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Table Tennis News

Official Journal of the English Table Tennis Association

Edited by George Yates

No. 30

MARCH 1970

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THE ENGLISH OPEN

by JOHN WOODFORD

Roll of Honour

Men's Singles
STEFAN KOLLAROVITS
(Czechoslovakia)

Men's Doubles
ISTVAN JONYER and
TIBOR KLAMPAR
(Hungary)

Mixed Doubles
DENIS NEALE and MARY WRIGHT
(England)

Veteran Men's Singles
JACK CLAYTON
(Lancashire)

Women's Singles
MARIA ALEXANDRU
(Rumania)

Women's Doubles
KARENZA MATHEWS and
MARY WRIGHT
(England)

Veteran Women's Singles
JEAN WILLIAMS
(Buckinghamshire)

Team Championships
Men
ENGLAND
Women
RUMANIA



**STEFAN
KOLLAROVITS**
(Czechoslovakia)

Photo by
Tony Ross

Maria's Web Ensnares Jill



MARIA ALEXANDRU
(Rumania)

Photo by Keystone Press Agency.

ONLY one Czechoslovak player has won the English Open men's singles in the last two decades—Jaroslav Stanek in 1967—but a 24-year-old married student from Bratislava, STEFAN KOLLAROVITS who is ranked 16 in Europe and 23 in the world, snatched the 1970 English title before a 900 crowd in the final at Crystal Palace National Sports Centre.

Stefan, highly-rated as a "pin-up boy" by the ladies, possesses a very strong backhand not unlike that of Chester Barnes at times. This shot is sprayed liberally and continuously until his opponent is forced to put one high enough to kill. Istvan Jonyer fought in true tradition as a man from Budapest. Standing slightly back he used a lifting process with heavy topspin throughout but the advantage was with the speedy Czech who went on to win the £100 top prize at 21-17 in the fifth.

There was four-minute hold-up in the men's final when umpire Les Dewing justifiably stopped Jonyer from serving from the side of his body on the umpire's "blind" side.

After the tremendous victory by Jill Shirley in the early morning over European champion Ilona Vostova, the England supporters were hoping that Jill could do the "impossible"—breaking through the renowned defensive web spun the world over by Rumania's MARIA ALEXANDRU. But the 27-year-old Maria, the "Schöler" of the women's game and ranked No. 2 in the world was not moved one iota by Jill's bid for expedite which came in when Maria led 18-13 in the first game.

Many forget that Maria can produce a very strong attack when it is essential. On this occasion it was and the Rumanian ace sped her way to her third English Open title 15, 10, 13.

The shortest match of the finals, which spread themselves over three-and-a-half tedious hours, was the men's doubles in which JONYER and TIBOR KLAMPAR overcame the Yugoslav challenge of Zlatko Cordas and Melevoy Karakasevic. The atmosphere of the finals session never approached that of Brighton's Dome and, at times, the screams from the hundreds of young swimmers on the other side of the stadium provided more irritating distraction.

continued on page 10

Bergmann Moved



Still gravely ill, Richard Bergmann has recently been transferred from Southport General Infirmary to Birchland Jewish Hospital, Birchland Avenue, London, S.W.12, which is located near Wandsworth Common.

This month's Star Feature

KEN WILKINSON OF NEW ZEALAND

by FRANK O'GORMAN

TABLE TENNIS NEWS

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ON THE INTERNATIONAL FRONT



by The Editor

U.S.S.R. CHAMPIONSHIPS

Anatoliy Amelin and Svetlana Grinberg, both of Moscow, captured the major singles titles at the 20th U.S.S.R. Championships which were concluded in Kurgan on February 17th.



ANATOLIY AMELIN (U.S.S.R.)

'Photo by Sport & General



SVETLANA GRINBERG (U.S.S.R.)

Photo by Courtesy of Novesti Press Agency

Amelin and Stanislav Gomozkov (Moscow) won the men's doubles title and Miss Grinberg, partnered by Rita Pogosoova (Baku), the counterpart women's event. Mixed win-

ners were Sarkis Sarkhoyan (Batumi) and Miss Pogosoova.

In the men's singles, second place was taken by three-times national champion Gomozkov, with Sarkhoyan third.

Zoya Rudnova, who with Miss Grinberg won the women's doubles title at the Munich world championships, was placed third behind Aldona Skarulena (Kondrataite). Last year's national champion, Rita Pogosoova came fourth.

Gomozkov and Miss Rudnova, European and national champions in the mixed, came third in this event at Kurgan, losing to the defeated finalists Uldis Eglitis (Riga) and Astea Gedrajtite (Kaunas).

NEW ZEALAND TOUR

Sweden's Hans Alser and Kjell Johansson are to make a tour of New Zealand in June. The visit will run along similar lines to that undertaken by Denis Neale and Stuart Gibbs in 1967.

Yvonne Fogarty of Dunedin (Otago) is reported as New Zealand's "Player of the Year" for 1969 after being undefeated by other New Zealand players throughout the season and taking the 1969 national singles title without dropping a single game—all on her 18th birthday!

This attractive young trainee school teacher—she is also studying for her Bachelor of Arts Degree—could well lead her country's team to the 1971 world championships in Japan and the 1973 world's in England.

RUNNER-UP

Eberhard Scholer was voted runner-up to swimmer Hans Fassnacht for the title of "Sportsman of the Year 1969" in Federal Germany. The awards were made in the Kurhaus of Baden-Baden. Ebby polled 1400 votes against the winner's 1825. Third place was taken by horseman Alwin Schockemohle with 531 votes.



Photograph depicts "Ebby" and his wife, Diane (the former Miss Rowe) at the ceremony in Baden-Baden.

SILVER JUBILEE

This season the Table Tennis Association of Ceylon celebrated their 25th Anniversary in conjunction with their national championships held in the Saraswathie Hall, Bambalapitiya.

The history of table tennis in Ceylon goes back beyond the date of the founding of the Association in July 1944 and extends into the early

twenties of the century coinciding with the great post World War I revival in England.

Not much is known of the players of that era, but the late D. R. Rutnam, better known for his prowess in lawn tennis, is mentioned as an outstanding player in the Cambridge University team in the 1920's. It was a team led by none other than that great doyen of international table tennis, the Hon. Ivor Montagu and included the All-India Davis Cup players C. Ramaswami and S. M. Hadi.

From their inception in 1932, the Ceylon championships were confined to one event until 1938. It was an era in which Simon Wickrematunge was in his prime and dominated in Ceylon as completely as did Victor Barna in the world sphere.



CAP AND GOWN

Recently inaugurated as a full teacher and professor of the Medical Faculty at the University of Basle, Switzerland, was **Dr. Zarko Dolinar**, the former Yugoslavian Swaythling Cup player. In season 1954-55, Zarko was the beaten finalist in the men's singles event of the world championships in Utrecht, Holland, losing to Tosh Tanaka of Japan. Prior to, in season 1953-54, Zarko won the men's doubles title in partnership with his compatriot Vilim Harangozo beating Victor Barna and the French ace Michel Haguenaer. An endorsement on the photograph shown here, and sent to Victor Barna, says: "To my old dear partner and friend Victor—book instead of penholder bat, Zarko".

EUROPEAN LEAGUE

Sweden's 5-2 victory over Federal Germany countered the 4-3 success obtained by the U.S.S.R. over Hungary and keeps them in the lead, on sets average, in the Premier Division of the European League. Still without a win, Federal Germany have lost to Hungary. Current positions:—

	P	W	L	F	A	Pts
Sweden	4	4	0	22	6	4
U.S.S.R.	4	4	0	18	10	4
England	5	3	2	18	17	3
Hungary	4	2	2	15	13	2
Czechoslovakia	4	2	2	14	14	2
Fed. Germany ..	4	0	4	9	19	0
France	5	0	5	9	26	0

Details Unknown

NO MATTER at what level, why should it be that the match card or score sheet fails to arrive in the hands of the person most desirous of wanting the match details?

Right down from the lofty realms of the European League to the lowest division of the local league, the result of matches and the individual scores are of significance to some people.

And yet, this information is withheld. Not deliberately so, but more in consequence of inertia or forgetfulness on the part of the person entrusted with the postal despatch.

One would think that pillar boxes were located hundreds of miles apart, or craftily camouflaged as were the V-bomb launching pads on the sandy dunes of northern France in darker days no longer with us.

But such is not the case no matter what one may think of the new postal set-up. Those posting boxes are still with us, painted bright red as always, and regularly emptied for their contents to be despatched to the addressee.

Picture the match secretary, all set to write his weekly column for the local paper, and wanting the result of a match between the leading teams in a particular division.

It could be his lead paragraph. Yet despite the match having been played two nights previously, no card has arrived. How frustrating it is to leaf through the telephone directory for the names of the players to have been involved and fail to find a single one of them, on either side, on the 'phone!

The same applies in higher spheres and it is talked of in Lancashire that a particular score card, appertaining to an inter-league fixture, was conveyed, in person, to the South Pacific by an emigrant entrusted with the task of posting it!

Have a care then for the administrator who wants the match details. Put a stamp on the card before the match and see that it is posted directly after it.

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International Front

Continued

Results

Hungary 6 Federal Germany 1

T. Klampar bt E. Scholer 12, -17, 16; bt W. Lieck -16, 20, 21.
 I. Jonyer bt Lieck -13, 20, 16; bt Scholer 10, 11.
 Miss A. Papp lost to Mrs. D. Scholer -15, -16.
 Jonyer/Klampar bt Lieck/M. Ness 19, 21.
 Jonyer/Miss Papp bt Scholer/Mrs. Scholer 17, 18.

Czechoslovakia 6 France 1

U.S.S.R. 4 Hungary 3

S. Sarkhoyan lost to Jonyer -10, -15; lost to Klampar -15, -12.
 S. Gomozkov bt Klampar 18, -11, 15; lost to Jonyer -14, -23.
 Z. Rudnova bt Hernadi 13, 13.
 Gomozkov/Sarkhoyan bt Jonyer/Klampar 13, -14, 17.
 Gomozkov/Rudnova bt Klampar/Hernadi 11, 16.

France 2 England 5

Sweden 5 Federal Germany 2

H. Alser bt B. Jansen 11, 17; bt E. Scholer 20, -15, 16.
 K. Johansson lost to Scholer -12, 18, -20; bt Jansen 18, 13.
 M. Neidert lost to D. Scholer -17, -16.
 Alser/Johansson bt Jansen/Scholer 13, 14.
 C. J. Bernhardt/Neidert bt Scholer/Scholer 17, 19.

Still unbeaten in the **Second Division**, Austria accounted for Netherlands 7-0 in Vienna on February 3rd when represented by Heinz Schuter, Franz Thallinger and Gabriele Smekal. Latest results and tables:—

Switzerland 3 Ireland 4

Austria 7 Netherlands 0

	P	W	L	F	A	Pts
Austria	5	5	0	28	7	5
Denmark	4	3	1	22	6	3
Belgium	4	2	2	14	14	2
Netherlands	5	2	3	15	20	2
Ireland	5	2	3	12	23	2
Luxembourg	3	0	3	5	16	0

CZECHOSLOVAK OPEN

Played in Bratislava on January 31st-February 2nd, final results in the Czech Open were:—

M.S.: E. SCHOLER (Fed. Germany) bt K. Johansson (Sweden) 3-2.
 W.S.: I. VOSTOVA (Czecho) bt D. Scholer 3-1.
 M.D.: V. MIKO/J. TURAI (Czecho) bt U. Eglitis/S. Sarkhoyan (U.S.S.R.) 3-2.
 W.D.: S. GRINBERG/R. POGO-SOVA (U.S.S.R.) bt Scholer/A. Simon (Fed. Germany) 3-2.
 X.D.: SCHOLER/SCHOLER bt Miko/Vostova 3-2.

GREAT TIMES FOR THE IRISH

Tommy Caffrey put up a great display when he led Ireland to a 4-3 win over Switzerland in the European League fixture in Zurich (**Writes Kevin Drum**). Playing in his 89th international Caffrey won all four sets in which he was involved. He won his singles in straight games and then teamed up with Cliff Thompson and Joan Fitzsimons to win both doubles.

Showing the same form at home, Caffrey made a clean sweep of the East of Ireland championships being extended only in the final by Mick Rice. Partnered by Oliver Adamson and Marie Martin, Tommy also annexed the men's and mixed doubles titles.

Joy Geary's experience proved too much for Maura Tormey in the women's decider, the ex-international retaining her title with ease. Rice, however, had quick consolation when he won the Kildare Open beating his clubmate Pat O'Brien in the final.

But the real upset here was the victory of the popular, hard-working Dorothy Taylor in the women's singles. This was Miss Taylor's first major open tournament success and the Irish No. 8 had to beat those ranked Nos. 4, 5 and 6 above her to achieve her well deserved success.

IRISH OPEN

"Les" Haslam, with a straight games win over "Connie" Warren claimed his first Irish Open title. In the semis, Haslam accounted for Stuart Lennie, and Warren ousted Tony Piddock.

Joan Fitzsimons, playing some of the best table tennis of her career, reached the final of the women's singles with a great win over Pauline Piddock in the semis, and then beat her fellow international Betty Warwick in the final. Betty had eliminated Scotland's Lesley Barrie in the other semi.

The Piddocks combined to win the mixed, a feat which they also achieved the previous weekend at the Co. Antrim Championships, where Tony also won the men's singles.

NATIONAL FINALS

THE English Schools' Table Tennis Association are to hold their fourth national team championships at the Northwood Sports Centre, Stoke-on-Trent, on Sunday, March 15th. Play is scheduled to begin at 1 p.m. and the presentations will be made about 5 p.m.

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LINGUAPHONE FOR LANGUAGES

National Ranking and the Points System



A Player's Viewpoint

by Judy Williams

THE New "Ranking list for Open Tournaments", published last month, is the first one based on the "Coca Cola Award Scheme" points system. The idea of basing it on a points system was to get rid of the controversy surrounding ranking lists once and for all. Yet the result here is more subject to criticism than ever, and liable to be termed "a joke" by regular tournament participants.

The new list contains shock omissions, shock inclusions, and shock high and low placings, more so than ever before. Why is this?

The answer must be that the present points system does not give an accurate indication of players' strengths all down the line. Obviously it is possible to work out all sorts of points systems, all producing different results. However, if a "ranking list for open tournaments" is, as its title implies, to be used for the purposes of seeding, it should surely be as true an indication as possible of players most likely to progress in tournaments.

If it is not so, why have one at all? If strong players such as the former men's No. 6 and women's No. 8 are "outsiders", they may be drawn against top players in the first round—yet the main purpose of seeding is to keep the strongest players apart until the later stages of a tournament. And how is it that these players, who have not done disastrously badly in tournaments, are omitted from the list?

As far as I can see, the main trouble is that for ranking purposes, it is too strongly biased

in favour of:

- (a) single shock wins (bonus points)
- (b) compensation points for foreign tournaments

and against:

- (c) consistent tournament records
- (d) team results (county and national team competitions do not count at all, yet international team matches are as important as tournaments).

In fact it is geared to international players, with no accurate means of differentiating between players ranked from 5 downwards or between these players and unranked ones.

SELDOM HAPPENS

The only home open tournaments which are 100-point (maximum) are those in which all four players ranked 1-4 participate. This happens seldom (one tournament so far this season as far as men are concerned, three for the women) because the top players are abroad so much, and when at home do not necessarily enter. Nor do foreign entrants, however strong, compensate in this respect.

The situation has in fact been especially hard for the men: with players 1-4 all absent, tournaments with an otherwise full complement of ranked players have been regarded as the same in strength as those with no ranked players participating at all!

So the winner of a tournament such as the Woolwich Open (Malcolm Sugden of Scotland, in fact, who doesn't count!) in which Warren, Johns, Piddock, Haslam, and Penfold all participated, gains as many points — 25 — as the winner of, say, the Bournemouth Open, in which no ranked player participated!

Runners-up and semi-finalists receive 10 and 5 points respectively. If, to reach this stage, a player has beaten only players ranked below him, he gains no other points at all; on the other hand, a player who produces a "shock" win will score more points than the overall winner if his victim is ranked only 3 or more places above him (10 points per ranking position).

In fact, if one such win is "shocking" enough, it alone can count for more than someone actually winning three such tournaments! The poor old consistent semi-finalist will have to repeat the effort 16 times to gain the same number of points as an unranked player beating the No. 5—and as for the quarter-finalist, fulfilling his 5-8 seeding—well, he just doesn't count (except in maximum-point tournaments)!

NO DISTINCTION

In other words, the distinction between players No. 5 and 105 is not admitted — except in the case of shock wins, when the winner gets a large bonus! Yet how is the No. 5 or 6 to retain his position when he is almost unable to score these bonuses—and also unable to score points for fulfilling ranking! Obviously his wins are not as major as over players ranked 1-4, but unless they are given some sort of significance, and unless he himself can produce a shock result, he must expect to be pushed down at the expense of players having shock wins over his inferiors!

In fact a single shock win, with no other supporting results, may be sufficient to give a player a high ranking

from half a season's play—as has happened in the case of at least one man and one woman on the new list.

A player sent abroad for a foreign tournament, even for experience only, automatically scores 50 compensation points for not being able to win a home tournament at the time. This is as many points as the winner of two minimum-point tournament gains—and, as already described, minimum-point tournaments can be rather strong.

If the player sent abroad is lucky enough to have two tournaments on tour, the player at home has in effect to win four minimum-point tournaments in order to prove, in effect, that he is as good as the good junior concerned to whom he has never dreamt of losing! If he does not win these four tournaments he will be considered worse than that junior! Of course, he can win his four by visiting all the tournaments where no other ranked player normally participates—equally nonsensical.

NOT THE CASE

It may be argued that "everything will sort itself out". But surely this is not the case. The middle-of-the-ranking-list people who have been unceremoniously removed from the list may bounce back on again—far too high, collecting bonus points for defeating players they never dreamt of losing to—and then, being over-ranked, rebound off the list again. They may thus push other consistent, middle ranked players off the list, for whom the same procedure will then start.

Whichever the case, the consistent player unable to get the spectacular result must expect to go off the ranking-list for half a season. Again, once off the list he may have a series of draws so lethal that he cannot possibly hope to re-enter the list—and all his hard work over years will have been brought to nought by a twist of fate.

