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TABLE TENNIS NEWS

Official Journal of the English Table Tennis Association

Edited by **GEORGE YATES**

No. 10

NOVEMBER, 1967.

Price 1/-

EUROPEAN LEAGUE

NETHERLANDS 0, ENGLAND 7
S. GIBBS bt B. van der Helm 19,
-21, 15; bt B. Schoofs 18, 17.

D. NEALE bt Schoofs 11, 14; bt
van der Helm 19, 10.

NEALE/GIBBS bt Schoofs/van der
Helm 19, 14.

MARY WRIGHT bt E. Kort 6, 7.
GIBBS/KARENZA SMITH bt van
der Helm/Kort 20, 14.

**ENGLAND 2,
CZECHOSLOVAKIA 5**

S. GIBBS bt J. Stanek -14, 19, 18;
lost to V. Miko -15 -16.

D. NEALE lost to Miko 19, -15,
-13; lost to Stanek -17, -16.

NEALE/GIBBS lost to Stanek/
Miko -15, -12.

KARENZA SMITH bt M. Luzova
-13, 17, 19.

NEALE/M. WRIGHT lost to
Miko/Luzova -19, -13.



Marta Luzova, popular Czech star (left) with Karenza Smith who beat her at
Newcastle and in the European Cup match

Photo by Ken Mathews

CZECHOSLOVAKIAN TOUR

By **GEORGE YATES**

"THE UNTOUCHABLES"

IN much the same manner as Denis Neale and Stuart Gibbs swept
aside the challenge of the locals in New Zealand so too, in the recent
Czech tour of this country, did Jaroslav Stanek and Vlado Miko at
our expense.

Between them, in a 4-match series incorporating the European
League encounter, the Czech pair won 15 out of 16 men's singles and
four out of four men's and mixed doubles!

England's only victory against this formidable duo was accom-
plished by Gibbs when, in the European League encounter at the Ibis
Theatre, he beat Stanek.

Running contrary to this adverse tide was that which carried
Karenza Smith and Mary Wright, both to double successes over Marta
Luzova, of Brighton and English Open fame.

Clearly there is a decided gap to be bridged before we can even
hope to challenge the Eastern potentates at Munich in 1969.

At Newcastle-on-Tyne, Oct 17, Lost 1-8

D. NEALE lost to V. Miko -17, -20; lost to J. Stanek -19, -16.
A. HYDES lost to Stanek -8, 20, -14; lost to Miko -16, 18.
M. HEPPELL lost to J. Karlikova 19, -10, -20.
K. SMITH beat M. Luzova 15, 17.
NEALE/HYDES lost to Stanek/Miko -14, -9.
SMITH/HEPPELL lost to Luzova/Karlikova -11, -14.
NEALE/SMITH lost to Miko/Luzova 19, -19, -16.

At Crawley, Oct 20, Lost 1-7

S. GIBBS lost to Stanek 20, -17, -11; lost to Miko -17, -11.
C. WARREN lost to Miko -13, -8; lost to Stanek -13, -23.
M. WRIGHT bt Luzova 8, 12.
P. PIDDOCK lost to Karlikova 21, -15, -18.
GIBBS/WARREN lost to Stanek/Miko -18, -13.
WRIGHT/PIDDOCK lost to Luzova/Karlikova 23, -15, -14.

At Exeter, Oct 24, Lost 1-8

I. HARRISON lost to Miko -18, -16; lost to Stanek -19, -13.
B. WRIGHT lost to Stanek -5, -17; lost to Miko -16, -10.
K. SMITH lost to Karlikova -16, -14.
M. WRIGHT bt Luzova 13, 19.
HARRISON/WRIGHT lost to Stanek/Miko -15, 20, -13.
WRIGHT/SMITH lost to Luzova/Karlikova -12, -17.
WRIGHT lost to Stanek/Karlikova -14, -18.

HATS OFF FOR MARY

says **JOHNNY LEACH**

ENGLAND made an encouraging
start to the European League
series by defeating Holland 7-0,
only to crash subsequently by 2-5
to her bogey team, Czechoslovakia.

Our opening match against
Holland, at Hilversum on Oct 5,
featured some spectacular play,
though England scored a crushing
victory. The entire England team
played and fought extremely well.
The only real opposition came
from van der Helm, a much
improved attacking player in the
Kjell Johansson mould. Watch out
for this hard-hitting Dutch No. 1.
If he continues to play as well as
he did in extending Stuart Gibbs,
he could be going places.

Fired by speculation over team
selection, and helped by a first-class
presentation in the jam-packed IBIS
THEATRE, London, it was
obvious even before the first ball
was struck that England's first
home tie in the European League
on Thursday, Oct 19, against
Czechoslovakia, would be a
cracker. The ITV cameras caught
the electric atmosphere, and the
Minister for Sport and other cele-
brities in the audience seemed
enthralled.

My first problem as captain was
to decide whether to play Mary
Wright, who is suspect against early
hitters like Marta Luzova, or our
much less experienced No. 2, the
17 year-old Karenza Smith. After
much deliberation, and a sleepless
night because Mary — our undis-
puted champion—had just returned
from a brilliant victory in the
Belgian Open singles—I decided in
favour of Karenza for the singles,
and Mary to partner Denis Neale
in the mixed.

This must have been a blow for
Mary, and I take my hat off to her
for the sporting manner in which
she accepted the decision and gave
Karenza every encouragement and
support.

Opening for England against
Stanek, the Czech No. 1, Gibbs
made a nervous start and lost the
first game. Then suddenly he burst
into top form. His whirlwind
counter hitting from all angles had
the audience gasping, and how they
applauded when he took the next
two games and captured the first
set.

Neale followed against Miko,
and set our hopes soaring when he
caught up from 12-17 to win the
first game. Unfortunately, how-
ever, Denis got into trouble with
Miko's topspin loop and seemed
unable to cope with it. Despite the
Czech being faulted for his service

on several occasions Denis trailed-
off disappointingly to lose the next
two 15 and 13.

At 1-1 Karenza had the ordeal of
facing the Czech champion Marta
Luzova. But what a match this
proved to be! After a nervous
start which cost her the first game
-13, Karenza found both her touch
and the right tactics. She started
to plug Luzova's backhand. This
had the Czech champion really
worried, enabled Karenza to take
the second game 17 and to lead
16-12 in the third.

At this point Luzova decided to
try and hit her way out of trouble.
She made a remarkable recovery
to take the lead at 18-16 and then,
believe it or not, she was fault-
served. You can imagine the
indignant reaction of the Czech
captain and his team, and it took
a minute or so to restore order for
the match to continue. During this
interval Karenza remained com-
pletely composed, and returned to
the table with her concentration un-
disturbed. By a truly great per-
formance the English girl won the
third and deciding game 19 to put
us 2-1 up.

Alas, it was a brief moment of
glory. The Czechs took over at this
point to win the next four games
and the match 5-2.

Denis and Stuart had their
chances in the men's doubles after
losing the first game -15. They led
12-8 in the second when they lost
no less than 13 points in succession
to the Miko/Stanek combination.

In the mixed Mary and Denis
were leading the European cham-
pions, Luzova and Miko, by 19-18
in the first game but lost -19, and
12-10 in the second to lose -13.

When trailing 5-13 in his first
game against Stanek, Denis Neale
made a tremendous recovery to 14-
all. He then collapsed sadly to lose
-17, -16.

And it was much the same story
for Gibbs against Miko. He led
9-4 in the first, and 8-1 in the
second, but lost -15, -16.

We must congratulate Czecho-
slovakia on their brilliant victory,
and face the fact that we were
beaten by a better team. At the
same time, as the scores confirm,
we are not too far behind our
traditional rivals. With a little
extra fitness, concentration and
dedication I feel sure England
have the best team in Europe.

The main thing is that Mary,
Karenza, Denis and Stuart gave
everything they had and went down
fighting. One cannot ask for more,
and we can be proud of them.

It is worth remembering that the
European League title will be
decided on games average, if teams
are equal on points, so with
Austria, West Germany, Hungary
and the U.S.S.R. still to play, we
are still in with a chance!



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Table Tennis News

Published on the 10th of each month, October to May inclusive. Postal subscriptions 10s. for eight issues post free. Advertisements and Circulation: D. P. Tremayne, English Table Tennis Assn. 26/29, Park Crescent, W.1.

Editorial: George R. Yates, 43, Knowsley Road, Smithville, Bolton, Lancs. Telephone Bolton 42223.

THE "POACHERS"

MOST leagues have one club who are "cock of the walk" and in their wake are others whose role, like that of the bridesmaid and never the bride, is one of unsuccessful chase.

But now and again, the chasers find themselves with a player who can "do a bit" but in so doing attracts the attention of the champions themselves.

This attraction usually takes the form of an invitation to join them but from a player's point of view to sign for the champions could be a short-sighted policy and often is.

It is more likely that wins against them, rather than for them, will have the greater effect on a player's career.

All very well, so whilst remaining in opposition the trophy shelf remains bare. But in the long run that same shelf could be the depository for far greater prizes than a local league "pot."

It is only against the best that results become significant and far better is it for a league to have a spread of talent rather than have all its best players as members of one club.

Be not persuaded by that successful club secretary to forsake the challenging role in favour of the easy pickings. There can be little real satisfaction in combining the steam roller the opposition when all the weight is on one side.

Live and let live you who engage in the poaching of ready-made talent. It is an unlawful occupation in any case.

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INTERNATIONAL ROUND-UP

By CONRAD JASCHKE

Deputy Chairman and Hon. International Secretary of the E.T.T.A.

FROM a promotional point of view, our first home match in the European League turned out to be everything that had been hoped for. Playing in front of an enthusiastic audience in a packed house, the players of both teams responded to this big occasion by producing scintillating table tennis, and the quality of presentation achieved by the Ibis Table Tennis Club of the Prudential Assurance Company has added a new dimension to English table tennis.

Sportswriter Sydney Hulls of the *Daily Express*, whose praise is not easily won, described the opening presentation as "first class—a big step forward for table tennis." Don Simpson, who has covered table tennis events in London for the *Evening Standard* for many years said: "This was the most perfectly organised and presented table tennis international match I have ever seen."

Mr. Denis Howell, Minister with special responsibility for sport and Mr. Vaclav Vebr, deputy president of the European Table Tennis Union, attended the match. The only premier division results known to date are: Netherlands 0, England 7; England 2, Czechoslovakia 5; and U.S.R.R. 5, Hungary 2.

In the second division of the European League, Jersey, Scotland, Belgium and Wales will be meeting in Jersey on January 19-20 to play off their matches in the framework of a quadrangular tournament. The further progress of the League, possible zoning of the Europe Cup Competition (for clubs) and many other important subjects, will be on the agenda of the meeting of the European Executive Committee in Bucharest (Rumania) which I will be attending on November 19.

New trainer in Holland

The Netherlands Table Tennis Association have engaged Mr. Dusan Tigermann, of Yugoslavia, as national trainer for 12 months. The new trainer has been given full responsibility for training and selection of the Netherlands teams, and although Tigermann only started on September 1, good results are already being felt. Henk van Dilst, Holland's live-wire hon. international secretary, predicts a great future for table tennis in the Netherlands, but believes that this can only be brought about by concentrating on young players and taking a long-term view, as none of Holland's established players have progressed to anywhere near the European ranking list.

S.E.A.P.A.T.T. Championships

The Australian T.T.A.—who were bitterly disappointed when the I.T.T.F. took away the 1967 World Championships from them—are trying to make up for this blow by organising the S.E.A.P.A.T.T. (South-East Asia, Pacific Area) Championships in Melbourne next April.

They expect entries from Japan, South Korea, Hong Kong, Philippines, Thailand, Indonesia, Singapore, Malaysia, and, of course, New Zealand and Australia.

It is hoped that we shall be able to arrange for a tour of English players in Australia in 1969.

International Programme for 1967-68

Since the draft programme was published in the October issue, there have been a few changes. As Poland have dropped out of the European League, we are now able to fit the Rumanian and Czechoslovakia Open Championships into our programme. Also, we have been fortunate in obtaining a substantial fee from the B.B.C. which has enabled us to invite Yugoslavia to send a team for a friendly international match on December 30. We are negotiating with the B.B.C. and with Sweden to try and arrange a friendly match against that country later in the season.

The junior match against Wales has now been fixed, and we are also assisting some of our juniors as regards expenses for international tournaments. As last year, quite a large part of our international programme has been played in October and early November. Additional events to those previously listed are:—

NOVEMBER	24	WALES JUNIORS v ENGLAND JUNIORS at Merthyr
DECEMBER	30	ENGLAND v HUNGARY (provisional fixture)
1968		
JANUARY	28-31	ROUMANIA OPEN (Bucharest)
FEBRUARY	3-5	CZECHOSLOVAK OPEN (Prague)
	12-14	International Squad training at Crystal Palace (provisional)
APRIL	1-3	International Squad training at Crystal Palace (provisional)
	27-28	ENGLISH JUNIOR OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS (Bexhill) (provisional)
		Luxembourg 20th Anniversary International Championships

New Asian President

The E.T.T.A. learned with great pleasure of the election of Mr. Koji Goto as the new President of the Table Tennis Federation of Asia. It is most appropriate that the honour of providing the Asian President should fall to Japan. Not only did Japanese players walk off with most of the honours at Stockholm but, as always, their sportsmanship and perfect

behaviour served as an example to all. We wish Mr. Koji Goto every success in his new task.

The new Deputy President of the Table Tennis Federation of Asia is Mr. Dinh Van-Ngoc of South Vietnam, and the new Secretary is Mr. Tang Tuck Wah of Singapore.

Globetrotter Bergmann

Richard Bergmann has been touring the West Indies and Central America all summer and autumn, with his partner Chou Lin-Chen of Taiwan (Formosa). Very soon Richard will be starting another one of his tours with the Harlem Globetrotters, with whom this evergreen former world champion has become a permanent fixture. Richard, who is a regular reader of *Table Tennis News*, sends his best wishes to all his many friends in England. Though he and Chou Lin-Chen find it convenient to travel the world on U.S.A. members' exhibition cards, Richard still maintains his permanent home in London . . . even though he does not see it very often these days.



