

'Schildkrot' Balls LAST LONGER PLAY BETTER

TABLE TENNIS NEWS

Official Journal of the English Table Tennis Association

EDITED BY GEORGE YATES

No. 18

NOVEMBER, 1968

Price 1/-

Netherlands Open Harlaam October 5-6

'Memories are made of this'

by KEN MATHEWS

IT is the moments of high drama that we remember most clearly. The moments of the great rallies; the moments when the scores reach deuce . . .

The home crowd have been watching their hero Frans Schoofs who has already beaten our own Denis Neale, playing the great Stanek from Czechoslovakia in the Quarter-Final of the Men's Singles. They are disappointed as Schoofs loses three - nil. They stand about dispiritedly. Suddenly the word goes round that there is a great fight going on on Table 4. Barnes from England is playing the little German, Russy; the one that few people have seen before but who has already knocked out Andersson the number two seed from Sweden. The crowd surges across the hall and the players have to pause before they start the fifth and deciding game.

Chester Barnes they all know is one of the fastest counter-hitters in Europe. Who is this man Russy to be causing him so much trouble? He is short, stocky and he has tight curly hair. He hits almost continuously—quick jabbing counter hits that time and again have Barnes out of position. The wily East Londoner tries all he knows; he pushes and rolls, he swings the ball and varies the pace of his shots but still Russy keeps with him. Excitement stirs through the crowd as Barnes pulls away to a 20-19 lead; match point. Brilliantly Russy saves it as he angles one out of Barnes' reach on the forehand wing. Deuce. Barnes now shows the improvement in his temperament by gaining another match point. But Russy saves that. Then another. Then another, 23-all. Every time Russy saves the game by inspired counter hitting.

The score reaches 27-all in the fifth! The excitement is intense. The English girls cannot watch. The Captain, Johnny Leach, his face ashen, watches tensely. Russy suddenly switches the rally and catches Barnes on the backhand wing. The German has his first match point. Surely it must be all over for Chester? Russy goes for that wide shot down the forehand wing. Barnes is too far away to reach it. But Russy pulls his stroke and misses the table by inches! That was his last chance. Having weathered that one match point against him Chester seems to gain confidence and hits two great forehands to win the game 30-28. Russy shakes hands and stands almost

in a daze, it seems, as the English players congratulate Barnes on his fine win.

These are the moments that the crowd wait for. Somehow they have a feeling of pride because they helped to create the atmosphere and they were there on a memorable occasion.

There is not enough room to relate some of the other great moments that the tournament provided . . . That fantastic rally between young Trevor Taylor and the great defender Eberhard Schöler; a point that it took Taylor 29 shots to win, the last eight of which were kills! There is not enough room to relate all these incidents and we must be content with a brief look at the exploits of the whole of the England Team.

Denis Neale fell to the extremely fit Frans Schoofs of Holland. Schoofs always seems to play well on his own ground; he had already beaten Christer Johansson of Sweden in the second round.

Barnes, after his exciting win over Russy, and like so many great attacking players became, in the semi-final, the second English scalp for Schöler, Taylor having eventually lost to him in the second round.

Alan Hydes found the vicious topspins and sidespins of Surbek, the European Champion from Yugoslavia, just too much for him. I had the feeling, however, that when he has had a little more experience Hydes will be able to play a more positive game and will then be very much more effective against players of Surbek's class. The final of the men's singles which had promised so much was rather an anti-climax Surbek having little trouble in beating Schöler 3-0.

Karenza Mathews fell unexpectedly to the Dutch No. 1 Micke Ten Broek. She did not seem to be quite sharp enough to penetrate the improved Dutch attacking player.

Having disposed of the sole representative of the U.S.A. in the first round, Judy Heaps hammered doggedly against the solid defence of Edit Buchholz in the second. Judy lost to this very fine German player but here again was a young English player who is obviously benefitting from early international experience.

Jill Shirley had a hard match to play against Hendrikson, the tall German defensive player. Jill played well but looked as if she will have a better chance against such players when she has improved the counter hitting technique that she is trying to put into her steady defensive game.

Pauline Piddock, who paid her own fare to the tournament, had her return fare paid for by the E.T.T.A. as she came off the best of the English girls by reaching the semi-final of the women's singles. Here she had to play our old friend Diane Schöler whose defensive game, brilliant as ever, proved too much for Pauline. Diane also proved too much for Buchholz who, in the final, tried unsuccessfully to hit Diane off the table!

Pauline and Jill did very well to reach the final of the Ladies' doubles. They lost 3-0 finding Buchholz and Agnes Simon as hard as Karenza and Judy had in the semi-final. They also had lost 3-0.

In the mixed doubles, English pairs had dominated one half of the draw, with Hydes and Piddock beating Barnes and Shirley in one semi-final. Mathews and Neale lost in the quarter-final in the other half of the draw to Surbek and van Ruiten of Holland. In the final Pauline and Alan played well but were unable to penetrate the formidable defensive partnership of Diane and Eddy Schöler.

In the men's doubles, Hydes and Taylor lost to the young German pair Jansen and Schmittinger, but Neale and Barnes did well to beat Schöler

and Russy for a place in the semi-final. Here they lost to the eventual winners Surbek and Stipanovic of Yugoslavia.

Considering that the opposition was really very strong the English Team gave a good performance by reaching three semi-finals and two finals. It was also good to see that good performances were put up by all the members of the Team and not just by one or two individuals as has so often been the case in the past.

Second European League Triumph

BOTH Denis Neale and Chester Barnes had twin successes over Janos Borzsei—runner-up to Dragutin Surbek of Yugoslavia in the European Championships—and Matyas Beleznai when, in Budapest on November 4, England triumphed 5-2 over Hungary to record their second win in the European League.

Barnes was again to the fore when, in partnership with Karenza Mathews, England won the mixed doubles and only just failed 23-25 in the deciding game of the men's doubles when paired with Neale.

Kent's Pauline Piddock contested the women's singles but failed against the experienced redhead Erzsebet Jurik.

Full details will appear in the December issue of TABLE TENNIS NEWS together with a comprehensive report of the Yugoslavian Open, played in Belgrade on November 7-9.

Yorkshire Debutante



Cliff Darley's photograph depicts Linda Forkes of Ferry Fryston, Castleford in somewhat more relaxed mood than when making her Premier Division debut against Kent at Bradford.

TABLE TENNIS NEWS

Published on the 10th of each month, October to May inclusive. Postal Subscriptions 10/- for eight issues post free.

Advertisements: Derek R. Tremayne, "Veryan," 46, Perry Street, Wendover, Aylesbury, Bucks. 'Phone: Wendover 2421.

Circulation: E.T.T.A. Secretariat, Room 323, 26/29 Park Crescent, London, W.1N 4HA. 'Phone: 01-580 6312.

Editorial: George R. Yates, 43 Knowsley Road, Smithills, Bolton, Lancs. 'Phone: Bolton 42223.

Selection

NOTORIOUS as recipients of brickbats are those within our ranks who are charged with the selection of representative teams be they club, league or county.

A selection committee's choice seldom meets with wholesale approval but one can usually seek safety in numbers and pass the buck by reference to a majority decision when pertinent questions are posed.

Not so Johnny Leach, M.B.E., who shoulders the onerous task of naming England's senior teams.

Granted there is a selection committee within the framework of which members can be freely consulted but the final choice is Johnny's who bravely accepted the invitation to become the Sir Alf Ramsey of table tennis.

It is unlikely that the twice former world men's singles champion will receive a knighthood for his labours not even, if, next April, a world title should happen to come our way in Munich.

Ponder yet awhile on the responsibility of such a task for if stones are to be cast following defeat there can only be one target.

In the world of football, managers on princely salaries for such responsibility go down like ninepins and their paths are strewn with "corpses."

It is not an easy undertaking, not even with selection narrowed down to members of the International Squad.

Let us therefore have a care for Johnny's acceptance of the position for it is not one to be eagerly sought or maintained.

ENGLISH TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION

Patron: Her Majesty the Queen.

Chairman: C. Jaschke.

Deputy Chairman: W. Mitton

Hon. Treasurer: T. Blunn.

Director of Coaching:
J. H. Carrington

Staff Coach (North): P. Simpson.

Organising Secretary:
D. R. Tremayne.

Administrative Secretary:
A. W. Shipley.

Office of the Association:
26-29, Park Crescent,
London, W1N 4HA.
Telephone: 01-580 6312.

INTERNATIONAL ROUND-UP

by Conrad Jaschke

CHAIRMAN OF THE ENGLISH TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION

IN a matter of a few months the new E.T.T.A. administration has solved the problem of financing a far more ambitious international programme than has been possible in the past. There will be more top class international matches, more second-line matches in which fringe players can gain initial international experience, more chances to present international table tennis in every corner of England where there is local demand for it, and more opportunities for English players to gain experience abroad . . . as many as nine international squad players competed in the recent Netherlands Open.

Czech players are staying over after their tour to play and train with our squad, and opportunities will arise to send some of our players abroad for extended practice and training. One or two of our young coaches will get the chance to study successful continental training methods abroad, and talks about this are going on with the Yugoslavs whose men came tops in Lyons. We are seeking co-operation with the Swedes from whom we could learn much about modern coaching and training methods.

Our new income from sponsorship, trade and television sources enables us to spread our wings in this way, but we have not yet enough money to give our players the backing that will enable them to compete on completely equal terms with, for instance, leading East European rivals. But that day will come.

The king pin in our ambitious programme to get England back into top championship class is team manager Johnny Leach, who is making great personal sacrifices to help us push ahead as quickly as possible.

In his mammoth task of co-ordinating selection of teams and captains, coaching and training for the international squad, and liaison with coaches and trainers abroad, Johnny has the help of a dedicated team of officials, and the full backing both of the National Selection Committee and the National Coaching and Schools Committee.

Laurie Landry has also been given added responsibilities and is bringing in helpers to cope with these; he will be working very closely with Johnny Leach as the demarcation between senior and junior players becomes more and more blurred now that so many juniors are reaching senior selection standard before they leave the junior ranks.

It would be unfair to expect miracles. But we look with some confidence to an improvement in our players' performances at the world championships in Munich next April, and it would be a real disappointment if England were not to figure somewhere on the championship-roll by the time the European championships take place in Moscow in April 1970.

Players have responded magnificently to the new policies and requirements, and if they maintain their enthusiasm and dedication then I believe our efforts will be crowned by success. It is inevitable that on the way we shall encounter setbacks and disappointments, and our ultimate success will depend on whether such setbacks are met not with recriminations, but with extra effort and team spirit.

MARTA IN GERMANY

Marta Luzova, the Czech player, ranked No. 5 in the world, has left Czechoslovakia to make a new home in Germany with her husband whom she married earlier this year. He is Peter Hejma, centre forward of the national Czech ice hockey team. Marta first played in England when she was only 17 years old, and she has established herself as a firm favourite with English table tennis audiences in Brighton and other centres where she graced the scene with her attractive play and personality.

ACCOUNT SETTLED

A happy ending to a period of considerable worry for the Swedish T.T.A. comes with the news that they have reached agreement with Eagle Star, a British insurance company, on a settlement of their claim in connection with the loss suffered in the 1967 world championships at Stockholm. The Swedish T.T.A. were able to insure against all losses, and indeed there was a substantial deficit when spectator support fell well below the expected figure.

12,000 BALLS IN MUNICH

Some 60 countries are expected to participate in the world championships in Munich next April, but the big question whether or not the Chinese will compete is still unsolved. Organisation costs are around £50,000 and this will be financed by contributions from government sources, from the local government of Bavaria, from the town of Munich itself, and television fees. There will be a seating capacity for only 2,600 spectators but several thousand standing places. I understand that there is no likelihood of a financial loss, in view of the amount of advance guaranteed—a very happy state of affairs which we would like to be able to achieve with our big promotions.

In order to be able to offer selection of new balls for each match, some 12,000 balls will be made available for the championships!

RANKING LISTS

In the new Belgium ranking lists, Van de Walle is top and Juliens in second place, Miss Detaille tops the ladies list.

Top places in the East German list are:

MEN

1. S. Lemke
2. W. Stein
3. B. Pornack
4. W. Vater



WOMEN

1. G. Geissler
2. D. Hovestadt
3. E. Richter
4. I. Lemke

SON FOR LEE

Lee Dal-Joon, former globetrotter tour partner of Richard Bergmann and currently No. 1 player of the U.S.A. has become a father. His wife Linda Lee gave birth to a son in August. This former South Korean player will be remembered for his tours of Pontins Holiday camps with Bergmann.

Bergmann himself has just left these shores for yet another globetrotter tour in America. This summer Richard spent several months in England and was a welcome guest at several get-togethers and matches. Although he has spent little time in England in recent years, Richard maintains his British nationality and has a flat in London. He intends to settle permanently here when his travelling days are over.

MEETING IN BELGRADE

When this issue of Table Tennis News appears, I shall be attending a meeting of the Executive Committee of the European Table Tennis Union in Belgrade. The committee will be reviewing the whole spectre of European table tennis now that the European League is well and truly launched and the road is clear for further developments. Make-up of European League divisions for 1968/69 is as follows:

Premier Division

Czechoslovakia, England, Federal Germany, Hungary, Rumania, Sweden, U.S.S.R.

Second Division

Austria, Belgium, Denmark, France, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Switzerland.

Third Division—British section

Guernsey, Ireland, Scotland, Wales.

Third Division—Mediterranean Section

Greece, Italy, Malta, Portugal, Spain.

EUROPE CUP

Against Amiens, in France, Birmingham Central Y.M.C.A.'s bid for the European Club Championship ended in 6-1 defeat. Before a capacity crowd of some 1,000 enthusiasts, Ralph Gunnion salvaged the one set and looked the only player likely to do so. Hospitality was on the grand scale.

EUROPEAN LEAGUE

BARNES IN COMMAND AT BOLTON

by The Editor

CHESTER BARNES returned to the glory trail at Bolton, on October 24, when he was successful in all his three sets against West Germany, his last over Bernt Jansen clinching victory for England 4-3.

Before a capacity audience at Smithills School, Denis Neale laid the foundation stone on which Barnes built up by disposing of Jansen in the opening set.

Avenging his Netherlands Open defeat, Barnes was the acme of shrewdness in beating ace defender Eberhard Schöler who adopted more venturesome tactics to turn the tables on Neale.

Successful too in the men's doubles, England held a 3-1 lead at one stage but it was left to Barnes to deliver the hammer blow after the visitors had equated the match score.

Well as Karenza Mathews played in her singles encounter with Edit Buchholz, it was not good enough to break through the defence of the joint holder of the European Women's team championship title.