Presumably all near—and maybe not-so-near-ranking-list players—are hoping for the "right" draw at tournaments to pick up masses of bonus points (Arthur Chilvers for No. 5 next season? Sorry, Arthur!) because the draw is now the deciding factor! Moreover, the current ranking-list was derived from a fairly realistic one. The next one, however, won't be; if this ranking list contains a few anomalies, surely each new one will be more ridiculous than the last.

To use the points system as it stands, with the emphasis on good wins as opposed to consistency and on encouragement to juniors, is acceptable for the actual Coca-Cola Award Scheme. And the top of the men's and women's ranking list is reasonable, except that especially in the men's list, the best home-tournament player has little chance of competing with players playing abroad.

But something must surely be done to make the lower half of the "ranking list for home tournaments" enforceable as such—which it is not, seriously, at present. If points are to be used at all for ranking, then I would suggest general amendments to the scoring system.

EDITOR'S NOTE — The article from Judy Williams has been edited because of lack of space. The parts eliminated refer to particular examples of anomalies and to suggestions for improvements. The latter will be noted for consideration in due course.

Tom Blunn makes the following observations:—

"Though a little exaggerated in parts, Judy's article is well reasoned and so deserves serious consideration.

"In the first place, the system was described as experimental and the experiences of the first season will determine the pattern for the following season. It was never expected that a perfect system would be evolved at the first attempt.

"Indeed, it is doubtful if a perfect system is capable of being devised by any means. Judy did conclude by suggesting the use of a computer—well, this has been considered and enquiries are being made.

"The interesting part of the article is the last paragraph, which accepts the main purpose of the scheme and as this appears to be the general opinion, then at least something has been achieved.

"I do not feel there would be very much purpose in answering every point raised by Judy, because most are accepted as sensible criticism. Some amendments to the scheme have in fact been made already and others have been noted for consideration.

"The use of the Master Points Scheme was considered in the first instance, but this was designed for a different purpose and also relies on a certain amount of estimation of differentials. The M.P.S. is also a voluntary scheme at present.

"The new scheme has raised a tremendous amount of interest and this itself is a very healthy sign. Criticism is natural but let it be constructive and not reduced to the level of ridicule.

"Make suggestions by all means and by the commencement of next season we might have a scheme that is acceptable and fair to all players. But it will need tolerance on everyone's part."

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COCA-COLA TROPHY MATCH



TREVOR TAYLOR — ENGLAND'S FUTURE No. 1 ?

TREVOR TAYLOR reached the second big milestone in his table tennis career at Eastbourne, on February 12th, when he won the deciding set to give England another impressive victory over Federal Germany, again by 4-3.

Sussex is a happy hunting-ground for the Hitchin sixth-former—Trevor took his first big step up the ladder to fame in October, 1968, when he won the Sussex Open. He opened the match for England by nearly flooring the mighty Eberhard Schöler with hundreds of loop-drives arriving at expedite at 19-17 in the third to the Federal maestro. So little time was left of the expedite session that Trevor had no time to exploit his advantage and fell at 20-22.

Denis Neale was a little below his best in dealing with the brilliant speed but occasionally wild hitting of the young German Bernt Jansen. Mary Wright, on her birthday, celebrated by putting England ahead with more loop-kill procedure against Diane Schöler who, but for a late pick-up, would have been beaten more heavily than she was.

The men's doubles line-up was three hitters and Schöler, suggesting that England might have the advantage but the opposite was the case. Schöler's chop reduced the speed of the rallies and increased the errors of Neale and Taylor leading to a -17 defeat in the final game.

At the mixed doubles hurdle, the fifth set, all the reporters present including Geoff Harrower, agreed that this could be the vital clash. It was indeed; Denis and Mary slipped behind against the "Berlin Wall" skilfully erected by Di and Ebby in the final game but just managed to edge home at 21-19 giving the home side a 3-2 lead.

Clash of the giants came next. Neale piled on the top-spin once again and again the world finalist displayed his uncanny, almost freakish ability to scorn world-class attacking play. Denis fought like the tiger we know him to be but Germany came back to level the match at 3-all.

Grand finale — the battle of the young lions — lads who may well be champions of their countries not long from now — Taylor and Jansen went to the table, with an excited 600 crowd preparing to applaud every good shot. Jansen seemed to me to relish the fast conditions and possessed the quickest shot of the evening, not unlike Malcolm Sugden at the Nissen tournament. But Jansen faltered and finally cracked as Taylor produced brilliant stroke-play, better angled, better controlled with the sort of calm expected from Schöler.

So Eastbourne's second international saw a great England victory before a really responsive crowd and really first-rate efforts by the Neale-Wright-Taylor combine.

Individual scores (in match order):-
T. Taylor lost to E. Schöler -15, 10, -20.
D. Neale bt B. Jansen 19, 11.
Mrs. M. Wright bt Mrs. D. Schöler 12, 19.
Neale/Taylor lost to Jansen/Schöler -13, 19, -17.
Neale/Mrs. Wright bt Schöler/Mrs. Schöler 18, -18, 19.
Neale lost to Schöler 19, -11, -16.
Taylor bt Jansen 14, 10.

J.W.

The International Club

Main event this season, so far, has been the Rubber Bat tournament at Manchester Y.M.C.A. on February 15th.

From a representative gathering, including guests, Benny Casofsky, Mike Johns, Laurie Landry and Derek Schofield reached the final pool of 4 from which Laurie emerged the winner of the members section and Derek that of the guests.

Many former internationals took part including the Manchester League chairman, Les Cohen, Ron Allcock and Stan Proffitt. It was also good

to have the Lancashire County and Manchester League president Jack Livingstone in attendance together with Les Jones the long serving secretary of the Manchester & District League.

Earlier this season, the Club played a Notts side at Mansfield. Represented by Ralph Gunnion (Warwks), Brian Hill (Lincs) and Leicester's Charlie Jacques, who replaced Lancashire's Brian Mitchell at short notice, the club won 7-2.

Any league or organisation desirous of staging a match against an International Club side, or wanting an exhibition match put on, is asked to contact the Club secretary, L. F. Landry, Esq., at 53 Hillfield Road, London, N.W.6.

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Open Tournament Survey

by

**Tony Ross, M. J. Chalk,
John Pike and
Geo. R. Yates**

CHESHIRE'S Mike Johns dominated the South Yorks Open, in Sheffield on January 31st, winning the men's singles, doubles with brother Brian, and the mixed with Di Johnson. Only in the first game of the final of the mixed, facing Alan Fletcher and Sylvia Broadbent, did the Cheshire man's ultimate success ever look to be in doubt.

Absence of seeds Tony Clayton and Derek Munt, together with Ian Robertson's fall to Chesterfield's Derek Marples in round two, produced a strange-looking quarter-final line-up in the men's singles event, that between juniors Neil Fulstow and Donald Parker being a repeat of a like quarter in the boys' event.

Shock result was the semi-final win by Fulstow over a fatally hesitant Brian Burn. In the boys' final, Fulstow was beaten by his Hull teammate Fletcher who had earlier reversed the previous weekend's result at Pontefract by beating Tony Boasman.

In the women's final, Sandra Walters and Pat Bassano exchanged mighty blows until Pat produced a final devastating blast to win at 25-23 in the third! Susan Lisle added yet another girls' singles title to her already impressive list by a closely fought final win over Lynda Sutton. When will Miss Lisle have her abilities recognised?



SUSAN LISLE
(Lancashire)

Photo by John O'Sullivan

Among a field of 16 listed juniors, John Dabin and Susan Beckwith justified their No. 2 national ranking by winning the U-17 singles at the Burford Junior Open played on February 1st.

Lynda Chesson who always plays well at Burford put up strong resistance in the final before going down -18 in the third. As expected Peter Taylor won the U-15 boys' singles whilst Janet Hellaby retained the girls' U-15 title although closely

pressed by Lynda Jones the Welsh No. 1.

In the U-13's, D. Dino-Smith added to his successes this season when he beat P. Bangerter whilst K. Rogers, last year's U-13 national runner-up beat G. Taylor.

Midland Open

There is little doubt that the Harry Mitchell Recreation Centre at Warley is a happy hunting ground for Shelagh Hession. Following her success in the Birmingham Open, she returned to this same venue to collect a fine hat-trick in the Midland Open.

Things went very much to plan in the men's singles with Trevor Taylor beating Mike Johns in an all-action final after the other two seeds, Brian Burn and Derek Munt, had both reached the semis.

With this year's championships again being dominated by players from the North and South, it was good to see some of our Midland players featuring in no fewer than four finals. Only one of these came out on the winning side and this was Ralph Gunnion when he won the men's doubles with Trevor Taylor. The mixed was a close affair with Ralph and his Warwickshire team mate Jenny Cornock, narrowly losing to Shelagh and Derek Schofield. After this final, Derek was interested to know if he was the oldest player to win a mixed doubles title in an open tournament? Don't forget you must be 40 to qualify.

The entry of Bryan Robson, the Newcastle United soccer star, stirred up a lot of interest with the press boys, and in turn, helped to get a better coverage of this year's championships.



MAUREEN ROBSON
(Northumberland)

Photo by John Heritage

Although Bryan's wife, Maureen, lost her women's singles title, she joined forces with Shelagh to take the doubles trophy with an easy win against Jenny Cornock and M. Walker. Shelagh completed her hat-

trick with another win over Jenny, this time in the women's singles.

All in all it was a good tournament which Maurice Goldstein and his committee had nicely wrapped up by 10 p.m.

Men's Singles: Quarter-finals:

T. Taylor (Herts) bt P. Judd (Warwks) 8, 6; D. Munt (Warwks) bt L. Landry (Middx) 16, 11; B. Burn (Nthld) bt R. Bishop (Wales) 11, 19; M. Johns (Ches) bt G. Davies (Wales) 20, 20.

Semi-finals:

TAYLOR bt Munt 15, 12.

JOHNS bt Burn 17, 17.

Final:

TAYLOR bt Johns -16, 19, 13.

Women's Singles: Semi-finals:

S. HESSION (Essex) bt S. Lisle (Lancs) 12, 19.

J. CORNOCK (Warwks) bt M. Robson (Nthld) 19, 18.

Final:

HESSION bt Cornock 16, 16.

Men's Doubles: Semi-finals:

E. COSTER (Herts)/M. JOHNS bt Burn/Landry 19, 14.

R. GUNNION (Warwks)/TAYLOR bt B. Mitchell (Lancs)/D. Schofield (Ches) 7, -17, 12.

Final:

GUNNION/TAYLOR bt Coster/Johns 15, 18.

Women's Doubles: Semi-finals:

HESSION/ROBSON bt C. Randall/S. Kavallierou (Sussex) 17, 17.

CORNOCK/M. WALKER (Middx) bt, D. Griffiths/A. Jones (Warwks) 15, 14.

Final:

HESSION/ROBSON bt Cornock/Walker 15, 11.

Mixed Doubles: Semi-finals:

SCHOFIELD / HESSION bt M. Johns/Jones 22, 15.

GUNNION/CORNOCK bt Burn/Lisle 16, 19.

Final:

SCHOFIELD/HESSION bt Gunnion/Cornock -18, 13, 21.

Boys' Singles: Semi-finals:

A. GRIFFITHS (Wales) bt B. Johns (Ches) 17, 11.

D. PARKER (Lancs) bt S. Dunning (Staffs) 9, 15.

Final:

GRIFFITHS bt Parker 14, 17.

Girls' Singles: Semi-finals:

LISLE bt S. Clarke (Warwks) 11, 11.

RANDALL bt D. St. Ledger (Warwks) 10, 8.

Final:

LISLE bt Randall 19, -14, 15.

Veteran Singles: Semi-finals:

L. BROWNING (Yorks) bt J. Peakman (Warwks) -17, 15, 15.

K. SNAITH (Kent) bt J. Osborne (Essex) 14, -13, 17.

Final:

BROWNING bt Snaith 17, 17.

Junior Doubles: Final:

GRIFFITHS/PARKER bt B. Johns/M. Sykes (Warwks) -19, 17, 17.

Merseyside Open

Up on Merseyside on February 14th, the failure of two seeds, Alan Hydes and Brian Burn—both drawn in the same half—to show up caused a certain lopsidedness to the men's singles event.

It left one strong semi between internationals Denis Neale and Mike Johns and another involving that veritable master of his trade, Derek Schofield, and Middlesbrough junior Peter Abell.

That Neale came through to win will occasion no surprise nor was the manner of his accomplishment which earned him an easy £25!

As though to compensate, the women's counterpart event produced a feast of table tennis and one could not wish to see a better semi-final than that contested by Maureen Robson and Susan Howard.

Played on a wing table round which gathered an enthusiastic crowd this was a set that had everything and a heartening display of hitting from Mrs. Robson which brought out the best from England's No. 1 junior girl.

By comparison the final was lukewarm, and so too was Di Johnson who had sat on the sidelines for a couple of hours or so whilst Mrs. Robson had engaged in two doubles finals.

Seldom has a mixed doubles final enjoyed such applause as was deserving of the play served up by Neale, partnered by Sue Howard, and Johns, paired with Mrs. Robson. Tremendous was the ovation accorded the northern combination who nosed home 21-19 in the decider.

Yet another seesaw struggle in the men's doubles saw Neale and Alan Ransome get the better of Johns and Laurie Landry after the Middlesbrough pair had lost the first game. Yes indeed, the doubles finals at the Merseyside were right out of the top drawer, as witness the 3-gamer of the women's won by the Howard sisters. They too came back from an opening game deficit.

Men's Singles: Quarter-finals:

D. Neale (Yorks) bt R. Hellaby (Essex) 6, 12; M. Johns (Ches) bt I. Robertson (Nthld) 22, 10; D. Schofield (Ches) bt L. Landry (Middx) 18, 18; P. Abell (Yorks) bt B. Johns (Ches) 21, 19.

Semi-finals:

NEALE bt Johns 7, 17.

SCHOFIELD bt Abell 17, 15.

Final:

NEALE bt Schofield 15, 14.

Women's Singles: Semi-finals:

D. JOHNSON (Lancs) bt L. Bashford (Yorks) 15, 9.

M. ROBSON (Nthld) bt S. Howard (Surrey) 7, -20, 18.

Final:

ROBSON bt Johnson 10, 14.

Men's Doubles: Semi-finals:

NEALE/A. RANSOME (Yorks) bt Hellaby/Robertson -20, 17, 14.

M. JOHNS/LANDRY bt B. Mitchell (Lancs)/Schofield -20, 12, 14.

Final:

NEALE/RANSOME bt Johns/Landry -19, 12, 17.

Women's Doubles: Semi-finals:

BASHFORD/ROBSON bt J. Hellaby (Essex)/S. Lisle (Lancs) 17, -15, 19.

L. HOWARD (Surrey)/HOWARD bt Johnson/J. Rumjahn (Lancs) 12, 17

Final:

HOWARD/HOWARD bt Bashford/Robson -19, 12, 17.

Mixed Doubles: Semi-finals:
 JOHNS/ROBSON bt Ransome/
 Bashford 14, 14.
Final:
 NEALE/S. HOWARD bt B. Kean
 (Ches)/Lisle 15, 7.

Boys' Singles: Quarter-finals:
 J. Walker (Yorks) bt A. Boasman
 (Lancs) 19, 10; Hellaby bt D.
 Parker (Lancs) 16, 14; B. Johns bt
 D. Newton (Lancs) -18, 18, 17;
 Abell bt L. Roberts (Lancs) 17, 17.

Semi-finals:
 HELLABY bt Walker 19, -20, 18.
Final:
 HELLABY bt Johns -16, 17, 13.

Girls' Singles: Semi-finals:
 S. HOWARD bt Hellaby 17, 14.
 L. HOWARD bt Lisle -16, 15, 15.

Final:
 S. HOWARD bt L. Howard 16, 12.

Veteran Singles: Semi-finals:
 E. MANDALUFF (Lancs) w.o., S.
 Nunn (Yorks).

Final:
 L. BROWNING (Yorks) bt W. Harris
 (Lancs) 21, -10, 10.

Final:
 MANDALUFF bt Browning 19, 11.

South Yorkshire Open

Men's Singles: Quarter-finals:
 M. Johns (Ches) bt N. Eckersley
 (Lancs) 11, 8; C. Deaton (Derbys)

bt P. Beck (Surrey) 12, 15; N. Ful-
 stow (Yorks) bt D. Parker (Lancs)
 16, 18; B. Burn (Nthld) bt A.
 Fletcher (Yorks) 20, 19.

Semi-finals:
 JOHNS bt Deaton 11, 8.
 FULSTOW bt Burn 19, 10.

Final:
 JOHNS bt Fulstow 12, 16.

Women's Singles: Semi-finals:
 S. WALTERS (Derbys) bt J. Roe
 (Yorks) 9, 10.
 P. BASSANO (Yorks) bt D. Johnson
 (Lancs) -17, 13, 15.

Final:
 BASSANO bt Walters -21, 16, 23.

Men's Doubles: Semi-finals:
 B. JOHNS (Ches)/JOHNS bt S.
 Kaufman/L. Skepper (Lancs) 13, 17
 J. DAVIES (Yorks)/FLETCHER bt
 Beck/I. Robertson (Nthld) 15, 18.

Final:
 JOHNS/JOHNS bt Davies/Fletcher
 16, 12.

Women's Doubles: Semi-finals:
 JOHNSON/WALTERS bt C. North/
 J. Walker (Yorks) 7, 8.
 V. KING/L. SUTTON (Yorks) bt
 Bassano/S. Lee (Yorks) 13, -19, 14.

Final:
 JOHNSON/WALTERS bt King/
 Sutton 13, 8.

Mixed Doubles: Semi-finals:
 M. JOHNS/JOHNSON bt Deaton/
 Walters -17, 13, 11.

Final:
 FLETCHER / S. BROADBENT
 (Yorks) bt Davies/King 12, -17, 17.

Final:
 JOHNS/JOHNSON bt Fletcher/
 Broadbent -19, 17, 12.

Boys' Singles: Semi-finals:
 FLETCHER bt A. Boasman (Lancs)
 13, 12.

Final:
 FULSTOW bt D. Rayner (Yorks) 10,
 19.

Final:
 FLETCHER bt Fulstow 13, 18.

