-17, 21-18.  
 Girls' Singles: J. WOODING (Bletchley) bt Miss J. Dalton (Bletchley) 21-15, 21-18.  
 Junior Doubles: L. BOON/P. SHIRLEY (Slough) bt Butt/Hawkins (Slough) 21-7, 21-18.  
 Restricted Singles: F. EARIS (Slough) bt R. Curl (Slough) 21-16, 21-15.

# Editor's Postbag . . .

## REFLECTING RACKETS

REFERRING to the racket, Law 4 of Table Tennis states: "its surface shall be dark coloured and non-reflecting." Scientifically, this law cannot be enforced. An object (including a racket) can be seen by the eyes only through the light which it reflects.

What then was the reason for the law as it stands?

It was suggested by Ivor Montagu, President of I.T.T.F. and E.T.T.A., in his excellent book "Table Tennis," that the law arose in order to stop the use of a racket in the form of a mirror, by which an opponent saw two balls, the real one "coming" and the image one "going," which could be disturbing. This, of course, is not so far fetched as one might now think, for it arose in the day of polished wooden rackets, the effective playing surfaces of which would not differ much from that of a mirror.

Ivor, however, does not state that a possible objection to the mirror racket was that it produced shine by reflection and I think for very good reasons as I shall try to show.

Assuming that, with the size of the playing area as it is, the racket, the players' eyes and a light above the table can be regarded substantially as occupying very small regions, then the laws of optics show that of all the myriad of angular positions that a racket can assume in the movable hand of a player positioned in any one location, there is **only one** angular position of the racket in which mirror reflection from the light by the racket can be seen by the opponent. In most cases this position will be one that cannot possibly be assumed by the racket in the player's action. Of course, with two separate lights above the table there will be two positions and so on.

If a number of officials were to position themselves around a playing arena the odds on one of them noticing a mirror reflection would be increased though both the players could report truly that they have not seen any mirror reflection during play. This is a case where reports by official observations should not supersede reports by the players themselves.

I have not yet come across a player who objected to the use by his opponent of a reversed sandwich racket on the ground of a disturbing shine from his opponent's racket. Even if mirror reflections were seen occasionally, they would not be disturbing with the use of dark coloured rackets as required by the law.

I have samples of pre-war and present day pimped rubber in which the covering between the pimples (a far greater area than the pimples themselves) is far shinier than the covering of reversed

sandwich rackets. No objection was raised pre-war (the present law then applied) and I do not think that pimped rubber rackets are now inspected for possible shine. Nor was any objection raised against the polished wooden rackets of old.

Those who dislike the reversed sandwich racket because it is eliminating the purely defensive player by means of the loop drive, etc., must not fall into the uncomfortable position of attacking it by means of a legalistic quibble based on a law which does not make sense.

Table tennis officials have to interpret the law as it stands. I think that in this case they are interpreting the law, as far as it can be interpreted, in an unnecessary manner. The crucial test should be whether players are disturbed by shine.

My own opinion is that the words "and non-reflecting" should be deleted from Law 4 leaving it to read "its surface shall be dark coloured." This wording alone will eliminate the "mirror" racket.

DENIS OFFER  
(London).

## BROKEN TIME

In view of the publicity given to the question of broken time payment to Alan Rhodes and the possibility of further correspondence on the matter, I feel it is only right that your readers should know the full facts.

I want to avoid expressing any opinion but correspondence in the press and in the Magazine makes it clear that there is some misunderstanding which can easily be cleared.

1. The expenses were paid by the National County Championships and not the E.T.T.A.
2. The N.C.C. is not part of the E.T.T.A. but is a separate body.
3. Therefore there is no question of the E.T.T.A. breaking its own rules.
4. The delay in taking the matter up with Rhodes was due to the official making the payment being under the impression that it was an allowable expense and thus grouped the item with other expenses.
5. The matter came to light when subsequent claims were made by a player and the payment to Rhodes was used as a precedent.
6. The rule says that a player must not be "paid or receive any reward or remuneration other than expenses (return fare, hotel accommodation, meals) for playing in a representative match or Open Tournament, A representative match is one in which a

## RACKETS AND CLOTHING

A warning notice is being circulated to all Associations reminding them that an inspection of rackets and clothing will be conducted prior to each match in Prague.