Individual scores in match play order:—

D. Neale bt B. Jansen 18, 10; G. C. Barnes bt E. Schöler 21, -15, 17; Mrs. K. Mathews lost to Miss E. Buchholz -16, -18. Barnes/Neale bt Jansen/Schöler 20, 18; Neale/Mrs. Mathews lost to Schöler/Miss Buchholz -19, -19; Neale lost to Schöler -16, -5; Barnes bt Jansen 9, 12.

AGAINST HUNGARY

England's team to travel to Budapest for their second European League match, against Hungary on November 5, was as against West Germany with the addition of Mrs. Pauline Pidcock, of Kent.

This quartet were also due to compete in the Yugoslavian Open scheduled for November 7-9 in Belgrade.

Captains Courageous

by

Frank Clay, E.T.T.A., P.R.O.

ENGLAND'S Team Manager, Johnny Leach, under a new policy laid down by the National Selection Committee, made an innovation by his selection of Team Captains for the three matches against Israel.

The Captains were: Laurie Landry in London, Ian Harrison in Manchester and Peter Simpson in Leeds.

This experiment will give valuable experience of captaincy to younger members of the Association and, if successful, could eventually lighten the load of captaincy which, for the last few years has fallen on the shoulders of Johnny Leach and Ron Crayden.

Laurie Landry has represented both Middlesex and England many times, and is no newcomer to captaincy as he is the present Captain of England's Junior teams.

Ian Harrison is the most established member of the International Squad from which all teams to represent England this season will be selected. Ian has represented England in 177 Internationals to date and will no doubt add many more to this number.

The captaincy at Manchester was another step in his International career as the Selectors take the view that the vast experience gained in 177 Internationals, added to his appearances in six World and six European Championships, will prove to be valuable assets that are needed in his capacity as team Captain.

Peter Simpson of Leeds, the Staff Coach (North) is 32 years old. He is a good tournament player and has held the men's singles and men's doubles titles of the Leeds League Closed Championships, but is better known for his coaching activities in the North of England.

He is a strict disciplinarian, who pays great attention to the correctness of dress of the players under his command, and is a firm believer in physical fitness, having many original ideas on "fitness training" for members of the International Squad.

Some weeks ago he sustained injuries in a car crash whilst going to a coaching session in Manchester. These injuries have stopped his coaching activities for some weeks. However, he was still able to carry out his duties as Captain of the England team in his home town of Leeds.

THE ISRAELI TOUR

By Geo. R. Yates

UNDAUNTED IN DEFEAT

ONLY in their last encounter with the International Club at Cricklewood, on October 24, did the touring Israeli team meet with success when their No. 1, Zvi Zacharias nudged home 24-22 against Stuart Gibbs, and Yosef Shifman had a straight games win over Stan Jacobson.

Prior to, in three official international matches against varying England trios, in London, Manchester and Leeds, the tourists took only three games in 27 sets, "Connie" Warren being concerned in two of them.

Never overawed by the strength of the opposition, the Israelis gave quite a good account of themselves and will doubtless benefit from their experiences against players who gave nothing away.

Results :

England 9 Israel 0 (London, Oct. 21)

C. Barnes bt Y. Shifman 16, 11; bt P. Pasternak 11, 14; bt Z. Zacharias 16, 19.

C. Warren bt Zacharias 15, -13, 19; bt Shifman 8, 17; bt Pasternak -18, 17, 14.

P. Williams bt Pasternak 10, 10; bt Zacharias 15, -12, 11; bt Shifman 15, 19.

England 9 Israel 0 (Manchester, Oct. 22)

A. Hydes bt Shifman 12, 12; bt Pasternak 8, 8; bt Zacharias 13, 13. M. Johns bt Pasternak 10, 14; bt Zacharias 13, 16; bt Shifman 14, 14. B. Wright bt Zacharias 11, 21; bt Shifman 16, 22; bt Pasternak 12, 18.

England 9 Israel 0 (Leeds, Oct. 23)

S. Gibbs bt Zacharias 20, 18; bt Shifman 16, 9; bt Pasternak 8, 17. D. Neale bt Pasternak 9, 8; bt Zacharias 11, 14; bt Shifman 9, 16. T. Taylor bt Shifman 13, 12; bt Pasternak 14, 16; bt Zacharias 9, 16.

International Club 8 Israel 2 (London, Oct. 24)

Gibbs lost to Zacharias -14, 19, -22; bt Pasternak 11, 16.

S. Jacobson lost to Shifman -16, -12; bt Y. Romiani 18, 22.

Johns bt Pasternak 13, 12; bt Zacharias 23, -19, 17.

Taylor bt Romiani 12, 12; bt Shifman 13, 15.

Gibbs/Taylor bt Pasternak/Zacharias -17, 21, 16.

Jacobson/Johns bt Romiani/Shifman -17, 12, 12.

From the Editor's Postbag

LEAGUE FEES

MAY I voice my criticism of the new arrangement for league fees and say that I think the E.T.T.A. have slipped up a little. For instance take a Club with three teams, as my own.

Team "A"—

Jones, Brown, Robinson
Reserves taken from "B" and "C" teams.

Team "B"—

Green, White, Black
Reserves taken from "C" team.

Team "C"—

Blue, Red, Pink
Reserves —.

Now when I pass the affiliation on to the players, whom do I charge for the first team reserve? All the "B" team players are paying their own fee, so it means someone paying twice. Ditto with the second team. As far as the third team goes, then we must charge the non-existent reserve. Admittedly I have consistent players so that we usually manage without using reserves at all, but that is by the way.

The E.T.T.A. can get round this by charging more per player, which is the fairest way, rather than making some players pay twice. I have put this to the E.T.T.A. but have had an unsatisfactory reply. What do other Clubs think?

A. A. WALL,

Oak T.T. Club.

242, Oak Road,
West Bromwich, Staffs.

Table Tennis Players

THE FOLLOWING ITEMS WILL MAKE YOU LOOK SMART, GIVE YOU MORE CONFIDENCE AND SO MAKE YOU PLAY BETTER.

GIRLS		BOYS	
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
A Hoffman Skirt ...	2 5 0	Chester Barnes	
A Hoffman Shirt ...	1 8 6	Shorts	2 12 6
Hoffman Socks ...	0 8 6	A Hoffman Shirt ...	1 10 0
Chester Barnes		Hoffman Socks ...	0 8 6
Bat with Cover .	2 12 0	Chester Barnes Bat	2 12 0
Schildkrot Ball ...	0 2 3	Schildkrot Ball ...	0 2 3

ALL AT YOUR LOCAL SPORTS SHOP

The English Table-Tennis Association has chosen Hoffman Clothing for the English International teams — Why Not You?

LOUIS HOFFMAN (CLOTHING) LTD.

01 739-7391

JUNIOR SPOTLIGHT

by Laurie Landry
JUNIOR RANKING
ADDENDUM

ADDITIONAL to the "Junior Top Ten and Five" (Table Tennis News Oct.) the following players have been alphabetically listed in Groups "A" and "B". Previous ranking, where applicable,—(shewn in brackets).

BOYS

GROUP "A"

Peter Abell (Yorks.) ("A")
Paul Bishop (Surrey)
Roger Clarke (Warwks.) (8)
Neil Fulstow (Yorks.) ("B")
Robert Gibson (Middx.) ("B")
David James (Devon) ("A")
Nicky Jarvis (Yorks.) ("A")
Robin Napper (Bucks.) ("A")
David Newton (Lancs.)
David Rayner (Yorks.)
Raymond Tilling (Kent) ("B")
Michael Wald (Bucks.) (10)

GROUP "B"

Barry Grimwade (Kent)
Marcus Hall (Warwks.)
Kingsley Harrison (Lancs.)
Ian Horsham (Essex)
Ian Johns (Cheshire)
Michael Locke (Essex)
Roderick Marchant (Northants)
Phillip Mayman (Ches.)
Ian Robertson (Northumb.)
Derek Smith (Surrey)
Paul Stone (Devon)
Stuart Tannahill (Hants.)

GIRLS

GROUP "A"

Linda Bashford (Yorks (-10)
Susan Beckwith (Essex)
Linda Howard (Surrey)
Susan Lisle (Lancs.) (9)
Christine Mann (Middx.) (-10)
Carol Randall (Sussex) ("A")

GROUP "B"

Paula Brenchley (Kent)
Suzan Cavalleriou (Sussex)
Lynda Chesson (Kent) ("A")
Sheila Hamilton (Middx.)
Janet Hellaby (Essex)
Valerie King (Yorks.)
Janet List (Suffolk)
Bernadette McGroarty (Kent)
Linda Sutton (Yorks.)

NEWBURY JUNIOR OPEN

BOASMAN WINS U-17 BUT LOSES U-15
AND SUE HOWARD WINS ALL THREE

TONY BOASMAN won the U-17 Boys' singles in very good style, at Newbury on October 6, but lost in the U-15 event to Peter Taylor. Young Peter then lost to Neil Fulstow and to Ian Horsham in the U-17 singles.

Sue Howard was in excellent form winning three events but Christine Mann gave her a good match in the final of the singles. These two won the doubles and in opposition, in the Mixed, achieved something of a record when Sue with Alan Fletcher beat Christine with Michael Wald 41-39 in the first game!

Big surprise was the defeat of No. 4 girl Lesley Pacitto by Anne Painter, unranked Middlesex player in the U-15 Girls' singles.

RESULTS

Under-17: Boys' Singles: Semi-finals: A. BOASMAN (Lancs.) bt S. Tannahill (Hants.) 15, 16; **M. WALD** (Bucks.) bt A. Fletcher (Yorks.) -15, 21, 14.

Final: BOASMAN bt Wald 15, -19, 16.

Girls' Singles: Semi-finals: S. HOWARD (Surrey) bt C. Randall (Sussex) 17, 8; **C. MANN** (Middx.) bt L. Howard (Surrey) -19, 10, 19.

Final: S. HOWARD bt Mann 13, -14, 16.

Boys' Doubles: Semi-finals: BOASMAN / FLETCHER bt K. Summerfield (Hants.)/Tannahill 19, -11, 17; **I. HORSHAM/M. READ** (Essex) bt P. Guttormsen (Kent)/R. Hellaby (Essex) 14, -16, 22.

Final: BOASMAN/FLETCHER bt Horsham/Read -17, 23, 18.

Girls' Doubles: Semi-finals: S. HOWARD/MANN bt D. Griffin (Middx.)/J. Hellaby (Essex) 18, 13; **L. HOWARD/L. PACITTO** (Bucks.) bt S. Hamilton/A. Painter (Middx.) 20, -16, 18.

Final: S. HOWARD/MANN bt L. Howard/Pacitto -16, 13, 15.

Mixed Doubles: Semi-finals: FLETCHER/S. HOWARD bt Boasman/L. Howard -20, 17, 14; **WALD/MANN** bt P. Taylor (Herts.)/Pacitto 13, 9.

Final: FLETCHER/S. HOWARD bt Wald/Mann 39, -16, 17.

Under-15: Boys' Singles: Semi-finals: N. FULSTOW (Yorks.) bt D. Rayner (Yorks.) 19, -11, 19; **P. TAYLOR** bt Boasman 16, 17.

Final: FULSTOW bt Taylor 17, 18.

Girls' Singles: Semi-finals: PAINTER bt R. Bryant (Somerset) 14, 14; **PACITTO** bt S. Beckwith (Essex) -20, 16, 19.

Final: PAINTER bt Pacitto -22, 16, 10.

Under-13: Boys' Singles: Semi-finals: GUTTORMSEN bt R. Hope (Hants.) 9, 6; **K. JAMES** (Hants.) bt P. Gilverthorpe (Midx.) 18, 13.

Final: GUTTORMSEN bt James 24, 11.

Girls' Singles: Semi-finals: L. HOWARD bt G. Macrae (Surrey) 14, 17; **G. LOCKE** (Essex) bt K. O'Conner (Middx.) 8, 5.

Final: L. HOWARD bt Locke 13, 13.

Junior Trip to Holland

By Laurie Landry

A REALLY SUCCESSFUL IDEA

THE very young junior team which went to Holland together with Les Gresswell, Mrs. Howard and myself, on October 19-20, showed just how successful this idea could be. The Boys won 6-3 with Tony Boasman, Peter Taylor and Simon Heaps each winning two and losing one.

Boasman was first on and very nearly overcame his understandable nerves but lost from 16-12 up in the third. Both Peter and Simon beat Van Schie later in the match. Tony, however, improved and won his other two including the only reverse suffered by Van Zoelen.

The Girls lost 4-5 but were not disgraced. Sue Howard played wonderfully well in not dropping a game. Her sister, Linda, won the odd one against Heltzel in straight games but Lesley Pacitto just failed to make it against the same opponent.

In the tournament held on the Sunday, Sue won the U-17's singles title but with a bit more difficulty than in the international and Simon won the U-15 after beating Van der Zee in the semis. Van der Zee went on to win the U-17 event beating Tony who had reached the final with an excellent semi result over Simon.

A successful trip altogether and the light training done on both days under the direction of Les Gresswell proved useful. Unfortunately, due to a misunderstanding about ages, both Tony and Lesley were not included in the U-15 events.

Scores (all at Vught, Holland):—

BOYS. England 6 Netherlands 3.

A Boasman bt A. van Zoelen -17, 19, 9; bt H. van der Zee 17, 11; lost to K. van Schie -21, 11, -18.

P. Taylor lost to van Zoelen -17, -20; bt van der Zee 20, 16; bt van Schie -19, 13, 14.

S. Heaps lost to van Zoelen -11, -8; bt van der Zee -13, 13, 11; bt van Schie 12, 14.

GIRLS. England 4 Netherlands 5.

S. Howard bt V. van der Laan 19, 19; bt S. Heltzel 21, 16; bt E. Klatt 14, 11.

L. Pacitto lost to van der Laan -11, -11; lost to Heltzel -20, -17; lost to Klatt -14, -12.

L. Howard lost to van der Laan -14, -13; bt Heltzel 16, 16; lost to Klatt -15, -10.

TOURNAMENT

U-17 Boys' Singles:

P. Taylor lost in his group.
Q.F.: S. Heaps bt van Schie 11, 14.
S.F.: A. Boasman bt Heaps -19, 16, 13.

Final: H. van der Zee bt Boasman 17, 17.

Girls' Singles:

Q.F.: L. Howard lost to van der Laan -12, -18. S. Howard bt Heltzel 12, 12.

S.F.: L. Pacitto lost to van der Laan -10, -9. S. Howard bt Klatt -13, 17, 18.

Final: S. Howard bt van der Laan 15, -11, 18.

U-15 Boys' Singles:

P. Taylor won 4 rounds and lost to R. Hendriks -22, 13, -14.

S.F.: Heaps bt van der Zee 19, 12.