Girls' Singles: Semi-finals:
 SUTTON bt C. Jones (Lancs) 9, 10.
 S. LISLE (Lancs) bt Broadbent -16,
 11, 7.

Final:
 LISLE bt Sutton 18, 22.

Burford Junior Open

UNDER-17 EVENTS

Boys' Singles: Semi-finals:
 P. TAYLOR (Beds) bt R. Hellaby
 (Essex) -19, 16, 19;

J. DABIN (Kent) bt P. Bishop
 (Surrey) 15, 18.

Final:
 DABIN bt Taylor 15, 18.

Girls' Singles: Semi-finals:
 S. BECKWITH (Essex) bt J. Hellaby
 (Essex) 13, 12.

L. CHESSON (Kent) bt S. Hamilton
 (Middx) 16, -14, 10.

Final:
 BECKWITH bt Chesson 14, -8, 18.

Girls' Doubles: Semi-finals:
 BECKWITH/C. MANN (Middx) bt
 J. Dyer/J. Green (Ches) 17, 15.

CHESSON/HELLABY bt Hamilton/
 A. Painter (Middx) 19, 17.

Final:
 CHESSON/HELLABY bt Beckwith/
 Mann -23, 16, 14.

UNDER-15 EVENTS

Boys' Singles: Semi-finals:
 I. HORSHAM (Essex) bt J. Wilson
 (Essex) 16, 19.

P. TAYLOR bt P. Guttormsen (Kent)
 19, 14.

Final:
 TAYLOR bt Horsham 15, 19.

Girls' Singles: Semi-finals:
 HELLABY bt K. Rogers (Leics) 16,
 16.

L. JONES (Wales) bt Dyer 11, 14.

Final:
 HELLABY bt Jones -21, 16, 19.

Boys' Doubles: Semi-finals:
 HORSHAM/TAYLOR bt D. Dino-
 Smith (Kent)/M. Wright (Yorks)
 8, 16.

R. ALDRICH (Middx)/GUTTORM-
 SEN bt M. Bawden (Essex)/K.
 Matthews (Berks) 13, 18.

Final:
 HORSHAM/TAYLOR bt Aldrich/
 Guttormsen 19, 19.

Girls' Doubles: Semi-finals:
 A. CHESSON (Kent)/G. MACRAE
 (Surrey) bt Dyer/Green 14, -13, 19.
 J. HOLTHAM (Kent)/G. LOCKE
 (Essex) bt Hellaby/S. Read (Essex)
 19, -22, 19.

Final:
 CHESSON/MACRAE bt Holtham/
 Locke 24, 14.

UNDER-13 EVENTS

Boys' Singles: Semi-finals:
 DINO-SMITH bt M. Thorne (Essex)
 7, 12.

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Open Tournaments cont.

D. BANGERTER (Surrey) bt G. Hamilton (Middx) 19, 19.

Final:
DINO-SMITH bt Bangert 12, 17.

Girls' Singles: Final:
ROGERS bt V. Russell 21, -13, 17.

Wessex

Restricted Open

Final Results:

Men's Singles:

E. HALL (Somerset) bt R. Morris (Warwks) 11, 11.

Women's Singles:

J. LLOYD (Worcs) bt J. Crosby (Devon) 5, 8.

Men's Doubles:

M. RATTUE/P. STONE (Devon) bt M. Andrews/A. Wolf (Wilts) 20, 23

Women's Doubles:

J. SMITH (Dorset)/J. WOOLF (Hants) bt V. Addicot (Devon)/Crosby 16, 19.

Mixed Doubles:

B. REEVES (Somerset)/LLOYD bt B. Pickard (Hants)/Smith 16, -15, 17.

Boys' Singles:

A. GRIFFITHS (Wales) bt R. Arney (Wilts) -15, 10, 16.

Girls' Singles:

WOOLF bt P. Beazer (Somerset) 18, 17.

Boys' Doubles:

GRIFFITHS / M. NOCIVELLI (Wales) bt G. Iacona/S. Tannahill (Hants) -17, 16, 17.

Girls' Doubles:

BEAZER/S. BEAZER (Somerset) bt C. Reeves/M. Storr (Berks) 12, 17.

Junior Mixed Doubles:

TANNAHILL/WOOLF bt R. Taysum (Somerset)/Beazer 18, -16, 16.

Veteran Singles:

R. PHILPOTT (Somerset) bt G. Biles (Dorset) 11, -21, 13.

North Bournemouth Restricted Open

Finals:

Men's Singles:

B. PETCH (Middx) bt P. Brown (Hants) 18, 14.

Women's Singles:

J. COOP (Hants) bt P. Edwards (Hants) 14, -21, 8.

Men's Doubles:

D. HOLMAN/T. SMITH (Hants) bt Petch/R. Smith (Hants) 12, 18.

Women's Doubles:

COOP/EDWARDS bt A. Gilbert/J. Woolf (Hants) 18, 16.

Mixed Doubles:

T. SMITH/COOP bt C. Pickard/C. Hutchins (Hants) 18, 12.

Boys' Singles:

P. RANDELL (Leics) bt P. Crane (Hants) 14, -15, 14.

Girls' Singles:

C. RANDALL (Sussex) bt P. Beazer (Somerset) 16, -11, 17.

THE OPEN TOURNAMENTS PROBLEM

by Laurie Landry

Chairman, Tournaments Committee

WITH the introduction of the idea of Graded Tournaments, it is hoped that a select group of Open Tournaments will be first-class in organisation and facilities.

This is, of course, one of the most important activities of the Tournaments Sub-Committee with Frank Briggs as Secretary, George Yates (Vice-Chairman), Phil Reid, Keith Ponting, Dave Robson and myself. This will not, however, be No. 1 priority in our work programme.

There are far too many tournaments, up and down the country, that expect to run themselves with no organisation at all and I hear of tournaments with players called to play at 10 a.m. and not doing so until 1 p.m. or later.

This is simply not good enough! The Tournaments Committee knows that a tournament that wishes to be a graded one will be of a good standard.

It is the Restricted Opens, some of them with no experienced organiser on their committees, that we are worried about. John Popham, as "Onlooker", has made a study of time lost at tournaments and his article, published last month, would be of interest to everyone.

Finally I would like all organisers who feel that they are in need of advice on aspects of running their tournament, not to hesitate to write to the Tournaments Committee of the E.T.T.A. and this body will be only too pleased to help.

Europe Club Cup

ORMESBY BOW OUT
TO SWEDES

By 5 sets to 2 Swedish club champions Mariastad Bois defeated Ormesby in the quarter-finals of the Europe Club Cup competition at Eston on January 29th. But, in the words of Hans Alser "we had all the luck that was going" and the score-line did not do full justice to the Teesside trio.

First to the table was Alan Ransome who was desperately unlucky to lose to Bjorn Neidert -19 in the third. Subsequently the sets went very much to the form book with both Denis Neale and Alser winning two each.

A win by Rolf Andersson over Nicky Jarvis gave the Swedes a 4-2 advantage and it was then up to Neale to stave off defeat in his meeting with Alser.

He began in likely fashion by blasting his way to an opening game 21-14 win which was nullified in the second 21-18 to Alser. The Swedish captain continued in the same vein in the decider and actually led 20-15.

At this stage, Neale let loose to bring the crowd to their feet by saving 5 match points and levelling at 20-all! Two further match points were saved but the story book ending never came for suddenly Alser was home and dry 24-22. Individual results:—

A. Ransome lost to B. Neidert -14, 11, -19.

D. Neale bt R. Andersson 10, 19.

N. Jarvis lost to H. Alser -11, -13.

Neale bt Neidert 11, 14.

Ransome lost to Alser -6, -15.

Jarvis lost to Andersson -10, -15.

Neale lost to Alser 14, -18, -22.

MOSCOW BOUND

JOHNNY LEACH has named the following players to represent England at the 7th European Championships, to be held in the Sports Palace, Moscow on April 1st-8th:—

Denis Neale, Chester Barnes, Alan Hydes, Trevor Taylor, Mary Wright, Jill Shirley and Karenza Mathews. Brian Merritt has been appointed team captain.

STAFF COACH

Applications are invited for the post of Staff Coach for the East and South-East area. Applicants should possess an E.T.T.A. Coaching Diploma of a high standard and either a Physical Education Diploma or a practical knowledge of modern fitness training methods.

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TOURNAMENT DIARY

Date	Title and Venue	Additional to normal events	Organising Secretary
Mar. 13/15	SCOTTISH OPEN, St. Augustine's School, Edinburgh.	JBS JGS	Mr. J. M. McCormack, 2 Bramdean Place, Edinburgh, 10.
.. 15	Swindon Open, Pinehurst Sports Hall, Swindon.		Mr. G. G. S. Turnbull, 139 Grange Drive, Stratton, Swindon, Wilts.
.. 21/22	Buckinghamshire Open, Community Centre, Farnham Road, Slough.		A. J. H. Wickens, 2 Frensham Walk, Farnham Common, Slough, Bucks. Closing date: 28-2-70.
.. 22	2nd Lancashire Junior Open, Institute of Technology, Deane Road, Bolton.	U-17 BS GS BD GD XD U-15 BS GS BD GD U-13 BS GS	Mr. A. F. Jones, 13 Moss Bank Close, Astley Bridge, Bolton. Closing date: 11-3-70
.. 29	Edinburgh Open.		Mr. J. M. McCormack, 2 Bramdean Place, Edinburgh, 10.
Apr. 1-8	7th EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS, Sports Palace, Moscow, U.S.S.R.		
.. 11/12	East of England Open, Scunthorpe, Lincs.		Mr. K. Dewar, 133 Eastgate, Louth, Lincs.
.. 12	Sussex Junior Open, Assembly Hall, Worthing.	As for Lancs. Jr. Open	Mr. F. Rayner, 32 Frobisher Way, Worthing, Sussex
.. 18	Gwent Open, Standard Telephones and Cables Canteen, Corporation Road, Newport, Mon.	JBS JGS	G. E. Motlow, 29 Carisbrooke Road, Newport, Mon., NPT 8NX.
.. 18/19	Slough Junior Open, Slough College, William St., Slough.	U-17 BS GS BD GD XD U-15 BS GS BD GD XD U-11 BS GS U-13 BS GS	Mr. J. A. Pacitto, 73 Bexley Street, Windsor, Berks.

(Closing date for entries: approximately 14 days before event)

WATCH OUT — HERE COMES DINO



DEAN DINO-SMITH
Photo by John Heritage

QUITE often in tournament halls we see "mini-juniors" employing advanced, modern stroke play showing promise of things to come. Less often a tiny figure is seen, usually battling against the disadvantage of only being a foot above the table, but showing exceptional signs that he or she could be the Denis Neale or Mary Wright of the mid-seventies.

A pocket-sized, pale-faced lad from Folkestone, Kent, just 13, born Dean Dino-Smith is currently travelling to every junior tournament in Great Britain this season, hoping to gain the extra experience that might take him to places higher than the

top of the England junior ranking list by 1973.

On the back of his track-suit he is announced as "Dino". Newspaper sub-editors cannot resist choosing headlines with a name like that — "Table Tennis News" may be the first to use it right here!

Young Dino has a long way to go before Dino Smith becomes as famous a name as Chester Barnes but there is a Man of Kent (or a Kentish Man), one table tennis fanatic John Burnett who is prepared to back this prodigy all the way to the top.

John Burnett does not claim to know about talent-spotting. But coaches in Kent have confirmed that Dino might just have that heaven-sent gift of talent waiting to be developed — he is already first reserve for the Kent junior team.

We have all seen allegedly gifted youngsters rise like a comet and disappear like a comet . . . often the fault of well-meaning but too anxious parents.

I am told and I believe that many of the mistakes made in the past by star-creators will not be made with Dino. Let us all hope that we shall see very soon this new star rise to unparalleled heights.

JOHN WOODFORD

SNIPPETS FROM OTHER PUBLICATIONS

WE SEE THAT—According to the latest issue of T.T. News our own Ken Marchant lost in the final of the veterans' singles at the Oxfordshire Open. In addition, Ken met Chester Barnes in the men's doubles but we cannot report him reaching the final in this event.

WE SEE THAT—Wellingborough Town Ladies' knickers match their sky blue skirts.

WE OCCASIONALLY SEE THAT—They were manufactured by Louis Hoffman.

WE HEAR THAT—The County are arranging the Annual County Closed Tournament at Kettering Drill Hall on Saturday, April 4 and it is the turn of the Wellingborough League to organise it.

(Table Tennis Record—the record of table tennis in the Wellingboro' area. Editor: R. J. Panter.)

NEWS IN BRIEF (From the Bandit)

On returning from the English Closed at Eston, I was left with a strong impression of the complete inadequacy of the facilities for our game in our area.

The Eston Sports Centre is a model establishment, rivalled only by Crystal Palace in London. Beside this one, however, Teesside has four other centres, all of comparable standard.

It is not surprising therefore to find so many up-and-coming players residing in or near this region.

(Birmingham Table Tennis News. Editor: Richard Habgood.)

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English Open

continued from page 1

However, despite the noise and the hard benches, the supporters stuck to their guns (or seats!) long enough to cheer on MARY WRIGHT and KARENZA MATHEWS to victory in the women's doubles. Karenza has undoubtedly made progress and it was evident on this occasion. She and the crowd will long remember her great winning forehand to make it 20-18 in the fifth!

The last event of the afternoon provided an all-England mixed doubles final between DENIS NEALE and MARY WRIGHT and Chester Barnes and Karenza Mathews. The younger pair started as if they were going to upset the Munich bronze medal winners but after winning the first, Denis and Mary turned on some of the polish which makes them world-class players to win the next three games.

EARLY ROUNDS

Barnes advanced to the quarters via Barry Meisel, Bobby Stevens and Karakasevic—a name which caused nightmares amongst the Press contingent! The 21-year-old Yugoslav who is ranked No. 6, but obviously due for a move up the list, is a student at Belgrade University. His successes in the men's team event made him a man to be feared by both players and officials (and press) alike!

But it needed Chester in just about average form to tame him in the third round.

Another Yugoslav challenge came to an end at the same stage when Anton Stipanovic lost -15 in the fifth to Jonyer. One round earlier, the crowd were strangely silent when watching the elimination of Trevor Taylor by Klampar.

The supporters of England found their voices however when Alan Hydes lived up to his No. 3 ranking by eliminating the pocket-sized Miko 21-18 in the fifth.

This decider between Hydes and Miko was a cracker. The Barnsley left-hander led 12-7 before the Czech got back into the game with four lucky points, three edges and a net! Hydes piled on the pressure to lead 20-17; his opponent becoming desperate. The last point saw Hydes drive with Miko counter-hitting and missing completely bringing a quarter-final clash with Jonyer.

Table tennis in France seems to be making headway through improvements in the standing of Jacques Secretin and Danny Dhondt. In the recent German Open, Secretin beat the Yugoslav No. 2 Korpa who turned the tables at Crystal Palace with an avenging 17, 12, 14 triumph.

Denis Neale's advance to the quarters was impeded slightly by the Dutch No. 1 Bert van der Helm but the Yorkshireman survived.

SINGLES QUARTER-FINALS

Two proud English men and two proud English women emerged from the eight quarter-finals—an event probably unprecedented in the history of the English Open. Denis Neale, Chester Barnes, Mary Wright and—joining the elite—Jill Shirley. Pride of place goes to Jill who

floored the world-ranked No. 13 player Carmen Crisan (Rumania) at 16 in the fourth. Carmen found Jill at her best—a balanced combination of defence and attack on which many England hopes are based.

The finest and fastest battle of the quarters was between Klampar and Kollarovits and it was the handsome Czech who emerged the victor again at 16, but in the fifth. Barnes found Turai his most difficult customer of the day but once again pure speed carried him through. Hydes became the only England casualty in the quarters but as ever, fought to the last point against his conqueror Jonyer.

Neale continued to show uncertainty in his battle with Korpa but as far as I could follow the play on four tables at the same time—the nearest games with the naked eye and the furthest ones with binoculars—Denis gave an improved showing which was the only possibility against this tenacious Yugoslav.

SEMI-FINALS

England's shattering successes on the Friday evening, which resulted in four home semi-finalists came to grief early on Saturday morning when Neale, Barnes and Mary Wright all tasted defeat. Kollarovits never looked like losing to Neale, moving to the final with authority.

Similarly, Jonyer always had an extra ace up his sleeve against Barnes. At 20-all in the second Chester missed the table by an inch with a half-volley return and that was almost the end as in the third and final game Jonyer swept through 21-6!

Maria Alexandru proved too strong an opponent for Mary to beat in an early morning battle and it was really an easy win for the World No. 2 who chopped her way to the final 9, 13, 14.

One early morning star who was NOT eclipsed was Spalding's contract professional Jill Shirley. She followed her great win in the quarters over Crisan by yet another "best ever", the scalp of European champion Ilona Vostova 11, 17, 11. Again, it was the almost impeccable display of defence and attack that carried Jill through to the final and with her most of England's hopes. A European ranking cannot now be far off for the girl from Bucks.

COMPENSATION

Home interest in the men's doubles ceased at the quarters when Bengtsson/Christer Johansson stopped Barnes/Neale, and Korpa/Stipanovic accounted for Hydes/Taylor. But there was more compensation round the corner in the mixed doubles resulting in an all-England final, another almost unprecedented affair.

Karenza Mathews and Chester Barnes took the top half of the star-studded draw and proceeded via Jarvis/Susan Howard, Timar/Robson with a quarter-final corker over Miko/Vostova. It took five games of hard work in the semis for Karenza and Chester to hold Christer Johansson and Marita Neidert but the England pair made it at 18.

In the bottom half Denis Neale and Mary Wright improved as they went along. It took them five games to win against Bengtsson/Wiktorsson, four versus Schoofs/Klatt and then

three-straight in the quarters and semis. Sugden and Lesley Barrie (Scotland) were first to go under and then Klampar/Kishazi took the count in the semis, completing England's best efforts ever in mixed doubles at the English Open.

WOMEN'S DOUBLES

Only sixteen pairs contested the competition proper. In the top half Lesley Radford and Diane Simpson fell to Grofova/Vostova, whilst Wright/Mathews took care of Janet Hellaby and Linda Howard at 14 in the fourth. A tremendous battle ensued in the semi with Mary and Karenza just making it over the top seeds Vostova and Grofova.

