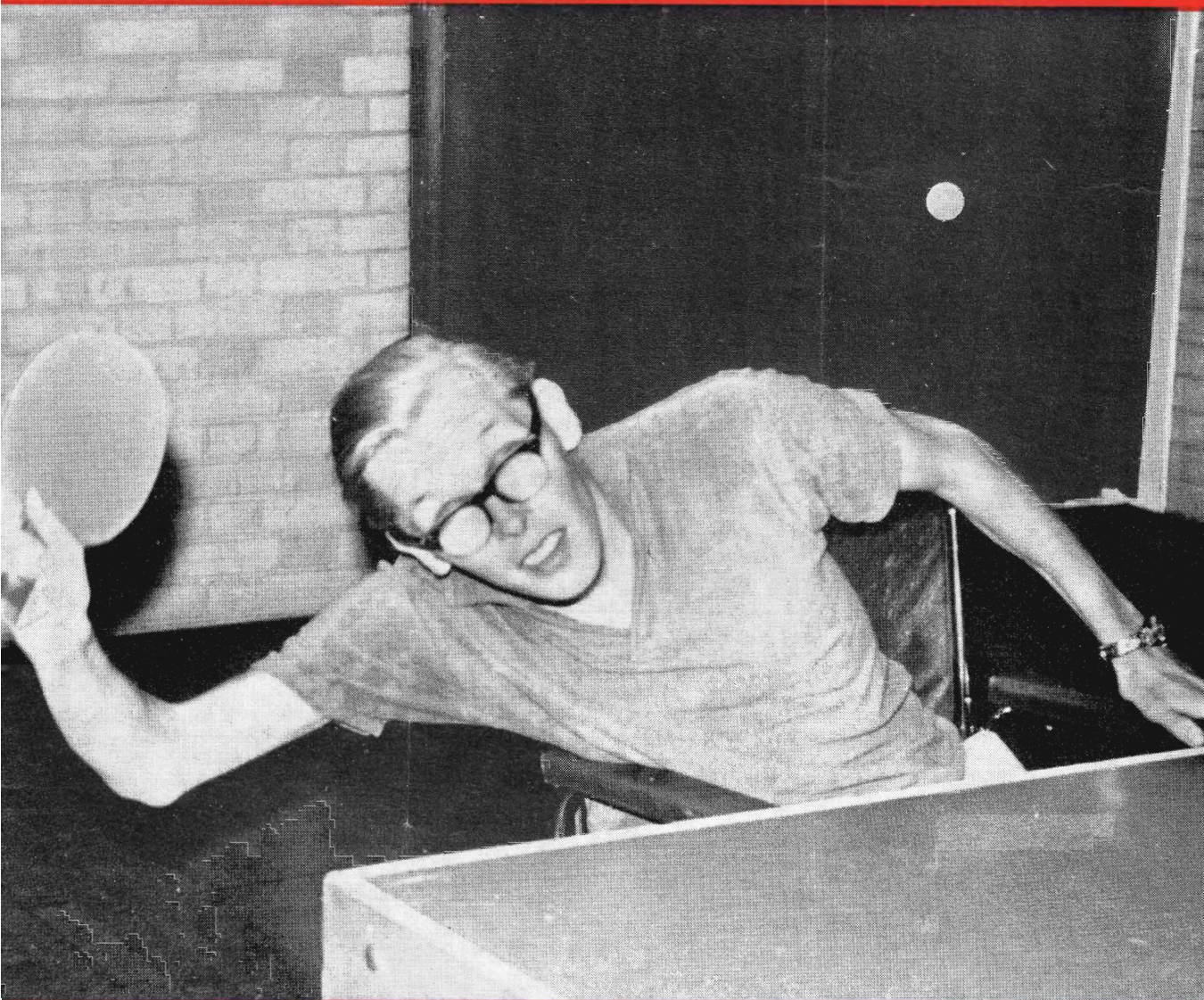


MARCH, 1965
ONE SHILLING

Table Tennis

*The Official Magazine of the
English Table Tennis Association*



PHILIP LEWIS, a member of Britain's team at the Paraplegic Games, demonstrates Table Tennis from a wheelchair. See page 10.

Table Tennis

Official Magazine of the

English Table Tennis Association

Edited by W. HARRISON EDWARDS

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No. 6

The Scoop of a Decade

AS this issue goes to press news is announced of the biggest event in English table tennis since the staging of the World Championships in London in 1954. The E.T.T.A. has pulled off the scoop of the decade by arranging for a visit to this country of teams from China and Japan in the early part of May. The Association took the initiative months ago in inviting China and since then has heard that not only Japan but also other Asian countries would like to come here in the near future.

Unfortunately, the Association's resources make it necessary to refuse the other requests on this occasion. All efforts will be bent to make the visit of our Asian friends, who are seen too rarely in Europe, a memorable one. Negotiations and preliminary arrangements for an ambitious programme were put under way within minutes of the end of a six-hour Management Committee meeting to discuss plans.

On present arrangements the Japanese team will be in this country from April 28 to May 5, during which time it is intended that three international matches will be played at venues in London, Birmingham and Leeds. The Chinese arrive on May 7 and it is hoped will play matches at London and Liverpool before returning home a week later.

19 WORLD PLACES

The impending visit prompts speculation about the relative strengths of the two countries. At the World Championships at Prague in 1963 China took the Swaythling Cup and provided the Men's singles and doubles champions. Japan won the Corbillon Cup, the women's singles and doubles, and the mixed doubles titles. As a result of this players from the two countries occupy no fewer than 12 (China 9, Japan 3) of the 19 places on the Men's world ranking list issued for the coming championships and 10 (China 7, Japan 3) out of the same number of places of the Women's list.

Basing their views on the results of recent competition between the two countries, there are those who think that Japan will break the Chinese

By NORMAN REEVE

supremacy which was so overwhelming in Prague two years ago. News that the Japanese Association intends to send its team to Europe well in advance of the championships, notably for an extended spell of training and toning up in Sweden, certainly confirms that they are making a determined effort.

Our own players have been given hitherto unequalled opportunities for international play and training this season as a result of the imaginative and progressive efforts and ideas of the Association's Secretary and the National Selection Committee. It is thanks to them that the chances of our players in Yugoslavia in April need not be written off. Our men players are capable of improving our world standing in the team classification: as indeed do our ladies, who are excellent prospects for the Corbillon Cup and certainly for the Ladies' doubles title.

PENHOLDER v. WESTERN

As champions of Europe their main opposition will be from China and Japan and the old controversy of penholder versus western grip will inevitably arise. This will be heightened by the opportunity of actually seeing the players in action when they come here.

Is this really a better grip? Would European players have the same success with it or is it particularly suited to the physical attributes of Asian players? Are there any variations of the penholder grip and how are they employed and to what purpose? These questions and many others but, above all, should English players be encouraged to change?

The discussion will continue long after our visitors have returned home. What is certain, however, is that their visit will provide a spectacle, and sparkle an enthusiasm and enjoyment which has been unparalleled for a long time, writing another chapter in the distinguished history book of achievements in English table tennis over the years.

AROUND THE WORLD

TRAINING IN JAPAN

SWEDEN'S Kjell Johansson and Hans Alser are leaving nothing to chance in their bid to make a serious challenge to the Asian domination of the world championships. Both have gone to Japan for a final tuning up.

In addition to Johansson and Alser, Sweden's team for the world championships will be: Karl-Johan Bernhardt, Stellan Bengtsson, Goran Allvin, Christer Johansson, Lennart Oden, Bo Persson, Lena Rundstrom, Eva Johansson, and Birgitta Walfridsson.

Bernhardt won the singles in East Germany, where Sweden, without Johansson and Alser, were runners-up to Hungary in the team event.

HUNGARY

NEW RANKINGS

MEN: 1, Berczik and Rozsas; 3, Pignitzky; 4, Harangi; 5, Fahazi; 6, Harcsar; 7, Papp; 8, Kocsis; 9, Belezmai; 10, Borzsei.

WOMEN 1, Foldi; 2, Jurik; 3, Lukacs; 4, Papp; 5, Voros; 6, Szarvas; 7, Poor; 8, Kishazi; 9, Maklari; 10, Hegedus.

CANADIAN ROUND UP

from Jose Tomkins

JOHN McLENNAN, Jr., and Helen Sabaliauskas emerged winners of the men's and women's Class "A" singles in the record-entry Toronto Open at Agincourt, Ontario, on February 7. McLennan defeated Max Marinko, the holder, after the expedite rule had been enforced, while Helen beat Denise Hunnius, the holder and Canadian No. 1, in the semi-final before going on to win over Velta Adminis, the Ontario No. 1.

Barbara De Abreu, from British Guiana, a student at Toronto University, teamed with Howie Grossman to win their second mixed doubles title of the season.

Denise Hunnius and Helen Sabaliauskas retained the women's doubles, while Modris Zulpis and Laimon Eichvalds took the men's doubles from Grossman and Martin Ivakitsch.

RESULTS

MEN: A Singles: J. McLENNAN bt M. Marinko 22, 10, 10. B Singles: R. BICKERSTAFFE bt J. Nesukaitis 17, 18, 9. C Singles: P. SIKLOS bt J. Shaller —9, 20, 13, —17, 13. D Singles: V. TAPEY bt S. Pike 9, 15, 13.

Senior Singles: J. NESUKAITIS bt J. Klaiber 16, 17, 18.

Doubles: M. ZUPLS/L. EICHVALDS bt H. Grossman/M. Ivakitsch 17, 19, —19, 19.

WOMEN: A Singles: H. SABALIAUSKAS bt V. Adminis 15, 15, —17, 18. B Singles: R. LANGE bt M. Kerr —11, —16,

10, 19, 9. C Singles: D. DE ABREU bt A. Spavins 17, 10, 12.

Doubles: D. HUNNIUS/H. SABALIAUSKAS bt V. Nesukaitis/B. De Abreu 16, 9, —9, 18.

Mixed Doubles: H. GROSSMAN/D. DE ABREU bt J. McLennan/J. Tomkins 19, —21, —12, 15, 15.

Although Violetta Nesukaitis, a 13-year-old schoolgirl, lost in this tournament to Denise Hunnius she has won two women's "A" titles so far this season, beating top ranked players in the process. She won the Central Canada Open in Toronto in December and the Sarnia Open in January.

Canadian players did well in the United States Easterns in Rochester in January, bringing home four "firsts" and six "seconds." Max Marinko was the outstanding player for Canada, losing in the final to Martin Doss, but beating Bobby Gusikoff in the quarter-final. Max won the senior singles over John McLennan, Snr. Violetta Nesukaitis took the Junior Miss singles and Denise the mixed doubles with Harry Hirschowitz of New York.

Canada's team for the world championships will be: **MEN:** Mike Behan, John McLennan, Jr., and Modris Zulpis. **WOMEN:** Velta Adminis, Helen Sabaliauskas and Jenny Marinko.

The four girls are currently playing a series of round robin matches with other top-ranked players as part of their preparation.

SCHOLER KEEPS TITLE

by Clem Gruber

ALL titles except the men's singles, retained by Eberhardt Scholer, changed hands in the German National Championships at Wiesloch on January 23-24. Scholer was taken to five games by Martin Ness before winning —20, 19, 18, —23, 16.

The big upset was in the women's singles with a first round defeat for Ingrid Kriegelstein, the defending champion, by Lang, the junior champion. The title eventually went to Edit Buchholz.

Men's Singles: SCHOLER bt Ness —20, 19, 18, —23, 16. **Women's Singles:** BUCHHOLZ bt Siebert 16, 7, 18.

Men's Doubles: GOMOLLA/GOMOLLA bt Scholer/Forster 13, 17, 17. **Women's Doubles:** LERSOW/KRUGER bt Buchholz/Dauphin 20, —18, 14, —20, 17. **Mixed Doubles:** GOMOLLA / BUCHHOLZ bt Scholer/Kriegelstein 14, 25, —16, 8.

The German team for the world championship is: **Men:** Scholer, Gomolla, Freundorfer, Micheiloff, Arndt, Dahlmann. **Women:** Buchholz, Kriegelstein, Simon, Siebert, Lang, Kruger.

TV and T.T.

AT the request of the North Middlesex League we are publishing correspondence which has passed between them and the E.T.T.A. for readers' comment.

Ref.: INTERNATIONAL MATCH
ENGLAND v. HUNGARY

Dear Mr. Lowen,

I have been instructed by the Executive Committee of the North Middlesex Table Tennis League to protest strongly about the time the above mentioned match was started without having previously notified the respective Leagues in the area who were asked to advertise this match on your behalf.

On arriving at the match there was no poster on show stating that the match had already started, and I must admit that I was one of the people caught on this occasion, on entering the hall at 2.00 p.m. as advertised there was only one men's single to be played to conclude the men's match.

I have also been asked to enquire about claiming monies spent on tickets which in our opinion was a waste.

Although we must admit the girls put a wonderful show we still bought tickets to see a complete match.

R. T. SAILES,

Hon. Gen. Secretary, North Middlesex T.T.L.

Dear Mr. Sailes,

I much appreciate the views expressed by the Executive Committee of your League with reference to the early start which was made in the men's match but this was brought about by the film which the B.B.C. hoped to show early in the afternoon being destroyed by fire which meant them having to utilise our event between 1.00 p.m. and 2.00 p.m.

I appreciate that this fact probably does not interest you to any great extent in view of the fact that we advertised the match to start at 2.00 p.m. However, the plain answer to this question is that if the B.B.C. are paying us the facility fee to bring the Hungarians to this country then they have the final say as to transmission times, whether we like it or whether we do not. The pure answer to this is that if the B.B.C. are playing the tune then we have got to dance to it and at the present time we are unable to do anything else about this matter because they are acting as the "employers" of us on these particular occasions. Once our members get it into their heads that we are not a big enough body, nor do we have the capital behind us, to organise such trips as bringing the Hungarians to England ourselves without the help of the B.B.C. then the better it will be for us all. However, for the present anyway with the B.B.C. giving us the opportunity to play these matches they must have the final say on transmission times and this is the pure reason why we on that Saturday had to start an hour earlier than we wanted to.

Answering your point on claiming money back spent on tickets, which in your opinion was a waste, you will have to take this matter up with the Box Office at Tottenham Town Hall. They staged this match on our behalf, the E.T.T.A. did not receive any gate profits from this match (purely the television fee) but I do think it most unfair that your members should take this attitude when our girls put up such a fine show in beating Hungary 5—0. For my money the girls' match was far better than the men's match which I thought was a dreary affair in comparison. Finally I apologise for any inconvenience caused any of your members through the early start but I hope you will be able to explain to them that this was a matter beyond our control and I must say is likely to happen from time to time when the B.B.C. or Commercial Television are paying us the fee in order to bring the players from abroad to this country.

PETER LOWEN,
Secretary, E.T.T.A.

PILOT SCHEME A GREAT SUCCESS

THE pilot scheme under which Surrey and Kent County Associations have collected affiliation fees on behalf of the E.T.T.A. this season has proved an unqualified success.

Surrey county secretary Colin Clemett tells me that as a result of the new arrangements Surrey had their county rebate two months earlier than usual, and I understand this has meant that for once county treasurer Fred Joyce has not had to subsidise the county funds in the early part of the season.

Fred Joyce comments: "I found the new idea of paying all fees to the county was very acceptable to the leagues. It got the fees in quicker, and I sincerely hope this method of collection will become standard throughout the country."

NO PROBLEMS

In Kent the scheme also worked extremely well, and county treasurer Don Mitchell encountered no problems, except that one league still paid direct to the E.T.T.A. in ignorance of the new procedure. The league? Beckenham, in which Don himself plays!

After this season's experience, Kent

by Conrad Jaschke

and Surrey will certainly again undertake the task of collecting E.T.T.A. fees next season. Other County Associations would do the E.T.T.A. a real service if they would apply to do the same. It really means very little—if any extra work—to collect E.T.T.A. fees together with the county fees; on the other hand the accumulative time saving to the E.T.T.A. would be considerable if all counties were to accept this extra responsibility.