Final: Heaps bt G. Cox 10, 11.

Girls' Singles:

L. Howard lost to S. Heltzel -16, 18, -9.

SUSSEX OPEN

by John Woodford

Finals Marred at Hastings

THE 1968 Sussex Open lived up to its reputation of attracting an entry almost as strong as the English Closed and providing more than the usual quota of shocks. The popularity of the event was endorsed by the attendance of a record number of national and county umpires.

England No. 10 Trevor Taylor from Hertfordshire proved he is the player to whom the England selectors are looking for a great future by winning the men's singles with an impressive win in the final round over surprise finalist David Brown (Essex) 21-17, 21-9.

Prior to the semi-finals, a majority vote would have forecast a classic battle in the final between Ian Harrison and Brian Wright, but these two giants were both removed effectively in the semis by Brown and Taylor respectively. Brown especially, looked almost unbeatable against Harrison. The England No. 2's defence was cut to pieces by the young Essex player to the complete amazement of the onlookers. Taylor found Wright a little bit more difficult but ran away with the third set 21-12. In the earlier rounds Taylor had accounted for Chester Barnes who failed to produce his peak form throughout the two days play. Brown's main victims were "Connie" Warren and "Les" Haslam, so he earned his place in the final.

The Irish challenge from Jim Langan did not materialise and he was well beaten 21-12, 21-13 by Malcolm Sugden in the middle stages, but Harrison then eliminated the Scot.

In the absence of Mary Wright the holder, Karenza Mathews was a worthy women's singles winner and in the final Kent's Pauline Piddock never looked like causing another shock. But in the semi-final, Pauline managed to stop another fine run by Judy Williams, the new North of England Open champion. Earlier, Judy had overwhelmed Jill Shirley for the second time in eight days.

FINALS MARRIED

The finals session, usually a masterpiece of organisation and dignity was marred by a disgraceful uproar throughout the first event, the veterans final. The finalists were Dan Blagojevitch, a Yugoslav from Ilford and the winner Ron Etheridge of Kent. The cause of the trouble was the Yugoslav's service which appeared on most occasions to lack a throw-up. Players and umpires meeting this player in the earlier rounds had been disturbed at his deliveries and he was warned and faulted before reaching the finals.

National umpire John Wright was the man assigned to the veterans final and immediately the game started would not "accept" Blagojevitch's service. A number of "faults" were called followed by outbursts from the player, with elements in the crowd encouraging him. Play was then held up whilst the umpire consulted the referee. More shouting

by the Ilford man who claimed he could not serve according to the rules, further encouraged by younger elements whilst the coolest man in the heat was Ron Etheridge. Aided by the "fault" points the Kent veteran won the first set 21-8 and then went on to win the second 21-15 with the uproar continuing until the end.

Blagojevitch apologised to the Mayor of Hastings, Alderman Mrs. Vera Jones at the presentation ceremony for the scenes but BOTH players were cheered up to the rostrum.

TOURNAMENT "STOPPER"

ON Saturday evening, one of the finest men's singles matches ever seen in the 33 years history of the Sussex Open occurred in Round 2 of the men's singles when "Connie" Warren beat Peter Williams 19-21, 21-14, 33-31! All play in the lower hall was stopped when these two players, both on peak form reached 20-all in the third. Warren decided to hit every ball and survived five match points against him in doing so. As the score reached the middle-twenties with lightning exchanges, Williams was gradually reduced to counter-hitting. In the final nail-biting minute, Warren's two final points clipped the net before beating the Sussex player whose image cannot possibly have been dented by such a great performance.

A rare triumph for experience and adaptation to the modern reflex game came in the men's doubles where Tony Piddock and Henry Buist, the evergreen Kent pair triumphed in the final over Warren and Ralph Gunnion. Piddock and Buist removed Barnes and Harrison at the quarter-final stage.

Sussex Open Results:

Men's Singles: Semi-finals: T. TAYLOR (Herts.) bt B. Wright (Middx.) 19, -19, 12; D. BROWN (Essex) bt I. Harrison (Gloucs.) 15, 8.

Final: TAYLOR bt Brown 17, 9.

Women's Singles: K. MATHEWS (Middx.) bt P. Piddock (Kent) 17, 17.

Men's Doubles: H. BUIST/A. PIDDOCK (Kent) bt R. Gunnion (Warwks.)/C. Warren (Surrey) 11, 17.

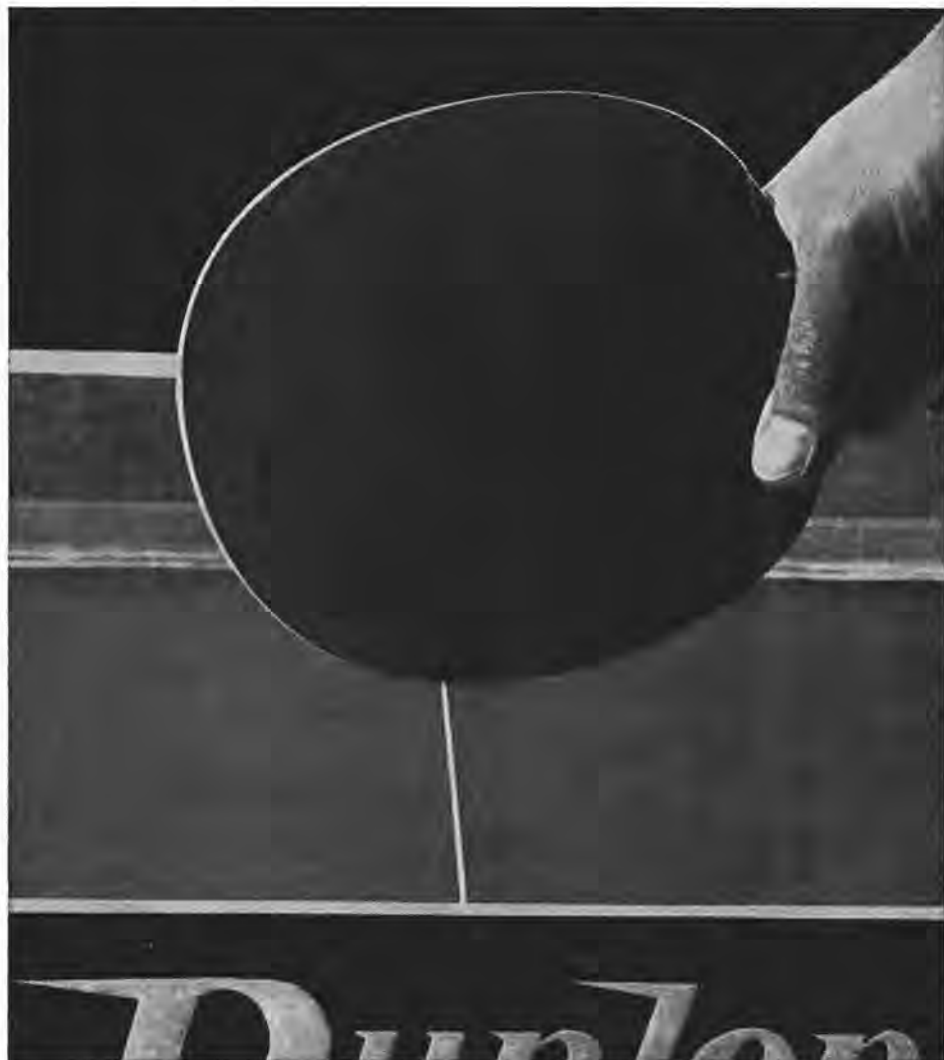
Women's Doubles: J. BILLINGTON/E. CARRINGTON (Essex) bt S. Hession (Essex)/J. Williams (Sussex) -15, 20, 12.

Mixed Doubles: BARNES / MATHEWS bt S. Ogundipe (Sussex)/Williams -18, 10, 13.

Veteran Singles: R. ETHERIDGE (Kent) bt S. Blagojevitch (Essex) 8, 15.

TOURNAMENT DIARY

Date	Title and Venue	Extra Events	Organising Secretary
Nov. 17	Portsmouth Open Wimbledon Park Hall, Southsea.		P. Goldring, 52, Winter Road, Southsea, Hants.
Nov. 23	Cumberland Open Moorclose School, Moorclose Estate, Workington.	JBS, JGS	R. Rigg, 4, Tower Hill, Loop Road South, Whitehaven, Cumb. Closing date: 12.11.68.
Nov. 23-24	Southend Open King Edward School, Rochford.	JBS, JGS	M. D. Watts, Church Green, Sycamore Way, Canewdon, Essex.
Nov. 23-24	Woodfield Restricted Open Woodfield Club, Woodfield Avenue, Penn, Wolverhampton, Staffs.	JBS, JGS JD, VS	Woodfield Club, Woodfield Avenue, Penn, Wolverhampton.
Nov. 30 - Dec. 1	Newbury Open Corn Exchange, Newbury.	VS	C. E. Willis, 27, Salcombe Road, Newbury, Berks.
Dec. 7-8	Middlesex Open, Hanwell Community Centre, Hanwell.	JBS, JGS	Miss I. Moss, 49, Okehampton Road, Kensal Rise, London, N.W.10.
Dec. 8	West of England Open Houndstone Camp, Yeovil, Somerset.	JBS, JGS JBD, JGD JXD, VS	K. F. Palmer, 12, Barton Gardens, Sherborne, Dorset.
Dec. 15	Swindon Open Pinehurst Sports Hall, Swindon, Wilts.	JBS, JGS	G. G. S. Turnbull, 139, Grange Drive, Statton, Swindon, Wilts.



**Where are the '69
world championships
being held?
On the Dunlop Barna Table
in Munich!**

This year, the Dunlop Barna nominal 1" table has been adopted, among other championships, for the 1969 World Championships in Munich. That means the world's top players will stake their reputations on the finest high speed surface in the world.

The table is compact, easy to store, speedy to erect—and built of sturdy seasoned wood. There are recessed side rails for net fixing, and also wheel-away castors as a useful optional extra.



Ask about the Dunlop Barna range of tables at your local dealer now.

You'll do better with Dunlop

GLENN WARWICK

by Philip Reid

LOCAL youth clubs have produced many International players. Players who join a youth club, find they have the talent and enthusiasm for the game and make the necessary progress. Before the top is reached, however, a lot of hard work is necessary. One who will vouch for the accuracy of this statement is Staffordshire's Glenn Warwick.



(Photo by Cliff Darley)

Glenn started playing, appropriately enough, at a local youth club. By the end of the season he had made sufficient progress to reach the final of the Youth League championships. Amongst the spectators was Brian Martin, a Staffs County player. Not wishing such talent to be lost to the game—as so very often happens—Brian invited Glenn to join Walsall's biggest club, the Cambridge, and it was an invitation Glenn was quick to accept.

Glenn's baptism to Walsall League table tennis was in the fifth division and in it he made speedy progress. At the end of the season, 1960-1, he became Walsall Junior Singles Champion.

It was an unexpected, but very deserved result. A summer's practice by the dedicated 15-year-old had its reward when he was selected for his club's first team.

His teammates were Brian Martin and Bert Hiscock. He could scarcely have had two better, Brian with his mastery of spin services and the loop, Bert with his excellent all-round game and magnificent temperament. In my travels I have never seen anyone with such complete composure as Bert.

SOUND ADVICE

Nothing ever upsets him. He once told me "Why get excited over an edge ball or a net-cord against you? You can't do anything about it! Forget it. Play each ball on its

merits and forget the previous one".

It was sound advice. Advice he passed on to the quick-learning Warwick. He has never forgotten it and it is reflected in his play. His temperament was great by any standards. For a 15-year-old it was almost uncanny being largely instrumental in his quick rise up the scale that season.

He played for both Walsall and Staffordshire Juniors. His team won the Walsall first division. He retained his Junior Singles title. And he added the Staffs. Junior Singles for good measure.

1962-63 was a season of consolidation for Glenn. He used it to build up his game, serving as a spring-board for the following season which was to be his last as a junior. Even so 1962-63 brought Glenn the retention of his Walsall and Staffordshire titles and more good representative wins.

By now the Walsall hitter was visiting as many tournaments as possible. His preparations for the 1963-64 season were not to be in vain. A summer's hard training was followed by Glenn gaining a place in Walsall's first representative team.

He had fully merited his opportunity and he took full advantage of it with some great wins. He continued to hit his way to success and he had one of his dearest ambitions realised when he was selected for England Juniors against Wales. He emerged undefeated.

UNDEFEATED THROUGHOUT

At Scarborough, Glenn won the Junior Singles title at the North East of England Open. It was his only Open singles title win as a junior but he had fully earned it.

Staffordshire won the Junior Division (Midland) and Glenn did his share by emerging undefeated throughout the season. Not only did he win the Walsall Junior Singles but added the Senior title as well and further annexed the county junior title for good measure. To cap a great season Glenn became Staffordshire's men's singles champion.

His County were promoted to the Premier Division of the County Championships and the prospects of playing in it clearly thrilled Glenn. The team, as they realised, would be struggling from the start but it was obvious Glenn would benefit by the experience.

And indeed he did. He had outstanding wins over Alan Lindsay, Derek Basden and Tony Piddock. Glenn was occupying the No. 1 spot skilfully and successfully but it was plain the team would be relegated at the season's end.

Those who deemed it was a wasted season failed to take into account the benefit the team, and particularly Glenn, had derived from it.

No player in the country was showing more keenness than Glenn at this time. He used to enter all the tourneys he possibly could and not only played in the local league but also in the first division of the Manchester League.

To achieve this he used to travel up after work, play his sets, and then return overnight to resume work the following day!

STILL DEVELOPING

The Staffs No. 1 was still developing his game and he won the Men's Singles and Men's Doubles titles in both the Walsall and Staffordshire Championships.

Everything in the garden looked lovely but in fact 1965-66 season proved a very bad one. Hardly had the season commenced before Glenn contracted jaundice. It was to put him out for the rest of the season.

Whereas some players would have taken some time to rehabilitate themselves, Glenn was able to get back immediately. He went straight back into the Staffs first team and had his best-ever season.

Out of twelve sets Glenn lost only two and his consistency extended to his Birmingham League performances where he went through the season undefeated. Against such players as Ralph Gunnion, Paul Judd, Derek Munt and Derek Backhouse this was no mean performance. Besides regaining the Staffs Men's Singles title he also brought off a fine success when he won the strong Men's Singles Closed title.

1967-68 was one of mixed fortunes with the County title being retained and some good wins in the County Championships.

For so good a player it is amazing to find that Glenn has never won an Open tournament. It is something which could well be remedied this season. Certainly Glenn intends to spare no effort to win at least one Open Singles title in his career.

