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Table Tennis News

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Edited by George Yates

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Farewell —

Richard 'the Lionheart'



Photo by Peter Madge

This month's Star Feature

7th European Championships

by **GEORGE R. YATES**

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What Price Glory?

THE question might well be posed "so what if we didn't do all that well in Moscow, what does it matter, we were there?"

Oh yes, we were indeed, and also at Munich, at Lyons, and in Stockholm but what did we achieve? And what is to be achieved if we send teams to Japan for the next World Championships?

Table tennis is a competitive sport and a winning team is one that furthers it as witness the fanaticism displayed in the Eissporthalle, Munich when the host country reached the final of the men's team championship to oppose Japan in the last World Championships.

There wasn't a seat to be had in the stadium for that particular match and that is precisely where the difference lies between having a winning team and one on the lower rungs of the ladder.

It is the box office that matters. Note well the receipts of England's match against Ireland in the recent home international football match at Wembley. No great attraction really. But compare them with the takings at the Empire Pool and Sports Arena on the occasion of the 5th European Table Tennis Championships in the same locale.

Had it been English teams on the topmost level of the rostrum in Moscow's Palace of Sports, and not those of Sweden and the host country, doubts could well have been banished. But whilst we remain in the category of also-rans it is asking a lot of the fickle English public to roll up in their thousands.

Time, however, is still on our side but the lessons of Moscow must not go unheeded insofar as we must instill into our players the urgent necessity of fighting for every point and that selection for such high-ranking tournaments is demanding of 100% concernment with just that.

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 Keith Watts and George R. Yates.

In Memoriam

RICHARD BERGMANN

'Mr. Sportsman'



by Hon. Ivor Montagu

Richard Bergmann—"Mr. Table Tennis" as the popular press at one time called him—died this April in a London nursing home at the age of 50.

Yet there always seemed to be something boyish about him. Consciously or unconsciously he seemed to feel that too, and there was more to it than the professional interests of a show business star in his regular habit of coyness about his age. One charming story he used to tell about himself. A companion of the Harlem Globe Trotters outfit not so very long ago asked Richard how old he was. "Thirty", replied Richard without a blush. "My Mr. Bergmann" exclaimed the astonished basket ball player, "those must have been thirty rough old years."

Someone once said he had discovered the secret of eternal youth. "Perpetual juvenile delinquency, you mean," growled a cynic who was standing by. Yet even this critic would have been the first to recognise the unspoiled, innocent quality amid all the squabbles and ructions that surrounded Richard, the endearing simplicity he never lost and which meant that throughout his life he seldom, if ever, lost a friend.

He did face ordeals in his life. It was lived in hard times which no action of his could have avoided. Born to a Jewish family in Vienna, the son of a Polish father and an Italian mother, Hitler took his Austrian fatherland away from him and joined it to Germany. Welcomed at once in Britain, he had to live stateless for many years, joined the army to land in France on D-Day and became a sergeant, then took British nationality and finally ended up under the jurisdiction of the United States T.T.A. I remember once catching him in the Wembley dressing-room before one of his World Championships finals, resting alone with half-closed eyes stretched out on one of the hard wooden benches as was his wont before important matches. He knew that the E.T.T.A. had been having an argument with the then Wembley boss, Elvin, who had a showman's penchant for displaying flags and playing national anthems at every opportunity. "What will they play if

I win?" he asked me with a grin. "The Lambeth Walk?"

Quite Unnecessary

Yet partly the complications of his life were of his own making. There was no need whatever for most of the scrapes that he got into; his quarrels with authority—he was twice suspended by the E.T.T.A.—were mostly quite unnecessary, he could easily have got permission to do the things that he preferred to do as a defiant gesture, flouting rules; his marriage was a mistake; he was always dreaming of immense wealth never to be attained; his business ventures often ended in confusion—the official magazine once included in a single issue advertisements from two different firms each proclaiming exclusive authorisation for sale of a different "Bergmann" bat and ball; his wartime offer to play against anyone for £1,000 (a fictitious figure anyway) ended not only in financial chaos but almost the only ignominious defeat of his career; and his endeavour to devalue the 1947 World Championships in Paris (from which he stood aside) by distributing on finals night some thousands of leaflets challenging the winner was easily frustrated—as he might have foreseen—by the French T.T. Federation paying Richard's hired distributors a few francs more to hand over their bundles and go off home to bed.

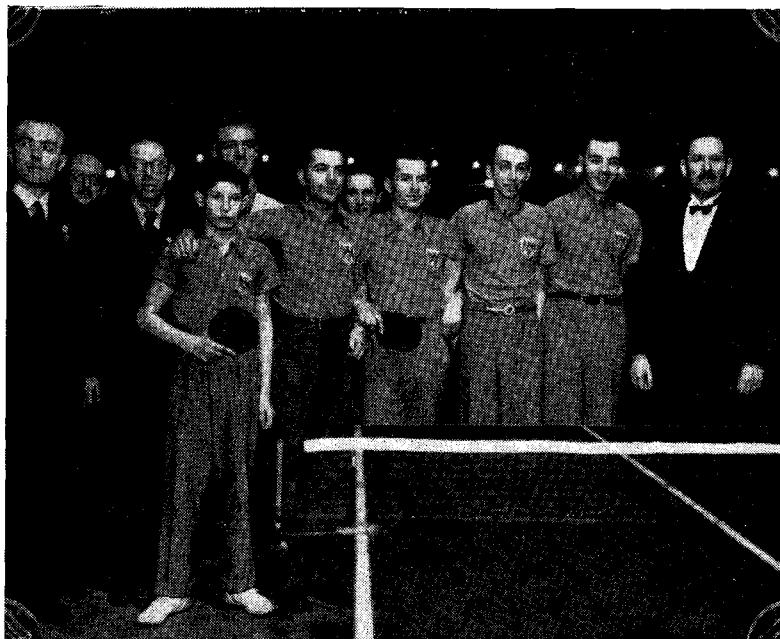
He was determined above all to assert himself as a tough guy, a "non-nonsense" professional, in a Table Tennis age in which the player could do more or less what he liked so long as he did not call himself by the forbidden word. He set himself an ideal image of ruthless "tycoonery at

the table" and egoistic selfishness that he was quite unable to live up to for it was utterly alien to his character. Not only was he inwardly gentle, amiable, even lovable, and decent but his Achilles heel in all this show of hardness was that he loved the game to the point of total absorption. Whatever he might say he loved it, not as others might primarily do for fame or a career, but because he simply adored playing it. In the strictly literal sense of the word he was the most truly amateur player I ever knew.

He longed to be thought tricky, but because of this basic simplicity it was often others who deceived him. Before play began he would make a parade of gamesmanship—even to the point of the ludicrous. In Tokyo at a World Championship he once held up the start of a match for over twenty minutes (we had to invent a new rule specially to deal with such a situation) pretending before the crowd to examine literally scores of the balls offered without finding one good enough to play with, solely to advertise the brand that bore his own name and had not gained selection. But once the play was in progress, he was a different man. I never saw him, in all the course of his long career, do the slightest unsporting thing. In combat, he was the perfect chevalier—the greatest, most inexorable match fighter I ever saw at any sport, and yet under absolute control from first to last. No one ever saw him, even under the greatest stress, indulge in a single unsporting act or gesture.

Perfect Model

Off the table, his own worst enemy. At the table, a perfect model. In both



Austria's winning team Prague 1935-6 in a Final v. Rumania which lasted about 12 hours and spread over 3 nights. Left to right: R. Bergmann (16 years old, won 3), E. Kohn, H. Hartinger, Goebel (16 years old), A. Liebster. Behind Bergmann is A. J. Wilmott.

these aspects there was something, as I have insisted, of innocence and constant youth. This is not a bad epitaph.

I well remember the impact when Richard first burst upon the astonished table tennis world.

It was at the ninth World Championships, held in Prague in 1936. This was the celebrated event at which Ehrlich of Poland and Paneth of Rumania played their famous point lasting many hours, while an emergency meeting of the World Championships Jury was held at the table-side so that Ehrlich, as a member, could take part without interrupting his game. During the discussion Ehrlich drank tea with one hand while keeping the ball in play with the other. His Rumanian opponent protested vigorously that the Jury should order Ehrlich to hit. "Why me rather than you" demanded Ehrlich between sips. "Because you can and I can't," frankly retorted the Rumanian. The trouble was that the organisers (the pre-war Czechoslovak T.T.A.) had provided extremely slow tables foreseeing that this would be an advantage to their players who were strong in defence. But the Rumanians, outdid them. They hit nothing, attempted nothing, merely kept the ball low in the centre of the table. Catching the hitherto all-conquering Hungarians early on a morning-after-the-night-before with sleep still in their eyes, they walked all over them, spread panic in all the following rounds and coasted into the final.

Here it was left for the Austrians, who could play and of all the skilled teams had best adapted their style, to battle for the honour of table tennis against these disconcerting novices. The Austrians had Liebster, a tall all-round player of great experience and the highest class, and two sixteen-year-old youngsters. Both were defensive, both had quick footwork, in the preliminary matches, both had equally good results. One was tallish and rather weeding-looking. The other—Richard—was a frail creature with match-stick limbs, penetrating eyes and enormous ears. He was brimming with character. Anyone with the slightest discernment could see at first glance he was a genius. The Austrians played both. The match was spread over three nights—on the first it was stopped by the police who cleared the hall at about 2 a.m. When the dust settled Austria had won their first and only Swaythling Cup. Liebster took 2 sets. No one beat Richard.

World Champion

The very next year, still only 17, at

Baden-by-Vienna Richard won his first Men's Singles Championship of the World. Already he was filling out fast, and becoming the sturdy strong-chested athlete of his later years.

In all, Bergmann won four World Singles Titles: two before the war, in 36/7 and 38/9, two after it, in 47/8 and 49/50. How many he would have totalled if his career had not been interrupted by the war years is anybody's guess. He was only once beaten in the final (in 37/8). The English Open Singles Title he won 6 times (38/9, 39/40, 47/8, 49/50, 51/2 and 53/4); he won the World Men's Doubles, with Barna, in 38/9 and the English Open Doubles four times with different partners: Liebster, Flisberg, Barna and Leach, in 39/40, 47/8, 48/9 and 52/3. He was the lynch-pin not only of the only Austrian team to win the Swaythling Cup, in 1935/6, but also of the only England team ever to win it, in 1952/3. An amazing record.

What made Richard such a formidable opponent? It was not primarily his defence, as so many thought, at least not primarily defence as a style. He used defence to break the heart of his opponent. What enabled him to win was his physical fitness, his quick intelligence, his games—player's intuition, his powerful will, his character perpetually testing out and striving to dominate his challenger. I must admit that many of today's table tennis matches appear duller to me than I used to find matches in the old days. Partly, of course, this may be just that I am older in myself, and a 'square'. But partly, I am convinced, it is too often because the modern half-volley match is played not as a contest of will and intelligence but as a single style gamble, one shot and one tactic played by and against every opponent. One wins if one is on-form; if one is off-form or if one's opponent happens to be in still better form one just loses and shrugs one's shoulders. The idea of becoming a master of many shots, studying one's opponents style and adapting one's own to meet it, changing if need be as he changes, slowing down, or speeding up, raising one's accuracy at the crisis to crush the effort of one's opponent, all this is slightly out of fashion. The greatest contests of the old days were combats that exhausted every last resource of skill, will, fitness, intelligence and character.

Inexorable Grip

Richard was primarily a chop defender. But he was far from only that. I have seen him reduce to nothing a wild hitter in invincible form solely by actively half-volleying the

opponent so that the latter became outpaced and winded simply by the continuous speed with which such returns forced him to keep up his attack. On the other hand I have seen him bringing an all-round opponent to despair by the tightness and inexorability of his grip and then crush him with a sudden unexpected hit. The weight of his opposing will was such that in more than one way the opponent's collapse would come from what would look—to the public—was a winning position and a leading score.

Richard's real secret was that he so loved the game that he could sacrifice for it and train his body to be hard, his nerve of iron, his enjoyment such he never had to hurry. He could work and wait for his opportunity and pounce upon it. He could play every stage of the game and every stroke on its merits. He knew that more than half one's opponents score is made up of one's own mistakes. By not making his own at the wrong time, by having what chess-players call the more *sitzfleisch*—though of course for him it was not sitting but running—he could make it that not he, but the other, gave in.

In all his messes and confusions I never knew Richard lose either his tranquillity or his sense of humour. I never knew him to bear malice. He would play his heart out for any team of which he was a member. His teammates had confidence in him and it was never misplaced.

Impossible to Select

One year—it was the year the Championships were held in Bombay, the first time a world event at any sport had been conducted in Asia—Richard turned up late to the trials and it was impossible to select him. He had been giving exhibitions in Paris—at music-halls and night-clubs—was out of practice and, for once, below peak fitness and, therefore, slow. Everybody beat him. Because of the distance and cost we were sending that year only four, but, we said, we would keep the last place open till entries closed and if by then he could prove form and fitness and pay for himself he might have it. This self-vauntingly most professional of men set himself to achieve the target. He did, and in India played so unselfishly and effectively for the side, that the E.T.T.A. was shamed into reimbursing him the fare. Another time E.T.T.A. officials and team-mates could not forbear to present him spontaneously on the return plane journey with a round robin testimonial of their appreciation. The *ewige Junge* was bewildered and



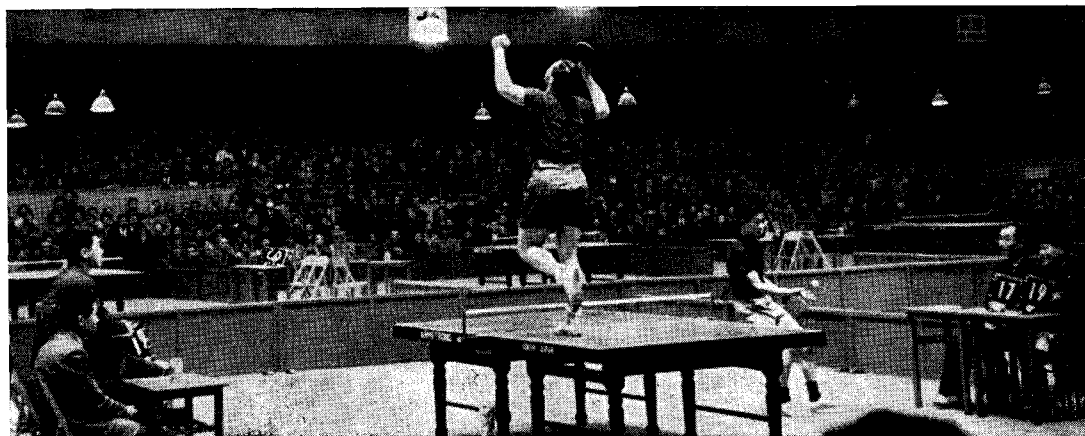
Richard Bergmann and Aubrey Simons (Gloucs.) before their departure for the 1953 World Championships in Bucharest where, with Johnny Leach and Brian Kennedy, England won the Swaythling Cup. In the final they beat Hungary, represented by Sido, Koczian and Gyetvai 5-3, Bergmann losing only to Ferenc Sido.

handled the scroll as if it would burn his fingers.

Doubtless it was because he was so deeply in love with play that he never retired from it to life in trade or office or administration, as other talented players have done, but kept up his globe-trotting and exhibition-playing much longer than his contemporaries indeed right to the end. With Barna, Leach and after them many others, he must have carried the gospel of table tennis into nearly every continent and scores of countries. No matter what corns and rules he trod upon in the course of these adventures, no matter the aura of insurrections against authority with which he sometimes surrounded himself, sensible administrators have always been aware how much the spread of the game, and the growth of the I.T.T.F. itself to over 90 member countries, owes to Richard's tireless wanderings—albeit in the course of his chosen livelihood—as (indirectly) its foremost missionary.

Slowed Down

Of course, despite his exceptionally long championship-playing career, and the premier titles won when he was past thirty, his game much slowed down towards the end. The public had never realised how much his ubiquity in defence—the fact that wherever the ball was hit he always seemed there to get it—owed not to sheer speed but to anticipation based on experience, the limitations imposed by his own tactics in general and last preceding shot. This had always been so and finally became more so. His rare losses—for example the time that he was quite outplayed by the U.S. player Garrett Nash on the occasion of his famous £1,000 challenge—were often due to some unanticipated factor. Nash was one of those comparatively rare and fortunate players who are able to hit the ball with no swing back, and so both late and giving away no clue as to its direction. Against sponge it was a similar problem: the trajectory of the sponge-struck ball was different from that he was used to and he could not foresee the height at which it would reach



BERGMANN WALKS THE TABLE!

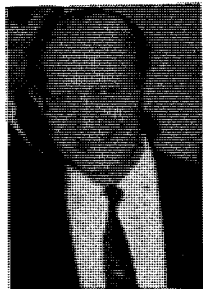
him. Younger, no doubt, he could have mastered this, but for him its general introduction came too late.

On the whole, I believe, despite his troubles Richard had a happy as he certainly had a useful, life. It is not given to many to live the life they wish and for which they have an aptitude, and with such distinction. There was little warning of the brain tumour that made him giddy at first, then struck him down in the midst of a coaching engagement. Though it was kept from him he must have known, what his friends soon learned that his case was hopeless. His sisters and brother came from the U.S.A. to care for his last weeks.

At first I hardly recognised this shrunken close-cropped victim in the nursing home private room. Suddenly one knew again the twinkling eye, the quizzical glance, and saw once more, despite the suffering, not the sturdy, powerful athlete of his prime, but the skinny precocious prodigy of his teen's. He could understand but not speak, and one talked not so much to the patient as of and around him to his brother, saying the things one hoped he would like to hear. He took in every word and, though bodily immobile from paralysis, grasped one's hand tight before one turned to go. **Farewell, Richard, not Mr. Table Tennis only, but Mr. Sportsman.**

BERGMANN

A Tribute from



Victor Barna

Richard Bergmann; How many times have I felt that I could write books and books about this colourful and vivid personality, but now that I want to write a short tribute to him I find that this is not so easy as I thought. May be his early death stunned us all in the table tennis world, and personally I have not recovered from the shock yet.

There is no need to mention his records—they are outstanding and speak for themselves. He was one of the greatest players if not the greatest in the world, and surely his marvellous retrieving and amazing ball control will be remembered by everyone who has ever seen him.