As anyone in touch with the E.T.T.A. office knows, our secretary, Peter Lowen, has a constant battle against time, not just keeping abreast of the routine work, but going after a hundred and one different new ideas and schemes to promote table tennis and to keep the E.T.T.A. flag flying. Here is an opportunity for counties to take a small bit of the load off his shoulders.

And of course the scheme has the full support of E.T.T.A. treasurer Tom Blunn. Counties willing to help should write to him at once, so that

arrangements for next season can be made well in advance.

So, you county treasurers, may we have your support? Please write to Tom Blunn, 43 Headlands Drive, Hessle, East Yorkshire, if your county is willing to help.

Three for Piddock

TONY PIDDOCK maintained the Kent domination of the Civil Service Championships at K.E.B. Hall, London, on January 25-29 when he retained his singles title and went on to complete a triple success.

Barbara Carless, of Warwickshire, last season's triple champion, retained only one of her titles, the women's doubles with Mrs. P. Rainsbury. Evergreen Margaret Cherry staged another comeback to outwit Mrs. Carless in the singles final.

There was an increased entry, particularly from outside London.


Men's Singles: **A. PIDDOCK** bt H. Buist 19, —16, 12. Women's Singles: **M. CHERRY** bt B. Carless 13, —14, 20.

Men's Doubles: **PIDDOCK/L. COOPER** bt R. Bolton/M. Pitts 19, 17. Women's Doubles: **CARLESS/P. RAINSBURY** bt M. Know/B. Landimore —14, 21, 17.

Mixed Doubles: **PIDDOCK/Mrs. KNOW** bt A. Cornish/Mrs. Carless 21, —13, 20.

Veteran Singles: **K. CRAIGIE** bt R. Carter 9, 15. Intermediate Boys' Singles: **L. WOODING** bt J. Roberts 14, 14. Intermediate Girls' Singles: **C. OLIVER** bt M. Mudgell 17, 12. Boys' Singles: **J. DAVIES** bt C. Vesco 13, —19, 15.

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Michael Maclaren's Glamour Choice

ANN FRANCES LEACH

BORN with a famous surname, ANN FRANCES LEACH, age 21, is this month's glamour girl choice. But here any resemblance to Johnny Leach ceases . . . I am glad to say.

Ann, 5 feet 9 inches tall and a shapely 34-24-37, lives in Sutton with her parents and sister Janet. She has been playing table tennis for three years and is just entering the tournament field, having played in the recent South of England Open.

Trained in Classical ballet, her other big interest, Ann took up table tennis through the sports club at the Insurance Office where she is a secretary.

She plays mainly in the lunch time but such is her progress that she was runner-up, with A. Wright, in the mixed doubles at the Insurance Offices championships and also reached the last eight of the singles.

Entirely self taught, Ann admits she would like some coaching. And an attractive young lady like this should not have difficulty in finding someone who would be willing to undertake such a pleasure.

Ann prefers the attacking game, while the two players she likes to watch are Diane Rowe and Ian Harrison.

Outside table tennis she likes watching ballet and also listening to classical music. She is interested in all sports.



Wales make progress

ONE of the best "Quadrangulars" on record. That was the general verdict after England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales had fought out their annual battle at Milford Haven.

The organising of an event so far from Headquarters as Milford Haven is always a problem, but Joe Ackroyd and his team took care of that and with the Esso Club deserves all credit for a job well done.

In keeping with the splendid organisation Wales made a spectacular jump from "wooden-spoonist" to runners-up

behind England, who won without dropping an event.

Dennis Samuel showed a welcome return to form, beating Jim Dow in a quick hitting game and Wales went out to a 5-0 lead. Then we began to slip but the stop came in time and we won 7-3.

Margaret Phillips, who had beaten Lesley Barrie and won the doubles with Sandra Morgan, continued her good form against Ireland, where she was again unbeaten in a 6-4 win.

Samuel, although losing to Jim Langan, the best non-English player, sealed the Welsh victory with a great win over Cliff Thompson.

England were much too strong for Wales but George Evans and Samuel excelled in both taking a game from Chester Barnes, while Miss Morgan and Miss Phillips went to three games against Diane Rowe and Jean McCree.

The Welsh Open is now back on the calendar and will be held at the Dumbries Place Drill Hall, Cardiff, on March 19-20. The West Germans will be there to defend their titles, and on March 19 will meet the combined Welsh-English team at Rogerstone.

Another international touch this month is the visit of the Czechoslovakians who come straight from the English Open to visit Swansea on March 8 and Tredegar on March 9. Chester Barnes and Mary Shannon will accompany the Czechs.

SENIOR AND JUNIOR DOUBLE

D. BROWN (Lloyds) scored a senior and junior double in the singles and also won the mixed doubles in the Insurance Offices Championships on February 5. Miss D. Simpson, his mixed partner, just failed to emulate him, losing the senior singles final to Mrs. A. Hewitt.

Men's Singles: D. BROWN (Lloyds) bt P. Kirkland (Royal London) 20, 12. Women's Singles: A. HEWITT (Northern) bt D. Simpson (Sebrot) 14, 18.

Men's Doubles: G. SAVAGE (Lloyds)/KIRKLAND bt J. Tuttle (Pearl)/J. Barry (Royal Ex.) 18, —15, 18. Women's

Doubles: HEWITT/M. CLEGG (Northern) bt Simpson/J. Atkins (Hearts of Oak) 17, 18. Mixed Doubles: BROWN/MISS SIMPSON bt A. Wright/Miss A. Leach (Unicity) 16, —21, 15.

Junior Men's Singles: BROWN bt M. Pond (Sun) 10, 12. Junior Women's: SIMPSON bt A. Purnell 5, 13. Veteran Men's: D. HERRINGTON (Unicity) bt A. Wright, Snr. (Unicity) —21, 15, 17. Veteran Women's: J. TRAVELLER (Lloyds) bt S. Grieve 14, 12.

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.

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A Clean Sweep for England

by RON CRAYDEN

THE Sixth International Quadrangular Tournament at the well appointed recreational club of Esso's, Milford Haven, on the second weekend of February resulted in a clean sweep for England. In most cases the English players were clearly better than the opposition but many interesting and entertaining games took place.

OPENING MATCHES

The tournament officially opened on the Friday evening and the arena was courted for the progress of two separate matches. In one court the host country, Wales, with their new-found spirit and vigour, slammed Scotland; while on the other England dealt severely with the green-shirted Irish.

The anticipated Caffrey v Merrett battle came up to expectations and

DETAILED RESULTS

England bt Ireland 10-0 (B. Merrett bt C. Thompson 11, 5; bt T. Caffrey 18, —14, 19; C. Barnes bt Caffrey 18, 13; bt J. Langan 13, —17, 15. D. Neale bt Langan 20, 14; bt Thompson 12, 14.

Diane Rowe bt Elizabeth Reid 14, 7. Jean McCree bt Betty Butler 15, 16.

Rowe/McCree bt Reid/Butler 14, 13. Barnes/Neale bt Langan/Caffrey 17, —13, 13.

Bt. Scotland 10-0: Merrett bt J. Dow 16, 10; bt M. Sugden 10, 6. Barnes bt Sugden —20, 12, 11; bt R. Kerr 13, 13. Neale bt Kerr 16, 13; bt Dow 15, 15.

Rowe bt Olive Hawkins 8, 13; McCree bt Lesley Barrie 12, 9.

Rowe/McCree bt Barrie/Hawkins 9, 10. Merrett/Neale bt Sugden/Dow 13, 12.

Bt. Wales 10-0: Merrett bt G. Gear 15, 14; bt G. Evans 6, 14. Barnes bt Evans —13, 9, 13; bt D. Samuel 11, —11, 12. Neale bt Samuel 13, 8; bt Gear 13, 18.

Rowe bt Margaret Phillips 12, 5. McCree bt Elizabeth Gray 14, 8.

Rowe/McCree bt Sandra Morgan/Phillips —17, 14, 13. Barnes/Merrett bt Evans/Gear 17, 23.

Wales bt Scotland 7-3: Samuel bt Dow 19, 16; lost to Kerr —14, —16. Evans bt Kerr 14, 10; lost to Sugden —16, —11. Gear bt Sugden 16, 15; bt Dow 15, 17.

Morgan lost to Hawkins —13, —17, Phillips bt Barrie 11, 16.

Morgan/Phillips bt Barrie/Hawkins 21, 16. Evans/Gear bt Dow/Sugden 15, 16.

Bt Ireland 6-4: Evans bt Thompson 14, 15; bt Caffrey 16, 19. Gear bt Caffrey —13, 15, 16; lost to Langan —13, —14. Samuel lost to Langan —15, —15; bt Thompson 17, 16.

Phillips bt Reid 19, —18, 13. Morgan lost to Butler —13, —16.

Morgan/Phillips bt Reid/Butler 12, 15. Evans/Gear lost to Langan/Caffrey 11, —21, —13.

Ireland bt Scotland 7-3: Thompson lost to Kerr —10, —15; lost to Dow 19, —17, —18. Caffrey bt Sugden 20, —17, 14; bt Kerr 14, 19. Langan bt Dow 16, 18; lost to Sugden 18, —21, —15.

Reid bt Hawkins 16, 17. Butler bt Barrie 8, —10, 15.

Butler/Reid bt Hawkins/Barrie 18, 17. Caffrey/Langan bt Dow/Sugden 13, 15.

only the unquenchable spirit and determination of Bryan prevented him from going under.

The afternoon session on the Saturday brought joy and jubilation to the Welsh contingent, when, after a dour struggle, they got home against the

favoured Irish team. For Ireland, little Jim Langan played with much skill and enterprise to take both his singles and then paired with Caffrey to win the men's doubles . . . but all to no avail. He got no support and Ireland crumbled and crashed.



JIM LANGAN

England had a comfortable afternoon at the expense of Scotland, chalking up another ten-nil victory.

The final session got underway to a full house and although there were

some fine games, there were no sensations. Ireland recovered their composure and form to trounce Scotland, while England preserved their unblemished record by "white-washing" the gallant and improved Welsh team.

From the Welsh point of view this was a successful weekend, one to give them hope for the future. They finally finished in the second position and their organising of the whole event was outstandingly efficient and beyond criticism.

Perhaps the saddest note of the weekend was struck when Bryan Merrett mentioned that he was shortly retiring from the international scene, which he has graced for so many years. It seemed fitting, therefore, that in honour of his great number of England appearances the Milford Haven T.T. Club had decided to present him with a handsome commemorative gift. Although it was coincidental, this dovetailed with what no doubt was Bryan's farewell performance.

Merrett's successful career spans some 13 years, during which he has been an inspiration and an example to all.

LEICESTERSHIRE

by PHILIP REID

A Family Affair

HUSBAND and wife, Mick and Rita Beith, were among the honours in the Y.M.C.A. Open Championships. Rita won the women's singles, while Mick partnered Ernest McLeish to take the men's doubles. Singles winner was Colin Truman, while Charlie Jacques and Pauline Jackson collected the mixed doubles.

John Corral won the junior singles and Robin Spring the Under-15's title.

COALVILLE LEAGUE: The Closed championships provided five games finals for both men's singles won by R. Stevens (Eagle Works) against Mick Saunders, and the doubles where Doleman (War Memorial/Waters (Cascelloids) scraped home at 21, —16, —19, 21, 22 against Carter (Ravenstone)/Bates (Nethersea).

Grieves, who have dropped only one point, are favourites for the First Division title. Whitwick Colliery should take the Second Division.

ROSE JOHNSON BOWL: The semi-final draw is: Leicester Y.M.C.A. or Holy Trinity (Loughborough) v Knighton Park; Viaduct II v Nazarenes.

John Corral (Nazarenes) has been the

outstanding player of the competition.

MIDLAND LEAGUE: Against Wall-sall the Intermediates drew 5-5 but the Juniors, for whom Corral made an impressive debut, won 6-4.

LEICESTER and DISTRICT LEAGUE: There is tremendous keenness in the lower divisions. Post Office II look certain to win Division 5A, and A.E.I. Lamps II lead in 5B. John Crouch has 100 per cent record for Ind Coope, leaders of 6A.

Cluison and Kemp, newcomers to the league, have the championship look in 7A, while 7B looks like going to Syston W.M.C. II.

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THE NATIONAL CUPS

Gloucester and Sutton March On

THE Wilmott Cup and Rose Bowl national team competitions have reached the quarter-final stages with Gloucester and Sutton, the respective holders, making most of the running.

Gloucester, able to call on Ian Harrison and Bryan Merrett, swept aside Wembley's challenge at 8-1 and now face Staines for a semi-final place.

The availability of star players can have a big effect on a team's progress as Harrogate discovered when they had to face Sunderland without Denis Neale and were beaten 7-2. Had Neale, who was on international duty, played he would possibly have just tipped the scales.

FACTS TO FACE

But these are the facts that leagues have to face when they enter the competition. To hold back dates until the stars were available would lead to chaos and it is doubtful if matches would ever be finished to the dead line.

Manchester and East London

appear the strongest challengers to Gloucester, although Manchester first have a tough quarter-final with Bolton.

Sutton, whose star is Mary Shannon, made short work of Staines, while Manchester and Birmingham had one-sided wins over Great Yarmouth and Liverpool respectively.

Sutton now meet Wembley, who include Irene Ogus, while Manchester are at home to North Herts, and Birmingham visit Bletchley. The remaining tie brings together Plymouth and Romford.

Plymouth received a walk over when East London were scratched for failing to fulfil their match in time.

WILMOTT CUP

RESULTS

THIRD ROUND

Sunderland bt Harrogate 7-2.

FOURTH ROUND

Bolton bt Oxford 6-3; Manchester bt Bedford 9-0; Willesden bt Southampton 5-3; East London bt Brighton 5-4; Gloucester bt Wembley 8-1; Staines bt Woolwich 5-3; Chesterfield bt Cambridge 8-1.

QUARTER-FINALS—DRAW

Chesterfield v Sunderland or Leamington; Bolton v Manchester; Willesden v East London; Gloucester v Staines.

ROSE BOWL

RESULTS

THIRD ROUND

Liverpool bt Burnley 9-0; East London bt Willesden 8-1.

FOURTH ROUND

Manchester bt Gt. Yarmouth 9-0; North Herts. bt Barnsley 6-3; Bletchley bt Sunderland 6-3; Birmingham bt Liverpool 9-0; Wembley bt Southampton 5-1; Sutton bt Staines 6-1; Romford bt Hastings 7-2; Plymouth w.o. East London scr.

QUARTER-FINALS—DRAW

Manchester v North Herts; Bletchley v Birmingham; Wembley v Sutton; Plymouth v Romford.

WORCESTERSHIRE CLOSED

R. Lush and Mrs. D. Henderson each won two titles in the Worcestershire Closed at Malvern on January 31. Lush won the men's singles, and men's doubles with R. Preece, while Mrs. Henderson partnered Mrs. D. Edwards to win the women's doubles, and M. Richard to take the mixed title.

RESULTS

Men's Singles: R. Lush b M. D. Yeates 21-12 16-21 21-16. **Women's Singles:** B. Williams b J. Lloyd 17-21 17-21 21-12. **Veterans' Singles:** P. Thomas b R. Hall 21-17 9-21 21-15. **Boys' Singles:** M. D. Yeates b I. McCallum 21-18 19-21 21-10. **Girls' Singles:** A. Baker b A. Wood 21-10 21-19.

Men's Doubles: Lush/R. Preece b M. Hawkins/R. M. Goode 21-18 16-21 21-13. **Women's Doubles:** D. Henderson / D. Edwards b D. Turberfield/M. Hough 21-11 19-21 21-16. **Mixed Doubles:** G. E. Holland/Mrs. Henderson b M. Richards/Mrs. S. Randle 21-13 21-15. **Junior Doubles:** M. D. Yeates/S. A. H. Lloyd b I. McCallum/M. Morris 21-11 21-4.

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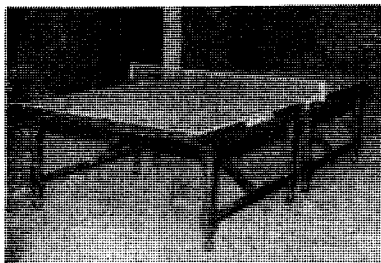
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We are still trying to trace other missing orders and inquiries, and any clubs whose correspondence has not received proper attention are asked to contact us.