Latest Ranking Lists

FRANCE	MEN: 1 Secretin, 2 Helaine, 3 Purkart, 4 Chergui, 5 Gambier, 6 Barouh. WOMEN: 1 Le Bras, 2 Delaubert, 3 Boiteux, 4 Lambert.
GERMANY (E.)	MEN: 1 Lemke, 2 Stein, 3 Pornack, 4 Zitzmann, 5 Ries, 6 Fahrnich, 7 Vater, 8 Raue, 9 Schmidt, 10 Raue, B. WOMEN: 1 Geissler, 2 Hovestadt, 3 Richter, 4 Strauss, 5 Czech, 6 Legler, 7 Nylhof, 8 Seyfarth, 9 Bennighaus, 10 Stiebner.
GERMANY (W.)	MEN: 1 Scholer, 2 Ness, 3 Arndt, 4 Micheiloff, 5 Lieck, 6 Jansen, 7 Kocher, 8 Weitz, 9 Scholl, 10 Neubauer. WOMEN: 1 Simon, 2 Scholer, 3 Buchholz, 4 Kruger, 5 Harst, 6 Manner, 7 Bahnert, 8 Seidel, 9 Block and Hendriksen.
HUNGARY	MEN: 1 Rozsas, 2 Beleznai, 3 Fahazi, 4 Borzsei, 5 Papp, 6 Harangi, 7 Pignitzky, 8 Kocsis, 9 Jonyer, 10 Berczik. WOMEN: 1 Jurik and Koczian, 3 Lukacs, 4 Kishazi, 5 Papp, 6 Poor, 7 Rozsas, 8 Zonger, 9 Memeth, 10 Csoke.
JAPAN	MEN: 1 Hasegawa, 2 Takahashi, 3 Kagimoto, 4 Kimura, 5 Kono, 6 Fukushima, 7 Miki, 8 Kitamura, 9 Abe. WOMEN: 1 Yamanaka, 2 Morisawa, 3 Fukazu, 4 Itoh, 5 Itoh, 6 Sakaida, 7 Fujiwara, 8 Hatayama, 9 Shimoyama, 10 Isomura.
SWEDEN	MEN: 1 Alser, 2 Johansson, K., 3 Bernhardt, 4 Persson, 5 Johansson, C., 6 Mellstrom, 7 Rosberg, 8 Magnusson, 9 Bergstedt, 10 Bengtsson. WOMEN: 1 Neidert, 2 Rundstrom, 3 Johansson, 4 Wiktorsson, 5 Petersson, 6 Larsson, 7 Walfridsson, 8 Gunstch, L., 9 Gunstch, A., 10 Svantesson.

Champion of Champions

Every other year the South African Table Tennis Board—now officially recognised by the I.T.T.F. as the sport's governing body in South Africa—holds a "Champion of



Iris Barry

Champions" tournament, and when the event was organised in Port Elizabeth recently Iris Barry won the women's title for the fourth time in succession. She has been South Africa's leading woman player since 1961.

Obituary

ROBERT KIRKHAM

At his Kingswindsford home on October 25 Bob Kirkham, a founder member of the Staffordshire Table Tennis Association and Chairman of the Dudley League for many years, passed away.

A good worker for the game, Bob will be sadly missed in the Dudley League and by his many friends in the county.

He leaves a widow, and it is to her we send our deepest sympathy, from all players and officials in Staffordshire.

JOHN PIKE

NEW RULE

TOURNAMENTS

At the National Council Meeting of September 30, Walter Mitton introduced a proposed alteration to Regulation 13 which was approved:—

Refusal of Entries. No entry may be refused (except under Regulation 13) without written authority from the Secretary of the Tournaments Sub-Committee of the E.T.T.A. An Organiser wishing to obtain such authority shall apply to the said Secretary, stating reasons, not later than 7 days before the date of the tournament and the said Secretary shall obtain the agreement of an E.T.T.A. Officer before giving or refusing authority. The Secretary of the Tournaments Sub-Committee shall report all such applications to the next meeting of the National Council.

OFFICIAL NEWS

TEAM SELECTION

HUNGARIAN OPEN, Budapest, October 27-28.
YUGOSLAVIAN OPEN, Karlovac, November 2-4.
D. Neale (Yorks), S. R. Gibbs (Essex), Mary Wright (Surrey) and Karenza Smith (Middlesex)
EUROPEAN LEAGUE. AUSTRIA v ENGLAND, Vienna, November 5, 1967.
ALTERNATE—
EUROPEAN LEAGUE. AUSTRIA v ENGLAND, Vienna, November 5-6-7.
From the above
The England Junior team to play against the Netherlands at St. Luke's Youth Club, Canning Town, London, E.16, on November 3 was selected:—
Paul Judd (Warwks), Brian Mitchell (Lancs), Trevor Taylor (Herts), Sandra Goldsmith (Surrey), Judy Heaps (Ches) and Jill Shirley (Bucks)

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East of England Open

Joan Robinson

Symonds Stops Hydes Treble

ALAN HYDES had a good weekend at the East of England Open, held at Butlin's, Skegness on September 23-24, winning two doubles titles, with Denis Neale and Maureen Heppell, but finding Mike Symonds just that bit too consistent for him in the men's final.

In reaching the latter, the Barnsley international accounted for the concentrated defence of Sammy Ogundipe as well as disposing of the quick-hitting Trevor Taylor. Symonds had a comfortable passage his all round game being too much for Derek Schofield in the semi.

Hydes looked set for a hat trick when he took the first game, but Symonds brought his experience into play and mixing sound defence with quick attacking bursts never allowed his county teammate to settle into any sort of rhythm.

Owing to the absence of Brian Burn who had been involved, with Joe McLeod, in a car accident, Hydes made up a scratch pairing with Neale and they never dropped a game. Barry Meisel and Derek Basden gave them a good fight in the final but the class of Neale (a non entrant in the singles) was too much for them.

Hydes' second title was with Miss Heppell overcoming Taylor and Elsie Carrington. Taylor, however, gained honours with a comparatively easy win in the boys' singles but the girls' final was a very exciting affair. It went to Jill Shirley who beat the No. 1 seed Judy Heaps.

At one stage it looked as if Miss Heaps was going to have the title given her when Miss Shirley, in attempting to reach a drop shot, crashed into the table and winded herself.

Judy was again on the losing side with Mrs. Carrington in the women's doubles won by Shelagh Hession and Judy Williams, the latter winning a most exciting singles final against Miss Heppell.

Although entries were down on last year, the tournament was excellently managed for which Ken Dewar and his band of assistants can take a well deserved bow.

Men's Singles — quarter-finals: A. Hydes (Yorks) bt S. Ogundipe (Sussex) 17, 18; T. Taylor (Herts) bt R. Penfold (Surrey) 18, 15; M. Symonds (Yorks) bt L. F. Landry (Middx) 16, 14; D. Schofield (Ches) bt L. Wooding (Beds) 19, 19.

Quarter-finals: HYDES bt Taylor 15, 18; SYMONDS bt Schofield 15, 14.

Final: SYMONDS bt Hydes -16, 16, 13.

Women's Singles — semi-finals: M. HEPPPELL (North'd) bt J. Heaps (Ches) -21, 9, 23; J. WILLIAMS (Sussex) bt K. Perry (Staffs) 14, 18.

Final: WILLIAMS bt Heppell -20, 10, 17.

Men's Doubles—semi-finals: HYDES/D. NEALE (Yorks) bt P. Duncombe/J. Kedge (Yorks) 10, 19; D. BASDEN/B. MEISEL (Kent) bt J. K. Clarke (Lancs)/B. Kean (Ches) -16, 19, 19.

Final: HYDES/NEALE bt Basden/Meisel 19, 19.

Women's Doubles — semi-finals: S. HESSION (Essex)/WILLIAMS bt C. Duncombe/L. S. Proudlock (Yorks) 12, 20; E. CARRINGTON (Essex)/HEPPPELL bt Heppell/C. Moran (Lincs) 15, 15.

Final: HESSION/WILLIAMS bt Carrington/Heaps -19, 19, 16.

Mixed Doubles—semi-finals: HYDES/HEPPPELL bt Landry/Duncombe -19, 15, 16; TAYLOR/CARRINGTON bt Duncombe/Proudlock 13, 18.

Final: HYDES/HEPPPELL bt Taylor/Carrington 18, 19.

Boys' Singles—quarter-finals: Taylor bt D. Rayner (Yorks) 6, 10; S. Smith (Essex) bt E. Muhr (Cams) 16, -11, 17; J. Phelps (Yorks) bt D. Collins (Notts) 12, 13; R. Clarke (Warwks) bt B. Gallichan (Jersey) 15, 10.

Semi-finals: TAYLOR bt Smith 17, 12; PHELPS bt Clarke 17, -17, 9.

Final: TAYLOR bt Phelps 6, 12.

Girls' Singles—semi-finals: HEAPS bt A. Waters (Yorks) 12, 11; J. SHIRLEY (Bucks) bt C. Randall (Derbys) 7, 7.

Final: SHIRLEY bt Heaps 10, -17, 14.

"NEW TOWNS" TOURNAMENT

Welwyn G.C. Oust Crawley

AT "The Pavilion," Marlowes, Hemel Hempstead, on Sunday, September 24, play was again of an exceptionally high standard and many an exciting game took place. Crawley, the holders, who have won this title on five occasions, were again a force to be reckoned with, but with the Basildon and Hemel Hempstead teams greatly improved and Welwyn Garden City, the eventual winners, in great form, the matter was by no means "cut and dried."

Special mention should be made of the encouraging pre-season form of A. Green (Crawley) and E. Monkhouse (Hemel Hempstead) who were both undefeated throughout the day.

FINAL TABLE						
	P	W	L	F	A	Pts
Welwyn G. C.	6	6	0	31	11	12
Crawley	5	4	1	25	10	8
Basildon	5	3	2	18	17	6
Hemel Hempstead	6	3	3	21	21	6
Harlow	5	2	3	19	16	4
Bracknell	5	1	4	11	24	4
Hatfield	6	0	6	8	34	0

Stevenage scratched after playing five matches and all scores were counted as void.

North of England Open

by George R. Yates

Warren Makes Amends

CHALLENGING Chester Barnes for the villain's role as stormy petrel of English table tennis, Cornelius J. Warren weathered the storm of a second game reverse to Mike Johns, in the final of the men's singles at the North of England Open in Manchester on October 7, to come back at his red shirted foe and win the day.

In this role, more in the manner of a Roman gladiator, Warren also won back a legion of admirers who had deserted his cause at Bolton and Walton-le-Dale on previous excursions to the west of the Pennines.

Johns, in the penultimate proceedings and after a powerful struggle with Jeff Ingber, produced ample evidence as to why he is a member of the International Squad in disposing of Jim Langan, that broth of a boy from Ireland who had, in the quarters, "toll'd the knell of parting day" for Brian Wright.

Some compensation was afforded the Mitcham international when, with Derek Baddeley, the Dublin "packet" of Langan and Darrah Melinn was scuttled in the deep waters of the semis.

A wash created by Johns and the bearded Roger Hampson however, submerged the Middlesex/Staffs pairing as the Cheshire duo combined, as only they can, to sweep to victory.

"ODE" IOUS

A contribution to *Table Tennis Bulletin*, produced by the Leinster Branch of the Irish Table Tennis Association, is the following from Mick Dunne (Ulster Branch Secretary):

Hark the Herald Angels sing!
do they pong or do they ping?
He who does not ping nor pong
Is not fit for the selected throng.

Holder of the women's singles crown, Beverley Sayer, held on right up to the final but Maureen Heppell, that veritable Queen of the Northern Tournament circuit, prised the title from her grasp.

Men's Singles—quarter-finals: C. J. Warren (Surrey) bt T. Taylor (Herts) 17, 11; J. Keogh (Lancs) bt S. Lennie (Northumb) 16, -20, 7; M. Johns (Ches) bt R. Hampson (Ches) 15, 10; J. Langan (Ireland) bt B. D. Wright (Middx) 15, 13.

Semi-finals: WARREN bt Keogh 11, 13; JOHNS bt Langan -13, 17, 19.

Final: WARREN bt Johns 11, -7, 15.

Women's Singles — semi-finals: M. HEPPPELL (Northumb) bt C. Duncombe (Yorks) 8, 15; B. SAYER (Essex) bt J. Heaps (Ches) 18, 17.

Final: HEPPPELL bt Sayer 14, 13.

Men's Doubles—semi-finals: HAMPSON/JOHNS bt P. C. Duncombe/J. Kedge (Yorks) 7, 14; D. BADDELEY (Staffs)/WRIGHT bt Langan/D. Melinn (Ireland) 19, 15.

Final: HAMPSON/JOHNS bt Baddeley/Wright 15, 7.

Women's Doubles — semi-finals: HEAPS/SAYER bt Heppell/D. Simpson (Essex) 7, 14; P. DAINITY (Yorks)/J. FITZSIMONS (Ireland) bt Duncombe/L. S. Proudlock (Yorks) 18, -17, 16.

Final: HEAPS/SAYER bt Dainty/Fitzsimons 12, 13.

Mixed Doubles—semi-finals: JOHNS/SIMPSON bt Baddeley/L. Sykes (Warwks) 9, 13; HAMPSON/HEAPS bt L. Wilson (Nigeria)/Dainty 16, 10.

Final: JOHNS/SIMPSON bt Hampson/Heaps -12, 16, 18.

Boys' Singles—semi-finals: TAYLOR bt A. Boasman (Lancs) 11, 13; B. MITCHELL (Lancs) bt S. Kaufman (Lancs) 13, -14, 9.

Final: TAYLOR bt Mitchell 12, 10.

Girls' Singles — semi-finals: L. FORKES (Yorks) bt N. Ferguson (Northumb) 12, 19; HEAPS bt L. Bashford (Yorks) 10, -22, 13.

Final: HEAPS bt Forkes 6, 7.

News from "Down Under" by Dennis Tucker, Australian non-playing captain

NEW PRESIDENT ELECTED

DR. John Jackson has been elected the new President of the Australian Table Tennis Association, in succession to Mr. Ron H. Jones.

Dr. Jackson will be well remembered in England as an Official with the Australian teams in 1963 and 1965.

He was Manager of the Australian team to the World Championships in Prague, when he was also a Delegate to the I.T.T.F. Congress. He was then non-playing captain of the 1965 team to Ljubljana.

He has been one of Australia's leading administrators for many years and he is also Chairman of National Selectors and Senior Vice-President of the South Australian Association. Recently he was Organising Secretary of the 1967 Australian Championships, which have been described as one of the most successful in history.

Mr. Jones, the former President, held this post for the previous nine years — prior to which he was National Secretary for 23 years.

TRIPLE CROWN for Mrs. JAVOR

THE 29th Australian National Open Championships, conducted in the "garden city" of Adelaide in South Australia from September 4-8, gave a great boost to table tennis in Australia.

Michael Wilcox (New South Wales) was in splendid form to win the National men's singles title from South Australian champion Murray Thomson.

Both players visited the U.K. with the Australian team in 1963 and Wilcox returned again when the Aussie side visited England in 1965, prior to the Worlds in Ljubljana.

Former Hungarian International Suzy Javor (Victoria), chalked up her eighth National women's singles title by defeating Lynn Gilbert, a member of the Australian Corbillon Cup team in Stockholm, in the final.

Mrs. Javor also won the mixed doubles and women's doubles titles, to give her the triple crown for the first time.

The only member of this year's touring Australian side to win a National title was 16-year-old Alan Frankenburg, who partnered Thomson to win the men's Open doubles title.

Thomson/Frankenburg eliminated Wilcox and Paul Pinkewich (New South Wales) in four games in the semi-finals whilst the runners-up were a little lucky to defeat another S.A. pair Kevin Edwards and Merv Jan, in the other semi.

Edwards will be remembered in England as a former team mate of Ian Harrison, with whom he won the 1955-56 English Open junior boys' doubles.

Paul Pinkewich, who won the Welsh junior title in March of this year, lost the final of the Australian junior title to titleholder Leigh Pascoe (Victoria), in a sensational expedite match.

After losing the first game, Pascoe set out to draw Pinkewich into an expedite duel and when this was imposed he exerted his superior attacking game to win the next two games, and the match.

The surprise elimination of top Australian junior girl Denise Gavros by Queensland junior champion Shelly Khan, left the way open for South Australian junior titleholder Christine Vick to win the national junior girls' title.