Table tennis was his life. He sacrificed everything for it, and in spite of the fact that he was for many years the most controversial figure in the game, he has never done any harm to anyone. It was really his naivety and wanting to achieve his ambitions that some times got him into trouble, but you could not be angry with Richard. With his childish smile, he disarmed everybody who had any grudge against him, and I am not exaggerating when I say he was loved and liked



Richard Bergmann: His "killer" instinct won for him four men's singles world titles

everywhere he travelled, and players of today, especially youngsters, could learn a lot from his behaviour at the table and the way he fought to the last and gave everything he had.

There was never a player who was physically fitter than he, and one of his mottos was that whilst he was at the table he still had a chance. Who could forget his prank at the 1956 World Championship in Tokyo where he found himself behind against Tanaka in one of the latter rounds of the Championship? The ball broke, and he tried about 30 dozen balls and it was about 45 minutes before the game was resumed. Also who could forget his battles against Vana and Andreadis at Wembley which helped the game to be as popular as it is today?

I suppose I can say I knew him very well because the first time I met him was in Prague in the 1936 World Championships, and then toured with him for many years. Yet it is difficult to say that there is anybody who really knew him, as he liked to play the role of the lone wolf, keeping his thoughts and private life to himself. To illustrate what I say, it is only now that I learn that besides his mother he had 4 sisters and a brother living in New York, all of whom came over to comfort him and be with him during his long illness. His greatest ambition was to become the Jack Kramer of table tennis, and accordingly he organised some professional tours which were not very popular with the organising bodies. He arranged one in Australia against the wishes of the Australian Association, and as a result he not only lost all his money but got into debt. Last November I visited Australia and I was told that to his credit, even though it took years, he settled all his debts.

At the table he was just as honest, and I vividly remember the World Championship where at 19—all in a very important match the Umpire made a mistake in his favour. It was practically a deciding point, yet he pointed out to the Umpire that he was wrong. So instead of being 20-19 up, he was 20-19 down. Very few people would do that sort of thing, it just shows the real character of Richard.

I could go on and on; he was gay, he liked girls, he could not resist gambling, but first and foremost his

life was table tennis. Many times he had the chance to get a permanent well paid job, but he preferred touring, playing and giving exhibitions, and he enjoyed playing to the very last. Most people may not know that he was not feeling well for the last two or three years, but Doctors could not find anything wrong with him. During the last twelve months he was considered to have a lack of sugar, but two days before his collapse he was in London seeing his Doctor. He phoned me from Paddington Station saying laughingly that he now had too much sugar. But enough of the sad things, I want to, and I will, remember him as the gay, carefree person he was, and the game he played, the footwork, the fighting spirit, and his approach to table tennis.

I may be repeating what so many people have already said, and many more will say, that his departure will make the sport of table tennis the poorer for it.

Richard, you can rest assured that those who have seen you play, and those who only heard of you, will always remember the legendary name of **Richard Bergmann**.

Memories of BERGMANN



by Johnny Leach

I travelled the World with Richard Bergmann, and in his cheery company the miles and the hours sped lightly by.

Often we were relentless rivals on the table, but this was never allowed to affect our friendship. Richard was a man to respect, as well as to like for his word was his bond.

As a player he had no peer by my reckoning. He won four World Singles Titles as opposed to Victor Barna's five, but I feel sure Richard would have been champion more times but for the war, during which he served bravely in the British Forces.

Bergmann was the finest tactician, and the greatest fighter I have seen. He could be two sets and 11-19 down in the third, and still no one in the hall who knew Richard would be willing to back his opponent to win.

My outstanding memory of him as a player was at the 1948 World Championships at Wembley. Throughout the Swaythling Cup event he was out of touch, but he never stopped fighting on England's behalf. When the team event finished he had 36



Johnny Leach, Zarko Dolinar (Yugoslavia), Richard Bergmann and Josip Vogrinc (Yugoslavia)

hours in which to try and regain his form for the individual events, and he spent virtually the whole of that time on the practice tables.

On the first morning of the men's singles I thought he looked tired, haggard and even more out of form. His opponent, a fierce Czech hitter, had him two sets and 2-10 down in the third, and for once I thought: "even Richard can't save this one".

But he did. They used to say that Bergmann had the power of hypnosis over his opponents, and this time I believed it for the Czech suddenly and unaccountably made up his mind to stop hitting and to consolidate. The change of tactics played right into Bergmann's hands. He hit back to win this game in the fifth, and never looked back again until he had clinched the World Title for the third time.

Table tennis players throughout the World owe a debt to Richard Bergmann. He pioneered professionalism in every sense, often at his own cost for he was a gambler and an unlucky one. Richard hated to lose, yet he was a good loser, and never harboured a grudge. He will be missed by all who knew him, most especially by those of us who were his team mates.

Given normal luck he was invincible. What he achieved with the little he had was remarkable. But in his last great fight his luck ran out on him just when he needed it most.



At the European Championships — Wembley 1966

At the World Championships in Stockholm (1957), he introduced two alarm clocks in his match against Toma Reiter of Rumania. He didn't succeed in his campaign to win the match in his special way—time limit expert as he was—but it characterized

the mentality of Bergmann even as a veteran.

Bergmann is no longer on earth, but in our memories he will survive. May he rest in peace".

MASTER POINTS SCHEME

£10 for the 1000th Club Master

Patience and loyalty has certainly paid off for M. J. Nash of 63 Jumpers Avenue, Christchurch, Hants, for his collection of Master Points earned in the Bournemouth League dates back to the 1963/64 season, and his recent registration as a Club Master was the 1,000th since the Scheme began. This has earned Mr. Nash the prize of £10 which has been on offer for most of this season to the lucky person to receive the registration number of 1,000.

Watch these pages for further incentive offers—it could be £20 next time!

The most successful winner of Master Points in the 1969/70 County Championships programme was Alan Hydes of Yorkshire, with a total of 160 points. Alan won both of his singles in six out of the seven Premier Division matches in which he played.

LETTERS to the Editor

ANTHOLOGY

WHILST Richard Bergmann was a patient in the South London hospital, I made the suggestion that eventually a book be written—I feel in the form of an anthology—a collection of memoirs, reminiscences, about the great man who really did a lot for table tennis.

His family agreed and I am quite prepared to do the initial preparation eventually for someone else to polish up for publication. Meantime, all such contributions would be welcomed.

I also feel that many people might like to formally express their condolences to the Bergmann family and such should be sent to Miss Rose Bergmann, 1515 Selwyn Avenue, Apartment H.1, Bronx 10457, New York, U.S.A.

AUBREY HILL.

31 Byron Avenue, Coulsdon, Surrey.

ANY OFFERS?

I still get numerous enquiries for details of table tennis marathons. I have now been unofficial secretary for marathons for some five years. There is money to be made by these efforts. Twelve months ago Exmouth played 100 hours and raised over £400.

If there is any willing person who would take over from me I should be pleased to hear from him. My files, records and marathon details will be posted on.

BRIAN T. WORTS.

18 Danby Terrace, Exmouth, Devon.



C. J. Vos
Editor of
"TAFELTENNIS"
Holland.

Dutch Tribute

WRITING IN "TAFELTENNIS", the official magazine of the Nederlandse Tafeltennisbond, C. J. Vos pens the following:—

"He latterly took part in exhibition play during breaks by the Harlem Globetrotters, a name suitably applicable to Richard himself. He spoke several languages—even Dutch, which he learned whilst he was waiting to cross the rivers to liberate our country, as a member of the Allied Forces in 1944.

It will be given to few people to be a legend before they are expired. But Richard was!

How many nicknames he had! "The wizard of the white ball", "The impenetrable wall" . . . etc., etc.

Although many times he was involved in incidents, everyone respected him as a good sportsman who set value on good equipment and . . . female beauty!

He was an individualist and a great personality. But he also fought for his team. He had the reputation as a "money maker", but he was also one of the best propagandists for Table Tennis as a sportsman.

On top of his power, he was ready to give the utmost and perhaps that's one of the causes he died so young.

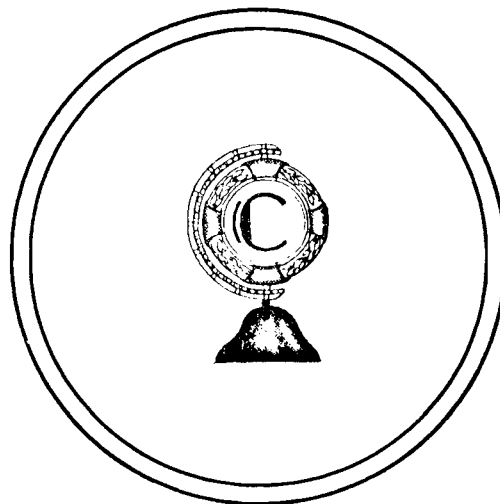
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—(A customer writing from Barnstaple—1968)

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ON THE INTERNATIONAL FRONT

by
The Editor

Election of Officers at the European Table Tennis Union Congress in Moscow resulted in the return to office (all unopposed) of Jupp Schlaf (President), Vaclav Vebr (Vice President) and Nancy Roy Evans (Secretary/Treasurer).

Three retiring members of the Management Committee (after serving 2 years) were re-elected as the result of a ballot. They were: Leonid Makarov of Russia (17 votes), Borivoje Popovic of Yugoslavia (17 votes) and Jean Mercier of France (10 votes).

Sven-Olaf Hammerlund of Sweden finally secured the remaining position, vacated by England's Conrad Jaschke, as the result of a re-ballot after he and Dr. Fach of East Germany had tied with 9 votes each. The re-ballot resulted in Sweden's representative obtained 13 votes to Dr. Fach's 8. Johnny Leach was an unsuccessful contender for a place on the Committee.

Jupp Schlaf brought up the question of the number of players allowed entry into the European Championships by the host country. He instanced that in the current tournament, Russia had 20 players which he considered too many. After discussion it was resolved to reduce that number to 16 in the ratio of 8 men and 8 women, or 10 men and 6 women.

APPROVED NATIONAL OPEN DATES

- Aug. 23—Italy.
- Sept. 25-27—Netherlands (Rotterdam).
- Oct. 24-26—Austria (Vienna).
- Nov. 1—Greece.
- Nov. 5-7—Yugoslavia.
- Nov. (late)—Scandinavia (Stockholm).
- Dec. 2-4—Poland.
- Dec 30/Jan. 2—Czechoslovakia.
- Feb. 4-5—East Germany (East Berlin).
- Feb. 25-27—**English Open.**
- Mar. 6-7—Welsh Open (Cardiff).
- Mar. 14-15—Scottish Open (Edinburgh).
- April 1-10—World Championships (Nagoya, Japan).
- Aug. 17-22—European Youth Championships (Ostend).

EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS OPTIONS

Holland will stage the next European Championships, in Rotterdam, from April 13-20, 1972. Options beyond then have been afforded the following countries:—

- 1974 Yugoslavia.
- 1976 Federal Germany.
- 1978, Hungary.
- 1980 Greece.

JAPAN TOUR

It is likely that a touring team from Japan will visit Europe from mid-October until the first week of November, this year. The visitors could well list England as their first stop, returning East by way of Federal Germany and Yugoslavia.

EUROPEAN YOUTH CHAMPIONSHIPS

To be played, for the first time in England, at Thornaby Pavilion, Teesside (August 4-9/1970) the following countries have signified their intention of sending teams:—

Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Federal Germany, France, Greece, Holland, Hungary, Luxembourg, Poland, Rumania, Russia, Scotland, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey and Yugoslavia.

Top seeds in the Boys' singles event are likely to be Tibor Klampar (Hungary) and Stellan Bengtsson (Sweden) and both, despite their tender years, are world-class players, as witness their performances in Moscow and in the European League.

EUROPEAN LEAGUE

Following their 3-4 loss to Hungary, in Budapest on 11th March, Sweden defeated Russia 6-1, in Moscow on 30th March, to take the Premier Division title of the European League for the first time. Both the Swedish and Soviet teams had five wins each but a superior sets average of 31-11 to Russia's 23-19 gave Sweden the title.

Russia's only win in Moscow was credited Zoya Rudnova who beat Birgitta Radberg.

Results:—

- Hungary 4 Sweden 3
- I. Jonyer lost to S. Bengtsson 20, -12, -16.
- T. Klampar bt B. Persson -14, 8, 21.
- B. Kishazi lost to L. Andersson 19, -18, -12.
- Jonyer/Klampar bt Bengtsson/Persson 16, 19.
- Jonyer/Kishazi bt Bengtsson/Andersson 12, -12, 19.
- Jonyer bt Persson 12, 4.
- Klampar lost to Bengtsson -18, 19, -19.

- U.S.S.R. 1 Sweden 6
- S. Gomozkov lost to H. Alser -11, -14.
- A. Amelin lost to K. Johansson 15, -9, -12.
- Z. Rudnova bt B. Radberg 20, 9.
- Amelin/Gomozkov lost to Alser/Johansson -19, -13.
- Gomozkov/Rudnova lost to Johansson/M. Neidert 15, -18, -17.
- Gomozkov lost to Johansson -13, -10.
- Amelin lost to Alser -16, -14.

- Czechoslovakia 1 Hungary 6
- M. Orlovski lost to Jonyer -18, -16.
- J. Turai lost to Klampar -19, -16.
- E. Kettnerova lost to Kishazi -20, -15.
- V. Miko/Turai bt Jonyer/Klampar 12, 16.
- Miko/Kettnerova lost to J. Borzsei/Kishazi 14, -18, -6.
- Orlovski lost to Klampar -17, -16.
- Turai lost to Jonyer -13, -17.

Only one match remains to be played and it is the all-important relegation battle between France and Federal Germany now arranged for 6th May in France. The final table otherwise reads:—

	P	W	L	F	A	Pts
Sweden	6	5	1	31	11	5
U.S.S.R.	6	5	1	23	19	5
Hungary	6	4	2	25	17	4
England	6	4	2	22	20	4
Czechoslovakia	6	2	4	18	24	2
Fed. Germany	5	0	5	12	23	0
France	5	0	5	9	26	0

Hungary's unexpected victories over Sweden and Czechoslovakia nudged England out of third place, a position no better or worse than last season.

Netherlands defeated Denmark 4-3 in their final match at Voorburg, in **Division 2**, the one outstanding result being that between Switzerland and Belgium. Table:

	P	W	L	F	A	Pts
Austria	6	6	0	35	7	6
Denmark	6	4	2	30	12	4
Netherlands	6	3	3	19	23	3
Belgium	5	2	3	16	19	2
Switzerland	5	2	3	14	21	2
Ireland	6	2	4	15	27	2
Luxembourg	6	1	5	11	31	1

WEST EUROPEAN DIVISION

Made up of Guernsey, Jersey, Scotland and Wales, the West European Div. was played off in its entirety in Edinburgh on March 13-15th with Scotland the winners being undefeated.

Results:

- Wales 7 Guernsey 1
- Scotland 6 Jersey 1

- Scotland 7 Guernsey 0
- Wales 5 Jersey 2
- Scotland 4 Wales 3
- Jersey 7 Guernsey 0

Scotland owed much to Malcolm Sugden for their all-important win over Wales the match details being:—

- M. Sugden bt A. Griffiths 10, 10.
- R. Yule lost to G. Davies -18, -14.
- L. Barrie lost to M. Phillips -21, -14.
- Sugden/E. Sutherland bt Davies/Griffiths -22, 11, 13.
- Sugden/Barrie bt Davies/Phillips 17, 14.
- Yule lost to Griffiths -8, -13.
- Sugden bt Davies 8, 9.

As a result of their success, Scotland will play Greece (probably in Paris in late May) for the Second Division place to be taken over from relegated Luxembourg. Greece was the only country to make application for a Mediterranean Division (even offering to stage it, as like Scotland) hence their right to participate in a play-off for promotion to Division 2.



STELLAN BENGTTSSON (Sweden)

—Photo by courtesy of Tass

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European Championships

by
George R. Yates

Alser the Supreme Champion



It was not the host country, Russia, who came out wholly on top—as fondly predicted by the Muscovites—in the 7th European Championships, held in the Palace of Sports, Moscow from April 1-8, albeit their women swept the board to win three titles and claim a further half share in the mixed doubles event.

Sweden's men took the real glory and **Hans Alser**—winner of the men's singles title eight years previously, in West Berlin—regained the coveted Sweden Cup in final majestic fashion against Yugoslavia's Istvan Korpa.

No Russian reached the semi-final stage and only one—Stanislav Gomozkov—contested the quarters. The remainder, whose numbers may well have included Tartars of the Volga and Crimea areas, Kirghiz and Sarts of Siberia and Turkestan, inhabitants of Transcaucasia, Chechens and mountain-dwellers of the Caucasus, vanished from the scene as did the winter snows during the period of the championships.

In all, three Swedes—Kjell Johansson and Stellan Bengtsson being the other two—lined-up with Korpa for the penultimate sets, the Yugoslav flushed with his 3-1 success over Federal Germany's world title runner-up Eberhard Scholer!

As in Lyons, in 1968, Russia's **Zoya Rudnova** and Ilona Vostova of Czechoslovakia faced each other in the final of the women's singles event. Both had been taken to a fifth and deciding game in the semis, Vostova winning after being 1-2 down to Rumania's Maria Alexandru, and

Rudnova withstanding a terrific challenge from her compatriot Rita Pogosova.

A repeat win for the Prague school-girl looked highly likely as the defending champion took a 2-1 lead, but back into the picture swept the Russian pen-holder with a 21-5 win in the fourth and victory, 21-17, in the decider.

After threatening so much, especially in the men's team championship, Yugoslavia's **Dragutin Surbek** and **Anton Stipanovic** contented themselves with the men's doubles title bestowed, like crumbs from a rich man's table, by Alser and Johansson. It was a retention of title for the young left-handed Stipanovic whose partner, in Lyons, had been Edvard Vecko.

Without ever being pressurised, the Soviet Union's **Rudnova** and **Svetlana Grinberg** took over the women's doubles title undefended by Jitka Karlikova and Marta Luzova (Czechoslovakia). Federal Germany's Diane Scholer and Agnes Simon were successful in only one game out of four in the final.

Russian pairs dominated the later stages of the mixed doubles event, no less than three being concerned in the semi-finals, the "gatecrashers" being our own Denis Neale and Mary Wright. But, drawn against the defending title pair, **Gomozkov** and **Rudnova**, boded ill for our chances and so it proved as the top Soviet combine won and went on to retain their title from Sarkis Sarkhayan and Pogosova who had surprisingly beaten Anatoliy Amelin and Grinberg.

