

DECEMBER, 1964
ONE SHILLING

Table Tennis

The Official Magazine of the
English Table Tennis Association



Off to Sweden. The English party leave for the European Championships in Malmo. Left to right PETER LAKER (Daily Mirror), MIKE SYMONDS, BRIAN WRIGHT, DENIS NEALE, CHESTER BARNES, MARY SHANNON, LESLEY BELL, IRENE OGUS, JOHNNY LEACH, DIANE ROWE, IAN HARRISON, PETER LOWEN, RON CRAYDEN.

Picture by Michael Maclaren

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. 23

DECEMBER, 1964

No. 3

Sponsorship—Government or Private Enterprise?

In this day and age when industry goes out of its way to look for suitable promotional activities to support, it is not unreasonable for governing bodies of sport to want to climb on the band wagon. How has E.T.T.A. fared in this respect?

It is within our recollection that the Association turned aside newspaper sponsorship of the World Championships held at Wembley in 1954 because the then National Executive Committee were wary of commercial enterprise being directly associated with the Championships.

It was possibly born of a fear that the Association would be deprived of its independence.

WITHOUT STRINGS

Time and circumstances have helped to bring a wind of change. It is generally accepted that commercial sponsorship is available for the asking, without onerous strings being imposed, where governing bodies can satisfy would-be sponsors that their events have a public potential.

It is clear in return for hard cash being spent there must be a *quid pro quo* and this is generally in the form of a discreet reference to the name of the sponsor or his goods on printed material—posters, programmes, entry forms, etc., and possibly a banner or two displayed at the event.

Naturally those concerned wish to be satisfied they are backing an enterprising body—where there is likely to be a keen and efficient organisation and what of course is most important—good public support for the event promoted which of course is the trade barometer of effective results.

It is possible in the near future there will be a development in financial aid for sport generally which could go hand in hand with the support given by the commercial world.

In recent years—but by slow degrees—the State has been providing grants to sports bodies—originally towards coaching and in more recent

times for office accommodation and secretarial services.

In the course of this year a sum of £30,000 was given by the Treasury towards the cost of sending our Olympic team to Tokyo and the E.T.T.A. gratefully accepted from the same source £250 to help send our teams to Malmö for the European Championships.

It could well be the new Government will take an even wider look at the help to be given to sports bodies. Maybe we shall see the introduction of a Sports Development Council. Perhaps more substantial help will become available for administration, assistance towards new playing halls and increased practical help in financing teams to be sent abroad.

Is this what we want?

The government-aided body—The Central Council for Physical Recreation has for years played an enterprising part in stimulating and fostering interest in all branches of sport and games and the opening of the Crystal Palace Recreation Centre was a big step forward in providing better facilities for indoor and outdoor activities.

CANNOT RUN ALONE

Possibly the Central Council will play an even greater part in our lives.

To progress we know we cannot run alone and if we are to take up the challenge of keeping abreast in the International field, and provide better playing facilities up and down the country—for not only existing players but also the children in the schools—we must be ready to take full advantage of changing conditions.

It may mean co-ordinating our activities with others, perhaps pooling our resources to obtain the best results. The future may be very interesting. Let us not be found wanting.

Editor's Postbag . . .

Ninety-five Per Cent Foul

I READ the article in the November issue, by Mr. Blunn, with some amusement. Is he really serious when he says: "Many players in this country deliver foul services from time to time, but a word from a competent umpire can usually remedy the matter."

In my experience, he should have written: "95 per cent of the players in this country (85 per cent if you include only internationals) deliver foul services all of the time, and no umpire, competent or otherwise, ever says a blind word about them."

In the first ranking tournament this season at Stanmore, only two players, both girls, consistently served according to the rules. Admittedly, I was on duty and did not have a chance to see everybody, but the proportion seems about right to me. Yet no umpire or senior official, and there were quite a number of them around, said a word. That includes me.

At the recent Junior Trials, I did venture to suggest to one young man that it looked as if he was serving outside the side lines, and he appeared quite bewildered, as if to say, "What on earth is the fuss about?"

Why, then, do umpires not ensure that the laws are being obeyed? It is because we feel that we do not have any backing from above. If a national umpire ignores service faults, how can a mere county umpire call them immediately afterwards without causing a good deal of ill feeling. It would mean telling the player, probably in front of the said national umpire, that the national umpire was not doing his job properly. So I, personally, take the easy way out. So, apparently, do other C.U.s.

What, then, are these faults which are prevalent? First, there is serving out of the cupped hand. It is almost impossible to do this without getting some spin on the ball. Secondly, there is where the ball is projected almost horizontally backwards against the bat. These first two faults often go together.

Then there is the service where the hand is dropped, rather than the ball being projected up. In effect, the ball is played out of the hand and a pretty good top spin can be put on.

We know about serving outside the side lines, but this is the most difficult to spot unless extra judges are used.

Lastly, there is the gentleman in the ranking list who seems to tuck his free hand holding the ball underneath his left armpit, and then serves from that position.

What can be done about this? It is clear that a lead MUST be given by higher authorities, and all players must have their attention drawn to the fact that umpires have been instructed that the service laws must be strictly obeyed.

The Selection Committee could do their bit by not selecting those players with faulty action (something like cricket). They know who they are very well. And they should announce exactly

why so-and-so has not been picked.

Then, and only then, will we be in a position to complain about what the Swedes or other Europeans do wrong. And we can make it clear that for all matches played in this country under the control of our umpires, the Laws of Table Tennis will be rigidly applied.

A. L. KAYES.
(Wembley.)

Umpires Please Note

YOUR article "In Which We Serve" by Tom Blunn was the best I have read and I am glad to see that the E.T.T.A. are making a strong issue of the "Service Law."

I would be grateful if some of our County Umpires were given a copy of these rules so that they would realise that when a player serves the ball off the finger tips it is a foul service.

I was at a recent county match where two players should have been called up for every service for this particular fault, but only once was the player called up, then he went into tantrums.

D. L. DAVIES.
(Tredegar.)

A Matter of Dress

I HAD occasion to attend the Kent Junior Open Tournament at Folkestone on November 8 and was extremely surprised to see the way the Juniors competing were allowed to play with shirts outside their shorts or skirts. Furthermore I noticed that one highly ranked Junior girl was allowed to play all day wearing the bottom of her track suit.

In one semi-final of the girls' doubles, which was umpired by a member of the Junior Selection Committee, this girl was still so attired.

I also noticed that a highly ranked junior boy was permitted to play in a top which was the palest of pale blue.

The standard of dress of senior players in Tournaments has always been one to cause comment, and surely the time to enforce the regulations is when they are still juniors.

A. SEAHOLME
(Watford).

Overlooked

RECENTLY, while reading through some past editions of TABLE TENNIS, I came across an article written by Johnny Leach, entitled "Three who are overlooked."

I think that there is a player who deserves International honours more than those who were mentioned.

Derek Schofield has been playing table tennis for more years than he cares to

admit, but I am sure not one player would like to meet Derek in a tournament.

Take this season. In the East of England, he lost very narrowly in the third to England's then No. 2, Brian Wright, after beating Stuart Gibbs.

In the North of England he beat fourth seed, Bobby Stevens, before falling to the winner, Mike Symonds.

Everybody who was at the finals of the Hull and East Riding will remember the fantastic men's singles final in which Derek unluckily lost to England's No. 5, Denis Neale, at 17 in the third. Everything that Denis hit seemed to be returned by some fantastic defending.

But I think I will always remember Derek's semi-final against Stuart Lennie of Northumberland. Derek won the first, but was 16-3 down in the second. Despite some really good hitting by Stuart, Derek gradually pulled back, levelled at 17-all and won game 18.

If that isn't England play what is?

MIKE JOHNS
(Cheshire).

GLOUCESTERSHIRE

TWO coaching rallies were held within the county during November.

The first at Brislington Secondary School, on November 7 was attended by some 40 youngsters whose ability to play varied from nil to near league standard. Coaching was given by Jack Carrington and a number of coaches from as far afield as Worcester, Southampton and Exeter in addition to local players. This rally was held in conjunction with the Bristol Youth Committee. Ten tables were in full use throughout the day.

The following day a rally took place at the Roxborough Youth Centre, Stroud where, using 5 tables, 35 young players received coaching from Jack Carrington and a number of experienced coaches. It was felt the standard of play at the Stroud Rally was higher than that at Bristol.

The idea of these rallies is good and it is to be hoped they will not fade into oblivion and be lost forever.

A follow-up course or series might prove helpful both to the young players and also to senior county officials in their never ending quest for talent to keep the game alive.

J. P. ROWE

Tel. ACO 3886

R. T. BROWN

(G. K. ALLINSON)

5 Star Service

To Players by Players

- * All T.T. Bats Inc. Stiga.
- * All Equipment, Clothing and Footwear.
- * Everything in Sport.
- * Special Terms to Clubs.
- * Prompt Service.

312, UXBRIDGE ROAD,
ACTON, LONDON, W.3.

A SYSTEM FOR RUNNING TRIALS

BY LAURIE LANDRY

TRIALS have always been a problem, particularly when the numbers involved have been too many to allow an all-play-all system. This method is, of course, the most perfect, but is often impossible where time is short and tables are limited.

Trials are not always necessary, but they are becoming more and more so as rapidly improving young players come into the reckoning.

It is where there are ten or more trialists that a playing schedule, involving as few wasted matches as possible, is important.

A number of organisations run their trials by grouping the players, with all-playing-all within the groups, and the winners going forward. A weakness of this is that the second best player could be in the same group as the top player and lose a chance of correct placing.

The method I have employed in some of the Junior Area trials is based on the "Swiss System." Here the contestants are drawn against each other in the first round, with the winners paired to meet in the second round and the losers likewise. This system is then continued round after round with the players that

are doing as well as each other always going forward with no repetition of matches.

After comparatively few matches a reasonable order is reached on which ranking can be based. In the case of equality the value of the wins can easily be added up giving a point for each victory attained by each beaten player.

It can be helpful to put the known stronger players against the weaker ones in the first round.

I have drawn up a table of imaginary trials for guidance. Here we have eight players and instead of the 28 matches necessary if each played each other a definite order is reached after only 16 matches.

If there is an odd number of

players then one has to rest each round. For the purpose of matching with further rounds a half point could be given for the bye. This can be taken off at the end of the trials. Where there are an odd number of winners, a good loser can be matched against a close winner, providing they have not already played.

This method is valuable when there are, say, 14 boys and 10 girls. Alternate rounds can be played, one boys and one girls. The boys will have five matches each, making a total of 35, and the girls five, a total of 25. This means 60 matches in all whereas if the all-play-all system were used it would call for 136 matches, 91 boys and 45 girls.

Player	Round 1			Round 2			Round 3			Round 4			wins	v	win or loss	wins	v	win or loss	wins	value of wins	
	v	win or loss	wins	v	win or loss	wins	v	win or loss	wins	v	win or loss	wins									
A	G	W	1	D	W	2	B	W	3	D	W	4	8								
B	F	W	1	C	W	2	A	L	2	D	W	3	6								
C	H	W	1	B	L	1	E	W	2	A	L	2	2								
D	E	W	1	A	L	1	F	W	2	B	L	2	4								
E	D	L	0	H	W	1	C	L	1	G	W	2	1								
F	B	L	0	G	W	1	D	L	1	H	W	2	1								
G	A	L	0	F	L	0	H	W	1	E	L	1	0								
H	C	L	0	E	L	0	G	L	0	F	L	0	0								

ALEC BROOK OFFERS FOR TABLE TENNIS 1965-66

SHIRTS

Finest range of T.T. shirts. Adopted by many Leagues, Associations, and used exclusively by a Continental International team... **THE STAG SHIRT**—colours: Navy, Royal, Black, Beige, Tan, Red, Olive, and Dark Green. For other sports, White, Lemon, and Shy. Price: 16s. 6d. each; one dozen or more 15s. 6d.

TABLES

The **A.D.B. Tournament Table**. No table can compare. Used in international and county games, £37 19s. 6d.

Villa Spalding, £44 17s. 6d.

Jaques Tournament, £47 10s. 0d.

½ inch club match, £26 10s. 0d.

All tables carriage paid. Part-exchange.

BATS

Cor du Buy range 34s. 6d. each. Stiga range 35s. 6d. each. Barnes and Harrison 25s. 6d.

Japanese rubber (rev. or normal) 7s. 6d. per piece.

T.T. hold-alls 25s. 6d. Bat-covers 7s.

All plus postage.

ALEC BROOK

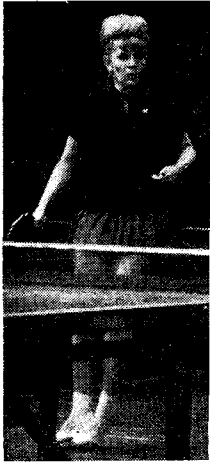
(SPORTS EQUIPMENT)
LTD.

124 EUSTON ROAD,
LONDON, N.W.1.
EUSTON 3772/3/4

YORKSHIRE

By **MALCOLM HARTLEY**

SIX TITLES IN FOUR TOURNAMENTS



LESLEY PROUDLOCK, of Sheffield, promoted to No. 8 in the National Rankings.

LESLEY PROUDLOCK has crashed the top ten. And not before time. The Sheffield lass has been a consistent winner on the northern tournament circuit and has fully earned No. 8 spot in the charts.

With Cynthia Duncombe at No. 6 and Denis Neale No. 5 in the men's list Yorkshire have three ranked players.

Lesley's latest achievement at the time of writing is six titles from four successive tournaments, the East of England (where she was a singles finalist) being the only blank.

In the Yorkshire girls' ranking list four out of six are from Hull—Jennifer Miller, Janet Ashfield and sisters Janice and Anita Huzzard. All play from Y.P.I., the Huzzards and Jennifer comprising the Division Four side. Janet is a former Hull schools Under-13 champion and holds the Under-15 title.

Linda Forkes (Castleford) is ranked top and Janet King (Scarborough) joint No. 4.

Y.P.I., with nine side in the Hull League, have stopped lettering their teams and given them names—Y.P.I. Spartans, Trojans, Vikings and Cossacks; and then Spartans "A," "Trojans "A," etc. Turning out for Spartans "A" in Division Two is Y.P.I. chairman and Yorkshire competitions secretary Harry Flinton.

Hull have entered a third men's team in the inter-league championships. They opened with an 8-2 success against Rotherham through Colin Gray, Graham Birch, Geoff Underwood and Bill Devine.

Barnsley women are strong favourites for an inter-league hat-trick with a lineup of Pat Dainty, Flo Rolling, Eileen Starkie and Lillias Hamilton. They slated Bradford (third last time) 9-1 and knocked Leeds (second) out of the Rose Bowl 7-2.

A league result of significance was the 7-3 home defeat of Metal Box, Bradford League monopolists for a decade, by Hermits (Jim Yeats, John Davies and Duncan Clayton).

ESSEX CHANGES POSSIBLE

COMPETITION in the Essex Inter-Leagues Championships promises to be the most interesting for years and East London, winners of the senior and junior double for the past five years, could find themselves hard pressed.

Tony Condon has returned to the Chelmsford League, giving them added strength.

The Avenue Club, run for many years by Jim and Brenda Bell has disbanded.

New County Coaching Liaison Officer, Dennis Arr, will have more help in his own Clacton area now that Allan Cooper has qualified as a coach.

Dennis will take particular interest in the Schools' competition being organised by Jack Carrington in conjunction with Harry Crabtree, Essex. Physical Education Organiser.

East London hold their championship finals at G.U.S. Sports Pavilion, Clacton, on December 15, while Romford League stage their finals at the Red Triangle Club, Romford on January 9.

A REAL ENTHUSIAST

WHEN Walter Mitton first became Yorkshire secretary eight years ago he often slept the night in a railway coach on a siding.

There were no night trains back home to Scarborough after meetings and matches so he used to travel as far as York, stay in the siding and catch the first train out next morning.

He no longer needs to do this as he has a car, but distance is still no object and recently he drove 3,500 miles in seven weeks on table tennis business.

One of his trips was to a remote spot in the Yorkshire Dales to find White Fathers, a Roman Catholic boys' school where the boys were being taught by the fathers. A week later he returned with Jack Carrington, Denis Neale and Alan Ransome, whose demonstration gave the boys something to talk about for a long time.

As a member of the national executive and secretary of the ETTA open tournaments and handbook sub-committees in addition to his work for the Scarborough League, fireman Walter is assured of plenty to do in his spare time.

His wife, Betty, is match secretary for the local league.

MIDDLESEX

SCHOOLS GOING WELL

MIDDLESEX made a disappointing start to the County Championship, losing 4-5 to Lancashire. This was followed by an 8-1 win over Staffordshire. They missed David Creamer, who is making an exhibition tour of U.S.A. with Ralph Gunnion, and is not available this season.

The Juniors beat Norfolk 8-2 but lost 3-7 to Hertfordshire, while the Bernard Crouch side won their opening match against Surrey by 8-1.

The Inter-League championships are now under way. North Middlesex beat Wembley 6-3 and champions Central gained a narrow win over Willesden.

There are three separate events to the Middlesex Inter-Schools competitions this season, attracting 101 teams from 58 schools. There are 64 teams in the Senior (Mixed); 10 in the Senior (Girls) and 27 in the Junior (Mixed).

Hungary's international team will be challenging for titles in the Middlesex Open at Hanwell Community Centre, Westcott Crescent, London, W.7, on December 12 and 13.