Reigning mixed doubles champions McDonald and Margaret Lindsay (New South Wales), survived a marathon semi-final challenge from L. Pascoe/L. Gilbert—only to lose the final in surprisingly easy fashion to John Nicholson and Mrs. Javor.

Mesdames Javor and Lorraine Nicholson had little difficulty in winning their third national women's doubles title from Misses Gilbert and Mary Cleaves.

Victoria won both the men's and women's sections of the Australian teams Championships, played in conjunction with the Open individual events.

English coach Harry Venner was non-playing captain of the Victorian men's team and is now well settled in his full-time post of Victorian State Coach.

Harry, incidentally, entered the national singles (seeded No. 8) but lost in the third round to another veteran, Phil Anderson of South Australia, who was Australian champion in 1951-53-54.

Following the completion of the Championships, Mrs. Javor received the Victor Barna Award for 1967 and Miss Christine Vick was awarded the Michael Szabados Memorial Trophy for the year's most outstanding junior.

Men's Singles: M. WILCOX (N.S.W.) bt M. Thomson (S.A.) -18, 10, 15, 16.

Women's Singles: S. JAVOR (Vic) bt L. Gilbert (Vic) 14, 18, 18.

Men's Doubles: A. FRANKENBURG/M. THOMSON bt J. Lindsay/C. McDonald (N.S.W.) -13, 11, 23, 13.

Women's Doubles: JAVOR/L. NICHOLSON bt M. Cleaves/Gilbert 4, 11, 18.

Mixed Doubles: NICHOLSON/JAVOR bt McDonald/M. Lindsay 13, 16, 7.

Boys' Singles: L. PASCOE (Vic) bt P. Pinkewich (N.S.W.) -15, 19, 18.

Girls' Singles: C. VICK (S.A.) bt S. Khan (Q'land) -17, 22, 19.

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JUNIOR TRIALS & RANKING

FROM the five Area Trials, in which no fewer than 83 boys and 37 girls took part, 14 boys and 12 girls reached the Final Trials at Ultra Electronics, Acton, on October 1. Both the trials for boys and girls were arranged in four groups which were seeded from the known capabilities of the players taking part. All the trialists were then placed into a knock-out competition, places in the draw decided by positions in the groups. Thus the four group winners in each case were put as the four seeds and the draw then arranged so that no player was likely to play against the same opponent again. The top group seeds came through in each case, i.e. Taylor, Judd, Mitchell and Harmer amongst the boys, and Smith, Heaps, Shirley and Goldsmith in the girls. To get a complete picture the first round losers played off to a winner and so did the second round losers. There was also a play-off for the two losing semi-finalists.

The selection committee agreed to extend the ranking lists to 1-10 for both boys and girls, with an additional Group A of ten in each case with a further Group B of ten for boys. In this way a lot more meaning was attached to the original Area Trials.

BOYS

1. TREVOR TAYLOR (Herts)
2. PAUL JUDD (Warwicks)
3. BRIAN MITCHELL (Lancs)
4. TONY CLAYTON (Yorks)
5. PAUL HARMER (Herts)
6. MICHAEL WALD (Bucks)
7. ROGER CLARKE (Warwicks)
8. JOHN PHELPS (Yorks)
9. ALAN FLETCHER (Yorks)
10. DAVID JAMES (Devon)

GROUP A

1. P. Abell (Yorks)
2. G. Allen (Warwicks)
3. M. Berry (Warwicks)
4. A. Boasman (Lancs)
5. J. Coleman (Yorks)
6. N. Jarvis (Yorks)
7. M. Jobson (Warwicks)
8. F. Kennedy (Essex)
9. R. Napper (Bucks)
10. M. Waldman (Middlesex)

GROUP B

1. S. Bassett (Norfolk)
2. J. Dabin (Kent)
3. R. Gibson (Middlesex)
4. S. Heaps (Cheshire)
5. R. Hellaby (Essex)
6. R. Marchant (Northants)
7. M. Read (Essex)
8. S. Smith (Essex)
9. P. Taylor (Herts)
10. D. Wilson (Derbys)

GIRLS

1. KARENZA SMITH (Middlesex)
2. JUDY HEAPS (Cheshire)
3. JILL SHIRLEY (Bucks)
4. SANDRA GOLDSMITH (Surrey)
5. JENNIFER CORNOCK (Warwicks)
6. LINDA FORKES (Yorks)
7. CHRISTINE MANN (Middlesex)
8. RUTH WILSON (Kent)
9. SUSAN LISLE (Lancs)
10. SANDRA LEE (Yorks)

GROUP A

1. Linda Bashford (Yorks)
2. Julie Daniels (Hants)
3. Nancy Ferguson (Northumb)
4. Susan Howard (Surrey)
5. Valerie King (Yorks)
6. Diane Maxfield (Hunts)
7. Susan Pacitto (Bucks)
8. Barbara Peters (Herts)
9. Carol Randall (Derbys)
10. Moira Stevens (Kent)

NEWBURY JUNIOR OPEN

More Titles for Taylor & Shirley

JILL SHIRLEY and Trevor Taylor won the Senior singles titles in the Newbury Junior Open where the rather late finish and the withdrawal of Harmer from the boys' final were the annoying aspects. The organising committee are already arranging next year's tournament with rather less of the younger events perhaps, so that the finish can be more like 8.30 p.m.

With the Juniors BY LAURIE LANDRY

UNDER-17

Boys' Singles—quarter-finals: R. Napper (Bucks) bt D. James (Devon) 12, -11, 22; P. Harmer (Herts) bt H. Thomas (Wales) 6, -16, 16; A. Fletcher (Yorks) bt S. Smith (Essex) 18, -19, 22; T. Taylor (Herts) bt R. Hellaby (Essex) 14, 12.

Semi-finals: HARMER bt Napper -19, 8, 10; TAYLOR bt Fletcher 8, 9.

Final: TAYLOR bt Harmer w.o.

Girls' Singles—semi-finals: J. SHIRLEY (Bucks) bt C. Mann (Middlex) 11, 14; L. CHESSON (Kent) bt B. Peters (Herts) 19, 17.

Final: SHIRLEY bt Chesson 6, 7.

Boys' Doubles—semi-finals: TAYLOR/THOMAS bt James/P. Stone (Devon) 10, 16; P. TAYLOR (Herts)/S. HEAPS (Cheshire) bt R. Napper/M. Wald (Bucks) -18, 18, 15.

Final: TAYLOR/THOMAS bt Taylor/Heaps 12, 13.

Girls' Doubles—semi-finals: SHIRLEY/S. PACITTO (Bucks) bt G. McCulloch/V. Bond (Surrey) 4, 10; J. BRIDGES/A. PAINTER (Middlex) bt J. Daniels/C. Hutchings (Hants) -11, 15, 17.

Final: SHIRLEY / PACITTO bt Bridges/Painter 7, 4.

Mixed Doubles—semi-finals: NAPPER/SHIRLEY bt M. Wald/S. Pacitto (Bucks) 20, 12; THOMAS/MANN bt T. Taylor (Herts)/R. Wilson (Kent) -12, 19, 15.

Final: NAPPER / SHIRLEY bt Thomas/Mann 9, 19.

UNDER-15

Boys' Singles—semi-finals: THOMAS bt J. Dabin (Kent) 18, 22; FLETCHER bt S. Tannahill (Hants) -12, 6, 11.

Final: THOMAS bt Fletcher 8, -20, 16.

Girls' Singles—semi-finals: CHESSON bt S. Beckwith (Essex) -18, 8, 19; MANN bt Painter 20, 19.

Final: CHESSON bt Mann -22, 20, 17.

Boys' Doubles—semi-finals: R. HELLABY/M. READ (Essex) bt P. Taylor/Heaps -18, 14, 20; DABIN/THOMAS bt S. Endersby/M. Fryer (Kent) 12, 12.

Final: DABIN/THOMAS bt Hellaby/Read 14, 17.

Girls' Doubles—semi-finals: C. MANN (Middlex)/V. KING (Yorks) bt J. Hudson (Hants)/L. Pacitto (Bucks) 16, 17; CHESSON/P. BRENCHLEY (Kent) bt P. and S. Beazer (Somerset) 19, 10.

Final: MANN/KING bt Chesson/Brenchley 16, -11, 17.

Mixed Doubles—semi-finals: THOMAS/MANN bt L. Shoobridge/Brenchley (Kent) 6, 9; N. FULSTOW/V. KING (Yorks) bt G. Sweney/H. Wesley (Essex) 13, 12.

Final: THOMAS/MANN bt Fulstow/King 16, -20, 14.

UNDER-13

Boys' Singles—semi-finals: P. TAYLOR bt Sweney 21, 17; B. HUTCHINSON (Beds) bt R. Morris (Herts) 11, -18, 15.

Final: TAYLOR bt Hutchinson 8, 19.

Girls' Singles—semi-finals: L. PACITTO (Bucks) bt D. Griffin (Middlex) 6, 9; S. BEAZER (Somerset) bt G. Macrae (Surrey) 12, 8.

Final: PACITTO bt Beazer 12, 12.

BARNET T.T. CENTRE

by Johnny Leach

A TABLE tennis centre in every town in the country, where the game may be played seven days a week without hindrance from other activities—that has long been the dream of British officials and players.

Four years ago, far-seeing Douglas Underwood, the American-born Vice President of the Barnets League, set about the task of getting Barnet its own table tennis centre. The initial response to his idea was frigid, largely because it was considered "pie in the sky." However, backed by his chairman Mr. A. J. Cox, and Mr. D. Gale, an executive committee member, Douglas persisted in his efforts.

In Barnet Lane he found a piece of land which had once housed a Youth Centre. He secured a 28-year lease, a £3,000 mortgage and, eventually, planning permission plus a £6,900 Government grant towards a fully equipped centre to cost £14,000.

The Barnets League then set about trying to raise sufficient funds to close the gap. So far, largely through a successful horse racing competition, they have realised £1,700. However, just as everything appeared settled with the Barnet Urban District Council the area was absorbed by the GLC. Negotiations had to start all over again! Meantime, also, the estimated cost of the new building had soared to £18,000.

However, thanks to Mr. Underwood's dogged perseverance and enterprise all difficulties have now been overcome. Building commences early in 1968 and next July the Barnet Centre is due to open its doors with nine tables available for hire at an hourly rate. Arrangements are to be made to make time available to the general public, and also to give special facilities to schools.

Barnet have set a glowing example. Just think what might be achieved if it were to be followed by every table tennis league in the country!

THERE appeared to be some misunderstanding at the last A.G.M. as to how the finances of the E.T.T.A. are controlled. It was suggested that there should be an annual budget—there is a budget of course, and there has been one for several years. This is submitted to the first meeting of the Council and every effort is made to keep to the original estimates.

There are certain items that can be reasonably controlled but there are others that can only be estimated. Adjustments have to be made therefore during the season as the estimates turn out to be over or under. The result is either a profit or loss and if it is a loss then some drastic actions may be required by the Council.

To demonstrate the position, the figures for 1966-67 season are set out showing the original estimates and the actual figures by the end of the season.

OPTIMISTIC

It will be seen that the Administration Expenses were within £65 of the estimate and the Working Account Expenses were within £165 of the estimate—both being below estimate. The income on the Administrative Account was £223 better than estimate making an improvement so far in total of £453. The most serious difference was on the Working Account income which turned out to be £1,153 less than the estimate. This arose partly on the estimate of the income on the Fund Raising efforts which was less than what was anticipated. The original estimate was obviously optimistic but nevertheless could have

THE FINANCIAL YEAR

By TOM BLUNN,

Hon. Treasurer of the E.T.T.A.

been achieved if sufficient effort had been made. The initial enquiries for the Lottery were double those of the previous year and £1,000 was possible—as it turned out only £500 was raised. The 100 Club was slow to get off the ground but is now growing slowly but produced nothing in its first season.

Other reasons were that the amount received from the Trade Fund was only £650 against an estimate of £1,000 as the balance was held over pending the final decision on the amount to be claimed to cover the loss on the European Championships; the T.V. fee for the English Open was £150 less than previous years and the profit on home International matches was rather disappointing. But for these setbacks the loss last season could easily have been turned into a profit of several hundred pounds.

Many expenses are net after deducting sundry income and recoveries and there is far more involved than what appears from the foregoing figures. The gross expenditure for last season was well over £20,000 and obviously there is tremendous scope for movement one way or another.

It is not always understood how the financial structure of the E.T.T.A. is built up. Briefly there are three main sources of income: (1) The members, (2) The Government and (3) Outside sources. The total income from each source is approximately £7,500 from (1), £4,500 from (2) and £8,000 from (3) the latter including T.V. fees and sponsorship. The total received from (1) and (2) just about covers the gross cost of Administration. All the activities therefore are financed from outside sources and this is where the strength of the Association lies. The respect for the efficient administration and the attraction of the game itself brings the money to pay for the whole of the international programme at home and abroad.

SPECIFIED GRANTS

The Government grant is specified to assist in Secretarial, Coaching and Office expenses and there is no other way in which this money can be spent. The grant covers 80% of the salaries of the Organising Secretary, the Director of Coaching and the Staff Coach, with £300 towards each of their travelling expenses plus £300 towards the cost of Office Rent. This is by no means a part contribution but is a material contribution which makes the administration of the Association secure.

The income from members pays the balance of all other administration costs plus the rebates paid to the Counties. The County Rebates have helped most counties to keep their fees down for several years, and next season the rebates will amount to about £1,500 and compares with £600 in 1961. The rebate represents more than half the income of many counties and is a material factor in the financial structure of the counties.

Administration of the Association is a direct benefit to all members. The effect of the Coaching Scheme is felt in all areas where coaching rallies and other activities have taken place. Likewise, the new school centres are now having a beneficial effect on the Leagues in the areas. Last season there was a satisfactory increase in overall membership and only a few Leagues failed to show an increase in membership.

FAVOURABLE IMAGE

The international activity is the one that obtains the most publicity and helps to create the image in the minds of the public. Due to a favourable image certain sources of income have been made available, mainly T.V. fees, sponsorship and the Trade Fund, and every penny that is received is put straight back into the game. It may be said that the image of the game would be improved if our international teams were more successful. This may well be so, but with the whole cost of running the teams coming from outside sources the extent of the training, coaching and organisation has to be limited to the extent of the money available.

Each of the three sources of income therefore has an important part to play in the work of the Association and perhaps the foregoing comments have helped members to appreciate how the financial side is controlled.

Lessons From Stockholm

Charles E. Davies asks

... did England really have any live hopes of a title in Stockholm?

Hard as our players tried and in spite of the sparkling form of Denis Neale the answer is an emphatic NO.

Why was this. And more important, what was there to learn at the Championships that can enhance our prospects in the future?

With this question in mind I interviewed our players in Stockholm and here are some of their ideas and views.

Mrs. Mary Wright says, "Before the championships we trained harder and better than ever before, but it still wasn't enough. We need to train more and even harder. If we want to win world titles we must adopt the Japanese attitude. Their business is winning and like all good businesses they are organised to the last minute detail to achieve this!"

Chester Barnes, in his third world championships, states, "England must breed penholder players of her own. We just get used to the Oriental style, then we go home and don't meet it again until the next world's—a gap of two years!"

Karenza Smith is emphatic on the point of speed. "All of us need to move much quicker—match the lightning footwork of the Japs—and hit the ball harder."