Associations who do not take immediate notice of this warning will be doing a grave dis-service to both themselves and their players.

## TRIBUTE TO VENNER

IN offering congratulations to Chester Barnes on his magnificent victory in the English closed, I would like to pay tribute to the achievements of Harry Venner in coaching not only Chester from an early age, but also the new lady champion Mary Shannon. A great double for a great coach.

Here's hoping Harry will soon find new quarters for his Putney International Club, and continue this good work of finding and coaching future England stars.

P. A. VENUS (Mr.)  
(Fulham).

- player is playing for his club, league, county or country against any other team, league, county or country. Proper trial matches organised by clubs, leagues, counties or the National Association for the purpose of selecting representative teams shall rank as participation in representative matches." The E.T.T.A. can legislate for their Registered Members but not for any non-affiliated member who may wish to reward a player. The responsibility therefore is on the player to observe the rule.
7. Alan Rhodes has contended that he does not agree with the rule but never denied he received the payment and therefore admits to breaking the rule.
  8. No decision was ever taken by the N.E.C. with regard to suspension. The question of suspension was mentioned to Rhodes in an effort to make him fully aware of the possible consequences if he did not put himself in the clear by repaying the money.
  9. The money repaid prior to the N.E.C. meeting so that the matter was not down for discussion, but was noted for information.
  10. There is no question of the amount involved having any bearing on the matter; it is a

question of adhering to the rule.

11. *The problem of broken time affects not only players but officials and administrators, who in many instances do not receive their full expenses.*
12. *The E.T.T.A. (and the N.C.C.) are not profit making bodies but keep what they consider to be a safe working capital and everything else goes back into the game.*
13. *The surplus on a TV match is allocated to subsequent expenses for International matches from which the top players benefit.*
14. *It is anticipated that the N.C.C. will allocate £50 to the E.T.T.A. from the surplus on the match in question which will be used for the benefit of senior International players.*
15. *The E.T.T.A. Secretary has had talks with some top players and will be reporting to the next N.E.C.*

I hope these facts will assist your readers to assess the position fairly and draw their own conclusions. I would like to add that Alan Rhodes has been straightforward throughout and has brought up what he and possibly other players, feel to be a genuine grievance.

T. BLUNN,  
Hon. Treasurer E.T.T.A.

## PLAYERS MAKE THE GAME

IT has often been said in this magazine, and to quote from January's Postbag in a letter from M. Jones, that "... there are a multitude of 'lesser' players who are the backbone of table tennis ...". I would like to say, if I may be permitted, that this multitude, and I hope Jones means that there is only one—is no more the backbone of the game than is my great-uncle Gabriel Nussbaum, of the East Mudworthy and District League. And he has not lost to anyone for 39 seasons, even though he smokes a pipe during play and keeps a pint of bitter under the table and has not heard of Ian Harrison.

Let's face it, it is players, irrespective of standard, who make the game—not "club" players alone.

Anyone who does not believe this can send Mr. Joseph Bloggs to Prague in April with his grey socks, heavy breathing and L-shaped forehead and our game will become a status symbol—of the lowest order.

We need both types of players, the Star and the Rank, and all those in the middle, but at the moment we need better stars and more personalities if we are to bring back the spectators.

I do not wish to belittle the lesser player but let's not make him out to be something he is not. He enjoys his game, he is not a good player (he will often say he does not wish to be), so perhaps his only claim to immortality, if he must have one, is echoed by those who say the game could not exist without him!

I, as a player, am quite prepared to admit that if I gave up today, it would make not the slightest bit of difference to anybody. I hope I have not made an enemy of M. Jones (Prittiewell) for pouncing on a single phrase in his letter, but this very phrase may prove a

pointer to his reasoning in the rest of what he had to say. I feel my tirade is in vain, for the so-called backbone of table tennis very rarely buys this magazine anyway.

**Michael Maclaren**  
(West Mudworthy).

## FIXTURE ENGAGEMENTS

In the Open Tournaments below, events shown in the column are *additional* to M.S., W.S., M.D., W.D. and X.D. in every case. Tournaments marked (A) are Approved. The closing date for entries is shown in parenthesis after the title. Suitable entries are inserted in this diary without charge but all organisers should send information to the Editor at the earliest possible date.