LAMENTABLY SHORT

England's challenge in the men's singles event, fell lamentably short with **Chris Barnes** touching rock bottom when defeated 3-1 by the Dutchman, **Bert van der Helm**, on his very first excursion to the tables in this event.

Yorkshire's Alan Hydes, after beating Bert Schoofs of the Netherlands, was completely outclassed by Tibor Klampar of Hungary (eligible for the European Youth Championships on Teesside in August), while Trevor Taylor fell to the young Russian Uldis Eglitis, from Riga, ranked No. 4 in the USSR.

Prior to reaching the first round proper, Taylor had been engaged in a group competition for the right to go forward and had succeeded with wins over Frans Schoofs of the Netherlands (21, 7, 13), Niels Poulsen of Denmark (6, 18, 12) and Bernard Chatton of Switzerland (12, 9, 10).

After accounting for Scotland's Malcolm Sugden, Neale squandered a 16-10 lead over Alser in his open-

<i>Roll of Honour</i>	
Men's Singles HANS ALSER (Sweden)	Women's Singles ZOYA RUDNOVA (U.S.S.R.)
Men's Doubles ANTON STIPANIC DRAGUTIN SURBEK (Yugoslavia)	Women's Doubles SVETLANA GRINBERG ZOYA RUDNOVA (U.S.S.R.)
Mixed Doubles STANISLAV GOMOZKOV and ZOYA RUDNOVA (U.S.S.R.)	
Men's Team SWEDEN	Women's Team U.S.S.R.

ing second round game and lost 3-straight -19, -13, -19. And so, at a very early stage we were out of it, utterly and completely.

Desperate for copy, Sydney Hulls of the **Daily Express**—England's only sports correspondent in the Russian capital—had to look elsewhere for a story. What a pity that Sweden's 17-years-old Stellan Bengtsson was not his target!

This boy, recently returned with Bo Persson from a trip to Japan, and with all the mannerisms of an Asian champion, really captured the hearts of the Russian onlookers.

He began his run with a straight-games win over the Soviet's Gegam Vardanyan followed by a 3-1 success over the Czech, Stefan Kollarovits, winner of the English and Welsh Open titles.

Next to fall to the young Swede was Federal Germany's Wilfried Lieck conqueror of Surbek, the defending champion, (18, -13, 20, 19) but incapable of stopping the gallop of this new, fast rising, Scandinavian star.

In what could well be the final of the Youths singles at Thornaby Pavilion on 9th August, Bengtsson was

next engaged by Klampar and what a set this turned out to be!

Going to the limit of five games, it had everything in a fluctuating duel which saw Bengtsson throw up his arms in joy as he nosed home 22-20 in the fifth!

But the pupil could not teach the master anything in semis as Alser, crafty "old fox" that he is, countered his young compatriot's every move, just as he had done with Gomozkov in the quarters who went out to the tune of derisive whistles from the packed spectator galleries.

MOST CONCERN

Yugoslavia's "jack-in-the-box" pen-holder, Melevo Karakasevic, had been Alser's other victim and the one player to occasion the ultimate champion most concern—18 in the fifth being the extent of his threat.

Apart from Scholer, Korpa's other conquests began with the ousting of Ferenc Timar and further included the scalps of Amelin and Johansson.

Of note, otherwise, was the defeat of French ace, Jacques Secretin, by Witold Woznica of Poland: the slaying of Hungary's Istvan Jonyer by



ALSER — Winner Men's Singles. Member of winning Swedish team, runner-up (with Johansson) of Men's Doubles, Moscow, 1970.

—Photo by Denis Offer



Swedish team tossing Alser after his Singles win. Korpa (2nd in Europe) is forgotten as he leaves the arena, Moscow, 1970.—Photo by Denis Offer

Stipancic: ace defender Janos Borszei going out to Gomozkov and Amelin's five-game struggle with the bespectacled Persson.

What then of England's female representatives amongst the elite of the European continent? It is a pleasure to report a much better showing with Mary Wright getting to the quarter-finals and Jill Shirley reaching the last 16.

Fivefold was our representation, otherwise comprising Karenza Mathews, Judy Williams and Shelagh Hession, the latter two at their own expense.

To reach the first round proper Karenza, Judy and Shelagh were all concerned in group competition for the 16 vacancies from which Karenza and Judy emerged successfully.

From a group of three, Karenza had straight game wins over Irma Grimm of Switzerland (7, 8, 9) and Maria Loukia of Greece (10, 11, 17) whilst from a quartet comprising Group 11, Judy had a heart-warming win over Karlikova and further successes over Ellen Klatt of the Netherlands (17, 16, -12, 22) and Christiane Andre of Switzerland (16, 15, 16).

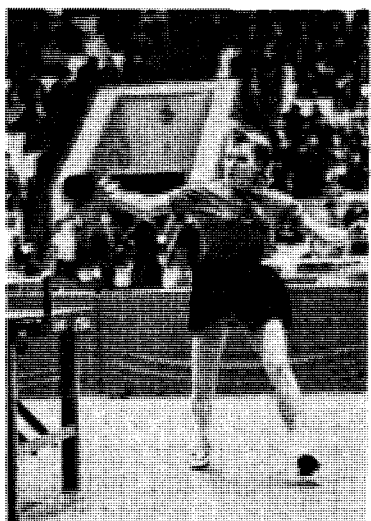
Both were poorly rewarded in having to face up to such notables as Alexandru and Yugoslavia's Mirjana Resler. Karenza took the count in three but Judy began brightly enough by winning her first game, against Resler, and gave a good account of herself in the other three which went to the Balkan penholder.

"OUT-PINKIED"

Shelagh had it rough, going down to the Soviet's 9th-ranked Deimante Semashkaite (-18, 19, -18, -19) and then being called upon to tackle Poland's Danuta Szmit-Calinska who, whenever I have seen her, out-pinkies "Pinkie" Barnes in the colour of her underwear! Shelagh lost to the red-knickered Polish defender -6, -19, -11.

Jill's first engagement was in opposition to the gangling Lena Andersson of Sweden whose boyish countenance was matched by her play but occasioned Jill no trouble at all. It was a different story in the second round, however, as another "blonde" successfully barred the Bucks. girl's progress.

Vostova, the defending champion, was a tall order and although winning the third game, at 17, Jill failed to



RUDNOVA — Winner Women's Singles, Doubles and Mixed Doubles, Gold Medal Team — U.S.S.R. — Moscow, 1970—Photo by Denis Offer

repeat her early morning victory at Crystal Palace in the English Open.

In the lower half of the draw, Mary made her bid which began with a decided wobble in her very first set against Birgitta Radberg of Sweden. Down 1-2, Mary struggled to find her touch and it was only her tremendous determination that swung the scales in her favour. But she was more her old self against Carmen Crisan in Round 2.

But it all ended in the quarters when opposed by her old "bogey" Rudnova who won, as she so often does, and against whom she is so often drawn.

En route to the final, Vostova had other wins over Federal Germany's Wiebke Hendriksen and, from over the "wall", Doris Hovestadt of East Germany.

Rudnova's other victims were Alicja Grofova of Czechoslovakia and Edit Buchholz, the Federal German No. 3.

Szmit-Calinska had a good 3-straight win over Hungary's Beatrix Kishazi before bending the knee to Diane Scholer. But most promising of the also-rans, in my estimation, was Austria's Gabriele Smekal despite her loss to Crisan.

STILL NO JOY

There was still no joy attaching to our men's efforts in partnership, as they fared even poorer than they had in single combat. Both English pairs failed in the first round proper when Barnes/Neale capitulated to Leick/Martin Ness of Federal Germany and, although with flag flying, Hydes/Taylor went down to the Yugoslavs. Zlatko Cordas/Karakasevic.

The defensive barrier put up by Borszei/Scholer fared no better in Moscow than it had in Munich and their limit was reached in opposition to Amelin/Gomozkov.

Scotland's Sugden and Eric Sutherland went out in the same round to the Soviet's Randelis/Saprykin, but Richard Yule and Brian Kean advanced to the second round only to lose to Finland's Juha Hamalainen/Seppo Elsinen.

In the singles preliminary groups, Sutherland finished third to Klaus Schmittinger (Fed. Germany); Kean last in a group of four won by the Czech, Milan Orlovski; Yule topping a group of five on a better average than Austria's Rudolf Weinmann who he beat 3-0. Lieck had a 3-1 win over Yule in the first round proper.

Little went right for us in the women's doubles event for, after beating the Dutch pair Veronique v.d. Laan/Aukje Wynia, our top pair of Mary and Karenza failed to get into their stride at all against the Soviet's Evdokiya Golubkova and Astra Gedraitite.

Jill had Kishazi as her partner and they could do little more than comfort each other at having to play Grinberg/Rudnova in the first round. The Russians won 17, 11, 14. Judy and Shelagh began with an excellent win over the Finns, Liisa Jarvenpaa and Maija Nieminen, but thereafter offered but token resistance to Alexandru/Crisan. And once again it was a case of early doors for England's representatives.

SOMEWHERE AT LAST

The tale of woe could not possibly continue in the mixed event and so, by way of a welcome change, Denis Neale and Mary Wright set about saving face.



Wright and Neale — S/F Mixed Doubles, Moscow, 1970

—Photo by Denis Offer

This they achieved in reaching the semi-final with wins over Franczyk/Antonina Gwozdz (Poland), Karakasevic/Irena Srbec (Yugoslavia), Kunz (Czech)/Crisan and Lieck/Simon. Only at the penultimate hurdle did they fail to make clearance losing to Gomozkov/Rudnova, the eventual winners, but thoroughly deserving of the bronze awards they subsequently received.

After beating Bulgaria's Bogidar Genchev/Emelia Neykova (12, 18, 16) Chester and Karenza lost to Secretin and Claude Bergeret in a match they should really have won. From being one game and 20-15 up, Karenza put five consecutive services from Secretin into the net and then the blinds came down. From that point the French took new heart and Chester, in particular, deteriorated. It had been a sad, sad tournament for the Forest Gate international.

Alan and Jill, not acknowledged to be a good pair, lost, as they are so prone to do, against two hitters in the persons of Vlado Miko/Vostova; and Trevor and Judy just did not have the expertise to combat the know-how of Jonyer/Hernandi.

Shelagh was paired with the Czech, Orlovski, but having beaten Alex Rosmarin/Mavis Van Gelder of Belgium they lost to Federal Germany's Detlef Siewert/Buchholz.

Only Shelagh took advantage of further play in the Consolation singles but she lost, in the first round, to the eventual winner Lyubov Grishina of Russia. What rotten luck we seem to have in these draws.

All in all, it was not the best of tournaments from England's point of view, especially so from the men's. In the words of Johnny Leach "A most dismal and disappointing championships".

Touching down at Sheremetyevo Airport as night descended over Moscow, the ensuing darkness seemed to cling, throughout our stay, like a mantle. Not even the enchantment of a performance of Rossini's Barber of Seville in the splendour of the Bolshoi Theatre, on the free day, could bring those rays of sunshine which more success at the tables would have ensured.

RESULTS

Men's Singles: Round 1:

M. Beleznai (Hu) bt G. Strelnikov (USSR) 15, 14, -19, 17;

B. v.d. Helm (Neths) bt C. Roesch (Fr) 18, 24, -8, 19;
B. Persson (Swe) bt K. Schmittinger (FG) -14, 10, 23, -16, 18;
F. Timar (Hu) bt J. Turai (Cz) 18, 18, 20;
J. Stanek (Cz) bt D. Brodskiy (USSR) 18, -18, 12, 20;
M. Orlovski (Cz) bt D. Siewert (FG) 18, 14, -8, 18;
V. Woznica (Po) bt P. Velikov (Bul) 13, 19, 22;
U. Eglitis (USSR) bt T. Taylor (Eng) 17, -10, 14, -15, 15;
M. Ness (FG) bt N. v. Slobbe (Neths) 7, 8, 15;
V. Miko (Cz) bt F. Thallinger (Aus) 10, 14, 10;
M. Karakasevic (Yu) bt F. Pilosyan (USSR) 13, 13, 18;
M. Sugden (Scot) bt F. Hansen (Den) -10, 17, 10, -14, 11;
A. Hydes (Eng) bt B. Schoofs (Neths) 15, -18, 15, 11;
Z. Cordas (Yu) bt N. Ramberg (Den) 16, 18, 17;
S. Bengtsson (Swe) bt G. Vardanian (USSR) 13, 15, 18;
W. Lieck (FG) bt R. Yule (Scot) 13, 12, -10, 11;

Round 2:

E. Scholer (FG) bt Beleznai 15, -11, 21, 13;
v.d. Helm bt C. Barnes (Eng) 17, -18, 11, 11;
A. Amelin (USSR) bt Persson -20, 17, 18, -14, 11;
I. Korpa (Yu) bt Timar 17, 19, -18, 18;

A. Stipancic (Yu) bt Stanek 14, -15, 19, 15;
I. Jonyer (Hu) bt Orlovski 8, -16, 18, 13;

Woznica bt J. Secretin (Fr) 15, 18, 19;
K. Johansson (Swe) bt Eglitis 9, 16, 20;

S. Gomozkov (USSR) bt Ness 9, 12, 13;

J. Borzsei (Hu) bt Miko -11, 9, 15, 6;
H. Alser (Swe) bt Karakasevic 22, -17, 19, -18, 18;

D. Neale (Eng) bt Sugden 19, 13, 19;
T. Klampar (Hu) bt Hydes 13, 14, 10;

Cordas bt S. Sarkayan (USSR) 19, 15, -19, 18;

Bengtsson bt S. Kollarovits (Cz) -10, 12, 6, 11;

Lieck bt D. Surbek (Yu) 18, -13, 20, 19;

Round 3:

Scholer bt v.d. Helm 12, 15, 7;
Korpa bt Amelin -14, 18, -12, 12, 10;

Stipancic bt Jonyer 19, 20, -18, -14, 18;

Johansson bt Woznica 17, 12, 11;
Gomozkov bt Borzsei 17, -13, 20, 14;

Alser bt Neale 20, -17, 11, 18;
Klampar bt Cordas 15, 19, -20, 20;

Bengtsson bt Lieck 14, -16, 13, 12.

Quarter-finals:

KORPA bt Scholer 7, 11, -15, 15;
JOHANSSON bt Stipancic 10, -18, 13, -15, 15;

ALSER bt Gomozkov 18, 11, 15;
BENGTSSON bt Klampar 12, -20, 13, -12, 20.

Semi-finals:

KORPA bt Johansson -19, 15, -16, 16, 13;

ALSER bt Bengtsson 12, 16, 17.

Final:—

ALSER bt Korpa 19, 18, 9.

Women's Singles: Round 1:

M. Alexandru (Ru) bt K. Mathews (Eng) 9, 15, 12;

E. Golubkova (USSR) bt M. Neidert (Swe) 13, 13, 13;

C. Bergeret (Fr) bt Hernadi (Hu) 20, 16, -18, 13;

B. Anisimova (USSR) bt A. Simon (FG) -20, 17, 11, -15, 12;

S. Grinberg (USSR) bt Rangelova (USSR) 11, 7, 14;

D. Hovestadt (EG) bt C. Noworyta (Po) 12, 13, -18, 21;

J. Shirley (Eng) bt L. Andersson (Swe) 14, 16, 16;
I. Vostova (Cz) bt W. Hendriksen (FG) 19, -12, 6, 6;
D. Scholer (FG) bt A. Gedraitite (USSR) 11, 7, 11;
D. Szmit-Calinska (Po) bt B. Kishazi (Hu) 12, 17, 10;
M. Resler (Yu) bt **J. Williams** (Eng) -13, 18, 19, 18;
R. Pogosova (USSR) bt E. Mihalca (Ru) 14, 15, 10;
M. Wright (Eng) bt B. Radberg (Swe) 21, -16, -16, 13, 17;
C. Crisan (Ru) bt G. Smekal (Aus) 10, 15, 20;
E. Buchholz (FG) bt Volkova (USSR) -20, 18, 9, -13, 11;
Z. Rudnova (USSR) bt A. Grofova (Cz) 10, 15, 18.

Round 2:
Alexandru bt Golubkova 14, -13, 12, 21;
Anisimova bt Bergeret 16, 15, 11;
Hovestadt bt Grinberg -19, -19, 19, 19, 11;
Vostova bt **Shirley** 12, 7, -17, 15;
Scholer bt Szmit-Calinska -19, 15, 19, 16;
Pogosova bt Resler 10, 20, 18;
Wright bt Crisan 20, 6, -17, 17;
Rudnova bt Buchholz 19, 14, 13.

Quarter-finals:
ALEXANDRU bt Anisimova 17, 17, 13;
VOSTOVA bt Hovestadt 17, -15, 19, 9;
POGOSOVA bt Scholer 17, 17, 18;
RUDNOVA bt **Wright** 16, 15, 15.

Semi-finals:
VOSTOVA bt Alexandru -18, 11, -17,

19, 19;
RUDNOVA bt Pogosova 13, -13, 20, -15, 18.

Final:
RUDNOVA bt Vostova -15, 11, -11, 5, 17.

Men's Doubles: Round 2:
Alser/Johansson bt Eglitis/Strelnikov 11, 12, -18, 13;
Miko/Turai bt M. Laine/T. Penttila (Fin) 12, 13, 5;
Cordas/Karakasevic bt v.d. Helm/B. Schoofs 16, 14, 11;
Jonyer/Klampar bt Radelis/Saprykin (USSR) 17, 16, 13;
Stipancic/Surbek bt Brodskiy/Pilosyan -18, 17, -16, 7, 17;
Bengtsson/Persson bt Lieck/M. Ness (FG) 16, 15, 17;
Borzsei/Scholer bt C. J. Bernhardt/M. Svensson (Swe) 11, 15, 17;
Amelin/Gomozkov bt J. Hamalainen/S. Elsinen (Fin) 15, 7, 12.

Quarter-finals:
ALSER/JOHANSSON bt Miko/Turai 13, -13, 13, 18;
JONYER/KLAMPAR bt Cordas/Karakasevic 17, 19, 10;
STIPANCIC/SURBEK bt Bengtsson/Persson 15, 17, 19;
AMELIN/GOMOZKOV bt Borzsei/Scholer 18, 19, -19, 19.

Semi-finals:
ALSER/JOHANSSON bt Jonyer/Klampar 9, -19, 19, -10, 14;
STIPANCIC/SURBEK bt Amelin/Gomozkov -19, 19, 11, 14.

Final:
STIPANCIC/SURBEK bt Alser/Johansson 16, -17, -9, 19, 13.