Perhaps Glenn does not possess the "killer instinct". Certainly he has all the shots but lack of opportunity to play in the Premier Division must have affected his chances of regular good top practice. And, of course, the "Lost Season"—1965-66—has had its effect. True he came back at once but it was a season he may well have utilised to great advantage.

However, whether Glenn does, or does not win an Open Tournament one thing is certain. And that is whilst he continues to play for Staffordshire and travel the tournament circuit table tennis will be the better for his presence. His good manners on and off the table, his obvious enjoyment of being with the table tennis fraternity and his progressive, sincere and helpful approach to the game are admired by all and sundry.

There is no more modest player in the game or one so keen to help younger players to improve. I have seen him chatting with youngsters, helping them with their game for no other reason than for just that. Glenn Warwick is indeed a player we in the Midlands are proud of.

NORTHERN TOURNAMENT SCENE

by Geo. R. Yates

NEALE MAKES AMENDS

INGLORIOUSLY defeated by "Les" Haslam in the semi-finals of the North of England Open at Manchester on October 12, Denis Neale made amends at Speke, Liverpool a fortnight later, when he swept to victory over Mike Johns in the 30th Merseyside Open, having turned round 2-10 down to Alan Hydes in the semi!

Johns was the beaten men's singles finalist in both tournaments but whereas he fought with the ferocity of a tiger at Manchester, his "tank" appeared devoid of a growl at Liverpool.

In both tournaments, Lancashire's John Clarke succumbed to the Weaverham ace after taking the scalps of such dignitaries as Brian Wright and Ralph Gunnion to reach the quarters.

The same treatment was afforded Tony Clayton by Peter Williams after the Hull player, at Manchester, had ousted "Connie" Warren.

Both Haslam and Roger Chandler were seeded absentees at Liverpool in whose stead Yorkshire's Peter Hirst came flying through.

Also missing at the Merseyside was Judy Williams — women's singles winner over Karenza Mathews at Manchester—but whose father had died on the previous night.

A jubilant Laurie Landry, partnered by Trevor Taylor, jiggled his way on to the stage at Speke for the men's doubles prize graciously bestowed upon him by senior Team Manager Johnny Leach.

Like Clarke in the senior event, Burnley's David Newton also ran foul of the same player twice in the boys' singles. Trevor Taylor was Newton's stumbling block but at Liverpool he did manage a game although Taylor was there at the finish in both tourneys.

MERSEYSIDE OPEN: RESULTS

Men's Singles: Quarter-finals: D. Neale (Yorks.) bt K. Forshaw (Lancs.) 12, 9; A. Hydes (Yorks.) bt T. Taylor (Herts.) 19, 15; M. Johns (Ches.) bt J. K. Clarke (Lancs.) -15, 15, 14; P. Hirst (Yorks.) bt A. Chilvers (Northumb.) 11, 15.

Semi-finals: NEALE bt Hydes 14, -14, 18; **JOHNS** bt Hirst 13, 18.

Final: NEALE bt Johns 11, 14.

Women's Singles: Quarter-finals: H. Heppell (Northumb.) bt D. Schofield (Ches.) 5, 12; L. Bashford (Yorks.) bt C. Moore (Lancs.) 18, -10, 20; C. Duncombe (Northumb.) bt D. Johnson (Ches.) 22, -8, 21; J. Heaps (Ches.) bt J. Cornock (Warwks.) 20, 9.

Semi-finals: HEPELL bt Bashtford 10, 14; **HEAPS** bt Duncombe 16, 14.

Final: HEAPS bt Heppell 14, 12.

Men's Doubles: Semi-finals: R. GUNNION (Warwks.)/**NEALE** bt A. Ransome (Northumb.)/N. Jarvis (Yorks.) 9, 13; **L. F. LANDRY** (Middx.)/**TAYLOR** bt B. Burn (Northumb.)/Hydes 15, -12, 12.

Final: LANDRY/TAYLOR bt Gunnion/Neale 20, -17, 22.

Women's Doubles: Semi-finals: HEAPS/D. SIMPSON (Essex) bt Cornock/K. Perry (Warwks.) -18, 12, 13; **DUNCOMBE/HEPPELL** bt Bashford/Schofield 15, 13.

Final: HEAPS/SIMPSON bt Duncombe/Heppell 13, -18, 7.

Mixed Doubles: Semi-finals: HYDES/HEPPELL bt P. Hoyles (Northumb.)/Duncombe 16, 13; **JOHNS/SIMPSON** bt G. Warwick (Staffs.)/Perry 14, 19.

Final: HYDES/HEPPELL bt Johns/Simpson 14, 10.

Boys' Singles: Quarter-finals: Taylor bt P. Abell (Yorks.) 12, 14; D. Newton (Lancs.) bt D. White (Yorks.) 17, 19; Jarvis bt K. Harrison (Lancs.) 10, 14; P. Freeman (Durham) bt L. Roberts (Lancs.) 10, 21.

Semi-finals: TAYLOR bt Newton 14, -21, 11; **FREEMAN** bt Jarvis -19, 19, 13.

Final: TAYLOR bt Freeman 10, 17.

Girls: Singles: Semi-finals: CORNOCK bt A. Waters (Yorks.) 11, 15; **BASHFORD** bt S. Lisle (Lancs.) -16, 13, 17.

Final: BASHFORD bt Cornock 14, 14.

Veteran Singles: Semi-finals: S. NUNN (Yorks.) bt H. Dignan (Northumb.) 15, -12, 14; **R. HINCHLIFF** (Yorks.) bt T. Donlon (Ches.) 8, 16.

Final: HINCHLIFF bt Nunn 14, 10.

NORTH OF ENGLAND OPEN: RESULTS:

Men's Singles: Quarter-finals: D. Neale (Yorks.) bt A. Pidcock (Kent) 14, 16; O. B. Haslam (Middx.) bt T. Taylor (Herts.) 14, 18; M. Johns (Ches.) bt J. Clarke (Lancs.) 16, 18; P. Williams (Sussex) bt A. Clayton (Yorks.) 16, 10.

Semi-finals: HASLAM bt Neale -14, 17, 13; **JOHNS** bt Williams 13, 17.

Final: HASLAM bt Johns 14, -20, 14.

Women's Singles: Quarter-finals: K. Mathews (Middx.) bt C. Duncombe (Nthld.) 10, 9; P. Pidcock (Kent) bt L. Proudlock (Yorks.) 10, -16, 15; J. Shirley (Bucks.) bt S. Hession (Essex) 16, 14; J. Williams (Sussex) bt M. Heppell (Nthld.) 17, 13.

Semi-finals: MATHEWS bt Pidcock 18, -13, 18; **WILLIAMS** bt Shirley 17, 13.

Final: WILLIAMS bt Mathews 15, 11.

Men's Doubles: Semi-finals: A. HYDES (Yorks.)/NEALE bt E. Coster (Herts.)/M. Sugden (Scotland) 11, 12; **HASLAM/PIDDOCK** bt P. Duncombe/J. Kedge (Yorks.) 18, 15.

Final: HASLAM/PIDDOCK bt Hydes/Neale 15, -16, 13.

Women's Doubles: Semi-finals: HESSION/WILLIAMS bt Heppell/Mathews 18, -15, 19; **PIDDOCK/D. SIMPSON** (Essex) bt Duncombe/Proudlock 18, -20, 10.

Final: PIDDOCK/SIMPSON bt Hession/Williams -18, 14, 16.

Mixed Doubles: Semi-finals: NEALE/PIDDOCK bt Sugden/Mathews 11, -23, 19; **HYDES/HEPPELL** bt B. Wright (Middx.) Shirley 20, 16.

Final: HYDES/HEPPELL bt Neale/Pidcock -19, 13, 17.

Boys' Singles: Quarter-finals: T. Taylor bt D. Newton (Lancs.) 17, 14; N. Jarvis (Yorks.) bt A. Fletcher (Yorks.) 18, 10; P. Freeman (Durham) bt S. Heaps (Ches.) 21, 17; A. Boasman (Lancs.) bt B. Johns (Ches.) 18, 17.

Semi-finals: TAYLOR bt Jarvis 17, 18; **BOASMAN** bt Freeman 13, -18, 15.

Final: TAYLOR bt Boasman 11, 18.

Girls' Singles: Semi-finals: SHIRLEY bt J. Cornock (Warwks.) 11, 16; **S. HOWARD** (Surrey) bt V. King (Yorks.) 15, 15.

Final: SHIRLEY bt Howard 9, 9.

MIDLAND LEAGUE

ALREADY the Champions Gloucester, led by Ian Harrison, have taken the lead in the first division with an 8-2 win over West Bromwich and 10-0 over Worcester. At the other end Coventry "A" lost their two opening matches 3-7 to Birmingham, and 1-9 to Chesterfield. Birmingham Ladies, semi-permanent winners of the Ladies' section, having won every season except two which were won by West Bromwich, began well with a 10-0 win over Nuneaton, who were beaten the following week 9-1 by W.B. Birmingham "B" scored two good wins in the Junior Division.

FOR SALE

CLOTH CLUB BADGES made to your own design in any quantity. Low prices - Quick delivery — **S. A. CORY & COMPANY**, 35b Tooting Bec Gardens, Streatham, S.W.16.



for those
who
play to
win...

**The Champion's choice—
Halex 3-star**

Only the very best equipment is good enough for those who play to win. That's why Johnny Leach, twice World Singles Champion says "I always use a Halex ball myself. It has 50 years' experience behind it."



The largest
manufacturers of
table tennis balls
for over 50 years

HALEX · HIGHAMS PARK · LONDON E.4.

BAKELITE XYLONITE LIMITED **BXL**
CONSUMER PRODUCTS DIVISION

THE LAURIE LANDRY STORY

by George Yates

IT was on a fateful May morning in 1961, that England's Junior Team Manager, Laurie Landry, was hit with a fast-moving car in snatching to safety his 4-year-old nephew from its path on the busy A40 at Gerrards Cross.

Laurie's severe and multiple injuries were such that in Hillingdon Hospital, Uxbridge his very life was in jeopardy.

Thanks, however, to miraculous surgery the Willesden international pulled through and few, seeing him today, would believe just how near to death's door he was seven years or so ago.

Besides his indebtedness to the surgeons and staff of Hillingdon Hospital, Laurie is also conscious of the part played by Eric Blackman, Fellow of the Society of Remedial Gymnasts and the Farnham Rehabilitation Centre where Mr. Blackman has worked for the past 21 years.

Laurie has been back on twenty occasions since he was at Farnham Park for thirteen weeks, from July 14 to October 13, 1961. During his stay he was allowed to go home each weekend and this was made possible by his Tennyson Club colleagues, in the Willesden League, who took him to and fro, by car, on a rota system.

Players to have accompanied Laurie on his return visits include Buckinghamshire's Leo Thompson, Jill and Paul Shirley, Jackie and Robin Napper and Michael and Tommy Wald, Middlesex players Alan Rhodes, Brian Wright, Karenza Mathews, Jimmy and Christine Mann as well as Linda and Susan Howard (Surrey), Stuart Gibbs (Essex), Trevor Taylor (Herts.) and Graham Whalley (Sussex).

The further story of Farnham Park Rehabilitation Centre is penned by Eric Blackman, F.S.R.G., himself who writes:—

"Shortly after the war ended in 1945, the Nuffield Foundation and the Nuffield Provincial Hospitals Trust, of which the late Sir Noel Mobbs, K.C.V.O., O.B.E., was a Trustee,

decided to set up an area Industrial Health Service.

"The Borough of Slough was chosen for the project because of the diversity of industry located in and around Slough Trading Estate and because Sir Noel Mobbs was Chairman of the Slough Estates and able to obtain the co-operation of the Manufacturers who were interested in this progression of Health Service.

"A Central Clinic was opened on the verge of the Industrial area and a Rehabilitation Centre (a large House) was purchased for £25,000.

"The house was fitted out to take 45 resident patients who were admitted from all over the U.K. plus Day patients who mostly lived locally and whose injuries were of such a nature as to enable them to travel to and fro by public transport or ambulance.

"So The Slough Industrial Health Service was born, but here I must confine myself to the Rehabilitation Centre that received people from all walks of life, of both sexes and ages ranging from 18 to 60. This age group was however elastic and if a man of 65 was still working in industry he would be accepted, although there were obvious pessimists who talked loudly that with the arrival shortly of a State run Service this independent service would not succeed.

"Under the guidance of the Medical Director, Dr. A. Austin Egger, a doctor with vast experience in all fields of medicine and a Brigadier with the 1st Airborne Division during the last war, the Centre went from strength to strength and in 1947 provision had to be made to take 66 beds and 30 outpatients. This late residence of Lord Kemsley was now bursting at the seams but applications from the medical profession all over the world were pouring in to inspect this revolution in medicine.

"Apart from the distinguished medical staff, Sisters Professions Supplementary to Medicine, cooks,

kitchen staff and a highly skilled engineer were hand picked by the M.D. and as a team set to work with this pioneering project to prove its worth. The efforts of this team produced very little monetary reward but great satisfaction was felt by all with the growing success of this project.

"Many road accidents were admitted from various hospitals and these included several well known athletes none better known perhaps in that day than Laurie Landry. Laurie had suffered serious injuries and had been unconscious for a very long time.

"Although I, as the Head Remedial Gymnast, would never have the audacity to put myself in a class with Laurie as a table tennis player I, nevertheless, was fond of the game and could hold my own with the average patient.

"I soon had Laurie on his feet with a plaster from toes to groin but full of spirit and confidence. The game soon improved his co-ordination, his reflexes were soon back to normal and Laurie was a formidable opponent for the best we could produce.

"I personally played him many hundreds of times and was never able to get near beating him, his courage and determination were an inspiration to all who knew him.

"Since his discharge from here he has returned on many occasions bringing along a team of notable players not only to entertain us but to enable us to pit our ability against these distinguished people. Laurie will always remain a great friend of Farnham Park and of Yours Truly".

Ombudsman

THERE has not been a single grouse or complaint this month which means, I hope, that everyone is happy within the ranks of Table Tennis. We have, therefore, brought from our files an old item we had cause to look into on which we now comment. This is in answer to a local Newspaper report concerning the state of dress of Tournament Players.

We find that over the past few years the standard of dress by all players has improved. Among the better Tournament players, who invariably are supplied with free clothing, there can be no complaints whatsoever.

Players representing Counties and Leagues are also well turned out. Only in the lower divisions of leagues did we find matches taking place with players not having changed, dirty shoes and unwashed and unpressed shorts. We could not find fault with any girl we saw. From our enquiries the following reasons emerged. Played last night, forgot to change, left kit at home, and many more.