Nineteen-year-old Stuart Gibbs says, "I noticed the Japanese filming many of their dangerous opponents. This would be a great aid in England. It would help me enormously if I

could analyse my game on film. It would add points to it."

Hexham's Maureen Heppell, who like Stuart Gibbs and Karenza Smith, was experiencing her first world championships agrees that speed of footwork is a key factor. "The speed of the Japanese and the North Koreans is fantastic," she says. "To win, we must all move much, much faster."

Ian Harrison, at 27, the veteran of the side, says, "Why didn't we win? The trouble with English table tennis is that it is played and thought of as a game. With this attitude how can you hope to win titles against countries who treat the sport as a full-time business?"

Middlesbrough's Denis Neale, England's most successful player at the championships, strikes an optimistic note. "We are not so very far behind other countries," he states. "All we need is a greater belief in ourselves. With this and a greater all round effort, we can beat anybody."

Thus to win world titles our players say, they must be fitter, faster; be directed with a professional verve—a business like acumen: have greater opportunities to practice against Oriental styles; and to cultivate a greater belief in themselves.

These views pose two questions. Has English table tennis the resources to achieve these aims? If not, has the E.T.T.A. the necessary drive, desire, and know-how to get the required resources?

Upon the answer to these questions, lies, it seems to me, the answer to the question, "Can England win world table tennis titles in the future?"

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SUSSEX OPEN

by John Woodford

BARNES "HI-JACKED"

THE story of the 1967 Sussex Open might have been summed-up in one sentence—"Chester Hits the Jack Pot". Instead, it reads—"The jack hits Chester!"

In meriting re-consideration for membership of the International Squad, Barnes was the only home player to reach the semi-finals of the men's singles. But fate stepped in, in the form of a car jack.

Taking the air outside the White Rock Pavilion, Barnes was rendering assistance with a wheel change on a colleague's car when the jack collapsed and the number plate of the vehicle knifed into his knee.

The accident necessitated six stitches and the doctor's orders not to continue playing.

Meanwhile, the English Open champion, Jaroslav Stanek, reached

Jitka Karlikova accounted for Judy Williams.

The Saturday evening mixed doubles session brought an outstanding victory for Mary and Brian Wright (who wrote "Bonnie and Clyde" on the draw sheet?) when they brought down the mighty Stanek and Miss Karlikova 22, -16, 16.

Marred by the scratching of Barnes and Ian Harrison, the northern partnership of Alan Hydes and Brian Burn prospered to the final of the men's doubles in which their previous thrashing was of no avail against the Miko/Stanek combination.

Another home success followed in the women's doubles when Mary and Karenza weathered a second game set-back to take the title from the other Czech pairing.

CONTROVERSIAL DECISION

The tournament attracted in addition to a host of foreign and home stars an enormous number of national and county umpires. National umpire, Mrs. Pat Archdale, reputed to be the "hottest" on correct service is reported to have faulted all four players in a doubles match on the first day!

In a vital men's singles quarter-final between Miko and Stuart Gibbs, her second call of "fault" on Miko resulted in a hold-up and the Czech player asking for a change of umpire. Surprisingly the demand was upheld by Bill Goldfinch, the Referee, thus avoiding the other alternative—a possible "walk-out" by the visiting star.

Men's Singles — semi-finals: J. STANEK (Czecho) bt N. van de Walle (Belgium) 12, 15; V. MIKO (Czecho) w.o. G. C. Barnes (Essex) scratched.

Final: STANEK bt Miko 4, 19.

Women's Singles — semi-finals: M. WRIGHT (Surrey) bt J. Karlikova (Czecho) 17, 12; M. LUZOVA (Czecho) bt P. Pidcock (Herts) 16, 12.

Final: WRIGHT bt Luzova 10, -19, 17.

Men's Doubles — final: MIKO / STANEK bt A. Hydes (Yorks)/B. Burn (Nthland) 13, 18.

Women's Doubles — final: K. SMITH (Middx)/WRIGHT bt Karlikova/Luzova 12, -13, 14.

Mixed Doubles — final: MIKO / LUZOVA bt B. D. Wright (Middx)/Wright 19, 20.

Veteran Singles — final: I. ANDREADIS (Czecho) bt R. Etheridge (Kent) 15, 8.



Jaroslav Stanek's (Photo by Dennis Offer)

the final via Norbert van de Walle, the Belgian No. 1 who had accounted for Denis Neale in the quarters with the expedite rule invoked at 21-all in the third! Stanek lived up to his high European ranking when he disposed of his compatriot in the final.

Mary Wright, for the third time, won the women's singles when she beat Marta Luzova. In the quarters, Pauline Pidcock had a great win over Karenza Smith and the Czech No. 2,

"NEWS OF THE WORLD" FINALS by Johnny Leach

ELAINE & PETER HIT HIGH SPOTS

TWO talented twelve-year-olds took top spots in the 13th News of the World National Table Tennis Coaching Scheme, which concluded at Butlin's Bognor Regis Camp, on September 30.

They were Elaine Smith, of Perthshire, Scotland, and Peter Taylor of Hitchin, Herts.

When my fellow judges and I totted up the marks scored by the 17 finalists in coaching sessions at Butlin's Bognor Camp, and after allowance was made for age as provided for in the rules, Elaine and Peter emerged as clear winners—the most promising of the record number of 36,500 under 17's who competed this summer.

An audience of 2,000 at Butlin's Gaiety Theatre, saw Roger Hall, representing the News of the World, present the handsome "Girl" and "Boy of the Year" trophies.

Runners-up awards went to 14-year-old Lynda Chesson of Sittingbourne, Kent, and 13-year-old Tony Boasman of Manchester.

Not only was this summer's entry 4,000 up on last year's record figure, but the standard of play in this our 13th season, reached a new high in almost every department. For the first time, to avoid too much interference with school studies, the Grand Finals were abbreviated to one weekend and the number of finalists drastically reduced. As a result, though the revised scheme was successful in every other way, several extremely talented competitors had to be ruthlessly eliminated before the final stage. But they won't be forgotten—I have kept careful notes of their names and details for future reference.

FOOTWORK NEED IMPROVING

The only unfavourable criticism I can make concerns footwork, which is the least impressive feature in the play of our youngsters today. Even the award winners were not as quick on their feet as I would like to see, so this is a point on which we must concentrate in our future coaching.

Fair-haired Elaine Smith, 5ft. 2in. of bouncing energy and enterprise, was our tiny tot champion of 3 years ago. She has made staggering progress in the last 12 months, despite

limited opportunities for practice and coaching in her native Scotland, and becomes the first Scottish player ever to win the top award in our scheme. Her News of the World coach was Les Gresswell of Butlin's Ayr Camp.

Elaine's nearest rival was Lynda Chesson, whom Chester Barnes nominated originally as one of the most promising young players he had ever seen. We don't disagree with Chester, but the two year difference in age helped to tip the scales in Elaine's favour.

Tiny right-handed Peter Taylor followed in the footsteps of his left-handed elder brother, Trevor, who was our "Boy of the Year" 1965, when Peter finished among the runners-up. Trevor is now a leading England junior player, and was in action at Ultra Electronics Limited taking part in the Final England Trials together with several other players who figured in our Coaching Scheme this summer. The fact that Peter has not yet been selected for this honour should not bother him. His turn is bound to come, and remember: our selection is based on player's potential ability, not on his current match-playing ability.

Our assessment is that Peter Taylor could eventually prove an even better match-player than his brother. His game is already surprisingly mature. Though favouring attack on both wings in the modern manner, his chop defence is also well above average. Above all, he has that rare gift of anticipation—he makes the ball wait for him. His News of the World coach was Mike Johns at Butlin's Bognor Camp.

Tony Boasman, who pressed Peter closely in the boy's section, is another great England prospect for the future. He has an impressively fast loop shot and is a good counter-hitter, but a tendency to be slow on his feet cost him vital marks.

The Coach & Pupil Challenge Cup was won by Tommy Caffrey and Brian Langan representing Butlin's Mosney Camp. In the first ever North v South final, played yesterday afternoon, they beat Mike Johns and Paul Harmer (Butlin's Bognor Camp) by 17-21, 24-22, 21-18, 13-21, 21-15.

NEWBURY INNOVATION

Unable to run the Newbury Open this season, secretary Tony Mosson has come up with the idea of running a Pairs Competition on Davis Cup lines—4 singles and a doubles in each match.

Permission has been granted by the ETTA's Tournaments sub-committee for invitations to go out to counties with teams in the Premier Division asking each to nominate a pair.

Separate competitions for men and women are envisaged to be run on four tables at Newbury College on Sunday, December 3.

BRITISH WEEK IN BRUSSELS

by "Foreign Correspondents"

ALMA TAFT & PAULINE MEISEL

THE English table tennis team starred in the Belgian Championships which coincided with "British Week" in Brussels. They showed the Belgian that England can produce more than Carnaby Street gear and No. 11 buses. Nevertheless Denis and Stuart did not let the Carnaby Street image down with their "apres Ping" attire.

After their fine win over Holland the night before, England proceeded to trounce Belgium 7-0. Down the Belgians fell like nine-pins much to

the approval of the rest of the English spectators. Results—

D. NEALE bt M. Cornil 19, 23; bt N. van de Walle 18, 22.

S. GIBBS bt Cornil 12, -13, 14; bt van de Walle 18, 17.

KARENZA SMITH bt Josiane Detaille 12, -19, 13.

NEALE/MARY WRIGHT bt van de Walle/Detaille 15, -17, 10.

NEALE/GIBBS bt van de Walle/Cornil 12, 19.

Now for the tournament:—

Mary reigned supreme in the ladies' singles and with her flashing forehead she conquered all. She beat Edit Buchholz comfortably in the semi-final and had a surprisingly easy win over Karenza in the all-England final. But the prize for sheer grit and determination must go to Karenza in her magnificent win over Agnes Simon. After trailing 14-18 in the fifth, Karenza wowed the crowds by not losing another point.

Denis and Stuart fought valiantly in the men's singles with Stuart losing narrowly to the new Czech junior Turay. Our hopes were now pinned on Denis for another singles finalist and after beating Gambier of France in the quarters, he faced Michaeloff in the semis.

Michaeloff had beaten Stanek in the previous round and, unfortunately, he continued to show brilliant form to eventually beat Denis 18 in the fifth.

Our congratulations must also go to Keith Lawrence for winning the consolation singles. All these fine results earned England the trophy for the best team in the Championship and so ended a truly victorious "British Week" in Brussels. Results:—

Men's Singles: E. SCHOLAR (W. Germany) bt H. Michaeloff (W. Germany) 15, 19, 12.

Women's Singles: M. WRIGHT (England) bt K. Smith (England) 9, 16, 19.

Men's Doubles: J. STANEK/TURAY (Czecho) bt Gambier/Helaine (France) 13, 15, 26.

Women's Doubles: WRIGHT/SMITH bt A. Simon/E. Buchholz (W. Germany) 17, -12, 17, -12, 17.

Mixed Doubles: STANEK / I. VOSTOVA (Czecho) bt Neale/Wright 20, 11, 15.

NATIONAL TEAM COMPETITIONS by Leslie Davis

GLOUCESTER UNCHANGED

FIRST round results are beginning to pour in. The first received was from East London who played Chelmsford, in the Wilmott Cup. Although Chelmsford lost by 7 sets to 2, T. Caldwell did well to beat both Lawrence and Curtis.

In the same competition J. Goodall (Northampton) was the only player to win a set against Birmingham. He also took a game off Derek Munt.

Two very good sides in the Southern section are London Civil Service (Pidcock, Gibbs and Austin) and Willesden (Offenbach (D.), Wright and Sugden). I notice that Gloucester will continue to play their cup winning team.

Due to many byes, the Rose Bowl teams cannot yet be compared although I notice that the St. Neots v. Oxford match provided thrills with five sets going to three games.

From the few cards received from the Boys' teams it is again apparent that East London have a good side.

Chelmsford, the losing side against Harlow, have a very good player in D. Ash who won all his sets.

We are now in a position to report this year's entrance statistics.

The number of Leagues to enter equalled last season's even though the Seniors' entrance fee was increased.

While fresh leagues entered, some older ones, notably Coventry, Hertford and Maidenhead, did not re-apply.

	1966-67	1967-68
Wilmott Cup	108	102
Rose Bowl	73	70
Carter Cup	56	56
Bromfield Trophy	19	22

RESULTS

(at the time of going to press)

WILMOTT CUP

Northumberland	8	Carlisle	0
Newcastle	9	Whitehaven	0
Spalding	1	Doncaster	5
Hull	7	Chesterfield	2
Bolton	8	Mansfield	1
Blackburn w.o.		Dukeries (scr.)	
Leicester	7	Peterborough	2
Wisbech	5	Lowestoft	4
Stockport	9	Mid-Cheshire	0
Birmingham	8	Northampton	1
L. Buzzard	2	North Herts	7
Bedford	2	Cheshunt	7
Chelmsford	2	East London	7
London C.S.	6	Beckenham	3
Willesden	6	N. Middlesex	3
Sutton	3	Wembley	6
Acton	5	North Acton	4
Billericay	1	N.W. Kent	8

ROSE BOWL

Kettering	1	Leicester	8
Oxford	4	St. Neots	5
Southend	1	Woolwich	8
East London w.o.		N. Middlesex (scr.)	

CARTER CUP

Middlesbrough	9	Northumberland	0
Whitehaven	5	Stockport	4
Loughborough	8	Worcester	1
Bedford	4	Northampton	5
Thames Valley	2	East London	7
Chelmsford	4	Harlow	5
St. Neots	2	L. Buzzard	7

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CAMBRIDGESHIRE NOTES

by Leslie Constable

Not So "Rusty"

A RECORD 81 teams have entered the Cambs League which comprises four Divisions and three sub-sections. This is a very encouraging sign as several new clubs have entered. Cambridge University have two teams for the first time and New Chesterton Institute have also entered two. The 'Varsity whose first team is now in Division II must have a very good chance of promotion although they will find it tough going.

The popular Cambs Knock-Out Handicap Trophy has attracted an entry of 56 teams and the burning question is—will another 1st Division team win it again this season?

The Cambs Open Championships are on April 6-7 and the Closed on January 28 both at the Cambridge Corn Exchange—the venue for the S.E. Midlands League Championships on April 28 although the Junior Section will be held at St. Neots.

Ralph Rust, Secretary of the Torchbearers Club in the Cambs League, recently married Miss Oxborough who was also a club secretary—so Ralph has finally made it!

The Cambs League has got off to a good start and last season's champions, University Press, won their opening match against newly-promoted Telephones 9-1. New Chesterton Institute, however, will be a threat this year as they have John

Thurston, Stephen Andrews and John Baird who are all top class players. They showed their paces when they beat Torchbearers without conceding a set. Y.M.C.A., another contender for the title, had a good win against Wilburton although Eddie Sharpe for the latter won two.

Y.M.C.A. III, who are also in the 1st Division, have the assistance of ex-International Betty Bird and they duly beat their second team in the opening game although Alan Ponder was beaten by Hunter. In the second division Impington I had a good win over Fisons Pest Control 10-0 who also lost to St. George's I.

A new Indoor Recreation Hall is to be built in Cambridge in the near future and it is hoped that there will be ample facilities for all sections of Sport in the City.