GERMANS TO CHALLENGE

ENGLAND'S top juniors have had plenty of activity since the National trials and the Kent Junior Open served to confirm the top rankings with Stuart Gibbs (No. 1) beating Alan Hydes (No. 2) in the final.

The only upset was the defeat of Geoff Salter (No. 4) by unranked William Silto. But Salter collected the junior title at the Bournemouth Open while at the Hull Open Hydes and Mike Johns struck a blow at the seniors by winning the men's doubles.

An encouraging sign from the Kent event was that the top English boys were able to hold off the German challenge.

West Germans will be back for the English Open, when they also hope to play a couple of internationals against England.

Result books have now been given to 88 juniors, who either took part in Area Trials or were invited, plus others who have been noted. If, as in previous years, juniors send their main results regularly it will help the Junior Selection Committee to keep a watchful eye on progress.

It is possible that some juniors do not know the composition of the Junior Selection Committee. Chairman for a number of years has been Edgar Reay, of Durham, a pre-war international, while Norman Cook, of Cheshire, is secretary. The other members are Alan Thompson, Yorkshire's best known coach, Bobby Stevens, the Essex international, and Laurie Landry, the Middlesex international, who is also non-playing captain.

Stevens and Landry are actively playing in tournaments and juniors with problems about their play should seek their advice.

And now for a word on courtesy. It has been brought to notice that many youngsters after completion of their matches walk off without a word of thanks to the umpire. Remember he is doing you a service by being there and it is only common courtesy that appreciation should be shown.

Make a habit of this from the start and it becomes second nature.

BIRMINGHAM OPEN

By LAURIE LANDRY

Superb display by Warren

CONNIE WARREN, of Surrey, won his first singles title of the season at the Birmingham Open on November 21 and Cynthia Duncombe, of Yorkshire, the former Miss Blackshaw, won her first title under her married name.

Warren produced superb form, giving little away with his fast over-the-table hitting game as he swept through to success without loss of a game. He beat Glen Warwick in the quarters, Roy Morley in the semis and Tony Piddock in the final.

Peter Duncombe figured in two of the closest wins when he beat Tony Robinson 26-24 in the third after trailing 15-20, and Derek Schofield at 18-21, 23-21, 23-21. However, he met his match when he came up against Morley and went out in straight games.

Piddock had little difficulty in his half, beating G. Muranyi 13 and 15, Laurie Landry 12 and 14 and Brian Hill 17 and 15.

Connie Moore, of Lancashire, took most of the honours in the women's singles with wins over national ranked

Alma Taft (No. 9) and Judy Williams (No. 7). Her persistence carried her through but with the title only a match away she was stopped by Mrs. Duncombe, who hit just that little too hard.

Mrs. Duncombe had earlier avenged her Hull defeat by Pat Dainty, but it was close . . . 18 in the third.

Evelyn Canham provided a shock by beating Pauline Martin, the Merseyside winner, in straight games, before falling to Mrs. Duncombe.

Duncombe joined his wife on the honours list by winning the men's doubles with Dennis Holland. They beat Schofield and Livesey after a close tussle.

Twins Beverley and Gloria Sayers took the women's doubles beating Betty Carless and Doreen Griffiths, while Miss Moore gained some consolation for her singles defeat by winning the mixed with Roger Hampson.

RESULTS

Men's Singles: Quarter-Finals: C. Warren (Surrey) bt G. Warwick (Staffs.) 21-12, 21-19; R. Morley (Gloucs.) bt P. Duncombe (Yorks.) 21-11, 21-9; B. Hill (Lincs.) bt G. Livesey (Lancs.) 2-1; A. Piddock (Kent) bt G. Muranyi (Surrey) 21-13, 21-15.

Semi-Finals: WARREN bt Morley 21-13, 21-13; PIDDOCK bt Hill 21-17, 21-15.

Final: WARREN bt Piddock 21-16, 21-19.

Women's Singles: Semi-Finals: C. DUNCOMBE (Yorks.) bt P. Dainty (Yorks.) 19-21, 21-10, 21-18; C. MOORE (Lancs.) bt J. Williams (Warwicks.) 11-21, 21-19, 21-12.

Final: DUNCOMBE bt Moore 21-13, 21-14.

Men's Doubles: Semi-Finals: DUNCOMBE / D. HOLLAND (Gloucs.) bt A. Coby (Norfolk)/ Hill 21-12, 13-21; D. SCHOFIELD (Cheshire)/LIVSEY bt Landry/(Middx.)/S. Gibbs (Essex) 21-19, 18-21 21-19.

Final: DUNCOMBE / HOLLAND bt Schofield/Livesey 22-20, 20-22, 21-19.

Women's Doubles: Semi-Finals: B. and G. SAYER (Essex) bt C. Moore/D. Schofield (Chesh.) 21-16, 21-14; B. CARLESS/D. GRIFFITHS (Warwicks.) bt P. Dainty/C. Duncombe 12-21, 21-17, 23-21.

Final: B. and G. SAYER bt Carless/Griffiths 21-16, 15-21, 21-18.

Mixed Doubles: Semi-Finals: R. HAMPSON (Chesh.)/C. MOORE bt R. Morley/A. Taft (Middx.) 21-12, 21-14; D. BADDELEY/B. CARLESS (Warwicks.) bt Mr and Mrs. Duncombe 24-22, 21-18.

Final: HAMPSON / MOORE bt Baddeley/Carless 21-18, 21-10.

Boys' Singles: Semi-Finals: M. JOHNS (Chesh.) bt S. Seaholme (Herts.) 21-19, 21-19; D. BROWN (Essex) bt J. Nevin (Ches.) 21-17, 21-13.

Final: JOHNS bt Brown 21-17, 21-14.

Girls' Singles: Semi-Finals: M. HEPPELL (Northumberland) bt J. Heaps (Berkshire) 21-18, 21-11; P. HEMMINGS (Herts.) bt K. Smith (Essex) 21-15, 13-21, 21-14.

Final: HEPPELL bt Hemmings 8-21, 21-14, 21-14.

Junior Doubles: Semi-Finals: JOHNS/J. FRANKLAND (Lancs.) bt S. Garrington/R. Judd (Warwicks.) 21-14, 19-21, 21-15; K. LAWRENCE (Essex)/NEVIN bt P. Richardson (Warwicks.)/M. Yeates (Gloucs.) 21-18, 21-11.

Final: JOHNS/FRANKLAND bt Lawrence/Nevin 21-11, 21-17.

Veteran's Singles: Final: ETHERIDGE (Kent) bt Heaps (Berks.) 21-17, 21-12.

PORTSMOUTH OPEN

HASLAM'S FIRST TITLE

LES HASLAM showed the men players how to hit at the Portsmouth Open when collecting his first Open title despite an overnight trip from the Birmingham Open. This extremely fit 20-year-old appeared to thrive on lack of sleep, which is more than can be said for Stuart Gibbs or myself, writes Laurie Landry.

Haslam's hardest fight was against Geoff Salter, the Surrey junior who for the second successive week had a match in his grasp only to become too impetuous. Salter had previously beaten Landry.

Alan Cornish deservedly reached the final to put up a good but losing show against Haslam, after having beaten Gibbs in the quarters and E. Wilkins in the semi-final.

A consolation for Cornish was the first-ever men's doubles win with Roger Chandley of Sussex. He also stood out as a good sport in a day of bad sportsmanship and bad manners.

During the final against Haslam, Cornish apologised for a lucky point, one of his few, only to hear in the crowd, "Fancy saying sorry, he must be mad!"

JUNIOR WINS

Another Portsmouth winner making the trip from Birmingham was Linda Henwood, the Essex junior, who won the women's singles final against Peggy Piper but fell to Maureen Heppell, of Northumberland in the girls' final.

Linda partnered Stuart Gibbs to win their first mixed doubles title, but she was on the losing side of the women's doubles final with Miss Heppell. They were beaten by Christine and Pauline Holes.

Gibbs won the boys' singles, where the big upset was the quarter-final defeat of Salter by G. Rose, of Surrey, who failed to produce the same form in the semi-final where he was beaten by T. Riley, the young Sussex player.

RESULTS

Men's Singles: A. Cornish (Kent) bt S. Gibbs (Essex) 21-18, 13-21, 21-17. E. Wilkins (Oxford) bt B. Hill (Surrey) 21-18, 17-21, 21-15. **Semi-Finals:** L. HASLAM (Middx.) bt G. Salter (Surrey) 19-21, 21-17, 23-21. A. CORNISH (Kent) bt E. Wilkins (Oxford) 21-8, 21-17. **Final:** HASLAM bt Cornish 21-17, 21-18.

Women's Singles: Semi-Finals: L. HENWOOD (Essex) bt I. Sawyer (Essex) 21-16, 21-16. P. PIPER (Surrey) bt P. Holes (Hants.) 15-21, 21-14, 21-19. **Final:** HENWOOD bt Piper 13-21, 21-9, 21-17.

Men's Doubles: Semi-Finals: CORNISH/R. CHANDLER bt S. Gibbs/L. Landry 21-18, 21-10. C. WARREN/J. MOORE bt P. Shirley/D. Swift 21-13, 21-16. **Final:** CORNISH/CHANDLER bt Warren/Moore 21-19, 21-19.

Women's Doubles: Semi-Finals: C. HOLES/P. HOLES bt Piper/P. Venus 21-12, 21-9. M. HEPPELL/HENWOOD bt S. Foster/I. Sawyer 21-11, 24-22. **Final:** HOLES/HOLES bt Heppell/Henwood 21-19, 21-17.

Mixed Doubles: Semi-Finals: GIBBS/Miss HENWOOD bt Sawyer/Mrs. Sawyer 21-8, 21-18. C. EDWARDS/Miss P. HOLES bt N. Brabrook/Miss P. Piper 22-20, 21-19. **Final:** GIBBS/HENWOOD bt Edwards/P. Holes 21-15, 21-14.

Boys' Singles: Semi-Finals: GIBBS bt A. Wolff (Wilts.) 21-12, 23-21. T. RILEY (Sussex) bt G. Rose (Surrey) 21-11, 24-22. **Final:** GIBBS bt Riley 21-14, 25-23.

Girls' Singles: Semi-Finals: HEPPELL bt P. Bonner (Somerset) 21-18, 21-11. HENWOOD bt L. Williams (Bucks.) 22-20, 21-14. **Final:** HEPPELL bt Henwood 21-18, 20-22, 21-18.

HAMPSHIRE

New Champion

DAVID HOLMAN, in his first season as a senior, carried off the singles title in the Hampshire Closed Championships at the Wand Tetley Gymnasium, Aldershot, on November 8. In an exciting final he beat D. Seeger, a German student, now residing in the county, 22-20, 18-21, 21-18.

Holman's strong attack has contributed to his rapid advancement.

Sheila Foster, of Portsmouth, made a welcome return to win the women's singles, accounting for both the Holes twins. She beat Pauline Holes in the semi-final and Christine in the final, both matches going to three games.

Results: Men's Singles: **D. HOLMAN** bt D. Seeger 22-20, 18-21, 21-18. Women's Singles: **Mrs. S. FOSTER** bt S. Holes 21-14, 18-21, 21-14.

Men's Doubles: **D. DAVIES/T. WARD** bt Bush/Seeger 21-10, 25-23. Women's Doubles: **C. HOLES/P. HOLES** bt Foster/Winkworth 21-10, 21-7. Mixed Doubles: **SMITH/Miss COOP** bt Davies/Miss Holes 21-19, 21-15.

Junior Singles: **R. EGERTON** bt Miss L. Thompson 21-16, 21-14. Veteran Singles: **E. YATES** bt D. Minham 21-16, 10-21, 21-9.

STAFFORDSHIRE

It be no surprise if Staffordshire go through their premier division fixtures this season without collecting a win but what was suprising was the team's brilliant performance against Surrey and Middlesex. Despite their 9-0 and 8-1 defeats they made their London opponents fight every inch of the way and they were certainly not disgraced in front of a 'full house' at Stoke and West Bromwich.

Unfortunately it looks like the county will be forced into changes before the season is out. It is understood that **Kevin Whittingham**, of Dudley, may be leaving the district and that **Dorothy Deeley**, of West Bromwich, will be retiring soon to become a mother.

Since my last article I am glad to say there has been a big improvement in Malcolm Scott's health. He looked very much his old self again when chatting to Harry Edwards at the Middlesex match recently.

John Pike

WORLD CHAMPION BEATEN

CHINA dominated the men's events in the Peking International Invitation Tournament from October 18 to 21, but Japan took the honours where the women were concerned.

With sixty-six players representing eight associations, Cambodia, Ceylon, China, Indonesia, Japan, Korea N., Nepal, Vietnam N., it provided a useful pointer to the Asian challenge for the world championships.

Hsu Yin Sheng, the world fifth ranking player, carried off the men's singles, beating world champion Chuang Tse-Tung in the semi-final and Li Fu-jung, world runner-up, in the final. He then partnered Chuang to win the men's doubles against the Japanese pair of Kojf Kimura and Ken Konaka.

Naoka Fukazu, of Japan, made a clean sweep of the leading Chinese players to win the women's singles, beating Liang Li-chen (world No. 10), Cheng Min-Chih in the semi-final, and Han Yu-chien, the Chinese

closed champion, in the final. Miss Fukazu came back from two sets to one down in the semi-final, and recovered from the loss of the first two sets in the final.

Masako Seki, part holder of the world's doubles, partnered Nariko Yamanak to win the women's doubles and gained a second title in the mixed with Kuniva.

Men's Singles: Semi-Finals: Hsu Yin-Sheng (China) bt Chuang Aze-Tung (China) 21-11, 21-7, 21-11. Li Fu-Jung (China) bt Koji Kimura (Japan) 17-21, 22-20, 21-18, 14-21, 21-13. Final: Hsu Yin-Sheng bt Li Fu-Jung 21-14, 21-16, 12-21, 24-22.

Women's Singles: Semi-Finals: Han Yu-Chien (China) bt Ti Chuang Hua (China) 21-16, 18-21, 21-18, 21-16. Naoko Fukazu (Japan) bt Cheng Min-Chih (China) 13-21, 22-20, 22-24, 21-18, 21-13. Final: Fukazu bt Han Yu-Chien 13-21, 15-21, 21-17, 21-19, 21-17.

Men's Doubles: Chuang/Hsu (China) bt Kimura/Ken Kohaka (Japan) 21-19, 24-22, 21-16. Women's Doubles: Masako Seki/Nariko Yamanaka (Japan) bt Han Yu-chen/Liang Li-chen (China) 21-15, 24-26, 19-21, 21-19, 21-18. Mixed Doubles: Kuniva/Seki (Japan) bt Li Fu-Jung/Han Yu-chen (China) 13-21, 21-12, 21-16, 21-16.

* * *

Another Rumanian Woman Champion

RUMANIA have produced another woman player who may well become a power in the game. She is 19-year-old Eleanora Mihalea, winner of the women's singles in the Balkan Games in Athens. She beat Alexandru 3-1 in the final after having previously beaten Constantinescu 3-2.

Detailed results: Men's Singles: **SURBECK** (Yugos.) bt Sivacev (Bulgaria) 3-0. Women's Singles: **MHALEA** (Rumania) bt Alexandru (Rumania) 3-1.

Men's Doubles: **NEGULESCU/GIURGIUCA** (Rumania) bt Veck/Korpa (Yugos.) 3-0. Women's Doubles: **ALEXANDRU/CONSTANTINESCU** (Rumania) bt Pire/Roth (Yugos.). Mixed Doubles: **GIURGIUCA/CONSTANTINESCU** (Rum.) bt Negulescu/Alexandru 3-2.

Men's Team: **RUMANIA** bt Greece 5-0; bt Bulgaria 5-1; bt Yugoslavia 5-2.

Women's Team: **RUMANIA** bt Greece, Bulgaria and Yugoslavia all by 3-0.

SOUTH AFRICA: Theo Paitaki has won the Victor Barna Award made annually on the basis of 1, playing ability; 2, contribution to the game; and 3, general personality and conduct.

Oscar Marino made a clean sweep in the South African union Championships, beating Robbie Haupt in the singles final and winning the men's doubles with **Rex Edwards** and the mixed with **Fay Ginsberg**.

Men's Singles: **O. MARINO** bt R. Haupt 21-3, 21-15, 21-15. Women's Singles: **M. STRETTON** b V. Barber 21-16, 21-18, 15-21, 12-21, 26-24.

Men's Doubles: **H. R. EDWARDS/MARINO** bt C. Morris/S. Phitidis 21-8, 10-21, 21-12, 21-16. Women's Doubles: **F. GINSBERG/J. WHITE** bt H. Botha/M. Stretton 21-17, 21-18, 21-17.

Mixed Doubles: **MARINO/GINSBERG** bt Stretton/Stretton 21-16, 20-22, 21-19, 19-21, 21-7.

M A R Y
S H A N N O N

B R I A N
W R I G H T

E X H I B I T I O N S

11 SOUTH NORWOOD HILL, LONDON, S.E.25

MICHAEL MACLAREN visits NEW YORK for this month's GLAMOUR GIRL — PRISCILLA HIRSCHKOWITZ



DURING my recent visit to the New York Table Tennis Club, I noticed an attractive dark girl playing and asked her if she would mind being photographed for this magazine.

Her name is Priscilla Hirschowitz and her husband, Harry, is a well known player being ranked in the first ten in the U.S.A. Priscilla is 24 years old and although she has only been playing for two years is already ranked with the top American ladies. She is practising hard, hoping to make the team to the World Series in Yugoslavia next year.