We found the answer to this in one club who refused to let its members play with dirty shoes or unless correctly dressed. This then is the answer to right this lack of pride by some of our male players. To the

Tournament players who said "I never expected to get so far"—carry a tube of shoe whitener, a spare shirt and a pair of shorts. Be prepared, you never know!

Something we left out of our comments on OPEN TOURNAMENTS and that was umpiring. We know that players need not have to umpire during an Open Tournament, but we feel that every player should, if asked, umpire a set to enable the Tournament Organisers to keep up to a time schedule. By umpiring a set we feel that players would learn that an umpire is entitled to respect and when the set is over to be thanked for taking it.

EXTRACT FROM THE
WOOD GREEN WEEKLY HERALD
20 September, 1968

"IT is a great pity that a number of players did not take a greater pride in the image of Table Tennis. A great many people visited Alexandra Palace at the weekend to watch the matches and they must have particularly noticed the unkempt appearance of several male players.

"I noticed three players in the finals who wore filthy shoes, two who wore shirts which appeared not to have been washed recently. How little effort it would have taken for the players to have changed the shirts for the finals and given their shoes a quick wipe with a whitener. The notable exceptions were Chester Barnes and Brian Wright who are always neatly dressed. The ladies, of course, were once again immaculate".

VICTOR BARN AWARD

AT Middlesbrough, on October 14, Denis Neale became the recipient of the Victor Barna Award for Season 1967-68 in succession to Mrs. Mary Wright.

E.T.T.A. President, T. Austin Harrison, made the trip from Scarborough to perform the ceremony in conjunction with the North East Summer League's presentations.

VISITORS FROM THE CONTINENT

ADDITIONAL to the International Programme (TABLE TENNIS NEWS—October) a junior team from Federal Germany is due in this country on January 3, 1969.

Two international matches will be played, in the North of England on the 4th and 6th of January, and the visitors will also participate in the Yorkshire Junior Open on Sunday, January 5 in Hull.

Prior to, however, a Women's team from the Netherlands will engage us in two internationals on December 9 and 10. Likely venues will be in London and Northants.

NEW MEMBER

MRS. Lesley Radford (Essex) has now accepted an invitation to join England's International Squad, bringing the total to 10 men to 8 women.



Pictured, centre, holding the English Junior Open Boys' Team trophy, at Folkestone last May, is England N.P.C. Laurie Landry flanked by Trevor Taylor (Herts.) and, wearing his England Junior badge, Paul Judd (Warwks.).

TABLES FOR HIRE

UNDER the Terms of Agreement with Messrs. John Jaques & Son Ltd., the E.T.T.A. now has available a number of top-class Jaques tables, which may be hired by leagues or clubs, on favourable terms.

The hire can be for either a limited period or on a permanent basis. Anyone interested in this offer, should contact Administrative Secretary, Albert Shipley at the E.T.T.A. Office.

It must be stressed, however, that in the event of applications exceeding the number of tables available, then preference will be given to areas in which the need to develop table tennis is greatest.

This hire service is not intended to cover isolated events such as an Open or Closed Tournament, but is intended for installation of tables at club premises.

YOUTH FEES

IT is apparent from affiliations received so far that many leagues are unaware of the rule concerning reduced affiliation fees for youth teams. In order for youth teams to qualify for the half-rate of fee, they must either play in a youth league or in a division of a local league, the membership of which division is restricted to persons under 21 years of age.

This is to ensure that the reduction is given only to genuine youth clubs, for it was found that many clubs included the word "youth" in their name without restricting their membership to young people. Therefore, leagues with only two or three youth teams cannot, by rule, claim the lower fee.

PERMIT MEMBERS

REMINDERS have been sent to all existing members that on September 1 each year, the renewal fee of £2 becomes due. League secretaries are asked to remind their members that anyone earning money by his skill or knowledge of table tennis should, under the rules of the E.T.T.A., register as a Permit Member.

DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE

IT was duly brought to the notice of the National Council, on September 28, that the Disciplinary Committee was overstrength by one in accordance with the Rules, having six members instead of five. Gloucestershire Councillor, Les Davis, volunteered to withdraw as Secretary and this was accepted. Secretarial needs at future meetings would be provided from the Secretariat.

NATIONAL TEAM COMPETITIONS

ENTRIES for this season's competitions are as follows:—Wilmott Cup—96, Rose Bowl—72, Carter Cup—53 and Bromfield Trophy—21. The

Secretary of the National Team Competitions is Les Davis and not Mrs. Pat Archdale as stated in the Official Handbook.

TOURNAMENT DATE

THE date of the Pontefract Restricted Open has been brought forward to Saturday, January 25th, 1969.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

LESLIE DAVIS, Secretary to the National Team Competitions Committee, has moved to:—

2, Trymwood Parade,
Shirehampton Road,
Bristol, 9.

LESLIE GRESSWELL, in charge of training International Squad members in the south, has moved to:—
48, Denton Road,
East Twickenham,
Middlesex.

ENGLISH SCHOOLS T.T.A.

QUARTER-FINAL dates for the National Competitions are:—

MIDLANDS AND NORTH: March 1
(Nominations by Feb. 16).

SOUTH-EAST AND SOUTH-WEST:
March 8 (Nominations by Feb. 23).

Venue for the Midland area is Harry Mitchell Recreation Centre, Broomfield, Smethwick, Warley (used for finals last year) and venue for South-East is R.A.F. Sports Arena, Stanmore, Middlesex.

RESIGNATION

AT the meeting of the National Council held in London on September 28, Brian Hartley, the National Councillor for Berkshire, tendered his resignation from the Finance Committee. E.T.T.A. Chairman, Conrad Jaschke, reluctantly accepted the resignation and Hon. Treasurer, Tom Blunn, thanked him for the contribution made at the three meetings held.

SCANDINAVIAN OPEN

IT has recently been heard that the Scandinavian Open Championships, scheduled for November 29/December 1, have been cancelled on the advice of the Swedish Sports Council.

CORRECTION

OXFORDSHIRE Councillor, Jim Hobday points out an error in the first line of "THE SERVICE LAW" as printed on Page 8 of the October issue. The word "played" in the first line should, of course, be placed.

SUBJECT to government grant, the E.T.T.A. wishes to appoint an extra Staff Coach on a full-time basis. Desired qualifications are an E.T.T.A. Coaching Diploma, a high personal playing standard and either, an official P.E. qualification or, at least, practical knowledge of modern fitness training methods.

The duties of the Staff Coach will include organisation of general coaching within the E.T.T.A. coaching scheme and supervision of training of International Squad members and leading junior players. The E.T.T.A. already has a Staff Coach in the North and the new appointment will be made for the Midlands or South.

The maximum age for the post would be 30 and a salary of not less than £1,000 is offered. Following negotiations with the Department of Education and Science the E.T.T.A. will offer good salary progression to the successful applicant with additional benefits and starting salary based on age and experience.

Applications, to be received by 30th November, should be sent to D. R. Tremayne, 46, Perry Street, WENDOVER, Bucks. (Envelopes to be marked "Coach").

THE 10th English Closed Championships will again be held at the Crystal Palace Recreation Centre, Norwood, London, S.E. 19 from Thursday, January 2 to Saturday, January 4, 1969.

Entry forms will be sent to all previous entrants and are available at the E.T.T.A. office where the draw will be made at 5-30 p.m., on Thursday, December 12.

Qualifying competitions will commence at 6 p.m., on January 2 with a full day's play on January 3 culminating in the semi-finals of the Men's and Women's Singles and the Men's and Women's Doubles commencing at 6-30 p.m.

Finals of all events, which are to be televised, will commence at 2 p.m. on Saturday, January 4.

Admission charges will be:—

Thursday evening 2/6d.
Friday—all day 5/-
Saturday—all day 7/6d.
(Children under 15—2/6d. per day)

Further details can be had from the E.T.T.A. Secretariat, Room 323, 26-29, Park Crescent, London, W1N 4HA. (Telephone: 01-580-6312).



THE TABLE OF THE FUTURE TODAY

CANNOT WARP: EASILY MOVED IN USE AT OVER 1,000 CLUBS

- Tubular Steel Jigged Frame and Folding Undercarriage.
- Hinged and folding Fitted with Retractable White Tyred Castor Wheels.
- Permanent Matt Finish. Washable.
- Three Mobile Models Fitted with Finnish Birch Tops. 12 mm., 18 mm., 24 mm.
- No More Loose Screws, Chipped Corners, Warped Surfaces.
- Surfaces Protected when not in use.
- Free Standing 5' x 5' x 10" saving damage to table edges and walls
- Patented in U.K., U.S.A., Belgium Germany, France, Italy, Canada, Japan.

Write for Illustrated Brochure to—

GYMNASIA LTD.

Blue House Point Road
Stockton-on-Tees, Teeside
Tel: Stockton-on-Tees 68964

Makers of Fine Gymnastic and Sports Equipment

Press Reception

FLEET Street national press journalists were entertained by members of the E.T.T.A.'s. Publicity Committee at the London Press Club on October 1.

The sports journalists turned out in force in response to the invitations and included such well-known names as Peter Wilson, J. L. Manning, Sydney Hulls and many others.

Short speeches of welcome were made by Mr. Conrad Jaschke, Chairman E.T.T.A. and Mr. Bill Vint, Chairman of the Publicity Committee. The Press men were given copies of the international programme, tournament diaries and assurances that the utmost co-operation would be given to ensure that the big table tennis news reaches them in the shortest possible time.

CARDIFF OPEN

Men's Singles: Semi-finals: G. C. BARNES bt G. Evans 12, 8; H. THOMAS bt R. Bishop 10, -20, 12.

Final: BARNES bt Thomas 17, 9.

Women's Singles: Semi-finals: L. RADFORD bt M. Jones 13, 3; S. PICKERING bt M. Phillips -19, 22, 19.

Final: RADFORD bt Pickering 5, 8.

Men's Doubles: Final: BARNES/P. RADFORD bt Bishop/Morris 18, 18.

Women's Doubles: Final: PHILLIPS/PICKERING bt B. Gray/Radford -19, 19, 9.

Mixed Doubles: Final: BARNES/RADFORD bt F. Anderson/Phillips 16, 16.

Boys' Singles: Final: THOMAS bt A. Griffiths 10, 16.

Girls' Singles: Final: S. TANNER bt S. Morgan -20, 13, 14.

Reflections on Junior Table Tennis

by Teddy Grant

THE development of table tennis in schools with centres springing up in various parts of the country, junior leagues, summer coaching at holiday camps and the annual participation in national and county trials, all supported by the welcome interest of the local and national press is certainly making the prospects of this fascinating indoor sport increasingly attractive for the junior contestant.

Indeed a recent demonstration by our national coach at a Teachers' Training College in the South of England has widened the possibilities for the inclusion of table tennis in the physical education syllabus for state schools.

We have at last come a long way from those early lessons on the dining room table! Nevertheless while the numbers of new exponents are increasing, I wonder if the higher

standard from which junior internationals must emerge is high enough!

How is the potential champion discovered?

This may well be a leading question for the coaches of our national scheme whether or not they are of one or four star rating. I have always believed that while natural talent is a splendid advantage, any measure of ability can be cultivated and improved.

The essential lessons of ball control, concentration, anticipation and the forceful style of modern table tennis cannot be acquired without unending practice coupled with an agreeable temperament. The courage to recover

with a smile from 11-19 down in the third game are moral qualities of tenacity and patience which will eventually mark the champion.

Alas, England has too few of them!

The early advantages of joining a local club (they still exist) cannot be overstressed, because playing in a club with adults and, far better, in a team the junior will slowly build his own particular style measuring it with a growing confidence against the senior varieties of skill and wider experience.

Tournaments are indeed gruelling affairs requiring patience and stamina over long hours and this undoubtedly is the very reason why tournaments

are such necessary training grounds in comparison to the more agreeable clubroom.

Top class table tennis consists mainly of tournaments costing much time and money, especially in weekends spent away from home. Ambitious juniors to gain early recognition have no alternative but to enter and win.

The future of English table tennis in the international arena may well depend on the right approach to the junior game. Particularly during their after-care period when as ex-juniors they will be severely confronted with the tense encounters of senior competitive play.

TOP PLAYERS

designed
JAQUES
WORLD
CLASS
SERIES

TOP BATS

DENIS NEALE

ENGLAND No. 1

MARY WRIGHT

ENGLAND No. 1

BRIAN WRIGHT

ENGLAND No. 5



TOP TABLES

ETTA selected
JAQUES TABLES Exclusively

Get to the Top with JAQUES equipment from your local sports shop
or write

Jaques & SON LTD.

THORNTON HEATH, SURREY, CR4 8XP.

NETHERLANDS

OPEN

Results :

WOMEN'S SINGLES:

Karenza Mathews: bt N. Broxterman (Neths.) 9, 5, 7; lost to M. ten Broek (Neths.) 15, -21, 10, -21, -18.
Judy Heaps: bt Felstead (U.S.A.) 8, 8, 11; lost to E. Buchholz (W. Germany) -13, -16, -16.
Jill Shirley: bt A. Wynia (Neths.) 16, 10, 13; lost to W. Hendriksen (W. Germany) 19, -23, -16, -11.
Pauline Piddock: bt M. Stas (Belgium) 13, 18, 20; bt E. Jeler (Yugo.) 13, 18, 11; bt C. Lang (W. Germany) 13, 16, 14.
S.F.: lost to D. Schöler (W. Germany) -12, -9, -10.

MEN'S SINGLES:

Alan Hydes: bt W. Schoonemeyer (Neths.) 15, 14, 13; bt S. Svarc (Czecho.) 13, 10, -14, 15; lost to D. Surbek (Yugo.) -14, -14, -17.
Denis Neale: bt G. Bakker (Neths.) 18, 13, 9; bt K. Schmittinger (W. Germany) 17, -13, -18, 18, 18; lost to F. Schoofs (Neths.) -13, -15, 19, 15, -19.
Trevor Taylor: bt N. van Slobbe (Neths.) 10, -19, 9, -20, 13; lost to E. Schöler (W. Germany) 14, -19, -18, -13.
Chester Barnes: bt H. Stolk (Neths.) 9, 7, 15; bt B. Schoofs (Neths.) 14, 14, 16; bt A. Stipanovic (Yugo.) 15, 14, 18; Q.F. bt K. Russy (W. Germany) 17, -14, -19, 17, 28; S.F. lost to Schöler -18, 10, -12, -12.
Mike Johns: bt R. Joels (Neths.) 9, 11, 14; lost to J. Secretin (France) -17, -19, -14.