In the bottom half, the only English pair to make progress beyond the first round were Judy Williams and Shelagh Hession but they took the count to Alexandru/Crisan in the quarters. The Rumanian pair then went forward to the final, just avoiding being taken to five by Neidert/Wiktorson of Sweden.

The improved form of Karenza Mathews was evident in the women's singles. She disposed of Ellen Klatt (Netherlands) but being drawn right at the foot of the draw clashed with Ilona Vostova in Round 2. Karenza held substantial leads in the first two games but the 15-year-old now blonde-haired young Czech regained lost ground to win at 13 in the fourth.

TEA-TIME SHOCK

Shock of the day on Friday around 5 p.m. was the defeat of the Swedish glamour-girl Marita Neidert (ranked No. 19 in the world) by Shelagh Hession of Essex at 17 in the fifth.

Expediate was called in the third when Marita found all her best loops coming back. Despite the Swedish girl causing a delay because of sunlight intrusion the "sunshine" came in for Shelagh whether or not she was born under the sign of Aquarius, leaving England with four girls in the quarters of the women's singles.



KARENZA MATHEWS and MARY WRIGHT

Photo by Tony Ross

'We got an edge!' (or was it a net?)

BIG GUNS

England had some big guns in the men's consolation event—the country's No. 5 and No. 6 ranked players, Mike Johns and Brian Burn!—and they clashed in the first round with John's gaining further consolation to win -16, 9, 18.

The Cheshire man also defeated Alan Ransome, a revenge victory for his defeat in the Teesside Open by the Durham volcano.

Puffed and proud as winner of the men's veteran singles event was Lancashire's JACK CLAYTON who gained the title without the loss of a single game in his first year of eligibility.

Retaining her women's veteran singles crown was JEAN WILLIAMS of Bucks.

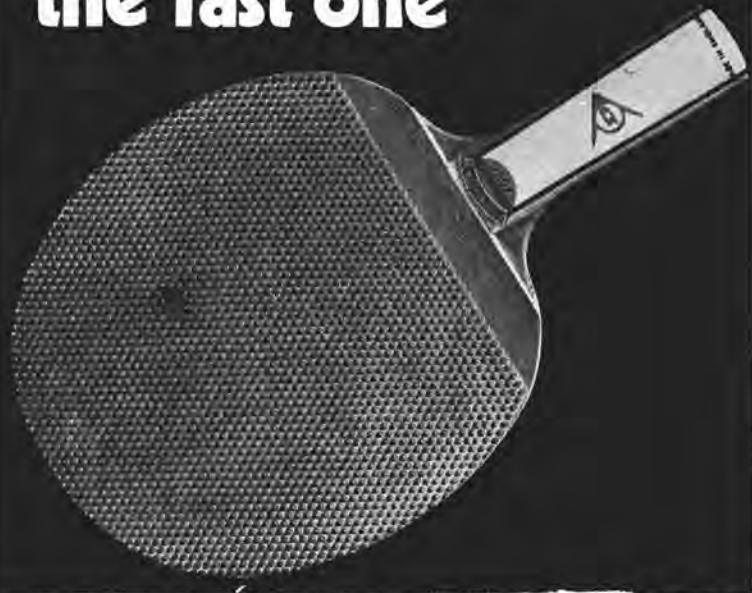
In all, some £600 was at stake in the five major individual events, a sum sponsored by Coca-Cola Bottlers and A. G. Spalding & Bros. Ltd. And further brightening the final proceedings were the two Coca-Cola girls in their eye-catching red and white outfits.

Finals footnote: The opportunity to concentrate on the play at national open finals should be offered to spectators and players alike. On the next occasion the English Open finals are held at Crystal Palace, the closing of the swimming pools during the final session is essential.

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ENGLISH OPEN TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS



**CHESTER
BARNES**

Photo by
Keystone Press
Agency

Barnes Supreme in England Title Win

CHESTER BARNES it was who swung matters England's way when, opposed by Yugoslavia's second string in the final of the men's team event, he virtually won the match "off his own bat" after Denis Neale had gone down to a disappointing defeat against a whirlwind Melevoy Karakasevic in the opening set.

Enigmatic as ever, Barnes brought the scores level after losing his opening game to Zlatko Cordas and then paired up with a more-with-it Neale to win the key doubles set albeit by the narrowest of margins.

Then followed the match-winning set in which Barnes overcame the lanky penholder Karakasevic who, earlier in the day, had tasted sweet success with wins over Sweden's Alser and Kjell Johansson.

Only once before have England reached the final of this event when in 1964-65 Barnes and Ian Harrison lost to Rumania's Radu Negulescu and Dorin Giurgiuca 0-3, in the third year of the competition.

In the semi-finals of this year's event, England's top pair had really put themselves on the victory trail when beating Hungary 3-2—Barnes clinching matters with a fifth-set win over Tibor Klampar, avenging his defeat by the Hungarian in the South-end Open.

England's second team of Alan Hydes and Trevor Taylor lost, by a similar margin, to France whose No. 1 Jacques Secretin was unbeaten throughout the event.

Not so successful in the counter-part women's event, England went out to Czechoslovakia's Ilona Vostova and Alicia Grofova in the semi-finals 1-3 the only win being credited Mary Wright who beat Miss Grofova. Paired with Karenza Mathews, as the acknowledged strongest combination, it was not the best of days for the home side who lost this set in straight games, and the match when Mary bowed the knee to the reigning European champion.

Nor did it afford any further joy for the Czechs who went down 0-3 to Rumania's doughty warrior Maria Alexandru and her young partner Carmen Crisan.

England's second-string of Jill Shirley and Pauline Piddock, after an easy 3-0 win over France took their departure at the hands of Hungary's Beatrix Kishazi and Angela Papp, the latter losing to Mrs. Piddock for their sole defeat in the quarters.

MEN'S TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS

Round 1:

YUGOSLAVIA 1, 3 - WALES 0,
HUNGARY 3 - ENGLAND IV, 0.

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ENGLISH OPEN cont.

T. Klampar bt P. Taylor 17, -19, 19.
I. Jonyer bt S. Heaps 17, -16, 16.
Jonyer/Klampar bt Heaps/Taylor 19, 20.

SWEDEN II, 3 SCOTLAND 1.

ENGLAND I, 3

NETHERLANDS I, 0.

C. Barnes bt B. van der Helm 15, 18.
D. Neale bt B. Schoofs 5, 11.
Barnes/Neale bt Schoofs/v.d. Helm 15, 18.

FRANCE 3 CZECHOSLOVAKIA 2.

ENGLAND II, 3 - IRELAND 0.

A. Hydes bt T. Caffrey 10, -18, 11.
T. Taylor bt C. Thompson 10, 8.
Hydes/Taylor bt Caffrey/Thompson 14, 12.

YUGOSLAVIA II, 3

ENGLAND III, 0.

Z. Cordas bt N. Jarvis 15, -17, 11.
M. Karakasevic bt J. Dabin 20, -9, 11.
Cordas/Karakasevic bt Dabin/Jarvis 15, 14.

SWEDEN I, 3

NETHERLANDS II, 0.

Quarter-Finals:

HUNGARY 3 - YUGOSLAVIA I, 2.

ENGLAND I, 3 - SWEDEN II, 1.

Barnes bt C. Johansson 20, 19.
Neale lost to Bengtsson 7, -16, -12.
Barnes/Neale bt Bengtsson/Johansson 15, 17.

Barnes bt Bengtsson 15, -14, 20.

FRANCE 3 - ENGLAND II, 1.

Dhondt lost to Hydes -15, -10.
Secretin bt Taylor 17, -12, 15.
Dhondt/Secretin bt Hydes/Taylor -10, 10, 17.

Secretin bt Hydes 14, 21.

YUGOSLAVIA II, 3

SWEDEN I, 1.

Semi-Finals:

ENGLAND I, 3 - HUNGARY 2.

Barnes lost to Jonyer 18, -14, -25.
Neale bt Klampar -17, 19, 16.
Barnes/Neale bt Jonyer/Klampar 11, -19, 18.

Neale lost to Jonyer -19, -14.

Barnes bt Klampar 19, 14.

YUGOSLAVIA II, 3. - FRANCE 2.

Karakasevic lost to Secretin -18, -16.
Cordas bt Dhondt 18, 18.
Cordas/Karakasevic bt Dhondt/Secretin 12, 12.

Cordas lost to Secretin 17, -20, -17.
Karakasevic bt Dhondt 6, 11.

Final:

ENGLAND I, 3 YUGOSLAVIA II, 1

Neale lost to Karakasevic -14, -8.

Barnes bt Cordas -18, 18, 17.

Barnes/Neale bt Cordas/Karakasevic 20, 21.

Barnes bt Karakasevic 15, -17, 12.

WOMEN'S TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS

Round 1:

NETHERLANDS II, 3

ENGLAND III, 0.

M. v. Ruiten bt S. Howard 10, 18.
E. Klatt bt S. Beckwith 19, 14.
Klatt/v. Ruiten bt Beckwith/Howard 14, 20.

ENGLAND II, 3 - FRANCE 0.

P. Fiddock bt L. Chassaigne 9, 11.
J. Shirley bt M. Leroy -12, 11, 19.
Piddock/Shirley bt Chassaigne/Leroy -17, 16, 13.

HUNGARY 3 - IRELAND 0.

NETHERLANDS I, 3 SCOTLAND 0.

SWEDEN 3 - ENGLAND IV, 0.

M. Neidert bt J. Hellaby 12, 15.
B. Wiktorsson bt L. Howard 24, 18.
Neidert/Wiktorsson bt Hellaby/Howard 16, 19.

Quarter-Finals:

RUMANIA 3 - NETHERLANDS II 0

HUNGARY 3 - ENGLAND II, 1.

Kishazi bt Shirley 18, 16.

Papp lost to Piddock 18, -12, -11.

Kishazi/Papp bt Piddock/Shirley 9, 18.

Kishazi bt Piddock 22, 17.

ENGLAND I, 3

NETHERLANDS I, 0.

K. Mathews bt Wynia 15, 19.

M. Wright bt v.d. Laan 9, 9.

Mathews/Wright bt v.d. Laan/Wynia 11, 16.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA 3

SWEDEN 1.

Semi-Finals:

RUMANIA 3 - HUNGARY 0.

Alexandru bt Papp 16, -15, 15.

Crisan bt Kishazi -18, 24, 16.

Alexandru/Crisan bt Kishazi/Papp 19, 9.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA 3

ENGLAND I, 1.

Grofova lost to Wright -14, -15.

Vostova bt Mathews 12, 15.

Grofova/Vostova bt Mathews/Wright 14, 18.

Vostova bt Wright 17, 18, 11.

Final:

RUMANIA 3

CZECHOSLOVAKIA 0.

Alexandru bt Vostova 18, -16, 16.

Crisan bt Grofova -16, 21, 17.

Alexandru/Crisan bt Grofova/Vostova 17, 16.

Individual Results

Men's Singles: Round 3:

C. Barnes (Essex) bt M. Karakasevic (Yugo) 15, 12, 11.

J. Turai (Czecho) bt H. Alser (Sweden) 18, -17, 20, 17.

A. Hydes (Yorks) bt V. Miko (Czecho) -8, 11, 15, -15, 18.

I. Jonyer (Hungary) bt A. Stipanovic (Yugo) 18, -16, -13, 16, 13.

I. Korpa (Yugo) bt J. Secretin (France) 17, 12, 14.

D. Neale (Yorks) bt B. v.d. Helm (Neths) 13, 19, -20, 11.

T. Klampar (Hungary) bt Z. Cordas (Yugo) 9, -15, 10, -19, 14.

S. Kollarovits (Czecho) bt K. Johansson (Sweden) 16, -14, 13, -18, 16.

Quarter-finals:

BARNES bt Turai 15, 15, -20, 20.

JONYER bt Hydes -18, 13, 19, 14.

NEALE bt Korpa 17, -15, 7, 20.

KOLLAROVITS bt Klampar 16, -14, 13, -18, 16.

Semifinals:

JONYER bt Barnes 15, 20, 6;

KOLLAROVITS bt Neale 16, -14, 13, -18, 16.

Final:

KOLLAROVITS bt Jonyer -18, 18, 18, -19, 17.

Women's Singles: Round 2:

M. Alexandru (Rumania) bt B. Kishazi (Hungary) 12, 14, 9.

F. Piddock (Kent) bt M. v. Ruiten (Neths) 10, 19, 10.

S. Hession (Essex) bt M. Neidert (Sweden) -19, 9, 19, -16, 17.

M. Wright (Surrey) bt D. Simpson (Essex) 16, 15, 16.

C. Crisan (Rumania) bt A. Wynia (Neths) -19, 12, 11, 12.

J. Shirley (Bucks) bt L. Radford (Essex) 10, 11, 8.

A. Papp (Hungary) bt B. Wiktorsson (Sweden) -20, 18, 12, 13.

I. Vostova (Czecho) bt K. Mathews (Middx) 19, 18, -13, 13.

Quarter-finals:

ALEXANDRU bt Piddock 16, 21, 18.

WRIGHT bt Hession 16, 16, 14.

SHIRLEY bt Crisan 17, -16, 19, 16.

KLAMPAR and JONYER (Hungary)

Photo by Tony Ross



VOSTOVA bt Papp 19, -19, 16, 13.

Semi-finals:

ALEXANDRU bt Wright 9, 13, 14;

SHIRLEY bt Vostova 11, 17, 11.

Final:

ALEXANDRU bt Shirley 15, 10, 13.

Men's Doubles: Quarter-finals:

JONYER/KLAMPAR bt Alser/K.

Johansson -13, 18, -15, 16, 17.

KORPA/STIPANCIC bt Hydes/T.

Taylor (Herts) 15, -19, -12, 17, 16.

CORDAS/KARAKASEVIC bt Miko/Turai -20, 17, 17, -16, 11.

BENGTSSON/C. JOHANSSON (Sweden) bt Barnes/Neale -16, -15, 17, 17.

Semi-finals:

JONYER/KLAMPAR bt Korpa/Stipanovic 17, -17, 19, 17.

CORDAS/KARAKASEVIC bt Bengtsson/C. Johansson 17, 12, 17.

Final:

JONYER/KLAMPAR bt Cordas/Karakasevic 17, 17, 16.

Women's Doubles: Quarter-finals:

A. GROFOVA (Czecho)/VOSTOVA bt Radford/Simpson 21, 19, -14, 18.

MATHEWS/WRIGHT bt J. Hellaby (Essex)/L. Howard 10, -18, 19, 14.

NEIDERT/WIKTORSSON bt Kishazi/Papp 17, -25, 17, 16.

ALEXANDRU/CRISAN bt Hession/J. Williams (Sussex) 18, 17, -20, 12.

Semi-finals:

MATHEWS/WRIGHT bt Grofova/Vostova -17, 14, -18, 9, 19.

ALEXANDRU/CRISAN bt Neidert/Wiktorsson -19, 13, 15, 21.

Final:

MATHEWS/WRIGHT bt Alexandru/Crisan -14, 12, 20, -14, 19.

Mixed Doubles: Quarter-finals:

BARNES/MATHEWS bt Miko/Vostova 14, 16, 20.

C. JOHANSSON/NEIDERT bt Jonyer/Papp 12, -21, 14, 17.

KLAMPAR/KISHAZI bt Turai/Grofova 19, 14, -13, 18.

NEALE/WRIGHT bt M. Sugden/L. Barrie (Scotland) 10, 15, 18.

Semi-finals:

BARNES / MATHEWS bt C. Johansson/Neidert -18, 18, -18, 9, 18.

NEALE/WRIGHT bt Klampar/Kishazi 10, 16, 16.

Final:

NEALE/WRIGHT bt Barnes/Mathews -18, 13, 15, 15.

Men's Veteran Singles:

Quarter-finals:

K. HURLOCK (Surrey) bt K. Snaith (Kent) -13, 15, 12.

T. KIRBY (Surrey) bt E. Prowen (Middx) 10, 21.

J. CLAYTON (Lancs) bt S. Norton (Essex) 12, 12.

M. CLOSE (Middx) bt J. Osborne (Essex) 11, 6.

Semi-finals:

KIRBY bt Hurlock -16, 16, 14.

CLAYTON bt Close 11, 6.

Final:

CLAYTON bt Kirby 12, 20.

Women's Veteran Singles:

Semi-Finals:

M. PROWEN (Middx) bt M. Whitehouse (Surrey) 16, 20.

J. WILLIAMS (Bucks) bt V. Cherriman (Hants) 11, 8.

Final:

WILLIAMS bt Prowen -19, 16, 15.

Men's Consolation Singles:

Quarter-finals:

M. Johns (Ches) bt P. Beck (Surrey) 20, 9.

T. Caffrey (Ireland) bt N. Jarvis (Yorks) 11, 13.

B. Schoofs (Neths) bt P. Glynn (Warwks) -18, 12, 11.

P. Judd (Warwks) bt C. Thompson (Ireland) 18, 20.

Semi-finals:

JOHNS bt Caffrey 16, -11, 15.

SCHOOFS bt Judd 18, 19.

Final:

SCHOOFS bt Johns -14, 17, 20.

Women's Consolation Singles:

Quarter-finals:

L. Howard bt J. Williams (Bucks) 14, 14.

J. Fitzsimons (Ireland) bt Hellaby 8, -17, 18.

S. Beckwith (Essex) bt S. Kavallierou (Sussex) 18, -20, 20.

M. Leroy (France w.o. Barrie).

Semi-finals:

HOWARD bt Fitzsimons -15, 15, 22.

BECKWITH bt Leroy -11, 18, 20.

Final:

BECKWITH bt Howard -13, 13, 17.

KEN WILKINSON

— 21 YEARS AS SECRETARY OF THE NEW ZEALAND TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION

by Frank O'Gorman

REMEMBER Ken? Team Manager of our first-ever combined team to a World Championship—that at Peking, China in 1961—and then of our NZ team tour of Scotland and England en route to the 1967 worlds' at Stockholm.

At our 1970 New Zealand annual general meeting, to be held in Wellington (NZ) during the first weekend in March, Ken will have completed 21 years as our national secretary. Table Tennis has really "come of age" in our country in no small degree due to the dedication and real hard work of the "man behind the scenes".