Mixed Doubles—Wright/Neale (England) receiving medals and prizes as S/Fs. Winners — Rudnova/Gomozkov (U.S.S.R.). Runners-up — Pogosova/Sarkhayan (U.S.S.R.) Other S/Fs.—Grinberg/Amelin (U.S.S.R.).

—Photo by Denis Offer

Women's Doubles: Round 2:
Grinberg/Rudnova bt Neidert/Radberg 14, 18, -19, 18;
Hovestadt/P. Stephan (EG) bt C. Andre/V. Lehmann (Swiz) 11, 19, 18;
Neikova (USSR)/Rangelova bt Hernadi/Grofova 19, -17, 10, 14;
Alexandru/Crisan bt S. Hession (Eng)/Williams 14, 11, 14;
Noworyta/Szmit-Calinska bt J. Karlikova (Cz)/Vostova 13, -16, -9, 17, 18;
Gedraitite/Golubkova bt Mathews/Wright 12, 16, 17;
Anisimova/Pogosova bt E. Juhos/H. Lotaller (Hu) 15, 8, 17;
Scholer/Simon bt M. Lessay (Ru)/Mihalca 15, 17, -16, -9, 17.

Quarter-finals:
GRINBERG/RUDNOVA bt Hovestadt/Stephan 14, 17, 10;
ALEXANDRU/CRISAN bt Neikova/Rangelova 13, 10, 17;
NOWORYTA/SZMIT-CALINSKA bt Gedraitite/Golubkova 18, 12, 5.
SCHOLER/SIMON bt Anisimova/Pogosova 9, -12, 16, -16, 19.

Semi-finals:
GRINBERG/RUDNOVA bt Alexandru/Crisan 13, 15, 12;
SCHOLER/SIMON bt Noworyta/Szmit-Calinska 16, 10, 17.

Final:
GRINBERG/RUDNOVA bt Scholer/Simon 15, 13, -18, 17.

Mixed Doubles:
Round 2

Gomozkov/Rudnova bt Bengtsson/Andersson 15, 11, -16, 19;
Jonyer/Hernadi bt Siewert/Buchholz -18, -21, 20, 8, 11;
Lieck/Simon bt Strelnikov/Golubkova 20, 20, 21;
Neale/Wright bt J. Kunz (Cz)/Crisan 19, 23, -18, 19;
Sarkayan/Pogosova bt H. Schluter/Smekal -13, 20, 19, -17, 21;
Miko/Vostova bt Klampar/Hovestadt -17, 18, -15, 10, 23;
Amelin/Grinberg bt Secretin/Bergeret 20, -14, 21, -20, 12;
Scholer/Scholer bt Bernhardt/Neidert -17, 10, -19, -14, 13.

Quarter-finals:
GOMOZKOV/RUDNOVA bt Jonyer/Hernadi -19, 17, 9, 14;
NEALE/WRIGHT bt Lieck/Simon 14, 17, -19, 18;

SARKAYAN/POGOSOVA bt Miko/Vostova -12, 12, 12, 9;
AMELIN/GRINBERG bt Scholer/Scholer 17, -17, 13, 10.

Semi-finals:
GOMOZKOV/RUDNOVA bt Neale/Wright 19, -18, 13, 18;
SARKAYAN/POGOSOVA bt Amelin/Grinberg 10, -19, 20, 19.

Final:
GOMOZKOV/RUDNOVA bt Sarkayan/Pogosova 18, 12, 15.

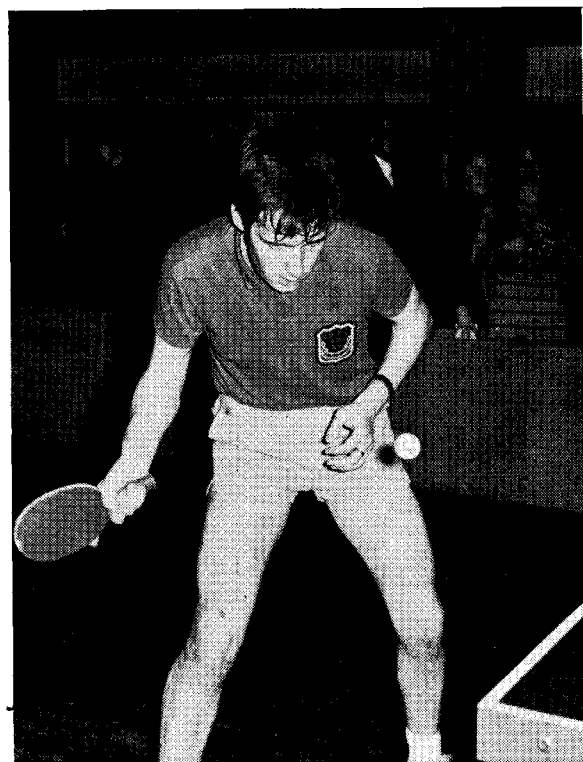
Men's Consolation Singles:
Quarter-finals:
N. Konov (Bul) bt F. Bekaert (Bel) 16, 14;
Kunz bt Laine 13, 11;
Radelis bt G. Oth (Lux) 7, 14;
Svensson bt J. Cloos (Lux) 19, 9.

Semi-finals:
KUNZ bt Konov 19, 12;
RADELIS bt Svensson 13, 11;
Final:
KUNZ bt Radelis -21, 17, 19.

Women's Consolation Singles:
Quarter-finals:
J. Detaille (Bel) bt E. Klatt (Neths) 6, 12;
Lessay bt D. Semashkaite (USSR) 12, 13;
L. Grishina (USSR) bt E. Neykova (Bu) 9, 20;
Juhos bt J. Dom (Lux) 14, -20, 11.

Semi-finals:
DETAILLE bt Lessay -18, 14, 14;
GRISHINA bt Juhos 13, 11.
Final:
GRISHINA bt Detaille -18, 14, 14.

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European Team Championships

Tightrope Walk for Third Position

England's women improved two positions (from No. 5 at Lyons) in the Team Championships at Moscow, but perilous indeed was their ascent with no less than 5 of their 8 matches being decided by the narrowest of margins.

No inkling of the repetitive dramas that were to follow was evident in their opening match, against Finland, which resulted in a reasonably easy 3-0 victory.

But in their second encounter, against Belgium, Josianne Detaille, finding the slow tables a great leveler, wrought havoc with wins over both Mary Wright and Jill Shirley and one breathed a sigh of relief that the Belgian No. 2, Claire Oosterlinck, was not of the same awkwardness.

In losing to East Germany 1-3—Mary being our only winner against Petra Stephan—our second staging was in Group "B" along with the U.S.S.R., Hungary, Sweden and Poland. East Germany, as group winners, lined-up with Czechoslovakia, Federal Germany, Rumania and Bulgaria in Group "A".

A 0-2 deficit against Hungary provided the first springboard after Karenza Mathews had lost to the young redhead Eszter Juhos, and

Mary, not at her best, had gone down to Beatrix Kishazi. Partnering Juhos with Henriette Lotaller was not the move to seal an Hungarian victory and the match score was evened when Karenza beat Kishazi. This was a splendid win with the Middlesex girl employing a first class expedite technique, even though she had never played expedite before.

Final victory in this match was achieved when Mary despatched Juhos in two-straight. But, lo and behold, we found ourselves 1-2 down in the very next match, against Poland, represented by two rubber bat choppers.

Mary had started us off on the right path with a hard-fought win over Czeslaw Noworyta, only for Karenza to lose the advantage when beaten by Danuta Szmit-Calinska, to be followed by a startling reverse in the doubles.

Mary then won her second singles encounter to level the match score at 2-2 leaving Karenza the difficult task of beating Noworyta. This she did most meritoriously, displaying great skill against an opponent, against who three months ago, one would not have given her much chance.

AGAIN THE ABYSS

So, for the second time we edged back from a precipice, but again the abyss yawned when trailing 1-2 to Sweden after Jill had given us the best of starts by beating Marita Neidert, thankfully not on expedite despite one game lasting 23½ minutes!

Lena Andersson brought off a shock win over Mary, and the doubles went in favour of Neidert partnered



"Come on, Mary!" is the anguished cry of Jill Shirley

—Photo by courtesy of Tass

by Birgitta Radberg. Then followed the set of sets in which Mary, after losing the first game -16 to Neidert, trailed 9-19 in the second, only to bring off an incredible win 29-27 and go on to win the decider!

It was a tremendous uphill victory and one that inspired Jill to cement the match result in our favour with a final win over Andersson.

Our final match, in this group, was against Russia whose Rudnova and Grinberg provided the feared anticlimax when they powered their way to a 3-0 win giving us second position and a match against Rumania who finished in a like position, to Czechoslovakia, in the other group.

Playing very tightly, Jill got us off on the right foot by beating Crisan, a win to be followed by Mary striking a purple patch in disposing of Alexandru in straight games! Mary really hit her form in this encounter, her performance being quite a revelation after the manner in which she had previously struggled.

But it was not going to be all that easy! Down we went in the doubles and the resolute Maria was not going to suffer the indignity of a second singles defeat in one match as was proved to Jill's discomfiture.

And so, for the fifth time, the match score stood at 2-all. Could we again pull it off?

We could, and did, as Mary, despite losing the first game to Crisan, turned up trumps in the next two and the bronze awards were assured and deservedly so.

As a team, our girls combined excellently, being full of fight and never giving up. Finishing in third place was the highest since 1964.

Dropping only one set in eight matches—Resler beating Pogosova—Russia had matters very much to themselves and there was no questioning their right to the gold awards achieved with a final 3-0 victory over Czechoslovakia.

SWEDEN YET AGAIN

For the fourth successive time Sweden won the Men's Team Championship but few gave them much chance in the final against Yugoslavia

who, at one stage, stood 4-2 in the lead!

Dusan Osmanajic's men took a 2-0 lead with wins by Korpa (over Alser) and Karakasevic (over Johansson) countered partially by young Bengtsson beating Surbek.

Korpa won a second time, beating Johansson, only for Surbek to lose a second time, to Alser.

But, home and dry must have been the thoughts in the Yugoslav camp as the swashbuckling Karakasevic tore into Bengtsson to bring off an incredible 21-9, 21-17 win over his astonished opponent. One more set was needed then, with three to go.

And to three sets the match went—all to Sweden!

Firstly Kjell Johansson broke his "duck" by inflicting a third repetitive defeat on the then-reigning European champion Dragutin Surbek, to be followed by Bengtsson equating the match score with a 2-1 success over the previously unbeaten Korpa.

The din was silenced as, in the final set, Alser faced up to Karakasevic who, with the pressure on, no longer bounced around the arena.

But he fought like a tiger in the first game which went 21-18 to Alser despite all that the Yugoslav penholder could throw at him. Karakasevic must have realised that his best was not good enough for the sponge seemed to have been thrown in as Alser, showing not a trace of nerves, took the next, at 21-8, for the match.

Going back to the second stage group match, England versus Yugoslavia, what joy was in evidence when Neale, with wins over Surbek, Korpa and Karakasevic, and Taylor also victorious over Surbek and Karakasevic, brought off an incredible 5-3 win!

ONLY REAL VICTORY

It was to prove our only real victory of the men's competition for sadly, it must be related, that as a team we never functioned as a complete unit otherwise.

To begin, it was a long, long way to travel for England and Scotland to oppose each other in the opening

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match when, perhaps, Carlisle might have been a more amenable stamping ground!

But in Moscow it was, on the banks of the Moskva river where the Scots capitulated when, for reasons best known to himself, Malcolm Sugden took no part in the match in a playing capacity.

Not surprisingly, therefore, England coasted to an easy 5-0 win and again, without the loss of a game, Finland were despatched likewise.

The group-topping match was against Czechoslovakia and resulted, disappointingly, in a 5-2 win for the Czechs against whom Barnes failed thrice in dismal fashion. It gave us a second "B" group placing with Yugoslavia, Russia, Federal Germany and France.

The counterpart Group "A" was made up of Sweden, Hungary, Czechoslovakia, Austria and Denmark.

Life with an England team is never a bed of roses, and thorns were immediately encountered in the first match against Federal Germany, lost 2-5.

Once again, Barnes crashed to a triple defeat his play being so terribly erratic. Taylor played well to beat Lieck and Neale, before beating Ness, was so unlucky to lose to Scholer after having 2 set points over him.

Then followed the drum-banging win over Yugoslavia and the scare of scraping home 5-4 against France!

What should have been a purely routine affair developed into one of the closest struggles of all time with Neale, at his own request, sitting on the sidelines.

As it turned out, Hydes (feats at Munich now but a dream) was not at his best and Barnes, now suffering from a blistered hand, still out of touch. The Essex man still managed to win two including the ninth and deciding set against Roesch after trailing 9-13 in the third game.

TOWER OF STRENGTH

Taylor proved himself a tower of strength and showed good temperament when beating Pukart, the experienced defensive French No. 2. He won in straight games despite expedite being called in the second when Taylor held a lead of 18-13. At that stage we were trailing 3-4 in the match!

A subsequent win over Russia was never "on" and so it proved as we took a 5-1 hammering with Neale our only winner over Sarkhayan.

Fourth in the group was our final position and a play-off against Denmark for 7th or 8th position the summit of our achievements.

This we accomplished, 5-2, with Neale registering another treble but both Hydes and Taylor lacking fire.

And so, it was a drop of 2 places from being No. 5 in Lyons and without wishing to detract from the merits of our win over Yugoslavia an overall performance that left a great deal to be desired.

HUNGARY CUP (MEN)

First Stage Groups

Group 1

SWEDEN bt Poland (5-0); bt France (5-0); bt Turkey (5-0).

Group 2

U.S.S.R. bt Belgium (5-0); bt Austria (5-0); bt Bulgaria (5-0).

Group 3

YUGOSLAVIA bt Denmark (5-0); bt Netherlands (5-1); bt Greece (5-0).

Group 4

HUNGARY bt Fed. Germany (5-1); bt Luxembourg (5-0); bt Switzerland (5-0).

Group 5

CZECHOSLOVAKIA bt England (5-2); bt Finland (5-0); bt Scotland (5-1).

English results:

v Scotland (won 5-0)

Neale bt Sutherland 12, 8; bt Yule 14, 16.

Hydes bt Yule 14, 6; bt Kean 20, 9.

Taylor bt Kean 13, 11.

v Finland (won 5-0)

Neale bt Laine 16, 10.

Barnes bt Hamalainen 19, 17; bt Elsinen 14, 15.

Hydes bt Elsinen 6, 15; bt Laine 7, 15.

v Czechoslovakia (lost 2-5)

Neale lost to Stanek -13, 19, -12; bt Kollarovits 21, 13.

Barnes lost to Turai -13, -15; lost to Stanek -13, 17, -16; lost to Kollarovits -18, 18, -16.

Hydes bt Kollarovits 18, 11; lost to Turai -18, -19.

Scottish results:

v Czechoslovakia (lost 1-5)

Sugden lost to Stanek 10, -13, -13; bt Turai -18, 18, 16.

Yule lost to Kollarovits -17, -20; lost to Stanek -12, -4.

Kean lost to Turai -14, -8; to Kollarovits -14, -24.

v Finland (lost 3-5)

Sugden bt Penttila 9, 10; bt Laine 19, 9; bt Elsinen 14, 13.

Sutherland lost to Laine -11, -17; lost to Elsinen -9, 18, -17.

Yule lost to Elsinen 13, -16, -13; lost to Penttila -16, -9; lost to Laine -17, 16, -17.

Second Stage Groups

Group A

SWEDEN bt Hungary (5-2); bt Czechoslovakia (5-0); bt Austria (5-0); bt Denmark (5-0).

Group B

YUGOSLAVIA bt U.S.S.R. (5-1); lost to England (3-5); bt Fed. Germany (5-2); bt France (5-0).

English results:

v Federal Germany (lost 2-5)

Neale lost to Scholer 16, -11, -21; bt Ness 17, 17.

Barnes lost to Ness 16, -9, -11; lost to Lieck -19, 17, -18; lost to Scholer -21, 8, -18.

Taylor bt Lieck 17, -21, 12; lost to Scholer -15, -11.

v Yugoslavia (won 5-3)

Neale bt Korpa 19, 15; bt Surbek 18, 16; bt Karakasevic -19, 18, 17.

Hydes lost to Karakasevic 16, -16, -13; lost to Korpa -21, -17; lost to Surbek -22, -21.



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Taylor bt Surbek -12, 12, 18; bt Karakasevic -17, 16, 16.

v France (won 5-4)

Barnes bt Pukart 12, 13; lost to Secretin -15, -14; bt Roesch -16, 15, 14.

Hydes bt Roesch 14, 12; lost to Pukart 11, -11, -14; lost to Secretin -15, -19.

Taylor lost to Secretin -19, 19, -17; bt Roesch 8, 16; bt Pukart 12, 16.

v U.S.S.R. (lost 1-5)

Neale lost to Amelin -8, -17; bt Sarkhayan 17, 15.

Hydes lost to Sarkhayan -14, -19; lost to Gomozkov -17, -12.

Taylor lost to Gomozkov -18, -19; lost to Amelin -15, -18.

Group C

POLAND bt Luxembourg (5-0); bt Finland (5-1); bt Greece (5-1); bt Belgium (5-1).

Group D

NETHERLANDS bt Bulgaria (5-4); bt Scotland (5-3); bt Switzerland (5-0); bt Turkey (5-0).

Scottish results:

v Switzerland (lost 4-5)

Sugden bt Chatton 17, 15; bt Mariotti 11, 5; bt Grimm 11, 14.

Sutherland lost to Mariotti -19, 16, -17; lost to Grimm -11, -19; lost to Chatton -17, -11.

Kean lost to Grimm -12, -15; bt Chatton 24, 15; lost to Mariotti -16, -16.

v Netherlands (lost 3-5)

Sugden bt Van Slobbe -17, 10, 11; bt B. Schoofs -18, 14, 15; bt F. Schoofs 11, 7.

Yule lost to B. Schoofs -10, -7; lost to F. Schoofs 16, -14, -18.

Kean lost to F. Schoofs -12, -18; lost to Van Slobbe 7, -12, -16; lost to B. Schoofs -7, -11.

v Turkey (won 5-0)

Sugden bt Vardar 16, 17.

Sutherland bt Karagulleler 17, 17; bt

Saban 10, -20, 17.

Yule bt Saban 10, 15; bt Vardar 9, 12. **v Bulgaria (won 5-3)**

Sugden bt Konov 11, 8; bt Terziev 11, 9; bt Velikov 20, 14.

Sutherland lost to Velikov -17, -7; lost to Konov -12, -13; bt Terziev -11, 9, 19.