Date	Title of Venue	Extra Events	Organising Secretary
Feb. 1-2	<b>IRISH OPEN</b> (Jan. 19) Balbriggan, Nr. Dublin.	<b>J.B.S.</b> <b>J.G.S.</b>	L. Cashell, Glendale, Seapoint, Balbriggan, Co Dublin.
Feb. 2	<b>SOUTH YORKSHIRE OPEN</b> (Jan. 27) Somme Barracks, Sheffield, Yorks.	<b>J.B.S.</b> <b>J.G.S.</b>	A. Head 1, Poplar Avenue, Beighton, Nr. Sheffield, Yorks.
	<b>3 Hythe Invitation</b>		
Feb. 9	<b>MIDLAND OPEN</b> (Jan. 30) Friends' Institute, 220, Moseley Road, Birmingham 12.	<b>J.B.S.</b> <b>J.G.S.</b> <b>J.B.D.</b> <b>V.S.</b>	M. Goldstein, 415, Moseley Road, Birmingham 12.
Feb. 10	<b>Scottish Midlands Closed</b> Dundee.		
	<b>16 Grimsby Open</b> (Feb. 9) Augusta Street Barracks, Augusta Street, Grimsby.	<b>J.B.S.</b>	A. Black,
<b>16-17</b>	<b>South of England (A)</b> (Jan. 30), I.C.T., Welfare Hall, Aurelia Road, Croydon.	<b>J.B.S.</b> <b>J.G.S.</b>	S. H. Buchan, 124, Portnell's Road, Coulsdon, Surrey.
<b>23</b>	<b>Cheshire Junior Open</b> (Feb. 9) Livingstone Street Baths, Birkenhead.		R. A. Bissell, 75, Southdale Road, Rock Ferry, Birkenhead. Cheshire.
<b>23-24</b>	<b>GERMAN DTTB OPEN</b>		
Feb. 27- March 2	<b>ENGLISH OPEN</b> The Dome and Corn Exchange, Brighton, Sussex.		E.T.T.A. Office, 652, Grand Buildings, Trafalgar Square, London, W.C.2.
Mar. 9	<b>Welsh Closed</b> Llandaff North Drill Hall, Cardiff.		Mrs. Roy Evans, 1, Llwyn-y-Grant Road, Cyncoed, Cardiff.
Mar. 9-10	<b>Bucks. Open</b> (Feb. 16) Slough Community Centre, Farnham Road, Slough.	<b>J.B.S.</b> <b>J.G.S.</b>	L. Thompson, "Auchmead," The Avenue, Sunnymeads, Wraysbury, Bucks.
<b>17</b>	<b>Sussex Junior Open</b> (Feb. 16) Assembly Hall, Worthing, Sussex.	<b>U.17</b> <b>U.15</b> <b>U.13</b>	M. J. Joyes, 42, Livesay Crescent, Worthing, Sussex.
<b>22</b>	<b>Stevenage Open</b> (Feb. 25) No. 1 Canteen, English Electric Ltd. Six Hills Way, Stevenage, Herts.	<b>J.B.S.</b> <b>J.G.S.</b>	J. Thompson, 268, Chertsey Rose, Stevenage, Herts.
April 6	<b>GWENT OPEN</b> (Mar. 23) Standard Telephones, Newport, Mon.	<b>J.G.S.</b> <b>J.B.S.</b>	Grove Motlow, 29, Carisbrook Road, Newport, Mon.



## IRISH SCENE

by NEIL HURLEY

## BIG ENTRY FOR LIMERICK

**D**ESPITE the very severe weather conditions a big entry was received for the Limerick Open Championships on January 12. The quality, which one usually associates with this event, however, was lacking but even so Dan Foley of Cork was full value for his excellent performance in the men's singles.

Foley, who has great potential, had to battle very hard to overcome former International player Tom Seacy, also of Cork.