Priscilla was born in the Dominican Republic but is now a resident of the States living in Manhattan—opposite the New York Club, in fact, which Harry manages. She has a baby girl, Arline, born just over a year ago. She likes stamp collecting as an interesting hobby but her keen table tennis practice does not leave a great deal of time for many other outside interests. With this kind of dedication, I hope Priscilla makes it to Ljubljana—she certainly deserves to.

DEVELOPMENT IN SCHOOLS

THE champions of tomorrow are in the schools today and to claim them table tennis has to provide the same (or better) facilities and encouragement as other sports. And this is no small task because the competition between sports is keen and in schools, in particular, table tennis is at a tremendous disadvantage in that it is not regarded as a curricula activity in the same way as cricket, football, etc.

It is all the more gratifying, therefore, that evidence from all round the country indicates that there has been a substan-

tial increase in activities in schools of comparatively recent months.

The reply to the questionnaire circulated by the Schools' Committee was encouraging and prompted them to outline a programme of future work as follows:

- (a) *An approach to County Education Authorities requesting their encouragement of national and local efforts to interest and organise schools.*
- (b) *Development of schools work by assistance to counties.*
- (c) *Promotion of teacher training.*
- (d) *Organisation of a national schools' team competition.*
- (e) *Extension of the "Best Trained Youth Group" Competition into the schools field.*
- (f) *Fostering of practical demonstrations to schools as propaganda for the game.*

A circular letter has been sent to counties asking them to consider whether they will start or increase activities in schools and offering them advice and help in doing so. So far, a few replies only have been received but the Committee hopes for many more and is not only willing, but anxious to do anything in its power, not excluding finan-

cial assistance, to make further inroads into the vast and virtually untapped potential offered by the schools.

It had been hoped by this time to have made progress with an ambitious scheme for the setting up of table tennis centres in schools on a progressive basis throughout the country. Plans have been laid and approved by the Management Committee for putting forward for financing from a Table Tennis Trust Fund which it had been hoped to set up in conjunction with the manufacturers. Unfortunately there have been continual delays—not of the Association's making—and no progress has been made. But developments may be expected before long as a result of which it would be hoped to finance the provision of equipment to schools free of charge in return for the promise of the provision of certain facilities from time to time.

There is a gigantic task to be accomplished and a small start only has been made. A lot of hard work is needed but the potential reward is great. Necessarily this has to be done locally. Nevertheless the Schools' Committee will be ready always to assist and advise and to arrange for someone to come from headquarters, as it were, if a local authority or education authority would be susceptible to such an approach.

If you have not opened up schools' activities in your area why not do so now? A simple team knock-out competition is an ideal start. If you have made a start why not try to increase your activities during this season. And, please don't hesitate to call for assistance.

TABLE TENNIS PHOTOGRAPHS

Copies of the pictures taken in this magazine by Michael Maclaren can be obtained at new reduced prices: 6in. x 4in. size at 3/-.

Photographs can also be taken specially.

Contact **MICHAEL MACLAREN** at the major tournaments or write:
**Studio 4, 9 Woodcote Avenue,
Wallington, Surrey.**



Members of the Bolton S.S.S. League's Wilmott Cup team who lost 5-4 to Gloucester in the semi-final. From left to right: George Yates, George Livesey, Mike Symonds, Bryn Farnworth and chairman Rupert DeRiggs.

Picture by courtesy of Bolton Evening News.

LEICESTERSHIRE

By PHILIP REID

LEICESTER MEN DO WELL

LEICESTERSHIRE Juniors were soundly beaten 10-0 when they played Warwickshire at Nuneaton, but there were encouraging signs. Margaret Hainsworth and Peter Main—both making their debuts in representative play—showed great promise.

In the **Midland League** Leicester men's first dropped only one set to Derby and followed by knocking West Bromwich out of the Wilmott Cup. The men's second team had a 7-3 win at Darlaston where John Iliffe had a sparkling debut, winning both his games.

The ladies, defeated 10-0 at West Bromwich, are obviously going to find things tough, but there is plenty of enthusiasm in the side.

The intermediates had a close 6-4 win over Derby but had news here is that Stephen Cloke tore a cartilage and will be out of action for the whole season.

Leicester juniors have a useful side with Robert Geary and David Randall showing peak form for a 7-3 win at West Bromwich. The veterans have had a win and a draw and the form of Brian Pearn and Bob Smith suggests they could finish near the top of the chart.

In the **Leicestershire Towns' League** Loughborough got off to a good start by taking all ten sets from the champions, Leicester 'A'. In the newly-formed Junior Division Leicester and District beat Leicester Y.O.C. 9-1. Nine-year-old Jack O'Jari played for the District team and gave a polished display. The Y.O.C. team looked promising with S. Downes outstanding.

The **Rose Johnson Bowl** has already had many close finishes, sixteen games in the first round depending on the final game. Closest was Holy Trinity's victory over Whitwick Colliery 654-650. With one game to play Holy Trinity, who had received 275 points start, led by only six points. All odds were on a Whitwick victory but a brilliant display by D. Oakes brought his side a four-point win.

In the **Saracen Cup**—for teams of Division Four and below in the Leicester and District League—Parmeko have a strong side and good reserves. They will take some beating, their team of Norman James, Brian Wells and Vic Clayton looking very useful indeed.

It is difficult to see who is going to stop Leicester Y.M.C.A. winning both the First Division and the **Rose Johnson Cup**. They have already beaten Bentley Engineering—who won both last season—in both competitions. Only Ernest McLeish is 100 per cent in the First Division. Colin Truman, strongly fancied to top the averages this season, surprisingly lost his 100 per cent record to Y.M.C.A. fourth teamer Melvin Matts.

Loughborough's four divisions are functioning smoothly. Shepshed Youth Club have got off to a great start in the Third Division, dropping only six sets in five matches. R. Casini is undefeated in this team and D. Smith has lost only one. Besides Casini the only other 100 per cent players in the four divisions are Vic Tyc and Bogdan Kaluzniak, both of Donington Hall.

SURREY RANKING

CONNIE WARREN and Mary Shannon hold the No. 1 spots in the new Surrey ranking lists. Warren heads the men's list from D. Lowe, G. Muranyi, V. Ireland, J. Moore, G. Chapman, N. Brabrok, R. McKewon, M. Maclaren, M. Westoby and G. Salter.

Miss Shannon is followed by M. Piper, J. Head, P. Venus, H. Lambert, M. Beglan, M. Austin.

Despite defeats in the two opening matches in the Bernard Crouch Trophy, Surrey, the holders, will pursue their policy of using the event to bring on young players, rather than bring in strong players to increase the prospects of winning.

CHESHIRE SHOCK LANCs.

CHESHIRE move into the picture this month with a twin clobbering of Lancashire on November 14. The juniors won 5-3 at Northwich in the afternoon and in the evening at the Gatley Y.M.C.A. came the big upset when they beat Lancashire II, the Second Division North champions, 7-3.

Mike Johns figured in both successes, and his only loss was to George Livesey. Along with Roger Hampson, Johns helped carve up the opposition, for Derek Schofield, Cheshire's No. 1, suffered a double loss to Livesey and Roy Crusham.

Lancashire missed Connie Moore, absent through illness, and Cheshire had the edge in the women's events, Di Johnson and Doreen Schofield proving too much for Judy Crafter and Mary Leigh.

A packed house at this tight venue provided some tip-top play for a more than average crowd to enthuse over.

In the **premier division** two points were sadly dropped at home to Surrey but with a champagne success over Middlesex on the following night Lancashire keep in the picture though much will depend on the visit of Essex to Bolton on December 18.

Mid-Cheshire have also added lustre to the first division of the Lancs. and Cheshire League with two opening wins over Wirral and Liverpool. Preston crashed to Stockport 9-1, but put up a better performance against Manchester with Jack Frankland beating Wassim Anwar, Peter Walmsley and Eric Ford in a 6-4 reverse.

Manchester "A," the champions of Div. 2 (East), lost their opening match at home to Nelson 7-3 and the pot must now surely bubble.

In the Wilmott Cup match between Manchester and Burnley, Peter Cragg earned fame in beating Roy Crusham 21-19 in a third game decider to bring off the visitors' only success in an 8-1 reverse. Good for you Peter, and for the game too.

Following junior trials for Lancashire the Under-17 ranking list has been submitted as follows:—

BOYS: Jack Frankland (Preston), J. Clarke (Bolton), G. Birch (Liverpool), A. T. Bickerdike (Bolton) and Barry Lowther (Blackburn).

GIRLS: Diana Pemberton (Widnes), Kathleen Plant and Barbara Yates (Bolton).

At the Kennerley nursery at Lostock, Cheshire would appear to have a classful of young hopefuls all as keen as mustard, one youngster wielding a blade devoid of handle with devastating effect.

George R. Yates

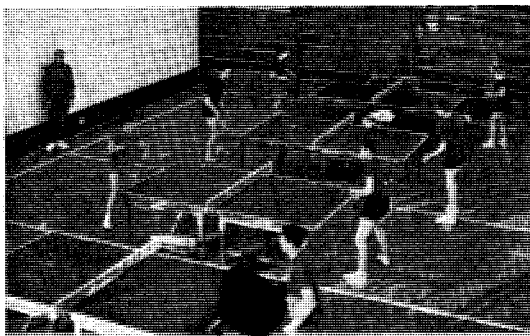
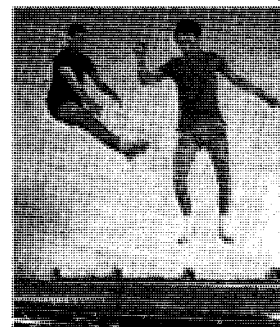
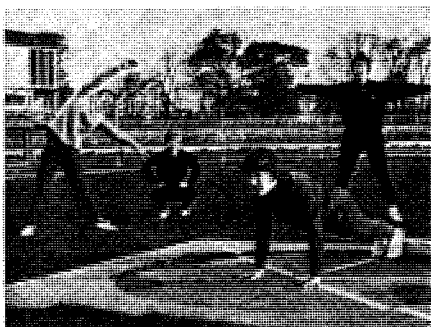
CLUB BADGES

- Attractive Cloth Badges, made to your own design, in any quantity.
- Suitable for Blazers, Sweaters, etc.
- **LOW PRICES AND QUICK DELIVERY.**
- Free help offered in designing your badge.

Please write to:
S. A. CORY & COMPANY,
20 ST. JOHN'S HILL, LONDON, SW11

A Peter Madge photo-news coverage

TRAINING FOR THE EUROPEANS



Top: Johnny Leach leads the field on a 7.30 a.m. track work-out. The smiles had gone after five laps! Centre: The girls play it safe with some P.T. whilst the boys in a rash of enthusiasm try it over the sticks. The trampoline provided high jinks, if you knew how. Bottom: Serious practice in progress, under a captain's eye. Briefing meeting on the first day.

SHORTLY before leaving for the European Championships the English team spent three days on an intensive training programme at the Crystal Palace Centre. And just how intensive it was can be seen from this programme for one day:

7 a.m.: Morning call. 7.15: P.T. and shower. 8.00: Breakfast. 9.15: Warm up. 9.30: Service practice. 10.30: Break. 11.00: Stroke practice. 12.30: Lunch. 2.30: Competitive or mixed stroke play. 3.30: Break. 4.00: Continue. 5.00: Doubles play. 6.30: Dinner. 8.00: Match play. 9.30: Shower. 9.45: Supper. 10.15: Bed. 10.30: Lights out.

Everything took place under surveillance by both team captains, Johnny Leach and Ron Crayden.

The players lived in the ultra-modern hostel, only a few yards from the hall of play; accommodation was first-class;

the food was reasonable for sharpened appetites.

All the players liked the idea and most thought it was beneficial to their games. **Certainly it was good training for the morning-to-night European schedule.**

The captains called a conference when it was over and collected players' comments with a view to repeating the course before the World Championships.

As an observer, I thought the whole affair was well-conceived and executed. It would have been nice to import a top-class foreign player to provide some variety and class of opposition; expensive perhaps, but not a luxury. How much more practical it all was than those Masters Tournaments where everybody tries their hardest to win and so positively **AVOID** trying anything new.

EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS SPECIAL

Great Triumph for Mary and Diane

by GEOFF HARROWER

DIANE ROWE and **MARY SHANNON** scored England's greatest triumph in the European Championships, when they carried off the team title. Sweeping aside all opposition, they had their toughest match with Rumania in the semi-final pool, fighting back from 0-2 down to win 3-2. Then in the final they beat Hungary 3-1.

MALMO, Sunday.—The championships are being played in a magnificent stadium, the Baltic Hall, with seven Stiga tables—no complaints about the tables from the British contingent, in vast courts.

The only problem is the seats, steeply banked, and nicely painted in gleaming white! The lighting conforms to the modern practice, being in the ceiling, and is fluorescent.

The parade of teams went with military precision, and I am pleased to report that the English, in their new royal blue tracksuits, and the Welsh in their easily seen scarlet, were amongst the best dressed of all the 22 associations taking part.

Unfortunately, only about 200 spectators were present, being well outnumbered by the players, officials and journalists.

Each day for the team events I am asking Johnny Leach, Ron Crayden and Roy Evans to give a brief report

STOP PRESS

MARY SHANNON and **DIANE ROWE** put England among the honours again when they retained the women's doubles title, beating the Rumanians Ella Constantinescu and Maria Alexandru 21-23, 23-21, 21-14, 21-10.

Other results were: Men's Singles: **K. JOHANSSON** (Sweden) bt **Z. Berczik** (Hungary) 21-19, 21-18, 10-21, 21-9. Women's Singles: **E. FOLDI** (Hungary) bt **E. Jurik** (Hungary) 21-17, 21-14, 21-10. Men's Doubles: **V. MIKKO/J. STANEK** (Czechoslovakia) bt **H. Alser/K. Johansson** (Sweden) 21-19, 22-20, 21-23, 19-21, 21-14. Mixed Doubles: **P. ROSZAS/Mrs. S. LUKACS** (Hungary) bt **V. Mikko/Miss M. Luzova** (Czechoslovakia) 21-11, 12-21, 19-21, 21-17, 22-20.

A full report by Geoff Harrower and details of individual events will be published in the January issue.

ALAN LINDSAY

(England and Middlesex)

COACHES THE STARS
EXHIBITIONS A SPECIALITY

All enquiries

33, CRESWICK ROAD,
ACTON, W.3

Tel. ACOrn 2812

of their team's progress, so I will lead off by mentioning the outstanding happenings from the other matches.

It must be a long time before all sixteen seeded teams won, without trouble, and thus the expected eight men and eight women's teams go into the top pools. Points I noticed: Langstedt of Finland beating Peter Rozsas 12, 19, 9; Marie-France Petre, the little Belgian girl who has visited England several times, having a great win over Edith Buchholz 16, -7, 15, and the tough early fight by the Danes against West Germany. Luthje beat Martin Ness 17, 16, and Ramberg fully extended Gomolla to three games.

TUESDAY.—The eight successful men's and women's team from Sunday went into "Division I," with two sub-groups of four teams each. Group A in the men produced some topsyturvy results, and, as a result, all four countries (England, Sweden, Hungary and Rumania) ended the day with one win and one loss each. In the other group Yugoslavia, with clear wins over Czechoslovakia and Russia, should beat West Germany tonight to become the other finalists.

Yesterday afternoon was the scene of triumph for England, with their great win over Sweden. Johnny Leach reports later, but few English supporters will believe the amazing scene which followed the playing of the last point. The entire English contingent, apart from Diane Rowe, who was playing Russia on an adjoining table, surged forward to congratulate Denis Neale. Very continental style stuff!

Rumania easily beat Hungary 5-2, and at one time it looked as though they would win 5-0. Zoltan Berczik was completely off form, losing all three matches with something to spare. Yet in the evening he was back to his best form.

The women's stage is all set for a big battle tonight between England and Rumania. England beat Russia somewhat more easily than Rumania did, which may, or may not, give us a psychological advantage. The women's doubles pairing of Lukina and Grinberg were most impressive, for not only did they nearly beat

Diane Rowe and Mary Shannon, but late at night they got the better of the formidable Alexandru and Constantinescu 11, 17 and 18.

In the other group Hungary, with two wins, are nicely poised to enter Germany tonight.

WEDNESDAY.—What a night it was! Four key matches, all going on on adjoining tables, in the women's team championships, followed by the four key men's matches, on the same tables. The Swedes put all big matches on these four centre tables, which is good for the audience paying most for their seats, but sheer murder for the players and immediate supporters.

The tension when we took three hours to play five matches, and beat Rumania 3-2, was unbearable. Yet Hungary and West Germany were even slower, for, although the Hungarians eventually won 3-0, we had got through four games by this time. Ron Crayden reports below.

In the men, it was disappointing to do so well and yet finish bottom of the group.

Yugoslavia, eventually beating West Germany 5-4, played on into the early hours of the morning. We had to drag our teams off to bed at well past midnight. They all wanted to stay.

For the great majority of spectators, however, there were eyes only for Sweden v Hungary, with the Swedes having to win to earn a play-off against Rumania in the morning. The match proved a complete anticlimax, with the Swedes winning 5-0, and all two straight. Poor Zolly Berczik was murdered by Johansson 16 and 9.