A look at the I.T.T.F. Handbook issued during his first year of office (1949-50) will record that possibly Nancy Roy Evans (Wales), Victorio Zecchi (Uruguay) and Borivoje Popovic (Yugoslavia) are the only other national secretaries in office then and still there now.

Ken has been an I.T.T.F. Vice-President (Oceania Zone) in recent years and also a member of the Junior Commission during his term of office. His 1968 I.T.T.F. Vice-President's Report on the Oceania Zone was most enlightening and informative.

Among the more notable suggestions contained in his Report was: "That the Advisory Committee consider establishing a fund for the development and organisation of table tennis in those places where it is known that table tennis is played but where no proper organisation exists."

Our Ken has played a fabulous (yes, that's the word) role in the organisation and distribution of table tennis news and decisions among our now 29 district provincial associations for nearly two-thirds of its corporate existence.

GREAT AMBASSADOR

He has been a great ambassador for New Zealand in correspondence, dealings and meetings with representatives of other table tennis playing countries—from way down here in the South Pacific.

His painstaking information, detailed reports of his 1961 and 1967 tours to the biennial world tourney, are priceless gems in our better understanding of tournaments and conditions in other countries and in the procedures and decisions of the International Table Tennis Federation.

Again, his recently issued programme booklet on the history of table tennis contests between Australia and New Zealand (1939-69)—on the occasion of the first-ever combined tour of New Zealand by the Aussies last winter—is a great record of the terrific on-the-table tussles between these two neighbours—over 1200 miles apart—in our time.

In addition to playing quite a key role in the preliminary organisation of all tours by international table tennis players to New Zealand, since Victor Barna and Richard Bergmann



K. C. WILKINSON

PLAYERS WHO REPRESENTED NEW ZEALAND AT THE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS AT STOCKHOLM, SWEDEN



Back Row (l. to r.): B. A. FOSTER, H. J. WATERHOUSE, M. L. DUNN.
Middle Row (l. to r.): Y. M. FOGARTY, C. E. JOHNSON, D. L. WADE, N. TRAILL (Captain).
Front Row (l. to r.): A. R. TOMLINSON (Captain), K. C. WILKINSON (Manager), T. J. O'CARROLL.



THIS BUSY SCENE WAS SHOT IN THE SPRINGVALE STADIUM, WANGANUI, DURING THE 1967 NEW ZEALAND CHAMPIONSHIPS

in 1949, his detailed publicity-angled resumé of the playing records, interests and styles of the visitors have played a vital part in the publicity build-up by our provincial associations who have had the good fortune to play hosts to our visitors.

From his first table tennis venture at the 1937 annual general meeting of the Wellington Association (one of our Foundation provincial bodies), he has moved with fervour and responsibility to now being one of the real greats in our country's table tennis administration.

Wellington recording secretary a year later (in charge of all inter-club competitions and results), a junior selector, then away overseas on active service until 1946. Then followed provincial treasurer for a term and up to district secretary for some three years until his appointment about May-June 1949 (as my memory recalls) to the all-important post of national table tennis secretary.

He has, at times, been manager of Development tours to form and progress table tennis in certain of our district areas.

His unheralded "Hello New Zealand—this is Ken Wilkinson calling from Peking about the activities and results of your New Zealand players here at the 1961 world tourney" was a real classic and reminded me of our illustrious rugby football commentator Winston McCarthy (he was in your country recently) when he covered our "All Blacks" in many of their famous tours of rugby football countries.

Table tennis enthusiasts thank Ken most sincerely for his great contribution to our sport in Oceania and hope that he will press on regardless to that elusive quarter of a century as our national secretary. And grateful thanks, too, to his wife and family for their wonderful co-operation.

Frank O'Gorman, who lives in Timaru, was New Zealand's veteran champion both in 1967 and 1968 and was an inter-provincial representative player during the period 1938-69. He is a Vice-President of the New Zealand T.T.A. representing South Canterbury.—Ed.

NO ROOM FOR COMPLACENCY

says Mary Wright

MANY people in England are under the impression that we have some of the best juniors in the world. This simply is not true, compared with the leading European countries, our juniors are of a low standard. We have many talented players in England, but in my opinion talent is not enough.

There are three main ingredients that make up a good table tennis player. Firstly, the right mental approach and temperament, followed by physical fitness and natural talent in that order. Many people may disagree with me, but I believe that natural talent comes last of the three. Obviously one needs ball sense and the ability to produce good shots, but in analysing the leading World players, it is noticeable that the majority of them have only one or two strokes but use them to the fullest advantage.

Dragutin Surbek of Yugoslavia is a typical example. He has a wonderful forehand loop-and-kill and makes up for his lack of other shots by superb fitness and will to win. The Chinese and Japanese players, mainly penholders, rely on their speed of footwork and good forehands to win their games. Zoya Rudnova of Russia, also a pen holder, wins her games with angled forehand kills from all parts of the table. Kjell Johansson of Sweden also relies mainly on his forehand, and together with one of the best temperaments in the World and peak fitness he became European Champion in 1964 and 1966.

but often becomes nervous and is unable to produce his best shots under the pressure of an important match.

Stanek of Czechoslovakia is a player who wins 80% of his games on fighting spirit alone. He has no special shots with which to win points but just keeps running and fighting, forcing his opponents into errors.

The fact is that if you really want to be a good table tennis player, it is going to involve a lot of hard work, and nobody who has been a top player is going to pretend otherwise. Rushing home from school or work, travelling to practice four or five times a week, playing in matches and tournaments most weekends, perhaps training at lunchtime. The E.T.T.A. can help you by providing facilities and training camps, but in the long run, it all boils down to the individual.

A lot of improvements have been made in training methods and helping youngsters to gain experience, but all this is a waste of time and money if you sit on your backsides and say "I live too far away and can't get any practice" or "I can't afford to go to all the tournaments so I can't improve."

This is nonsense. How did players manage before all these training camps and facilities were made available. We had World Champions in Johnny Leach, Di and Ros Rowe. If you want something badly enough you'll find a way to get it. That's why I say there is no room for complacency.

You may wonder after all this, whether it is worth all the effort. Speaking from experience, I say yes. One has good moments and bad moments but, yes, it's worth it. So come on juniors, let's have a few English names on the title roles at Teesside in August. Brian and I will be there to help you in any way we can.

NATIONAL TEAM COMPETITIONS

by Les Davis

WILLESDEN CRASH IN WILMOTT

Surprise, surprise in the **Wilmott Cup**—the holders, Willesden knocked out by East London! In this fourth round battle, seven sets were necessary to decide the issue and of these five went to a deciding game. The first two sets went to Willesden, the last five to East London.

Chester Barnes, playing for the East Londoners, started the rot by beating Mike Johns -10, 20, 14. By the seventh set he had won three and teammates Bobby Stevens and David Brown claimed one each.

The beating of Willesden—holders of the trophy for the past two seasons—means that East London, especially with Barnes playing, must now be favourites for this season.

Southampton 0, Brighton 5 - Brighton's very good side of Sam Ogundipe, Roger Chandler and John Clarke had little trouble when disposing of the home trio although P. Brown took a game off Clarke in the 3rd set.

Gloucester 4, Staines 5 - Roy Morley battled in vain although winning three for Gloucester. Ex-Juniors Griffin and Charles could not match his experience although Griffin did win the first set. For Staines Welshman, Gresswell and White did enough to ensure their passage into the next round.

Norwich 0, West Brom 9 - The score suggests a very one-sided affair but this was not exactly the case. Four sets went to three, with possibly P. Graver playing best for the losers.

Cheshunt 3, Oxford 6 - B. White played well to win two sets for the losers but Oxford's trio was that much better with Stan Hahn winning his three sets fairly easily.

ROSE BOWL

Last season's winners, Central London, won through to the next round by beating Willesden 5-1.

Guildford 9, Bristol 0 - This very fine Guildford team proved easy winners. Mrs. Jean Golding was the only home player to win a game.

Southampton 7, Eastbourne 2 - Mrs. Pauline Edwards and Mrs. Christine Davies each won three sets for the winners.

Blackpool 5, Spalding 4 - Blackpool must be regarded as one of the best league teams in the north. Spalding proved to be very good opposition despite their trio all falling to the seaisiders' Connie Moore.

Harlow 3, Oxford 5 - Another close match with 5 sets going to 3. No player won three sets, but Mrs. M. Davies and Mrs. D. Wingent won two each for the winners.

Chesterfield 2, Northumberland 5

The Northumbrians again going for the title as "Cocks of the North" (or should I say hens?). Their team of Philomena Clark, Maureen Robson and Cynthia Duncombe were too strong for the Derbyshire side although of the seven sets, five needed a deciding game.

Romford 5, Walthamstow 4 - This match was decided in the final set with a surprise win for the Essex league trio against the favourites. Ann Hewitt won two, as expected, losing only to Diane Simpson. Phyllis Lauder, a Romford veteran, playing in her 35th Rose Bowl year had two good wins. With all depending on the outcome of the final set, Valerie Lauder overcame Mrs. J. Bourne in a tense encounter to give Romford their victory.

CARTER CUP

North Herts 2, Bromley 7 - Last season's winners beaten by the previous season's winners. Not unexpectedly John Dabin—England's No. 2 Junior—won his 3 sets. Teammates C. Jones and P. Guttormsen won two each.

Basingstoke 5, Bognor 4 - A very evenly contested match with C. Sargeant playing the major part in the home team's victory. M. Bull and S. Marley shared the losers 4 sets.

Wellingborough 9, St. Neats 0 - The Northants league trio of J. Maloney, P. and S. Crawley won comfortably. R. Mellin won two games for the losers.

Bristol 5, Exeter 4 - Points were almost evenly distributed in this West Country duel. P. Drew won 3 sets for Bristol, R. Davies won two for the losers.

Leicester 5, Boston 1 - Only the first set went to Boston with S. King beat-

ing A. Philpott 18, 9.

Leeds 3, Manchester 6 - Tony Boasman claimed a treble for the visitors but not before conceding a game to S. Whittaker. J. Russell won 2 for the Tykes.

BROMFIELD TROPHY

Sittingbourne 5, Slough 4 - The holders went down to last season's beaten finalists. In fact, the same teams contested the final of the 1967-8 season also but due to slightly different zoning they met earlier in the competition this time. The fourth set was between England-ranked Lynda Chesson (Sittingbourne) and Sheila Hamilton which the Middlesex junior won 14 in the 3rd.

Worthing 0, Newbury 9 - Newbury proved to be easy winners with only one game going to the home team, this to the credit of L. Wales who lost -18 in the decider to H. Storr. The match was completed in 80 minutes!

Taunton 6, Bournemouth 3 - Surprisingly, the best player was on the losing side. She was J. Hudson who won her three sets. Apart from this, Taunton's Beazer sisters and Miss R. Bryant had no difficulty.

Barking 9, Dagenham 0 - Miss G. Locke won her three sets in straight games but the other Barking players met with more opposition.

Leicester 6, Ipswich 3 - A very fine maximum by 12-years-old Karen Rogers, combining counter-hitting with clever "pushing", did most to bring about this Leicester victory. Elizabeth Halliday did best for the losers.

Other Results

WILMOTT CUP

Boston 2, North Yorkshire 7.
Liverpool 0, Manchester 5.
Central London 6, Bromley 3.

ROSE BOWL

Lowestoft 5, Birmingham 4.
Central London 5, Willesden 1.

CARTER CUP

Burnley 1, North Yorkshire 8.
Willesden w.o. Lowestoft (scratched)

BROMFIELD TROPHY

North Yorkshire w.o. Northumberland (scratched)
Manchester 6, Birmingham 3.
Cheshunt 3, Willesden 6.

Quarter-final Draws

Wilmott

Manchester v North Yorkshire
Oxford v West Brom
Central London v East London
Staines v Brighton

Rose Bowl

Blackpool v Northumberland
Oxford v Lowestoft
Romford v Central London
Guildford v Southampton

Carter

Manchester v North Yorkshire
Wellingborough v Leicester
Bromley v Willesden
Bristol v Basingstoke

Bromfield

Manchester v North Yorkshire
Willesden v Leicester
Sittingbourne v Barking
Taunton v Newbury

NATIONAL CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS

Third Round Results (Men)

Ormesby (Middlesbrough) 6, Ruston Bucyrus (Lincoln) 0.
Burnley Cricket Club 4, Silcoms (Bolton) 5.
Barwell (Leicester) 1, Valves (Coventry) 5.
Enfield Highway (Cheshunt) 4, A.H.W. (Bletchley) 5.
John Keble (Willesden) 5, Fellows Cranleigh (Dagenham) 3.



Speed of footwork and a good forehand are the attributes of former world champion Nobuhiko Hasegawa of Japan here seen poised to receive service.

Schöler of West Germany has the best defence in the World, but when necessary, he is able to kill the ball stone dead with an ice cool nerve. Alser of Sweden is a good example of a player who is physically very fit and has every shot in the book.

National Team Competitions cont.

Bournemouth YMCA 1, Four T's (Southampton) 6.
Second Round Results (Women)
 British Legion (Grimsby) 4, Ormesby (Middlesbrough) 5.
 Letchworth (N. Herts) 9, Kents (Luton) 0.
 Hoffman (Chelmsford) 0 Gainsford (C. London) 9.

In the third round men's matches, Brian Petch and Eric Coster each had two wins for John Keble. P. Richardson and D. Cutcliffe had a like return for Valves, E. McLeish claiming the losers' only success.

Les Wooding was the outstanding

player for A. W. H. Bletchley and inflicted the only reverse suffered by R. Browne of Enfield. Victory for Silcoms came in the final set when Stephen Kaufman beat Brian Marsden. Prior to, Jack Keogh had claimed a maximum for the cricketers including the only defeat inflicted on Derek Schofield.

"GOLD" PROFICIENCY AWARDS

Apologies herewith to Stephen Phillips of Worcestershire whose name was omitted from the list of winners published last month. New winners up to February 13 are:

Cambridgeshire:
 Neil Constable, Kenneth Crawley, Robert Lister, Marilyn Manning, Jane Matthews, David Oakes and John Suchowski.
Huntingdonshire:
 Kevin Moore and Timothy Speller.

LETTERS to the Editor

CHANGE SUGGESTED

May I suggest a change in the calling of a 'net-cord' service by the umpire.

At present the call for a 'net-cord' and for any interruption of play is the same — "LET". This can be confusing to the players, especially if the net-cord was not an obvious one.

It would be better if the call used for each stoppage were different. Also, if the cause was a net-cord service, play could be restarted immediately without a further call of the score by the umpire, whereas in the case of a stoppage for some other reason, the players would then await the umpire's 'go ahead'.

A possible suggestion might be to call "Service" for a net-cord.

RON WEIR.

24 Lammas Green, Sydenham Hill, S.E.26.

Linda Forced to Quit

A SHORT but successful table tennis career came to an end for Yorkshire's Linda Forkes in January when, due to a muscular arm complaint, medical opinion advised her to retire from the game she loved.



Linda first came into prominence in season 1963-64 when she appeared in the final of the "Eagle/Girl" tournament on T.V.

England Junior No. 6 and Yorkshire County No. 1 in 67/68, she made 26 county junior appearances and played for the senior side on 15 occasions including one in the Premier Division.

She hit the headlines in the national press when she became the first female to win the Castleford and Pontefract men's singles closed title. She was also a winner of the Pontefract Restricted Open junior girls' title on three consecutive occasions.

(Story and picture by Cliff Darley)

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Bound for Japan



LES GRESSWELL, E.T.T.A. Staff Coach for the South-Eastern Area is to relinquish his appointment in the near future and depart to Japan where, in conjunction with teaching, he will study Japanese training methods. His immediate plans are to stay there for about a year.

JUNIOR RANKING

Carol Randall of Sussex should have been the name occupying the No. 6 spot in the Girls' list of the revised Junior Rankings as published in the February issue. Sorry, Carol.

MIDLAND LEAGUE

by Phil Reid

OXFORD HAVE TRUMP CARD IN HAHN

CLOSE finishes in every division seems the likeliest forecast in the Midland League. Birmingham "A" lead the Men's first division but all would appear to hinge on their meeting with West Brom who will need to win outright to finish top. Unbeaten is Roy Morley but, sad to relate, his team have so far failed to collect a point.

Coventry, Hinckley and Oxford are fighting it out in the Men's second division with Oxford the favourites by reason of having the division's only 100% performer in Stan Hahn.

By beating Darlaston in Division 3, Leicester have assured themselves of the title. Walsall lead the Intermediates 1st Division, their team of R. Morgan, C. Davies and C. Norman having strength in depth. Loughborough and Worcester are the only teams in the running for Inters Div. 2 and their meeting will decide the issue. Worcester's D. Aston is the division's only unbeaten player.

Birmingham 'A' and Nottingham have matters all their own way in the

Veterans' first division. Having met each other and shared the spoils, sets average is the all-important factor now, or so it would appear. Such being the case, Birmingham would almost certainly finish top although the only unbeaten player in the division is Ron Bolton of Notts. Gloucester's trio of S. Ewens, L. Allen and J. Chalkley appear invincible in the Veterans' Div. 2.

Another Nottingham - Birmingham finish will occur in the Junior 1st Division. Here only 1 set separates the teams! Undefeated in this sphere is Brum's Martyn Davis.

Birmingham look to have the Women's Division tied up. The only other 100% team, Nuneaton, lost 3-7 to West Brom but, notwithstanding this, must be the most improved team in the division.

The Midland Closed Championships will be held at the Railway Institute, Derby on April 26.

MIDDLESEX

by Laurie Landry

HASLAM THE HERO

"LES" HASLAM became the hero of Middlesex with his match-

winning victory over Denis Neale. An end-of-the-season win over Kent is what is now required to give us the Premier Division title for the 16th time in 23 years, but the first since 1964.

Recovering from their two early season reverses, the second team have won their subsequent three with Firoze Nilam of Ceylon proving a valuable acquisition.

In the Bernard Crouch Trophy competition, Middlesex were a little over-confident against Essex after taking a 4-1 lead for they lost 4-5! But as Essex had lost to Surrey by the same score, the 8-1 win by Middlesex over Surrey gives them top position in this 3-county tourney played as a memorial to former Middlesex Swaythling Cup international Bernard Crouch who died in 1955.