We have always been proud of our service, which is now back to its normal efficient state, and will welcome fresh inquiries from old and new customers.

Paraplegic Table Tennis

by WILLIAM PRESTON

A GLANCE at the heading to this article and I can well imagine many readers asking, what are Paraplegics? Well, they are fit people, just like you or I with the exception that their lower limbs are paralysed due to some unfortunate accident or illness and they are confined to a wheelchair.

But they are people of tremendous determination who refuse to let such a handicap prevent them taking part in a wide range of sports. Yes, even table tennis, and they produce a quality of play which is unbelievable, and a style unique in the game.

Each year paralysed sportsmen and women from all over Britain gather at Stoke Mandeville Hospital for the Paraplegic Championships. Competitors are grouped into four classes, depending upon their degrees of disability. Thus there are four singles titles for both men and women.

DOUBLES MODIFICATION

Doubles are also played but here, because of their restricted mobility, there has to be a slight modification of the normal rules. Partners are not

WILLIAM PRESTON, M.C.S.P., the author of this article, is a member of the staff of the Stoke Mandeville Hospital, which does such great work in this direction. The sports movement was inaugurated as a form of rehabilitation. The spinal unit of the hospital has just celebrated its 21st anniversary.

restricted to playing the ball alternately and the service instead of being delivered from the right hand side is played through both diagonals of the table, with the competitors' chairs remaining stationary at the four corners.

Paraplegics bring a surprising amount of movement into their game and do not just sit and use one arm. They use the non-striking arm to lift, turn and bend so as to return all that gets over the net.

The game, obviously, is played at a lower level. This, in many ways, is an advantage, for balls which we would consider too low to hit hard, can be winning shots from a wheelchair by a simple pushing forward stroke of the bat.

Ninety per cent of the table surface can be covered, and this includes the

area just in front of the net, for all paraplegics are flexible enough to touch the net with their bats, providing they have average length of arms.

Spin is utilised to the same degree of precision, and as they sit close to the table, their reflexes are accelerated so as to produce an attractive, fast, attacking game, with all the thrills and tensions, which make table tennis a sport equal to none.

OWN OLYMPICS

Paraplegic sport has now become international and in Tokyo last year they took over the Olympic Stadium for their own Games. Unlike the Olympics, the Paraplegic Games included table tennis, and Britain led the way with six gold and six silver medals.

In Class "A" Tommy Taylor and Michael Beck, who trained at Chaseley Home, Eastbourne, completed the double by both reaching the singles final and winning the doubles. Victory was again ours in Class "B" with Paul Lyall beating Romero, of Argentine, while George Swindlehurst and Jimmy Gibson were runners-up to a Japanese pair in Class "C."

Susan Masham, playing as well as ever, reached the Class "B" final, losing to Kuhnelt, of Austria, and was successful in the doubles with Gwen Buck.

Incidentally, Susan Masham, in addition to her table tennis honours, won three silver medals in the swimming events at breast-stroke, back-stroke and free-style.

Margery Cooper and Diana Thompson were runners-up in Class "C" doubles.

Most of these players, and many others, play in normal league programmes to gain more experience and practice during the winter months. Philip Lewis, who has solely trained at Stoke Mandeville Hospital, plays for the hospital team in the Aylesbury League, and so far this year has a 75 per cent success record.

The Paraplegics succeeded in Tokyo because the British authorities appreciate the courage of paralysed people and have accepted them in fit persons' leagues and clubs. Please continue to accept their challenge so that in the future we can continue to lead the world in Paraplegic table tennis.



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The Wheelchair Champions. Top: SUE MA'HAM. Gold Medal doubles winner in Tokyo, with GWEN BUCK (centre). Top right: PHILIP LEWIS and RON ANDERSON, and bottom left: GEORGE SWINDLEHURST, who has represented England in Rome, Brussels and Tokyo.



Rumanians boost T.T.

Says GEOFF HARROWER

BRENTWOOD and Newbury enjoyed some great table tennis when the Rumanians followed up their match against England with two successful fixtures against the International Club. The good done for the sport far outweighed who won or lost and the games were neither pure exhibitions nor dour internationals. Although everyone tried to win they did so attractively.

The Rumanian party, which included their chairman, Mr. Stanciu, and famous pre-war star Paneth, now their trainer, were lavishly entertained.

Top executives of Selo Ltd. attended the Brentwood match, while the Mayor, Councillor R. H. Burgess and Mrs. Burgess entertained the Rumanians to tea at Newbury Town Hall before watching the match.

LESLEY'S WIN

On the playing side the scintillating performance of Lesley Bell in beating Maria Alexandru will be remembered as will the match between Diane Rowe and Ella Constantinescu. Dorin Giurgiuc, strangely out of touch in the preceding Saturday's international, was terrific. He attacked like a man

possessed and neither Brian Wright nor Denis Neale could contain him.

Giurgiuc was again in top form at Newbury, beating both Wright and Ian Harrison. It seemed impossible to keep him off the attack. Harrison tried everything but stood no chance.

Mrs. Alexandru, fully recovered from a nasty cold, beat Marv Shannon in an excellent match, while Mrs. Constantinescu prevented Lesley Bell obtaining a great double in another fine singles.

Miss Bell and Irene Ogus had two fine doubles matches with the Rumanians, taking a game each night. And both matches were well worth watching.

At Brentwood: I.C. 2, Rumania 4: E. D. Wright lost to D. Giurgiuc —11, —9; D. Neale lost to Giurgiuc —15, —17.

Miss L. Bell bt Mrs M. Alexandru 20, 20; Miss D. Rowe bt Mrs. E. Constantinescu 13, —19, 13.

Neale/Rowe lost to Giurgiuc/Constantinescu —17, —17; Bell/I Ogus lost to Alexandru/Constantinescu 22, —16, —15.

At Newbury: I.C. 1, Rumania 5: E. D. Wright lost to D. Giurgiuc —15, —12; I. O. Harrison lost to Giurgiuc —15, —15.

Miss M. Shannon lost to Mrs. M. Alexandru —19, 17, —16; Miss L. Bell lost to Mrs E. Constantinescu —18, —21.

Wright/Shannon bt Giurgiuc/Alexandru 15, 18; Bell/Ogus lost to Alexandru/Constantinescu 18, —14, —17.

Challenge to Young Britain

by David Redhead

A GAIN this year the *Daily Sketch* will issue its "Challenge to Young Britain." This scheme was launched last year for the first time, when young Britons in their late teens and early twenties were invited to show the general public that the youth of this country was the exact opposite of the image created by the "Mods and Rockers" riots. They were asked to demonstrate their sense of responsibility, toughness and moral fibre by carrying out a series of tests.

These tests, requiring physical and mental alertness, combined with a social conscience, were set in the *Daily Sketch* and culminated in the finalists being brought together for arduous tasks which were carried out under expert surveillance and the public eye.

This again will be the basis of the scheme. All young people in the age group of 16 to 21 years will receive the challenge. They will be asked to form themselves into teams of three.

There is no prize of a personal nature but the winning teams will earn the right to give away £1,000 to a worthy cause which they will nominate before entering the final tests.

IMPORTANT BACKING

The scheme had the practical backing last year of the Hon. Angus Ogilvy, Sir John Hunt, Sir Charles Maclean, Christopher Chataway, M.P., Denis Law and the Rev. David Sheppard. These personalities were enthusiastic about the scheme, and already this year the Hon. Angus Ogilvy, Sir John Hunt, Christopher Chataway, M.P., Rev. David Sheppard, Sir Charles Maclean and Jeffrey Smith have expressed their support. Many more outstanding people will be forthcoming.

The Challenge will start in the *Daily Sketch* on Monday, April 26. Registration forms will appear from that date for one week.

Details of the 1965 tests are not yet available, but they will be similar to the following, which were used in 1964:—

- 1. Imagine an appeal for help has been received from a local charity. You are required to devise and carry out a scheme to raise not less than £2.

The method used must not involve the direct collection of money, but must be the selling of a service or a commodity to the general public.

- 2. Obtain the original signature of a well-known personality, and send it in for inclusion in a giant

autograph book which will be auctioned for charity.

- 3. Travel as a team as far as you can inside 8 consecutive hours. The team must not

- (a) spend more than 3s.;
- (b) leave the British Isles;
- (c) use school passes, season tickets, aircraft, cars, motorcycles, scooters, mopeds;
- (d) hitchhike.

Send confirmation in writing of distance travelled.

These are just a sample of tests which covered a wide range of activities. The *Daily Sketch* want young people from every walk in life to enter and prove their worth to their seniors. Will you try?

LANCS. and CHESHIRE

GRAVEYARD REVISITED

MANCHESTER revisited Burnley, the scene of the 1962-3 disaster, which ended their nine years' reign as first division champions, and once again found it the graveyard to their hopes of regaining their lost crown.

They were beaten 6-4. Jack Keogh led the demolition squad, his treble being supported by a brace from Douglas Hodgson and an all-important solo from Peter Cragg.

Champions Stockport also received a setback when, lacking the service of Roger Hampson and Alan Crossley, they yielded a point to doomed Liverpool.

Stunned by the shock passing of Liverpool's Rena Crafter, in hospital, on February 3, the sorrow on Merseyside was shared by friends and acquaintances throughout the two counties. Sympathy is extended Mrs. Ivy Crafter, son Bill, and daughter Judith, by all who came into contact with Rene, staunch member of the Liverpool League's management committee and tower of strength at CADWA Hall.

After spending most of the season in London and Manchester, David Frohlick returned to his native Blackpool on February 6 to retain his singles title of his league's closed championships. He disposed of Norman Groom in the quarters, Jack Frankland in the semi's and Gordon Beardsworth in the final 21-16, 21-16.

SURREY

SHORTAGE OF YOUNG GIRLS

THE shortage of young girl players in Surrey has been illustrated in the Under-17 Inter-League tournament. Due to illness Leatherhead had to face Wandsworth with just two boys, while Wandsworth in their turn opposed Croydon without a girl in the side and did well to force a draw in the six match event.

There are strong suggestions that Connie Warren, No. 7 in national ranking, will not be considered for internationals because of possible lack of control at the table. He must conquer that irritating habit of carrying out a running commentary during play, which is surely just as big a handicap to him as it is annoying to opponents.

DEVELOPING GROUND

Geoff Salter, winner of the South of England boys' singles, is Surrey's most successful male tournament player. He is finding the Bernard Crouch matches a valuable developing ground and next season could find him in a higher bracket.

Despite the brilliance of Mary Shannon, Surrey have been unable to find an outstanding doubles pair. They are now trying David Lowe as Mary's partner and hope this will be the answer.

Jim Forrest.

by GEORGE R. YATES

Women's singles winner was Marjorie Wade who beat Marion Sidwell while Jack Frankland retained his junior title but only after a tough fight with David Murty.

Beardsworth collected two doubles titles the men's with Harold Nixon and the mixed with Pat Gleeson, with Miss Sidwell teamed with Pat Smith to win the women's doubles.



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YORKSHIRE NOTES

by Malcolm Hartley

Hull's History Making Final

HISTORY is not every boy's cup of tea. But the table tennis teenagers of Hull Y.P.I. think it's great—when they are making it themselves.

They carved their own niche in the annals of the Yorkshire game when both first and second teams reached the final of the youths' county inter-club championship to make sure of the trophy for the fourth year running and sixth time in all.

In the semi-finals the first team (Paul Canham, Graham Birch, Ian Middleton) trounced Harrogate Wanderers 8-1 and the second team (David Hider, Michael Addy, Stewart Pickering) knocked out Barnsley North End 5-4.

Results of the all-Y.P.I. final was 8-1, Hider taking the odd set for the second-teamers.

Dewsbury Nelson (Pam Bodrog, Kathleen Sykes, Barbara Hodgson) reached the women's final by dealing with Abbeydale Park 9-0 but Barnsley North End are odds-on favourites for their eighth success.

Two hat-tricks and a double hat-trick were recorded in the **Huddersfield Closed**.

Mavis Dyson was crowned women's champion for the sixth year running

(and 11th time); **John Kedge** swept to his third successive youths' title (beating Les Crowe in the final); and **David Hirst** completed his third men's singles triumph with a 22-20, 21-18 victory over Raymond Hinchliff after emerging from a gripping semi-final with Kedge by 22-20 (from 15-19), 24-22 (from 16-20).

Hinchliff/Kedge defeated Hirst/Malcolm Mear 22-20 in the third game of the men's doubles final; **Hirst** and **Margaret Scaramuzza** overcame Stuart Sykes and Yvonne Jessop to take the mixed; and **Dyson/Scaramuzza** were women's doubles champions.

Jim Cockburn ceded his veterans' title to **Frank Townend**. Y.M.C.A. (Hirst-Mear-Kedge) stopped

challengers Brook Motors 10-0 for the second time to take a firm grip on the Huddersfield League championship.

Huddersfield seem certain to retain the Yorkshire inter-league Division I championship. John Kedge was unbeaten in the 7-3 success against improved Hull.

Sheffield's second team have been outclassed and have mustered only four sets out of 60. Three of those were against Leeds, whose victory made them safe for another season. Len Browning and Ray Swain each earned two singles.

York became the first team to take a point from Hull "B," leaders of Division II. David Lamb and Francis Gregoire were both in good form and accounted for all York's sets. Harrogate are still hoping to overhaul Hull for they clash in the final fixture.

Dewsbury's Barry Lightowler won three titles at the British Railways North-Eastern area Championships at York; Irene Pollard carried off the women's title.

GLoucestershire Closed Returns

THE Gloucestershire Closed makes a welcome re-appearance after two years, on April 3. It should be well supported.

The County Junior side have not done as well as expected and a contributing factor could well be the lack of continuity in the provision of a home venue. This matter is being received with an eye to the future.

The Premier Division side maintain their steady progress and the 6-3 win over Lancashire should strengthen their position in the table.

J. P. Rowe.

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RUSSIAN and CZECH TOUR

From LEN ADAMS

The Girls Carry England Again

ENGLAND met with somewhat mixed success on the recent tour of Russia and Czechoslovakia, which emphasised certain weaknesses that must be overcome if we are to do well in the World Championships.

Diane Rowe and Mary Shannon, as usual, had to carry the main burden and provided our only success in Russia, winning the women's doubles. But even they were upset in the team event, taking second place to Russia's first team who had beaten them 3-0.

CZECH OPEN

Men's Singles: Semi-Finals: K JOHANSSON (Sweden) bt I. Korpa (Yugos.) 16, 16, 19. H. ALSER (Sweden) bt Stanek (Czech.) 16, —19, 15, 12. **Final:** JOHANSSON bt Alser —13, 12, —16, 17, 7.

Women's Singles: Semi-Finals: M. SHANNON (England) bt M. Luzova (Czech.) 19, 19, —13, —16, 21. D. ROWE (England) bt S. Lukacs (Hungary) 15, 15, 10. **Final:** SHANNON bt Rowe 18, 16, 15.

Men's Doubles: Semi-Finals: MIKO/STANEK (Czech.) bt Bernhardt/Alvin (Sweden) 9, 14, 17. JOHANSSON/ALSER (Sweden) bt Korpa/Vecko (Yugos.) 14, 13, 12. **Final:** JOHANSSON/ALSER bt Miko/Stanek 14, 17, 9.

Women's Doubles: Semi-Finals: ROWE/SHANNON bt Lukacs/Papp (Hungary) 13, 5, —16, 9. KRIEGLSTEIN/E. BUCHHOLZ (W. Germany) bt Luzova/Bosa (Czech.) —16, 19, 16, 19.

Final: ROWE/SHANNON bt Kriegelstein/Buchholz 16, 17, 15.

Mixed Doubles: Semi-Finals: FAHN-RICH/HOVESTADT (E. Germany) bt Miko/Luzova —17, 21, 18, 20. HARSAR/LUKACS (Hungary) bt Stanek/Bosa (Czech.) —11, 17, 6—20, 19.

Final: HARSAR/LUKACS bt Fahnrich/Hovestadt 3-0.