CUMBERLAND COMMENT

by Ron Rigg

No Joy On Tyneside

SATURDAY, October 14, proved to be a black day indeed for Cumberland teams on their visit to the North-East. At Prudhoe, in their first match of the season, Cumberland were beaten 10-0 in the Senior event

and 8-2 in the Junior, whilst at Newcastle, Whitehaven hopes of entry into the second round of the Wilmott Cup were squashed to the tune of 9-0. In the Junior game Cumberland led 2-0 and looked to be in with a real chance, but fell away badly and were eventually well beaten. At least Maurice Bell had the honour of beating Northumberland's top Junior, Charlie Grassie.

One ray of sunshine shone like a beacon through all this gloom, Whitehaven's defeat of Stockport in the first round of the Carter Cup by 5-4. A real exciting one this, with the result in doubt until the third game of the final set. Joe O'Pray—two wins, Maurice Bell (2), and John Tindall (1), were the heroes who are now hoping for another home draw in the next round.

For the Cumberland Open at Workington on November 25, over 300 entry forms have been distributed. The new venue at Workington Grammar School offers excellent playing conditions and facilities.

Down in the south of the County at Millom, a Stiga Training Machine is now on order for the Grammar School T.T. Club, all paid for by the fund-raising efforts of the members themselves under their enthusiastic master, John Reed.

fancied to win the 1st Division title. The other favourites are Newcastle Y.M.C.A., whose No. 1 Peter Hoyles, is making a great comeback in representative matches.

Indeed the Y.M.C.A., with Alan Ransome now in their line-up, are expected to stage a determined effort to wrest the Northumberland League 1st Division crown from the hitherto invincible North Shields Y.M.C.A. The seaiders have replaced Lennie by ex-County regular Roland Earl, whose play has lost little of its former skill.

Unfortunately Gateshead Y.M.C.A. have lost their premises, but Revac have obtained the valuable services of Ram Bhalla—the rubber bat "bomber."

CHESHIRE NOTES

by Jim Beckley

New Officials

VINCE HANKEY, the former Cheshire player is one of five additions to the officials list of the Cheshire Table Tennis Association. Vince becomes the new Chairman, as well as taking his place on the Emergency and Selection Committees. Great to have you back, Vince. Miss Barbara Cain and Mr. M. Greene become Elected Members, John Fitz-

patrick takes over as County Umpires Secretary and Jim Beckley as Press Officer.

I'm told that the Association have just designed and issued a new County Badge, which the county first team hope to wear for the first time at the Middlesex match on November 18.

A publicity drive, launched last August to promote the county match versus Essex on October 14, proved to be a great success with an estimated attendance of 200 compared with 60 two seasons ago. Press coverage was excellent with eight newspapers, one county magazine and the B.B.C. giving good reports. The Home and Overseas Information Unit of Coming Events in Britain also gave us a plug.

Stockport had a great start to the season when they beat last season's Lancashire and Cheshire champions Bolton, 6-4 at Gatley Y.M.C.A. I'm taking bets now that Stockport will take the L. & C. title again this season!

BEDFORDSHIRE NOTES

by P. A. Denton

First Timer For Alan

BEDFORDSHIRE'S chances of promotion, back to Division 2 (South) in one season, took a severe set-back when they lost their opening match 6-4 to Norfolk.

The four victories came in the men's singles. Les Wooding, the County No. 1, won both his sets and Colin Crowe was too strong for P. Graver who also provided young Alan Nicholl with his first County success.

Norfolk's Ladies were too strong and won all their sets. Ros Seymour put up a good fight before losing to Betty Cassell and Miss Racey and Miss Nicholl took one game from Mrs. Cassell and Mrs. Allen but never looked like winning.

The mixed also went to Norfolk,

LEICESTERSHIRE NOTES

by Philip Reid

Indebted to Susan

LEICESTERSHIRE opened their account in the County Championships with a 7-3 deficit for the Seniors against Monmouthshire, whilst their juniors won by the same margin against Notts. Hero for the Seniors was Charlie Jacques who won

both his sets whilst Rita Beith and Jose Rogers won their doubles.

The juniors were indebted to Susan Baxter who was successful in singles and both doubles. Tony Branson kept up his 100 per cent record for the boys with two brilliant wins, and with Ivor Billson and Andy Holdsworth each winning one, the juniors have made a good start.

In the Midland League, Leicester began with four wins out of five. The Men's first team beat Wolverhampton 6-4 (Jacques 3) the second team beat Walsall "B" 8-2 (Maddocks and Bowness 3), the Intermediates beat Walsall 6-4 and the women beat Wolverhampton 10-0 (Mrs. Rogers, Mrs. Odams and Mrs. Kilsby 3). The juniors lost 7-3 to Loughborough for whom Chris Brewer had a splendid debut, his maximum including a two-straight win over County No. 1 Andy Holdsworth.

Leicestershire have appointed Phil Powell team manager of the Senior Team and Mick Porter has accepted the captaincy of the County Junior Team. Good news for the Y.M.C.A. is that Mick has accepted a teaching appointment at Loughborough and should be available for the whole of the season.

Newcomer to the County Umpire Ranks is John Birkin, Loughborough.

A record entry of 89 teams have been received for the Rose Johnson Bowl Team Competition.

In the Loughborough League, the winners of the Donington Trophy—competed for by First Division Clubs only—were Shepshed. There are rare battles going on in Division 3 and 3. Knightthorpe "A" and Fison "A" both have unbeaten records whilst in the third division only Holy Trinity have maximum points.

Coalville League newcomers, Netherseal, opened with an impressive draw against Coleorton in the first division. J. Green gained a fine maximum, one of his wins being over Peter Chell, last season's champion.

STAFFORDSHIRE NOTES

by John Pike

Baddeley Impresses

DESPITE the second team losing to Notts, the first and juniors won their opening matches to give Staffs a useful start to the season.

Derek Baddeley's request to join the county from Warwickshire was duly granted and he has quickly impressed despite an off day at the

trials. After only one game in the seconds—he won his two against Notts—he now finds himself in the first team for the home game with Oxford.

He gets this early first team call because Stan Ward—what a good match he had against Glamorgan—is away on business.

Ann Baker is also forced to miss the Oxford match and this gives a first chance to Walsall's Rita Beebee.

It was a completely new junior side that beat Denbighshire, and the same team will face Oxfordshire.

The new premier division in West Bromwich must surely be a big help to the county selectors. The division comprises six teams, 3 from West Bromwich, and one each from Wolverhampton, Walsall and Dudley. It means, in short, that the top ten players in Staffordshire are now meeting each other regularly.

How does a club put out 15 teams every week? This is the problem which faces Cambridge, who have teams in the Walsall, Wolverhampton, West Bromwich, Darlaston and Birmingham leagues.

The Woodfield club are not far behind, they have 10 in the Wolverhampton League. It is good to see these clubs with so much interest.

The pilot scheme which Staffordshire is running in connection with coaching has got off to a good start. I will give more details of this in next month's issue.

NORFOLK NOTES

by J. S. Penny

Ladies Carry the Day

NORFOLK greatly cheered their supporters with an excellent 6-4 win against Bedfordshire in their first county match of the season despite winning only two of the six men's singles.

Mention should be made of a fine curtain-raiser to the season when, for a friendly match, Essex came to Norwich with a team consisting of Stuart Gibbs, Keith Lawrence, David Bowles and Peter Radford. Norfolk fielded Alan Coby, Neville Graver, Wesley Haydock and David Blanch.

Despite losing 2-8, the Norfolk players showed greatly improved form. We were pleased to welcome, amongst others, Harry Walker and, there to support her husband, Lesley Radford.

Norfolk Juniors opened their programme with a match at Brentwood against Essex. Graham Foulger beat R. Hellaby to record Norfolk's only success, but Stephen Bassett and William Webster were not disgraced. Susan Allen and Janet Sloper also appeared for Norfolk.

The date of the Norfolk Closed is November 25, and the Under-17 Junior Closed precedes this on November 11. This season, there will be a county match at Kings Lynn, when Cambridgeshire will be the visitors on November 18.

Peter Bird, Cromer League's Chairman, has succeeded Wes Haydock as County Umpires Secretary. Some 140 players are registered in the three divisions of Cromer's growing organisation.

Wymondham have decided to enter teams in two divisions of the East

Anglian League, and their Division I strength is probably the highest ever. Kings Lynn now have over 50 teams in five divisions. Generally, the number of players is on the increase in the county.

The first match played in the new North Norfolk League of Leagues was between Cromer and Kings Lynn. It was drawn, Cromer pulling up from 1-5 to 5-all. In another match, Fakenham beat Dereham 6-4.

WESTERN LEAGUE BULLETIN

by Grove Motlow

BATH RETURN AFTER SEASON'S LAPSE

THE member leagues in the Men's

Division for this season are:—Bristol I, Bristol II, Bath, Cheltenham, Newport, Exeter, Plymouth and Weston. They will play home and away in alternate seasons, whilst the Ladies Division comprising Weston, Bristol, Swindon, Newport, Exeter and Plymouth will again play home and away during the season.

It is pleasing to note the return of Bath in the Men's Division after a season's lapse.

At their A.G.M. held in Bristol, Mr. Grove Motlow (Newport, Mon) was again elected Secretary/Treasurer, Mr. Ray Harris (Bristol) Chairman and Mr. Len Ollis (Bath) President.

Mr. Harris presented the Montague Burton Cup to the Men's Divisional winners, Weston, whilst the Mendleson Cup went to Plymouth Ladies.

Bristol II opened their season with a home match against Cheltenham and won 6-3. For Bristol, K. Watts was in great form beating P. Cruwys, D. Shill and P. Denley.

Exeter men's team, at home to last season's champions, Weston, did well to beat them 5-4. Mike Rattue gave Exeter an excellent start with a decisive win over J. Fredericks and Peter Ofield continued this by beating Ray Philpott.

Mike Lyons found the speed of Tony Kinsey too much but Ofield came back with another good win over Fredericks.

Weston fought back with Kinsey beating Rattue, and Philpott accounting for Lyons to level at 3-3. They took the lead when Kinsey beat Ofield but excellent wins by Lyons and Rattue, who beat Fredericks and Philpott respectively, got Exeter home.

NORTHUMBERLAND NEWSREEL by Arnold Warents

No. 1 In Car Crash

NORTHUMBERLAND made a fair start to their senior programme with a 5-5 draw against Lancashire II and a 10-0 annihilation of Cumberland. Considering that none of last season's top men, Brian Burn, Stuart Lennie and Alan Ransome, were available for the Lancashire match this was a good result.

Brian was, with Joe McLeod, involved in a car crash en route to Skegness, but has recovered speedily. After much eye treatment, I am pleased to report that Joe is also nearly back to normal.

Lennie seems unlikely to be wearing our bottle green colours this season, for his metallurgical inspecting job has taken him to Glasgow. He appears to have adopted himself to the Scottish scene, and even has a highland accent now!

Two juniors are in the news. Nancy Ferguson of North Shields Y.M.C.A. recently gained an England Girls "A" ranking, while Barry Thomas (Reyrolle) has been performing very competently for the County after a rather poor start to the season.

The newly-formed Newcastle League thrashed Whitehaven 9-0 in their opening Wilmott Cup tie, and their No. 3, Ron Kettlewell (Ministry) has improved tremendously in the close season.

Ron's team, which also includes County player Arthur Chilvers, are

GLOUCESTERSHIRE NOTES

by L. J. Smith

New Look Juniors

HOPEFUL of a more successful season in the Premier Division, from which they just avoided relegation last March, Gloucestershire

BEDFORD LEAGUE NOTES

by R. A. Cox

CRYSSELCO DOMINATE

THIS season has seen a record number of entries into the League—32 clubs and 80 teams, which means that for the first time ever, 6 divisions are being run.

In the South-East Midlands League, Bedford Men have all last season's players to choose from plus veteran Sid Lawson and promising young player Trevor Beard. The juniors are an unknown quality with last season's 1 and 2, Michael Copperwheat and Colin Booth, both over age.

The pre-season tournament was another indication of the revival in interest locally—a record entry of 80. With St. Neots players on duty for Hunts on the same day, the men's singles was dominated by Cryselco—Brian Copperwheat defeating club-mate Keith Woods.

No surprises in the women's singles, with Anita James beating Barbara Hammond. St. Neots, however, had a success in the Junior event—Philip Edmondson taking the title for the second year in succession.

began with a home defeat by Yorkshire. Bryan Merrett was a non-starter with fibrositis and Dennis Holland on the side lines under suspension. Highlight of the match was Ian Harrison's win over Denis Neale.

The Junior side has a new look about it, only Ian Terrett remaining from last season. It is encouraging to find that Bristol are able to supply most of the players as they have suffered a lean period in recent years.

On the administrative front, the combined office of County and Match Secretary has been split, Les Davis continuing as Secretary, the writer taking over the duties of Match Secretary.

Around the Leagues, Cheltenham have a new President in County Chairman Frank Newell. Other new officers are Derek Compton, Press Officer, and David Shill, Inter-Town Match Secretary.

Gloucester have one of their leading players, Ray Phillips, taking over the coaching duties from Alf Pepper and Geoff Browning is the new Press Officer.

Stroud have a new Inter-Town Match Secretary in Granville Watkins but no changes are reported from Bristol.

The County Committee were pleased to welcome Harry Evans from the Gloucester Youth League at their first meeting.

LANCASHIRE NOTES

by **Geo. R. Yates**

"Trotters" Run Stopped

BOLTON'S long run of successes in Division 1 of the Lancs and Cheshire League came to an end at Gatley Y.M.C.A. on October 9 when Stockport came back from a 0-2 deficit to deservedly win 6-4.

It was on November 28, 1964, when Bolton last tasted defeat in this sphere and on that occasion it was the Cheshire League side who proved victorious.

On this most recent occasion Bolton seemed set for yet another win when Bryn Farnworth beat Derek Schofield in the opening set and John Clarke followed up by accounting for Don Berry—Stockport's new acquisition from the Manchester League.

Incensed at being dropped, in favour of Jack Clayton, from Manchester's Wilmott Cup team against Bolton last season, "D.J." has opted to cross over the county boundary.

A Manchester trio comprising Kevin Forshaw, Peter Walmsley and Eric Ford overwhelmed promotees Lytham-St-Annes 9-1 and Burnley began with a win at Preston despite having Doug Hodgson under suspension until the end of the year for ungentlemanly conduct in a local league match.

This season The Bury League have seven divisions with 84 teams, which

means they have almost doubled in the last three years. The seventh division is exclusively formed of Youth Club teams.

Another league with an eye for juniors is Farnworth who have a division of 10 teams with an under-16 age limit.

YORKSHIRE NEWS

by **Bert Dainty**

Tykes v The Rest

EVERYTHING possible has been done to ensure ideal conditions for the Champions versus the Rest of England match at the City Hall, Sheffield, on Friday, November 10, with ticket sales entrusted to Mrs. A. Coleman of 3 Stradbroke Way, Sheffield, at prices from 5s.

Forty years after its formation in 1927, the Hull and East Riding Association commenced the season with 140 teams, 24 of which are from schools. Six teams have been entered in the Yorkshire League and three clubs are entered in the Yorkshire Club Championships.