Much interest centred on the performance of Dublin's youthful starlet Jimmy Langan, who it will be remembered almost toppled the eventual winner, New Zealand's Alan Tomlinson in the Munster Open last November. Langan had the misfortune however to come up against Foley in the semi-final, and even though he cruised easily through the first game, and led for much of the second, it was the Corkman's ability to play close to the table that eventually tipped the scales against him.

Another former International player Johnny Christie also provided Seacy with a hectic encounter in the other semi-final. These players have in the past produced top class table tennis, and this occasion was no exception. The final was also a gripping affair and left little to be desired.

Betty Harris won the ladies' singles without ever being seriously troubled, and so made it a Cork double in the singles events.

**Men's Singles: Semi-Finals:** D. FOLEY (Cork) bt J. Langan (Dublin) 11-21, 21-16, 12-16. T. SEACY (Cork) bt J. Christie (Cork) 12-21, 21-12, 21-15.  
**Final:** FOLEY bt Seacy 22-20, 17-21, 21-15, 21-12.

**Men's Doubles: Semi-Finals:** SEACY/CHRISTIE bt M. Mitten/D. Mellin (Dublin) 23-21, 21-16. M. GIBNEY/J. LANGAN (Dublin) bt Foley/T. Taylor (Cork) 21-14, 21-18.

**Final:** SEACY/CHRISTIE bt Gibney/Langan 11-21, 21-17, 21-17.

**Boys' Singles: Semi-Finals:** LANGAN bt Mellin 21-18, 21-7. M. MITTEN bt Gibney 21-15, 19-21, 21-14.

**Final:** LANGAN bt D. Mitten 21-14 21-15.

**Ladies' Singles: Semi-Finals:** D. MARNELL (Dublin) bt A. Fallon (Kildare) 21-18, 15-21, 21-13. B. HARRIS (Cork) bt R. Kellor (Dublin) 21-14, 21-14.  
**Final:** HARRIS bt Marnell 21-15, 21-16.

**Mixed Doubles: Semi-Finals:** C. DUNNEY/Miss J. O'FLYNN (Kildare) bt E. Ryan/Miss Purcell (Ennis) 22-20, 21-16. CHRISTIE/Miss HARRIS (Cork) bt D. Griffin (Galway)/Miss D. Marnell (Dublin) 21-10, 21-15.

**Final:** CHRISTIE/HARRIS bt Dunney/O'Flynn 21-14, 21-19.

**Ladies' Doubles: Final:** S. MARNELL/D. MARNELL (Dublin) bt A. Fallon/J. O'Flynn (Kildare) 21-16, 21-14.

Cork will have another very attractive fixture on February 15/16. This time it is the Goulding Invitation Tournament, and that very enterprising club have gone to much trouble to ensure the success of the venture. Already they have secured the services of England's Ian Harrison, and his presence alone should give the tournament that much needed boost. There is no doubt that Harrison will be the big drawing card, and couple his name with that of Irish Champion Tommy Caffrey, and it is easy to visualise a capacity house for the tournament.

The Club are still negotiating with another English player and it is quite probable that their efforts will be successful. Ulster will be well represented with players like Victor Mercer, one of the all time greats of Irish Table Tennis, Ernie Allen, Elizabeth Reid, Carroll McBride and Clifford Thompson, while besides Caffrey, Leinster will have Violet Lambert, Ann Mahony Jimmy Langan, and Wesley Pappin to represent them.

The championships are being held at the Gregg Hall, Cork, and late entries should be sent to **Mr. John Coughlan, c/o Gouldings, Centre Park Road, Cork, phone Cork: 21643.**

## TWO MAN TEAM

**I**RELAND will send a two man team to the English Open, in Brighton on February 28, March 1 and 2. As well as participating in the "open" the players will also take part in the International team event which is being run in conjunction with the championships. The team has not yet been selected, but it is likely that Tommy Caffrey will be included.

## YOUTHS

## INTER-PROVINCIAL

**L**EINSTER, the holders' take on Munster in a Youths' Inter-Provincial contest in Cork, on February 17. In the corresponding match last season in Dublin, the Leinster boys proved too strong, and there is every reason to believe that it will follow the same pattern this year. The event, however, is serving its purpose as far as Munster is concerned, by providing first class opposition for its boys who would not normally have such good opposition.