Men's Team: SWEDEN bt Czechoslovakia 3-1.

Women's Team: ENGLAND bt Czechoslovakia 3-2.

ENGLISH RESULTS

MEN'S SINGLES:

Neale bt Kolev 8, 9, 9; bt Miko 15, 10, 9; lost to Alser —12, —10, 12, —14.

Barnes lost to Dvorak —11, 18, —14, 10, —13; Consolation Singles: lost to Jirman 15, —9, —11 (C).

Symonds lost to Kudrnac —16, —16, 19, 17, —14; Consolation Singles: bt Seliga 7, —19, —8; bt Kowalski 21, 18; lost to Flalsinger 14, 16.

WOMEN'S SINGLES:

Shannon bt Alexandrova 18, 14, 11; bt Karlikova Jacke 10, 7, 16; bt Calinske 12, 11, 13; bt Luzova 19, 19, —13, —16, 21; bt Rowe 18, 16, 15.

Rowe bt Simbora 10, 6, 12; bt Karlikova Jitka 20, 10, 9; bt Bosa 7, —16, 16, —14, 16; bt Lukacs 15, 15, 10; lost to Shannon —18, —16, —15.

MEN'S DOUBLES:

Symonds/Jullens lost to Stanek/Miko —15, 20, —16, —16.

Barnes/Neale bt Kirin/Kolev 19, 13, 18; lost to Kollarovitz/Kudrnac —11, —18, —14.

WOMEN'S DOUBLES:

Rowe/Shannon bt Senkova/Kinova 18, —18, 17, 15; bt Pirc/Jecmenica 14, 12, 6; bt Lukacs/Papp 13, 5, —16, 9; bt Buchholz/Kriegelstein 16, 17, 15.

MIXED DOUBLES:

Barnes/Rowe bt Jullens/Simakova 8, 12, 20; bt Harangi/Papp 9, —19, 17, 9; bt Miko/Luzova 11, 9, 12.

Neale/Shannon w.o. Gerdzikov/Willinger; bt Kudrnac/Senkova 9, 10, 13; lost to Harsar/Lukacs 13, 20, —19, —19, 16.

singles, losing to Rudnova in straight games. She then beat Jurik of Hungary in the play-off for third place.

Miss Rowe lost in the second round to Grinberg, who produced a spell of wonder hitting when 14-16 down in the fifth. She eventually lost in the final to Rudnova in three close games.

These two Russians inflicted a doubles defeat on Mary and Diane in the team events, but it was an unsatisfactory match in which a strong protest was made about the serving of the Russian girls. Too often at vital points they served from outside the edge of the table.

Give the Russians their due they were prepared to replay the match, but the point had sunk home and it paid dividends when our ladies beat Rudnova and Grinberg in the semi-final of the doubles event.

OLD FIRE

He is something of an enigma, brilliant at times yet on other occasions so poor that it is unbelievable. Several Russian officials, surprised by his Jekyll and Hyde display, expressed disbelief that he could be the English champion. And who can blame them when he fell to the lesser known Russian players?

It was the same in Czechoslovakia where he went out in the first round to Dvorak over five games, then lost in the first round of the consolation singles to Jirman, another little known player.

EASILY STOPPED

Denis Neale did not live up to the form he had shown earlier in the season and was easily stopped in both Russia and Czechoslovakia by Hans Alser, of Sweden. Although he took a game in Czechoslovakia, Neale has lost the sparkling speed which characterised his European performances. A return to his physical training programme is essential if he is to produce a consistently high standard.

Mike Symonds won through two rounds in Russia, beating the conqueror of Berczik, then, after a first round in the Czech event, had two wins in the consolation.

Miss Rowe and Miss Shannon were off colour and did not start too well, with Mary suffering four defeats. Her loop was often a weakness against the quick hitters. Nevertheless, she reached the semi-final of the women's

Miss Rowe and Miss Shannon had found much of their old fire by the time they arrived in Czechoslovakia and, with the exception of the mixed doubles, they swept all before them, winning the team event, fighting out the final of the singles and once again winning the doubles.

Surprise opponents in the team final were the Czech third team, who had accounted for both Czech I and Hungary. And what is more they took the English girls to 3-2; Mary losing both singles.

Miss Shannon had little serious opposition in the singles until she came up against Luzova, of Czechoslovakia, in the semi-final. This was a fluctuating match, going the full distance with Miss Shannon winning 23-21 in the fifth after being 19-16 up and 19-20 down.

Miss Rowe also had a five-setter against Bosa in the quarters but beat Lukacs in straight games in the semi-final and lost to Shannon in straight games.

They had no serious problems in the doubles, where their final victims were the West Germans Kriegelstein and Buchholz.

Sweden's Kjell Johansson and Hans Alser dominated the men's events both in Russia and Czechoslovakia, fighting out the singles finals at both, and also winning the doubles and team event.

Johansson, the European champion,

beat Alser in straight games in Russia but was taken to five games in the Czech final.

The Russians Averin and Brodski, who had beaten Berczik and Pignitski in the semi-final, made little impression on the Swedes in Moscow, but it was at the Czech meeting where Johansson and Alser had their best win, beating the European champions Miko and Stanek of Czechoslovakia.

The Czech mixed doubles provided another success for Hungary, Harcsar and Lukacs winning in straight games against Fahnrich and Hovestadt. Earlier Neale and Shannon should have disposed of the Hungarians in straight games, being two up and 19-17. They were also 19-all in the fourth.

This was Russia's first big international tournament and they were able to show how much progress they have made. The characteristic of their play is a good spin service (when legal) and a strong two-wing attack.

Table tennis has become extremely popular in Russia and they now boast over two million players, of whom 800,000 are schoolchildren.

RUSSIAN INVITATION

Men's Singles: Semi-Finals: ALSER (Sweden) bt Vardamian (U.S.S.R.) 3-2. JOHANSSON (Sweden) bt Novikov (U.S.S.R.) 3-0. **Final:** JOHANSSON bt Alser 18, 10, 19.

Women's Singles: Semi-Finals: RUDNOVA (U.S.S.R.) bt Shannon (England) 19, 8, 20. GRINBERG (U.S.S.R.) bt Jurik 3-1. **Final:** RUDNOVA bt Grinberg 18, 13, 20.

Men's Doubles: Semi-Finals: ALSER/JOHANSSON bt Symonds (England)/Harczar (Hungary) 10, 7, 9. AVERIN/BRODSKI (U.S.S.R.) bt Berczik/Pignit'ki (Hungary) 3-1. **Final:** ALSER/JOHANSSON bt Averin/Brodski 15, 13, 17.

Women's Doubles: Semi-Finals: ROWE/SHANNON (England) bt Rudnova/Grinberg (U.S.S.R.) —12, 10, —16 15, 11. LUKACS/JURIK (Hungary) bt Paisarev/Palash'te (U.S.S.R.) 3-2. **Final:** ROWE/SHANNON bt Lukacs/Jurik 12, 15, 23.

Mixed Doubles: Semi-Finals: NEALE/SHANNON (England) bt Harcsar/Lukacs (Hungary) 8, 16, —15, 18. PIGNITSKI/JURIK (Hungary) bt Barnes/Rowe (England) —14 16 11. —14, 19. **Final:** PIGNITSKI/JURIK bt Neale/Shannon —20, 20, —11, 15, 19.

Men's Team: Winners: SWEDEN. Runners-up: Russia.

Women's Team: Winners: RUSSIA. Runners-up: England

ENGLISH RESULTS

MEN'S SINGLES:
Symonds bt Kalnin 17, —19, 19, —17, 18; bt Sanhoyan 19, 17, 17; lost to Vardania 20, —10, —16, —22.
Barnes bt Sarhosan 19, 17, 17; lost to Dimitrov —12, —10, 19, —14.

Neale bt Romanov 14, 9, 14; bt Brodski —19, 12, 20, 15; lost to Alser —14, —10, —17.

WOMEN'S SINGLES:
Rowe bt Paisanev 10, —7, 7, 18; lost to Grimberg —16, —16, 10, 18, —16.

Shannon bt Vasleva 20, —17, 18, 18; lost to Rudnova —19, —8, —20 (semi-final); bt Jurik —15, 16, 11, —19, 16 (for third place).

MEN'S DOUBLES:
Barnes/Neale lost to Symonds/Harczar —19, 17 —13, 16. Symonds/Harczar bt Amelin/Novikov —20, 17, 18, 16; lost to Alser/Johansson —10, —7, —9; lost to Berczik/Pignit'ki —18, 18, —8, —17 (play-off for third place).

WOMEN'S DOUBLES:
Rowe/Shannon bt Parfindi/Porgorova 18, 5, 17; bt Rudnova/Grinberg —17, 10, —16, 15, 11; bt Lukacs/Jurik 12, 15, 23.

MIXED DOUBLES:
Neale/Shannon bt Novikov/Vasileva 9, 20, 16; bt Harcsar/Lukacs 8, 16, —15, 18; lost to Pignitski/Jurik 20, —21, 11, —15, —18. Barnes/Rowe bt Bernhardt/Vasileva —17, 17, —15, 17, 14; lost to Pignitski/Jurik 14, —16, —11, 14, —19; bt Harcsar/Lukacs 14, —18, —18, 20, 19 (for third place).

WOMEN'S TEAM

bt Russia (under 18) 3-1; bt Russia (under 20) 3-1; lost to Russia (1) 0-3; bt Russia (2) 3-0; bt Hungary 3-0.

MEN'S TEAM

lost to Russia (2) 2-5; lost to Russia (under 20) 2-5; lost to Sweden 1-5; bt Russia (under 18) 5-1; bt India 5-4.

NEVER PLAY WITH YOUR WIFE

by Bill Edwards

IF you want to enjoy your table tennis don't play with your wife. That was the advice given to Peter Duncombe before he married Cynthia Blackshaw last September. And he is now beginning to find out how sound that was.

The Duncombes, of Doncaster, have been one of the most successful mixed doubles partnerships in the country: but now they are considering breaking up . . . for table tennis that is.

"We argue and natter at one another when things don't go just right, which is something we never did before we were married," said Peter. "And we carry on the arguments at home."

Here Cyn'hia chipped in to suggest, "It is because we are emotionally attached."

"I wouldn't believe Stuart Dyson when he told me this would happen," said Peter, "but there is one thing, we didn't notice a difference until we started winning a few tournaments. I suppose when you have some success you get edgy. However, for the sake of domestic peace we will probably find new partners."

The Duncombes tried an experimental parting in the Midland Open, exchanging partners with Maurice Billington and Jackie Canham, who

are engaged to be married and have already been warned what to expect. It worked so well that Peter and Jackie beat Maurice and Cynthia in the final.

Look through the records and it is rare that there is a reference to husband-and-wife partnerships in top class play. Indeed, I cannot recollect any, although there are plenty of instances of table tennis players marrying one another.

ONLY IN CLUBS

In the lower standards of club play it is a different matter. There are plenty of married partnerships and the reason here is that pressure is not so great. They are playing for fun, rather than the serious side of championship honours.

Table tennis is not unique in this respect. Turn to lawn tennis and the position is very similar, with the married players in most cases wisely choosing other partners for on the courts.

NORTH WALES

RHYL STRONGLY PLACED

FOLLOWING a 7-2 win over Llandudno, Rhyl are in a strong position to retain the Inter-League First Division Championship.

Wrexham easily beat East Flintshire 8-1, while Llandudno "B" just beat Rhyl "B". Llandudno avenged an early season defeat by Rhyl in the Junior Division, winning 8-1. Wrexham Juniors had to fight hard all the way for their odd set win over East Flintshire. Wrexham beat East Flintshire 5-4 in the Women's section where they share the lead with Rhyl.

North Wales made a second visit to Chester, but were beaten this time, although Ray Richards (Wrexham) and Max Shone (Llandudno) won their matches.

The Welsh Club Team Championship has attracted a record entry of 29.

The following players have passed the County Umpires test: K. Vickery, G. Silver, J. Order, G. Neatham, H. M. McEvoy (all of Rhyl); E. Thomas, C. Tiley, S. Wyatt, H. Maddison (all East Flintshire).

The League Cup semi-finals are: East Flintshire: 1, E. P. Sandycroft "A" v John Summers; 1, E. P. Sandycroft "B" v Mold Y.C.

Rhyl: Clwyd "A" v Towyn; Rhyl Youth "A" v Methodist.

Twenty players complete the North Wales club tour of Holland, which takes in matches in Amsterdam and Dordrecht.

R. Williams.

SOUTH OF ENGLAND OPEN by John Corser**TREBLE FOR PAULINE**

THE South of England Open now attracts a much more modest entry than a few years ago but what it lacked in class it made up for in excitement at Croydon on February 12-14.

Roy Morley, of Gloucestershire, won the men's singles, but he was the only seed to survive the quarters.

Derek Basden, of Kent, was the losing finalist, but for a long time he threatened to upset even this last hope of the seeding committee's original choice.

Basden, who had already accounted for Terry Densham and Vic Ireland (semi-final), took the initiative from the start with a determined and varied attack to win the first game. Morley levelled at game-all and the decider see-sawed wildly to 20-all, with both players missing match points before Morley edged out at 27-25.

It was an example of the modern game at its best; both players deserve praise for their sustained aggres-

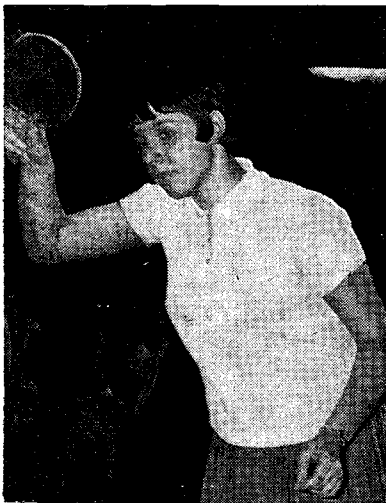
sion, their flexibility in switching between attack and defence, and Basden in particular for his high top spin defence.

Neville Braybrook had a good run, putting out Dave Lowe and Les Haslam before falling to Morley in the semi-final.

The women's singles final in which Pauline Martin beat Jackie Canham was somewhat tame, although it went to three games. Miss Canham started aggressively and ran up a six points lead only to lose her confidence when Miss Martin tightened her game. Miss Canham survived a match point in the second game but could not contain the Essex girl in the decider.

Miss Martin went on to complete a treble by winning the women's doubles with Miss Canham and the mixed with Ken Baker.

The men's doubles went to Terry



PAULINE MARTIN



ROY MORLEY and DEREK BASDEN

Densham and Mike Creamer, while Geoff Salter and Pauline Hemmings won the junior singles.

Men's Singles: Semi-Finals: D. S. BASDEN bt V. C. Ireland 17, —16, 16; R. MORLEY bt M. Brabrook 10, —17, 12. **Final:** MORLEY bt Basden —15, 10, 25.

Women's Singles: Semi-Finals: J. CANHAM bt S. Hession 18, 21; P. MARTIN bt G. Sayer —12, 17, 11. **Final:** MARTIN bt Canham 19, —20, 15.

Men's Doubles: Semi-Finals: MORLEY/D. LOWE bt L. Gunn/R. Stace 8, 16; J. T. DENSHAM/M. J. CREAMER bt H. Venner/G. Muranyi 19, 13. **Final:** DENSHAM/CREAMER bt Morley/Lowe 18, —9, 16.

Women's Doubles: Semi-Finals: MARTIN/CANHAM bt P. Hemmings/E. Canham 16, —14, 16; G. SAYER/B. SAYER bt M. Piper/J. Head 19, 15. **Final:** MARTIN/CANHAM bt Sayer/Sayer 19, 15.

Mixed Doubles: Semi-Finals: R. CHANDLER/Miss Hession bt Morley/Miss B. Sayer 19, —19, 18; K. BAKER/Miss MARTIN bt Lowe/Miss H. Lambert 20, 13. **Final:** BAKER/MARTIN bt Chandler/Hession —15, 16, 19.

Boys' Singles: Semi-Finals: G. SALTER bt J. Howsam 19, 11; R. HARPER bt B. White 14, 15. **Final:** SALTER bt Harper 18, 17.