Doug Clutton has been appointed Hull Coaching Secretary after his move from East Anglia. City rankings are:— Men: Bartlett, Hinchcliffe,



SUFFOLK NEWSREEL

by **Arthur E. Durrant**

Linda Arrives

ONE of the most pleasing aspects of the Suffolk Junior Trial was the presence of more girls than hitherto attracted.

They came from Ipswich, Stowmarket, Newmarket and Felixstowe and one girl, Linda Arr, came all the way from Clacton in Essex. Linda—daughter of coach Denis Arr—must have been glad that she has thrown in her lot with Suffolk for she did well enough to gain a place in Suffolk's Junior team thus keeping out (for the time being) Sue Haward and Liz Halliday. Stowmarket's Janet List proved quite easily the best girl on view and her selection must have been automatic.

Apart from these girls, the Newmarket contingent proved quite useful but three from Felixstowe were very impressive considering that they had never played outside a local Youth Club and bearing in mind that they started only a few months ago. A large feather in the cap of Ipswich

player, Bernard Cobbold, who has been coaching them.

Two Lowestoft boys, Stephen Hammersly and Kenneth Hugman, made their debut against Essex but the opposition proved far stronger than anything they had previously encountered.

Activity inside Suffolk has been a little slow so far this season but things will shortly warm-up with the commencement of the Suffolk Inter-Town League with Ipswich, Lowestoft, Stowmarket, Beccles and Woodbridge and, after some problems of staging, "Top Ten" and "Leading Ladies" will soon be under way.

JERSEY NOTES

by **Brian Nicholle**

HOPEFUL OF BENEFIT

TABLE tennis players in Jersey are hoping to benefit from the four-week coaching visit of Czech star Vlado Miko in July-August. His first two weeks were devoted to the final coaching of our Junior teams prior to their trip to Vejle, Denmark, for the European Youth Meeting.

Recent visitors to Jersey included Sussex stars Roger Chandler, Peter Williams and John Beasley. Their visit was organised by Mike Barrett and they beat our Island team 7-3 in two friendly matches.

Both leading clubs will have new faces in the 1st division this season. Champions for the last two seasons St. Helier, with Marcel Le Masson unable to play regularly, have brought Miss Bulman into their team. Eileen, who is the first woman to play in the 1st division since 1960, played in the World Championships in Stockholm and joins Harry Carver and Barry Wykes. Challengers Pegasus, runners-up for the last two seasons, are hoping to strengthen their team with the signing of Frank Bougeard, a member of the Junior team in Denmark and still a junior this season. He will team up with regulars Ken Eloury—our most successful player in Sweden, and Channel Island Champion John Turner.

SUSSEX NOTES

by **John Woodford**

Heartening Shock

EVEN Sussex supporters were shaken from their brief summer respite by the unexpected but heartening news on September 30 that the Sussex premier side had started their campaign with a major shock win over Middlesex at Finchley.

The other extraordinary feature of this result was that the England-ranked Roger Chandler did not score. Middlesex were unlucky in that Les Haslam was not available. Peter and Judy Williams put up their best ever performance for the county when Peter beat Laurie Landry and Alan Lindsay and Judy squeezed past Karenza Smith.

Brighton's hopes of going further than the quarter-finals in the Wilmott cup have been strengthened by the news that Peter Williams (Eastbourne) will now re-inforce Chandler and Sam Ogundipe, so making the Brighton

side the same as the Sussex county men's top trio. Prospects in the Rose Bowl for Eastbourne remain good as they retain the services of Judy Williams but Eastbourne are due to play several opponents away this season.

HANTS & PETERBOROUGH NOTES

by **S. S. Obee**

Promising Youngsters

THE county's three affiliated leagues, St. Neots, Hunts Central and Peterborough, will once again have a heavy programme this season, all three participating in the ever-expanding S.E. Midland League. St. Neots and Peterborough have teams in all four sections whilst Hunts Central are missing only from the Veterans' section.

Performances in the S.E.M.L. have come to be the chief yardstick by which the county team, once again competing in the County Championships this season, has been chosen. The selectors feel that these are far more valuable than trials within the county which have often proved worthless in the past. This season no fewer than thirteen towns are taking part in the men's section, providing varied opposition for county team potentials.

Probably the most encouraging feature of the current scene is the nucleus of very promising young players coming to the fore at St. Neots. Long hours spent in the evenings and at weekends are now paying dividends with the emergence of several players likely to make their presence felt in the not-too-distant future. Credit for this must go to

HANTS' first tournament of the season took place at the Four T's Club, Southampton, where, from an entry of 60, most of the leading county senior and junior players assembled as a preamble to the county trials.

Chris Edwards made a welcome return to competitive play by winning the men's singles over J. Tibbles whilst his wife, Pauline, once again completed a family affair by beating her sister Christine Davies to win the ladies' singles.

Bournemouth achieved their only success in the men's doubles with D. Holman and T. Smith beating W. Moulding and D. Davies.

Stuart Tannahill, playing in home surroundings, demonstrated his position as County No. 1 junior, although C. Jacobs of Portsmouth certainly extended him in the final.

The Southampton Education Authority co-operated with the Four T's Club in allowing the use of school premises.

Four further qualified coaches have joined the ranks of Hampshire establishment during the summer recess, and at long last the county have enlisted their second lady coach in Miss Angeline Mills, the Southampton and County player.

M. Greatrex and P. Thorne, Southampton and C. Corb, Bournemouth, are the other newcomers.

Cliff Olver, Henry Fox and Len Saywell—all long serving stalwarts of the county cause.

MIDLAND LEAGUE

by **A. A. Wall**

REVERSION TO NON-ZONING

AFTER many years of effort, the proposition of West Bromwich that the league should revert to the non-zoning fixtures was accepted. The main argument against was the distance in travelling but it was felt by the majority that the composition of the divisions by strength rather than geography was the deciding factor.

In the Men's League, Gloucester began well by visiting Coventry on the Saturday and on to Nottingham for a Sunday match thus getting rid of most of their travelling practically pre-season. With a 6-4 win over Coventry and a 7-3 win over Nottingham, they take a good lead, followed by Leicester who beat Wolverhampton 6-4 in the only other first division match. In the second division Derby and Leamington played a draw, Gallagher winning three for the latter, Worcester beat Oxford 7-3 and Walsall lost at home to Birmingham "B" 4-6. Two Division 3 matches resulted in Leicester "B" beating Walsall "B" 8-2 and newcomers Hinckley beating Darlaston 8-2, although Hinckley had McLeish from Leicester in their ranks.

In the Intermediate Section, Leicester visited and beat Walsall by 6-4. Although Nottingham beat Worcester by 8-2, six of the sets went to three games, and Oxford beat Cheltenham 7-3. Two Junior Section matches were Oxford's 9-1 decisive win over Witney and Loughborough's 7-3 win over Leicester. Newcomers Loughborough provided a surprise when Chris Brewer played a brilliant game to beat Leicester County's No. 1 A. Holdsworth 21-11, 21-15.

The very virile Veterans Section saw the Champions, Birmingham "A" visit and beat Walsall by 10 sets to nil in Division I, and Franklin of Oxford won three of his team's three sets when beating Cheltenham 6-4. Darlaston did well to hold the strong Nottingham side to only 4-6, whilst in Division 2, Nottingham "C" lost 3-7 to Worcester "A" and West Bromwich beat Worcester "B" by 9-1 losing only the doubles.

KENT NOTES

by **Charles M. Wyles**

HARRISON LEADS

THE "Highlight" of the season will undoubtedly be "Mick Betts Memorial Fund" match at Canterbury on November 25, when the International Club has kindly consented to play the County team to inaugurate the fund. The County team will be reinforced by the appearance of Ian Harrison (who was born in Kent) and the newly acquired Pauline Piddock.

A number of contributions have already been received, the monies being used for the benefit of the County junior players, a cause very near to the heart of the late Mick Betts.

With the Kent Junior Open now behind us, we turn to the Senior Open, the entry forms now being available from the Organiser, Charles Wyles, 48 Eversfield Place, St. Leonards-on-Sea, Sussex. The tournament will be held in Folkestone on January 27-28.

The results of the Annual Prince of Wales Canterbury Inter-Association Tournament were:

- MS: Keith Clarke (Thanet)
- WS: Moira Stevens (Maidstone)
- MD: Chris Laming (Canterbury) and Keith Clarke
- WD: Mrs. H. Ewles and Mrs. M. Johnston (Folkestone)
- XD: Chris Hopper and Mrs. H. Ewles (Folkestone).



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SPOTLIGHT ON

GEORGE LIVESEY

BY PHILIP REID

IN 1955 a 12-year-old lad used to visit his brother's mill in Burnley in the lunch-hour, and on one occasion discovered a table tennis table there. The lad, George Livesey, was thus introduced to the game. His brother, a fourth division player, quickly spotted young George's potential and took him to the best place in Burnley for anyone of promise—the Ken Stanley Table Tennis School. At this time Ken had seven tables at his school and wasted no time in asking George to join. One appearance was sufficient for Stanley to weigh up the promise George had.

Twelve years of age may not be very old to start playing table tennis but it was at this tender age that George made his debut in the Burnley League—in the second division. His results more than justified the gamble, if it could be termed as such, and the following season Livesey appeared in the first. 1956-57 was, in fact a pretty good season all together for George.

First he was picked for the Burnley junior team then for Lancashire Juniors and finally, still in the same season, he was chosen to play for England Juniors. Such rapid improvement also brought him a place in the Lancashire senior team.

At junior level he proved superb. In three years he was never dropped

for him but the advent of sandwich produced a new type which George was anxious to try and he has never since used anything else.

Perhaps he has never completely fulfilled the early promise but he has never burnt himself out, nor has he lost his zest for the game. The "loop" stroke, which has bothered most defenders, created problems for George at first, but he found the answer was to take the ball late and return it without heavy chop.

MAINLY A DEFENDER

Being mainly a defender has never meant George would not attack if the right ball came along and his forehand kill has surprised more than one opponent. It has been inevitable however, that when he played a fellow defender a long game would result.

Whilst some people have neither the temperament nor the inclination to play a long game, George has both, and, more important, he has the ability to back it up. A frequent competitor on the tournament circuit, George has had some good wins in events of this nature and one season he won the Men's Singles, Men's and Mixed Doubles at the Hartlepool Open.

This was not only a test of ability but also a test of stamina: sixteen sets, including, towards the end of the day, when he should have been starting to tire, a number in rapid succession.

Those who have seen George will readily appreciate how much emphasis he puts on footwork. A non-smoker, George is rarely out of breath at the end of a set and his fighting spirit has pulled him out of situations which may well have been lost causes for other players.

While it is unlikely of course that George is going to improve much more, it seems certain that he will continue to play for a long time yet. Talent, enthusiasm and dedication are perhaps the three most important things in the game and George has plenty of all three.



and proved himself thoroughly dependable. His reliability, and consistency has extended to the Lancashire senior team too, where, apart from one spell, he has been in the team uninterrupted for many years.

Livesey has had some tremendous wins—Denis Neale, Connie Warren, Brian Wright, Stuart Gibbs, Roy Morley and Ralph Gunnion all found, at one time or another, the Burnley pusher's defence too steady for them.

NEW FIELDS

Rather than his enthusiasm diminishing, it has increased over the years and five years ago George decided to increase his competitive play by playing in the Bolton League in addition to Burnley. This has meant travelling forty miles for a home match, but George has seldom failed to turn out for Silcoms, his Bolton team, even in the most bitter weather. Last season, ironically George played in the Bolton League ONLY!!!

Throughout his career George has always been mainly a defensive player. At the outset, ordinary pimped rubber was the only type of bat

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WORCESTERSHIRE CLOSED

Finals:
 MS: R. Preece bt M. Hawkins -19, 23, 15
 WS: Mrs. J. Lloyd bt Miss J. Allen 13, 17
 VS: E. W. Edwards bt R. S. Lewis 13, 4
 BS: C. J. Kendall bt D. R. Aston -19, 15, 17
 GS: Miss A. Stallard bt Miss D. E. Rushbrooke 16, 15
 MD: E. W. Edwards and B. J. Belcher bt J. Bell and K. Firkins 21, 18
 WD: Mrs. J. Lloyd and Mrs. D. Turberfield bt Mrs. D. M. Moss and Mrs. P. A. Meredith 13, 17
 XD: M. Hawkins and Mrs. J. Lloyd bt K. Firkins and Mrs. D. Turberfield 13, -19, 12
 JD: C. J. Kendall and B. Hall bt. M. Newbury and M. Eades -8, 19, 18.

West Brom. Summer League by A. A. Wall

The West Bromwich Summer League, which began with one division fifteen years ago, has, like Topsy, "just growed and growed." After throwing it open to other Black Country teams two years ago, it is now the most popular competition in the district and its 12 divisions of 8 teams each, with a handicap k.o. competition, has even ousted neighbours Birmingham for size. Teams now enter from West Bromwich, Walsall, Wolverhampton, Tipton, Oldbury, Smethwick, Sutton Coldfield, Willenhall, Wednesbury, Darlaston and Dudley.

NEWS OF S.A. BREMFORD

from Frank O'Gorman,
 New Zealand Veteran Singles Champion

SHOULD table tennis enthusiasts in England, Scotland or Wales attend any of the forthcoming matches with the New Zealand Rugby Union team—the "All Blacks"—in the next month or so and notice a sturdy 13-stone photographer taking snaps with a penholder grip, they will be

noticing S. A. Bremford of Timaru, New Zealand—one of the great personalities of this country's table tennis in the last thirty years.

"Brem," or "Sid," is well known to English internationals who have visited his home town of Timaru over the last twenty years as this great penholder has played for his district of South Canterbury against most of them—in addition he has photographed them all for the local newspaper *The Timaru Herald*.

"Brem" was a national semi-finalist in 1947 and was runner-up in the national veteran singles (45 and over) in 1962 and won the national veteran mixed doubles in 1964.

For over 35 years he played with a "playset" sandpaper covered bat until this type of inoffensive covering was outlawed by the I.T.T.F. Congress in 1959. Then the "Maestro" changed over to sandwich after a good deal of experimenting. "Brem" retired from active play about two years ago.

Internationals he has played against in a varied career include Michael Szabados and Australia's Phil Anderson (1946), the immortal Victor Barna (1949), Ken Stanley (1952) and Ichiro Ogimura (1957).

In his younger days, a senior rugby union fullback (when nearly 18-stone in Dunedin), a soccer goalkeeper in Christchurch, a champion road cyclist, "Brem" and his wife hope during their tour of your country with the All Blacks to meet table tennis enthusiasts and see some of the county matches and tournaments. Their headquarters will be c/o Whiteness Hotel, 45-47, Queen's Gardens, Lancaster Gate, London.

"Brem" is a Life Member of his provincial South Canterbury Table Tennis Association.

NEW SERVICE RULE FAILS

Says CY ENDFIELD, co-producer (with Stanley Baker) of the motion picture "ZULU"

THE opening of the season has put to test the new service rule, notably on the occasion of the England-Czechoslovakia match in London and at the Sussex Open. I herewith venture the opinion that the new rule has so far failed its tests.