FINALS

Men's Singles: Dragutin Surbek (Yugoslavia) bt Schöler 11, 19, 18.
Women's Singles: Diane Schöler (W. Germany) bt Buchholz 18, 13, 12.
Men's Doubles: Surbeck/A. Stipanovic (Yugoslavia) bt B. Jansen/K. Schmittinger -18, 17, 17, -19, 21.
Women's Doubles: Buchholz/A. Simon (W. Germany) bt P. Piddock/J. Shirley 12, 13, 13.
Mixed Doubles: E. and D. Schöler bt A. Hydes/Mrs. Piddock 16, 16, 13.

AROUND THE COUNTIES

NORTHANTS NOTES

by Gwyn Powell

COUNTY SQUAD MAY BRING SUCCESS

AT the beginning of the season the County Association, acting on a suggestion by the new senior match secretary, Bryan Bond, decided to set up a squad containing the top players in the county so that they could meet

fairly regularly and thus benefit from competitive practice. The first meeting took place in October at The Drill Hall, Wellingborough and was well attended; future sessions will be by invitation only. A newcomer proved to be one of the top players present. He was George Tsow, who plays for Hemming's 'A' in the Daventry League and is now eligible to play for Northants. George, an experienced penholder, has twice won the Birmingham veterans' singles and should be a very useful acquisition.

Roderick Marchant of Wellingborough, who has, for the second successive year, been placed in Group "B" of the Junior rankings by the E.T.T.A. also showed up well and should do well in this season's Championships.

For the first time ever Wellingborough have entered a Ladies team in the South East Midlands League and they made a promising start by taking three points off the Ely team.

Eleven new teams have entered the Kettering League this term maintaining the increase in popularity of table tennis in the area. The Premier Division championship has been dominated in the past by the Town 'A' team who have won the title on no less than nineteen occasions in the last twenty years and look almost certain to continue their successful run.

U.T.C. 'A' could well lose the Northampton Premier Division title this year as they have already lost 3-7 to one of their main challengers, the Wayfarers. The other team which could provide an upset is Y.M.C.A. 'A' who now have the services of Town players Tony Rowson and Roger Steward, in addition to last year's side of County Champion Doug Gwillim, Dick Ingle and an improved Steve Lyon.

LANCASHIRE NOTES

by Geo. R. Yates

END OF THE LINE

AN undefeated record in the Junior section of the Lancashire and Cheshire League—stretching back to November 3, 1962—was terminated on October 19 when the junior representative team of the Bolton S.S.S. League lost 6-4 to Burnley "A".

Against Stockport, almost 6 years previously, a Bolton trio comprising Alan Heap, Keith Yates and Les Skepper went down 8-2 to Roger Hampson, Stuart Yates and C. Kelly.

In five subsequent seasons the Bolton League have championed the Junior Division without a single loss.

Blackpool's Stanley Parr, who for the past seven seasons has held the post of Lancashire and Cheshire League Match Secretary, has taken up an appointment with the Ministry of Social Security at Nuneaton.

He commenced his new duties on October 28 and took with him the best wishes of his Executive colleagues together with those of the Blackpool League of which organisation he was Chairman and a former secretary.

Taking over as Lancs. and Ches. League Match Secretary is Gordon Campbell of 1, Winslow Road, Bolton whose home telephone number is Westhoughton 2040.

Having taken up residence in Blackpool, Connie Moore will be assisting the seaiders' ladies inter-league team in preference to Manchester who she has always previously played for when living in Heywood.

Still owner of a shoe shop in the Lancashire inland township, Connie commutes by car.

Initial rankings of Lancashire's junior girls are as follows:—(1) Susan Lisle (Warrington), (2) Pam Fidler (Liverpool), (3) Jean MacKenzie (Liverpool), (4) Janet Rumjahn (Liverpool) and (5) Jacqueline Dyer (Urmston).

ESSEX NOTES

By Harry Walker

'LIKE OLD TIMES'

IT was like old times when the news came through that Mickie Read of Barking had been selected to play for England Juniors against Wales at St. Luke's on November 2. Heartiest congratulations to him.

Congratulations also to David Brown on his fighting performance in the Sussex Open when he reached the final of the Men's Singles defeating "Connie" Warren, Ken Baker, Les Haslam and Ian Harrison en route.

The Chelmsford League, in conjunction with the Essex Schools T.T. Association, arranged a Coaching Course last month, for Juniors between the ages of 11 and 17. Sessions were held on four consecutive Saturdays. Dennis Arr, the County Coaching Liaison Officer, was responsible for the organisation of the sessions and was assisted by a team of qualified coaches. Jack Carrington, the County Schools' Liaison Officer attended two of the sessions. The venture was very successful—twelve tables were in use and an average of 80 attended each session. Twenty of those who took part have been specially selected for further coaching.

The Braintree League will be celebrating their "coming of age" this season having been founded in 1948. This will probably take place on their Finals night when it is hoped that some of our County players will go along and play some exhibition matches.

County Junior Affairs secretary, Alan Shepherd, has arranged for all juniors on the County ranking list to attend practice sessions one day a week from now on and training sessions in the school gymnasium once a month. Two friendly junior matches have been arranged with Middlesex.

News has just been received from George Wenham who was Junior Secretary a few years ago. He is now married and living at Minehead and has a son who will be 2 next February. He has made great progress since joining the holiday camp (sh . .

you know who . .) and will be pleased to see any of his friends who may be there from time to time.

Dick Frost, another stalwart of our Juniors has now changed jobs and is living at Grandborough in Warwickshire which should give you a clue as to the motoring organisation he has changed to from the one in Essex.

WILTSHIRE NOTES

by "Moonraker"

YUGOSLAVS FOR SWINDON?

WILTSHIRE failed to press home their one time 5-2 advantage when at home to Devon in their opening Second Division West fixture at Swindon. So vanished the Moonrakers outside chance of lifting divisional honours after a lapse of four seasons, but the visitors deserved to share the points after a "come-back."

Swindon men made a triumphal return to Western Counties Competition with a 6-3 win over Newport while their ladies gained an 8-1 victory against their Welsh opponents.

There were no real upsets to form when the Wiltshire League—good to see Wootton Bassett back again—got under way with Swindon recording successes in all four divisions.

West Wilts' unseeded Norman Crees extended County No. 3 Terry Vance to -18, 18, -14 when Salisbury "A" beat West Wilts. "B" 9-1.

Though West Wilts. "A" (8-2 winners over Salisbury "B") contained three un-Wiltshirelike names in Adolf Gnyp, Joe Analts and Fred Potem, all three have made a great impact locally for their dedication to the game.

STOF PRESS. Tournament Secretary George Turnbull tells me of the strong possibility that the Yugoslavian team will be competing at the first ever Swindon Open on December 15. This great news must surely be a terrific inspiration to those who have worked so hard for Wiltshire's first ever "Open" which is being staged at the Pinehurst Sports Hall—scene of a past Champions versus The Rest Challenge Match.

Seven Dunlop tables will be in use, catering, catering rooms, showers and car parking facilities will be available. Prize money will be awarded to the winners and runners-up also to the losing semi-finalists in the men's singles.

The closing date for entries—to G. G. S. Turnbull, 139 Grange Drive, Stratton St. Margaret, Swindon ('Phone: S.S.M. 2688) is November 23 while the draw is scheduled for November 26.

Play will commence at 9-30 a.m. but an extension until 10-30 can be claimed by entrants living outside a 50 mile radius of Swindon who make such application on their entry form.

BEDFORDSHIRE NOTES

By Ron Cox

SECRETARY STILL REQUIRED

AT the County Association A.G.M., Mr. Peter Harmer (Leighton Buzzard) was re-elected Chairman, but a secretary is still required following the resignation of Paul Denton (Luton).

The County Senior team has not played so far this Season, but the Junior team, revived after a lapse of about 10 years, has made a most encouraging start, drawing 5-5 with Suffolk (Away) and beating Norfolk at home 7-3.

In the Suffolk match, Geoff Major (Dunstable) and Brian Hutchinson (Leighton Buzzard) both won their 2 singles and Geoff followed this up with another 2 singles against Norfolk. Against Norfolk, Philip Norton (Dunstable) also won his 2 singles and Pat King (Bedford) won the girls singles and the girls doubles partnered by another Bedford girl Gillian Perry.

Entries to the Bedford and District League again reached a new record, 35 Clubs and 86 teams necessitating the 1st 2 Divisions to comprise 15 teams and the remaining, 14 teams each.

The Bedford League Pre-Season Tournament again attracted a good entry. Pat King (B.T.T.C.) won the girls singles, whilst the boys' singles was an all-St. Neots affair, with Tim Fox winning against the 13-year-old Paul Macarthur. In the Ladies' singles, Anita James (Cryselco) had a close final with Diane Maxfield (St. Neots) winning 21-19 in the final set.

It was the Men's singles that provided the shocks. Jim Batchelor (Queens Works) putting out League Singles Champion Brian Copperwheat (Cryselco) then going on to reach the final. Newcomer Malcolm Stennett (St. Neots) also had a good run putting out another St. Neots player, the formidable Len Saywell, and then having a tremendous semi-final battle with yet another St. Neots player Gus Albon, Gus taking the 3rd game 23-21. In the final Gus was too accurate in defence, for Jim to keep up a consistent attack.

SUSSEX NOTES

by John Woodford

"STRONG DIVISION OF OPINION"

CONGRATULATIONS are still reaching the county and Peter Williams on his selection for England against Israel in the first of the tour matches in London on October 21st.

Peter is the fourth senior player to play for England, following in the footsteps of Charlie Seaman, Peter Shead and Judy Williams.

There is a strong division of opinion with the Sussex selectors who (up to the time of these notes going to press) still have Roger Chandler ranked as the county No. 1 and Williams at No. 2. In Roger's favour, his win over Denis Neale last season and in the county championships he must always face the strongest players must be borne in mind. On the other hand of course, with the single exception of the Sussex Closed final last year (when Chandler beat Williams) the Eastbourne man's record is almost unblemished.

The same pattern was evident at Birmingham when Sussex beat Warwickshire 7-2 in the opening premier fixture. All players were unbeaten except Chandler who was out-of-touch and lost both singles. Roger is not the sort of player to take that result lying down and a come-back to his normal determined performances can be hoped for.

Judy Williams' answer to her brother's selection for England was to win the North of England Open at Manchester, sweeping aside Jill Shirley, Maureen Heppell and Karenza Mathews in the three last rounds. Any more successes of that calibre by Judy should lead to elevation in one direction or another!

In the junior field Sussex have some cause for celebration with the news that the newly acquired 15-year-old Carol Randall is making some swift progress by winning the area national trials. Carol's biggest rival is the Kent No. 1 girl Lynda Chesson—Butlin's "Girl-of-the-Year". At last season's English Junior Open at Folkestone Lynda beat Carol, but since then it's two fine victories to Carol.

Sussex juniors started well by beating Essex but fell in the second match to a powerful Kent team. Junior table tennis seems to be booming in Sussex with the news that a record number of junior town teams have been entered for the Sussex junior inter-league championships—at Bexhill on February 9th—12 teams in all—by far the biggest inter-town entry ever for any class, senior or junior.

CLUB BADGES

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

Please write to:
S. A. CORY & COMPANY
35b, Tooting Bec Gardens
Streatham, S.W. 16.

THE WINNING PAIR FROM SPALDING

IAN HARRISON BAT

Designed and used by Ian Harrison.
Available in four models.
Japanese sandwich, reversed.
Japanese sandwich, normal.
Combi-Japanese sandwich, reversed one side, normal on the other.
Pimple rubber.



THE XXX VILLA BALL

Available in three qualities
XXX. XX. X.

Spalding gives you the professional edge

A. G. SPALDING & BROS. LIMITED. DEODAR ROAD, PUTNEY, LONDON, S.W.15. Telephone: Putney 3581

HUNTINGDON AND PETERBOROUGH NOTES

by David Obee

JUNIORS ENTER THE FRAY

FOR the first time the County has entered a junior side in the County Championships. It is engaged in the Junior Division East among such giants as Essex and Hertfordshire, but the County officials feel that their entry into the competition is a "must".

Although weaker in girls than last season it is hoped that the side will have more success than has been enjoyed by its senior counterparts in recent years.

Fortunately, the South East Midlands League has given officials a chance to see how their seniors of the future might fare against neighbouring counties. They are optimistic about the team's chances.

There was a most encouraging start to the season for the senior side when, for the first time, they overcame the R.A.F. at Wyton. Although the Air Force team was weakened somewhat by the absence of Brian Mayfield this was, nevertheless, an encouraging beginning. Alan Albon was in especially good form for the County with two singles successes.

For the first time there had been a series of intensive practices held in Huntingdon prior to the start of the season and success against the R.A.F. can be directly attributed to this.

KENT NOTES

by Charles M. Wyles

TULLOCH'S 1-2-3

AFTER a year of only slight increase in affiliations, it is noticeable that the returns so far are substantially up in both clubs and teams participating in local leagues.

Pride of place must go to the Medway Towns League, and its energetic secretary, Jack Tulloch, with a record 123 teams thus taking over the top spot from near-metropolis Bromley.

Congratulations are the order of the day to:—

16-year-old Telex apprentice John Dabin, of Bromley, on his well-deserved National Junior Ranking—the highest a County junior has achieved for 10 years. The County's best wishes went with him for his first International date, against Wales on November 2.

To 15-year-old Lynda Chesson of Sittingbourne on her personal triumph as "Girl of the Year", a fitting reward after being so close to this coveted honour the previous year.

To the members of the County Premier Division team on their magnificent victory over Yorkshire in their opening C.C. fixture.

To the members of the 2nd and Junior teams on their opening successes.

To the Tonbridge League on another successful Invitation Open, which included some of the County

stars, producing the usual bag of surprises. Winners:—

M.S.: K. Baker. W.S.: Miss A. Hallett. M.D.: D. Basden/G. French. W.D.: Mrs. D. Denton/Miss Hallett. X.D.: R. Rolls/Mrs. Denton.

To Graham French, with our best wishes, on his marriage this month.

Kent is taking a leading part in launching the National Awards Scheme following the pilot scheme in Staffordshire. All schools in the County have been circularised and results are expected to swamp the coaching department at any moment now.

With the operation of a National School Centre at Ashford, our own internal Schools Championships, and now the Awards Scheme, the County is doing all possible to provide encouragement to boys and girls alike to join the registered ranks of players.

Entry forms for the Kent Open, on January 25/26, are now available from me at 48, Eversfield Place, St. Leonards-on-Sea, Sussex.

DERBYSHIRE NOTES

by Walter Reeves

"INCENTIVE TO IMPROVE"

IT is pleasing to report that Derbyshire have entered a junior side in the County Championships, and I am only sorry that our leading junior girl Carol Randall has recently left the County to reside in Sussex. The Junior side is in the capable hands of our National Councillor Phil Norman, and a squad has been selected for training and trial purposes. Juniors have an incentive to improve their play, for the squad will be added to as more players reach the required qualifying standards.