Girls' Singles: Semi-Finals: HEMMINGS bt E. Canham 13, 20; J. SHIRLEY bt J. Napper —18, 13, 19. **Final:** HEMMINGS bt Shirley 16, 11.

CHAMPION ALL THE WAY

DAVID DAVIES made a clean sweep of the Southampton Closed, winning every event for which he entered. He beat Bill Draper in the singles final; won the men's doubles with Tony Ward; the mixed with Christine Holes, and for good measure carried off the handicap singles from minus 14.

The women's singles final brought the Holes twins together with Pauline taking the title. They combined to win the women's doubles.

The junior singles was won by Bob Egerton, while Fred Saunders retained the veterans crown.

Southampton's Wilmott Cup and Rose Bowl successes were terminated by Willesden and Wembley respectively.

Coaching has become very active in Bournemouth, and the local Y.M.C.A.

was the venue of a recent Coaches Conference, attended by representatives from Portsmouth, Winchester and Southampton, and of course Bournemouth.

Two Fine Wins for Mary

MARY SHANNON enhanced her world championship prospects by beating Maria Alexandru, world's No. 1 seed, and Ella Constantinescu in England's 6-2 win over Rumania at Tottenham on February 20. They were two workmanlike wins to follow up her success in the Czechoslovakian Open.

Denis Neale added to his list of wins over top continental stars by beating Dorin Giurgiuca in straight games. Chester Barnes also beat the Rumanian holder of the English Open but he

needed three games.

Ella Constantinescu figured in both Rumanian successes, beating Diane Rowe and pairing with Giurgiuca to overcome Wright and Miss Shannon.

Results: D. Neale bt D. Giurgiuca 21, 15. G. C. Barnes bt Giurgiuca —23, 16, 12. M. Shannon bt E. Constantinescu 17, 17, bt M. Alexandru 18, —16, 16. D. Rowe bt Alexandru 13, 10; lost to Constantinescu —19, —18.

Rowe/Shannon bt Alexandru/Constantinescu 14, 18. B. Wright/Shannon lost to Giurgiuca/Constantinescu —18, 21, 21.

BILL MILDENHALL

HIS very many friends will have heard with the deepest regret of the death last month of Mr. W. H. "Bill" Mildenhall after several months' illness. One of the gentlest, kindest and most jovial of men, Bill endeared himself to all with whom he came into contact for his qualities of character and the warmth of friendship he extended so freely and readily. He was a man—and there are few—of whom it may be truly said that he was never known to speak ill of anyone.

His greatest love, after his devoted wife Betty, was table tennis. It is perhaps fitting, therefore, that the last thing he read was the January issue of "Table Tennis." A player of very modest performance he devoted his time and energy to administration at all levels of the game.

He was a tireless worker for over twenty-five years for the Wembley and Harrow League, of which he was Chairman until he moved from the district into retirement a few years ago.

A Vice-President of the Middlesex Table Tennis Association, he was for many years a member of the Middlesex County Committee and hardly a national event passed without Bill being there. And there too, always, was Betty; both ever ready to take on any task however tough, tedious or menial, without regard to personal inconvenience or cost. The first helpers to arrive at any event and the last to leave, and, meanwhile, the most hardworking and reliable.

The London circuit has already felt their absence since they moved down to the coast, but it is hard to realise that we shall not be seeing Bill again at even the major events. His countless friends will wish to extend their deepest sympathy to Betty, for someone for whose friendship and acquaintance so many were richer and for whose passing so many—including table tennis—are the poorer.

NORMAN REEVE.

National Umpire

Arthur Horn, the former chairman of Hampshire T.T.A., who now lives in Kent, has recently passed his examinations as a National Umpire. He is only the fourth National Umpire in Kent.

FAMILIES LINKED



TWO prominent Kent table tennis families are linked with the engagement of **DEREK BASDEN** and **CHRISTINE CARTER**, regular members of the county team, seen here.

Both are Woolwich players and figure in the county rankings, Derek at No. 2 and Christine at No. 3.

Derek's father, Stan Basden, is a Kent selector and a coach, while Christine's father, Len Carter, is a former chairman of Woolwich and District T.T.A.

JUNIOR SPOTLIGHT

by **LURIE LANDRY**

NO LACK OF GIRLS

ENGLAND will not be lacking for girls in the junior international team over the next few years. They are already around. Karenza Smith, of Essex, and Judy Hears, of Berkshire, who made their debuts against West Germany this month, still have another three seasons as juniors, while two more of the newcomers, Linda Henwood (Essex) and Maureen Heppell (Northumberland) have another two years before entering the senior ranks.

Karenza and Linda were picked to play Germany at Belvedere on March 3, while Maureen and Judy were due to meet them the following night at Crawley.

Pauline Hemmings (Herts), the No. 1 girl, was picked for both matches.

There were no newcomers among the boys for these matches, Stuart Gibbs (Essex), Michael Johns (Cheshire) and Alan Hydes (Yorkshire) playing in both.

Waiting on the sidelines as reserves were Geoff Salter (Surrey), who may

well win his badge before the end of the season, and Diane Simpson (Essex).

Salter, after some indifferent performances early in the season, has settled down to really good play. He followed up his Essex Open Junior win, where he beat Gibbs in the final, by taking the boys' title in the South of England Open. He has been Surrey's most successful tournament player this season.

Another eye catching youngster is Ingrid Sykes, of Warwickshire, who beat Lesley Proudlock, No. 8 in the senior ranking, in the recent Midland Open.

BECONTREE CLOSES

Table Tennis Centres Limited regret to announce that they have been forced to close down their Becontree Table Tennis Centre due to circumstances beyond their control. They apologise for any inconvenience caused through this action.



PAT HAMMOND receives a plaque from MR. E. TAYLOR, the association chairman to mark her 100th representative appearance for Nottingham.

By courtesy of Nottingham Evening Post.

ONE HUNDRED UP

PAT TAYLOR created Nottingham table tennis history on January 8 when she made her 100th representative appearance for the Nottingham and District Association.

She reached her century in the Midland League match against Worcester and celebrated by winning both her games.

No other Nottingham player, man or woman, has reached the 100 before, although several players have approached the mark only to leave the district or retire from the game.

Mrs. Hammond, who is the women's team captain, started playing competitive table tennis in 1947 with the St. Saviour's Club, and made her first appearance for Nottingham against Wolverhampton in 1949. With the exception of 1955 and 1957 she has been in the team ever since.

With only four breaks, Mrs. Hammond has been Nottingham women's champion since 1951.

Mrs. Hammond's table tennis interests spread beyond playing. She

plays her part in the administrative side; serves on the management committee; has been a selector; and is match secretary of the Youth League.

TOM HERRIDGE

N.W. Kent have suffered a sad loss with the death of Tom Herridge, one of the stalwarts who helped raise them from humble beginnings to the biggest league in Kent.

Herridge was fixture secretary for many years; and when he retired from that post the job had grown to such an extent it had to be divided between a number of people.

N.W. Kent recognised his sterling work by making him a vice-president.

R.A.F. BEAT BATH

BRILLIANT play by Dick Clode and Brian Mayfield, both of whom were unbeaten in singles and doubles, paved the way for the R.A.F. to beat Bath City 6-4 on January 30.

Both beat Bob House and Don Morris in the singles, then Clode paired with Fred Clayton and Mayfield with Neville Shorrick for successful doubles partnerships.

There was little between the two sides and it was the doubles which tipped the balance to the R.A.F. However, it was the Wiltshire-based Clode who had the final say when he beat House, an old rival, in the last match.

The match was part of the R.A.F. build up for their tour of Cyprus.

Detail scores (R.A.F. first): McMurragh lost to Hartry 21, 18, 15; lost to Jeffries 13, 16. Clode bt Morris 19, 11; bt House 13, 17, 16. Shorrick lost to Jeffries 17, 11, 12; lost to Hartry 11, 14. Mayfield bt House 12, 8; bt Morris 14, 20.

Mayfield/Shorrick bt House/Morris 15, 11, 7. Clayton/Clode bt House/Jeffries 15, 19.

AROUND EAST ANGLIA

FIELDS MAKES NORFOLK HISTORY

CHRIS Fields made Norfolk table tennis history when he became the first player from Great Yarmouth to win the County Closed championship at the Norwich Civil Defence Headquarters. He dethroned the defending champion Alan Coby in a sizzling semi-final at 22-20, 19-21, 21-10.

Fields then went on to beat Tony Cooper, of Norwich CEYMS, in the final 21-17, 19-21, 21-17.

Betty Cassell marked up her tenth win in the women's singles, and in winning the women's doubles with Mary Turner and the mixed with Coby, completed the treble for the eighth time.

Coby gained a second title in the men's doubles with D. Skedjee.

Men's Singles: C. FIELDS bt A. Cooper 17, -19, 17. **Women's Singles:** B. CASSELL bt E. Allen -14, 16, 14.

Men's Doubles: A. COBY/D. SKEDJEE bt Cooper/J. Barrett 13, -16, 12. **Women's Doubles:** CASSELL/M. TURNER bt Allen/P. Keef -18, 15, 14. **Mixed Doubles:** COBY/Mrs. CASSELL bt W. Haydock/Mrs. J. Rodwell 14, 6.

Veteran Singles: R. MORLEY bt S. Munn 19, 22. **Consolation Singles:** N. GRAVER bt Barrett 9, 15.

Yarmouth's progress in the Rose Bowl was stopped in the last 15 when they lost 0-9 to Manchester at Gorleston. The Mancunian trio of M. Leigh, C. Moore and B. Stern were much too strong, although both Edna Allen and Joan Rodwell took a game from Miss Stern.

Yarmouth Juniors have won their first four fixtures in the East Anglian League. Wesley Haydock and Philip Tye were unbeaten in singles and doubles in the 6-3 win over Lowestoft.

Will Yarmouth subscribers to TABLE TENNIS please note that Wesley Haydock has taken over as Magazine Secretary in that area. His address is: 31, Buxton Avenue, Gorleston. Telephone: Gorleston 1717.

We thank Chris Fields for his help previously in this direction.

FIRST CLUB MASTERS

Following her success in the Norfolk Closed championships Betty Cassell joins Alan Coby as Norfolk's first Club Masters.

Master points in Norwich find Phillip Graver (CEYMS) leading the way with 97½ points in Division I; D. Blanch (Lads' Club) had 85 points.

Dereham League have held another successful dinner; the county dinner is on March 3; and the Norwich championships on March 14.

Norfolk are hoping to have a strong representative entry in the Cambridge Open on April 4.

Ron Giles, who did such good work for Norfolk in the past and was Umpire Organiser when he left for Bucks some seasons ago, has moved back to Kings Lynn. Peter Holroyd, ex-Bedfordshire and Hunts player, has also settled at Kings Lynn.

Wymondham League hold their Closed Doubles Tournament at Great Moulton Village Hall on March 4. Norwich gained an exciting East Anglia League junior win over Stowmarket, Neville Graver beating P. Clarke in the deciding tie.

J. S. Penny.

New Cambs. Champion

A NEW men's singles champion emerged from the Cambridgeshire Closed championship at Cambridge Corn Exchange on January 24 when Martin White beat John Thurston over three close games. His bold attacking rôle proved too good for Thurston's defence.

Valerie Gillam kept her hold on the women's singles and also the mixed doubles with husband Fred, but lost the women's doubles, which she shared with Mrs. Cornwell. They were beaten in the final by Carol Chapman and Mrs. S. Grainger.

Ron Nunn and Keith Chapman retained the men's doubles and Alan Ponder kept the boys' singles.

Men's Singles: M. WHITE bt J. Thurston 19, -20, 16. **Women's Singles:** V. GILLAM bt C. Chapman 18, 19

Men's Doubles: R. NUNN/K. CHAPMAN bt White/A. Jackson 15, 16. **Women's Doubles:** CHAPMAN/S. GRAINGER bt Gillam/M. Cornwell 20, 19. **Mixed Doubles:** F. GILLAM/Mrs. GILLAM bt A. Ponder/Mrs. Cornwell 18, 23.

Boys' Singles: PONDER bt S. Andrews 13, 19. **Girls' Singles:** P. PHILLIPS bt C. Buckle 10, 14.

Veteran Singles: A. ADAM bt A. Brochie 15, 7. **Handicap Singles:** WHITE (rec. 6) bt J. Puddick (rec. 16) 31-24, 31-27.

CHIEF CONTENDERS

Y.M.C.A. and University Press forge ahead as chief contenders for the First Division titles in the Cambridgeshire League. New Chesterton Institute, last year's winners, are being left rapidly behind. In the Second Division Sohan Methodists and St. George's are making the pace, and in 3A CIBA and Torch-bearers are leaders. In 3B, the top teams are Press II and Y.M.C.A. II.

They have yet to drop a point in 4A while Cankerton have a clean sheet at the top of 4B. It is much closer in 4C where CIBA II, Atlas Sports and Sawton Village College are all level pegging.

John and Margaret Cornwell are doing a fine job with their coaching session at the Y.M.C.A., and with administrative jobs for both league and county must be finding life somewhat hectic.

The Cambridge Handicap Knockout Trophy and United Cambridge Hospitals Cup competitions are now in full swing and are as popular as ever.

Leslie Constable.

TWINS TAKE OVER

JEANNE and Diane Youngs, the 14-year-old Lowestoft twins, are taking over as Suffolk's top women's players. Jeanne started the big break-through by winning the **Lowestoft** singles and quickly followed up as top scorer in the second of the **Leading Lady** tournament.

Diane not to be outdone had her turn in the **Suffolk Clds**. After losing the final of the girls singles to her sister she surprised everyone by reversing the result in the women's final.

The twins were also runners-up in the women's doubles.

Mick Buckley, of Colchester, who is eligible through his registration with the Ipswich League, beat Hans Fieck in the men's final.

Surprises in this event were the exits of Vic Keeble, David Mann and Brian Buckle, the top seeds at the quarter-final stage.

Philip Clarke gave an encouraging display in winning the boys' singles.

SUFFOLK CLOSED:

Men's Singles: M. BUCKLEY bt H. Fieck 18, 5. **Women's Singles:** D. YOUNGS bt J. Youngs -10, 18, 19.

Men's Doubles: D. MANN/B. BUCKLE bt R. Howe/N. White 12, -10 17. **Women's Doubles:** L. BARRETT/B. BROWN bt J. Youngs/D. Youngs -22, 19, 16.

Mixed Doubles: MANN/Mrs. BROWN bt Buckle/Miss C. Barrett 19, 15.

Boys' Singles: P. CLARKE bt G. Ellis 14, 17. **Girls' Singles:** J. YOUNGS bt D. Youngs 8, 23.

Restricted Singles: BUCKLEY bt B. Elswood 13, 12.

LOWESTOFT CLOSED:

Men's Singles: M. BARBER bt C. Brighton 19, 17. **Women's Singles:** J. YOUNGS bt D. Youngs 13, 19.

Men's Doubles: R. HUBBLE/S. PEARSON bt J. Garnham/G. Utting 11, 14.

Women's Doubles: V. MARTIN/B. KILLETT bt J. Youngs/D. Youngs 16, 10. **Mixed Doubles:** C. TUCKER/Miss J. YOUNGS bt C. Brighton/Mrs. Killett 18, 13.

Junior Singles: S. HORNE bt R. Shade -14, 19, 11. **Veteran Singles:** J. ABBOTT bt S. Raynor 12, 12.

Another Diane and Mary

ENGLAND have their Diane and Mary and so have St. Neot's in the 14-year-old Maxfield twins. There is no suggestion of them emulating Diane Rowe and Mary Shannon, but they are already making a name for themselves locally.

They were finalists for the Under-17's event in the Huntingdonshire championships, the title going to Diane who also went on to win the girls' Under-21's final, beating Barbara Webb, of Huntingdon.

Harry Pearce, a promising youngster from Ramsey, won the Boys' Under-17's, but lost narrowly in the Under-21's final to Eddy Haslop of St. Neots. Haslop proved just that little steadier and was that little stronger with his backhand attack.

With teams from each of the county league sides taking part the South East Midlands League offer a good guide to the county selection committee.