Yule bt Terziev 13, 17; lost to Velikov -13, 12, -19.

Play-offs for final positions

For Positions

1 and 2 SWEDEN bt Yugoslavia 5-4.

Alser lost to Korpa -19, 14, -19; bt Surbeck 15, 24; bt Karakasevic 18, 8.

Johansson lost to Karakasevic -20, -19; lost to Korpa 21, -14, -19; bt Surbek 13, 12.

Bengtsson bt Surbek 7, 20; lost to Karakasevic -9, -17; bt Korpa -17, 14, 14.

3 and 4 U.S.S.R. bt Hungary 5-2.

5 and 6 FEDERAL GERMANY bt Czechoslovakia 5-2.

7 and 8 ENGLAND bt Denmark 5-2.

Neale bt Poulsen 9, 18; bt Ramberg 10, -22, 3; bt Pedersen 13, 13.

Hydes lost to Ramberg -16, -10; bt Pedersen 17, 15.

Taylor bt Pedersen 18, -15, 19; lost to Poulsen -19, -16.

9 and 10 FRANCE bt Austria 5-2.

11 and 12 POLAND bt Netherlands 5-2.

13 and 14 BULGARIA bt Belgium 5-1.

15 and 16 SCOTLAND bt Finland 5-3.

Sugden bt Hamalainen 19, 12; bt Penttila 12, 6; bt Elsinen 13, 16.

Sutherland bt Elsinen 16, -17, 19; lost to Hamalainen -13, -13; lost to Penttila -13, -16.

Yule bt Penttila 15, 20; lost to Elsinen -14, -20.

17 and 18 SWITZERLAND bt Luxembourg 5-2.

19 and 20 GREECE bt Turkey 5-0.

INDIVIDUAL RECORDS—MEN

ENGLAND

Neale	Barnes	Hydes	Taylor	F	A	Opponents
2-0		2-0	1-0	5	0	Scotland
1-0	2-0	2-0		5	0	Finland
1-1	0-3	1-1		1	5	Czechoslovakia
1-1	0-3		1-1	2	5	Fed. Germany
3-0		0-3	2-0	5	3	Yugoslavia
	2-1	1-2	2-1	5	4	France
1-1		0-2	0-2	1	5	U.S.S.R.
3-0		1-1	1-1	5	2	Denmark
12-3	4-7	7-9	7-5	30	24	

SCOTLAND

Sugden	Sutherland	Yule	Kean	F	A	Opponents
	0-1	0-2	0-2	0	5	England
1-1		0-2	0-2	1	5	Czechoslovakia
3-0	0-2	0-3		3	5	Finland
3-0	0-3		1-2	4	5	Switzerland
3-0		0-2	0-3	3	5	Netherlands
1-0	2-0	2-0		5	0	Turkey
3-0	1-2	1-1		5	3	Bulgaria
3-0	1-2	1-1		5	3	Finland
17-1	4-10	4-11	1-9	26	31	

Finishing Positions (previous position in brackets).

MEN

- Sweden (1)
- Yugoslavia (3)
- U.S.S.R. (2)
- Hungary (4)
- Federal Germany (8)
- Czechoslovakia (7)
- England (5)
- Denmark (9)
- France (13)
- Austria (14)
- Poland (12)
- Netherlands (15)
- Bulgaria (—)
- Belgium (11)
- Scotland (19)
- Finland (18)
- Switzerland (23)
- Luxembourg (16)
- Greece (24)
- Turkey ()

RUMANIA CUP (WOMEN)

First Stage Groups

Group 1

FEDERAL GERMANY bt Sweden (3-0); bt Switzerland (3-0).

Group 2

U.S.S.R. bt Yugoslavia (3-1); bt France (3-0); bt Bulgaria (3-0).

Group 3

POLAND bt Czechoslovakia (3-1); bt Netherlands (3-0); bt Luxembourg (3-0).

Group 4

RUMANIA bt Hungary (3-1); bt Austria (3-0); bt Greece (3-0).

Group 5

EAST GERMANY bt England (3-1); bt Belgium (3-1); bt Finland (3-0).

English results:

v Finland (won 3-0)

Wright bt Nieminen 17, 17.
Shirley bt Jarvenpaa 11, -17, 12.
Wright/Mathews bt Nieminen/Jarvenpaa 17, 19.

v Belgium (won 3-2)

Wright bt Oosterlinck 19, 17; lost to Detaille 17, -20, -20.
Shirley lost to Detaille -19, 19, -13; bt Oosterlinck 20, 10.
Wright/Mathews bt Detaille/Oosterlinck 12, 19.

v East Germany (lost 1-3)

Wright bt Stephan 20, -12, 11; lost to Hovestadt 14, -15, -18.
Shirley lost to Hovestadt 14, -18, -17.
Wright/Mathews lost to Hovestadt/Stephan -17, -10.

Second Stage Groups

Group A

CZECHOSLOVAKIA bt Fed. Germany (3-0); bt Rumania (3-2); bt East Germany (3-1); bt Bulgaria (3-0).

Group B

U.S.S.R. bt Poland (3-0); bt England (3-0); bt Hungary (3-0); bt Sweden (3-0).

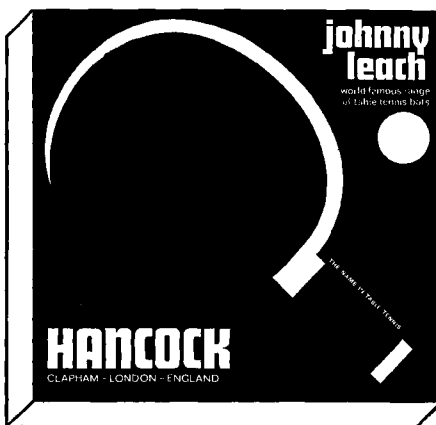
English results:

v Hungary (won 3-2)

Wright lost to Kishazi -16, -22; bt Juhos 15, 13.
Mathews lost to Juhos -18, -15; bt Kishazi 20, -28, 13.
Wright/Mathews bt Juhos/Lotaller 13, 15.

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A word from England's non-playing captain Bryan Merrett to Karenza Mathews and Mary Wright. —Photo by courtesy of Tass

v Poland (won 3-2)

Wright bt Noworyta 18, -17, 19;
bt Szmit-Calinska 12, 16.
Mathews lost to Szmit-Calinska -11,
-11; bt Noworyta -8, 17, 11.
Wright/Mathews lost to Noworyta
/Szmit-Calinska -10, -12.

v Sweden (won 3-2)

Wright lost to Andersson -16, -19;
bt Neidert -16, 24, 16.
Shirley bt Neidert 16, -17, 13; bt
Andersson 19, 10.
Wright/Mathews lost to Neidert/
Radberg 8, -17, -17.

v Russia (lost 0-3)

Wright lost to Grinberg -12, -17.
Mathews lost to Rudnova -9, -19.
Wright/Mathews lost to Rudnova/
Grinberg -11, -19.

Group C

GREECE bt Switzerland (3-0); bt
Belgium (3-0); bt Luxembourg
(3-1); bt France (3-1).

Group D

YUGOSLAVIA bt Netherlands (3-0);
bt Finland (3-2); bt Austria (3-1).

Play-offs for final positions

For Positions

- 1 and 2 U.S.S.R. bt Czechoslovakia 3-0.
Rudnova bt Vostova 22, -10, 18.
Grinberg bt Grofova 15, 15.
Rudnova/Grinberg bt Vostova/
Karlikova 18, 15.
- 3 and 4 ENGLAND bt Rumania 3-2.
Wright bt Alexandru 17, 14; bt
Crisan -15, 11, 14.
Shirley bt Crisan 17, 21; lost to
Alexandru -13, -10.
Wright/Mathews lost to Alexandru/
Crisan 15, -14, -14.
- 5 and 6 EAST GERMANY bt Poland 3-0.
- 7 and 8 FEDERAL GERMANY bt Sweden 3-0.
- 9 and 10 HUNGARY bt Bulgaria 3-0.
- 11 and 12 YUGOSLAVIA bt Greece 3-0.
- 13 and 14 AUSTRIA bt Switzerland 3-1.
- 15 and 16 NETHERLANDS bt France 3-2.
- 17 and 18 BELGIUM bt Finland 3-1.
- 19 LUXEMBOURG.



Ballet and Gymnastic pupils who took part in parade and presentations, Moscow, 1970. —Photo by Denis Offer

INDIVIDUAL RESULTS

Wright	Shirley	Mathews	Wright/Mathews	F	A	Opponents
1-0	1-0		1-0	3	0	Finland
1-1	1-1		1-0	3	2	Belgium
1-1	0-1		0-1	1	3	East Germany
1-1		1-1	1-0	3	2	Hungary
2-0		1-1	0-1	3	2	Poland
1-1	2-0		0-1	3	2	Sweden
0-1		0-1	0-1	0	3	U.S.S.R.
2-0	1-1		0-1	3	2	Rumania
9-5	5-3	2-3	3-5	19	16	

WOMEN

1. U.S.S.R. (2)
2. Czechoslovakia (3)
3. England (5)
4. Rumania (7)
5. East Germany (6)
6. Poland (8)
7. Federal Germany (1)
8. Sweden (10)
9. Hungary (4)
10. Bulgaria (—)
11. Yugoslavia (9)
12. Greece (19)
13. Austria (15)
14. Switzerland (12)
15. Netherlands (14)
16. France (13)
17. Belgium (17)
18. Finland (18)
19. Luxembourg (20)

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

Our grateful thanks are duly accorded the following companies for their help, in various ways, towards the turn-out of our players in the European Championships in Moscow.

DELMAN SPORTS. For the supply of Hummel shoes for members of the team.

LOU HOFFMAN (CLOTHING) LTD—For playing apparel.

LILLEYWHITES CONTRACTS DIVISION—For the supply of socks.

The Association is grateful to **Shell-Mex and B.P. Ltd.**, and to the **British Petroleum Co. Ltd.**, for making facilities available to members of the International Squad for specialised training.

National Team Competitions

by Leslie Davis

NORTH HAVE TREBLE HAND

THE FINALISTS for all competitions are as follows:—

WILMOTT CUP

East London v North Yorkshire

ROSE BOWL

Lowestoft v Central (London)

CARTER CUP

Manchester v Bromley

Venue: Loughborough College, P.E. Centre.

Date: 17-5-70 (Sun).

Organiser: D. R. Tremayne, E.T.T.A., 26-29, Park Crescent, London, W1N 4HA.

Referee: Stuart Dane, 21 Ridgeway, Southgate, London, N.14.

BROMFIELD TROPHY

Manchester v Sittingbourne

Venue: Officials and Date as for Carter Cup.

Semi-final Results:

Wilmott Cup

North Yorkshire 5 Oxford 0

The home side, with Jarvis, Ransome and Denis Neale, was predestined to win this match. Having stated this I must quickly point out that the last three sets went to a deciding game. Arthur Chilvers lost -12, 18, -5 to Neale thus claiming the unique distinction of taking a game from the champion. Stan Hahn lost -16, 21, -12 to Nicky Jarvis and C. Jackson was defeated -14, 21, -10 at the hands of Alan Ransome.

East London w.o. Guildford (scratched)

Rose Bowl

Central (London) 5 Guildford 2

This match must have produced some of the best table tennis that women can produce in this country. Karenza Mathews had to play three times before the final seventh set was won. She won two of the three with Linda Howard doing remarkably well to win the other one. This she did by scoring 23-21 in the third.

Judy Williams won both her sets but again struggled against the other Howard sister (Susan) only winning 21-15 again in the third game. Guildford's second win was by Sue Howard at the expense of Shelagh Hession.

Northumberland 2 Lowestoft 5

Somewhat of a surprise but the home side was without Maureen Robson. This, coupled with the unexpected loss of three sets by Cynthia Duncombe sealed the northern league's fate. Lowestoft's Miss L. Woodcock quite comfortably won the two sets that she was called upon to play. The score against Mrs. Duncombe was 21-14, 21-13. An "off-form" day for the Northumberland county player.

Carter Cup

Manchester 5 Leicester 4

A very close result with four sets going to three games. The match was, however, won by the eighth set when Alan Philpott succumbed to Philip Bowen. Tony Boasman was Manchester's mainstay. This highly-ranked player won all his games with apparent ease. Leicester's best player was Paul Randell who beat both Reece Evans (very easily) and Bowen (in the third).

Bristol 0 Bromley 9
Nine-nil, all straight games (8 in single figures)—what more can I say?

Bromfield Trophy

Sittingbourne 6 Newbury 3

All Sittingbourne's sets were won by Paula Brenchley and Lynda Chesson—both ranked players.

Manchester 7 Willesden 2

This match proved the justice of the English Junior ranking list. Susan Lisle (No. 4) won all her sets but found great difficulty in defeating Christine Mann (No. 5) who lost 22-24 in the third. Miss Mann won her other two sets very easily.

PROGRESSION TO THE FINALS

Wilmott Cup

Round 1: Nth. Yorks—Bye; East London 5 Chelmsford 4.

Round 2: Nth. Yorks 5 Northumberland 4; East London 8 Woolwich 1.

Round 3: Nth. Yorks 6 Huddersfield 1; East London 6, London C.S. 3.

Round 4: Nth. Yorks 7 Boston 2; East London 5 Willesden (holders) 2.

Q-F: Nth. Yorks 5 Manchester 1; East London 6 Central (London) 3.

S-F: Nth. Yorks 5 Oxford 0; East London w.o. Staines.

Rose Bowl

Round 1: Lowestoft—Bye; Central London (holders) 9 Bedford 0.

Round 2: Lowestoft w.o. Norwich, Central 6 Beckenham 0.

Round 3: Lowestoft 6 Peterborough 3; Central 6 Sutton 1.

Round 4: Lowestoft 5 Birmingham 4; Central 5 Willesden 1.

Q-F: Lowestoft 8 Oxford 1; Central 6 Romford 0.

S-F: Lowestoft 5 Northumberland 2; Central 5 Guildford 2.

Carter Cup

Round 1: Manchester 6 Chester 3; Bromley 7 Hastings 2.

Round 2: Manchester 7 Bolton 2; Bromley 9 Folkestone 0.

Round 3: Manchester 6 Stockport 3; Bromley 8 East London 1.

Round 4: Manchester 6 Leeds 3; Bromley 7 N. Herts (holders) 2.

Q-F: Manchester 5 Nth. Yorks 4; Bromley 9 Willesden 0.

S-F: Manchester 5 Leicester 4; Bromley 9 Bristol 0.

Bromfield Trophy

Round 1: Manchester—Bye; Sittingbourne—Bye.

Round 2: Manchester—Bye; Sittingbourne w.o. Leatherhead (Scr.).

Round 3: Manchester 6 Birmingham 3; Sittingbourne 5 Slough (holders) 2.

Q-F: Manchester 5 N. Yorks 0; Sittingbourne 7 Barking 1.

S-F: Manchester 7 Willesden 2; Sittingbourne 6 Newbury 3.

EUROPEAN YOUTH CHAMPIONSHIPS

Scheduled to be played at Thornaby Pavilion, Teesside (August 4-9) events will comprise Junior Boys' and Girls' Team Championships (on Swaythling Cup system) followed by Junior Boys' singles and doubles, Junior Girls' singles and doubles and Junior mixed doubles.

Also to be included are Cadet Boys' and Girls' singles and Junior Boys' and Girls' Consolation singles.

Ages: Juniors—Born after 1st July, 1952; Cadets—Born after 1st July, 1955.

Umpires wishing to be of service are asked to please contact Mrs. D. Stannard, 11 Brougham Road, Acton, London, W.3. before 15th June.



Bolshoi Theatre, Moscow

The Asian Championships

by H. Roy Evans



World Champion Toshiko Kowada and her coach Nagai.

Hasegawa back on Target

Whilst European players were battling away in Moscow, in what was anything but a foregone conclusion, Nagoya, Japan—venue for next year's World Championships—seemed destined to be the scene of a struggle to see which of many Japanese stars would triumph in the 10th Asian Championships.

In the event, this was almost exactly what happened, except that South Korea, certainly the next best there, carried off the women's team event by virtue of a tremendous 3-2 win in the play-off against Japan. Chief architect of this upset was Choi Jung Sook, who beat World Champion Kowada and partnered Ro Hwa Ja to victory in the doubles. Chong Houn Sook then beat Hamada in the nail-biting fifth game.

Indonesia were impressive in the boys' team event in that they beat Japan into second place in their group, but they eventually went down 2-3 to South Korea in the play-off.

Korea also took the girls' team Championship, with Indonesia again beating Japan into third place, so that junior-wise, Japan has nothing to be happy about.

But in the singles senior events it was Japan all the way.

For some reason I wasn't clear about, Choi Jung Sook did not play in the women's event, which eventually resolved itself into an all-Japanese affair, Konno beating Chong Suik Fong of Malaysia, Hamada disposing of Kobori of Japan, Ito having little trouble with Ahba (Japan), but Kowada dropping a game in beating Takase (Japan). In the semi-finals, it was Konno coming through a long affair against Hamada 21-19 in the fifth, but Kowada having little trouble in beating Ohba 24-26.

In the Final, after Konno went to 24-26 in the opening game, Kowada won easily enough 13 and 17 in the next two.

The Men's singles was mostly notable for the disappearance of World Champion Itoh in the semi-final. After an unconvincing game—all opening against Tasaka, Itoh never looked like winning the next two, and Tasaka became an unexpected Finalist. His appearance there was purely academic, for Hasegawa was rarely in trouble in a three-game win, confirming my own impression that

although Hasegawa did not win the World title in Munich, he is certainly the best Japanese player. Korea and Indonesia figured in the quarters—Kim Chung Yong losing to Hasegawa, and Sugend Utomo going out to Tasaka. Nishi (Japan) took a game from Itoh in his quarter-final, and Abe (Japan) did well to beat Kohno (Japan) before going out to Hasegawa.

The Men's Doubles was all Japan—Itoh and Hasegawa beat Ohya and Nishi, dropping one game, whilst Tasaka and Abe went to 19 in the fifth before getting the better of Kohno and Inoue. In the Final it was Hasegawa and Itoh in three comfortable games.

Korea figured in the Women's Doubles, Ro Hwa Ja and Lee Aileasa losing a drama-charged semi 22-24 in the fifth against Japan's Fukuno and Hirano, after disposing of World Champion Kowada and Konno. Kobori and Onuma came through 21-15 in the fifth against Sakibara and Ito, also of Japan, and won without trouble in three games against Fukuno and Hirano in the Final.