THAT QUIZ  
IN  
DECEMBER

**P**ETER MADGE'S "Find Out About You" quiz brought a query from reader Norman Isbell, of Kenton, Middlesex. He writes:

*Dear Mr. Madge, I regret that your current quiz has posed a problem. Having completed the questions I find myself in the 0-17 category. Although I enjoy my game, could this be the reason I never get a doubles partner?*

Peter Madge replies: Most interesting. Frankly, you've got no right to enjoy your game if you scored THAT low. I didn't feel qualified to answer your query in detail because of its delicate psychological nature. I therefore consulted one of Clapham High Street's leading psychiatrists who gave me this opinion:

"Since Mr. Isbell enjoys his game, even though he throws the majority of his matches, he obviously has strong masochistic tendencies coupled with inverted wish-fulfillment motives. That is to say, he actually LIKES unfortunate things to happen to him during a match and this sense of satisfaction compensates for his guilt-feelings at not being the sort of person who could score 25 or over in the quiz.

Mr. Isbell might well have difficulty in finding a doubles partner because he needs one in his own psychological category, and very few players have got themselves into the state of mind in which they actually prefer to lose rather than win.

Even if Mr. Isbell finds such a person I cannot predict success for the partnership since fighting would inevitably break out between them before the end of the first game.

My advice to Mr. Isbell is that in every game he plays he should try not to get a single point. This way, if he loses 0-21 he will get as much, or more, satisfaction from the game than his opponent."

Thank you, Doctor X. In accordance with normal practice I cannot reveal the doctor's name, he is Wanted in five counties.

Should any other reader have psychological problems connected with his or her game, please write in and the discredited quack, Doctor X, will be pleased to give a worthless opinion.

# Marinko and Shahian win in North American Team Events

By NORMAN L. KILPATRICK

CANADA'S Max Marinko was the outstanding player of the North American Men's Team Championships in November. Marinko won 17, and lost one, although his Canadian team was placed only sixth in an 11-team field. The only defeat suffered by the pen-holder from Toronto was at the hands of Erwin Klein 21-17, 21-15. Klein lost only one match out of 15 during the event, when 22-year-old German born Martin Doss out-counter-hit him in a sensational match 12-21, 21-13, 21-14.

A new player to the American scene is Elias Solomon, who has played in India and Israel. His retrieving defensive game defeated American defensive stars Charles Burns and Richard Hicks, although he was unable to turn back the attacking play of the top U.S. hitters. Ralph Childs, 14-year-old star from Detroit, Michigan, won 12 out of 16. New York defended its team title

by defeating Illinois 5-3 in the final play-off.

Top individual records: Max Marinko (Canada) 17-1; Erwin Klein (Chicago) 14-1; Martin Doss (New York) 14-1; Robert Fields (New Jersey) 20-2; Jerry Kruskie (New York) 10-1; Bernard Bukiet (New York) 13-2; Laszlo Varenyi (Illinois) 14-4; Ralph Childs (Michigan) 12-4.

United States women's champion Miss Mildred Shahian was undefeated at the women's section. However, the Maryland team, led by former Lithuanian player Julia Rutelionis, defeated Miss Shahian's Illinois team 5-4 and took the team title by defeating California 7-2 in the final.

Individual records include Mildred Shahian (Illinois) 15-0; Barbara Kaminsky (Maryland) 12-3; Jenny Marinko (Canada) 12-3; Connie Stace (California) 12-3; Julia Rutelinonis

(Maryland) 12-3; Pauline Somael (California) 11-4.

## Coaching Motion

The U.S.T.T.A. secretary, Mr. J. Rufford Harrison, who is a former E.T.T.A. member, will present to the I.T.T.F. a motion that an international coaching committee be formed, to keep the nations of the four corners of the world up-to-date on new techniques of play, so that advances such as the "loop drive" can be understood by nations who do not have constant contact with the centres of world table tennis. The recent team tourneys provided good opportunity for our officials to observe if players from widely different areas were distracted by the reversed rubber rackets used by a few of our players. In no case did a player complain about reflection.