A. C. O.

MIDLAND OPEN

LANDRY A CHAMPION AGAIN

LAURIE LANDRY had a taste of past glories when he won the Midland Open at Birmingham on February 6. It was his first major success since sacrificing a brilliant future with a courageous act in saving the life of his nephew in a car accident in 1961.

RESULTS

Men's Singles: Quarter-Finals: L. Landry (Middx.) bt R. Hampson (Chesh.) 17, 16, D. Wall (Warwks.) bt M. Symonds (Lancs.) 19, 18, R. Morley (Gloucs.) bt L. Haslam (Middx.) —17, 14, 19, G. Warwick (Staffs.) bt L. Kerekes (Warwks.) 19, —11, 13.

Semi-Finals: LANDRY bt Wall —20, 15, 14. MORLEY bt Warwick 12, 17.

Final: LANDRY bt Morley 20, 16.

Women's Singles: Semi-Finals: J. WILLIAMS (Warwks.) bt J. Sykes (Warwks.) 14, 21, C. DUNCOMBE (Yorks.) bt L. Henwood (Essex) —14, 13, 19.

Final: WILLIAMS bt Duncombe 10, —18, 15.

Men's Doubles: Semi-Finals: WARWICK/HAMPSON bt Duncombe/Symonds 15, 13, D. Lowe/Morley bt D. Harse/S. Halm (Oxford) 20, 7.

Final: WARWICK/HAMPSON bt Lowe/Morley 14, 17.

Women's Doubles: Semi-Finals: DUNCOMBE/PROUDLOCK (Yorks.) bt D. Schofield (Chesh.)/C. Moore (Lancs.) 17, 11, WILLIAMS/J. CANHAM (Herts.) bt D. Griffiths/B. Carless (Warwks.) 14, 20.

Final: DUNCOMBE/PROUDLOCK bt Williams/Canham 19, 20.

Mixed Doubles: Semi-Finals: DUNCOMBE/Miss CANHAM bt Morley/Miss Sykes 13, 15, M. BILLINGTON (Warwks.)/Mrs. DUNCOMBE bt D. Lowe (Surrey)/Miss Williams 9, —19, 16.

Final: DUNCOMBE/CANHAM bt Billington/Duncombe —16, 20, 9.

Boys' Singles: Semi-Finals: A. HYDES (Yorks.) bt J. Kedge (Yorks.) 16, 17, J. CLARKE (Lancs.) bt M. Johns (Chesh.) —17, 7, 17.

Final: HYDES bt Clarke 17, 12.

Girls' Singles: Semi-Finals: M. HEPPELL (Northum.) bt Henwood 13, 15, K. SMITH (Essex) bt D. Simpson (Essex) 14, 9.

Final: HEPPELL bt Smith 15, 10.

Junior Doubles: Semi-Finals: B. BURN/J. McLEOD (Northum.) bt Hydes/Johns 14, 12, J. NEVIN (Chesh.)/K. LAWRENCE (Essex) bt R. Allen (Middx.)/G. Salter (Surrey) —13, 20, 19.

Final: BURN/McLEOD bt Nevin/Lawrence —17, 11, 18.

Veterans' Singles: Semi-Finals: H. SPIERS (Warwks.) bt E. Brown (Chesh.) 13, 18, D. HEAPS (Berks.) bt D. Sanders (Warwks.) —17, 13, 18.

Final: SPIERS w.o. Heaps (rtd.).

It will be recalled that when Landry was taken to hospital he was given only 30 minutes to live but after being unconscious for 10 days made a miraculous recovery from multiple injuries which included a triple fracture of the skull and a double fracture of the leg.

It was a miracle that he was ever able to play again, but he has persevered and the Midland title is the reward.

Among Landry's victims in this return to championship status were Brian Hill, Derek Wall, and in the final Roy Morley, England's tenth ranking player.

Landry has not produced form like this since his accident and it was certainly good to see him moving so fluently.

His courage in fighting his way back like this is an outstanding example to all those youngsters who want to give up when the going is hard.

Partnered by Alan Cornish, Landry reached the quarter-finals of the men's doubles before losing to the eventual winners, Glen Warwick, of Staffordshire, and Roger Hampson, of Cheshire.

He partnered Doreen Schofield in the mixed doubles, losing in the third round to David Lowe and Judy Williams.

BIG UPSET

The big upset of the men's singles was the quarter-final defeat of Mike Symonds, the top seed, by Derek Wall at 19 and 18. David Lowe was upset by Louis Kerekes, while Derek Schofield crashed in the first round to Peter Eaton.

Glen Warwick had a good run with wins over Kerekes and Peter Duncombe to reach the semi-final.

Juniors were prominent in the women's singles, with Ingrid Sykes beating eighth ranked Lesley Proudlock, and Linda Henwood bringing down Jackie Canham. Both were stopped by the eventual finalists. Linda lost to Cynthia Duncombe, while Ingrid found Judy Williams too strong in the semi-final. Miss Williams went on to collect the title.

Mrs. Duncombe and Miss Proudlock joined forces to win the women's doubles while Miss Canham won the

I Threw Match

LAST Saturday I took part in the Midland Open Championships at Birmingham, and for the first (and having experienced the feeling, I can say so last) time, I "slung" a singles match.

I should be grateful therefore if you would print my apologies to Derek Wall, and to all those who were so unfortunate as to have witnessed my own childishness.

MIKE SYMONDS.

mixed in partnership with Peter Duncombe!

This was a case of swapping partners, for Mrs. Duncombe teamed with Maurice Billington, who normally plays with Miss Canham, and they, too, reached the final.

LINCOLNSHIRE

SKERRATT'S SHOCK RETURN

PETER SKERRATT, champion of the early fifties, created a sensation by beating Brian Hill in the final of the Lincolnshire Closed on February 14. Few people gave Skerratt much chance before the meeting and he thrilled a crowd of more than 200 with this shock turn up.

Hill had been champion for three years and fought grimly to keep his title, taking 11 points out of 15 when trailing 1-10. Skerratt was obviously feeling the effects but found a new lease of life and threw everything into an all out attack.

Skerratt, who was first winner of the title in 1950, went into semi-retirement in 1960. He returned at the end of 1953-64 season to find the game completely changed with the advent of sponge. This great win confirms that he is at last settling down to sponge.

Mrs. W. Eanor was the most successful competitor, winning the women's singles, women's doubles with Mrs. M. Watson, and the mixed with G. Stanley.

Men's Singles: P. SKERRATT bt B. Hill 19, —17, 16. Women's Singles: W. EANOR bt M. Burgess 12, 19.

Men's Doubles: HILL/G. STANLEY bt B. Edlington/B. Finneran 12, 11. Women's Doubles: EANOR/M. WATSON bt P. Chadwick/Burgess —15, 15, 15. Mixed Doubles: STANLEY/Mrs. EANOR bt N. Shearer/Mrs. Chadwick 13, —15, 17.

Junior Singles: R. A. HOOD bt P. Geeson 7, 8.

Lincolnshire have struggled this season through the unavailability of most of the top players. Hill, M. Shearer have played only once so far; Mrs. Connie Moran has dropped out as she is expecting her second child; while Mrs. Pat Chadwick has just returned after the birth of a daughter.

H. J. Flower.

Tel. ACO 3886

R. T. BROWN

(Ken and Evelyn Allinson)

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CHESHIRE JUNIOR OPEN

by George R. Yates

JUDY'S TRIUMPHANT RETURN

MAKING a triumphant return to her native county, Reading resident Judith Heaps captured both the girls' under-15s and 17s titles of the Cheshire Junior Open, held at Birkenhead's Byrne Avenue Baths on February 13, with all the aplomb of a seasoned big game hunter.

RESULTS

UNDER-17s

Boys' Singles: Quarter-Finals: M. Johns (Cheshire) bt R. Todd (Durham) 21-14, 6-21, 21-13; J. Clarke (Lancs.) bt J. Nevin (Cheshire) 21-19, 21-17; K. Lawrence (Essex) bt R. Kelly (Lancs.) 19-21, 21-11, 21-14; J. W. Frankland (Lancs.) bt R. Judd (Warwks.) 21-19, 21-10.

Semi-Finals: JOHNS bt Clarke 21-17, 21-14; FRANKLAND bt Lawrence 21-14, 21-14.

Final: JOHNS bt Frankland 18-21, 21-10, 24-22.

Girls' Singles: Semi-Finals: J. HEAPS (Cheshire) bt K. Smith (Essex) 21-15, 16-21, 21-17; D. SIMPSON (Essex) bt I. Sykes (Warwks.) 21-9, 21-18.

Final: HEAPS bt Simpson 22-20, 16-21, 21-18.

Boys' Doubles: Semi-Finals: JOHNS/FRANKLAND bt P. Judd (Warwks.)/Judd 21-16, 21-16; P. EATON/B. L. KEATES (Staffs.) bt Lawrence/Nevin 21-10, 20-22, 21-13.

Final: JOHNS/FRANKLAND bt Eaton/Keates 18-21, 21-7, 21-10.

Girls' Doubles: Semi-Finals: SIMPSON/SMITH bt A. L. Gunter (Worcs.)/B. E. Yates (Lancs.) 21-4, 21-8; HEAPS/SYKES bt M. Cole/C. Taylor (Durham) 21-17, 21-7.

Final: SIMPSON/SMITH bt Heaps/Sykes 21-18, 10-21, 21-16.

Mixed Doubles: Semi-Finals: FRANKLAND/SIMPSON bt Lawrence/Smith 21-16, 13-21, 21-16; JOHNS/SYKES bt P. Harmer (Herts.)/Heaps 21-16, 21-15.

Final: JOHNS/SYKES bt Frankland/Simpson 21-15, 21-18.

UNDER-15s

Boys' Singles: Semi-Finals: LAWRENCE bt Keates 21-17, 17-21, 21-16. HARMER bt J. Ryan (Lancs.) 21-16, 21-19.

Final: LAWRENCE bt Harmer 21-12, 16-21, 21-17.

Girls' Singles: Semi-Finals: SMITH bt Cole 21-16, 21-6. HEAPS bt E. Kirk (Cheshire) 21-15, 21-8.

Final: HEAPS bt Smith 21-17, 21-18.

Displaying a range of strokes, the mastery of which belied her tender years, this resolute daughter of former Cheshire county player Derek S. Heaps, was not to be side-tracked by the wiles of Diane Simpson and Karenza Smith.

Only together did the Essex pair succeed against Miss Heaps, partnered by Ingrid Sykes, for in single combat the glory was reflected in having contested the two finals with so competent a champion.

CHESHIRE'S DAY

It was indeed Cheshire's day practically throughout, for back on the winning trail from out of the jungle of sundry defeats was home international Mike Johns with a first ever triple success to his bow.

Not without a struggle, however, did he succeed in the major event, being extended to the very limit by the Preston League's closed champion, Jack W. Frankland, of St. Annes, a

bonny fighter if ever I saw one.

Together these two neighbouring county players gave West Brom's Peter Eaton and Brian Keates, of Walsall, a head start and then proceeded to beat them by a "field."

Once more opposed in the mixed, Johns with Miss Sykes had the edge over Frankland with Miss Simpson.

A second success to be credited to Essex was in the boys' under-15s won by Keith Lawrence in a fluctuating encounter with Paul Harmer of Leighton Buzzard.

Before going down to Frankland in the under-17s semis, Lawrence was given an initial fright by Robert Kelly of Bolton, whose chief representative, John Clarke, failed to repeat his victory over Johns in the Mid'land Open in the other semi.

Organised by the Wirral League, who were slow on this occasion to get into their usual stride, grumbles at the Open Tournaments Committee in allowing the South Yorkshire, embracing junior events, to run in conjunction seemed justified more especially with the South of England Restricted also running at Croydon.

Much fewer, comparative with the South, it should never be that two Northern tournaments should share the same day.

YORKSHIRE OPEN

STEVENS FINDS HIS FORM

BOBBY STEVENS, after a season among the also-rans, came back to something like his old form to win the Yorkshire Open at York on February 20 (writes Laurie Landry). Moving well he staged a great recovery to beat his young Essex colleague, Stuart Gibbs, 21-14, 15-21, 22-20 in the final.

Gibbs should have made the title safe when he led 15-10 and 19-16, but Stevens refused to be beaten. Gibbs had staged a somewhat similar come-back in winning his semi-final against Les Haslam, who had led a game and 19-17 only to fall away.

Haslam had previously beaten Laurie Landry.

Gibbs and Stevens teamed up to win the men's doubles, the final of which was the best of the tournament, when they beat Landry and Alan Cornish 21-18, 9-21, 21-19.

Gibbs was also successful in the mixed doubles with the Northumberland junior Maureen Heppell. They were too good for George Livesey and Diane Johnson.

Mrs. Johnson won the women's singles, producing a good solid game to beat Betty Cassell, who in the semi-final half volleyed her way past Pat Dainty. The women's doubles went to Connie Moore and Doreen Schofield.

Men's Singles: Semi-Finals: R. STEVENS (Essex) bt K. Forshaw (Lancs.) 15-13, 18-1; S. GIBBS (Essex) bt L. Haslam (Middx.) 17, 19, 19. **Final:** STEVENS bt Gibbs 14, 15, 20.

Women's Singles: Semi-Finals: D. JOHNSON (Yorks.) bt C. Moore (Lancs.) 11, 21; E. CASSELL (Norfolk) bt P. Dainty (Yorks.) 13, 11, 20. **Final:** JOHNSON bt Cassell 12, 12.

Men's Doubles: Semi-Finals: STEVENS/GIBBS bt R. Hinchliffe/J. Kedge (Yorks.) 21, 17, 17; L. LANDRY (Middx.)/A. CORNISH (Kent) bt G. Livesey/D. Hodson (Lancs.) 19, 21. **Final:** STEVENS/GIBBS bt Landry/Cornish 18, 9, 19.

Women's Doubles: Semi-Finals: DAINTY/F. ROLLINGS (Yorks.) bt M. Heppell/P. Clark (Northumb.) 11, 3; MOORE/D. SCHOFIELD (Cheshire) bt L. Forkes/J. Jones 9, 14. **Final:** MOORE/SCHOFIELD bt Dainty/Rollings 18, 15, 18.

Mixed Doubles: Semi-Finals: GIBBS/Miss HEPPPELL bt M. Pitts/Mrs. M. Dvson 20, 20, 14; LIVESEY/Mrs. JOHNSON bt R. Hampson/Miss Moore 21, 15, 20. **Final:** GIBBS/HEPPPELL bt Livesey/Johnson 18, 19.

Veteran Singles: Semi-Finals: H. DIGNAN (Northumb.) bt N. Lusher (Yorks.) 11, 19, 19; L. HEPPPELL (Northumb.) bt S. Nunn 22, 12, 21. **Final:** DIGNAN bt Heppell 14, 15.

SUSSEX FOLLOWS

JUST a few hours after the cheers for the English Open have died away, Brighton will again be the scene of table tennis activity . . . but of a more local nature. The Sussex Closed takes over on Sunday, March 7. Graham Whalley and Ann Woodford are defending the singles titles against toughening opposition.

Whalley has dropped to No. 4 in the county, which leaves Raymond Chandler, who recently received a national ranking at No. 11, favourite for the men's title. Peter Williams and San Ogundipe are also serious challengers, both being ranked jointly at No. 2 behind Chandler in the county list.

Joyce Sheppard, who now lives at Tonbridge, may be having her final crack at the women's title. She recently scored a win over Mrs. Woodford in the Inter-League Championship.

The new Sussex Junior champions are Terry Riley (Crawley) and Diane Gard (Eastbourne). They swept aside all opposition. **John Woodford.**

WEST OF SCOTLAND

INVASION REPELLED

THE West of Scotland Open found a new lease of life and a new crop of champions this season, with the best of the Scots generally repelling a strong challenge from across the border.

Maureen Heppell, the 14-year-old Newcastle lass, was the only successful invader, dethroning Olive Hawkins in the final of the women's singles. But for the rest of the events the Scots were on top.

All holders were defending but the only one to be successful was Jimmy Dow who kept his half share of the men's doubles, which he won this time with Malcolm Sugden. Dow collected a second title in the mixed with Mrs. Hawkins.