THIRD TITLE

In the Mixed, too, the navy colours of Japan figured from the quarters onwards. Finalists were Hasegawa and Kowada who beat Abe and Ohba, and Nishi and Takase who beat Itoh and Fukono. In another five game final, Hasegawa collected his third major title.

Playing conditions were good at the Aichi Prefectural Gymnasium. Fourteen tables were used, but it will be possible to get sixteen in, and this should suffice for next year when the entry for the World Championships is hardly likely to be as great as when the Event is in Europe. The Stadium has excellent ancillary facilities, and is placed in most pleasant surroundings.

It appeared as if the Japanese had plenty of helpers available, and they expect to have a few hundred umpires properly trained by next Season. The Opening and Closing ceremonies were well staged, with a minimum of speechifying. Most of the ten participating countries had English as common language, and this certainly helped. Incidentally the scoring was in English.

I hardly expected to see the Expedite Rule being applied amongst Asian countries, but, dare I say it, it was, as in Europe, the ladies who brought it about, and the circumstances were well controlled by the Japanese umpires.

There was some quite unreasonable conferring with non-playing Captains in the team events, and also in some stages of the individuals. But at the finals there were no non-playing Captains near the arena, and it was refreshing to see the players out there doing battle on their own!!!

Presentation was good, teams and players going into the courts being preceded by a plaque bearer showing the names, and followed by the officials.

Surprisingly, the attendance, except for the Finals, was very poor. Inasmuch as there were huge crowds for all the matches played by the European team on tour there last October,

one must conclude that it will be the European challenge which will bring the crowds.

Results:

Men's Team—Japan

Women's Team—South Korea

Boys' Team—South Korea

Girls' Team—South Korea

Men's Singles: Semi-finals:

Hasegawa (Japan) bt Abe (Japan) 15, 20, 18;

Tasaka (Japan) bt Itoh (Japan) 15, -18, 17, 18.

Final:

Hasegawa bt Tasaka 22, 15, 17.

Women's Singles: Semi-finals:

Konno (Japan) bt Hamada (Japan) -16, 20, -18, 14, 19;

Kowada (Japan) bt Ohba (Japan) 15, 16, 9.

Final:

Kowada bt Konno 24, 13, 17.

Men's Doubles:

Hasegawa/Itoh bt Abe/Tasaka 16, 17, 18.

Women's Doubles:
Kobori/Onuma bt Fukuno/Hirano 16, 18, 9.

Mixed Doubles:
Hasegawa/Kowada bt Nishi/Takase -14, 16, 16, -20, 16.

Boys' Singles:
Baralianto (Indonesia) bt Ohhira (Japan) 15, 16, 15.

Girls' Singles:
Lee Aileasa (South Korea) bt Takayama (Japan) 18, 16, 16.

SILVER MEDAL

A CLUB model mobile table, exhibited by Gymnasia Ltd., Blue House Point Road, Stockton-on-Tees was the subject of a Silver Medal Award at the 19th International Inventors Exhibition recently held in the Salon International Du Centre Rogier, Brussels.

SPECIAL EVENT

The special event John Pike refers to in his Staffordshire Notes, in connection with the Festival of Sport week in Wolverhampton next month, will now be an international match between England and the Netherlands at the Civic Hall on 17th June.



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Open Tournament Survey

as reported by

**R. V. Brown, L. F. Landry
and F. H. Rayner**

"RHAPSODY IN BLUE"— THREE FIVERS!

The 2nd Swindon Open was held at Pinehurst Sports Hall on 15th March. Top seed in the men's singles was Brian Burn who fully justified this position by winning the event and collecting the £15 prize.

After losing the first game of the final to Peter Radford, and trailing 7-12 in the second, the Northumberland County player won the next 14 points to take the game and was always in command in the third.

Burn teamed up with Paul Beck to win the men's doubles but only after two very close sets (in the semis against Stan Hahn and Paul Judd) and in the final when they beat Ian Horsham and Steve Smith, both going to deuce in the third.

A shock result in the women's singles was the defeat of top seed Lesley Radford by Pauline Edwards. Lesley and Peter, however, were easy winners of the mixed title and Lesley further partnered by Mrs. D. Wingent won the women's doubles.

Played at the Community Centre, Slough over the weekend of March 21-22, the Bucks Open suffered from the clash with county matches but there was still some good play particularly in the finals.

Ken Beamish, a former Essex player, reached the semis with his wooden bat (no rubber) beating Clive Morris and Brian Petch before losing to the steady play of Laurie Landry. In the final, Laurie put everything into the first game to win it but was so tired that he offered only token resistance to Ron Penfold in the final, slumping to defeat in the latter two games.

Only 108 entries could be accepted for the Sussex Junior Open, played at the Assembly Hall, Worthing on 12th April, no less than 189 entry forms being received. Some 58 boys and 50 girls participated in the 306 sets played.

Paul Guttormsen stormed his way to the U-17 boys' title with Susan Beck with rallying from an opening game defeat by Sheila Hamilton to win the next two and girl's title.

Results:

Swindon Open

Men's Singles: Quarter-finals:
B. Burn (Northld) bt R. Arney (Wilts) 12, 11;
S. HEAPS (Ches) bt P. Beck (Surrey) 15, 16;
S. Smith (Essex) bt I. Horsham (Essex) 17, 11;
P. Radford (Essex) bt S. Hahn (Bucks) 15, 17.

Semi-finals:
BURN bt Smith 11, 19;
RADFORD bt Heaps 12, 16.
Final:
BURN bt Radford -19, 12, 16.
Women's Singles: Semi-finals:
P. EDWARDS (Hants) bt J. Woolf (Hants) 17, 18;
L. RADFORD (Essex) bt J. Lloyd (Worcs) 12, 14.

Final:
EDWARDS bt Radford 19, 19.
Men's Doubles: Semi-finals:
HORSHAM/SMITH bt D. Bowles (Essex)/Radford -18, 19, 13;
BECK/BURN bt Hahn/P. Judd (Warwks) -19, 18, 24.

Final:
BECK/BURN bt Horsham/Smith 18, -20, 22.

Women's Doubles: Semi-finals:
J. HUNT (Worcs)/LLOYD bt J. Daniels/J. Hudson (Hants) 5, 20;
RADFORD/D. WINGENT (Oxon) bt A. Boyce/H. Rusby (Wilts) 11, 13.

Final:
RADFORD/WINGENT bt Hunt/Lloyd 10, 12.

Mixed Doubles: Semi-finals:
RADFORD/RADFORD bt C. Shetler (Hants)/Woolf 15, -19, 13;
B. REEVES (Somerset)/LLOYD bt Burn/W. Slade (Berks) 15, -13, 19.

Final:
RADFORD/RADFORD bt Reeves/Lloyd 16, 19.

Bucks Open

Men's Singles: Semi-finals:
R. PENFOLD (Surrey) bt J. Bender (Middx) 18, 18;
L. LANDRY (Middx) bt K. Beamish (Essex) 19, 16.

Final:
PENFOLD bt Landry -16, 13, 15.

Women's Singles: Semi-finals:
J. SHIRLEY (Bucks) bt E. Britton (Middx) 14, 15;
S. HESSION (Essex) bt M. Walker (Middx) 14, 15.

Final:
SHIRLEY bt Hession 14, -17, 15.

Men's Doubles: Semi-finals:
K. BAKER/C. MORRIS (Kent) bt Bender/B. Petch (Middx) -19, 16, 14;

PENFOLD/P. WILLIAMS (Sussex) bt Beamish/P. Smith (Essex) 16, 7.

Final:
BAKER/MORRIS bt Penfold/Williams 19, 19.

Women's Doubles: Semi-finals:
HESSION/SHIRLEY bt M. Considine/K. Fry (Middx) 4, 12;

S. KAVALLIEROU (Sussex)/WALKER bt Britton/J. Williams (Bucks) -14, 17, 19.

Final:
HESSION/SHIRLEY bt Kavallierou/Walker 11, 17.

Mixed Doubles: Semi-finals:
P. SHIRLEY (Bucks) SHIRLEY bt L. Thompson (Bucks) Williams 10, 14;

BEAMISH/HESSION bt F. Walker (Middx)/Considine 6, 17.

Final:
SHIRLEY/SHIRLEY bt Beamish/Hession 18, 15.

Sussex Junior Open

U-17 Events
Boys' Singles: Semi-finals:
S. MARLEY (Sussex) bt M. Owen (Wales) 11, -21, 16;
P. GUTTORMSEN (Kent) bt M. Locke (Essex) 16, 16.
Final:
GUTTORMSEN bt Marley 19, 16.
Girls' Singles: Semi-finals:
S. HAMILTON (Middx) bt P. Brenchley (Kent) 19, -18, 13;

S. BECKWITH (Essex) bt L. Chesson (Kent) 8, 12.

Final:
BECKWITH bt Hamilton -22, 11, 13.

Boys' Doubles: Semi-finals:
M. HARPER/D. RAWLINSON (Herts) bt J. Brixton (Hants)/D. Weller (Kent) 15, 15;

G. BLOMFIELD (Essex)/LOCKE bt Guttormsen/A. Mitchell (Kent) 17, 18.

Final:
HARPER/RAWLINSON bt Blomfield/Locke 17, 14.

Girls' Doubles: Semi-finals:
J. HOLTAM (Kent)/G. LOCKE (Essex) bt Hamilton/A. Painter (Middx) 17, -10, 20.

BECKWITH/L. HARVEY (Essex) bt J. Beaven/P. McCall (Middx) 18, -14, 15.

Final:
BECKWITH/HARVEY bt Holtam/Locke 10, -17, 18.

Mixed Doubles: Semi-finals:
BLOMFIELD/BRENCHLEY bt R. Aldrich (Middx)/Painter -17, 14, 15;

GUTTORMSEN/CHESSON bt Rawlinson/P. Heale (Essex) 8, 10.

Final:
GUTTORMSEN/CHESSON bt Blomfield/Brenchley -17, 7, 19.

U-15 Events

Boys' Singles: Semi-finals:
GUTTORMSEN bt Mitchell 16, 17;
MARLEY bt Owen -13, 9, 9.

Final:
GUTTORMSEN bt Marley 16, -22, 12.

Girls' Singles: Semi-finals:
LOCKE bt G. Macrae (Surrey) 10, 9;
HARVEY bt Holtam 19, -20, 19.

Final:
LOCKE bt Harvey 14, 21.

Boys' Doubles: Semi-finals:
ALDRICH/GUTTORMSEN bt A. Bawden (Essex)/S. Bessant (Hants) 6, 14;

MITCHELL/OWEN bt K. Davies/J. Summers (Essex) 17, 19.

Final:
ALDRICH/GUTTORMSEN bt Mitchell/Owen 14, -19, 15.

Girls' Doubles: Semi-finals:
L. CROSSWELL (Kent)/L. JONES (Wales) bt B. and S. Novak (Middx) 16, 10;

HOLTAM/LOCKE bt A. Chesson (Kent)/Macrae -16, 13, 15.

Final:
HOLTAM/LOCKE bt Crosswell/Jones 13, 17.

U-13 Events
Boys' Singles: Semi-finals:
J. AVEY (Sussex) bt Brixton 12, 14;
SUMMERS bt L. Martinkovic (Sussex) 20, 17.

Final:
AVEY bt Summers 15, 10.

Girls' Singles: Semi-finals:
G. TAYLOR (Essex) bt K. Mashford (Bucks) 19, -16, 16;

C. STONELL (Essex) bt L. Holtam (Kent) 14, -15, 18.

Final:
STONELL bt Taylor -17, 17, 11.

Welsh Open

by Roy Evans

ANOTHER TITLE FOR KOLLAROVITS

Stefan Kollarovits, fresh from his £100 victory in the English Open at Crystal Palace, added £75 of Welsh money to his earnings by taking the Welsh Open men's singles title on the following weekend at Aberavon.

Both Denis Neale and Chester Barnes fell to the vastly improved Czech player, providing Welsh enthusiasts with fine finals.

Karenza Mathews, who always seems to do well in Wales, had a great tournament, with fine wins over Alicia Grofova, Mary Wright, and then a tremendous battle with Ilona Vostova in a five game thriller.

Biggest upset of the tournament was almost—veteran Ralph Gunnion's defeat of the No. 1 seed Vlado Miko. This, in the event, did Wales a good turn, for Welsh No. 1 Graham Davies, then repeated earlier defeats of Gunnion, and the Welsh lad, after a poor start against Barnes in the semis, did creditably well.

Certainly Gunnion's £10 as a losing quarter-finalist and Graham's £20 as a losing semi-finalist were prizes they did not expect at the outset of the event.

Neale and Barnes had their revenge in the men's doubles with a straight games win over Miko and Kollarovits.

Results:—

Men's Singles: Semi-finals:
C. BARNES (Essex) bt G. Davies (Wales) 7, 16, 17;
S. KOLLAROVITS (Czech) bt D. Neale (Yorks) 17, 19, 16.

Final:
KOLLAROVITS bt Barnes 14, 16, 15.

Women's Singles: Semi-finals:
I. VOSTOVA (Czech) bt J. Williams (Sussex) 11, 13, 15;

K. MATHEWS (Middx) bt M. Wright (Surrey) 18; -18, 16, -13, 16.

Final:
VOSTOVA bt Mathews 18, -21, 13, -19, 17.

Men's Doubles:
BARNES/NEALE bt Kollarovits/V. Miko (Czech) 16, 15, 17.

Women's Doubles:
A. GROFOVA (Czech)/VOSTOVA bt Mathews/Wright 17, 19, 17.

Mixed Doubles:
MIKO/VOSTOVA bt M. Johns (Ches)/J. Shirley (Bucks) 8, 18, -18, 22.

Boys' Singles:
H. THOMAS (Wales) bt A. Griffiths (Wales) 16, -17, 18.

Girls' Singles:
L. JONES (Wales) bt R. Bryant (Somerset) 10, 9.

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Midland League

by Philip Reid

CURTAINS STILL DRAWN IN WEST BROM

BIRMINGHAM have championed the Men's 1st Division of the Midland League thanks to Gloucester! West Bromwich, looking certain to finish first and Gloucester, looking equally certain for relegation, played each other and the result was a shock win, by 6-4, for the West Country team.

This not only put Birmingham in the running for the championship (duly capitalised when defeating their own "B" team in their final match) but also gave Gloucester a chance of avoiding the drop. Their 8-2 win over Potteries duly clinched it so that their final victims and Leicester go down.

Roy Morley has had a wonderful season for Gloucester, remaining unbeaten. What wonderful service this player has given to Gloucester over the years!

Oxford's narrow victory over Hinckley means that Oxford and Coventry move into the first division next season. Stanley Hahn has been their mainstay and was 100%.

Walsall have won the Intermediates 1st Division with their team of Colin Norman, R. Morgan and C. Davies.

The 2nd Division match between Worcester and Loughborough went to the latter 6-4 and with it the championship of the 2nd Division—well done Chris Brewer, Terry Hall and Stephen Harding.

Birmingham 'A' have deservedly won the Veterans 1st Division and they certainly have strength in depth. With Harry Spiers, Eric Edwards and Ron Butterson in their team they have always just looked to have the edge on their rivals.

The Juniors 1st Division also goes to Birmingham where Martyn Davis has given some really great performances to remain 100%. It is not simply that he is unbeaten—it is the polished, competent way he has disposed of his opponents.

It has then, been an excellent season and most leagues have been wholly co-operative in playing matches on the required date and forwarding result sheets promptly. With the honours going round—remember all the following leagues won a division—Birmingham, Oxford, Leicester, Walsall, Loughborough, Gloucester, and Coventry—it has been a very good season all round.

Clode on Target for R.A.F.

Dick Clode was in sparkling form for the RAF TTA when, at Stanmore Park on 17th April, he registered wins over Kent's Tony Pidcock and Brian Petch of Middlesex in a match against the Civil Service.

Further represented by veteran champion Michael Close, and Doug Walker of the North Middlesex League, the visitors ran out 8-2 winners.

Strongly chosen, the Civil Service women's team, comprising Margaret Cherry, Maria Know, Doris Moors and Margaret Dignam, ran riot against the WRAF team who went down 0-10! Margaret Dignam, who figures at No. 2 for Hastings, has just returned from Australia where she has worked for 2 years, in an exchange scheme through the Post Office.

CALLING ALL JUNIORS

Further to the article which appeared in last month's magazine, the details relating to the 5 Junior Area Training Camps are still in the process of being finalised.

It should be stressed that these preliminary training camps entirely replace the old system of National Junior Trials and, therefore, it is imperative for those juniors wishing to aspire to England ranking next season, to apply for attendance at their respective area camps.

Only the first 6 boys and first 4 girls currently ranked, and who are still juniors next season, are exempted from attendance at the area camps.

Venues will be Crystal Palace, Teesside, Norwich, Bristol and Birmingham and the approximate cost will be £8. Entry forms should be applied for forthwith from the E.T.T.A., 26-29 Park Crescent, London, W1N 4HA. Phone 01-580 6312. At the time of going to press the only firm date is for the Crystal Palace camp which is from July 16-19th.

INTERNATIONALS SEASON 1970-71

Leagues or Counties wishing to stage an international match next season, including those matches which are to have television coverage, are asked to make their desires known to the Association's General Secretary, Derek R. Tremayne at 26-29 Park Crescent, London, W1N 4HA.

Full details of the financial implications will be given on request.

Robinson's Barley Water Sporting Awards.

For years Robinson's Barley Water has been enjoyed by many top sportsmen and women.

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Because in June, July and August we're sponsoring a series of awards for deserving youngsters in any field of sport.

Each month a judging panel made up of leading sporting personalities will choose One National and Ten Area winners.

National awards being worth £500 each, Area Awards £50 each. The money will go to the winners' future sporting expenses—training, coaching, equipment, etc.

Any youngster (provided he or she was under the age of 19 on 1st January, 1970) can be nominated for an Award.

So if you've turned in what you consider to be a splendid performance, and have what you feel to be real potential, or you know a youngster who has, make sure an entry form is sent in. You never know, this could be the chance.

You'll find an entry form plus full details of the Awards on your next bottle of Robinson's Barley Water. Orange, Lemon or Lemon and Lime.





Conrad goes but points the way

by Tom Blunn

IT came as a great shock to many people to learn that Conrad Jaschke had decided to retire from the game after only two years as Chairman of the Association.

Only those who have been closely associated with Conrad in recent years know the tremendous amount of energy that he used in carrying out the duties imposed upon him.