Table Tennis was represented by Diane Rowe, Victor Barna and Johnny Leach, seen here with Billy Butlin and Danny Blanchflower, the Spurs captain, at the Variety Club of Great Britain's Celebrities Luncheon at the Savoy Hotel, London, on January 8. Giving their predictions for 1963, Barna prophesied that China and Japan would scoop all the titles at the World Championships in Prague next April and that Diane, despite her defeat in the English Closed, would win the more important English Open title. Leach gave his view that young players would come more and more to the fore in the coming months and score international successes.

## YORKSHIRE JUNIOR OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS

## RANSOME KNOCKING AT DOOR

The clamour of Northern boys for a place in the national junior ranking lists became louder at this tournament in their own territory at the Yorkshire Junior Open at Madeley Street Baths, Hull, on January 5. The loudest and most persistent knocker on the door of recognition is undoubtedly Alan Ransome of Middlesbrough.

He took the Senior (Under 17) singles title with a tight three set win over another unranked finalist, Brian Marsden (Burnley), after beating David Stanley (Huddersfield), seeded 1, in the quarters, and handing out a straight set thrashing to fifth ranked Leslie Gresswell (Middlesex) in his semi.

The ranked players in the top half of the draw fared no better. First to go was Stuart Seaholme (Herts.), who fell at the first hurdle to G. Warwick (Walsall), while Stockport's R. Hampson put out first Tony Robinson (Middlesex) in the third round then Peter Williams (Herts.) in the last eight. Marsden, who cleared Warwick from his path, ended Hampson's run in the semi.

The Under 15 event again saw Seaholme defeated, this time by Mike Johns (Cheshire) in the third round. Johns went on to take the title with a comfortable win over local boy and Yorkshire junior player Paul Canham, the only seed in the boys' events to take his expected place in the final rounds.

The same pattern was evident in the boys' doubles, with seeded Seaholme/Williams going down to Ransome/John Keys (Doncaster), and Robinson/Gresswell falling to Stanley/Marsden, both at the semi-final stage. The White and Red Rose pair went on to a comfortable final win.

The girls' events followed a much more expected course, although again the North came out tops, with Pat Dainty (Doncaster) toppling top seed Jackie Canham (Herts.) in a tense final. The Yorkshire girl pulled back the first game from 16-20 down, only for Jackie to fight back from a near impossible position in the second to level at 20 all before going under 22-20.

Linda Henwood found little to trouble her in the Under 15 girls, but a word of praise for losing finalist Maureen Heppell (Newcastle-on-Tyne)—yes, neice of County player Phil—who, playing in her first tournament, put out second seed Irene Allon (Hull) on her way to the final.

There were no surprises in the Girls' Doubles or the Mixed, with Miss Canham in the winning team in both events, pairing with Pat Dainty in the Girls' and with Robinson in the Mixed.

## RESULTS

## UNDER 15:

Boys' Singles: Semi-Finals: M. JOHNS (Cheshire) bt B. Burn (Newcastle) 21-18, 21-17; P. CANHAM (Hull) bt R. Todd (Sunderland) 21-9, 25-23. Final: JOHNS bt Canham 21-18, 21-15.

Girls' Singles: Semi-Finals: L. HENWOOD (Essex) bt L. FOKES (Pontefract) 21-4, 21-3; M. HEPPPELL (Newcastle) bt S. PEGG (Chesterfield) 19-21, 21-10, 21-15. Final: HENWOOD bt Heppell 21-8, 21-10.

## UNDER 17:

Boys' Singles: Semi-Finals: A. RANSOME (Middlesbrough) bt L. Gresswell (Middlesex) 21-18, 21-7; B. MARSDEN (Burnley) bt R. Hampson (Stockport) 21-8, 21-17. Final: RANSOME bt Marsden 22-20, 18-21, 21-19.

Girls' Singles: Semi-Finals: P. DAINTY (Doncaster) bt M. Hope (Middlesex) 21-9, 21-14; J. Canham (Herts.) bt L. Henwood (Essex) 21-17, 23-21. Final: DAINTY bt Canham 22-20, 22-20.

Boys' Doubles: Semi-Finals: RANSOME/J. KEYS (Doncaster) bt S. Seaholme/P. Williams (Herts.) 21-18, 23-21. D. STANLEY (Huddersfield)/Marsden bt A. Robinson/Gresswell (Middlesex) 21-19, 20-22,

21-14. Final: STANLEY/MARSDEN bt Ransome/Keys 21-18, 21-13.