Twice champion Tommy McMichael lost his men's singles in the quarter finals, where he found Ian Barclay too strong for him. Barclay, however, failed to consolidate his success and bowed out to Jim Carswell, who in turn fell to Sugden in the final.

Sugden held off the English challenge by beating Derek Schofield in the quarters and Roger Hampson in the semis. It was his first West of Scotland title, while Carswell also made the final for the first time.

Little Maureen Heppell gave an outstanding display in the women's singles, lifting the title without loss of a game. Mrs. Hawkins could make little impression on this talented youngster who was equally dominant against Miss Coombs and Doreen Robertson in the quarters and semis respectively.

Mrs. Hawkins never found the going easy, for she was taken to three games by both Wilma Nixon and Lesley Barrie in the previous rounds.

Mrs. Hawkins also lost the women's doubles title which she held with Mrs. Robertson. They made the final only to lose to Miss Barrie and Doreen Donaldson in straight games. Both semi-finals went the full distance, Mrs. Hawkins and Mrs. Robertson just getting the better of

Miss Heppell and Miss Campbell, a scratch pairing, at 19 in the third, while Miss Barrie and Miss Donaldson lost the middle game of three to former champions Mrs. Coats and Mrs. Shields.

Success eventually came Mrs. Hawkins' way in the mixed with Dow when they beat Billy Gibbs and Miss Donaldson in the final. Reilly and Miss Barrie, the defending champions, crashed in the second round to Sugden and Mrs. Coats, who later fell to Gibbs and Miss Donaldson in the semi-final.

John Hawkins won the boys' title, which was somewhat marred by the scratching of Mike Johns, the English junior, who was delayed by an accident.

Men's Singles: Quarter-Finals: M. Sugden (Edin.) bt D. Schofield (Stockport) 16, 11. R. Hampson (Manchester) bt J. Reilly (West) 21, 16. J. Carswell (West) bt R. Kerr (Edin.) —13, 18, 13. I. Barclay (Edin.) bt T. McMichael (Edin.) 16, 18.
Semi-Finals: SUGDEN bt Hampson 12, 16. CARSWELL bt Barclay 18, —14, 21.
Final: SUGDEN bt Carswell 14, 19.

Women's Singles: Semi-Finals: M. HEPPPELL (Northum.) bt D. Robertson (west) 9, 16. O. HAWKINS (West) bt L. Barrie (West) 12, —20, 16.
Final: HEPPPELL bt Hawkins 15, 15.

Men's Doubles: Semi-Finals: KERR/McMICHAEL bt Barclay/Reilly 18, 13. DOW/SUGDEN bt Maxwell/Ransome 12, 17.
Final: DOW/SUGDEN bt Kerr/McMichael 17, 15.

Women's Doubles: Semi-Finals: HAWKINS/ROBERTSON bt Heppell/Campbell 20, —19, 19. BARRIE/DONALDSON bt Coats/Shields 16 —21, 9.
Final: BARRIE/DONALDSON bt Hawkins/Robertson 15, 17.

Mixed Double: Semi-Finals: GIBBS/MISS DONALDSON bt Sugden/Mrs. Coats —11, 20, 18. DOW/Mrs. HAWKINS bt Hawkins/Mrs. Robertson 19, 23.
Final: DOW/HAWKINS bt Gibbs/Donaldson 10, 15.

Junior Single: Semi-Finals: J. HAWKINS (West) bt B. Groat (West) 20, 19. C. McLEOD (Perth) bt K. Myers (West) 12, 15.
Final: HAWKINS bt McLeod 17, 14.

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
1965			
March 13	North Middlesex Open Municipal Hall, Knights Lane, Edmonton.		Louis Hoffman, 33, Grove Avenue, London, N.10.
14	Sussex Junior Open Assembly Hall, Worthing, Sussex.		M. Oldham, 25, Offington Gardens, Worthing, Sussex.
19-20	WELSH OPEN Dumfries Place, Drill Hall, Cardiff	J.B.S. J.G.S.	Mrs. Roy Evans, 1, Llwyn-y-Grant Road, Cardiff. Tel. 34744.
27-28	Bucks Open Slough Community Centre, Farnham Rd., Slough, Bucks. Closing date: Mar. 6, 1965.	J.B.S. J.G.S.	L. Thompson, "Auchmead," The Avenue, Sunnymeads, Wraysbury, Bucks.
April 4	Cambridgeshire Open Cambridge.		Mrs. M. Cornwell, 28, Harding Way, Cambridge.
10-11	Stevenage Open Youth Centre, New Town Centre, Stevenage.	J.B.S. J.B.S. V.S.	E. Dickenson, 6, Edwards House, Stevenage, Herts.
15-25	WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS (Ljubljana, Yugoslavia)		
17-19	North East of England Open Closing date: April 7, 1965.	J.B.S. J.G.S. V.S. C.M. C.W. Y.S.	W. Mitton, 16, The Whins, Newby, Scarborough, Yorks.
24	Gwent Open Standard Telephones, Corporation Road, Newport, Mon. Closing date: April 10	J.B.S. J.G.S.	Grove Motlow, 29, Carisbrooke Road, Newport, Mon.
May 1-2	FRENCH OPEN		

NEW LEADERS

THE leadership of both the men's and women's sections of the Western Counties League have changed hands. Bristol, with wins over Exeter and Cardiff, pull right away in the men's division, while Exeter lead the ladies' division on games aggregate from Weston and Newport.

Exeter Ladies suffered their first defeat at the hands of Bristol, who also beat Plymouth 5-4 and Swindon 9-0. Mrs. Golding tipped the scales for Bristol when she beat Mrs. Crosby in the deciding rubber. An 8-1 win over Swindon, however, boosted Exeter's aggregate.

Six rubbers went to three games in Bristol's 7-2 win over Exeter, but their win over Cardiff was remarkable in that they won the first five games then lost the next four.

Newport, the previous leaders, were also passed by Weston who scored two fine wins at 8-1 against Cheltenham and 6-3 against Bath.

KENT OPEN

by LAURIE LANDRY

HARRISON HITS BACK AT RANKING DEMOTION

DEMOTED to No. 3 in the national ranking list Ian Harrison struck back at the Kent Open at Folkestone on January 30-31 when he beat Brian Wright, the new No. 2, in the men's singles final. Retrieving brilliantly and picking out the right ball to hit, Harrison won 15, —10, 15.

Wright had reached the final without loss of a game and was full of confidence following his superb semi-final display against Connie Warren.

But Harrison, who had the much tougher passage, and dropped games to Roger Chandler and Tony Piddock, was not to be denied and avenged his Essex Open defeat by Wright.

One of the big upsets was the defeat of David Lowe by Kent player R. Whitney over three games.

In the absence of Diane Rowe and Mary Shannon, Lesley Bell swept through the women's singles with a series of straight games wins and finishing up beating Jean McCree 5 and 16. One of the main surprises was Jackie Redfean's win over Beverley Sayer, who is still trying to do justice to her No. 10 ranking.

The Youths events for players Under 20 proved popular but as far as the girls were concerned might have been a normal girls' singles, Pauline Hemmings beating her international colleague Linda Henwood in the final. Stuart Gibbs won the equivalent event for boys, beating ex-juniors Dennis Johnson in the semi-final and Barry Hill in the final.

Harry Venner won the veterans' title after some stiff opposition from Ron Etheridge.

As expected, Wright and Warren won the men's doubles, while the women's doubles went to Peggy Piper

and Jean McCree whose experience just had the edge of Lesley Bell and Pauline Martin.

Wright collected a second title in the mixed doubles, partnering Irene Ogus for a straight games win over Harrison and Miss Bell.

Men's Singles: Quarter-Finals: B. Wright (Midxx.) bt G. Golding (Essex) 20, 17. C. Warren (Surrey) bt D. Easden (Kent) 19, 14. A. Lindsey (Midxx.) bt B. Meisel (Kent) 14, 13. I. Harrison (Gloucs.) bt A. Piddock (Kent) 10, —8, 15.

Semi-Finals: WRIGHT bt Warren 8, 11. HARRISON bt Lindsey 10, 20.

Final: HARRISON bt Wright 15, —17, 15.

Women's Singles: Semi-Finals: L. BELL (Essex) bt I. Ogus (Midxx.) 10, 18. J. McCREE (Essex) bt J. Redfean (Midxx.) 14, 13.

Final: BELL bt McCree 5, 16.

Men's Doubles: Semi-Finals: WARREN/WRIGHT bt K. Baker (Essex)/G. Salter (Surrey) 22, 15. M. CREAMER (Midxx.)/D. BROWN (Essex) bt S. Hill/D. Whitaker (Kent) 16, 16.

Final: WARREN/WRIGHT bt Creamer/Brown 19, 18.

Women's Doubles: Semi-Finals: M. PIPER (Surrey)/McCREE bt J. Beadle/K. Stokes (Kent) 20, —18, 17. BELL/P. MARTIN (Essex) bt L. Henwood (Essex)/P. Hemmings (Herts.) 16, 19.

Final: PIPER/McCREE bt Bell/Martin 19, 16.

Mixed Doubles: Semi-Finals: WRIGHT/OGUS bt R. Morley (Gloucs.)/B. Sayer (Essex) 13, —21, 17. HARRISON/BELL bt Piddock/Piper 19, 9.

Final: WRIGHT/OGUS bt Harrison/Bell 13, 19.

Youth Singles (Boys): Semi-Finals: S. GIBBS (Essex) bt D. Johnson (Essex) 16, 19. B. HILL (Surrey) bt G. Salter (Surrey) —15, 18, 22.

Final: GIBBS bt Hill 21, —19, 13.

Youth Singles (Girls): Semi-Finals: HEMMINGS bt K. Stokes 11, 14. HENWOOD w.o. P. Venus (Surrey) ret'd.

Final: HEMMINGS bt Henwood 15, 19.

Veteran's Singles: Semi-Finals: H. VENNER (Surrey) bt L. Howick (Herts.) 10, 6. R. ETHERIDGE (Kent) bt J. Sibley (Kent) 15, 19.

Final: VENNER bt Etheridge —19, 12, 16.

MAUREEN ISTOPS

TOP of the pops this month is Hexam's 15-year-old Maureen Heppell, with the remarkable record of winning nine of the 13 girls' singles titles for which she has competed this season. And she caps this with an England Junior International against West Germany.



MAUREEN HEPPELL

County vice-chairman Harry Dignan has proved himself a force to be reckoned with in North of England veterans' events. He is still one of Northumberland's leading competitors, and sets a fine example in dress and demeanour on and off the table.

Arthur Chilvers continued to show improvement with shock wins over Stuart Lennie and Peter Hoyles. Lennie is considering a move to London when his apprenticeship terminates this year. His absence would be a blow to the county, but no doubt his game would benefit from increased top-class competition.

Local players are certainly thriving on Open tournaments this year. Two dozen participants travelled to Bolton for the Lancashire and at York we were represented by almost three dozen.

North Shields Y.M.C.A. "A" are maintaining a tight hold on the First Division championship, but close rivals Revac gave them a fright in the Knock-out Cup. Brian Burn and Joe McLeod were the architects of Shields 5-4 victory. **Arnold Warens.**

EASTER PLANS

BERT HISCOCK, Staffordshire's secretary, took time off from his administrative duties to win the men's singles in the Wolverhampton Closed. Mac Evans, recently returned from New Zealand, was the runner-up.

Glen Warwick is beginning to make his tournament mark. He won the doubles at the Midland Open with Roger Hampson and was a semi-finalist in the singles.

The Wolverhampton Association are hoping to arrange four days' visit to Amsterdam over Easter.

County president Tom Finney is fit again after a short spell on the injured list. Sadder news is that Alan Eve of the Featherstone Club has been killed in a car accident. **John Pike.**

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PAULINE HEMMINGS and STUART GIBBS

COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS ROUND-UPby **JOHN WRIGHT****AN EXCITING FINISH PROMISED**

CONVINCING wins over both Surrey and Kent have taken Gloucestershire to the top of the Premier Division on games aggregate over Middlesex, who narrowly beat Essex in a strange match. Essex are in third place but with a match in hand.

Everything is, therefore, boiling up

to an exciting finish with March 20 the key date. That is when Gloucestershire meet Middlesex and Essex entertain Surrey, in the vital fixture. Should Essex win, as expected, they will be as good as home for their one remaining fixture is against pointless Staffordshire which should give them a sufficiently wide margin to collect

the title for the first time.

But should Essex lose to Surrey, then the winners of the Gloucestershire-Middlesex clash will be champions.

Ian Harrison and Bryan Merrett, who have dropped only four sets between them this season, were in great form for Gloucestershire, although Harrison fell a victim to Connie Warren in the Surrey match.

Warren also beat Denis Neale in Surrey's 5-4 win over Yorkshire, but lost to Peter Duncombe. Yorkshire are still without a victory, but with Staffordshire and Lancashire still to play they may yet avoid relegation.

Atmosphere was lacking and, apart from Diane Rowe and Stuart Gibbs, players appeared below form for the important Middlesex-Essex clash at Tottenham. It was not until Essex led 4-3 that tension mounted. Then Les Haslam beat Bobby Stevens and Alan Lindsay overcame Gibbs, despite the loss of the first game, to snatch victory for Middlesex.

COUNTY DIARY**PREMIER DIVISION**

March 7	Essex v Staffordshire, G.U.S. Sports Club, Spring Hill, Upper Clapton Road, Clapton, E.5	2.30 p.m.
March 20	Gloucestershire v Middlesex	
March 20	Essex v Surrey, Stork Sports Ground, Van den Burgh & Jurgen Recreation Club, Stonehouse Lane, Purfleet	7.30 p.m.
March 20	Yorkshire v Staffordshire, Mechanics' Institute, Bradford	7.00 p.m.
March 20	Kent v Lancashire, Eowater S. & S. Club, Remembrance Avenue, Sittingbourne	7.15 p.m.
April 3	Yorkshire v Lancashire, Mechanics' Institute, Bradford	7.00 p.m.

SECOND DIVISION SOUTH

March 20	Sussex v Surrey, Village Hall, North Mundham, nr. Chichester	7.15 p.m.
March 20	Kent v Hampshire, Aquila, Bickley, Bromley	7.15 p.m.
March 20	Hertfordshire v Bedfordshire, Provident Mutual Life Assurance Association, William Road, Hitchin	7.00 p.m.

SECOND DIVISION NORTH

March 13	Yorkshire v Lancashire, The Lundwood Hotel, Lundwood, nr. Barnsley	7.00 p.m.
March 20	Cumberland v Lincolnshire, Y.M.C.A., Fisher Street, Carlisle	7.00 p.m.
March 20	Northumberland v Lancashire, South Shields Marine and Technical College Gymnasium, St. Georges Ave., South Shields	7.00 p.m.
March 20	Cheshire v Durham, The Social Club, Cornbrook Chemical Co., Newbridge Lane, Stockport	7.00 p.m.
March 27	Cumberland v Cheshire, The Grammar School, Millom	2.30 p.m.
April 3	Northumberland v Cheshire, The Youth Centre, Church Way, North Shields	7.00 p.m.

SECOND DIVISION MIDLAND

March 27	Warwickshire v Worcestershire, Valvis Ltd. Parkside, Coventry	7.00 p.m.
April 3	Glamorgan v Oxfordshire	
April 3	Nottinghamshire v Monmouthshire	

SOUTHERN DIVISION

March 13	Hampshire v Hertfordshire, St. Faiths Church Hall, Whitworth Road, Gosport	7.00 p.m.
March 19	Cambridgeshire v Norfolk	
March 27	Hertfordshire v Norfolk	
April 3	Hampshire v Suffolk, Albert Social Club, Albert Road, Fleet	6.30 p.m.
April 3	Hertfordshire v Huntingdonshire	

MIDLAND DIVISION

March 20	Derbyshire v Warwickshire	
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JUNIOR DIVISION NORTH

March 20	Northumberland v Lancashire, South Shields Marine and Technical College Gymnasium, St. Georges Ave., South Shields	3.00 p.m.
March 27	Cumberland v Cheshire, The Grammar School, Millom	2.30 p.m.
April 3	Northumberland v Cheshire, The Youth Centre, Church Way, North Shields	3.00 p.m.