This, coupled with the ever-increasing demands of his own work, meant trying to get a quart into a pint pot. Quite recently the demands of his work had required visits to all parts of the world for periods of one to three weeks with the inevitable backlog of table tennis administration work to be caught up on return.

Had there been any possibility of any relief in the work load in the future, the position might well have been different, but this was not so and the inevitable decision to retire had to be made.

The retirement will be a complete one as Conrad will break away from all table tennis activities and take a well-earned rest during the spare time that he might now have available. As an Honorary Life Member of the E.T.T.A. he will be receiving invitations to all the important events and these will provide the occasion to meet old colleagues.

It would not be possible to put down in this short space all the activities in which Conrad has been concerned over the period of fourteen years during which he has been associated with administration at the national level.

His activities in the two years of his chairmanship can, however, be summarised as two years of immense activity during which the E.T.T.A. has taken tremendous steps forward.

But this is only a start, and one of Conrad's main achievements has been to introduce an enthusiasm into his colleagues and a determination to take the Association even further along the road of progress. Though progress will continue, it may well slow down at first but it is a tribute to Conrad's efforts that the determination engendered by him is there and those who remain owe it to him to continue where he left off.

The Association is indeed indebted to Conrad Jaschke for his efforts and for the inspiration that he has given to everyone. We wish him well in his retirement.

LETTER to the Editor

NO LIGHT DECISION

As Chairman of the County I feel obliged to reply to the editorial in the April issue which gave only a one-sided comment upon what was an extremely difficult decision taken by the Yorkshire committee.

My committee fully appreciate the position of Denis Neale and Alan Hydes as professionals but the following points come into a reasoned decision made by the committee.

1. The date of the match v. Sussex was fixed provisionally during the period of the visit to Japan by Denis and it was suggested by the CTC Secretary that if a change of date was required, would Yorkshire make application before finalisation of the fixture list. This we did.

2. In the choice of our team we had to consider the reaction of Cheshire and Northumberland, who with Sussex were in the relegation zone, to our playing of a weakened team.

3. All Yorkshire's home fixtures are played at one venue with season tickets issued. Would it have been fair to these supporters to play a reserve team? If Denis had gone to the Scottish Open how could we then not allow Alan and Tony Clayton to go? They both wished to enter.

4.—At the date of the Sussex match, Yorkshire still had a chance of winning the Premier title. If Kent were to beat Middlesex then we were in the fight again.

5. Efforts were made to arrange for our players' matches in the Scottish Open to be played on the Sunday, but the organisers were unable to arrange this.

6. The 1969 Scottish Open was not supported by Denis and is not an E.T.T.A. event.

It has since been agreed by the County that once the CTC fixture list is issued they will not suggest themselves, or agree to any other county's suggestion that match dates be altered.

All these matters were carefully and lengthily considered by a full committee of the Association and the decision was not taken lightly or without thought of our players' personal positions.

HARRY FLINTON.

10 Norland Avenue,
Anlaby High Road,
Hull, Yorks.

Tournaments '70-71

by Laurie Landry

AFTER a lengthy meeting, the Tournaments Committee at last came up with the five 3-star open tournaments (top grade) for season 1970-71.

The facts and details on all tournaments were collated and those that had applied for 3-star status were compared. The five top tournaments are the Merseyside, the Midlands, the Middlesex, the Teesside and the Swindon.

It will be seen that luckily these

are spread over the country. The Newbury and the Oxford Opens were both considered excellent and it is possible that these may alternate in future years with the Swindon Open since these three tournaments are very close to one another.

NEW TOURNAMENT

AS part of the Mayflower '70 celebrations being held in Plymouth this year, to celebrate the 350th Anniversary of the sailing of the Pilgrim Fathers to America in 1620, a Mayflower '70 Open tournament is being held.

Venue will be the gymnasium, HMS Drake, Plymouth and will be run on Saturday, September 12. Special Mayflower trophies will be presented to all winners in addition to substantial cash prizes. In addition, all competitors will receive a special Mayflower Badge presented by the Plymouth Corporation. Boys' and Girls' singles will be run in addition to the standard five senior events.

Pat Archdale is the appointed referee and entry forms and all further details can be had from the Tournament Organiser Mr. R. Jacobs, 53, Merrivale Road, Beacon Park, Plymouth, Devon.

BOOK REVIEW

"The Way to the Top" by Denis Neale

A new book on table tennis, written by England's Number 1, is due for publication in June. Called "The Way to the Top" Denis Neale reveals, in simple and direct language, how he climbed to success in the table tennis world and gives a colourful insight into the life of a professional table tennis player in the 1970's.

Although the book is part biographical, Denis doesn't dwell too much on his own life-story. There is much of instructional value in the book and the aim is to show how the talented youngster can gain recognition early in his career and short-cut his way to the top.

In typical forthright style, Neale gets to grips with the essentials of the game. He says: "Plenty of books show you how to play table tennis. 'The Way to the Top' is different. It shows you how to win." He says it is no good having a fancy style if it doesn't bring you points. "Get your priorities right," he advises his readers. "The whole object of the game is to win."

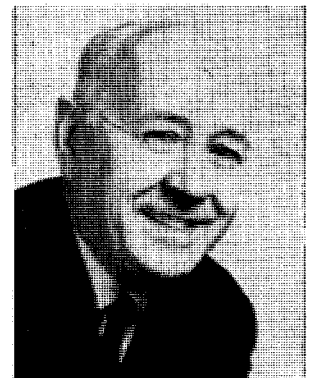
Neale is a hard-hitting, self-taught player and his resolute character comes through well in the book. He describes his early struggles for recognition and the sacrifices he has made to achieve what he wanted most of all in life: to become a professional and successful table tennis player.

"The Way to the Top" is being published by Arthur Barker Ltd., at a provisional price of 25/-. There are plenty of instructional pictures and diagrams in a book which will make a strong appeal to any table tennis enthusiast, male or female, no matter at what level they are playing the game.

This is the first title in a new series of The Way to the Top books to be put out by this reputable publisher and it is fine testimony to the standing, not only of Denis Neale but to table tennis generally, that England's Number 1 table tennis star should be chosen to launch this new series.

"The Way to the Top"—Table Tennis by Denis Neale will be obtainable from June onwards through booksellers and bookshops or direct from the publisher: Arthur Barker Ltd., 5 Winsley Street, Oxford Circus, London, W.1.

Further information from Peter Carrick, 22 Haymoor, Letchworth, Letchworth 3465.



CHARLES M. WYLES

Chairman Elect

Election of Officers for the Season 1970-71 resulted as follows:—

Chairman:

C. M. WYLES—unopposed—ELECTED.

Deputy Chairman:

G. R. YATES—82 votes—Elected.

L. Hoffman—61 votes—not elected.

A. G. Steggall—33 votes—not elected.

L. C. T. Davis—14 votes—not elected.

Treasurer:

T. BLUNN—unopposed—ELECTED.

Anthony J. H. Wickens
(Returning Officer).

Goodbye Johnny!

Tom Blunn, Chairman of the ETTA's Selection Committee, announced, on April 27, the retirement of Johnny Leach as England Team Manager.

After two years in this position, Johnny wrote to ETTA Chairman, Conrad Jaschke, prior to his departure for the European Championships in Moscow indicating his wish to retire.

At a meeting of the Association's Management Committee, on April 19, Johnny confirmed this decision and the Committee accepted the notice of retirement with regret.

Members were, however, pleased to know that Johnny was prepared to continue helping the Association in any way it thought fit.

The question of a possible successor will be one to put before the National Council in due course.

E.T.T.A. Lottery

TED WOODGATE of the Guildford and District T.T. League will never regret the day that he entered the local closed championships, for it was at the venue that he purchased the ticket in the ETTA Lottery that was to win him £250.

Second prize-winner, E. Hydeman, is a club secretary in the Acton and District League, and with the 3rd prize going to W. Austin, a member of a club in Belmont, Surrey, table tennis enthusiasts scooped the prize fund, a just reward for effort.

The final figure for ticket sales was £2,596 13s. 6d., 50% of which is paid

back to the Leagues and Counties taking part. After deducting expenses of printing, postage and prize money, a sum of approximately £750 will be paid into the ETTA funds.

Many Leagues use the Lottery as a means of fund raising as it is something without risk and with negligible cost to themselves. Top of the list in this respect was the Reading Association with sales of over £170. Middlesex headed the list of Counties with a mammoth sales figure of £276.

Details of the 1970/71 Lottery will be circulated at the beginning of next season but, in the meantime, may I ask all County and Leagues Committees to seriously consider

taking part next year, to the mutual benefit of us all.

Albert Shipley (Promoter)

DEFEAT No. 23 FOR WELSH JUNIORS

by Michael Prosser

Despite producing what was unquestionably their finest team performance in some years, the Welsh Juniors crashed to their 23rd succes-

sive defeat when beaten 8-2 by England at Aberaman on 4th April.

England's non-playing captain, Brian Wright, was the first to concede that the result was one that flattered his team. He made the point "No fewer than six of eight events won by England went to three games, and the English team are delighted to win against what was certainly the strongest Welsh side we have met in some years."

However, the English lads always seemed to have the edge in the decisive third game.

Oddly, it was the two doubles events that provided Wales with their two successes—Glamorgan's Alan Griffiths and Philip Parker beating Alan Fletcher (Yorks) and Tony Boasman (Lancs) -17, 19, 17, and Monmouthshire's Haydn Thomas and Michael Nocivelli beating Robert Hellaby (Essex) and Neil Fulstow (Yorks.) 18, 13.

COACHING and SCHOOLS

by Philip Reid

The CCPR are running a course at Scarborough College for boys under 18 from 25th July to 1st August, the fee for which is £11/10/-. This includes accommodation and tuition. Only boys under 18 can be accepted. If you are interested, write to The CCPR, 2 Park Square East, Leeds, LS1 2NQ.

Whilst in the North I would like to draw your attention to another Coaching event at Bradford on 17th May, 1970. The cost is only 5/- and any player over 11 years of age can be considered. Contact Peter Simpson at 30 Vesper Gate Mount, Leeds, 5. (Tel. Leeds 57510)—but you haven't got much time!

Lilleshall Hall, of course has an excellent reputation catering as it does for all sports and the residential course lasting from 1st June to 5th looks a real 'snip' at £8. The address to write to—and at the time of writing there were still quite a few vacancies—is The General Secretary, CCPR, 26 Park Crescent, London, W1N 4HA.

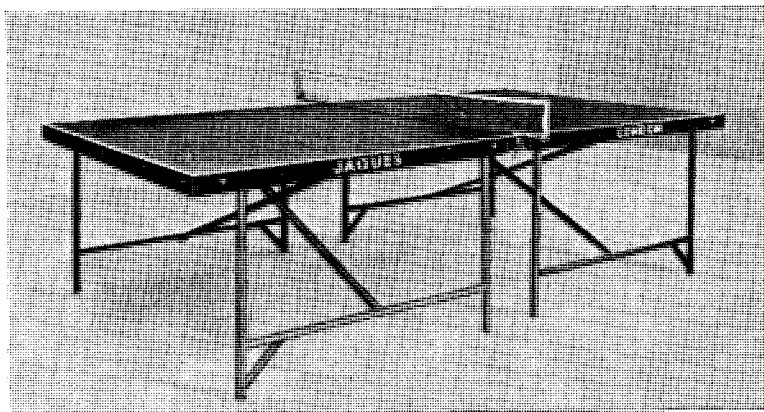
Congratulations to the latest 'Gold' Winners in the Junior Proficiency Scheme. Here they are:—**Somerset:**—Jonathan Pratlett, Roland Taysum, Graham Green, Michael Williams. **Warwickshire:** Valerie Russell, Robert Broadmore and Jeff Nix. **Essex:**—Stephen Kitteridge. Those who qualify during the Summer should see their names in print in the 'October' issue—keep practising during the Summer and reap the dividends in the Autumn.

The League "Free Visits" programme, which was so popular last season, is again filling rapidly, over 40 Leagues having requested a visit from one of the Staff Coaches. In this scheme the size of the league is irrelevant—the idea of the scheme is to foster table tennis and strengthen the ties between Leagues and the E.T.T.A.—apart from the obvious benefits from top-class coaching. Have your League taken advantage of this offer?

The National Under-13 competition will again be held and Jack Carrington tells me they have had a tremendous response from leagues—nearly 80 have entered the boys' section and over 50 in the girls'. So there is no doubt at all the competition has "caught on".

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LANCASHIRE

by George Yates

WELL DONE SUE

MANCHESTER'S Susan Lisle concluded her last season as a junior in tremendous style by winning the U-17 girls' singles event in the star-studded Slough Junior Open, her final victims being Janet Hellaby, in the semis, and Christine Mann.

It brought her season's tally of successes in Junior Open singles events to eleven—a feat without parallel in the annals of the County Palatine.

Her titles were won at the Teesside, Lancashire and Slough Junior Opens, and in the junior events of the North of England, Hull and East Riding, Birmingham, Cumberland, South Yorkshire, Midland Counties, Northumberland and East of England Open Championships.

Not content with that haul, Susan also took the women's singles title at the Northumberland and East of England and in the Cheshire County, Manchester and Warrington Closed. She has also spearheaded Manchester's team, otherwise comprising Jacqueline Dyer and Janice Green to the final of the Bromfield Trophy competition. Quite a lass, our Sue!

Manchester regained the First Division title of the Lancs. & Ches. League after a lapse of seven years with an unblemished record, top places being:—

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Manchester	8	8	0	0	66	14	16
Stockport	8	7	0	1	58	22	14
Burnley	8	5	1	2	40	40	11
Liverpool	8	5	0	3	50	30	10

Other winners were:—

- Div. 2 (North): Bolton "A"
- Div. 2 (South): Stockport "A"
- Div. 3 (North): Preston "B"
- Div. 3 (South): Manchester Banks
- Div. 4 (North): Blackburn "B"
- Div. 4 (South): Ashton "A"

- Women's Div. 1: Blackpool
- Women's Div. 2: Liverpool "A"

- Youth Div.: Mid-Cheshire
- Junior Div. 1: Manchester
- Junior Div. 2: Wirral

The Annual General Meeting of the Lancashire and Cheshire Associations, and of the Lancs. & Ches. League, will take place at the Alford Hall, Manchester Road, Warrington on Friday, May 15th, commencing at 7-30 p.m.

MIDDLESEX

by Laurie Landry

WILLESDEN AND ACTON DOWN

THERE has been much happiness in Middlesex following our victory in the Premier Division of the County Championships. It is the first time since 1964, we had almost lost the habit.

It is the 16th championship in 23 competitions. The second team, although losing their first two matches, went on to win the next

four including success against the champions of Division 2 (South) Bucks.

The future looks fairly bright too. The regular summer coaching with Leo Thompson and myself will continue this year. The second place to Kent in Junior (South) was most encouraging especially as it was a first season in the County team for Robert Aldrich, David Jemmett, Julian Colin and Douglas Bloom. The first three are still juniors next season.

The Schools' competitions are thriving so we have an ideal training ground for the future.

In the Middlesex Inter-League competition, North Middlesex scored a notable double, winning the Premier Division and the Junior Division. Relegated from the Premier after over 20 years are Willesden and Acton.

Unfortunately outside calls on top players have affected these two leagues badly. Wembley and Wembley II were winners of Divs. 2 and 3 and thus regain the positions they lost last season.

LEICESTERSHIRE

by Philip Reid

TEMPER TURNED TO ADVANTAGE

LEICESTERSHIRE JUNIORS concluded their **Junior (Midland) Division** fixtures with a 7-3 defeat by Warwickshire. Andy Holdsworth and Robert Neal each won a singles and Alan Philpott and Janet Hamer won the mixed, but there was no doubting Warwickshire's superiority.

All Philpott had to show for his singles play was a display of bad temper which Martyn Davis—the best player on view—turned to his advantage. At the moment, the composition of next season's team is completely in the air—none of this season's boys are eligible but fortunately Karen Rogers and Sally Elsdon—likely to be challenged by Anita Stevenson and Janet Billson—will still be available.

Congratulations to **Loughborough Intermediates** on topping the Intermediate 2nd Division of the Midland League at the first attempt. Their vital match was at Worcester where a maximum from Chris Brewer and two from Terry Harry paved the way for their 6-4 win.

Hinckley narrowly missed promotion in the **Men's 2nd Division** where Ernest McLeish was back within weeks after an appendicitis operation, thus proving the old adage "You can't keep a good man down."

Leicester Men's 1st team beat Potteries 7-3 in their concluding fixture of the season but it was to no avail for they are relegated to the 2nd Division. With their 2nd team topping the 3rd Division, it means there will be three teams from the hunting county in the men's 2nd Division.

Ron Hunter proved he is still the best player in **Melton** (with the exception of County Champion Colin Truman) when he won both the men's singles and men's handicap singles at their closed championships.

Colin, however, was present—as Tournament Organiser!

This season for the first time Divisional Championships have been held for the top five players in each division of the Leicester League. This has proved very popular and is likely to become a permanent feature.

King Richard's Road WMC concluded a very good season when they won the **Leicester League 1st Division** and also the Rose Johnson Cup. In the final against Barwell Constitutional, Charlie Jacques was unbeaten, Ernest McLeish taking Barwell's two sets.

Leicester Juniors have reached the semi-final of the Carter Cup for the first time. An 8-1 win over Wellingborough put them through but they now face Manchester. However, after beating Birmingham there is no lack of confidence.

The girls failed at the quarter-final stage to Willesden after a real cliff-hanger of a match which Leicester eventually lost 5-4 in the Bromfield Trophy competition.

Broomleys topped the **Coalville League 1st Division** when they finished level on points but 3 sets ahead of Pegson. A close finish too in the 2nd Division where Grieves II just pipped N.C.B. Swadlincote II.

WARWICKSHIRE

by Ralph Gunnion

"FRANKFURTERS" IN BRUM

Derek Munt and Jenny Hill (née Cornock) became the County closed champions—both for the first time—when the tournament was held at North Warwickshire Sports Centre on 12th April. Final victories were accomplished against the writer and Andrea Jones respectively. Other results:—

M.D.:
R. BROWN/R. COOPER bt Gunnion /Munt.

W.D.:
HILL/JONES bt S. Clarke/J. Rowley.

X.D.:
GUNNION/CORNOCK bt Munt/D. Griffiths.

B.S.:
M. DAVIS bt R. Broadmore.