Our own Closed Championships will be held on May 2nd/3rd at Ultra Electronics. In the Inter-League championships, the Premier Division is, as yet, unresolved but Wembley are certain to be promoted. The Junior Division is in an interesting state with only North Middlesex unbeaten but with Wembley still to play.



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SURREY

by John Zenthon

BECK STANDS OUT

BY their win over Sussex, the first team have made quite sure of another season in the Premier Division and, I understand, that following their re-sounding 10-0 win over Suffolk, the second team need only the assistance of a minor miracle to stand a chance of winning 2 South!

All concerned have been playing well but perhaps Paul Beck stands out considering this is his first season at this level of play. Singles averages of the players are:- George Muranyi (63%), Gordon Chapman (50%), Paul Beck (60%) and Jean Head (100%) Trevor Campbell has won two out of two, Joan Fitzsimons one from one, Ruth Miles having played only in the doubles.

Rosehill, venue of the recent Surrey Closed saw Woodmancasterne's Roger Lanham achieve a fine win over last season's champion Emil Emezc in the semis of the men's singles — 29-27 in the third! This must have seemed like hard work to Roger who takes his table tennis rather light heartedly and he went down in the final to Keith Horton.

The Sutton League celebrate their 21st anniversary this year with a dinner and dance on Friday, May 15. Tickets are 30/- and I think I heard a suggestion of free wine! If you would like to come, then I am sure that Jean Clay (phone: 01-542 3038) would like to hear from you.

Although only a small one, the league has maintained its three divisions over the years and has been responsible for bringing along such players as Mary Wright and "Connie" Warren. They both joined up at an early age and Mary, in fact, still plays occasionally for the Thomas Moore club.

Rosehill, one of the leading clubs, has also brought on many of our younger players and is a favourite stamping ground of Mick Kercher. And, it would not be right to pass by without a mention of the league's successes in the J.M. Rose Bowl.

Most unlucky were "Connie" and Joan Fitzsimons, who had recently set their wedding date, only to have their house deal fall through. I hope something else will turn up soon.

Not long to go now to the end of the season in the inter-league competitions. Croydon Busines Houses are making a far better showing in the "Percy Johnson", although in their group Dulwich seem well placed. Group "B" is developing into a fight between Croydon and South London. Guildford, last season's holders, have clinched the "Rose Bowl" on sets average. Table toppers in mid February were:-

Arthur Williams Rose Bowl (Women)

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Guildford	6	5	0	1	44	10	10
Byfleet	6	5	0	1	38	16	10

Percy Johnson Cup (Men)

Group "A"

Dulwich	6	6	0	0	37	17	12
Wandsworth	1	5	4	0	1	25	20

Group "B"

Croydon	4	4	0	0	27	9	8
S. London I.	3	3	0	0	17	10	6

Harding Cup (Mixed)

Guildford	4	4	0	0	27	5	8
Thames V. I	4	3	1	0	24	8	7

Sutton Trophy (Juniors)

Byfleet	3	2	0	1	12	6	4
S. London	3	2	0	1	11	7	4

YORKSHIRE

by Cliff Darley

THE "KING" RETURNS

FOLLOWING last season's pattern of playing off all rounds up to and including the semi-finals of the Barnsley League's Closed on a Sunday, the same system will prevail on Sunday, March 22nd, at Ardsley Youth Centre.

Barry Nash (Lumb's) won three of the Castleford/Pontefract Closed titles on January 25th, but, as usual, will have to await the league's Dinner for the presentations to be made. Main results were: M.S.: Nash bt G. Knowles (PTTC) 12, -17, 19. M.D.: B. Frost (Lumb's)/Nash bt G. and R. Knowles 13, -15, 17. V.S.: H. Peel (Wilkinson's) bt H. Oates (A/B PS) 9, 17.

Maurice "King" Simpson of the Sheffield & District League has come out of retirement to assist struggling Rotherham YMCA, the club he left many years ago. Also back in action is Susan McAllen who, as Susan Moss won the Sheffield girls' singles title two years ago.

After an injury sustained at the Universities Championships, the expectation is that Tony Clayton will be back in action again soon. He had to scratch from the S. Yorks Open and was unfit for our Premier Division clash against Middlesex.

Main news from Bradford is that Hans Soova and Frank Briggs are organising a Bradford schools' individual tournament on Sunday, March 8th at Grange Grammar School for Boys. It is the first to be held in the city for 14 years and has come about as a result of Soova's Saturday morning coaching sessions at Grange.

When Bradford Juniors beat Sheffield 6-3 it was their fifth win in six matches. Raymond Moorhouse and Bob Shutt won two each and the doubles, Robert Bartle, who is only 12, contributed the other.

Bradford women, champions last year, are now struggling near the bottom, having lost Betty Clough (retired from the Yorkshire League but still in Bradford's Div. 2 with Sharpe's) and Pat Swailes (in the Women's Army).

Bradford II (John Page, Andy Holdsworth, Stuart Walker and Ian Gomersall) have dropped only 1 point in five matches in Div. 2. Leeds are 100% from three matches and beat Bradford III 6-4 after being 2-3 down.

Hull's Junior boys and girls, whose names are appearing quite often in this magazine, are in for an extensive practice this month under the watchful eye of Kathleen and Alan Thompson. It is the County committee's new approach to team building which I am sure will pay off in the future.

Incidentally, the Coaching Sub-Committee have yet to meet this season!

Plans are under way for the County's Annual Presentation Dinner and Dance to be held in Pontefract on a Saturday in May unless the majority of you have other ideas. Doubtless you will inform me if you have.

STAFFORDSHIRE

by John Pike

COLD COMFORT

AFTER the Lord Mayor's Show came the match with Glamorgan and with it came the end of any hopes Staffordshire had of reaching the play-off at Leicester next month. To make matters worse, the county second team lost their grip on the Midland division by losing to Warwickshire on the same day. The juniors gave some ray of hope for the future by beating Derbyshire 10-0, but it was cold comfort after the news that the first team had tasted defeat for the first time this season at Aberdare.

If they can produce a modern day miracle in their last game with Warwickshire, they could still just make it, but to be quite honest, it must be Warwickshire to carry Midland hopes in the play-off. Following their 7-3 win over Birmingham — a good performance this — West Bromwich must now fancy their chances of winning the Midland League. Only Chesterfield and Gloucester now stand between them and the title.

County coach Jim Hayward reports good progress in the new schools' centre at Wolverhampton. From what he tells me, Walsall, with the help of Sid Parker, may well be operating a schools' centre before long. Again looking to the future, some of our junior players seem to be showing up well in open tournaments.

Steve Dunning of Wolverhampton reached the semi-final of the Boys' singles in the Midland at Warley, while his team mate Keith Fellows, was lucky enough to be drawn against Bryan Robson, the Newcastle United soccer star, in the men's singles. A lot of youngsters would like the chance to meet Robson, who only the night before had played in a first division game against West Bromwich Albion. For the records, Keith won.

A number of selected juniors will go to Lilleshall for a practice session on April 12.

The restricted tournament at Wolverhampton was again dominated by the Potteries. J. Salt, who won the men's singles, quickly found himself in the county second team against Warwickshire, a tough debut this. With so much talent in the south of the county, it is good to see these lads from the north, making their mark in this restricted tournament every year. Helen Blower, a regular county junior from Walsall, won the women's singles. Young Glenys Nicholls of Wolverhampton did well to reach the final.

Two veterans making the news last month were Jeff Robbins and Marjorie Cumberbatch. Jeff was heading the averages in the first division of the Wolverhampton League, while Marjorie again entered the veterans' singles in the English Open.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

by J. D. Ellis

17-YEAR-OLD WINS ALL MAJOR TITLES

ALAN CROOME, aged 17, from Bestwood, Nottingham, was the star of the Notts Closed Champs. held at the Bingham Sports Centre on February 1st. Already ranked No. 1 in the County, Alan won the men's singles, doubles, mixed and intermediate (under-21) singles.

To do this he started to play at 10 a.m. and finished his last final at 11-10 p.m. This feat of endurance was shared by his County Team mate 20-years-old Phil Spencer, from Worksop, who partnered Alan in the men's doubles and finished as runner-up to him in the men's and intermediate singles and in the mixed.

Once again Mrs. Pat Hammond, of Nottingham, added to her vast collection of trophies by winning the women's singles and doubles.

Another Junior to have a successful day was David Fairholm who had a close win over Terry Bull in the boys' singles final and then, together with Terry, won the junior doubles title.

Miss Cathy North, a Junior playing in the Dukeries League, won the girls' title and then partnered Croome to win the senior mixed. Cathy can also be proud of her performances in the women's singles and doubles.

Perhaps the set of the day was the men's singles quarter-final between Spencer and Fairholm, which Phil won at 16 in the decider. Another great set-to was the mixed semi between Spencer and Ann Wass against Alf Saunders and Pat Hammond.

- RESULTS**
- M.S.: Semi-finals:**
A. CROOME bt B. Mayfield 11, 12;
P. SPENCER bt A. Saunders 20, 12.
- Final:**
CROOME bt Spencer 20, 14.
- W.S.:**
R. HAMMOND bt B. Shaw 19, 16.
- LS.:**
CROOME bt Spencer 14, 18.
- B.S.:**
D. FAIRHOLME bt T. Bull -17, 20, 18.
- G.S.:**
C. NORTH bt J. Griffin 13, 11.
- V.S.:**
R. BOLTON bt A. Summerfield 19, 12.
- M.D.:**
CROOME/SPENCER bt Mayfield/Saunders 18, -18, 15.
- W.D.:**
DOLBY/HAMMOND bt Marriott/Turner 13, 16.
- X.D.:**
CROOME/NORTH bt Spencer/Wass 14, 19.
- J.D.:**
BULL/FAIRHOLM bt Ashley/Dawkins -19, 19, 14.

HERTFORDSHIRE

by J. M. Barnes

CLOSE TO COMPLETION

ALL the inter-club competitions are close to completion and although some of the familiar names are still there, a sprinkling of new ones appear.

In the Open Club competition, the semis pair Cheshunt v. Hertford, and Apsley v. Letchworth Settlement. The semis in the Intermediate competitions have Rolls Royce v. Rickmansworth Police and Cheshunt v. Letchworth. The Settlement team beat ICI in one semi of the Women's competition and now await the outcome of the other between Water Lane and Norton Abrasives.

There is no clear picture yet of the likely outcome in the County inter-league competitions since most teams have yet half of their fixtures to fulfil.

North Herts lead Division 1 with an impressive unbeaten record and they are followed by Cheshunt who, with the same number of matches played are two points in arrears. Watford, although well down, should rise rapidly in clearing off their backlog.

In Division 2, Cheshunt are unbeaten, whereas Hemel Hempstead have dropped 1 pt, and North Herts have suffered one defeat. Unbeaten in the Junior Division are Cheshunt and N. Herts.

The Cheshunt League's team knock-out competition has reached an interesting stage in the Open Section. The two top teams in the league, East Herts College and Enfield Highway, meet in one semi, and County Hall play Enfield Highway II in the other.

DEVON

by David Bazell

WORCESTER TO PROVIDE THE SAUCE?

APRIL 4 will be a very important date for in all probability the Division 2 (West) championship title will be decided on that day when the county entertain Worcestershire.

And should Devon win, it would be their first mastery of the division for eight seasons. Firstly, however, Devon have to visit Cornwall — on March 21 — but little difficulty is expected here against a county which has yet to register a point.

But there may be difficulty for the selectors. For while Devon have won all but one of their matches, they have done so by the narrowest of margins on each occasion with a team that seems rarely to play to its full potential.

It will, however, not be easy to change a winning team and perhaps a solid win against Cornwall would give Devon the real confidence they must have for their match against Worcs.

Coaching has made great strides in the county in the last few years. But most of the worthwhile work has been done in too few places. Exmouth, for instance, has given its youngsters every chance to get on a proper foot-

ing, but the same cannot be said in other big towns, even huge Plymouth.

Now, however, the county is trying to set up a system in which all the leagues will appoint a coaching or youth officer to be "directed" overall by a county coaching secretary.

Devon now has 13 county umpires. Association chairman Mike Lyons (Exeter) and Exmouth youth officer Tony Hill successfully completed their tests at the recent Dorset match.

The Association is to take up with the E.T.T.A. the question of national umpires: How do county umpires gain the necessary experience to obtain the higher distinction?

One of Devon's applicants is understood to have been turned down because of "lack of experience" but the applicant said at the association's last meeting "It should be the responsibility of the E.T.T.A. to provide this experience."

In preparation for Devon's entry next season into county junior competition, friendlies against neighbouring counties are to be arranged.

A match between two teams of the county's top juniors was played on February 21 as a warm-up. Bristol defeated Exeter 5-4 in the Carter Cup when wins were obtained by R. Davis

(2) and one each from M. Melmoth and K. Baker.

In the Devon League Div. 1, Exeter beat North Devon 8-2 and Exmouth defeated them by a similar margin. When Exmouth entertained Exeter, the city won comfortably.

Exeter has decided to continue their junior championships as an open tournament following a successful first attempt in January. Players from Hampshire and Somerset took the major titles which, in an entry of 100, produced a high standard. A shock result in the girls' U-17 event was the defeat of Pat Beazer in the third round.



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SUSSEX

by John Woodford

SAM ACQUIRES THE "TASTE"

How do we keep popular circuit player Sam Ogundipe out of the news? His greatest hope has always been to become an actor. After an appearance in "A Taste of Honey" and a number of repertory auditions, Sam has just clinched a sizeable part in the famous play "The Hasty Heart" which starts a three week run at the New Theatre, Bromley, this month.

Sam will be out of the game for the two vital matches against Yorkshire and Northumberland as well as being an absentee at the Sussex Closed. After Northumberland's premier division victory over Cheshire on February 7th, Sussex will be praying for victory in their vital "must win" match against the Northumbrians at the Holy Family Convent, Littlehampton on March 21. Supporters are requested to bring their own prayer mats!

At the Sussex Closed on March 1st, "giants" Peter Williams (holder) and Roger Chandler will be at opposite ends of the draw expecting to provide another almighty battle in

the last round for the Sussex Crown. John Clarke (Horsham) and Terry Riley (Crawley) might also have quarters to themselves but for the presence, somewhere in the draw, of Hans-Dieter Skuballs, the Hamburg surprise-packet.

Hans was "blitzed" in a recent key Brighton league match when he was beaten by Robin Stace, Robin Pierce and the specially-imported Derek Holman. The Germans still it seems, have a lot to learn in the loop-and-kill department but anyone electing to push with Hans can forget about winning, just try for double figures!

The local league championships are now getting under way. First town to declare their new champion is Worthing where youngsters Stephen Marley (Bognor) and Suzanna Kavallierou (Littlehampton) took the titles out of town.

Young Stephen, at 16 the best "looper" in the county in his age-group, collected an exciting batch of senior scalps including Brighton players Dave Cowlyn, Pierce, Stace and club-mate Jed Holley in the final 21-17, 21-17. Suzanna, whose loop and counter-hitting is really frightening many of her female opponents (and a lot of males as well) found herself 18-20 down in the third

against Lucie Neukirchner, who as her name suggests excels in defence. At this stage, Suzanna looked as frantic as the rest but came through to victory 22-20.

Sussex juniors are now taking a few poundings from the stronger counties in the southern division. Graham Good, after taking the Hastings senior title last season, lost it this time, so best hopes of the county lie with Marley. Carol Randall, demoted to England No. 8 girl has lost some ground in her fight to the top to Suzanna who takes my vote as the Sussex girl of the season. Her speed of footwork and fine reflexes make many other competitors look rooted to the spot.

The usual mixed doubles programme of the girl keeping the ball in play and the man making the winners was strangely reversed by the winners of the Worthing mixed doubles crown Alan Osborne and Suzanna. Alan kept the ball moving and Suzanna killed the lot!

Warwickshire 'Closed' there was withdrawn.

Fortunately we hope to run the Championships at another venue on the 15th March, especially as the response to the news of the Championships has aroused much interest in the County.

Where have all the dollies gone? A few years ago the Birmingham Women's League had 7 Divisions, and one year 8. Now we struggle to get two partly filled ones. The Midland Open had 26 women entrants, and the Sports Argus Tournament has had the grand total of 13 entrants. With the number of males playing and the sport flourishing, it seems strange that the number of females playing should be diminishing. Is this a national problem?

NORFOLK

by J. S. Penny

TWENTY IN A ROW FOR BETTY

KINGS LYNN Championships, which extended over three days at the Y.M.C.A., had 339 entries, with 105 contesting the Open Singles. Barry Wilson, seeded No. 4, beat last season's holder, John Sell, to capture his title. The outstanding feat of Betty Cassell in winning the Women's Singles crown for the 20th consecutive year, must, however, take pride of place.

As a result, she was given the silver salver which had rested in her possession for so long, and, in return, Betty presented the league with a new salver for competition next year. Miss Penny Melton was Mrs. Cassell's victim this time, and Betty also won the Mixed with Ken Burton.

The Men's Doubles was won by Geoff Calvert and John Sell, and the Youth title went to Peter Vertigan, the 17-year-old, who already holds the Norfolk Junior and Fakenham ones. Ken Mitchell claimed the Veterans' crown. Division titles went to: Div. 2, John Brown (Y.M.C.A.); Div. 3, Ian Barber (Y.M.C.A.); Div. 4, Dick Leach (G.P.O.); Div. 5, Keith Mathers (R. G. Carter's); and Div. 6, J. Carney (Catholic Y.C.).

Norfolk Juniors had an excellent match against a Bedfordshire side that included Peter Taylor and were by no means disgraced in losing 4-6. At one time, when Chris Bensley lost 22-24 to Gordon Reid in his first game, we even had hopes of a draw, as he had earlier beaten Phil Norton. Christine Mayhew came up from behind on two occasions to beat 13-year-old Sally Dimmock 26-24, 22-20. Christine is only eleven, and has now left Denton School for Bungay Grammar School.

In the Wilmott Cup West Brom's trio of Brian Keates, Glenn Warwick and Derek Baddeley proved far too strong for Norwich (Tony Hipperston, Bob Mitcham and Phillip Graver) who failed to win a set.

Norwich did have a convincing East Anglian League victory over Ipswich by 8-2 and it was good to see ex-England Junior Dave Halliday again playing for the opposition. His sister, Elizabeth, won her doubles, partnered by Susan Haward, and Dave Mann beat Tony Hipperston.