JUNIOR DIVISION MIDLAND

March 20	Nottinghamshire v Staffordshire	
March 20	Leicestershire v Oxfordshire	
March 27	Warwickshire v Worcestershire, Coventry and North Warwickshire Cricket Club, Binley Road, Coventry	6.00 p.m.

JUNIOR DIVISION SOUTH

April 3	Hampshire v Sussex, Albert Social Club, Albert Road, Fleet	3.00 p.m.
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JUNIOR DIVISION SOUTH WEST

March 13	Monmouthshire v Gloucestershire	
March 13	Glamorgan v Wiltshire	
April 3	Wiltshire v Monmouthshire	

JUNIOR DIVISION EAST

March 19	Essex v Middlesex, St. Luke's T.T. Club, St. Luke's Church, Victoria Docks, E.16	7.15 p.m.
March 20	Buckinghamshire v Suffolk, Slough British Legion, Stoke Road, Slough	3.00 p.m.
March 27	Hertfordshire v Norfolk	
April 3	Norfolk v Essex, C.E.Y.M.S. Rooms, Brigg Street, Norwich	3.00 p.m.

maintained their challenge to Warwickshire in the Midland Division by beating Oxfordshire.

Kent, flattered by an 8-2 win over Sussex, have won the Junior South, where Surrey slipped in being held to a draw by Hampshire, despite an unbeaten effort from Geoff Salter. The Hampshire girls were too strong.

Judy Heap made a successful début for Cheshire against Durham, but Mike Johns, whose senior record is better, lost to Todd and was taken close by Neath.

Margaret Cole won both singles and mixed doubles for Durham against Lancashire, who scored an easy win over Cumberland.

Royden Halfpenny won both singles at his début for Worcestershire against Leicestershire in the Junior Midland. Nottinghamshire slumped heavily against Warwickshire.

Reg Allen, Bob Mason and Brian Petch won seven sets between them for Middlesex to beat Bucks 7-3. Denis Samuel had an off night against Gloucestershire in the Junior South West, losing to John Charles.

BEDFORD'S DOUBLE LEAD

BEDFORD'S men's and women's teams have identical records as they make the pace in the South East Midlands League. Both are unbeaten from five matches with games aggregates of 42-8.

Northampton appear to be the only side with any real chance of making a challenge in the men's section, while they checked Cambridge City, their nearest rivals in the Women's section, 7-3.

Cambridge City had their revenge in the Junior section with a 10-0 win over Bedford to edge Peterborough out of the leadership.

Men's Section

	P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.	P.
Bedford	5	5	0	0	42	8	42
Cambridge City	5	2	1	2	21	29	21
Northampton	3	2	0	1	20	10	20
Peterborough	5	2	0	3	19	31	19
Kettering	4	2	0	2	16	24	16
Ely and District	2	1	0	1	11	9	11
Hunts, Central	3	0	0	3	11	19	11
St. Neots	3	0	1	2	10	20	10

Women's Section

Bedford	5	5	0	0	42	8	42
Cambridge City	4	3	0	1	31	9	31
Bletchley	3	2	0	1	25	5	25
Northampton	3	1	0	2	14	16	14
Kettering	4	1	0	3	6	34	6
St. Neots	3	0	1	2	6	24	6
Peterborough	4	0	0	4	6	34	6

Junior Section

Cambridge City	4	4	0	0	36	4	36
Peterborough	5	4	0	1	33	17	33
Bedford	5	3	0	2	24	26	24
Kettering	4	2	0	2	23	17	23
St. Neots	4	2	0	2	19	21	19
Bletchley	3	0	0	3	6	24	6
Northampton	3	0	0	3	5	25	5
Ely and District	2	0	0	2	4	16	4

DIVISIONAL TABLES

PREMIER DIVISION

	P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.	P.
Gloucestershire	6	5	0	1	36	18	10
Middlesex	6	5	0	1	35	19	10
Essex	5	4	0	1	30	15	8
Surrey	5	3	0	2	26	19	6
Kent	5	2	0	3	19	26	4
Lancashire	4	1	0	3	13	23	2
Yorkshire	5	0	0	5	17	28	0
Staffordshire	4	0	0	4	4	37	0

SECOND DIVISION SOUTH

Surrey II	5	4	1	0	36	14	9
Sussex	5	3	2	0	35	15	8
Kent II	5	2	2	1	28	22	6
Hampshire	5	2	1	2	24	26	6
Buckinghamshire	6	2	0	4	28	32	4
Hertfordshire	5	2	0	3	20	30	4
Bedfordshire	5	0	0	5	9	41	0

SECOND DIVISION NORTH

Lancashire II	4	3	0	1	30	10	6
Yorkshire II	4	3	0	1	28	12	6
Durham	5	3	0	2	29	21	6
Cheshire	2	2	0	0	13	7	4
Northumberland	3	1	1	1	18	12	3
Lincolnshire	4	0	1	3	12	28	1
Cumberland	4	0	0	4	0	40	0

SECOND DIVISION MIDLAND

Warwickshire	4	3	1	0	31	9	7
Oxfordshire	4	3	1	0	27	13	7
Glamorgan	4	3	0	1	30	10	6
Monmouthshire	4	1	0	3	14	26	2
Worcestershire	4	0	1	3	11	29	1
Nottinghamshire	4	0	1	2	7	33	1

FINAL TABLE

SECOND DIVISION WEST							
Somerset	4	4	0	0	25	15	8
Cornwall	4	2	0	2	21	19	4
Devon	4	1	1	2	19	21	3
Wiltshire	4	1	1	2	19	21	3
Dorset	4	1	0	3	16	24	2

MIDLAND DIVISION

Warwickshire II	3	3	0	0	25	5	6
Derbyshire	3	3	0	0	21	9	6
Oxfordshire II	4	2	0	2	21	10	4
Staffordshire II	4	1	0	3	18	22	2
Worcestershire II	4	0	0	4	5	35	0

SOUTHERN DIVISION

Buckinghamshire II	6	5	1	0	45	15	11
Norfolk	4	3	0	1	22	18	6
Hampshire II	4	2	1	1	26	14	5
Hertfordshire II	3	2	0	1	17	13	4
Suffolk	5	2	0	3	21	29	2
Cambridgeshire	5	1	0	4	19	31	2
Huntingdonshire	5	0	0	5	10	40	0

JUNIOR DIVISION SOUTH

Kent	4	3	1	0	27	13	7
Surrey	4	2	2	0	24	16	6
Hampshire	3	1	1	1	17	13	3
Sussex	3	1	0	2	12	18	2
Berkshire	4	0	0	4	10	30	0

JUNIOR DIVISION NORTH

Yorkshire	4	3	1	0	25	7	7
Cheshire	3	2	1	0	15	9	5
Northumberland	2	2	0	0	14	2	4
Lancashire	4	2	0	2	18	14	4
Durham	5	1	0	4	16	24	2
Cumberland	4	0	0	4	0	40	0

JUNIOR DIVISION MIDLAND

Warwickshire	4	4	0	0	37	3	8
Staffordshire	4	3	0	1	29	11	6
Worcestershire	4	2	1	1	18	22	5
Oxfordshire	4	1	0	3	13	27	2
Leicestershire	4	1	0	3	12	28	2
Nottinghamshire	4	0	1	3	11	29	1

JUNIOR DIVISION EAST

Essex	3	3	0	0	27	3	6
Middlesex	4	3	0	1	25	15	6
Hertfordshire	4	2	0	2	22	18	4
Buckinghamshire	4	2	0	2	15	25	4
Norfolk	3	1	0	2	12	18	2
Suffolk	4	0	0	4	9	31	0

JUNIOR DIVISION SOUTH WEST

Wiltshire	4	4	0	0	31	9	8
Glamorgan	5	3	0	2	33	17	6
Monmouthshire	4	2	0	2	18	22	4
Gloucestershire	5	0	0	5	8	42	0

DETAILED RESULTS

PREMIER DIVISION

Middlesex 5, Essex 4
 B. Wright lost to C. Barnes —18, 20, —14; bt R. Stevens —16, 17, 15. A. Lind-say lost to Barnes —17, 17, —16; bt S. Gibbs —19, 17, 15. L. Haslam bt Stevens 15, —18, 21; lost to Gibbs 18, —11, —16.
 Miss D. Rowe b Miss L. Bell 19, 13.
 B. Wright/Miss D. Rowe bt S. Gibbs/Miss L. Bell 14, 13.
 Lindsay/Haslam lost to Barnes/Stevens 18, —15, —13.

Surrey 3, Gloucestershire 6

C. Warren bt I. Harrison 12, —18, 16; lost to B. Merrett 21, —16, —10. D. Lowe lost to I. Harrison —18, —19; lost to R. Morley —12, —21, V. Ireland lost to B. Merrett —9, —14; lost to R. Morley —18, —20.
 Miss M. Shannon bt Miss P. Taylor 16, 8.
 D. Lowe/Miss M. Shannon bt R. Morley/Miss P. Taylor 16, 19.
 C. Warren/V. Ireland lost to I. Harrison/B. Merrett 15, —9, —19.

Surrey 5, Yorkshire 4

C. Warren bt D. Neale —18, 12, 11; lost to P. Duncombe 20, —21, —19. D. Lowe lost to D. Neale —8, —17; beat A. Hydes 17, 20. V. Ireland lost to P. Duncombe —25, —18; lost to A. Hydes —22, 25, —20.
 Miss M. Shannon bt Mrs. C. Duncombe 17, 15.
 D. Lowe/Miss M. Shannon bt P. Duncombe/Mrs. C. Duncombe 13, 7.
 C. Warren/V. Ireland bt D. Neale/E. Hall —11, 10, 19.

Kent 2, Gloucestershire 7

A. Piddock lost to I. Harrison —13, —19; lost to B. Merrett —13, 17, —19. D. Basden lost to I. Harrison —12, —18; lost to R. Morley 14, —13, —25. D. Whittaker lost to B. Merrett —8, —10; lost to R. Morley —13, —10.
 Mrs. J. Beadle bt Miss P. Taylor 11, 6.
 D. Basden/Mrs. J. Beadle bt R. Morley/Miss P. Taylor —19, 19, 14.
 A. Piddock/H. Buist lost to I. Harrison/B. Merrett —18, —10.

SECOND DIVISION SOUTH

Bedfordshire 2, Kent 8
 Buckinghamshire 3, Surrey 7
 Hampshire 5, Sussex 5

SECOND DIVISION NORTH

Lancashire 10, Cumberland 0

SECOND DIVISION MIDLAND

Nottinghamshire 0, Warwickshire 10
 Monmouthshire 2, Glamorgan 8

SECOND DIVISION WEST

Wiltshire 5, Devon 5
 Somerset 6, Cornwall 4

MIDLAND DIVISION

Oxfordshire 4, Derbyshire 6

SOUTHERN DIVISION

Hampshire 5, Buckinghamshire 5
 Huntingdonshire 4, Suffolk 6

JUNIOR DIVISION NORTH

Lancashire 5, Durham 3
 Cheshire 6, Durham 2
 Lancashire 8, Cumberland 0

JUNIOR DIVISION MIDLAND

Nottinghamshire 0, Warwickshire 10
 Leicestershire 3, Worcestershire 7

JUNIOR DIVISION SOUTH

Kent 8, Sussex 2
 Surrey 5, Hampshire 5

JUNIOR DIVISION SOUTH-WEST

Glamorgan 8, Gloucestershire 2

JUNIOR DIVISION EAST

Buckinghamshire 3, Middlesex 7

OFFICIAL NEWS

A.G.M. The venue for the E.T.T.A. annual general meeting has been changed, and this will now be at the Midland Hotel, New Street, Birmingham (on Saturday July 3, 1965). Maurice Goldstein is making all relevant arrangements on behalf of the E.T.T.A.

National Umpires. At their meeting on January 30, 1965, the National Council ratified the recommendation by the National Umpires' and Referees' Committee that the following two county umpires be made national umpires: A. HORN (Kent) and J. WRIGHT (Middlesex).

Master Points Scheme. The National Council have accepted the resignation of Mr. G. R. Harrower as administrator of the scheme, and have conveyed to him their thanks for all the work he has done in connection with the scheme. Walter Mitton, of Yorkshire, very kindly agreed to act as administrator of the Master Points Scheme for the rest of this season.

London Boroughs. The National

Council have agreed allocation of the new London boroughs in accordance with the following recommendation of the E.T.T.A. Boundaries Committee:

The boroughs of Greenwich, Lewisham, Bexley and Bromley to be part of Kent.

Barking, Havering, Redbridge, Newham, Waltham Forest and *Hackney to be part of Essex.

Croydon, Sutton, Merton, Kingston, Wandsworth, Lambeth, Southwark *Richmond-on-Thames to be part of Surrey.

Hounslow, Hillingdon, Ealing, Harrow, Brent, Hammersmith, Kensington and Chelsea, Westminster, Camden, Barnet, Enfield, Haringey, Islington, City and *Tower Hamlets to constitute the County of Middlesex.

(* These boroughs are subject to further discussion between the counties concerned, and may be re-allocated.)

Money Raising Scheme. The National Council have approved the running of an E.T.T.A. draw for next season, proceeds to be shared between the E.T.T.A. and the participating counties and leagues. Conrad Jaschke, of Kent, has kindly agreed to run this draw for the E.T.T.A. Details will be circulated in the near future.

Team Selections

v. W. German Juniors, at Belvedere, March 3: S. Gibbs (Essex), M. Johns (Cheshire), A. Hydes (Yorks.), Miss P. Hemmings (Herts.), Miss L. Henwood (Essex), Miss K. Smith (Essex). Non-playing captain: L. F. Landry (Middx.).

v. W. German Juniors, at Crawley, March 4: S. Gibbs (Essex), M. Johns (Cheshire), A. Hydes (Yorks.), Miss P. Hemmings (Herts.), Miss M. Heppell (Northumberland), Miss J. Heaps (Berks.).

v. Rumania, at Tottenham Municipal Hall, February 20: G. C. Barnes (Essex), D. Neale (Yorks.), B. D. Wright (Middx.), Miss M. Shannon (Surrey), Miss D. Rowe (Middx.).

MASTER POINTS SCHEME

Please note that the new Administrator of the Scheme is: Mr. W. Mitton, 16, The Whins, Newby, Scarborough, Yorkshire (Phone Scalby 202), to whom all correspondence regarding the Scheme should be addressed in future.

Non-playing captains: R. J. Crayden (Surrey), J. A. Leach (Essex).

v. Czechoslovakia, at Harlow, March 2: G. C. Barnes (Essex), B. D. Wright (Middx.), I. O. Harrison (Glos.), Miss M. Shannon (Surrey), Miss D. Rowe (Middx.). Non-playing captain: R. J. Crayden (Surrey).

ILFORD GET TOUGH

ILFORD League are taking a firm stand with players failing to turn up for representative matches. One boy has been suspended from the League, another suspended for the remainder of the season, and a third cautioned.

This has seriously weakened their junior side which earlier looked like running East London, the leaders, close for the Inter-League title.

East London and Ilford share the same number of points at the top of the First Division which will probably be decided when they clash on March 11.

"Pip" Gallagher, former Barking League secretary, returns to the administrative field as Basildon League secretary following the resignation of Stan Olton. Romford's Peter Smith is the newest County Umpire, while Karenza Smith and Linda Henwood stepped forward as junior internationals in the match against West Germany.

Tony Condon returned to the Chelmsford League Championships to regain the men's singles he last held in 1959. Charlie Wheeler marked up his 13th successive win in the veteran singles, and also won the consolation.

C. Carroll won the men's doubles with R. Caldwell and the mixed with Mrs. Carroll, who also won the women's doubles with S. Orrin. Mrs. J. Grozier won the women's singles.

Nominations for the Corti Woodcock Memorial Award are due in March and should be sent to Harry Walker, 80, Derham Gardens, Upminster.

Roy Hayes.

English Table Tennis Association

Patron: Her Majesty The Queen.

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

Chairman: I. C. Eyles.

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