This morning's match was of much sterner stuff. Matches went alternately to 3-all, when the key battle came on between Giurgiuca and Johansson. Play was extremely fast, but after losing the first game the Rumanian gradually got on top, until at 16-13 in the decider he unaccountably served in the net. This was just the spur that the Swede needed, and to the non-stop roar of the crowd he won the next six points to reach 20-16, eventually winning 21-17. I talk of the "roar of the crowd." Imagine numerous packs of wolves darting to the kill, and you still haven't imagined enough. It is a solid phalanx of sound, most unnerving, even to an onlooker!

EUROPEAN SPECIAL**UNDISPUTED CHAMPIONS**by **RON CRAYDEN**

In the hall were about 2,000 Swedes and 20 Yugoslavs, and although the latter did their best to make up for this with a lot of noise, they were obviously outmatched! The turning point came when, with Yugoslavia leading 3-2, and Vecko a game and 13-7 up on Alser, Vecko cracked, and Alser took 14 of the next 15 points. The crowd chanted slogans in terrifying style, and the Yugoslav looked as though the end of the world had come—it had, for his team.

Supporters in England would not have recognised a lean, hungry looking Markovic in the final match against Alser. He is only a shadow of the electrifying player we knew, and although Alser won only at 18 and 19, somehow it never occurred to me that he would lose. So Alser, supposedly "finished" last season, is still the big force here. If possible, he seems to have even more time to play the ball than in the past, and it will take a very good player to beat him in the singles.

IN the vast Baltic Sports Hall this evening the English girls brought back the glory of achievement that was once considered the accepted right of English table tennis. In a see-saw final Mary and Diane ground the formidable Hungarian team of Eva Foldi and Erzsebet Jurik (née Heirits) into the dust in a manner that left us breathless with excitement). Although tonight the laurels belonged to our top ranking pair, we must not forget the great support given by Lesley and Irene in making our appearance in the final possible. At all times they turned in hall marked performances that have made us what we are today—undisputed CHAMPIONS OF EUROPE.

ENGLAND 3, HUNGARY 1:

It was just after 7 p.m. when two lonely contestants commenced battle in the middle of the large arena—their names: Shannon and Jurik. Fifteen minutes later one emerged radiant and triumphant, whilst the other wandered off dejected and deflated.

The triumphant one was our Mary, who with loops and thunderous hits had made ghoulish out of an Hungarian

chop. Next came Di who for 55 minutes sweated and toiled against her eternal rival, the redoubtable and resilient Eva Foldi. Unfortunately for Di and us, her gallant effort was to no avail as she went under at 17 in the third on expedite.

Tired though she must have been, Di then teamed up with Mary and played a "stormer" to take us into a 2-1 lead. Then came Mary. With machine like precision and frightening ferocity she lashed the tiny white ball as though it were her deadliest enemy. The ball stood up to it well, but poor Eva could not. She chased hither and thither mostly with little more than hope, but she might as well have been chasing shadows. She had no chance, and was completely out-gunned and outclassed.

FIRST DAY

Smart and attractive in their royal blue, England's talented ladies waltzed their way through two rounds of the team event, dropping but one set in the process. It was remarked that the greatest difficulty experienced by our girls was not on the table but by the diminutive Lesley Bell trying to keep in step with my 6 feet 4 inches at the opening ceremony!

England 3, Denmark 1

In this our first match, Irene Ogus made her international debut and although losing to the experienced Ramberg did not disgrace herself. Diane Rowe with her customary brilliance hammered both the Danish girls and teamed with Mary Shannon to take the doubles.

England 3, Finland 0

The most rewarding feature of this match was the spirited fight back by Irene Ogus from seemingly impossible positions in her two games when things were looking black for her. Such a start set us off on the victory road and with Mary knocking holes in her opponent, Irene then teamed with Lesley Bell to take us through into the final group.

SECOND DAY

It would be impertinent of me to single out any one of our ladies for praise on this, our second victorious day. Diane, Lesley and Mary all played with determination and much skill and trounced both the highly fancied Russian girls and the experienced Polish team 3-0. Only Rumania now stand between us and a place in the final.

England v Russia

Unquestionably this was our toughest assignment of the day and we were opposed to Europe's best penholder, Rudnova, and the hard hitting two wing attacker, Grinberg. I opened with Lesley Bell and she excelled by angling and outmanoeuvring a nonplussed Rudnova to give us a great start. Diane Rowe, with her immaculate defence and hitting sorties, then tamed Grinberg.

The Rowe/Shannon combination

RESULTS**MEN'S TEAM:**

Group 1: Sweden bt Norway 5-0, bt Switzerland 5-0. Switzerland bt Norway 5-2.

Group 2: Yugoslavia bt Luxembourg 5-0, bt Wales 5-0. Luxembourg bt Wales 5-3.

Group 3: W. Germany bt Denmark 5-1, bt Belgium 5-0. Denmark bt Belgium 5-3.

Group 4: Hungary bt Netherlands 5-0, bt Finland 5-1. Netherlands bt Finland 5-2.

Group 5: Rumania bt France 5-1, bt Spain 5-0. France bt Spain 5-0.

Group 6: Czechoslovakia bt Austria 5-0, bt Greece 5-1. Austria bt Greece 5-1.

Group 7: U.S.S.R. bt Poland 5-0.

Group 8: England bt E. Germany 5-1.

DIVISION I

Semi-Final A: Sweden lost to England 4-5; bt Hungary 5-0; bt Rumania 5-3. Rumania bt Hungary 5-2; bt England 5-2. Hungary bt England 5-1.

Semi-Final B: Yugoslavia bt Czechoslovakia 5-0; bt U.S.S.R. 5-2; bt W. Germany 5-4. Czechoslovakia bt U.S.S.R. 5-3; bt W. Germany 5-3. W. Germany bt U.S.S.R. 5-3.

Final: Sweden 5, Yugoslavia 3; Oden lost to Markovic —13, —13; lost to Korpa —20, —12. Johansson lost to Vecko —18, —19; bt Markovic 21, 16; bt Korpa 10, 12. Alser bt Korpa 15, —18, 14; bt Vecko —19, 14, 14; bt Markovic 18, 19.

Play-off Matches — for 3rd and 4th: Czechoslovakia bt Rumania 5-1; 5th and 6th: Hungary bt W. Germany 5-3; 7th and 8th: U.S.S.R. bt England 5-4.

DIVISION II

E. Germany lost Denmark 4-5; bt Poland 5-3; bt France 5-2; bt Austria 5-0; bt Netherlands 5-2 bt Luxembourg 5-1.

Denmark bt Poland 5-4; lost France 4-5; bt Austria 5-4; bt Netherlands 5-1; bt Luxembourg 5-1.

Poland bt France 5-4; bt Austria 5-1; bt Netherlands 5-1; bt Luxembourg 5-2.

France bt Austria 5-4; bt Netherlands 5-2; bt Luxembourg 5-0.

Austria bt Netherlands 5-4; bt Luxembourg 5-0.

Netherlands bt Luxembourg 5-2.

DIVISION III

1, Finland (5 wins, 29 games to 14); 2, Belgium (5 wins, 27-14); 3, Switzerland (5 wins 29-18); 4, Greece (3 wins); 5, Spain (2 wins); 6, Wales (1 win); 7, Norway.

WOMEN'S TEAM:

Group 1: Rumania bt Wales 3-0, bt Greece 3-0. Wales bt Greece 3-2.

Group 2: Hungary bt Norway 3-0, bt Switzerland 3-0. Switzerland bt Norway 3-0.

Group 3: W. Germany bt Belgium 3-1, bt Luxembourg 3-0. Belgium bt Luxembourg 3-0.

Group 4: England bt Denmark 3-1, bt Finland 3-0. Denmark bt Finland 3-0.

Group 5: U.S.S.R. bt France 3-0.

Group 6: Czechoslovakia bt Yugoslavia 3-1.

Group 7: E. Germany bt Netherlands 3-0.

Group 8: Poland bt Sweden 3-0.

DIVISION I

Semi-Final A: England bt U.S.S.R. 3-0; bt Poland 3-0; bt Rumania 3-2. Rumania bt U.S.S.R. 3-1; bt Poland 3-0, U.S.S.R. bt Poland 3-2.

Semi-Final B: Hungary bt E. Germany 3-0; bt Czechoslovakia 3-1; bt W. Germany 3-0. Czechoslovakia bt W. Germany 3-0; bt E. Germany 3-0. W. Germany bt E. Germany 3-1.

Final: England 3, Hungary 1. M. Shannon bt E. Jurik 17, 7; bt E. Foldi 13, 7. D. Rowe lost Foldi 19, —15, —17. Rowe/Shannon bt Foldi/Jurik 12, 19.

Play-off Matches—for 3rd and 4th: Rumania bt Czechoslovakia 3-0; 5th and 6th: U.S.S.R. bt W. Germany 3-2; 7th and 8th: E. Germany bt Poland 3-0.

DIVISION II

Yugoslavia bt Sweden 3-1; bt France 3-2; bt Belgium 3-1; bt Denmark 3-2; bt Netherlands 3-0.

Sweden lost France 2-3; bt Belgium 3-0; bt Denmark 3-2; bt Netherlands 3-0.

France lost Belgium 2-3; bt Denmark 3-2; bt Netherlands 3-2.

Belgium bt Denmark 3-2; bt Netherlands 3-2.

Denmark bt Netherlands 3-0.

EUROPEAN SPECIAL

spluttered at first but soon got into gear and we were home and dry. A great team performance.

England v Poland

Once again I started with Lesley and she proved her worth by overcoming a stubborn rubber-faced but defensive player named Nowyryta. Not to be outdone, Mary then completely outplayed the experienced Szmít and teamed with Diane to take us into the last four.

THIRD DAY

This has indeed been a flag day for our wonderful, wonderful girls. To beat the top ranking Rumanian team is a fine achievement, but to beat them from a 2-0 deficit is to be ranked with the outstanding achievements of our game.

When things were at their blackest both Mary and Diane, who composed our team, were filled with determination and an unquenchable do or die spirit. It was a tonic for all English supporters.

England 3, Rumania 2

On paper our best chance seemed to lie with both of our girls beating Ella Constantinescu and teaming up to beat the almost equally famous combination of Alexandru and Constantinescu. It was not to work out this way, for Mary was pipped by Constantinescu in the first played set and Diane just went under to Alexandru in the second singles. Then came the great fight back.

We smashed our way through the doubles, and then with magic in her bat hand and courage in her heart Mary beat the great Maria Alexandru—the world's No. 2—at deuce in the third. The scene was then set for the nail biting decider in which gallant Di carved Ella Constantinescu into small pieces. The cheers from our small contingent are still ringing in my ears. Now for the final against Hungary.

ENGLAND'S MEN'S MATCH by Johnny Leach

FIRST DAY

ONLY one match in our preliminary group, and that in the evening, and we really hammered the East Germans right from the start. Brian Wright, although later losing our only set, put us on the road to success by winning the opening game.

Chester Barnes at times played like a genius. It was good to see him fight back after a lapse in concentration had led to the loss of his only game.

Ian Harrison was his usual solid and dependable self, and he deserves credit for the way he pulled himself together in his second game with Pleuse after the German had recovered from an 18-10 deficit.

This win was most important, for otherwise we should have languished in the nine to sixteen groupings.

SECOND DAY

In beating Sweden by 5-4, our team put up one of the greatest performances I have ever seen by an English team. Everybody played their part, but I must

single out Denis Neale, who, playing in his first big match, won the first and last games.

Chester Barnes, too, was excellent. He fought like a tiger from first to last, and particularly against Alser, when he won after being 15-19 down, did he show his best form. Ian Harrison must not be forgotten, and he played a vital role by easily beating Bernhardt after our team had lost three matches in quick succession.

The evening match against Hungary was an anti-climax. Our team were unable, twice within a few hours, to build themselves up to peak performance. Mike Symonds was possibly overawed by the occasion, which was understandable, after sitting through the terrific match in the afternoon.

Chester could not reproduce the brilliant form he showed against Sweden. Against the Swedes he was the anchor man, and when he did not click against the Hungarians, this seemed to affect the rest of the team. Ian Harrison, after a very sluggish start, pulled himself together to record a good win against Fahazi, but this was to be our only success.

THIRD DAY

The boys did not deserve to lose to Rumania, for they were in a position to win 5-1. Certainly Denis Neale did not deserve to be on the losing side. England have got a great discovery here, for the boy is playing with great coolness, a wonderful temperament.

In the opening match Denis again gave us a terrific start, beating the English Open champion, Dorin Giurgiucua, and then Chester Barnes beat the Rumanian No. 3, Reti, with little to spare. Unfortunately Negulescu played in great form, giving Ian Harrison no chance. We should, however, have won the next three matches.

This afternoon we had to play off to decide whether we would be seventh or eighth, against the Russians. Never let it be said that England's men cannot fight back when the chips are down. The lads were 4-0 down, mainly because they were bewildered by the cunning spin services of our Russian opponents.

Led by Neale's clear-cut victory over Vardanjan, England started what could well have been a victory burst. Harrison followed this up with another two straight win over Novikov, then Denis Neale did what many thought would be impossible, beating the No. 1 Amelin, who has already beaten such stars as Veccko, Markovic and Miko in this tournament.

Bearing in mind that Chester Barnes had already lost two matches, he had a tough job on his hands against Novikov. Sticking grimly to his man, and fighting for every point, he just won two advantage games. Then Ian came out and won the first game so easily against Vardanjan, 21-6, that we thought victory was ours. Unfortunately, however, Ian's counter attack faltered, and at the same time the Russian played very well. At 16-all in the decider Vardanjan had a brilliant burst and deserved to win. So, once again, we are to occupy eighth place in the rankings. Our lads put up a terrific fight, and with a little luck we could have occupied third or fourth position.

THE WELSH MATCHES by Roy Evans

WE were disappointed in losing to Luxembourg, whom we had beaten 5-2 in the last world championships. Consolation to me was the spirited performance of 15-year-old Dennis Samuel, playing in his first senior international. Dennis did all that one could expect of him in winning one event.

Graham Gear started promisingly but was not good in his second match, while George Evans, although he recovered from an apparently hopeless position to beat Jaminet, was not at his best.

Against Yugoslavia the Welsh players found the play much too fast for them.

Our girls scored an opening success against Greece, with Margaret Phillips the more convincing. The deciding factor was the doubles, in which both girls played well. Rumania did us the honour of fielding their best side, but it was scarcely necessary. Nevertheless the girls were not over-awed, and earned all their points.

SECOND DAY

Both men and women had disappointing results against Finland. In the men's match Gear started with a good win over Langstedt but George Evans, after a good start against the defensive Kunnas, lost comfortably in the end. Dennis Samuel went close against Penttila but was rather wild in the closing stages. George Evans beat Langstedt comfortably but this was the end of our successes although Gear had an exciting game with Penttila, which he lost 21-23 in the third.

Our girls also got away to a good start with Sandra Morgan playing well to defeat Nikander, but Margaret Phillips was well out of touch and lost her first singles and subsequently to Nikander. Although we just scraped home in the doubles, Sandra was unable to beat Nieminen in the decider.

Against Spain our men again looked as if they might do well with Gear registering an opening victory against Ibanez. George beat the same player to make us 2-all, but generally we looked a tired side against awkward opponents.

We registered two women's wins, against Luxembourg and Norway.

THIRD DAY

Norway, whom, on paper, we should have beaten easily, won the first two singles, but our girls pulled themselves together and won three tight matches to give us another victory.

Unfortunately Roy Evans has been engaged all day at the Congress Meeting, so I shall have to report that the men lost 2-5 to Belgium, who were a little too good (writes Geoff Harrower). However, the boys were all on form against Norway, easily winning 5-1, the first victory. Dennis Samuel really came into his own, and easily beat his two opponents. They also played well against Switzerland, and although losing 3-5, could easily have won by the same margin. George Evans had a very good win over the powerful Mariotti, while Graham Gear did well to beat the other two Swiss.

As expected, the Welsh ladies went down 0-3 to Switzerland, for in Jacquet and Andre the Swiss really do have two good players.

EUROPEAN SPECIAL**ENGLISH RESULTS****MEN**

Bt E. Germany 5-1: B. Wright bt Stein —8, 10, 12; lost to L. Pleuse —19, —11. C. Barnes bt Faehnrich 8, 15; bt Stein 13, —18, 14. I. Harrison bt Pleuse 11, 18; bt Faehnrich —19, 11, 16.

Bt Sweden 5-4: D. Neale bt Johansson 18, —14, 11; lost to Alser —9, —13; bt Bernhardt —14, 18, 19; bt Bernhardt 14, —17, 14; lost Johansson —11, —10; bt Alser 19, —14, 19. Harrison lost Alser —14, —14; bt Bernhardt 8, 13; lost Johansson —18, —19.

Lost to Hungary 1-5: M. Symonds lost to Rozsas —11, —17; lost to Fahazi —15, 13, —13. Barnes lost Berczik —16, —15; bt Rozsas —16, 19, 12. Harrison lost Fahazi —8, 19, 19, —12; lost Berczik —13, —20.

Lost to Rumania 2-5: Neale bt Giurgiuca —13, 18, 17; lost Negulescu —22, —19. Barnes bt Reti 16, 18; lost Giurgiuca 15, —19, —12; lost Negulescu —8, —19. Harrison lost Negulescu —6, —15; lost Reti 18, —17, —20.