Girls' Doubles: Semi-Finals: CANHAM/DAINTY bt W. Clarkson/J. Downes (Newcastle) 21-11, 21-16; HENWOOD/I. SYKES (Birmingham) bt I. Allon/L. Twidale (Hull) 21-9, 21-12. Final: CANHAM/DAINTY bt Henwood/Sykes 21-17, 21-13.

Mixed Doubles: Semi-Finals: ROBINSON/Miss CANHAM bt Ransome/Miss Hope 21-14, 21-11; WILLIAMS/Huzzard DAINTY bt G. Birch/Miss J. Huzzard (Hull) 21-9, 21-13. Final: ROBINSON/CANHAM bt Williams/Dainty 21-13, 21-14.

## SUSSEX CLOSED

## TRIPLE FOR BEASLEY

JUNIOR table tennis is on the up and up in Sussex. This is obvious from the County junior closed championships at Bexhill on January 13. No less than 97 boys and girls took part with the boys under 17 singles attracting an entry of 65.

John Beasley, of Eastbourne and the Twelfth Hastings clubs carried off the triple crown in the Under 17's beating M. Green (Crawley) in the singles final and winning the boys doubles with Green, and the mixed doubles with Evelyn Wyles (Hastings).

The mixed provided a consolation for Miss Wyles, who, with J. Dawson-Bishop (Hastings), was runner-up for the girls doubles, and figured in the biggest upset of the tournament when she lost her girls under 17 singles title with a semi-final defeat at the hand of 13 years old Jacqueline Baynard, of Brighton.

Miss Baynard was in turn beaten by S. Franklin (Hastings) in the final, but she won the girls under 15 singles, and was also a semi-finalist in the mixed under 13 singles.

## UNDER 13:

Mixed Singles: Final: T. RILEY (Crawley) bt M. Lane (Hastings) 21-14, 21-18.

## UNDER 15:

Boys' Singles: Final: R. BUTCHER (Ashington) bt R. Blizzard (Hastings) 19-21, 21-14, 21-19. Girls' Singles: Final: J. BAYNARD (Brighton) bt S. Wadsworth (Hastings) 21-18, 21-11. Doubles: Final: G. CORKE/R. BLIZZARD (Hastings) bt A. Mendleson (Eastbourne)/Butcher 21-14, 21-12.

## UNDER 17:

Boys' Singles: Semi-Finals: M. GREEN (Crawley) bt B. Middlebrook (Bognor) 21-11, 21-12. J. BEASLEY (Hastings) bt M. Whalley (Crawley) 21-10, 21-18. Final: BEASLEY bt Green 21-17, 21-15.

Girls' Singles: Semi-Finals: J. BAYNARD (Brighton) bt E. Wyles (Hastings) (holder) 27-25, 11-21, 21-19. S. FRANKLIN (Hastings) bt J. Stephens (Hastings) 21-14, 21-16. Final: FRANKLIN bt Baynard 21-10, 21-16.

Boys' Doubles: Semi-Finals: GREEN/BEASLEY bt Mendleson/Butcher 21-10, 21-17. P. HARRISON/S. HARRISON (Bognor) bt Corke/Blizzard 21-12, 19-21, 21-16. Final: GREEN/BEASLEY bt Harrison/Harrison 21-10, 16-21, 21-11.

Girls' Doubles: Semi-Finals: FRANKLIN/STEPHENS bt P. Cordell/A. Uzzell (Hastings) 21-6, 21-10. WYLES/J. DAWSON-BISHOP (Hastings) bt P. Franks/P. Hollis (Hastings) 19-21, 21-18, 21-8. Final: FRANKLIN/STEPHENS bt Wyles/Dawson-Bishop 16-21, 21-9, 21-13.

Mixed Doubles: Semi-Finals: BEASLEY/Miss WYLES bt T. Travis (Worthing)/Miss Baynard 21-9, 21-11. BUTCHER/Miss FRANKLIN bt Blizzard/Miss Stephens 21-12, 21-14. Final: BEASLEY/WYLES bt Butcher/Franklin 21-12, 21-14.

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