Most of the youngsters named for the squad so far are from the Chesterfield area with Burton providing a promising junior girl. Derby are hoping that the local coaching in this area will soon 'pay off' so that competition for a place in the side will prove to be very keen.

Another pleasing note is the formation of a Central Derbyshire League, based upon Alfreton. This will provide competition in an area so far little developed within the County. Their Secretary is hard working Malcolm Allsop of Derby, their strength at present is only 4 clubs entering 8 teams. Derbyshire without this league is organised in the North around the Chesterfield and Matlock areas, and in the South around Derby and Burton, but the centre goes to which ever is the nearest. It also means that our County league teams have a problem of travelling in the winter time from one end of the County to the other. The formation of this league will reduce some of the travelling so that it may be possible to avoid the worst of the weather when the longer distances are involved.

There will also be the advantage of a Derbyshire organised league in the area to serve Heanor, Alfreton, Ripley and Ilkeston and district that at present is eaten into by the Eastwood and District League. Derbyshire are concerned with this position since there has been a considerable change in the Eastwood League since its for-

mation and I understand that out of its 24 clubs affiliated no less than 20 are from Derbyshire. The future will tell whether or not this situation is corrected allowing Derbyshire players to participate in organised Table Tennis within their own County.

CAMBRIDGESHIRE NOTES

by Leslie Constable

VALUABLE ACQUISITION

THIS season Cambridgeshire will have the valuable assistance of Betty Bird for County matches and Cambridge City will also benefit in the Rose Bowl competition and in the South East Midlands League. In the opening matches of the Cambridge League, Betty has acquitted herself well with some good victories for her team Torchbearers.

In their first encounters in the S.E. Midlands League, Cambridge defeated St. Neots in all four sections. In the men's match, won 8-2, John Thurston won both his sets in fine style with good support from Stephen Andrews, Tony Littlechild and Ken Muhr.

The veterans won without conceding a set and the ladies and juniors all played well to win with Betty Bird and Gerald Coteman outstanding.

With such talent available, the Selection Committee comprising John Cornwell, Frank Pettitt, Denis Fenton, Victor Tiplady and myself should be able to satisfy the critics.

Coaching sessions are again being laid on and I am sure there will be a number of players, especially the youngsters, who will take advantage on Sunday afternoons in the Cambridge Corn Exchange.

After some last minute cancellations and additions, the Cambridge League is now made up of 94 teams in 8 divisions plus a ladies division of 8 teams making 102 in all. A record.

The Wisbech League can now boast 54 teams in 5 divisions—an increase of 28 teams over the past three seasons! Wisbech will have representative teams in the senior and junior sections of the S.E. Midlands League and in the North Norfolk League (a competition for second string teams).

Altogether there will be 13 leagues competing in the S.E. Midlands League this season with 43 teams entered as follows: Men (12) Ladies (11) Juniors (11) and Veterans (9).

Taking part will be Bedford, Cambridge, Bletchley, Dunstable, Ely and District, Hunts. Central, Kettering, Northampton, North Herts., Peterborough, St. Neots, Wellingborough and Wisbech.

The League is now in full swing and I hope I can report on matches in future issues of TABLE TENNIS NEWS so let me have those result cards straight away.

I met the son of Bill Stennett (the former Civil Service champion) when I travelled with the Cambridge City team to St. Neots. Young Stennett plays a useful game and it brought back pleasant memories of when his father came to Cambridge and gave an exhibition at the Y.M.C.A. in 1937!

ALEC BROOK

International model T.T. Table—£53-10-0

½ in. model —£33-10-0

Resurface with "As new" top
(Three weeks)

Cor du Buy and Stiga range of bats.

Hoffman and Perry Clothing

Japanese Sandwich Rubber 5/6 piece.
Rev. or Normal.

Books: How to win at T.T.
by Victor Barna 6/-.

Shades; Tournament sheets; Shoes;
New type Net/Posts; Table covers;
Holdalls; Bat covers, etc.

ALECRIS LTD.

57 BLANDFORD STREET,

BAKER STREET, W.1.

Hunter 2021.

LEICESTERSHIRE NOTES

by Philip Reid

GREAT WIN FOR ILIFFE

LEICESTERSHIRE made a very satisfactory start to the season in the County Championships. The seniors, with a much-changed side led 4-2 against Glamorgan but finally lost 6-4. Congratulations to John Iliffe who had a great win on his debut against Welsh International Bob Bishop. Another debutant was 16-year-old Susan Baxter who opened with a good Ladies' doubles win in partnership with Rita Beith. Rita made it a "double" by also beating Margaret Phillips. The home county's other success came from Steven White against Graham Davies.

The Junior team took all ten sets from Oxfordshire in straight games with newcomers Chris Brewer and David Carter playing well.

Leicester Juniors opened with a 6-4 defeat at the hands of Loughborough. Paul Randell turned in a first class performance for Leicester beating Leicestershire-ranked three and four juniors, Chris Brewer and Ivor Billson.

In the **Midland League**, Leicester Veterans' second team look a team to watch. They took all ten sets in straight games from Nuneaton. Leicester men beat Worcester 8-2. Included in the team was Graham Hughes who was not included in either the town first or second team last season and he received a well-deserved recall. The ladies drew with Worcester 5-5 whilst the Men's Second team beat Walsall II 8-2. A maximum here by Melvin Matts. The Intermediates won 7-3 against Oxford with Bob Geary and Bob Phillips unbeaten.

The **Leicestershire Towns League** opened with two good wins for Loughborough. The first team beat Coalville 8-2, maximums coming from Terry Hall and Mike Meredith. The second team won 6-4 at Melton, where Melton's John Brunning and Loughborough Junior Chris Brewer were unbeaten.

A new innovation this season will be the 'Frith Cup' which will be competed for by teams of Division 6 and below in the Leicester and District League. The trophy has been donated by Mr. Cyril Frith, President of the League and who has formerly held almost every post within the league, besides being an outstandingly successful player.

In the **Leicester and District League** there have already been some very good performances. Lutterworth Boys' Club have got off to a great start in Division 7A and led by Bill Zilberts look likely championship contenders. Chris Rogers, the 9-year-old son of former County players John and Jose is winning most of his matches. In Division 5A Pat and Dennis Kilsby are playing for English Electric and their presence should give the Whetstone side a great chance of championship honours.

In the **Loughborough and District League** Cottons 'B' are fractionally ahead of Polish Y.C. 'B' in Division 2, whilst Loughborough 'C', despite a defeat from Polish Y.C. 'C' still lead. First Division favourites must be Loughborough T.T.C. who have Ivor Billson, Terry Hall and John Oxbrough to call upon.

There were over 80 entries in the **Rose Johnson Bowl**, the team 4-a-side Handicap Competition and many close games are expected.

NORFOLK NOTES

by J. S. Penny

"FAULTY SERVICES"

NORFOLK started their Division II (South) programme with a match against Surrey at Crystal Palace. As expected, Surrey, relegated from Division I, proved a tough nut to crack. Norfolk, however, were unlucky to lose 10-0. Three or four very close games could well have gone the other way. What was unfortunate was that several players, including two from Norfolk, lost points for faulty services. Dropping the hand below the table before throwing up the ball was the chief fault, but also, it must be remembered that the

umpire must always have sight of the ball when it is being served.

On the same day as the Surrey match, Norfolk Juniors met a similar fate, a 10-0 defeat, against Essex. For Norfolk, John Fuller came nearest to a win. Essex Juniors included Michael Read (ranked No. 6), Robert Hellaby (No. 9), Ian Horsham (Group 'B'), Susan Beckwith (Group 'A') and Janet Hellaby (Group 'B'). Norfolk put out Peter Vertigan, John Fuller, John Swainson, Steven Hales, Pat Sutton and Jean Allen, almost a completely new side, which will take a season or two to come to maturity. Full marks to Essex, by the way, on their immaculate turn-out. The higher the grade of play, the more attention has to be paid to points like this, since

it is by its leading players that the game is judged.

Our Juniors improved in their second match, against Bedfordshire at Leighton Buzzard, and won three sets. John Fuller beat Brian Hutchinson 17, 8; Vertigan and Swainson won their doubles against G. Major and P. Norton at 17 in the third, and Swainson and Jean Allen won their mixed, against B. Hutchinson and S. Dimmock, 16, 16.

Further mention must be made of Norwich and District League's European Championship match between England and Sweden at Norwich Lads' Club, on December 5th. Tickets are available and it is hoped that there will be a good attendance.



Go to your
Mitre sports
dealer and
get him to
show you

STIGA

championship
bats.

Why settle
for less?

Mitre sports

MITRE SPORTS, FITZWILLIAM STREET, HUDDERSFIELD

NORTHUMBRIAN NOTES

By "Geordie"

IN the Wilmott Cup Competition, the Northumberland League beat Whitehaven 9-0 without an "end" being conceded. After reaching the semi-final last season, the team is hopeful of a repeat performance.

On duty against the Cumbrians were Brian Burn, Colin Eltringham and Peter Hoyles and it is consoling to have players of the calibre of Peter Duncombe, Stuart Lennie, Alan Ransome and Arthur Chilvers standing by.

The Rose Bowl competition has paired Northumberland with North Yorkshire who include their rapidly improving junior, Linda Bashford.

Maureen Heppell, Cynthia Duncombe and Pauline Jackson are our representatives and this team should progress into the next round. With the additional services of Philomena Clark in the new year a rosy future looks in store.

After a seven week period in the Northumberland first division, only a few of the top teams have competed against each other.

Stuart Lennie is travelling from Carlisle to play the difficult matches for North Shields Y.M.C.A. "A", yet even his efforts were unable to prevent the League champions Revac gaining a draw, even though he did win three.

The M.O.S.S. "A" and Newcastle Y.M.C.A. "A" still have a 100% record and it will be very difficult to dislodge them from their pedestal.

CHESHIRE NOTES

by Jim Beckley

INTERNATIONAL FREEZE-OUT

I'VE always thought that Cheshire was neglected when it came to the distribution of top-class matches, but from a quick glance at the current season's list of internationals, etc., I must admit that keen followers of the game in the south-west and the west-midlands are going to have a harder time to see these top-class fixtures than we are in Cheshire. At least we only have to travel to Sheffield, Bolton or Manchester, but the difficulties that our friends in the S.W. will have to overcome defies all imagination. I simply do not believe that all the table-tennis facilities are to be found in the south-east area.

Take my own county for instance, I know communications are poor, but surely in an area as large as Cheshire there must be a suitable venue where top-class matches could be staged. To maintain interest in the game a good general distribution of big matches is of vital importance, so if anyone knows of such a place, drop me a line. Otherwise table tennis in Cheshire will most certainly decline.

At the time of writing nothing has been heard or seen of Roger Hampson. Roger, due to play against Yorkshire at Bredbury on November 16, is currently ranked No. 2 in the county rankings. With no information of current form Derek Schofield may well have to play in Roger's place.

YORKSHIRE NOTES

by Cliff Darley

NEW TREASURER FOR TYKES

RON HART, Bradford's Yorkshire League Match Secretary and secretary of 8-team Hermits Club, has taken over the duties of Yorkshire Treasurer in succession to Harold Litchfield (Hull) and will henceforward be keeping a watchful eye on Yorkshire's coppers (not helmeted).

Frank Briggs, also of Bradford, succeeds Walter Mitton as National Councillor on Walter's election to the Deputy Chairmanship of the E.T.T.A. Paul Turner (Sheffield) and J. D. Sykes (Leeds) are the other new members to the Yorkshire Executive Committee.

Congratulations to Alan Fletcher (Hull) on being selected to play for England Juniors against Wales on November 2. His national ranking is now No. 5.

Sandra Lee's (Leeds) win over Frank Briggs in the week of the final England Junior Trials, was just the win Sandra needed and she now moves from the "A" Group to No. 5.

Middlesbrough's Linda Bashford seems to be at a standstill, moving from No. 10 to Group "A", her game needing more variety.

Valerie King and Linda Sutton (Hull) and Allison Waters (Leeds) all continue to improve, the former pair now being graded.

Nicky Jarvis and Peter Abell (Middlesbrough) plus Neil Fulstow (Hull) all need to tighten up their game but make Group "A" grading along with David Rayner (Sheffield).

Peter Hirst (Leeds), together with the rest of the players taking part in the Senior Trials, were on their knees after a heavy session, but Peter's fitness due to his activity with Peter Simpson and Jack Carrington stood him in good stead, and Peter came out top in the final group ahead of Tony Clayton (Hull) and Malcolm Corking (Middlesbrough). Neale, Hydes, Duncombe and Kedge were not invited.

John Kedge and Linda Forkes (still only 17) made their Premier Division debuts against Kent at Bradford on September 28. Although on the losing side on this occasion they will, no doubt, make amends in forthcoming matches.

The Yorkshire Junior Open will be held at a new Sports Centre in Hull on Sunday, January 5 whilst the venue for the Senior Open is still under consideration. The Closed will be held as usual at Belle Vue Barracks, Bradford on November 30 and the Pontefract Restricted Open will now be held on January 25.

Peter Simpson is making steady progress after his car accident and thanks everybody for their letters and messages. His wife Pat has lost a few pounds in weight, but this was mainly with being kept busy answering the telephone which never seemed to stop ringing, with people all over the country enquiring about Peter.

Sorry about no notes last month, if you, your league, or Club has any interesting items please let me have them.

STAFFORDSHIRE NOTES

by John Pike

NEW RANKING LIST

APART from the first team beating Monmouthshire, and the juniors losing at Nottingham, there is not a lot to report from the county this month. After a shaky start, the "A" team pulled themselves together to sink the Welsh county at Great Bridge, but it was at Nottingham where more interest was shown than usual.

In some parts of the county it was felt that the side selected was not the best Staffordshire could put out. The Wolverhampton lads beaten 7-3 at Notts. did their best, but since then another county trial has been

held and the team for the home game with Leicester now shows two changes. Chris Wong and Steve Dunning are out and into the team comes Stephenson and Pearson.

The seniors also put out a new ranking list with Stan Ward back at No. 3 and Derek Baddeley now down at No. 5.

To help Shropshire prepare for their first ever season in the county championship, Staffordshire sent their second team over to Shrewsbury for a friendly.

Although it is a little late now, I am sure players and officials would want me to congratulate Malcolm Scott on his election to the Management Committee of the National Council.