Lost to U.S.S.R. 4-5: Barnes last Vardanjan —18, —14; lost Amelin —15, —20; bt Novikov 20, 22. Harrison lost Amelin —17, —17; bt Novikov 16, 12; lost Vardanjan 6, —19, —18. Neale lost Novikov —18, 12, —20; bt Vardanjan 6, 14; bt Amelin 9, —19, 15.

WOMEN

Bt Denmark 3-1: I. Ogus lost to L. Ramberg —17, —14. D. Rowe bt B. Henriksen 9, 13; bt Ramberg 15, 10. M. Shannon/Rowe, bt Ramberg/E. Hansen —18, 12, 14.

Bt Finland 3-0: Ogus bt Jarvenpaa —13, 19, 20. Shannon bt L. Nikander 9, 11. L. Bell/Ogus bt Nikander/M. Nieminen 15, 14.

Bt U.S.S.R. 3-0: Bell bt J. Rudnova 17, 17. Rowe bt S. Grinberg 11, —13, 9. Rowe/

Shannon bt D. Lukina/Grinberg —15, 20, 16.

Bt Poland 3-0: Bell bt Nowyryta 10, —18, 9. Shannon bt D. Szmil 15, 18. Shannon/Rowe bt Nowyryta/Szmil 14, 10.

Bt Rumania 3-2: Shannon lost Constantinescu 20, —11, —18; bt Alexandru 9, —18, 24. Rowe lost Alexandru —11, 13, —18; bt Constantinescu 17, 8. Rowe/Shannon bt Alexandru/Constantinescu 21, 10.

Bt Hungary 3-1: Shannon bt Jurik 17, 7; bt Foldi 13, 7. Rowe lost to Foldi 19, —15, —17. Rowe/Shannon bt Foldi/Jurik 12, 19.

WELSH RESULTS**MEN:**

Lost to Luxembourg 5-3: G. Gear bt C. Jaminet —19, 10, 14; lost to G. Krecke —18, —11. G. Evans lost to V. Langehegermann —13, 19, —16; bt Jaminet —10, 24, 13; lost to Krecke —18, —20. D. Samuel lost to Krecke —19, —15; bt Langehegermann 18, 18; lost to Jaminet —17, 18, —14.

Lost to Yugoslavia 0-5: Gear lost to Korpa —8, —9; lost to Markovic —10, —16. Evans lost to Vecko —17, —13; lost to Korpa —12, —11. Samuel lost to Markovic —12, —10.

Lost to Spain 2-5: Gear bt Ibanex 17, —18, 14; lost Pales 16, —10, —17. Evans lost Olivar —9, —20; bt Ibanez 9, 16; lost Pales —12, —12. Samuel lost Pales —15, 14, —16; lost Olivar —20, —14.

Lost to Finland 2-5: Gear bt Langstedt 22, 15; lost Penttila —17, 15, —21. Evans lost Kunnas 14, —15, —17; bt Langstedt 15, 10; lost Penttila —18, —13. Samuel lost Penttila —16, —11; lost Kunnas —11, —11.

Lost to Greece 1-5: Evans lost Christodoulatis —14, —17; lost to Mandilas 18, —16, —17. Gear bt Plakantonakis 20, —15, 16; lost to Christodoulatis —14, —15. Samuel lost to Mandilas —18, 14, —12; lost to Plakantonakis —18, —18.

WOMEN

Bt Greece 3-2: S. Morgan lost to L. Skrivanou —13, —14; bt P. Kotsia 16, 16. M. Phillips bt Kotsia 16, 20; lost to Skrivanou —13, —17. Morgan/Phillips bt Skrivanou/Kotsia 19, —19, 9.

Lost to Rumania 0-3: Phillips lost to Alexandru —13, —17. Morgan lost to Constantinescu —11, —12. Morgan/Phillips lost to Alexandru/Constantinescu —8, —18.

Bt Luxembourg 3-1: Phillips bt Wegener —14, 14, 17; bt Reinert 7, 14. Morgan lost Reinert —16, 14, —19. Phillips/Morgan bt Wegener/Blasen 13, 15.

Lost to Finland 2-3: Morgan bt Nikander 16, 8; lost Nieminen —12, —18. Phillips lost Nieminen —14, 9, —13; lost Nikander —15, —16. Phillips/Morgan bt Nikander/Nieminen —16, 18, 19.

Bt Norway 3-2: Phillips lost to Knutsen —16, 19, —18; bt Ommedal —9, 15, 13. Morgan lost Ommedal —20, —24; bt Knutsen —18, 19, 15. Phillips/Morgan bt Ommedal/Knutsen 18, —16, 19.

TOURING AMERICA

David Creamer (Middlesex) and **Ralph Gunnion** (Warwickshire) have joined Erwin Klien, the former world's mixed doubles champion, in an extended tour of American Colleges until next May.


BERNARD CROUCH TROPHY

ESSEX have made a good start in the Bernard Crouch Trophy with a 6-3 home win against Kent, and a narrow 5-4 win away to Surrey. In the only other match played Middlesex trounced Surrey 8-1.

ALL

the Best Players
are still wearing

LOUIS HOFFMAN CLOTHING

Ask your local sports store to show you the new illustrated catalogue of the **LOUIS HOFFMAN** clothing range with the  symbol. In case of difficulty write to:

LOUIS HOFFMAN**(CLOTHING)
LTD.**

180 BRICK LANE, LONDON, E.1.

SHOREDITCH 7391

COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP ROUND UP

By John Wright

CHAMPIONS CRASH — SURREY LEAD

A 5-4 win over Lancashire, followed by a 9-0 success against Staffordshire has given Surrey an early lead in the Premier Division. They are closely followed by Essex who continued to be unbeaten with the narrowest of wins against Gloucestershire.

The big upset has been the defeat of Middlesex, for so long undisputed champions, by Lancashire.

Volatile Connie Warren was Surrey's mainstay against Lancashire and his spectacular half-volleying game with Mike Symonds had the crowd at fever pitch. Dave Lowe lost to Symonds at 21-23 in the third, then had to pull out all the stops to beat Kevin Forshaw after losing the first. The big surprise was the mixed doubles where Warren and Mary

Shannon went down to Forshaw and Di Fitzgerald.

"A classic" was the verdict of the 300 fans at the Gloucestershire-Essex encounter. Everything depended on the clash between Ian Harrison and Chester Barnes, when the score stood at 3-all. Harrison, leading 16-12 in the third, looked home and dry but astonishingly lost the next eight points to be 16-20 down. He dragged back three more points but could do no more.

Bobby Stevens settled the issue, but only after losing the first game to Roy Morley.

Mike Symonds put the brake on Middlesex hopes of their 16th title win in 18 years, when he beat both Brian Wright and Alan Lindsay, then paired with Jeff Ingber to thrash Lindsay and Alan Rhodes.

Ingber and Forshaw both gained singles wins over Rhodes.

Staffordshire made a disappointing start to their first season in the Premier Division, losing 0-9 to Surrey and 1-8 to Middlesex.

A shock win for Tony Piddock against Denis Neale helped Kent to a 5-4 win over Yorkshire.

Sussex and Surrey II are pace-setters in Second Division South and the fate of this section will probably have to wait until they meet in March.

An impressive début by Peter Williams contributed to Sussex's 9-1 trouncing of Bedfordshire, and they followed this with a 7-3 win over Hertfordshire.

Lancashire II suffered their first defeat for two seasons when they lost 3-7 to Cheshire, who were strengthened by the return of Di Johnson and Doreen Schofield.

Northumberland fought back from 2-4 down to take a point from Lincolnshire, while over in the Second Division Midland Worcestershire offered little resistance to Glamorgan, losing 0-10. Warwickshire dropped only one set, a shock defeat for Maurice Billington by John Mansfield, in an easy win over Monmouthshire. Oxfordshire remain unbeaten with a 9-1 win over Nottinghamshire.

Dorset promise well with a 7-3 win over Devon, but need more enthusiasm from the younger element. Buckinghamshire II beat both Hertfordshire II and Norfolk to lead the Southern Division, while Warwickshire II are out in front in the Midland.

Surrey and Kent are both unbeaten in the Junior Division South, as are Yorkshire, Northumberland and Cheshire in the Junior North. Warwickshire gained an important win against Staffordshire in the Junior Midland, Ingrid Sykes playing a big part.

A number of counties were inconvenienced when the Open Tournaments Committee of the E.T.T.A. granted permission for the Birmingham Open to be played on November 21, a County Championships date.

It is to be hoped that this astonishing decision is an isolated error of judgment, and is not to be taken as an indication of things to come.

It was also disappointing to find some players putting self before county on this occasion.

COUNTY DIARY

PREMIER DIVISION

December 18	Middlesex v Surrey, Johnsons of Hendon, Hendon Way, N.W.4	7.15 p.m.
December 18	Lancashire v Essex, Y.M.C.A., Deansgate, Bolton	7.30 p.m.
December 19	Middlesex v Kent, Aldenham Boys' Club, 93 Highgate Road, Kentish Town, N.W.5	7.15 p.m.
December 19	Yorkshire v Essex	
December 19	Staffordshire v Gloucestershire, Shrewsbury	
January 2	Middlesex v Yorkshire, Aldenham Boys' Club, 93 Highgate Road, Kentish Town, N.W.5	7.15 p.m.

SECOND DIVISION (SOUTH)

December 19	Surrey v Bedfordshire, Parish Hall, Leatherhead	7 p.m.
December 19	Hampshire v Hertfordshire	
December 19	Kent v Buckinghamshire, Crescent Club, Milton Regis, Sittingbourne	7.30 p.m.

SECOND DIVISION NORTH

December 5	Lincolnshire v Durham	
December 19	Lancashire v Lincolnshire, Montague Burton's, Halliwell Clothing Works, Wapping Street, Halliwell, Bolton	7.30 p.m.
December 19	Durham v Northumberland, Murton Democratic Club	7 p.m.

SECOND DIVISION MIDLAND

December 12	Worcestershire v Oxfordshire, Pump Street Methodist Hall, Worcester	7 p.m.
December 19	Oxfordshire v Warwickshire	
December 19	Glamorgan v Nottinghamshire	

SECOND DIVISION WEST

December 19	Cornwall v Dorset	
December 19	Somerset v Wiltshire, St. Peter's Hall, Lower Bristol Road, Bath	7.15 p.m.

MIDLAND DIVISION

December 12	Worcestershire v Oxfordshire, Cripplegate Bowling Pavilion, Tybridge Street, Worcester	7 p.m.
December 19	Derbyshire v Staffordshire, Chesterfield	

SOUTHERN DIVISION

December 19	Suffolk v Cambridgeshire	
December 19	Huntingdonshire v Buckinghamshire, Eaton Socon Institute, Eaton Socon	7 p.m.

JUNIOR DIVISION NORTH

December 19	Lancashire v Yorkshire, Bolton Lads' Club, Bark Street, Bolton	2 p.m.
December 19	Durham v Northumberland, Murton Democratic Club	3 p.m.

JUNIOR DIVISION SOUTH

December 19	Kent v Berkshire, Crescent Club, Milton Regis, Sittingbourne	3 p.m.
-------------	--	--------

JUNIOR DIVISION MIDLAND

December 12	Worcestershire v Oxfordshire, Cripplegate Bowling Pavilion, Tybridge Street, Worcester	3 p.m.
December 19	Oxfordshire v Warwickshire	
December 19	Leicestershire v Nottinghamshire, Leicester Y.M.C.A., 113 Granby Street, Leicester	3.30 p.m.

JUNIOR DIVISION SOUTH-WEST

December 5	Gloucestershire v Glamorgan	
December 19	Wiltshire v Glamorgan	
December 19	Gloucestershire v Monmouthshire	

JUNIOR DIVISION ETST

January 9	Suffolk v Hertfordshire	
-----------	-------------------------	--

DETAILED RESULTS

DIVISIONAL TABLES

THE NATIONAL CUPS

PREMIER DIVISION

Lancashire 4, Surrey 5

M. Symonds lost to C. Warren 16, —18, —16; bt D. Lowe 17, —17, 21. J. Ingber lost to Warren 14, —21, —10; bt G. Muranyi 13, 18. K. Forshaw lost to Lowe 14, —15, —18; lost to Muranyi —15, 16, —16.

Symonds/Ingber bt Lowe/Muranyi 18, 17. Miss D. Fitzgerald lost to Miss M. Shannon —11, —18. Forshaw/Miss Fitzgerald bt Warren/Miss Shannon 16, 18.

Lancashire 5, Middlesex 4

Symonds bt B. Wright 15, 20; bt A. Lindsay 17, 18. Ingber lost to Wright —14, —18; bt A. Rhodes 7, 19. Forshaw lost to Lindsay —19, —12; bt Rhodes 18, —14, 14. Symonds/Ingber bt Lindsay/Rhodes 12, 12.

Miss Fitzgerald lost to Miss D. Rowe —13, —12. Forshaw/Miss Fitzgerald lost to Wright/Miss Rowe —10, —7.

Staffordshire 0, Surrey 9

Staffordshire 1, Middlesex 8

Yorkshire 4, Kent 5

Gloucestershire 4, Essex 5

SECOND DIVISION (SOUTH)

- Surrey 5, Kent 5
- Sussex 9, Bedfordshire 1
- Hertfordshire 6, Buckinghamshire 4
- Hertfordshire 3, Sussex 7
- Hampshire 3, Surrey 7
- Bedfordshire 3, Buckinghamshire 7

SECOND DIVISION (NORTH)

- Cheshire 7, Lancashire 3
- Northumberland 5, Lincolnshire 5
- Durham 3, Yorkshire II 7

SECOND DIVISION (MIDLAND)

- Warwickshire 9, Monmouthshire 1
- Oxfordshire 9, Nottinghamshire 1
- Worcestershire 0, Glamorgan 10

SECOND DIVISION (WEST)

- Cornwall 6, Wiltshire 4
- Dorset 7, Devon 3

SOUTHERN DIVISION

- Norfolk 6, Suffolk 4
- Buckinghamshire 9, Hertfordshire 1
- Hampshire 10, Huntingdonshire 0
- Cambridgeshire 8, Huntingdonshire 2
- Norfolk 3, Buckinghamshire 7

MIDLAND DIVISION

- Warwickshire 10, Worcestershire 0
- Staffordshire 3, Oxfordshire II 7

JUNIOR DIVISION (NORTH)

- Cheshire 5, Lancashire 3
- Durham 1, Yorkshire 7

JUNIOR DIVISION (MIDLAND)

- Worcestershire 0, Staffordshire 10
- Oxfordshire 7, Nottinghamshire 3
- Staffordshire 2, Warwickshire 8
- Staffordshire 9, Oxfordshire 1

JUNIOR DIVISION (SOUTH-WEST)

- Monmouthshire 4, Wiltshire 6

JUNIOR DIVISION (SOUTH)

- Hampshire 4, Kent 6
- Berkshire 2, Surrey 8
- Sussex 6, Berkshire 4
- Surrey 5, Kent 5

JUNIOR DIVISION (EAST)

- Buckinghamshire 6, Hertfordshire 4
- Norfolk 6, Suffolk 4
- Norfolk 4, Buckinghamshire 6
- Middlesex 7, Suffolk 3

PREMIER DIVISION

	P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.	P.
Surrey	2	2	0	0	14	4	4
Essex	2	2	0	0	12	6	4
Middlesex	2	1	0	1	12	6	2
Gloucestershire	2	1	0	1	9	9	2
Lancashire	2	1	0	1	8	9	2
Kent	2	1	0	1	7	11	2
Yorkshire	2	0	0	2	8	10	0
Staffordshire	2	0	0	2	1	17	0

SECOND DIVISION (SOUTH)

Sussex	3	2	1	0	21	9	5
Surrey	3	2	1	0	19	11	5
Buckinghamshire	3	2	0	1	18	12	4
Kent	2	0	2	0	10	10	2
Hampshire	3	1	0	2	13	17	2
Hertfordshire	3	1	0	2	12	18	2
Bedfordshire	3	0	0	3	7	23	0

SECOND DIVISION (NORTH)

Yorkshire	2	2	0	0	17	3	4
Northumberland	2	1	1	0	15	5	3
Cheshire	1	1	0	0	7	3	2
Lancashire	2	1	0	1	10	10	2
Lincolnshire	1	0	1	0	5	5	1
Durham	2	0	0	2	6	14	0
Cumberland	2	0	0	2	0	20	0

SECOND DIVISION (WEST)

Somerset	1	1	0	0	7	3	2
Cornwall	1	1	0	0	6	4	2
Dorset	2	1	0	1	11	9	2
Wiltshire	2	1	0	1	10	10	2
Devon	2	0	0	2	6	14	0

SECOND DIVISION (MIDLAND)

Warwickshire	2	2	0	0	16	4	4
Oxfordshire	2	2	0	0	15	5	4
Glamorganshire	2	1	0	1	13	7	2
Nottinghamshire	2	0	1	1	6	14	1
Worcestershire	2	0	1	1	5	15	1
Monmouthshire	2	0	0	2	5	15	0

SOUTHERN DIVISION

Buckinghamshire	3	3	0	0	23	7	6
Norfolk	4	3	0	1	22	18	6
Hampshire	3	2	0	1	21	9	4
Hertfordshire	3	2	0	1	17	13	4
Cambridgeshire	3	1	0	2	13	17	2
Suffolk	3	0	0	3	9	21	0
Huntingdonshire	3	0	0	3	5	25	0