WARWICKSHIRE

by Ralph Gunnion

CAUSE FOR SATISFACTION

THE 41st Midland 'Open' Championships, held at Smethwick on February 7th, was probably one of the best run ever. The referee, Fred Smith, his assistant Jim Sykes, and all the Tournament Committee must have felt very pleased when the staged finals started on time at 7-15 p.m.

It was a very great pleasure to have the President of the I.T.T.F., Roy Evans, and his wife Nancy present, and it was kind of them to share the prize giving. Also present, as guests of the Birmingham T.T.A., were Malcolm Scott and his wife from Staffordshire, and Bill Evans of Dunlop Sports Co., and his wife.

In the Warwickshire League, North Birmingham look like retaining the title they have held for the last three years. Surprise is that Coventry have not gained a point, and the only unbeaten player so far is a member of the Stratford-on-Avon League.

The Warwickshire Club Competition is reaching the final stages and it seems hard to imagine any other winners than Central Y.M.C.A. They are dominating the Birmingham Three-a-Side League, and no other club team in Warwickshire is as strong.

The Warwickshire Selection Committee have issued a new Men's Ranking List, the top five being:— 1, D. Munt; 2, P. Judd; 3, R. Gunnion; 4, R. Cooper; 5, D. Backhouse. Richard Cooper has moved from 9 to 4, and is one of the most improved players in the country, recording some fine wins in Open Tournaments.

The Warwickshire 'Closed' Championships, which were due to be held at Lucas's, will not now take place there. As an experiment the South Birmingham Championships were held there and the venue was magnificent. But unfortunately one or two people upset the authorities at Lucas's, and permission to hold the

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LEICESTERSHIRE

by Philip Reid

RITA SAVES THE BLUSHES

THE seniors concluded their fixtures in the 2nd Division (Midland) with an overwhelming defeat at the hands of Notts. Rita Stevenson was the home heroine and despite the otherwise disappointing display, Leics should still stay up.

Congratulations to Leicester Men's 2nd team, undefeated at the head of the 3rd Division in the Midland League and certain of promotion. Their team of John Bowness, Melvin Matts and Paul Randell is a team of fighters and whilst they can scarcely have imagined at the start of the season they would finish top they have done so on merit.

Hinckley are having a successful season in the Midland League (2nd Division) and promotion could still be within their grasp.

Leicester continue to make progress in the competitions. In the Carter Cup, Leicester beat Loughborough 9-0 whilst the girls beat Ipswich 6-3 in pursuit of the Bromfield Trophy.

Leicestershire players seem to be taking a much more active part on the tournament circuit and they cannot fail to benefit from this. Karen Rogers won the Under-13 Girls' event at Burford — her first tournament win but her sixth final! — and, the same weekend, Paul Randell won the Bournemouth Junior Open.

With the season drawing towards a close many exciting finishes look likely in the various leagues. In the Leicester League, British Shoe look likely winners of Division 7A and to be accompanied by Adelaide II into a higher sphere next season. Former county champion Pauline Jackson is playing very well for the latter. Newbridge lead the way in 4A with their good all-round team of Greg Nichol, John Lenton and Roy Brearley. Parmeko's team of Eric Jackson, Vic Clayton and Bob Spring look the best bet to take 3A with Jones and Shipman leading the way in 3B.

The Rose Johnson Bowl — the Leicestershire team handicap competition — continues to produce many good finishes and on their present form AEI Lamps (N. Weaver, A. Benigna, A. Lowe and P. Keeling) must have a great chance of winning the trophy for the first time.

Barwell Constitutional have reached the final of the Rose Johnson Cup and their opponents will be either King Richards Rd. WMC or Egerton Park.

Plenty of excitement too in the Loughborough League. Shepshed I have started to show improved form and this has coincided with the inclusion of Dennis Hull, on his day one of the most difficult players in the league to beat. For Loughborough, Clive Stretton continues to improve whilst Ivor Billson has hit the type of form he is capable of. In a Division 2A encounter, Ronnie Wright trailed 20-14 in the third when his club, Holy Trinity played Monitor. Tony Elsbey, however found the last point very elusive indeed and lost 22-20! Wally Zawodny is playing some great stuff for Polish Orkan and they look likely to be promoted from Division 2 with Rolls Royce whose R. Bailey and S. Kerslake have been getting good results.

he has maintained his 100% record while improving the standard of his young team-mates. One of these, Paul Day, last month had a good win against B.B.C. "A"'s Roy Gibbins.

An exciting new project has been launched by the Wellingborough league in the form of a fortnightly news bulletin, 'The Table Tennis Record'. According to the editor, Bob Panter, the magazine is proving a popular innovation and with production improvements which are in hand the 'Record' could play a big part in Wellingborough table tennis in the near future. It is packed with up-to-date information, league results and tables.

The Wellingborough closed tournament has been arranged for April 18th at Wetherby's Sports Centre with preliminary rounds on the previous two days:

WORCESTERSHIRE

by Edward J. Mitchell

HARD TASK

MAIN talking point in the County at present is the possibility of winning Second West. According to my calculations we need to draw with Devon and beat Somerset; a task which I feel is well beyond our powers.

In the County League, Bromsgrove "A" are a point clear of Dudley "A" in the Men's Division and the title probably depends on their clash later this month. Both teams have yet to meet strong Hereford and Redditch sides.

At the top of the Mixed Division, Hereford "B" and Worcester "B" both have full points and the former, with the stronger men, must be favourites.

Worcester "D" look almost certain winners of the Junior Division following a 7-3 win of Hereford "C" for whom Trevor Davies is still unbeaten.

In the County Club Knock-Outs, the final of the Scratch Cup is between Malvernians (Worcester) and Ipsley (Redditch). The latter beat Ledbury 5-2 in a great semi-final, the highlights of which were Russell Preece's win over Bob Brown and Ron Judd's three victories for the winners.

Frank Southam is, as always, working like a Trojan at coaching but with little support—it seems a pity that our top is seen more at Birmingham rallies than County ones.

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NORTHANTS

by Gwyn Powell

HOGG AND BOND DOMINATE

THE Men's Singles title in the Northampton league's closed tournament was won for the second time in three years by Colin Hogg who beat Bryan Bond 15, -10, and 9 in the final. The biggest shock came in the second round when veteran Dick Ingle knocked out the top seed, County champion, Steve Lyon, and went on to reach the semis where he was narrowly beaten by Bond.

Hogg and Bond won the Men's Doubles final for the 10th time by beating Ingle and Doug Gwillim. In the final of the mixed Bond, partnered by Emily Twiselton, beat Hogg and Jean Yuill for the third year running. One of the best finals of the evening was the women's singles in which County Champion, Joyce Rowson, eventually outthit newcomer Janet Dann to win her first Northampton title by 14, -17 and 18. Other title winners were:—

B.S.: Dave Berridge; B.D.: Berridge/Paul Bincow; G.S.: Jane Cherry; Vets: R. Ingle; W.D.: E. Twiselton/J. Rowson.

1st and 2nd Division Singles: Cyril Yuill.

3rd and 4th Division Singles: Bob Nutt.

5th, 6th and 7th Division Singles: P. Fletcher.

With the second half of the season well under way in the Daventry League, B.B.C. "A" are firmly established at the top of Div. 1 with a big lead over their nearest rivals British Timken "A", while in the Second Division, Timken "C" are the leaders, a few points ahead of Fire Brigade "A".

In Division 3, Newnham "C" head the table followed closely by Daventry Staff "B": Results in the K.O. cup competition were:— Div. 1: B.B.C. "A"; Div. 2: Weedon Conservative "A" and Div. 3: Dav. Staff "B".

George Tsow has been doing a grand job for Youth Club "A" both from playing and coaching angles as

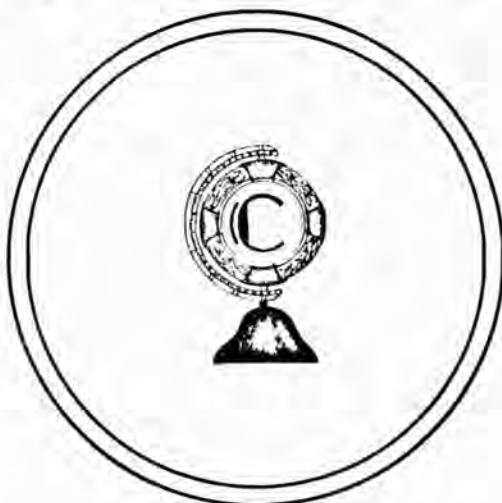
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ESSEX

by Harry Walker

NEW PASTURES

THE "Essex Shepherd"—Alan—is planning more outings for his "flock". At Easter he is taking 12 boys to Hamburg, in conjunction with the Debden Youth Centre to take part in the Hamburg Town Junior Tournament. This is a team-of-3 event.

Before this, he will be assisting to take a party of Juniors from Essex to the Lancashire Junior Open on top of a county Junior match the same weekend!

Father Goose, the popular secretary of St. Luke's Club, Canning Town, and the Newham Youth League, and known to all Juniors in the south, has been made Vicar of St. Luke's Church, Victoria Docks, after 37 years as curate. He will take over from Father Moore who is retiring this year.

Although his official title is the Rev. S. A. Goose, the good Father has put table tennis on the map in the Canning Town area and is proud of the fact that nearly a dozen Junior Internationals have been staged in the Church Hall.

Finally, a word to dispel rather exaggerated reports in the National Press. Chester Barnes is as happy

with Essex as he ever was. After many talks with him over the past few weeks, I can assure all his Essex followers—and there are hundreds—that his loyalty to Essex is 100%.

Three leagues within the County have held their Closed Championships, the main winners being:—

Romford

M.S.: K. Beamish; W.S.: Mrs. A. Hewitt (hat-trick); B.S.: I. Horsham; G.S.: K. Stonell; V.S.: J. Osborne.

Chelmsford

M.S.: M. Watts; W.S.: Mrs. J. M. Crozier; Y. & B.S.: M. Dvorak; G.S.: L. Pates. V.S.: P. Faulder.

Southend

M.S.: R. Eley; W.S.: Miss H. Pemberton; B.S.: J. Willson; G.S.: M. Thacker; M.V.: T. Dickinson. W.V.: Mrs. M. Goodale.

New County Ranking Lists were issued on February 1st as follows:—

Men

1, C. Barnes; 2, D. Brown; 3, R. Stevens; 4, D. Johnson; 5, P. Radford; 6, S. Smith; 7, D. Bowles; 8, R. Hellaby; 9, M. Read; and 10, (joint) A. Campbell and M. Watt.

Women

1, L. Radford; 2, S. Hession; 3, D. Simpson; 4, S. Beckwith; 5, J. Hellaby; and 6, T. Dale.

Boys

1, R. Hellaby; 2, M. Read; 3, I. Horsham; 4, M. Locke; 5, M.

Dvorak; 6, G. Bloomfield; 7, G. Bassett; 8, P. Hutton; 9, J. Whipps; and 10, S. Kitteridge.

Girls

1, S. Beckwith; 2, J. Hellaby; 3, G. Locke; 4, S. Kaye; 5, S. Read; 6, M. Thacker; 7, S. Jones; 8, E. Tarten; 9, H. Wesley; and 10, H. Brumwell.

The Essex Closed will take place on April 11th (Juniors) and April 12th (Seniors) at the Cecil James High School, Eastern Avenue, Southend-on-Sea.

The Chelmsford League are playing their annual "Fuller" match against the Maidstone League at Maidstone on Easter Saturday, March 28th.

WESTERN LEAGUE BULLETIN

by Grove Motlow

TAUNTON COME GOOD

IN accounting for the strong Newbury side of A. Reeves, R. Kozlowski and D. Campbell, Taunton did exceptionally well with a maximum from A. Phillots. R. Pendleton lost only to Kozlowski and J. Andrews recorded a win over Campbell.

Newcomers to the league last season, Taunton have certainly reaped a rich dividend from their last season's experiences — they failed to record a single win — for their victory over Newbury was their fourth this season!

Bristol's home win over Weston was as close as 5-4 with B. Reeves and J. Wise each winning two and R. Bowden one. Weston's star was J. Garland with a brilliant treble.

Swindon's second team home match against their counterparts from Bristol turned out as expected between two evenly matched sides. Swindon got the verdict 5-4, two sets each to B. Leakey and G. Turnbull and a solo from B. Hey who beat R. Taysum. K. Watts was Bristol's "man-of-the-match", being unbeaten the other set coming from Geoff Douglas at the expense of Hey.

Weston's home match with Plymouth was another closely contested affair with Weston the winners by 5-4. With the score at 4-all, Ray Philpott clinched victory for the home team when he beat D. James 21-5, 24-22, the win being his only one of the night. Cleve Judson was a treble winner for Plymouth.

In a match which had seven sets go into a deciding game, Exeter beat Taunton 6-3 with Mike Rattue contributing a maximum return. Paul Stone had hard luck in failing to do likewise losing 21-23 in the third game to Phillott who lost to Mike Putland.

Plymouth were hard pressed by Bristol 2nds before making it in the last set when B. Parkins beat Douglas. Cliff Hollywood, deputising for Judson, lost all his three. Watts was again in good form for Bristol winning two, whilst D. McGarry and Douglas each won one. It was pleasing to see the return of McGarry to the Bristol side after a couple of season's absence.

Newbury suffered a surprise home defeat when beaten 5-4 by Swindon whose Tony Wolff and F. Bailey both had wins over Kozlowski and Reeves.

Only Gwen Hazell stemmed the tide when Bristol beat Swindon 7-2 her victories being against Pat Rowe and June Watts. For Bristol, Joan Collier secured a good maximum.

Against Devizes, when represented by Janet Achurch, Joan Collier and Jean Golding, Bristol ran away with the match 9-0.

Swindon's match against Newport had the usual close result with the Wilts trio getting home 5-4 when Gwen Hazell beat Stella Jones in the final set, 21-18, 22-20, to complete her treble.

Mrs. Kath Leslie added the other two whilst for Newport Elizabeth Jones won and Stella Jones and Barbara Roden each had wins over Mrs. Price.

Newbury registered a good 6-3 win over Bristol when the result of the match depended on the outcome of the set between Mrs. Masters and Joan Collier. In a long dour struggle the set went to Newbury to inspire the home team with the necessary confidence to go on and win. Mrs. Masters secured her fourth maximum in five matches and this victory avenged Newbury's only defeat of the season so far.

Newport did well to perform the double over Bristol when, at home, they won 6-3 with Elizabeth Jones unbeaten. At one stage, Newport were leading 4-1 but Bristol fought back to narrow the gap to 4-3. But then Barbara Roden clinched victory when she beat June Watts, 16 in the third to claim her only victory against an opponent who had won her other two, against Janet Achurch and June Watts.

For Bristol, Joan Collier played well to win her two and Janet Achurch beat Barbara Roden. The two successive defeats may well have cost Bristol the title they won last season. Leading positions:—

	P	W	L	F	A	Pts
Men						
Bristol	8	6	2	48	24	12
Exeter	5	4	1	27	18	8
Newport	6	4	2	37	17	8
Weston	6	4	2	37	17	8
Taunton	6	4	2	29	25	8
Women						
Bristol	9	6	3	58	23	12
Newbury	5	4	1	26	19	8
Newport	7	3	4	31	32	6

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CAMBRIDGESHIRE
by Leslie Constable

STRENGTH IN DEPTH

IN the S.E. Midlands League, Cambridge City are still going great guns despite a close call against Northampton. They again look certain champions and their form has been consistent with any reserves called upon performing admirably as witness the play of David Alexander, Ken Muhr and Gerald Coteman. This is not to forget the "old firm" of John Thurston, Stephen Andrews and Tony Littlechild.

The City veterans have also performed well but their set-back at the hands of Bletchley has made it into a three-cornered fight between the two and North Herts.

Still struggling are the Women and Juniors who will be lucky to finish in the top half of their respective divisions, despite the outstanding performances of Sally Browning and junior John Willis.

John Thurston is unbeaten for the men in 12 sets, Sally Browning claims 16 victories out of 21 sets played for the women and Willis has been the most successful junior with 6 wins. "Lofty" Adams and Victor Tiplady each can boast 11 wins from 15 sets in the veteran ranks but "Lofty" is having to take things a little easier in more ways than one following a bad dose of the 'flu.

Recently Jack Carrington paid a visit to the Corn Exchange, Cambridge, for a "Course for Coaches" which proved very successful. Jack being a popular visitor in Cambs circles.

Many players, including a contingent from Cambridge, were successful in gaining awards at a Proficiency course held at St. Neots when many "Golds" (published elsewhere) were secured.

In the Cambs League, New Chesterton still top Div. I. They easily disposed of YMCA 8-2 but Tiplady lost to Muhr and Harvey Cross. Still striving to catch up on them are University Press who have been hampered by the 'flu epidemic.