CRITICAL JUDGMENTS

It is not that the new service rule is any better or any worse than other rules of the game (rules of all games are by nature man-made, hence arbitrary and fallible, but none the less define what each game is). But it is in the matter of ease of applicability that the new rule fails. It thrusts upon the umpire the task of making two critical judgments which even finely calibrated machines could not absolutely determine. These are: (1) the angle upward of the initial throw, and (2) the precise point (or instant) when the ball begins its descent. The impossibility of making these precise judgments led to the unpleasant debates on both the above occasions, where, further, the subjective element was shamefully emphasized by the fact that it was our own players who received the benefits of the called faults.

Any attempt to delimit what can happen to the ball on impact by the

bat after the ball is thrown up by the server will inevitably put the umpire in the position of making an arguable decision, because while before the ball is thrown the umpire has only to judge static positions such as the flatness of the palm, where the hand is in relation to the table height, etc., after the throw up all is motion, and very rapid motion to boot. The intrinsic weakness of the new rule is that it forces an act of judgment at this difficult juncture.

PRE-THROW POSITION

The single virtue of the new rule derives from the pre-throw position of the hand, that is at or above table height, a determination easy to make because it is at a moment of no movement. This eliminates the obvious and unfair advantages of starting the throw from below the table with the ball, and often the bat, out of sight of the opponent. In fact, more careful considerations by the rule makers would have revealed that the advantage of below-table concealment (and added length of throw therefrom) and not the angle of throw or point of contact by the bat was the villain of last year's serving drama.

Our modern game is a spin game. A complicated service rule to reduce the spin of the service cannot alter this essential characteristic. The spin achieved from the method or angle of the service throw is an advantage truly earned by the skill of the server. Even with the dubious advantage of the below table start, players soon learned to cope with the so-called hyper-spin, and were better players for having learned its mysteries.

SPECTATOR INTEREST

The new rule was motivated into existence ostensibly to increase spectator interest which was supposedly being diminished by too many purely service won points. I do not believe that a true count of service-won points under the old rule as against the new rule would reveal much or significant difference—but, both spectators and players will be mightily alienated from the game by dubious faults called by umpires at decisive moments in important games, umpires who are forced by the difficulty of the rule into making inaccurate or doubtful judgments.

The new rule also opposes standard practice, as evolved by table tennis practitioners over the decades. Throughout the Sussex Open I observed dozens of our most skilled players repeatedly throwing the ball backwards at very shallow angles onto the bat, or else "fast-serving" by hitting the ball while it was rising, or at the top of its trajectory, but in any event prior to its descent. In other cases the descent was so fractional that it could never be properly judged. These serving habits are deeply ingrained into the tactics of the game, and are habitual with most players everywhere.

The new rule can and must be simplified. The ETTA took a valuable initiative with the international body to have the service rules re-examined, but the single expedient of starting the service throw at no lower than table height will prove sufficient to allay the anxieties of those who fear a service dominated game. More important, however, the elimination of the new restrictions on angle of throw and hitting only on descent will also eliminate debate, acrimony and unfair judgments at critical points in

WELSH CORNER

by Roy Evans

STILL NO PATTERN

SPECIAL training at the Afan Sports Centre, two County Matches, and an Open Tournament, and still there is no pattern in the abilities of the top Welsh players.

The Afan Lido week-end provided a typical headache with first one player then another doing well, then falling to others who were manifestly below top standard. At the Aberdare Open, Graham Davies foolishly lost to Swansea's Stuart Davies, Robert Bishop played well to reach the semi-final, then lost to his non-playing captain Brian Everson.

It was left to Haydn Thomas to provide the one bright ray, in extending Roy Morley to three in the other semi as the Gloucestershire player disposed fairly easily of Everson in the Final.

It was the same in the women's event. Dorothy Attenborough completely caved in against Joy Faulkner who then found Stella Jones too fast for her. Margaret Phillips beat Stella easily enough in the final, her usual rival at this stage—Sandra Morgan, now Mrs. Pickering, having lost to Stella.

In County Matches, Glamorgan had a good win over Oxfordshire, with Keith Morris and Dorothy Attenborough making their debut in singles, but with the veteran defender Arthur Davies again accounting for Graham Davies. Robert Bishop was best.

Meanwhile the Juniors, with three newcomers, did well to beat Gloucestershire 8-2. Alan Griffiths, Jimmie Gray and Jeff Neale, helped by an improved Shan Morgan look like developing into a good side, and we'll need good youngsters quickly, for on Nov 24, at Merthyr, we play our usual match against England, and only Haydn Thomas of our old side is still available.

Came a rude awakening for Glamorgan when they lost 2-8 to Staffordshire. Davies again played indifferently against a defender—Ward this time, but redeemed himself with a good win over Warwick. Bishop could only manage a win against Keates, and Morris showed a distressing lack of fight. Dorothy Attenborough lacked the authority to pull Janet Evans through a bad patch of inaccuracy, and only played well herself in the second game of her defeat by Mrs. Deeley.

Up at Leicestershire, Monmouthshire had a good 7-3 win, with Jeff Spencer winning his two, but Haydn Thomas and John Spencer both lost to Jacques, Elizabeth Gray and Stella Jones surprisingly lost the doubles. Monmouthshire Juniors also got away to a good start with an 8-2 win over Wiltshire. Nocivelli and Chris Evans being the stars.

Thus, at this stage, the pattern of our national side is difficult to establish. By this time one would have expected certain players to have lifted themselves above the rest, but just when one thinks this has happened, shock losses bring disillusionment.

RAF "OFF THE GROUND"

by W.O. J. Bishop
 RAF TTA Publicity Officer

THE Royal Air Force T.T.A. entertained a combined team from Hunts and Peterborough at R.A.F. Wyton on September 24 for their opening match of the season.

Jnr. Tech. Dick Clode and Sgt. Brian Cullis starred for the servicemen who triumphed 6-4.

R. CLODE bt G. ALBON 15, 10; bt D. OBEY 16, 16.

T. MCQUILLAN lost to ALBON -15, -14; lost to OBEY -13, 17, -13.

CLODE/MCQUILLAN lost to ALBON/OBEY 17, -16, -14.

"NOBBY" CLARK lost to L. SAYWELL -12, 15, -17; bt J. TEGG -18, 14, 11.

B. CULLIS bt SAYWELL -18, 16, 13; bt TEGG 14, 16.

CLARK/CULLIS bt SAYWELL/TEGG 17, -17, 20.

TOURNAMENT DIARY

Date	Title and Venue	Extra Events	Organising Secretary
Nov. 11-12	Woolwich Open A.E.I. Telecommunications Canteen, Woolwich Rd., Woolwich, S.E.18	JBS	M. R. Ellis, 2 Springfield Road, Barnehurst, Kent
12	Hastings Tiger Area Event Bexhill Athletic Club, Bexhill, Sussex		J. F. Wyles, 48a Eversfield Place, St. Leonards-on-Sea
19	Portsmouth Open Wimbledon Park Sports Hall, Southsea, Hants		P. Goldring, 52 Winter Road, Southsea, Hants
25	Cumberland Open Grammar School, Stainburn Road, Workington	JBS, JGS	R. Rigg, 4 Tower Hill, Loop Road South, Whitehaven, Cumb. Closing date: 14.11.67
25-26	Woodfield Invitation Woodfield S. & S. Club, Wolverhampton	JS, VS	J. Smallman, "Newhaven," Bratch Lane, Wombourne, Wolverhampton, Staffs
Dec. 6	Pontefract Restricted Open Assembly Rooms, Pontefract	JBS, JGS VS	G. L. Johnson, 17 Rhodes Crescent, Pontefract, Yorks
9-10	Middlesex Open Hanwell Community Centre, Hanwell, London, W.7	JBS, JGS	Miss I. Moss, 49 Okchampton Road, Kensal Rise, London, N.W.10

SOUTH-WEST SCHOOLS

by **Thurston**

SEEDING JUSTIFIED

ONE hundred sets were played at The Exmouth School on Oct 21 to decide the best schools players in the South-West. Competitors travelled from as far as Redruth, Ilfracombe and Chard to take part in this tournament, the first of its kind.

David James of Plymouth justified his seeding and won The Western Daily Press Trophy for boys under-17 beating Paul Stone of Exmouth, 15, 17. Pat and Susan Beazer, the Somerset sisters ranked Nos. 1 and 3 in their County, met in the Girls Under-17 final which went to Pat 17, 10. L. J. Holman, a prominent figure in table tennis administration in Devon, presented Pat with The Exmouth Journal Bowl. Pat also took the under-15 title beating another Chard player, Ann Rose, 15, 12. From Exmouth's point of view the most encouraging outcome was the performance of Frances Hann, who first played table tennis only six months previously. Frances reached both semi-finals of the girls' events in her first open.

The talent in the Boys under-15 event provided by Ilfracombe as the winner and runner-up both came from the North Devon coastal resort. M. Jones beat D. Lee—19, 17, 11. The doubles title was Exmouth's sole success, Paul Newcombe and Paul Stone beat W. McCaldon and D. Lee of Ilfracombe 11, 10.

NATIONAL SCHOOL-TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS

by **J. H. Carrington, National Director of Coaching**

IN the inaugural under-17 competition last season, some 60 Educational Authorities took part, involving over 1,000 School teams in the various eliminations.

The Boys' and Girls' winners from eight Regions met for the Grand Finals at Leicester.

This season, in response to widespread request, we are running a second age group, under 15's, for Boys' and Girls'.

A team must consist of four boys or four girls, all attending the same School until July, 1968; the age date is as for E.T.T.A. events, 1st July, 1967.

Invitations have been sent to 160 Educational Authorities in England; last year's response was good by normal standards for such events, but it still means that in over 100 Authority areas, many schools may never have heard of the competition.

All enthusiasts can help spread the news by encouraging young players to ask their schools if they can enter the competition this year, in either age group.

Where an Authority either waives its entry, or takes no action at all, we are prepared to accept an entry from that area, as nominated by our appropriate local organisation.

The idea is, of course, for every Authority to organise or encourage a local championship, the winners being nominated for E.T.T.A.'s Regional play-offs.

I shall be pleased to discuss further details with any County officials who feel that they can help to develop this competition, or from Leagues whose area coincides with an Independent Education Authority area.

The principal dates are:—

- (1) Provisional entry, to J. H. Carrington, by November 25, 1967.
- (2) Period for running your own eliminations or selections:—
December—January—February.
- (3) Regional Play-Offs ... Saturdays in March, 1968
Southern Finals ... Saturday, March 30, 1968
Northern Finals ... Saturday, April 7, 1968
Grand National Finals ... Saturday, May 18, 1968
- (4) Confirmation and details of your nominated teams will be required by February 25, 1968.

Local Officials will be pleased to lend a hand in the running of local rounds, if you would like this.

National Coaching Scheme

Addresses :
Director of Coaching:
Jack Carrington, 24 Worcester Gardens, Ilford. 01-554 5838
Staff Coach (North):
Peter Simpson, 30 Vesper Gate Mount, Leeds 5. Leeds 57510

Date	Venue	Function	Enquiries to
Nov. 11	Burnley Table Tennis Centre	Schools Assessment	S. Frohlich 20 Rosemary Ave. Blackpool
12	Bradford Sports Centre Parkside Road	Regional Training All levels 11 a.m.	P. Simpson
13	Clacton St. Osyth's Road School	Teachers'/Coaches' Course	D. Arr 222 Holland Road
16	Selby Youth Club	Youth Coaching	P. Simpson
18-19	Matlock Lea Green Centre	Advanced Young Players	J. Carrington
19	Newcastle-on-Tyne	Coaching Rally	H. Dignan 6 Cornhill Crescent North Shields
20	Clacton	As for Nov. 13	
25	Bracknell Sports Centre	Schools Coaching/ Assessment 2 p.m.	L. Thompson "Auchmead" The Avenue Wraysbury
26	Bracknell	General Training 11 a.m.	do
26	Stockton Sports Centre	Regional Training All levels	P. Simpson
27	Clacton	As for Nov. 13	
30	Reading	Regional Meeting of Coaching Officials	c/o C.C.P.R. 26 Park Crescent London, W.1 01-580 6822-9
Dec. 2	Nuneaton Hartshill High School	Schools Coaching	J. Maxwell Headmaster
8	Crystal Palace	Teachers' Course 7.30 p.m.	J. Carrington
17	Stockton Sports Centre	Regional Training All levels	P. Simpson

From the Editor's Postbag

National League

DURING my tenure as the National Team Competition Secretary, I have received many interesting letters from leagues all over the country.

One of my correspondents, namely Peter Cruwys, Chairman of Cheltenham T.T.A., has repeatedly requested that my sub-committee should examine the possibility of a Nationally controlled League, instead of the present "knock-out" arrangement.

We, of course, have no mandate to consider any matters that are not contained in the present Wilmott Cup, Rose Bowl and Junior team regulations.

Nevertheless, as an individual administrator, I must admit that there is a lot to be admired in Peter's suggestion.

Weaker league teams are often frustrated with playing identical teams in the first or second rounds and then getting knocked out.

A National League would ensure all teams in one zone playing each other. This could form the basis of the season's activities. Winners of zones or areas could play off for the various trophies at the end of the season.

I wonder how present secretaries of large leagues (of leagues) would react to the suggestion that their competitions be merged into a National one.

Surprisingly, Maurice Goldstein, the Secretary of the mighty Midlands League, would welcome such an idea.

He says that his League is becoming far too large and stretches from

Leicester in the North to Gloucester in the South.

A National Scheme would obviate long journeys by zoning on Wilmott Cup lines. It would—and this is important—extend the competition by bringing in weaker league teams who want the experience without being knocked out after one match.

What do other readers think?
LESLIE DAVIS

31 Old Church Road
Clevedon
Nr. Bristol

No "Palace"

Can anybody tell me why the Ibis Theatre, Holborn, was considered a suitable place to hold the European League match v Czechoslovakia on Oct 19? Certainly the local club did a fine job in staging the match, but I would estimate that less than 20% of the excellent crowd could see the

As one Table Tennis News seller suggested that we should buy a copy as we should not be able to see any table tennis, I am afraid that he was not joking.

The situation would not be so absurd if there was nowhere in London to stage a match of this sort, but surely this is just what the National Recreation Centre at the Crystal Palace was designed for. Only last year I enjoyed the match against West Germany there.

If sports governing bodies do not make use of the Crystal Palace, one wonders whether it can ever be the success hoped for by its planners. I have heard players in several sports grumble about the Palace, but compared to most indoor halls it is a palace indeed. At least one can see.

D. H. JONES

116 Elsenham Street
London, SW.18

"Best Trained School Group" Competition

FIFTY-EIGHT School Groups have entered this year's Competition. Each Group consists of nine pupils under 16, with a Leader who may be a teacher, coach, or senior pupil.

Each of the entrants has received our full Syllabus of graded practices,

and will receive at least two visits from an E.T.T.A. Coach, if they are not already being instructed by a coach. About the end of October, all groups will have been officially assessed. In an Assessment, every one of the nine pupils scores mark for his/her Group; points are also given for teamwork, alertness, etc.

The best groups will be invited to a National play-off, when the winning school will receive a tournament table, and the pupils will receive individual prizes.

Note: This Competition runs quite separately from the National School-Team Championships, which are contested by teams of four players, from any one school, under normal Junior age.

Most of the Schools who have taken the trouble to enter the Group Competition, would be delighted if our local Leagues could offer them some help in bringing their young groups up to scratch, or so respond if asked to do so.