MIDLAND DIVISION

Warwickshire	2	2	0	0	18	2	4
Derbyshire	1	1	0	0	8	2	2
Oxfordshire	1	1	0	0	7	3	2
Staffordshire	2	0	0	2	5	15	0
Worcestershire	2	0	0	2	5	15	0
Worcestershire	2	0	0	2	2	18	0

JUNIOR DIVISION (SOUTH)

Surrey	2	1	1	0	13	7	3
Kent	2	1	1	0	11	9	3
Sussex	1	1	0	0	6	4	2
Hampshire	1	0	0	1	4	6	0
Berkshire	2	0	0	2	6	14	0

JUNIOR DIVISION (NORTH)

Yorkshire	2	2	0	0	15	1	4
Northumberland	1	1	0	0	8	0	2
Cheshire	1	1	0	0	5	3	2
Lancashire	1	0	0	1	3	5	0
Durham	1	0	0	1	1	7	0
Cumberland	2	0	0	2	0	16	0

JUNIOR DIVISION (EAST)

Buckinghamshire	2	2	0	0	12	8	4
Middlesex	3	2	0	1	18	4	4
Essex	1	1	0	0	10	0	2
Hertfordshire	2	1	0	1	11	9	2
Norfolk	3	1	0	2	12	18	2
Suffolk	3	0	0	3	7	23	0

JUNIOR DIVISION (MIDLAND)

Warwickshire	2	2	0	0	18	2	4
Staffordshire	3	2	0	1	21	9	4
Oxfordshire	2	1	0	1	8	12	2
Nottinghamshire	2	0	1	1	8	12	1
Worcestershire	2	0	1	1	5	15	1
Leicestershire	1	0	0	1	0	10	0

JUNIOR DIVISION (SOUTH WEST)

Wiltshire	2	2	0	0	15	5	4
Glamorgan	1	1	0	0	9	1	2
Monmouthshire	2	0	0	2	5	15	0
Gloucestershire	1	0	0	1	1	9	0

WILMOTT CUP

Second Round

Zone 1A: Sunderland or Whitehaven v Carlisle, Northumberland v Barrow; **Zone 1B:** Huddersfield v Barnsley, Leeds v Harrogate; **Zone 2:** Sheffield v Doncaster, Chesterfield v Notts; **Zone 3:** Liverpool v Bolton S.S.; Salford v Blackburn; **Zone 4:** Chester v Stockport, Nelson v Manchester. **Zone 5:** Birmingham v Coventry, Leicester v Wellington or Leamington; **Zone 6:** Boston v Cambridge, Peterborough v Norwich; **Zone 7:** Bedford v Hertford, Luton v N. Herts; **Zone 8:** St. Albans v Hemel Hempstead, Oxford v Leighton Buzzard. **Zone 9:** Travel Trades v E. London, Beckenham v London Civil Service; **Zone 10:** Barking v N. Middlesex, Ilford v Willesden; **Zone 11:** London Banks v Wembley, Acton v S.W. Middlesex; **Zone 12:** Basildon v Croydon, Woolwich v Chelmsford.

Zone 13: Crawley v Eastbourne, Brighton v Worthing; **Zone 14:** Bournemouth v Southampton, Basingstoke v Portsmouth; **Zone 15:** High Wycombe v Slough, Newbury v Staines; **Zone 16:** Gloucester v Stroud, Bristol v Plymouth.

Results: First Round:

Sheffield bt Scunthorpe 7-2, Doncaster bt Lincoln 9-0, Chesterfield bt Grimsby 8-1, Notts. bt Sheffield Wks. 9-0, Liverpool bt Lancaster 9-0, Chester b Norwich 8-1, Manchester bt Burnley 8-1. Birmingham bt Walsall 6-3, Coventry bt Kettering 5-4, Leicester bt West Brom. 6-3, Boston bt Gt. Yarmouth 6-3, Cambridge bt Stowmarket 8-1, Bedford bt Harlow 6-3, Travel Trades bt Romford 5-3, N. Middlesex bt Wandsworth 7-2.

E. London bt Leatherhead 9-0, Beckenham bt Southend 6-3, Barking bt Dagenham 8-1, Ilford bt Bromley 6-3, London Banks bt Sutton 5-4, Wembley bt Lon. Ins. Off. 7-0, Acton bt N. Acton 5-1, Basildon bt Billericay 5-4.

Croydon bt Lon. Bus. Houses 5-1, Crawley bt Hastings 8-1, Eastbourne bt Bognor Regis 8-1, Brighton bt Canterbury w.o., Bournemouth bt Andover 9-0, H. Wycombe bt Maidenhead 5-4, Staines bt Chiltern 6-0, Stockport bt Mid-Cheshire 6-3.

ROSE BOWL

Second Round

Zone 1: Sunderland bye, Northumberland v Bishop Auckland; **Zone 2:** Barnsley v Sheffield, Chesterfield v Huddersfield; **Zone 3:** Liverpool v Chester, Burnley bye; **Zone 4:** Manchester v Stockport, Blackburn bye. **Zone 5:** Coventry v Birmingham, West Brom. v Kettering; **Zone 6:** Norwich v Cambridge, Great Yarmouth bye; **Zone 7:** Hertford v Harlow, St. Albans v N. Herts; **Zone 8:** Bletchley v Leighton Buzzard, Oxford v Hemel Hempstead.

Zone 9: S.W. Middlesex v Willesden, East London v Insurance Offices; **Zone 10:** Beckenham v N.W. Kent, Sutton v N. Middlesex; **Zone 11:** Ilford v Woolwich, London Business Houses v Romford; **Zone 12:** London Civil Service v Lloyds Banks, Wembley v Basildon.

Zone 13: Hastings v Crawley, Eastbourne v Worthing; **Zone 14:** Portsmouth v Brighton, Bournemouth v Southampton; **Zone 15:** Staines v Newbury, Slough v Maidenhead; **Zone 16:** Bristol v Plymouth (also Zone Final).

Results: First Round:

Barnsley bt Leeds 7-2, Sheffield bt Sheffield Works 6-3, Chesterfield bt Grimsby w.o., Hertford bt Luton 5-2; Bletchley bt Bedford 6-3, Ilford bt Southend 6-3, London Civil Service bt Croydon 5-4, Bournemouth bt Bognor Regis 9-0, Staines bt High Wycombe 5-1.

WELSH CORNER

INVADERS REPELLED

AT long last Welsh players have put a brake on the English habit of crossing the border and carrying off their titles. They successfully repelled the invaders at the Swansea Open in November and sent them away with the mere crumb of the girls' singles, won by Barbara Bowles, of Bristol.

It is the greatest morale booster that Welsh table tennis has received in years and what can be done once can be repeated. The ability is there and it should now be backed up by renewed confidence.

Ironically, Roy Morley, a triple winner last year, contributed to his own defeat. Throughout the summer he practised with the leading Welsh players at special Sunday training sessions, and it seems they must have learned the lessons well.

Morley was brought down in the singles semi-final by Graham Gear, who went on to beat George Evans 21-15, 15-21, 21-17 in the final. It was typical that the two Welsh players, who knew each other's play so well, should go to three games.

Gear's 21-18, 21-14 win over Morley avenged his defeat at the same stage in the Aberdare Open the previous month.

Morley received early warning that the home players were after his blood when Johnny Mansfield shocked him into a third game. After an indifferent start to the season, young Mansfield has improved and he defended so well that the Gloucester star, becoming increasingly nervous of his first kill, very nearly looped himself out of the match.

And it was in a defensive rôle that Morley found himself against Gear, who dominated the match throughout for what must be his best performance.

Evans, who was extremely fortunate to survive against junior Dennis Samuel, did his bit towards checking the invasion when he beat Gloucestershire's Dennis Holland 21-11, 17-21, 21-14 in the semi-final.

WELSH LEAGUE

CARDIFF AND BARRY SET THE PACE

CARDIFF and Barry are so far unbeaten in the First Division of the Welsh League and judging by their strength should preserve that record until they meet. Both are evenly matched.

Aberdare "A", with Dennis Samuel, are continually improving and could be the stumbling block to Cardiff and Barry hopes, but both Newport and Swansea appear to be out of the picture. Both are in need of new talent, and Swansea appear the worst off in this connection.

If the Spencer boys were more consistent they could bring Eastern Valleys up to the top half. Bridgend have promised well and brought off a shock win over Aberdare.

Tredegar are going well in the Second Division although three of their matches have gone to 5-4. Swansea "B" appear the next best.

Among the juniors Aberdare are streets ahead when Samuel is playing for them, but they had a narrow squeak against Tredegar.

Bridgend are not the power they were now that Burridge is no longer eligible, but Milford improve with each match. Cardiff are disappointing, while Newport miss their strength of the past.

Cardiff are likely to win the women's section, but Newport, although beaten by Cardiff in their first encounter, could be good if Elizabeth Gray strikes form. Swansea are improving, but Tredegar are a team to watch.

RESULTS

Men's Singles; Semi-Finals: G. GEAR bt R. Morley 21-18, 21-14; G. EVANS bt D. Holland 21-11, 17-21, 21-14. **Final:** GEAR bt Evans 21-15, 15-21, 21-17.

Women's Singles: M. PHILLIPS bt B. Gray 15-21, 21-10, 21-10.

Men's Doubles: GEAR/F. ANDERSON bt Evans/R. Davies 21-14, 21-18.

Women's Doubles: S. MORGAN/P. TAYLOR bt E. Gray/S. Jones 19-21, 21-14, 21-13.

Mixed Doubles: GEAR/Miss MORGAN bt A. Thomas/Miss Phillips 9-21, 21-16, 21-17.

Boys' Singles: D. SAMUEL bt G. Davies 21-8, 26-28, 21-10.

Girls' Singles: B. BOWLES bt J. Eatough 21-18, 19-21, 21-11.

NORTH WALES

EAST FLINT EXPAND

LLANDUDNO, runners-up in the North Wales Counties championship last season, opened their new campaign with a triple win over Wrexham. The senior side won 6-3; the "B" team just scraped home at 5-4 and the juniors romped their match 8-1.

R. Richards was in fine form for Wrexham in the senior match, beating both M. Shane and D. Hobbs, but the shock of the match was the failure of E. Bretherton, the North Wales closed champion, to win a set. Against Hobbs he mustered only three points in the first game.

Rhyl, last season's champion, continued their winning way, crushing East Flintshire 9-0. R. Baker just lost in the third in both his matches for East Flintshire.

Noel Ralphs was unbeaten for East Flintshire in the "B" team match, where Rhyl just got home in the final set for a 5-4 win.

In the three years since they started with ten teams East Flintshire League have made remarkable progress and now cater for 30 teams.

At the well attended North Wales Counties meeting two sides were selected for a series of friendly matches against county teams. This is a prelude to North Wales entering the County Championships next season. The two teams are: "A": R. Williams (Rhyl) (capt.), R. Richards (Wrexham), G. Radcliffe (Rhyl), D. Hobbs (Llandudno). Reserve, E. Kane (Rhyl).

"B": J. Bradbury (Rhyl), M. Shane (Llandudno), J. Jones (Wrexham), E. Bretherton (Wrexham) (capt.). Reserve, R. Baker (East Flintshire).

Interest grows in the County Umpire Scheme with 12 candidates currently taking the course. Hobbs has started coaching sessions around the leagues and intends to hold at least three meetings in each. Rhyl hold a rally on January 23 under the direction of Philip Reid, of Leicester.

Lansdowne (Llandudno) open defence of the North Wales club championship against Chirk.

The draw is Tawyn Rhyl v Rhyl Methodist; Courtalds Greenfield v Border Wrexham; Sandycraft I.E.P. v Crossville Llandudno; Lansdowne Llandudno v Chirk.

Will anyone requiring copies of TABLE TENNIS please contact me: **Roy Williams, 13, Aled Avenue, Rhyl, Flintshire, North Wales.**

WESTERN COUNTIES

MONMOUTHSHIRE County commitments robbed Newport of Brian Everson and John Mansfield for the Western Counties match at Bath but did not prevent them winning 6-3. Basil Evans, Cyril Gray and Pat Crowley each won two matches. Gray inflicted the only defeat on Bob House, mainstay of the Bath side, while Crowley lost narrowly to House in the best match of the evening.

Cheltenham suffered a shock 4-5 home defeat from Bath's Seconds, for whom young David McGarry won all three of his matches.

I hear that Cheltenham's Tony Smith and Peter Cruwys are abandoning the sandwich bat to revert to pimped rubber.

Exeter, who have returned to the league after an absence of ten years put up a great fight at Weston, but were narrowly beaten 5-4. Tony Russe and Ray Philpott each won two for Weston, while Peter Oldfield scored twice for Exeter.

Weston followed up with a 5-4 victory over Cardiff. Philpott securing victory when he beat Phillip Bevan in the deciding rubber. Philpott's only defeat was against Ron Davies, the Welsh international, who went through unbeaten.

Exeter Ladies were more successful in their visit to Weston, winning 7-2. Mrs. Le Milliere won all three of her games for Exeter.

SOUTH EAST MIDLANDS

FIRST results in the South East Midlands League indicate that competition will be as intense as ever this season. There was a shock opening to the new campaign with Northampton, last season's champions, crashing 2-8 to Bedford, who completed a triple success when their ladies won 6-4 and the juniors by 7-3.

Ely, newcomers to the league, made a good start in the men's section with a 7-3 win over St. Neots, who turned the tables at 8-2 in the junior section. It was a less inspiring debut for Peterborough who found Cambridge City much too strong in all three sections.

Results: Men's Section: Northampton 2, Bedford 8; Kettering 7, Hunts, Central 3; Ely 7, St. Neots 3; Cambridge City 7, Peterborough 3.

Women's Section: Northampton 4, Bedford 6; Cambridge City 9, Peterborough 1.

Junior Section: Northampton 3, Bedford 7; Ely 2, St. Neots 8; Cambridge City 7, Peterborough 3.

ESSEX OPEN

THE Tournament Secretary for the Essex Open at Harlow on January 16-17 is **George Wenham, 55, North Road, Brentwood, Essex**, and NOT Harry Walker, who has been inundated with requests for entry forms.

Harry Walker will be visiting California during December and January.

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 (R) are Restricted. 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 and Venue	Extra Events	Organising Secretary
1964			
Dec. 5	England v W. Germany Cheshunt Boys' Club, Hertford Road, Cheshunt		
5-6	Newbury Open Corn Exchange, Mkt. Place, Newbury, Berks. Closing date: Nov. 14, 1964.	J.B.S. J.G.S. J.B.D. J.G.D. J.X.D. V.S.	A. A. J. Mosson, 29, Croft Road, Newbury, Berks.
12	England v Hungary Municipal Hall, Tottenham, London, N.		
12-13	Middlesex Open Hanwell Community Centre, Westcott Cres., Hanwell, W.5. Closing date: Nov. 27, 1964.	J.B.S. J.G.S.	Miss I. Moss, 49, Okehampton Road, Kensal Rise, N.W.10.
15	East London Finals G.U.S. Sports Ground, Clapton, London E.5.		
1965			
Jan. 2	Yorkshire Junior Open Madeley St. Baths, Hull. Closing date: (Under 15's B. & G.S.)	J.B.S. J.G.S. B.D. G.D. X.D.	R. Balmford, 205, Park Avenue, Hull, Yorks.
6-9	ENGLISH CLOSED London—Crystal Palace N.R.C., Closing date: Dec. 14, 1964		E.T.T.A.
14-15	Co. Down Open Assembly Hall, Downpatrick, N. Ireland	J.B.S. J.G.S.	J. Ellis, 7, Patrick Drive, Downpatrick, Co. Down, N. Ireland.
16	Lancashire Open Hawker Siddeley Dynamics Ltd. Lostock, Bolton, Closing date: Jan. 7, 1965	J.B.S. J.G.S. V.S.	A. F. Jones, 13, Moss Bank Close, Astley Bridge, Bolton, Lancs.
16-17	Essex Open (Harlow)		G. Wenham, 55, North Road, Brentwood, Essex. Mrs. N. Roy Evans, No. 1, Liwryn-y-Grant, Road, Cardiff.
22-23	WELSH OPEN		F. G. Mannoch, 216, Park Road, Sittingbourne, Kent.
30-31	Kent Open (Folkestone) Marine Pavilion, Folkestone. Closing date: Jan. 13, 1965.	Y.S.(B) Y.S.(G)	J. R. Chalkley, 17, Woods Orchard Road, Gloucester.
30	Gloucestershire Junior Open Closing date: Jan. 16, 1965. (Under 17's B. & G.S.) (Under 15's B. & G.S.)	J.B.D. J.G.D. J.X.D.	
30	West of Scotland Open		Gwilliam Brown, 9, Edzell Gardens, Bishopbriggs, Scotland.
Feb. 12-14	South of England (R) Open I.C.T. Ltd., Aurealia Road, Croydon. Closing date: Jan. 27, 1965	J.B.S. J.G.S.	Miss D. M. Plater, 3, Moorson Way, Coulson, Surrey.
12-13	Quadrangular International (England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales) Milford Haven, West Wales		
13	Suffolk Closed Stowmarket		

KENT JUNIOR OPEN

by LAURIE LANDRY

NATIONAL RANKINGS CONFIRMED

STUART GIBBS, of Essex, and **Pauline Hemmings**, of Hertfordshire, confirmed their England No. 1 junior rankings by carrying off the Under-17's singles in the Kent Junior Open at Folkestone on November 7 and 8.