DIVISIONAL TABLES UP TO AND INCLUDING FEBRUARY 15th

PREMIER

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Middlesex	6	6	0	0	35	19	12
Yorkshire	5	4	0	1	30	15	8
Kent	6	4	0	2	31	23	8
Essex	6	4	0	2	32	22	8
Surrey	6	3	0	3	27	27	6
Sussex	5	1	0	4	18	27	2
Nthbld	6	1	0	5	17	37	2
Cheshire	6	0	0	6	17	37	0

II SOUTH

Bucks	5	4	1	0	38	12	9
Surrey II	5	3	1	1	32	18	7
Essex II	5	3	0	2	31	19	6
Middx II	5	3	0	2	29	21	6
Kent II	5	3	0	2	24	26	6
Herts	5	1	0	4	19	31	2
Suffolk	6	0	0	6	7	53	0

II NORTH

Nthnd II	5	4	1	0	34	16	9
Yorks II	5	4	0	1	37	13	8
Lancashire	5	3	2	0	35	15	8
Cheshire II	6	2	1	3	21	39	5
Durham	5	0	3	2	22	28	3
Lincs	5	1	1	3	22	28	3
Cumberlnd	5	0	0	5	9	41	0

II MIDLAND

Warwicks	5	5	0	0	42	8	10
Staffs	5	4	0	1	34	16	8
Glamorgan	5	4	0	1	33	17	8
Derbyshire	5	3	0	2	32	18	6
Notts	5	1	0	4	16	34	2
Leics	6	1	0	5	16	44	2
Monmouths	5	0	0	5	7	43	0

II WEST

Somerset	6	5	0	1	37	23	10
Devon	5	4	1	0	29	21	9
Worcs	5	3	2	0	35	15	8
Gloucs	6	2	2	2	33	27	6
Hampshire	6	3	0	3	33	27	6
Wiltshire	6	1	2	3	25	35	4
Dorset	6	1	1	4	29	31	3
Cornwall	6	0	0	6	9	51	0

SOUTHERN

Berkshire	7	5	1	1	47	23	11
Bucks II	6	4	1	1	37	23	9
Hants II	6	2	2	2	34	26	6
Oxfords	6	3	0	3	29	31	6
Worcs II	7	0	0	7	13	57	0

MIDLAND

Warwicks II	4	4	0	0	32	8	8
Staffs II	4	3	0	1	30	10	6
Derbys II	4	2	0	2	18	22	4
Denbighs	4	1	0	3	12	28	2
Shropshire	4	0	0	4	8	32	0

EASTERN

Bedfordshire	5	4	1	0	36	14	9
Herts II	5	3	0	2	32	18	6
Cambs	5	1	3	1	27	23	5
Norfolk	5	2	1	2	23	27	5
Northants	5	1	1	3	20	30	3
Hunts	5	1	0	4	12	38	2

JUNIOR SOUTH

Middlesex	5	5	0	0	43	7	10
Kent	5	4	1	0	43	7	9
Hampshire	6	3	1	2	32	28	7
Surrey	5	2	2	1	30	20	6
Sussex	5	2	0	3	24	26	4
Berkshire	5	0	0	5	7	43	0
Bucks	5	0	0	5	1	49	0

JUNIOR NORTH

Yorkshire	4	4	0	0	35	5	8
Lancashire	4	3	0	1	34	6	6
Cheshire	4	3	0	1	24	16	6
Northbld	3	1	0	2	8	22	2
Durham	4	1	0	3	10	30	2
Cumberland	5	0	0	5	9	41	0

JUNIOR MIDLAND

Warwicks	4	4	0	0	36	4	8
Leics	4	2	2	0	27	13	6
Notts	5	1	3	1	24	26	5
Staffs	4	1	2	1	22	18	4
Northants	4	1	1	2	17	23	3
Derbys	5	0	0	5	4	46	0

JUNIOR EAST

Essex	5	5	0	0	45	5	10
Bedfords	5	4	0	1	29	21	8
Hertfords	4	3	0	1	30	10	6
Hunts	5	3	0	2	23	27	6
Norfolk	4	1	0	3	18	22	2
Suffolk	5	1	0	4	15	35	2
Cambs	6	0	0	6	10	50	0

JUNIOR WEST

Glamorgan	5	5	0	0	42	8	10
Monmthshire	5	4	0	1	33	17	8
Wiltshire	4	2	0	2	20	20	4
Somerset	5	2	0	3	22	28	4
Gloucs	5	1	0	4	14	36	2
Worcs	4	0	0	4	9	31	0

County Championships continued from page 24

NORTHUMBERLAND 7 CUMBERLAND 3

The home girls far too strong, but an interesting match and a good performance by Peter Broughton for the visitors with two singles wins.

Junior Division (Midland)

STAFFORDSHIRE 10 DERBYSHIRE 0

The visitors had no answer to the fast looping and hard hitting of the Staffs boys. Only in the last set did Derbys look like taking a game, but the greater experience of Stephen Dunning saw him safely home. Best performance yet by Barbara Eardley who hit Marilyn Deakin off the table.

WARWICKSHIRE 9 NOTTINGHAMSHIRE 1

Junior Division East

NORFOLK 4 BEDFORDSHIRE 6

ESSEX 8 HERTFORDSHIRE 2

With the tension of previous meetings noticeably absent, a straightforward win for Essex despite opening set win by Micky Harper 16, 19 over Micky Read. Best player on view: Robert Hellaby who won his three sets easily. The division virtually safe for the 4th year (and 8th year in 9!).

HUNTINGDONSHIRE 8 CAMBRIDGESHIRE 2

Two more singles wins for John Last (now 7/10) but taken to 19 in 3rd by Clive Dellar. First "double" for Paul MacArthur who also won BD with Graham Martin.

Junior Division West

SOMERSET 3 MONMOUTHSHIRE 7

GLAMORGAN 8 WILTSHIRE 2

GLOUCESTERSHIRE 6 WORCESTERSHIRE 4

Gloucestershire's three boys bid farewell to Junior play with their first team win for 2 seasons. Their two lads, Terrett and Andrews, unbeaten in singles but dropped BD 17, -13, -9 to Trevor Gatfield and David Murphy.

COUNTY DIARY

FIXTURES AND VENUES FOR MARCH, 1970

PREMIER DIVISION

Mar. 14	Yorkshire v. Sussex,	Messrs. Fields & Co., Clayton Road, Bradford.	7-15 p.m.
" 21	Cheshire v. Surrey,	Smith's Industries, Waterloo Road, Staples Corner, N.W.2.	7-15 p.m.
	Middlesex v. Kent,	Smith's Industries, Waterloo Road, Staples Corner, N.W.2.	7-15 p.m.
	Sussex v. Northumberland,	Smith's Industries, Waterloo Road, Staples Corner, N.W.2.	7-15 p.m.
	Yorkshire v. Essex,	Messrs Fields & Co., Clayton Road, Bradford.	7-15 p.m.

SECOND DIVISION SOUTH

Mar. 21	Bucks. v. Middlesex II,	Slough Community Centre, Farnham Road, Slough.	7-00 p.m.
	Essex II v. Herts,	Y.M.C.A., Rush Green Road, Romford.	7-00 p.m.
	Kent II v. Surrey II,	Satellitth Youth Centre, Grosvenor Recreation Ground, Tunbridge Wells.	7-00 p.m.

SECOND DIVISION NORTH

Mar. 14	Northumberland v. Durham.		
" 21	Lancashire v. Yorkshire II,	Y.M.C.A., Blackburn.	6-30 p.m.
	Lincs. v. Cumberland.		

SECOND DIVISION MIDLAND

Mar. 21	Derbys. v. Glamorgan,	The Police Station, New Beetwell Street, Chesterfield.	7-00 p.m.
" 22	Notts. v. Monmouths.		
	Staffs. v. Warwicks.,	Woodfield Sports & Social Club, Penn, Wolverhampton.	3-30 p.m.

SECOND DIVISION WEST

Mar. 7	Worcs. v. Somerset,	Cripplegate Pavilion, Tyebridge Street, Worcester.	7-00 p.m.
" 21	Cornwall v. Devon.		
	Dorset v. Wiltshire,	The Youth Centre, Colliton Street, Dorchester.	7-15 p.m.
	Hampshire v. Gloucs.,	Winton & Moordown School, Coronation Avenue, Winton, Bournemouth.	7-00 p.m.
Apr. 4	Devon v. Worcestershire,	Sports Hall, Bideford.	7-15 p.m.

SOUTHERN DIVISION

Mar. 7	Buckinghamshire II v. Berkshire.		
	Hampshire II v. Oxfordshire,	Tanners Brook Infants School, Millbrook, Southampton.	7-00 p.m.
" 14	Oxfordshire v. Buckinghamshire II,	St. Margarets Hall, Polstead Road, Oxford.	6-30 p.m.
	Worcestershire II v. Hampshire II.		

JUNIOR SOUTHERN DIVISION

Mar. 21	Berkshire v. Buckinghamshire,	Gordon County Secondary School, Maidenhead.	3-30 p.m.
	Middlesex v. Kent,	Smith's Industries, Waterloo Road, Staples Corner, N.W.2.	3-00 p.m.
	Surrey v. Sussex,	Goblins, Ermine Way, Leatherhead.	3-30 p.m.

JUNIOR NORTHERN DIVISION

Mar. 14	Northumberland v. Durham.		
" 21	Lancashire v. Yorkshire,	Y.M.C.A., Blackburn.	2-00 p.m.

JUNIOR MIDLAND DIVISION

Mar. 21	Leicestershire v. Warwickshire,	Knighton Park T.T.C., Avenue Road Extension, Leicester.	3-00 p.m.
	Northamptonshire v. Staffordshire,	Doddridge Church Rooms, Doddridge Street, Northampton.	6-30 p.m.

JUNIOR EASTERN DIVISION

Mar. 7	Norfolk v. Hertfordshire,	Youth Centre, Dereham.	2-30 p.m.
" 14	Hertfordshire v. Bedfordshire.		
" 21	Huntingdonshire v. Essex,	St. Neots Table Tennis Club, St. Neots.	3-00 p.m.
	Suffolk v. Norfolk,	New Village Hall, Mutford, Nr. Lowestoft.	3-00 p.m.

JUNIOR NORTHERN DIVISION

Mar. 21	Cheshire v. Northumberland		
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County Championships Round-up

by JOHN WRIGHT

MIDDLESEX SPRING SURPRISE

High spot of the month, the 5-4 win by Middlesex over title favourites Yorkshire. Middlesex must now take over this position and their clash on March 21st, with Kent, should draw a good crowd (match not at Southall, though).

In 2nd South. Bucks stride on while Northumberland II in 2nd North could make history by being the first side to challenge to keep up their first team (and themselves!). Staffs shocked by Glamorgan which virtually assures Warwicks of 2nd Midland while 2 West has at last become clearer with everything to play for when Devon play Worcs on April 4th. Somerset still in with a good chance here.

Premier Division

MIDDLESEX 5 YORKSHIRE 4
M. Sugden lost to D. Neale 20, -16, -16; lost to A. Hydes -16, -16.
O. Haslam bt Neale 17, 10; bt J. Kedge 20, 20.
B. Wright lost to Hydes -14, -12; bt Kedge 10, -16, 12.
Haslam/Sugden lost to Hydes/Neale -10, -9.
Mrs. K. Mathews bt Miss L. Bashford 10, 17.
Wright/Mrs. Mathews bt Kedge/Miss Bashford 8, -20, 17.

Middlesex had it all worked out; 2 from Karenza, 2 wins over Kedge, 1 win over Hydes. Their best crowd of the season (well done, Southall G-T) saw "Les" Haslam slaughter Denis Neale in the opening set to confound all predictions. I have not seen "Les" so good for a whole set before — Neale quite demoralised. Hydes too good for Sugden, Brian Wright flattered to win 12 in 3rd over John Kedge in a nervy set. XD won despite loss of a 15-9 lead in 2nd and deficit of 12-16 in 3rd. Barely token resistance in MD and then Karenza duly notched her 2nd success to make score 4-2. Sugden v Neale excellent entertainment — fine rallies with Neale having just

a little in hand. Hydes outclassed Wright so it was 4-all. This was a different Haslam—more than a little fortunate to win in straight games over a brave Kedge who fought all the time. But oh! the memory of that opening set.

SURREY 6 SUSSEX 3

C. Warren bt P. Williams -19, 15, 17; bt R. Chandler 17, -19, 12.
R. Penfold bt Williams -11, 19, 15; lost to S. Ogundipe -15, -15.
B. Hill lost to Chandler -14, -21; bt Ogundipe 19, 16.
Hill/Penfold lost to Chandler/Williams 13, -16, -15.
Mrs. M. Wright bt Miss J. Williams 16, 18.
Warren/Mrs. Wright bt Ogundipe/Miss Williams -21, 18, 10.

6-3, a little flattering to Surrey, and this result puts Sussex in real danger of the drop.

ESSEX 6 KENT 3

C. Barnes bt A. Pidcock 14, 16; bt D. Basden 14, 19.
D. Brown bt Pidcock 16, 18; bt H. Buist 17, 13.
P. Radford lost to Basden -13, -15; bt Buist -18, 16, 15.
Barnes/Brown lost to Buist/Pidcock -17, -13.
Mrs. L. Radford lost to Mrs. P. Pidcock 12, -19, -13.
Radford/Mrs. Radford bt Basden/Mrs. Pidcock 19, 22.

A highly slippery floor affected Kent more than Essex.

NORTHUMBERLAND 5

CHESHIRE 4
B. Burn lost to M. Johns -19, 17, -14; bt B. Kean 11, 17.
R. Kettlewell lost to Johns -17, -18; bt D. Schofield 18, -17, 15.
S. Lennie bt Kean -16, 13, 16; lost to Schofield -15, 8, -18.
Burn/Lennie bt Kean/Schofield -22, 13, 18.
Mrs. M. Robson bt Mrs. D. Schofield 13, 13.
Kettlewell/Mrs. Robson lost to Johns Mrs. Schofield -18, -20.

A fine tussle, with a disappointing crowd seeing a see-saw match. Derek Schofield retrieved well and Stuart Lennie to put the visitors 2-1 up, which became 3-1 then 3-2 after XD. Maureen Robson too strong for Doreen Schofield and then in the best set of the afternoon, Brian Burn held Mike Johns till nearly the end of the 3rd before fading. Lennie had a little to spare v Kean and then Ron Kettlewell mixed fast loops, kills and drop-shots to overcome Schofield and notch Northumberland's first Premier victory.

Second Division South

HERTFORDSHIRE 9 SUFFOLK 1

No trouble for Herts although (as so often) below strength. Valerie Scripps recovered from 0-8 to 15-all in 1st v Linda Woodcock and eventually won 21, -19, 12 in the best set.

KENT II 2 ESSEX II 8

Good win for Essex, with Steve Smith beating Clive Morris and Robert Hellaby accounting for John Dabin (both in straight games).

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE 10 HERTFORDSHIRE 0

All straight — no trouble. Bucks took only 100 minutes to lead 6-0.

SUFFOLK 1 MIDDLESEX II 9

SURREY II 10 SUFFOLK 0

Second Division North

NORTHUMBERLAND II 8 CUMBERLAND 2

The home men dominant, but Cumberland women showed their worth. Unbeaten WS record retained by Clarice Rose. Good debut by Terry Hart to demonstrate reserve strength of the division leaders.

CHESHIRE II 1 NORTHUMBERLAND II 9

CUMBERLAND 2 LANCASHIRE 8
An interesting match, with Clarice Rose losing her record (but it took Di Johnson to do it!) and home wins in MD and by Bernard Hand (over Tony Boasman).

YORKSHIRE II 7 LINCOLNSHIRE 3

Fine match for Nicky Jarvis, and great determination shown by Val King to beat Connie Moran -22, 24, 18 after trailing 15-20 in 2nd. Brian Hill did well for the visitors as did Janet White and Connie Moran.

Second Division Midland

DERBYSHIRE 1 WARWICKSHIRE 9

A splendid opening set won by Derek Munt 13, -13, 22 over Tony Hunt was not a foretaste of things to come. Play got very scrappy and Warwicks easy winners.

GLAMORGAN 6 STAFFORDSHIRE 4

LEICESTERSHIRE 2 NOTTINGHAMSHIRE 8

A rather inept display with only the unbeaten Rita Stevenson seeming to be able to break the Notts stranglehold.

Second Division West

GLOUCESTERSHIRE 5 WORCESTERSHIRE 5

A doubles "bleeding" for junior Ian Terrett and a second appearance by another junior Gillian Wetmore. All the home successes came, however, from MS, with Stuart Griffin having his best match to date.

DEVON 6 DORSET 4

Dorset a shade unlucky not to take a point. Trevor Smith in excellent form for them and with Mike Rattue winning 2 for Devon much depended on the Pam Mortimer v Joyce Coop clash. Pam did well to win -18, 22, 21 after trailing 1-9 in 2nd. Excellent Exmouth conditions.

SOMERSET 6 HAMPSHIRE 4

Home men and visiting women decided this close match before a capacity crowd. Eric Hall and Tony Kinsey again outstanding.

WILTSHIRE 8 CORNWALL 2

Wilts steamed to a 5-0 lead in little over an hour before Sheila Rapsey

got Cornwall off the mark. Bob Parkins scored their other success, hitting well against Mike Andrews. Another good match for Bill Moulding, and Richard Arney also unbeaten.

Southern Division

BERKSHIRE 8 WORCESTERSHIRE II 2

BERKSHIRE 7 OXFORDSHIRE 3

WORCESTERSHIRE II 1 BUCKINGHAMSHIRE II 9

Another case of "fading" by Worcs who became rather dispirited when losing all four of the first six sets which went to 3. Another expedite for John Bell (with Tom McMichael) but only 9 points needed to see Bell win 14, 16.

Midland Division

DENBIGHSHIRE 2 DERBYSHIRE II 8

D. Marples in good form for the visitors as was Rose Higgins for Denbighs (she beat Diane Maxfield comfortably to record only home singles win).

STAFFORDSHIRE II 3 WARWICKSHIRE II 7

Eastern Division

CAMBRIDGESHIRE 5 NORTHAMPTONSHIRE 5

Northants took all three doubles to counter Cambs superiority in singles. Alan Ponder and Ken Muhr each had two singles wins and George Tsow saved a point for Northants beating Stephen Andrews in the final set.

HUNTINGDONSHIRE 1 BEDFORDSHIRE 9

Peter Taylor, on debut for the visitors, never troubled.

HERTFORDSHIRE II 4 NORFOLK 6

Jack Baxter, on debut, gave Herts an early lead but after that they had three times to level the scores. The home women too strong but the visiting men dropped only that opening set and from 4-all Norfolk well worth their win.

Junior Division South

HAMPSHIRE 8 BERKSHIRE 2

An exciting BD, won -15, 19, 22 by Philip Crane and Skip Iacona over Keith Cox (two singles wins) and Keith Matthews. Last Junior appearance by Stuart Tannahill, a "regular" for almost 5 seasons.

SURREY 2 MIDDLESEX 8

An excellent performance by the visitors with both Robert Aldrich and David Jemmett beating Paul Bishop (the latter after trailing 10-15 in 3rd) and Christine Mann surprising Sue Howard. Neither Mark Faherty nor L. Parodi (both on debut) did himself justice, both showing nerves, but Parodi gave glimpses of real potential v Jemmett.

SUSSEX 1 KENT 9

Junior Division North

CUMBERLAND 0 LANCASHIRE 10

Lancs much superior — their Donald Parker (at 14) an excellent prospect.



ORVILLE BARRINGTON "LES" HASLAM
(Middlesex)