J. H. CARRINGTON
Director of Coaching

24 Worcester Gardens
Ilford, Essex

"1066 And All That!"

When should an umpire be changed?

At a recent tournament we had an example of a well qualified and experienced umpire being replaced—not for poor umpiring—but to satisfy the whims of a foreign player.

The umpiring for the first game, and up to 6-7 in the second had been faultless. No disputes, no mistakes, no questionable decisions, but then a very wrong service was faulted and we had an immediate display of tantrums by the foreign player and a demand for a change of umpire. The other player was quite content with the umpire but he was forced to accept a change and the spectators were shocked to see the referee replace the umpire, although he admitted the umpiring was perfectly correct.

Would this have happened if no foreign player was involved? Or is this another case of where the prestige and reputation of an English official

must be sacrificed to save a foreigner's feelings?

We grumble enough about the poor serving by visiting teams, but if an umpire has the courage to take firm action and is at once so publicly humiliated I no longer wonder why so many really dirty serves are not called.

Hastings officials most certainly owe a very public apology to umpires in general and one in particular for allowing themselves to be panicked into disregarding the facts of the case and penalising the umpire for the players misbehaviour.

A. K. BERRY

14 Danvers Road
London, W.C.1

HANDBOOKS . . .

There is still time to submit your league's handbook for adjudication by Albert Shipley, Hon. Secretary of the National Selection Committee and Brian Hartley, the National Council Member for Berkshire who are offering a prize for the one they consider the best.

Handbooks, together with details of cost please, to the Editor by November 30.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

ACKNOWLEDGED by the Editor is a commendable publication "T.T. BULLETIN" issued by the Leinster Branch of the Irish Table Tennis Association and edited by Kevin Drum, of 25 Martin Savage Road, Navan Road, Dublin 7.

No mean artist is Mr. Drum who has an eye for display and for contributors too, such as Joe Veselsky who was Ireland's non-playing captain at the World Championships in Stockholm. A grand fellow.

Unchanged are top rankings in the Emerald Isle with Jim Langan, Tommy Caffrey and Cliff Thompson still there, as are Joan Fitzsimons and Betty Warwick.

But, how about Finian Mooney of Belcamp College and Sean O'Neill of Pioneers for real Irish names? Both attended a Summer Coaching Course in August run by Laurie Landry at Belcamp.

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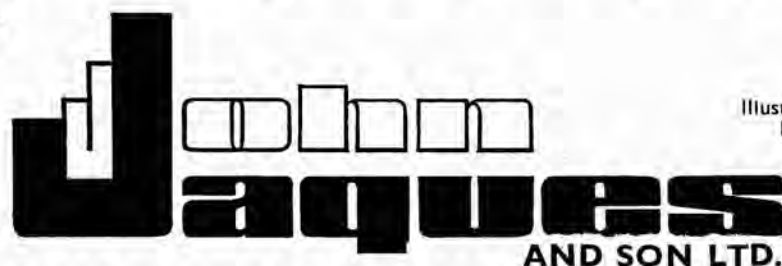
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Try the DENIS NEALE (now England No. 1) bat. One of the JAQUES WORLD CLASS series that includes those favourite

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YORKSHIRE have made a good start in their bid to retain the Premier Division Championship...

With Middlesex soon to lose Scots No. 1 Malcolm Sugden for two months they are hoping for the return of Les Haslam to bolster their side.

No reports were given for a number of matches, and no reports therefore appears in these columns. One quarter of the result sheets to have reached me so far this season have been incorrectly completed and Match Secretaries are requested to see that all future sheets are entered direct

PREMIER DIVISION

Table with columns P, W, L, F, A, Pts for Yorkshire, Sussex, Essex, Middlesex, Cheshire, Gloucestershire, Surrey, Lancashire.

Surrey 3, Cheshire 6

C. Warren lost to M. Johns -18, -18; lost to R. Hampson -19, -15, M. Creamer lost to Johns -17, 16, -11; lost to D. Schofield 11, -19, -9, G. Chapman lost to Hampson -19, 22, -18; bt Schofield 16, 18, R. Penfold/Warren lost to Hampson/Johns 28, -15, -18, M. Wright bt J. Heaps 11, 8, Creamer/Wright bt Schofield/Heaps 15, 20.

An off-form Connie Warren gave Cheshire two unexpected singles wins. Fine comeback after 7 years for Gordon Chapman with a straight games win over Derek Schofield and losing to Roger Hampson after leading 17-10 in the 3rd.

Middlesex 4, Sussex 5

B. Wright bt R. Chandler -20, 8, 13; bt S. Ogundipe 16, 16, A. Lindsay bt Chandler -17, 12, 14; lost to P. Williams 19, -16, -18, L. Landry lost to Ogundipe -16, -14; lost to Williams -10, -15, Lindsay/Wright bt Chandler/P. Williams -15, 18, 16, K. Smith lost to J. Williams 8, -20, -16, Landry/Smith lost to Ogundipe/J. Williams -16, -17.

Shock win for Sussex with Judy Williams the star. A game and 6-13 down to Karen Smith she then defended superbly and some excellent rallies followed with great play from both girls. Brother Peter clinched the match with his win over Alan Lindsay, expedite coming in at 14-13 in the 3rd. First Sussex win over Middlesex.

Yorkshire 9, Lancashire 0

D. Neale bt K. Forshaw 19, -19, 16; bt J. Clarke 17, -15, 16, M. Symonds bt Forshaw -13, 18, 11; bt J. Keogh 18, 12, A. Hydes bt Clarke 19, 9; bt Keogh 16, 17, Neale/Symonds bt Clarke/Forshaw 14, 16, L. Proudlock bt M. Leigh 17, 9, Hydes/P. Dainty bt Keogh/Leigh 11, 20.

An impressive start by Yorkshire to their bid to retain the Championship, and although Lancashire were better than a 9-0 scoreline indicates the

COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP ROUND-UP

PRIDE OF PLACE TO SUSSEX

By JOHN WRIGHT

White Rose was in command. This well balanced side will take some stopping.

Cheshire 3, Essex 6

M. Johns bt C. Barnes 19, 15; lost to S. Gibbs -17, -14, R. Hampson lost to Barnes -19, -19; bt D. Brown -16, 20, 9, D. Schofield lost to Gibbs -15, -16; bt Brown 14, 13, Hampson/Johns lost to Barnes/R. Stevens 11, -14, -15, J. Heaps lost to L. Radford -15, -9, B. Kean/Heaps lost to Stevens/Radford -16, -19.

Gloucestershire 3, Yorkshire 6

I. Harrison bt. D. Neale 17, 14; bt M. Symonds 18, 16, R. Morley lost to Neale -12, -12; lost to A. Hydes 17, -8, -15, M. White lost to Symonds -9, -8; lost to Hydes 17, -8, -15, Harrison/Morley lost to Neale/Symonds -13, -19, L. Hawkins lost to P. Dainty -9, -14, White/Hawkins bt Hydes/Dainty 19, 13.

Ian Harrison in great form with fine straight games wins over England No. 1 Denis Neale. Neale took an early lead in the 1st, but Harrison slowed him down and was never in trouble in 2nd, Rare XD success for Gloucestershire — first since January 1966.

Lancashire 2, Middlesex 7

K. Forshaw lost to B. Wright 20, -16, -15; bt Lindsay 15, 13, J. Clarke bt Wright -17, 17, 19; lost to M. Sugden -17, -14; B. Mitchell lost to Lindsay -9, -11; lost to Sugden -12, -16, Clarke/Forshaw lost to Lindsay/Wright -19, 19, -13, M. Leigh lost to K. Smith -4, 14, -19, Mitchell/Leigh lost to Sugden/Smith -5, -9.

A fright for Middlesex who trailed 0-2, but Malcolm Sugden steadied them. Near sensation with Mary Leigh leading Karenza Smith 15-8 (and 19-16) in 3rd game before the unpredictable England No. 2 could get home.

Sussex 6, Surrey 3

R. Chandler bt M. Creamer 19, 18; bt G. Chapman 16, 10, S. Ogundipe bt Creamer -15, 14, 14; bt G. Murany 12, 16, P. Williams bt Chapman 11, 12; lost to Muranyi -22, 13, -17, Chandler/P. Williams lost to Muranyi/R. Penfold -19, -18, J. Williams lost to M. Wright -11, -11, Ogundipe/J. Williams bt Creamer/Wright 21, -16, 15.

Brave move by Surrey to discipline Warren in a match they desperately needed to win.

SECOND DIVISION (SOUTH)

Kent 9, Surrey II 1

Hoping to bounce back to the Premier, Kent have started well. Barry Hill gave Surrey their only success, edging out Ken Baker at 19 in the 3rd; he later extended Tony Piddock. Unhappy debut for Surrey veteran Zenon Schramm.

Sussex II 1, Hertfordshire 9

Women's doubles lost at 19 in 3rd and singles lost at 21 in 3rd. Herts worth their win with their extra experience. Promising debut by Chris Hardy who needs to improve footwork, and Herts Trevor Taylor easily the best player on view.

Hampshire 2, Kent 8

All singles to Kent although Edward unlucky to lose both his at deuce in 3rd Hants string WD and XD again successful.

Middlesex II 9, Sussex II 1

Some revenge for Middlesex for the first team result in the same hall two weeks earlier. Laurie Landry in both matches, and was convincing this time as he was disappointing before.

Surrey II 5, Buckinghamshire 5

SECOND DIVISION (NORTH)

Cheshire II 8, Lincolnshire 2

Big disappointment for the visitors, without Brian Burn (still shaky after car accident) and Alan Ransome (National Council Meeting). Their reserves gleaned a point that could yet make reality of their promotion hopes.

Durham 2, Lancashire II 8

Some good attacking play much appreciated — this is a new look Durham team.

Northumberland 10, Cumberland 0 With Northumberland back to full strength poor Cumberland did not have even the consolation of an odd game. Women's events particularly one-sided.

SECOND DIVISION (MIDLAND)

Glamorgan 2, Staffordshire 8

Oxiords not at full strength and crushed by the division champions. Derbyshire 5, Leicestershire 5

SECOND DIVISION (WEST)

Corwall 5, Somerset 5

Trailing 0-3, the Cornish women Margery Hockaday and Sheila Rapsey led the recovery crowned by John Basset's win over Graham Gear who was called for foul serving at 20-all in the 2nd. Tony Kinsey had two singles wins and doubles with Gear for the visitors.

Devon 4, Worcestershire 6

Dorset 4, Wiltshire 6

Able led by Dick Clode the visitors stormed to a 6-1 lead but Dorset recovered well to take the last three. Veteran John Dale had a singles win and schemed the XD success and George Philpott with two successes can be proud of his debut.

SOUTHERN DIVISION

Hampshire II 8, Hertfordshire II 2 Including two pimply-rubber players, Hants recovered from 1-2 to take the last seven. Peter Smith had a fine match with wins over Brian Barr (17 in 3rd) and David Seaholme (19 in 3rd—expedite at 17-15). Six of the ten sets needed a deciding game.

E Buckinghamshire II 6, Hampshire II 4 Narrowly beating Peter Sears, Bill Moulding put Hants in the lead but the next six went to Bucks to give them both points. Michael Close and John Dalton both in superb form for Bucks.

Kent II 6, Hertfordshire II 4 Graham French showed this young Kent side the way home with singles wins over Brian Barr and Eric Coster and combining with Derek Corbett to take MD at 24-22 in 3rd.

Oxfordshire II 2, Berkshire 8

Denbighshire 5, Derbyshire II 5 A fair result to a hard match which brought the Welsh County its first point. Mrs. Denton and Sherlock outstanding for Derby, and Williams notched two singles win for Denbighs.

Staffordshire II 4, Nottinghamshire 6 Worcester II 1, Warwickshire II 9 Unsuccessful Worcs debut for Derek Bell (ex-Notts), but a fine win for Miss J. Allen over experience. Doreen Griffiths.

EASTERN DIVISION

Bedfordshire 4, Norfolk 6 Alan Coby's colours lowered by Bed's new No. 1 Leslie Wooding.

Cambridgeshire 6, Northamptonshire 4 Trailing 0-3 and 3-4 it was left to the Cambridge ladies Betty Bird and Carol Chapman to stop the rot. Ther Chapman and John Thurston clinched singles victories for a good result.

Suffolk 9, Huntingdonshire 1

Berkshire 2, Buckinghamshire 8 Berkshire at present team-built and including some very young

players who were not good enough for the more experienced visitors.

Hampshire 2, Surrey 8

After losing the first two sets at 21 in 3rd and 20 in 3rd Hants could not match the greater steadiness of the Surrey team.

Sussex 2, Kent 8

Two sets to Sussex by default, with Kent boys in wrong order.

JUNIOR NORTH

Lancashire 9, Northumberland 1

Two debutants Alan Grimshaw and David Newton successfully overcame nerve to help the seasoned Brian Mitchell and Susan Lisle to an easy win.

Durham 1, Lancashire 9

S. Haughney in his first match combined with Mary Carolan to score only Durham success.

Northumberland 8, Cumberland 2

A shock lead for Cumberland 2-0 whose top two boys Joe O'Pray and Maurice Bell are most promising. But Barry Thomas and Nancy Ferguson soon put a stop to any hopes the visitors had of taking home a point.

JUNIOR MIDLAND

Nottinghamshire 3, Leicestershire 7

The visitors had the knack of winning points in critical positions and this meant the difference between a draw for Notts and defeat. Well shown by Leics pair Ivor Billson and Susan Baxter who recovered from 3-10 and 6-14 to win 21-16 in 3rd.

Staffordshire 6, Denbighshire 4

This young Denbigh team has plenty of potential and should hold its own in this division.

Warwickshire 10, Oxfordshire 0

Walkington the best Oxfords player, taking Berry to 18 in 3rd.

COUNTY DIARY

FIXTURES AND VENUES, NOVEMBER 1967

Table listing fixtures and venues for November 1967, including dates, times, and locations for various county matches.

Nominations for the Leslie Forrest Memorial Award should reach me not later than Dec 31. The name of any candidate who has been unsuccessfully submitted in previous years should again be put forward with qualifications: after this season names will be carried forward and reconsidered automatically.

JUNIOR EAST

Suffolk 0, Essex 10

Suffolk almost held their own in the three events where girls concerned, but Essex far superior, if too casual, in the others.

Middlesex 4, Hertfordshire 6

So near for Ray Jones who four times was within a point of taking Peter Taylor. Bob Gibson did manage it and the other Middlesex sets came from the girls.

Essex 9, Norfolk 1

Most impressive player on view was Essex No. 2 Steve Smith, still unbeaten. He played strongly, overwhelming the opposition, and rather showed up the performance of the more illustrious Frank Kennedy.

Northamptonshire 7, Suffolk 3

Roderick Marchant, David Huddle and Nicholas Haycock scored 6 out of 6 in the BS and also took BD to make Northants first match a triumph. The girls are as yet inexperienced but work hard.

JUNIOR WEST

Somerset 8, Worcestershire 2

First-ever win for Somerset for whom 13-year-old Pat Beazer showed much promise.

Gloucestershire 2, Glamorgan 8

Six sets went to 3, and an excellent win by Gillian Brice over more experienced Shan Morgan.

Monmouthshire 8, Wiltshire 2

Monmouths impressive and generally seemed to have things well under control.

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