In this first big junior event of the season Gibbs beat Mike Johns (Cheshire), the No. 3, in the semi-final, and Yorkshire Alan Hydes (No. 2) in the final. Miss Hemmings also beat her No. 2, Linda Henwood (Essex) to win the girls' title for the second successive year.

Miss Henwood had the consolation of winning the Under-15's for the second year running, and another Essex youngster, **Keith Lawrence**, won the boys' in this class.

Bruno Gilon, of Belgium, gained the only outright overseas success in the Under-13's, where the girls' title went to **Jill Shirley** (Bucks.). **Peter Taylor** (Herts.) and **Bernadette McGrorty** (Kent) were the Under-11's winners.

Overseas youngsters usually take a much bigger share of the titles and it was a welcoming sign to see the home players come through so well. None of the four German boys, placed one in each quarter, got as far as the semi-finals.

Gibbs accounted for Schaffer, after having lost the first game, and Geoff Salter (Surrey) dismissed both Jean Thonnart, the top Belgian, and Giehsel, of Germany, before falling to his former doubles partner, W. Silto (Wilts.) in the quarter-final.

Johns easily beat Steidle in his quarter, while Hydes claimed Schlebbe, the best of the Germans, as well as Gilon (Belgium) in winning through the bottom section.

The semi-finals and final were straightforward, with Gibbs cleverly dictating his way to the title.

Miss Hemmings was made to fight for her title, first by 14-year-old **Judy Heaps**, of Reading, then by Miss Henwood in the final. Miss Henwood has steadied her game and at the same time retained her fire, a most welcome sign. Miss Heap is a young lady to be watched.

Both Gibbs and Miss Hemmings gained second titles in the doubles with David Brown and Evelyn Canham respectively,

while Schaffer gained Germany's only success in the mixed doubles partnered by Margaret Campbell, of Kent.

Miss Henwood set up a remarkable six-years record in winning the Under-15's singles for the second successive year. She previously won the Under-11's and Under-13's titles twice each. At this rate of progress she should move up to take over the senior title next year.

Her final success over Essex colleague **Karenza Smith** was her first in the last four meetings between the two.

They found themselves in opposition in two more finals in this age group with **Karenza** partnering **Jill Shirley** to beat **Linda** and **R. Wilson** (Kent) in the girls' doubles final, and **Linda** turning the tables again in the mixed with **John Rouse** when they beat **Karenza** and **Lawrence**.

Lawrence collected both the boys' singles and doubles with **Tommy Wald**, of Bucks.

The Belgian challenge was most keenly felt in the Under-13's when **Gilon**—Under-11's winner last year—took the boys' singles and the boys' doubles with **Haydon Thomas**, of Wales. **Jill Shirley** gained a measure of revenge for England by beating the Belgian girl **Vanderheuv** in the singles final, and won the girls' doubles with **S. Pacitto**.

Winners of the Under-11's titles were **Peter Taylor** and **Bernadette McGrorty**.

UNDER 17's

Boys' Singles: Semi-Finals: S. GIBBS (Essex) bt M. Johns (Cheshire) 21-18, 21-15. A. HYDES (Yorks.) bt W. Silto

(Wilts.) 11-21, 21-17, 21-18. Final: GIBBS bt Hydes 21-11, 21-13.

Girls' Singles: Semi-finals: P. HEMMING (Herts.) bt I. Sykes (Warw.) 21-7, 21-11. L. HENWOOD (Essex) bt M. Verlinden (Belgium) 21-14, 21-10. Final: HEMMING bt Henwood 21-11, 16-21, 21-18.

Boys' Doubles: Semi-Finals: GIBBS/D. BROWN (Essex) bt C. Hughes (Mid dx.)/S. Seaholme (Herts.) 21-11, 22-20. HYDES/JOHNS bt H. Giehsel/B. Steidle (W. Germany) 21-15, 21-19. Final: GIBBS/BROWN bt Hydes/Johns 21-19, 20-22, 21-11.

Girls' Doubles: Semi-Finals: HEMMING/E. CANHAM (Herts.) bt T. Dann/P. Mewson (Herts.) 21-8, 21-15. HENWOOD/SYKES bt K. Smith/D. Simpson (Essex) 14-21, 21-18, 21-14. Final: HEMMING/CANHAM bt Henwood/Sykes 22-20, 21-8.

Mixed Doubles: Semi-Finals: S. SCHAFER (W. Germany)/Miss M. CAMPBELL (Kent) bt B. Steidle (W. Germany)/Miss M. Walters (Kent) 21-15, 21-17. BROWN/Miss CANHAM bt J. Thonnart/Verlinden (Belgium) 22-20, 21-12. Final: SCHAFER/CAMPBELL bt Brown/Canham 19-21, 21-17, 21-15.

UNDER 15/s

Boys' Singles: Semi-Finals: K. LAWRENCE (Essex) bt J. Rouse (Essex), 21-16, 22-20. P. HARMER (Herts.) bt T. Taylor (Herts.) 19-21, 21-16, 22-20. Final: LAWRENCE bt Harmer 22-20, 15-21, 21-12.

Girls' Singles: Semi-Finals: HENWOOD bt J. Shirley (Bucks.) 21-12, 21-16. K. SMITH (Essex) bt J. Heaps (Berks.) 21-9, 21-12. Final: HENWOOD bt Smith 21-15, 21-18.

Boys' Doubles: Semi-Finals: LAWRENCE/T. WALD (Bucks.) bt B. Gilon/T. Heinen (Belgium) 21-19, 16-21, 21-17. ROUSE/D. BOWLES (Essex) bt M. Wald/R. Napper (Bucks.) 17-21, 21-19, 21-15. Final: LAWRENCE/T. WALD bt Rouse/Bowles 10-21, 21-15, 21-12.

Girls' Doubles: Semi-Finals: SMITH/SHIRLEY bt M. Brown (Essex)/E. Brown (Kent) 21-13, 21-9. HENWOOD/R. WILSON (Kent) bt S. Wadsworth / J. Baynard (Sussex) 21-13, 21-18. Final: SMITH/SHIRLEY bt Henwood/Wilson 16-21, 21-18, 21-12.

Mixed Doubles: Semi-Finals: ROUSE/Miss Henwood bt Harmer/Miss L. Forke (Yorks.) 21-14, 21-18. LAWRENCE/Miss SMITH bt M. Wald/Miss Shirley 21-19, 21-13. Final: ROUSE/HENWOOD bt Lawrence/Smith 21-11, 17-21, 21-19.

UNDER 13's

Boys' Singles: Semi-Finals: B. GILON (Belgium) bt T. Taylor (Herts.) 21-23, 21-17, 21-8. R. NAPPER (Bucks.) bt M. Sykes (Warw.) 21-12, 21-18. Final: GILON bt Napper 21-10, 21-15.

Girls' Singles: Semi-Finals: J. SHIRLEY (Bucks.) bt S. Sandy (Kent) 21-15, 21-4. M. VANDERHEUVEL (Belgium) bt B. McGrorty (Kent) 21-6, 21-7. Final: SHIRLEY bt Vanderheuv 21-7, 21-11.

Boys' Doubles: Semi-Finals: H. THOMAS (Wales)/GILON bt M. Wald/T. Taylor 21-16, 21-15. P. TAYLOR (Herts.)/SYKES bt D. Jacquet/R. Olivier (Belgium) 21-17, 21-19. Final: THOMAS/GILON bt P. Taylor/Sykes 21-4, 21-10.

Girls' Doubles: Semi-Finals: SHIRLEY/S. PACITTO (Bucks.) bt Pat Hemmings (Herts.)/Vanderheuv 21-16, 21-11. C. MANN (Mid dx.)/J. CORNOCK (Warw.) bt McGrorty/Sandy 21-16, 21-14. Final: SHIRLEY/PACITTO bt Mann/Cornock 21-8, 17-21, 22-20.

UNDER 11's

Boys' Singles: Semi-Finals: P. TAYLOR bt R. Hellaby (London) 21-15, 22-20. S. WARBOYS (Essex) bt Olivier 20-22, 21-13, 21-12. Final: P. TAYLOR bt Warboys 21-13, 21-13.

Girls' Singles: Semi-Finals: McGRORTY bt V. Myatt (Kent) 21-14, 21-17. L. WILLMORE (Kent) bt P. Brenchley (Kent) 21-18, 21-14. Final: McGRORTY bt Willmore 21-9, 21-12.



The Mayor of Sunderland, Alderman R. Wilkinson, presents the Torch Trophy Trust Award to Mrs. Jeannie Fowler Reay, at the opening of the Sunderland Table Tennis Club by Dr. W. Thompson, J.P., President of the Sunderland League. The trophy, a replica of the 1948 Olympic Torch, was awarded to Mrs. Reay, wife of ex-international Edgar Reay, for 38 years' voluntary service to the game. Left to right EDGAR REAY, Dr. W. THOMPSON, Mrs. REAY, C. W. BRITTON, Chairman of Sunderland League, Alderman WILKINSON.

Picture by courtesy of Sunderland Daily Echo.

AROUND EAST ANGLIA

Suffolk Wake Up to Youth

A TYPICAL youth coaching weekend by Jack Carrington at the fringe town of Newmarket, has awakened Suffolk to the urgent need for planned concentrated coaching. Despite the limitation of adequate playing facilities, and the small number of keen administrators, a proposal is being made to form a Coaching or Junior sub-committee to decide what resources are available and can be best used.

CAMBRIDGESHIRE

Coaching Session Producing Talent

CAMBRIDGE City made a great start to the South-East Midlands League with a triple success over Peterborough, the men winning 7-3, and ladies 9-1, and the juniors 7-3.

On the form of Paul Chisnall, John Puddick, Brian Wilkin and John Constable, Cambridge should be in for a good run.

Ely, represented by John Ashman, Eddie Sharpe, Reg Dean and Doug Sore, have every reason to be pleased with their debut in the league, for they beat St. Neots 7-3.

Cambridgeshire have made a disappointing start to the County championship, losing 2-8 to Hertfordshire and 3-7 to Hampshire. Valerie Gillan won her singles against Hampshire, the other successes being by Alan Ponder, and the doubles pair Keith Chapman and Roy Nunn.

There is, however, a brighter outlook for the future with some talented young players being produced by the week's coaching sessions at the Y.M.C.A. Coaching is not restricted to the City for sessions are now being held at Swavesey, Linton, Sawston and Sohan.

Impington Village College provided one of the first big upsets of the Cambridgeshire League with a 7-3 win over New Chesterton Institute, the reigning champions. Y.M.C.A. (Ponder, Chisnall and Albert Jackson) are a team to watch as are University Press (Chapman, Nunn and Tony Littlechild).

Y.M.C.A. second and third teams are also doing well, but newly promoted Torchbearers and Great Ouse River Board are finding the going hard.

An interesting position is developing between Sohan Methodists, Hospitals I, St. George's I, and Exiles in the Second Division, while Torchbearers II, with Puddick and veteran Ralph Rust, look promotion candidates in Division IIIA.

Youth blended with experience appears to have paid off with Cambridge City, represented by Chapman, Ponder and Nunn, crushing Stowmarket 8-1 in the Wilmott Cup.

Leslie Constable.

NO MORE

The popular Eagle / Girl table tennis tournament, which annually attracts up to 15,000 entries and was a jumping off ground for many leading players, has discontinued.

Suffolk have started their County Championships programme in depressing style and neither side has yet secured a point. The most encouraging results have been gained by the ladies, with Linda Barrett scoring a brilliant but unexpected win against Betty Cassell, Norfolk's tournament title chaser, and by Jeanne and Dianne Youngs, undisputed winners against Norfolk juniors.

Stowmarket, Suffolk's most go-ahead club, broke new ground when they entertained Norwich in the East Anglian League and made a winning 6-4 debut after having trailed 3-4. Unfortunately the men failed to reproduce the same form a few days later and crashed 8-1 to Cambridge in the Wilmott Cup.

The Suffolk Closed championships have now been arranged for February 13 at Stowmarket, while a start will shortly be made on the Suffolk Top Ten, Leading Ladies and Inter-Town League.

B. C. Buckle

NORFOLK

Shock Defeat for Betty Cassell

NORFOLK made a splendid start in the National County Championships, with six points from their first three matches. They started with two matches on the same day, beating Hampshire 6-4 in a home fixture played at Cambridge, then going on to Huntingdonshire for a 7-3 victory in the evening, at Eaton Socon.

The next success was against Suffolk at Norwich, winning 6-4 after one of the best matches seen there for a long time. Suffolk's Linda Barrett provided a big surprise by beating Betty Cassell, who found it difficult to take her opponent's service. Linda's forehand smashes were equally damaging.

Norfolk had to thank veteran Les Holdom for winning the mixed with Edna Allen and the men's doubles with Neville Graver.

Phillip Graver played with great determination to beat Brian Buckle, while Suffolk's David Mann beat both Neville Graver and Chris Fields.

The same afternoon Norfolk Juniors achieved their first county championships win by beating Suffolk 6-4. Neville Graver and Wesley Haydock scored a "possible" in singles and doubles, while Micky Rooney beat Shade.

Suffolk's twin sisters Jeanne and Dianne Youngs have improved enormously since last season, and Pat Fox and Pat Kelf had to give them best in the doubles. In the singles Jeanne looked

a fine player when beating Pat Fox. This was another splendid match.

Before the start, Jack Penny presented Norfolk Junior Colours to Neville Graver, Wesley Haydock, Pat Fox and Pat Kelf. On last season's performances, David Tasker, Bob Mitchum and David Blanch became the first winners of the new badge, which was designed by Jack Penny.

TRIPLE WINNERS

Neville Graver and Pat Fox were triple winners in the Norfolk Junior Championships which, this year, have been staged separately.

The trophies were presented by our president, Mr. J. W. Meadows.

Boys' Singles: N. GRAVER bt W. Haydock 21-19, 23-25, 21-10; Girls' Singles: PAT FOX bt Pat Kelf 19-21, 21-19, 21-17; Under-15's Singles: P. TYE bt G. Rodwell 21-15, 12-21, 21-15.

Boys' Doubles: GRAVER/HAYDOCK bt Pearson/Tye 21-17, 21-15; Girls' Doubles: FOX/KELF bt L. Tubby/S. Gunton 21-15, 21-13; Mixed Doubles: GRAVER/Miss FOX bt Haydock/Miss Kelf 21-16, 21-16.

The EAST ANGLIAN LEAGUE programme is beginning to engage the attentions of Cromer, Great Yarmouth, Dereham, Ipswich, Lowestoft, Norwich, North Walsham, Stowmarket and Wymondham. Newcomers Stowmarket started their Division I bid with a brilliant 6-4 win over Norwich, but their Juniors went down 4-5 to Yarmouth.

Norwich B have continued their winning way in Division 2 by beating Dereham 9-1 and Lowestoft B 6-4.

Congratulations to League secretary Gordon Harrison and his wife Marion, who was secretary last season, upon the birth of a son.

The seven divisions of fourteen teams which comprise Norwich League are beginning to sort themselves out. Leaders are: I, C.E.Y.M.S., Bullards, Gothic; II, Lads' Club, Sprowston; III, XXI Club, Park Lane O.B., Norfolk Dumpplings; IV, St. Mary Magdalene, XXI B; V, Southalls, Helledon Y.C.; VI, Jewson's C, Unity; VII, Park Lane O.B. B, and Shakespeare Baptists.

Norfolk badly need more County Umpires. Gordon Harrison will be pleased to hear from players who wish to take the new E.T.T.A. written test before attempting their practical.

The first County fixture card has now been issued, and any players who would like one should apply to secretary Eric Fairhead. The fixture card gives the first mention of a new body, the Friends of Norfolk Table Tennis, whose object is to secure donations to help promote the game throughout the county.

J. S. Penny.

HARRY VENNER

(England & Surrey)

Coach to the Champions:

Mary Shannon, Chester Barnes.

Individual Club and Class Coaching.

All enquiries:

14, CRANHAM ROAD,

HORNCHURCH, ESSEX.

HORNCHURCH 46344.

HULL OPEN

PAT THE GIANT KILLER

UNRANKED Pat Dainty provided the upset of the Hull and East Riding Open at Hull on October 31, by beating two ranked players Lesley Proudlock (No. 8) and Cynthia Duncombe (No. 8) to win the women's singles. She proved too consistent for both players with a first class display.

HULL RESULTS

Men's Singles: Quarter-Finals: D. Neale (Yorkshire) bt P. Duncombe (Yorks.) 19-21, 21-1, 21-14; G. Birch (Yorks.) bt M. Sothcott (Yorks.) 21-15, 21-17; D. Schofield (Cheshire) bt B. Hill (Lincs.) 16-21, 21-8, 21-10; S. Lennie (Northumberland) bt L. Landry (Middx.) 18-21, 21-18, 21-14.

Semi-Finals: NEALE bt Birch 21-6, 21-15; SCHOFFIELD bt Lennie 21-17, 21-18.

Final: NEALE bt Schofield 21-17, 21-18.

Women's Singles: Semi-Finals: P. DAINTY (Yorks.) bt P. Bodrog (Yorks.) 21-16, 21-17; C. DUNCOMBE (Yorks.) bt P. Clark (Northumberland) 21-18, 21-15.

Final: DAINTY bt Duncombe 21-14, 21-16.

Men's Doubles: Semi-Finals: A. HYDES (Yorks.) / M. JOHNS (Cheshire) bt G. Livesey/B. Farnworth (Lancs.) 21-16, 21-15; LANDRY/M. SHEADER (Lincs.) bt P. Canham/J. Kedge (Yorks.) 12-21, 21-8, 21-17.