COUNTY DIARY

FIXTURES AND VENUES FOR NOVEMBER, 1968

PREMIER DIVISION

November 16 Cheshire v. Yorkshire, James Mills Canteen (Bredbury Steel Works), Bents Lane, Bredbury. 7-30 p.m.
Kent v. Essex, Prince of Wales Club, Northgate, Canterbury. 7-15 p.m.
Middlesex v. Warwicks, East Finchley T.T. Centre, 142, High Road, East Finchley, N.2. 7-30 p.m.
Sussex v. Gloucs, North Mundham Village Hall, North Mundham, Nr. Chichester. 7-00 p.m.

SECOND DIVISION SOUTH

November 16 Bucks. v. Surrey, Village Hall, Penn Street, Nr. Amersham. 7-00 p.m.
Essex II v. Kent II, Loughton Youth Centre, Brook C.S. School, Roding Road, Loughton. 7-00 p.m.
Herts. v. Middlesex II, Cheshunt Drill Hall, Turners Hill, Cheshunt. 7-00 p.m.

SECOND NORTH

November 16 Cumberland v. Lincs, Edgards Ltd., Preston Street, Whitehaven. 6-30 p.m.
Lancashire v. Durham, Montague Burton Halliwell Clothing Works, Halliwell Road, Bolton. 7-00 p.m.
Yorks II v. Northumberland, Y.M.C.A., Woodland Road, Middlesbrough. 7-00 p.m.

SECOND MIDLAND

November 16 Glamorgan v. Derbyshire, Aberaman Y.M., Aberdare. 7-00 p.m.
Oxfords v. Staffs, St. Paul's Hall, Warwick Road, Banbury. 6-30 p.m.
Warwicks II v. Monmouths, Coventry Radiator and Presswork Co. Ltd., Canley, Coventry. 7-00 p.m.

SECOND WEST

November 2 Cornwall v. Worcesters, The Village Hall, Goonhavern, Nr. Truro. 7-30 p.m.
November 16 Devon v. Hampshire, Y.M.C.A., St. David's Hill, Exeter. 7-15 p.m.
Dorset v. Somerset, Dorchester Youth Centre, Colliton Street, Dorchester. 7-15 p.m.
November 23 Worcesters v. Wiltshire, South Wye Community Centre, Ross Road, Hereford. 7-00 p.m.

SOUTHERN DIVISION

November 16 Hampshire II v. Oxfords II, Winton and Moordown School, Coronation Road, Bournemouth. 6-30 p.m.
Surrey II v. Bucks. II, Heinemann Bookbinders and Printers (Windmill Press), Lower Kingswood. 7-00 p.m.
Worcesters II v. Berkshires, Stewarts and Lloyds Canteen, Coombs Wood, Halesowen. 2-30 p.m.

MIDLAND DIVISION

November 16 Derbyshire II v. Denbighshire, The Police Station, New Beerwell Street, Chesterfield. 7-15 p.m.
Shropshire v. Notts., Trinity Hall, Victoria Avenue, Shifnal. 6-00 p.m.
Staffs II v. Lancs. II, Shelton Iron and Steel Ltd., Etruria Road, Hanley, Stoke-on-Trent. 7-30 p.m.

EASTERN DIVISION

November 16 Bedford v. Northants, Pioneer Boys Club, Rear of Odeon Cinema, High Street North (A5), Dunstable. 7-00 p.m.
Suffolk v. Cambs, Chantry Secondary School, Mallard Way, Ipswich. 7-00 p.m.

JUNIOR SOUTH

November 16 Berkshire v. Surrey, Bracknell Sports Stadium. 3-00 p.m.
Hampshire v. Bucks, St. James Institute, Stourhead Road, Bournemouth. 3-00 p.m.
Sussex v. Middlesex, Holy Family Convent, Norfolk Road, Littlehampton. 4-00 p.m.
December 7 Bucks v. Sussex, Slough Community Centre, Farnham Road, Slough. 3-00 p.m.

JUNIOR NORTH

November 16 Cumberland v. Cheshire, Edgards Ltd., Preston Street, Whitehaven. 3-00 p.m.
Lancashire v. Durham, Montague Burton Halliwell Clothing Works, Halliwell Road, Bolton. 3-00 p.m.
Yorkshire v. Northumberland, Y.M.C.A., Woodland Road, Middlesbrough. 3-00 p.m.

JUNIOR MIDLAND

November 16 Derbyshire v. Nottinghamshire, The Railway Institute, Side of Midland Station, Derby. 2-15 p.m.
Oxfords v. Warwicks, St. Margaret's Hall, Polstead Road, Oxford. 6-30 p.m.
Staffs v. Leicesters, Woodfield Sports and Social Club, Penn Road, Wolverhampton. 4-30 p.m.

JUNIOR EAST

November 16 Essex v. Suffolk, Maldon Youth Centre, The Friary, Chequers Lane, Maldon. 2-30 p.m.
Northants v. Norfolk, Weatherbys Sports Centre, Dennington Industrial Estate, Wellingborough. 4-00 p.m.
November 23 Huntingdonshire v. Hertfordshire, St. Neots Boys' Club, St. Neots. 7-00 p.m.
November 30 Hertfordshire v. Norfolk, Howard Memorial Hall, Norton Way South, Letchworth. 3-00 p.m.

JUNIOR WEST

November 16 Gloucs v. Wilts, Charlton Kings Working Men's Club, Horsefair Street, Charlton Kings, Nr. Cheltenham. 6-00 p.m.
Somerset v. Glamorgan, Chard T.T. Club (opposite Dolphin Hotel), Park Road, Chard. 3-00 p.m.
November 17 Monmouths v. Worcs, W. R. Lysaght Institute, Corporation Road, Newport. 2-30 p.m.

County Championships Round-up

by JOHN WRIGHT

KENT PROVIDE SHOCK OPENING

NEWLY promoted Kent shocked Yorkshire (champions in 66-67) and set the Premier Division off to a tingling start. The competition promises to be as tight as last year.

In the reports below, a star * indicates no written report received from the home County—in future no report received means no mention in these columns.

PREMIER DIVISION

Essex 8 — Cheshire 1

C. Barnes bt M. Johns 20, 18; bt B. Kean 18, 10.
S. Gibbs bt Johns 16, 13; bt R. Hampson 21, 16.
R. Stevens bt Kean 15, 17; bt Hampson 9, 14.
Mrs. L. Radford bt Miss J. Heaps 17, 14.
Barnes/Stevens bt Hampson/Johns 9, 13.
Gibbs/Radford lost to Kean/Heaps -15, -20.

A strangely subdued Cheshire generally lacking fight. Mike Johns a little unlucky in the first against Chester Barnes but a real team effort by Essex who benefitted from the previous week's hard workout against "The Rest."

Yorkshire 4 — Kent 5

D. Neale bt A. Piddock 16, 7; bt D. Basden 12, 13.
A. Hydes lost to Piddock -17, -10; bt K. Baker 12, 13.
J. Kedge lost to Basden 19, -10, -17; lost to Baker -10, 16, -12.
Miss L. Forkes lost to Mrs. P. Piddock -14, -7.
Hydes/Neale bt H. Buist/Piddock 16, 16.
Kedge/Forkes lost to Basden/Piddock -11, -20.

Although Denis Neale was never in trouble, the rest of the Yorkshire side lacked real fight and Kent deserved this excellent result. Linda Forkes and John Kedge both making Premier debuts, will do better next time—interesting to note that Kedge nearly played for Kent this season! Pauline Piddock's maximum in her first match for the visitors shows what an asset she will be.

* Gloucestershire 3 — Middlesex 6

I. Harrison bt B. Wright 15, 12; bt O. Haslam 20, -17, 14.

R. Morley bt Wright 18, 19; lost to M. Sugden 26, -18, -15.
D. Holland lost to Haslam 17, -7, -17; lost to Sugden -15, -18.
Mrs. L. Hawkins lost to Miss M. Walker -10, -19.
Holland/Morley lost to Haslam/Sugden -21, -21.
Harrison/Hawkins lost to Wright/Walker -9, -16.

0-2 down, Middlesex had a fight on their hands but managed to contain Gloucs. to one more set. How Gloucs. must envy Middlesex their strength in women—Marjorie Walker, on debut, looked impressive although faltering a little when near victory.

Warwickshire 2 — Sussex 7

D. Munt bt R. Chandler 17, 18; lost to P. Williams -13, -16.
R. Gunnion bt Chandler 13, 12; lost to S. Ogundipe -19, 14, -15.
D. Backhouse lost to Williams -13, -10; lost to Ogundipe -18, 19, -9.
Miss K. Perry lost to Miss J. Williams -14, -17.
Backhouse/Munt lost to Chandler/Williams -10, -18.
Gunnion/Perry lost to Ogundipe/Williams -12, 17, -12.

Disappointing start by Warwicks, to their first Premier campaign since 1953-4. The illness of new No. 1 Paul Judd a sad blow to their hopes although both Derek and Ralph Gunnion accounted for Roger Chandler. Derek Backhouse and Kath Perry not at their best.

SECOND DIVISION SOUTH

* Kent II 9 — Hertfordshire 1

Herts. well below full strength, and their promotion hopes virtually smashed by a very competent Kent side.

Surrey 10 — Norfolk 0

Surrey I and Norfolk both in this division for the first time and a really tough baptism even with Surrey lacking Michael Creamer (retired) and "Connie" Warren. Ron Penfold scraped home at 19 in 3rd against both Alan Coby and Neville Graver; XD went 18 in 3rd and MD was 20, 24. Valuable experience for the East Anglians, who should have learnt much.

Middlesex II 5 — Buckinghamshire 5

Closely contested and a fair result. Alec Watson and Jill Shirley both in good form for Bucks with four wins

between them with the other Bucks. success a surprise win 17, -14 by Peter Sears over fast-rising Brian Petch.

SECOND DIVISION NORTH

* Cumberland 0—Northumberland 10

With Cynthia Duncombe joining the 2nd North champions, this could be the first of many convincing wins for the visitors. Only Lancs. (Mar. 15) stand in their path.

SECOND DIVISION MIDLAND

* Leicestershire 4 — Glamorgan 6

Leicester hopes were high when they led 4-2 but the Welsh County stormed through to take the last four sets for victory. Clinched by Robert Bishop who beat Stephen White (who beat Graham Davies in the opening set).

* Oxfordshire 2 — Warwickshire II 8

A disappointing start by Oxfords. who rarely caused the visitors much concern.

* Staffordshire 8 — Monmouthshire 2

A fine recovery by Staffs who trailed 1-2. Mention must be made of Glen Warwick's slaughter of Haydn Thomas 14, 8.

SECOND DIVISION WEST

* Hampshire 9 — Cornwall 1

A convincing win by Hampshire in their first season in this division. Praise though to the Cornish women Sheila Rapsey and Mrs. P. Chinn who took Chris Davies and Pauline Edwards to 18 in 3rd.

* Wiltshire 5 — Devon 5

Bill Moulding celebrated his return to Wilts with two singles wins and MD with Tony Wolf. But Devon fought back well when 2-5 down and took the last three sets in straight games for a deserved point.

* Worcestershire 8 — Dorset 2

After two years without County play, Trevor Smith (ex Hants) scored the only MS success for Dorset beating Mick Hawkins 17, -14, 10 and paired with veteran John Dale to take MD. But Joyce Lloyd and Janet Allen sailed through their sets for Worcs.

JUNIOR DIVISION SOUTH

Buckinghamshire 9 — Berkshire 1

Berkshire's sole success the Girls' Doubles in a match where Bucks. always looked well in command. Robin Napper clearly demonstrated why he has taken the No. 1 spot from Michael Wald.

* Kent 7 — Sussex 3

A good start for Carol Randall (ex Derbys, now living in Sussex) who accounted for Lynda Chesson 15, -19, 17. John Dabin and Ray Tilling in good form for Kent, but David Glover a disappointment.

Surrey 6 — Hampshire 4

Surrey worth their close win with Susan Howard and Paul Bishop outstanding. Credit to Steve Francis only just down to N. Chulk at -20 in 3rd, who overcame debut nerves to give Surrey the vital 6th set when he beat K. Summerfield -11, 19, 15.

JUNIOR DIVISION NORTH

* Cumberland 1 — Northumberland 9

Maurice Bell's straight games victory over C. Shepherd the only home success.

JUNIOR DIVISION MIDLAND

Nottinghamshire 7 — Staffordshire 3

Notts boys decisively better on the night, but credit must be given to Helen Blower who was unbeaten for Staffs and figured in all three of their victories.

* Warwickshire 10 — Denbighshire 0

Susan Clarke given a fright by Miss V. Jones, but otherwise all Warwicks.

* Leicestershire 10 — Oxfordshire 0

Oxfords without their No. 1 and quite outplayed.

JUNIOR DIVISION EAST

* Hertfordshire 8 — North'ptonshire 2

Peter and Trevor Taylor dominant for Herts although Peter made to work hard by Roderick Marchant.

* Norfolk 0 — Essex 10

Essex overpowered their hosts for whom the best player was John Fuller. Not yet 13 he has considerable promise and was unfortunate not to take Ian Horsham to a deciding game.

Suffolk 5 — Bedfordshire 5

Not since 1953-54 had Bedfords. fielded a Junior team and they were delighted to open their account at the first attempt. Brian Hutchinson and Geoff Major won both singles but the stronger Suffolk girls were unbeaten.

* Bedfordshire 7 — Norfolk 3

Philip Norton unbeaten in singles with a particularly good win over John Fuller who had beaten the home No. 1. Pat King notched her first singles win for a Bedfordshire side which has promise.

A FANTASTIC POINT

IN the Middlesex II v. Bucks. match, Jill Shirley led Alma Taft by a game but trailed 19-20 in the second. A high return from Alma, deep from the table, cleared the lights and beams (quite an achievement at East Finchley) and bounced on Jill's side of the table. Jill moved in to kill, but completely missed the ball which was returning over the net. Jill had continued to move and with her bat in hand was well to Alma's side of the net when the ball struck her bat to perform a perfect drop-shot. Umpire Peter Hillier correctly gave Jill the point to make the score 20-all but Alma retained her composure to take the game. Jill finally won 14, -20, 13.

NOMINATIONS for the Leslie Forrest Memorial Award should reach me not later than December 31 and should be made by County Associations.

Since the inception of the Award in season 1961-2 the recipients have been C. F. Joyce (Surrey), E. Reay (Durham), H. T. Edwards (Middlesex), M. E. Scott (Staffs.), N. Cook (Lancashire), F. Betts (Kent) and, last season, Keith Watts (Sussex).

For those without knowledge of the Award "The Leslie Forrest Memorial Trophy shall be awarded annually at the discretion of the Awards Committee to anyone in the administrative capacity in a County affiliated to the County Table Tennis Championships who has rendered the greatest contribution to Table Tennis in the County Field".