Final: HYDES/JOHNS bt Landry/Sheader 21-11, 23-21.

Women's Doubles: Semi-Finals: DAINTY/F. ROLLING (Yorks.) bt Duncombe/L. Proudlock (Yorks.) 21-16, 21-14; P. CHADWICK (Lincs.)/J. Butt (Yorks.) bt T. Auty/L. Forkes (Yorks.) 21-14, 22-20.

Final: DAINTY/ROLLING bt Chadwick/Butt 21-17, 21-8.

Mixed Doubles: Semi-Finals: NEALE/Miss PROUDLOCK bt D. and D. Schofield 21-18, 21-13; DUNSCOMBE/Mrs. DUNSCOMBE bt S. Bodrog/Mrs. Bodrog (Yorks.) 21-19, 21-17.

Final: NEALE/PROUDLOCK bt Duncombe/Duncombe 21-17, 21-13.

Boys' Singles: Semi-Finals: HYDES bt D. Shaw (Yorks.) 21-13, 21-8; JOHNS bt F. Whiteman (Northumberland) 21-15, 16-21, 21-14.

Final: HYDES bt Johns 21-16, 21-19.

Girls' Singles: Semi-Finals: M. HEPPELL (Northumberland) bt S. Pegg (Derbys.) 21-19, 21-6; L. FORKES (Yorks.) bt J. Miller (Yorks.) 21-8, 21-16.

Final: HEPPELL bt Forkes 21-8, 21-19.

Veterans' Singles: Semi-Finals: H. DIGNAN (Northumberland) bt N. Lusher (Yorks.) 12-21, 21-12, 23-21; K. Michelmore (Yorks.) bt L. Heppell (Northumberland) 21-12, 21-14.

Final: DIGNAN bt Michelmore 21-16, 21-16.

Miss Dainty collected yet another unexpected title in the women's doubles with **Flo Rolling** when they crushed Miss Proudlock and Mrs. Duncombe in straight games in the semi-final then went on to beat Miss P. Chadwick and Miss J. Butt in the final.

Denis Neale won the men's singles as expected but not without some trouble for he dropped the opening game to Peter Duncombe in the quarter final. Neale hit back with a fantastic performance in the second game where Duncombe collected only one point! The third was much closer but Neale's superiority was always obvious.

Neale's semi-final victim was Graham Birch, who had a good win over Alan Ransome. In the final he beat Derek Schofield after two keenly contested games.

Schofield, who still sticks to his rubber bat, showed much of the form of four years ago when he was ranked No. 6. He produced some wonderful hits, which were very much in evidence both in second and third games of his quarter final against Brian Hill, and the final with Neale.

Schofield had the more difficult half of the draw.

Stuart Lennie, of Northumberland showed his best form yet, beating Laurie Landry and running Schofield to 17 and 18 in the semi-final. Lennie should have won the second game when he led 16-3 but he was worn down by the relentless Schofield.

Juniors **Alan Hydes** and **Mike Johns** went through the men's doubles without loss of a game, their final victims being the scratch partnership of Landry and Matt Sheader, who fought their way through the easier half playing as a pair and not individuals.

But it was the local pair, of Bartlett and Pollard who provided the sensation with a first round win over Duncombe and Neale. They hit their way through in great style but did not meet with the same success when they came up against Hydes and Johns, who found themselves in opposition to each other in the Boys' singles final, where **Hydes** won in straight games.

Both received early shocks, Hydes against Paul Canham, and Johns

against both Brian Burn and Peter Whiteman.

Maureen Heppell won the girls singles as expected and **H. Dignam** provided another victory for Northumberland in the veteran singles.

Three of the four pairs in the mixed doubles semi-finals were married couples, but it was the odd pair out, **Neale** and **Miss Proudlock** who won the title.

WARWICKSHIRE NOTES

JUDD DOES WELL

ALL the Warwickshire teams continue their good form but pride of place goes to the juniors who beat Staffordshire by eight games to two, running off the first six games to clinch the tie. This was a particularly good result because they have lost to Staffordshire for the last two years and consequently the Midland Area Title. The star of the match was Ron Judd, who beat Staffordshire's number one, Peter Eaton 21-16, 21-18.

County first team continued their winning ways with a 9-1 win over Monmouthshire, the only game we lost being the surprising turn-around with Maurice Billington who, after winning the first game, was 20-13 up in the second only to find himself the loser with John Mansfield crashing forehand after forehand past him to take the second and win the third 21-9.

County Second team completely outplayed Worcestershire, winning 10-0 and in fact only the ladies' doubles went to three.

Ralph Gunnion has written from America to say he hopes to be available for Warwickshire next season even though his Beatle haircut is causing a certain amount of interest over there.

Birmingham's Open Championships were again held at the magnificent Rover Sports Club Canteen at Solihull. We had the largest ever entry for the men's singles but thanks to the help of Mr. Dixon, the personnel officer at Rover, the tournament went with hardly a hitch and finished in good time. The only home county player on view in two finals was Barbara Carless who had a very good tournament.

The Lilleshall coaching weekend was very well supported and the January course is already half-full. Anyone else wishing to go should contact the County Secretary as soon as possible.

The Birmingham Schools League is booming. The main problem from the County's point of view is where to coach the cream of these players that the League is throwing up. A venue must be found near the centre of Birmingham where three or four tables can be put up for regular coaching of the leading schools players. Any clubs in the Birmingham area who would like to attract young players should contact the Birmingham Association Secretary. We should also like to hear from any League players who would be interested in coaching at various schools.

Roger Morris.

THE BISHOPSGATE TABLE TENNIS CLUB

230, Bishopsgate, E.C.2, has a few vacancies for members for the coming season. The Club meets at 6.15 p.m. every Monday and Friday. Write to the Hon. Secretary, H. A. Packett, 6, Ravenscourt Road, Hammersmith, W.6.

MERSEYSIDE OPEN

By **GEORGE R. YATES**

CHAMPION SELECTOR

EVER since his appointment on to the E.T.T.A.'s senior selection and ranking sub-committee Jeff Ingber has had the bit between his teeth in a wholehearted endeavour to prove that such an appointment is not necessarily one to be bestowed on a back number in the form of a golden handshake.

So, at the Merseyside Open, staged once more in the spacious arena afforded by Messrs. Dunlop's, Speke factory on November 7, Ingber, seeded No. 4, came to conquer, as conquer he did, riding his hobby horse of indignation lest it be universally thought that the door leading to his return to the English rankings was locked, bolted and barred for ever.

One with considerably more summers behind him faced up to the

resolute Ingber in the final — Les Sawyer by name, manager of the Beacontree Centre, Dagenham, a place famed for its pipers.

Sawyer introduced the lament, not for the benefit of the Scots who were there in plenty, but in memory of the fallen whose numbers included the holder and No. 1 seed, Mike Symonds and Derek Schoneld, whose frustrated endeavours earned him but 4 points in his semi-final decider after the Stockport plumber had ousted third seed Brian Hill.

Mated with a timekeeper and hand-book open at the Expedite Rule the umpire could well have been forgiven had he draped his person on an elevated couch. Ingber had intimated his resolve to win and Sawyer had given ample proof of his reluctance to yield a single point.

So the expected marathon began but with the craft of an inshore fisherman casting his lobster pots Ingber brought the points from the deep, his judicious sweeping left forearm strikes reaping their just reward.

Connie Warren, seeded No. 2, found Ronnie Allcock's ears unresponsive to his own verbal lashings and out went Cornelius 22-20 in the third game decider in the second round. Inevitably Allcock fell to Gerald Cooklin to provide the customary anti-climax for the Fallowfield player.

George Livesey played remarkably well to dispose of Kevin Forshaw and gave Ingber a hard fight in the quarters. No glory for Durham's Alan Ransome on this trip — Chester Barnes once being his victim at Speke — out to a majestic Ingber 8 and 3.

If the Essex cause failed to finally prosper in the men's event, Pauline Martin did her county otherwise proud by taking the women's title at the expense of Lesley Proudlock. Also partnering her singles victim to win the doubles, Miss Martin successfully paired with Livesey to complete a splendid treble with the mixed.

Surprise winners of the men's doubles were Sawyer and the veteran champion, Harry Venner, and the

losers the equally surprised Warren and Ingber.

In the phlegmatic mould of Ray Hinchcliffe, Huddersfield's John Kedge took the boys' title with surprising ease from Lancashire No. 1 junior, Jack Frankland, but in the girls' event Maureen Heppell had matters all her own way in a sparse and glitterless field.

Organisation by the Liverpool and District League was of the customary high level but, in fairness to Manchester, the entry was considerably less. There is a moral there, I feel.

MARATHON RECORD

THE Long Playing Habit has moved over to Cambridge University with a new Marathon Record of 40 hours one minute by Pembroke College.

The attempt started at midnight, November 5, and continued until 15.01 hours on November 7, by which time it had topped by five hours the record set up by the Exmouth and District League in July.

The time was checked by at least four accurate and independent sources.

Four players, Chris and Peter Vanier, Robin Gwyn and Alan Cowey, all of whom play in the Cambridge Colleges League, were involved and between them played 14,596 points in 396 games.

Gwyn topped the list scoring 129 wins with a total of 4,265 points, followed by Chris Vanier (103 and 3,833), Cowey (90 and 3,401) and Peter Vanier (74 and 3,097).

A team of 15 umpires under Ron Burgess took it in turn to control the matches as a check on scores and continuity.

A dietician, a doctor and a physical fitness specialist were consulted before the marathon and on their advice liquid and solid intake over the 40 hours consisted of boiled eggs, bread, butter, cheese, cold sliced meats, tomatoes, fruit, orange squash, lemon barley water, fruit juice, glucose tablets, biscuits and coffee.

The purpose of the Marathon was to collect money for the Earl Haig Poppy Day Fund. It was televised on the evening of November 6 and on the Saturday for a period of about two hours play was moved into a nearby street until weather and traffic conditions forced them inside again.

After a celebration dinner the team needed some 13 hours' sleep each but no ill-effects were felt, although there was some staleness in match play the following week.

MERSEYSIDE RESULTS

Men's Singles: Quarter-Finals: L. Sawyer (Essex) 21-5, 21-14; D. Schofield (Cheshire) 21-5, 21-14; D. Schofield (Cheshire) bt B. Hill (Lincs.) 21-19, 17-21, 21-14; J. Ingber (Lancs.) bt J. Kedge (Yorks.) 21-11, 21-13; G. Livesey (Lancs.) bt K. Forshaw (Lancs.) 18-21, 21-12, 21-19.

Semi-Finals: SAWYER bt Schofield 21-19, 14-21, 21-4; INGBER bt Livesey 13-21, 21-16, 21-16.

Final: INGBER bt Sawyer 21-16, 21-16.

Women's Singles: Semi-Finals: P. MARTIN (Essex) bt M. Heppell (Northumb.) 15-21, 21-18, 21-13; L. S. PROUDLOCK (Yorks.) bt D. Fitzgerald (Lancs.) 21-15, 22-20.

Final: MARTIN bt Proudlock 21-16, 14-21, 21-19.

Men's Doubles: Semi-Finals: H. VENNEN (Surrey)/SAWYER bt Hill/A. Corby (Norfolk) 13-21, 21-12, 21-13; INGBER/ C. WARREN (Surrey) bt P. D'Arcy/F. Thomas (Lancs.) 21-16, 21-17.

Final: VENNEN/SAWYER bt Ingber/Warren 21-17, 23-21.

Women's Doubles: Semi-Finals: PROUDLOCK/MARTIN bt S. Moore (Lancs)/D. Schofield (Ches.) 21-4, 16-21, 21-13; M. LEIGH/W. SWIFT (Lancs.) bt P. Dainty/L. Gordon (Yorks.) 21-14, 17-21, 21-12.

Final: PROUDLOCK/MARTIN bt Leigh/Swift 24-22, 6-21, 21-10.

Mixed Doubles: Semi-Finals: SCHOFIELD/SCHOFIELD bt N. Brabrook (Surrey)/Fitzgerald 24-22, 21-19. LIVESEY/MARTIN bt I. Barclay (Scotland)/Heppell 19-21, 21-13, 21-19.

Final: LIVESEY/MARTIN bt Schofield/Schofield 21-18, 21-16.

Boys' Singles: Semi-Finals: J. KEDGE (Yorks.) bt G. Birch (Lancs.) 21-12, 21-16. J. FRANKLAND (Lancs.) bt B. Burn (Northumberland) 21-15, 13-21, 21-15.

Final: KEDGE bt Frankland 21-13, 19-21, 21-12.

Girls' Singles: Semi-Finals: HEPPELL bt K. Pemberton (Lancs.) 21-9, 21-9; M. DALE (Ches.) bt S. Lisle (Lancs.) 21-12, 23-21.

Final: HEPPELL bt Dale 21-6, 21-7.

Veteran Singles: Semi-Finals: H. G. SPIERS (Warwicks.) bt N. Sumner (Ches.) 21-11, 21-7; VENNEN bt E. Pemberton (Lancs.) 21-6, 21-4.

Final: VENNEN bt Spiers 21-14, 21-12.

New issue of E.T.T.A. Handbook

By TOM BLUNN

A NEW issue of the Handbook, the first since 1962, has just been made and distributed to the Leagues. Only those Leagues who have submitted their affiliation forms will so far have received their books and others will be sent as soon as affiliation forms are received.

Leagues have been asked to show on their affiliation forms the number of books they require, but it had never been intended that a book would be available for every club. Every club has been supplied with one book in the past but many leagues had not distributed these and there had been a lot of money wasted.

Under Rule 12 of the new constitution, Leagues are to be supplied with Handbooks but it is no longer an obligation to supply one for every club.

The requests so far have exceeded supply, and some Leagues have asked for one book for each player, and many Leagues have asked for more than one per club. Consequently,

restrictions have had to be placed on supply and leagues have been given approximately 50% of their requirements.

The position will be reviewed again later but it is doubtful if any further books will be available. The cost is roughly 2s. per book and the number printed has to last over three years.

The Handbook contains the essential material to produce an interesting and informative publication and a supplement will be published every season containing lists of members under the various classes of membership, and particulars of County Associations and Open Tournaments. This information is

likely to change substantially each season and must therefore be kept up to date if it is to be of any use.

Although the bulk of the Handbooks has now been distributed, the only Leagues without them should be those Leagues who have not yet returned their affiliation forms to the office.

These Leagues will also find that the name and address of the Secretary in the Supplement will be taken from last season's affiliation form as this would be the only known name and address at the time of going to press.

The Supplement for 1964/65 should be distributed early in December and most Leagues should have them by the time they receive the Magazine.

The distribution of the Supplement will be on a similar basis to that of the Handbook.

MASTER POINTS

by GEOFF HARROWER

LANCASHIRE LEAD THE WAY

WRITING these notes before leaving for Malmo, there is not a lot of fresh news from last month. First of all, may I remind leagues that the closing date for entries is the 15th December. Thank you.

The present number of leagues is 71, the newcomers being Boston, Burnley and Widnes. Thus Lancashire with eight leagues in membership, have taken the lead, countywise, from Essex, seven, and Hertfordshire and Middlesex, six each.

Speaking of counties, no less than 17 have now entered their programme. They are Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, Cambridgeshire, Durham, Essex, Hampshire, Hertfordshire, Middlesex, Norfolk, Northumberland, Oxfordshire, Somerset, Staffordshire, Suffolk, Surrey, Sussex and Worcestershire. Several others are considering entry at their next meeting. Over half the leagues in the country are covered by the 17 shown above, and it should also be realised that several counties exist in name only, just to operate teams in the County Championships, with no other programme.

New Club Masters, in enrolment order, are: Miss J. Wooding, S. T. Hahn, R. Hampson, P. Radford, D. S. Campbell, L. Cooper and L. Moore.

Now, to the claims department. Letchworth put forward the claim that 12-year-old Trevor Taylor must be the youngest player to pass the 250 points mark. Last season he collected no less than 217 Master Points, and by early November had earned a further 51 in the premier division of the North Herts League. He does not actually get these points until the end of the season, of course, and it may well be that there are other very young players in a similar position. It is certainly a fine achievement for one so young, and I hear that ten-year-old brother Peter is piling up points in the Letchworth League. It would seem that Hertfordshire have yet another flow of very young players to keep their County junior side going.

Finally, an appeal to Leagues. Please do give me enough time to send you certificates to award at your closed championships. Those leagues who have entered their championships in the scheme, therefore, should let me have the number of entrants for each event entered at least six days before the first day of their championships. There is nothing like the award of certificates during a tournament to stimulate interest. Many thanks.

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: 26/29, Park Crescent, London, W.1 (Telephone: LANGHAM 6312).

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).

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS

6d. per word prepaid (minimum 12 words).
Box Number, including postage, 2s.

GOODS FOR SALE

CLOTH CLUB BADGES made to your own design, any quantity. Low prices, quick delivery.—S. A. Cory & Company, 20 St. John's Hill, London, S.W.11.

DRAW SHEETS

DRAW SHEETS for 64 entries—1/6 each. 20 for 27/6. Result Pads 3s. per pad of 100 leaves. Available from Walthamstow Press, Guardian House, Forest Road, London, E.17.

CLUB PREMISES TO LET

TO LET, W.C.2. Self-contained social club premises, lower ground floor; also club rooms, 2 weekly evening.—W. H. Smith, Memorial Institute, Macklin Street, W.C.2., or HOL 2438.