In the Senior Promotion Play-offs we were successful in being promoted along with Buckinghamshire. Without Paul Judd, who was ill, we were a little fortunate to beat Northumberland II 6-3. Richard Cooper, playing for the first time, did extremely well to win four of his six sets. Now it is to be hoped that our players will improve sufficiently to ensure more than a season's stay in the Premier Division.

This summer sees the retirement of one of the pioneers of the Birmingham Schools' TTA, being responsible for the start and continued success. The person of course is Harry Levine, who has been Hon. Sec. of the Schools' League since its beginning.

Harry is retiring from teaching and going to live in Norwich. He will take with him the best wishes of us all for a long and happy retirement. But, pay us a visit once in a while Harry.

This month Birmingham are playing hosts to 31 players from Frankfurt who are due to arrive on 28th May. The visit has been arranged

through the Birmingham City Council.

The visitors will be greeted by the Lord Mayor of Birmingham at the City Hall and will stay at Windmill House, a Corporation-owned hostel.

Serious play will begin on the Friday evening when 5 men's and 3 women's teams will constitute the Anglo-German opposition on the grand scale. It is hoped to play the matches at Birmingham Athletic Institute.

On Saturday morning there will be a tournament for all players and, in the evening, our German visitors will be entertained at a dance and social at the Warwickshire Supporters Club. A Sunday morning coach trip will precede the departure of our guests later in the day.

It will be the first visit of this type to be undertaken by foreign tourists and it is to be hoped that our German friends will have a most enjoyable stay. Next year Birmingham will make a reciprocal visit to Frankfurt, so any of the Birmingham players interested please let Maurice Goldstein know. His address is 415 Moseley Road, Birmingham 12. Phone: 021-440 2739.

NORFOLK

by J. S. Penny

CHAMPION RUNNER-UP!

HAVING finished fourth out of six in the Eastern Division, and fifth out of seven in the Junior East, Norfolk can be said to have had only a moderate season, yet within the County there is no lack of keenness.

Theftord, who started only this season, have just staged a most successful exhibition by Mary and Brian Wright, assisted by leading Norfolk players.

Norwich have defeated the holders, King's Lynn, to become the East Anglian League of Leagues champions for the first time since 1964-65.

In Norwich itself, C.E.Y.M.S. are once again champions after their lapse last season. Norfolk Dumplings topped Div. 1 and County Council were Div. 2 champions.

Since Dianne and Jeanne Youngs also play for Norwich Union in the Norwich League Premier Division, we are particularly glad to congratulate the twins, who with Linda Woodcock formed Lowestoft's Rose Bowl side which beat Northumberland to enter the final of this national team competition. It may well be that the experience gained in Norwich gave the twins that extra "edge."

In the Fakenham League championships, Terry Dawson beat Peter Vertigan in the final of the Youths' Singles, and again, somewhat less easily, in the Men's Singles. Peter, it will be remembered, also lost his Norfolk Junior title to John Fuller, so he is becoming champion runner-up! Spectators were very favourably impressed by the standard of play at Fakenham.

In the final positions for the Wymondham League, Nomads "A" are champions with 35 points from 18 matches, followed by East Harling with 27. Tacolneston "A" head Div. II, and Attleborough Police Division III.

SUSSEX

by John Woodford

STRENGTH ENOUGH IN RESERVE

Following the survival of Sussex in the premier division, the county body has given a lot of thought to a possible revival (after a lapse of two seasons) of a second senior team to apply for inclusion in Division 2, South.

In comparison with previous line-ups, Sussex have quite a strong force of young players qualified to fight for a place in the new side. John Clarke could be the new No. 1 backed by such players as Terry Riley (Crawley), Robin Stace (Brighton) and Arthur Downer (Brighton). In the women's ranks Suzanna Kavallierou (Littlehampton), Diane Gard (Eastbourne) and Carol Randall (Uckfield) form a competent trio of talent with the three Hastings "plodders" (but nevertheless county team champions!) from Hastings—Joyce Sheppard, Margaret Dignum and Susan Franklyn—as strong reserves.

The "South West Sussex League" (formerly Bognor and Chichester) have made further progress in the junior field with the progress of

Stephen Marley (15), and John Avey (13). Still with two seasons to go as a junior, Stephen reached two singles finals in the Sussex Open and John won the Under-13 event. These two boys look all set to dominate Sussex junior table tennis until 1972 or later. Crawley present their usual strong challenge in the junior territory but they received a big set-back at Littlehampton in the county finals when beaten 6-0 by Marley, Bull and Avey for Bognor. Young John beat both Michael Juett and Alan Terry, one of the best junior performances of the year—the other outstanding success was by Marley when he won the Worthing senior closed against strong Brighton opposition.

There has been a long overdue change of pattern amongst the leading players in Hastings. Surrey player Jim Barry has moved into the town and is proving a very strong force indeed. He helped Hastings Tigers to reach the final of the Sussex inter-club competition. In the final he still proved a problem for his opponents beating both Adrian Mendelson and John Dobell (Eastbourne YMCA). Eastbourne, who won the final had earlier caused the shock of the year by beating Brighton premier champions Shoreham "A" by 5-4. They relied on Downer who had to work like a trojan with his loop to over-

come the ex-Guildford man 21-18 in the decider.

Another heartening factor in Hastings is the advance into second spot in Division 1 of the Hastings league of The Twelfth "A" team of Stephen Manlow, Morgan Rudd and David Pickard, all young players in their late teens and all in possession of a lot of talent and ambition.

HERTFORDSHIRE

by J. M. Barnes

MONOPOLY UNBROKEN

Barry White again won the Cheshunt men's singles title, an event in which he appears to hold a monopoly, though somewhat shakily on this occasion. In the first game, against Frank Chapple of Enfield Highway, he won convincingly 21-11 but Chapple scraped home in the second 22-20.

As the result of some hard hitting, Chapple got off to a good lead in the decider, but White came back with some consistent looping to reach 20-all, then 21-all, and finally won 23-21.

In the women's singles final, contested by Tina Dale and Anne Painter,

the former won a closely fought first game 23-21 but, in the second, Miss Painter seemed to lose her touch and Miss Dale ran out an easy winner 21-11.

The men's restricted singles produced a very close final between Colin Jackson and Mick Borshell. In a set containing very short rallies, the occasional smile, and looks of grim determination, Borshell scraped home -14, 20, 22.

Two Coaches contested the men's veteran title which resulted in an exhibition of all the basic strokes with Doug Williams emerging the winner over Ron Carle.

Remaining title winners were:---

- W.V.:**
K. ROWDEN bt G. Dale.
- B.S.:**
M. HARRIS bt D. Hart.
- G.S.:**
A. PAINTER bt S. Hartwell.
- X.D.:**
B. WHITE/C. DALE bt F. Nash/
Painter.
- W.D.:**
E. SIMPSON/L. WILLIAMS bt
Painter/J. Wood.
- M.D.:**
R. GIBSON/C. JACKSON bt F.
Chapple/A. Hammond.



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CAMBRIDGESHIRE

by Leslie Constable

**LITTLECHILD—
“PLAYER OF THE YEAR”**

In a match, fought with the utmost intensity, University Press beat the reigning champions, New Chesterton Institute, 7-3, and in so doing relieved their victims of the title.

Surprise of the evening was John Thurston's defeat at the hands of Paul Chisnall but “man of the match” and “player of the year” was Tony Littlechild who won all his sets.

In a match between Melbourn Village College and Wilburton, David Hedge played his three singles with a painful, badly swollen right arm in a sling. He is left-handed but despite his handicap won all three without conceding a game. In Div. 5B, ex-County star Ron Nunn made a comeback with N.C.I. II and played his part in the flaying of RAF Oakington 10-0.

Sprites I beat Soham III by 6-3 in the popular K-O Handicap Trophy, Horace Saunders being mainly responsible for bringing about the downfall of the giants.

Players who deserve mention for their performances in the Cams. League are: Thurston, Chisnall, Andrews, Jarvis, Dyer, Hedge, Venn, McGee, Lee and Clode.

In the final of the Jack Dalton Memorial Cup competition, played at Wolverton, N. Herts I beat Bedford II 6-3. In the semis, the winners beat Bedford I 6-4 and the beaten finalists accounted for Cambridge II 7-1.

The Cams and Isle of Ely Schools' tournament was dominated by John Willis who won three events. He was successful in the U-18 and U-15 singles in the boys' doubles partnered by 11-year-old Paul Day from King's School, Ely, who also appeared in three finals but losing to Willis (Netherhall) in the U-15's.

Jane Matthews followed her triumph in the County Closed by winning the U-15 singles, while Deborah Clark and Emma Swann, both of Perse, won the U-18 and U-13 singles respectively.

The Cambridgeshire Closed once again had a massive entry and although the finals were not particularly exciting affairs, they did have a few surprises.

Tony Littlechild's emergence as county champion may have come as a surprise but despite a difficult draw, he won through without conceding a leg and only in the quarter final against Dick Clode was he run close.

Once again he proved his superiority over John Thurston, beating him in the semi-final, and he now seems to be able to beat him at will. Tony has now given a broad hint to the county selectors who dropped him from the county team.

Alan Ponder, last season's champion had quite a struggle to overcome John Sell, of Wisbech, in the semi-final.

John Thurston needs one more win to equal John Cornwell's eight successes as county champion, but now that he is nearing the veteran stage, he will find it that much more difficult as each season passes.

It was very refreshing to see the Wisbech League go home with one of the titles and Barry Wilson and Sell were worthy winners of the Men's doubles.

Carol Chapman retained her singles title against Sally Browning's challenge but not without some anxious moments.

'Lofty' Adams won the Veterans' title for the seventh time, but he was given a close fight by Bassingbourn's Maurice Oxley.

Jane Matthews was a surprise but, nevertheless, popular winner of the girls' singles final beating Janet Ferguson to whom she had played second string in the junior county side all season.

The boys' singles was won by David Tiplady. He proved too good for seeded John Willis and Carl Dellar, despite being absent from the Cambridge table tennis scene all season.

Results:—

M.S.—A. Ponder bt J. Sell 19, -16 18; A. Littlechild bt J. Thurston 14, 16.

Final:
LITTLECHILD bt Ponder 12, 18.

W.S.—C. CHAPMAN bt S. Browning -16, 16, 18.

M.D.—Sell/B. Wilson bt S. Andrews/ Thurston 16, 16.

W.D.—Browning/Chapman bt Clode/ Grainger 6, 6.

X.D.—K. Chapman/Chapman bt A. Clode/Close 16, 19.

B.S.—D. Tiplady bt C. Dellar 18, -18, 13.

G.S.—J. Matthews bt J. Ferguson -16, 20, 12.

V.S.—A. Adams bt M. Oxley -14, 17, 22.

**SOUTH-EAST MIDLANDS
LEAGUE**

Five Titles For Harper

For the third successive year Cambridge City have triumphed in the Men's Division of the S-E. M. League finishing 30 pts ahead of their nearest rivals North Herts and St. Neots.

Thanks to some sterling play by Anita James, and after a close struggle with N. Herts., Bedford took the Women's title. Bletchley have championed the Veterans' Div. with Wellingboro' and North Herts still going great guns for the Junior title.

Michael Harper (N. Herts) was the winner of 5 titles at Cambridge, when the League's Closed Champs. took place and some fine work was also put in, off the table by Margaret Cornwall (Tournament Sec.) and Henry Fox (League Sec.).

Principal results:—

M.S.: Semi-finals:
A. Littlechild (Camb.) bt R. Marchant (Well) 15, 12;
M. Harper bt J. Thurston (Camb) 7, 10.

Final: HARPER bt Littlechild 11, 13.

W.S.—A. James bt S. Felstead (N. Herts.) 17, 10.

B.S.—Harper bt J. Maloney (Well) -21, 16, 11.

G.S.—S. Harding (N. Herts) bt L. Ekins (Northampton) 6, 6.

DERBYSHIRE

by Walter Reeves

CHESTERFIELD STILL TOPS

CHESTERFIELD'S players proved once again to be the “tops” in Derbyshire by winning the County League's first division championship and their men taking three out of four places in the men's singles in the County Closed.

Their leading woman, Sandra Walters (née Pegg) retained her singles crown by overcoming the resolute defence of Lancs. county player Di Johnson. And their junior side, with a fine 7-3 win over Derby, have won the junior section of the County League.

This victory was due in no small way to the great improvement in the play of N. Marples, son of the County 2nd team player D. Marples, who won his three singles in great style.

The County Championships, played at Matlock and run by Tony Chatwin and his committee, got through a crowded programme in the one day.

In so doing the men's singles, normally the best of five, was reduced to best of three and this, no doubt, helped Tony Hunt to beat the former champion John Wallhead.

Hunt was not so successful when partnered by Colin Deaton and opposed by Derby's Doug Foulds and Dave Stills, the latter pair winning in the deciding game.

Results:—

M.S.: A. HUNT bt J. Wallhead 16, 17.

W.S.: S. WALTERS bt D. Johnson 13, 14.

M.D.: D. FOULDS/D. STILLS bt C. Deaton /Hunt 18, -9, 18.

W.D.: MAXFIELD/WIBBERLEY bt Bright /Walters -11, 16, 16.

X.D.: DEATON/JOHNSON bt Wallhead/ Walters 14, 19.

B.S.: MARPLES bt Madin 13, 22.

G.S.: DEAKIN bt Holmes 12, 20.

V.S.: STREET bt Nutt 9, 11.

COUNTY LEAGUE

Division 1	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Chesterfield	6	5	1	0	46	14	11
Matlock	6	4	0	2	37	23	8
Derby	5	3	0	2	31	19	6
Alfreton	4	2	1	1	27	13	5

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WESTERN LEAGUE

by Grove Motlow

**NEWBURY WIN AT FIRST
ATTEMPT**

By virtue of two excellent wins over Exeter and Salisbury, Newport now lead Bristol by a slightly better sets average. Both have one match to play and are at home in each instance to Plymouth and Taunton respectively.

Newport beat Exeter 6-3 at home and obtained a like result away to Salisbury, Tony Huish being unbeaten in both matches.

Swindon, placed third, have Plymouth and Bristol 2nds still to play. Newbury, at home to Plymouth, were hard put to before winning 5-4 after trailing 3-4. Kozlowski brought the match score level after being 16-20 down to D. James, winning the next 6 pts. Tony Reeves then proved himself the match winner by accounting for R. Jacobs.

Salisbury sprang a surprise when they beat Weston 7-2 thanks to three good wins by R. Arney. Newbury had another good win beating Weston, away, 5-4 with D. Campbell securing a well deserved maximum.

Displaying championship form, Newbury's women had an easy 9-0 home win over Swindon and accounted for Newport by a similar margin.

Bristol beat Devizes 7-2 when only Mrs. Waters was able to hold the visitors.

The Men's Division has been extremely interesting this season and it is still not certain who will finally clinch the title. Newbury, newcomers to the League, have certainly proved formidable opponents and their women have won the championship at the first attempt. Since losing their first match, to Bristol, they have not been beaten since. Well done, Newbury.

In the Men's Division, it is pleasing to see that Taunton, who finished bottom last season, have had a much better time of it whilst Newport have had their best season for many years. It has been a little unfortunate that newcomers, Salisbury have not always been able to field their strongest side due to County commitments.

Application for next season's entry into the Western League should be made to me at 29 Carisbrooks Road, Newport, Mon. (Phone: 71964). They should reach me no later than 31st May.

It is hoped that all our members will again be with us and new members are cordially invited to write for details of membership. My thanks to all League Secretaries for their excellent co-operation during the season and I look forward to seeing them all at the A.G.M. in early July.

Leading positions:—

Men	P	W	L	F	A	Pts
Newport	9	7	2	57	24	14
Bristol	9	7	2	54	27	14
Swindon	8	6	2	42	30	12
Newbury	9	6	3	44	37	12
Women						
Newbury	9	8	1	56	25	16
Bristol	9	6	3	59	23	12
Exeter	8	4	4	30	42	8

SURREY

by John Zenthon

WHAT OF PENFOLD?

After the uncertainties of the past year or so it's reassuring to see the first team placed in the middle of the Premier division. Mary Wright and "Connie" Warren both played well as did Barry Hill and it is not taking anything away from them to say that no small part of our success was due to Ron Penfold one of the most improved players in the County (Country?) and who this season has beaten all the top players in England and Scotland. In addition he won the men's singles at the Essex Open. What a pity there seems to be no opportunity to give him a chance at representing England, surely he's earned it.

With the return of George Muranyi to the side, the second team (which has also included Gordon Chapman, Paul Beck, Trevor Campbell, Ruth Miles, Jean Head and Joan Fitzsimons) came within an ace of winning the second division south. Had Trevor Campbell been available for the last match of the season they could well have pulled it off.

The juniors finished third in their division and in order to improve on this they may well have to wait a season or two to have boys of sufficient strength to fill the two and three spots.

In the finals of the Percy Johnson Competition, South London convincingly beat Dulwich 5-1 having beaten Thames Valley 6-3 in the semi-finals (Dulwich in their semi-final beat Croydon 5-4). Next season will see this competition played on a divisional basis. By the way, its about time some of these organisers got their finger out, for a League to have played only three out of six scheduled matches is hardly to their credit and unfair to other Leagues.

Now something for you to think about during the summer! The rules of the County provide for League secretaries to attend the various committee meetings. In addition, the various County officers, naturally attend the meetings and it is therefore quite possible for a League to have more than one representative on the County—a highly desirable state of affairs from the Leagues' point of view one would have thought. Such is not the case however, as the vast majority of Leagues take no part whatsoever in the running of the County.

To all intents and purposes the following Leagues are never represented: Byfleet, Croydon Business Houses, Dorking, Dulwich, Kingston Schools, Leatherhead and Epsom, Reigate and Redhill, Southwark and Thames Valley; and the following Leagues rarely, if at all, take advantage of the fact that their secretary has a seat on the committee as of right: Croydon, South London and Wandsworth (it is gratifying to think that so many Leagues have such confidence in their present County Committee!)

It is only too well known that those who are willing to take on jobs slowly find themselves, if they permit

it, getting everything to do and I would be the last to suggest that an overworked Secretary should, if he hasn't the time, also come along to County meetings. But the rules allow for the secretary's representative to come in his place. Here is a golden opportunity for the League to have a say in the County and either for a 'not-overworked committee member, or even someone not on the League's committee at all, to be introduced into table tennis administration. How about making such a person your County representative and giving them an ex-officio post on your committee! Surely you know

someone who would like such an opportunity.

Finally if anyone reading this would like to take part in the general running of things—have a word with your local League and if you don't have any success then give me a ring (telephone 01-660 1974).

At the head of affairs within the County are:—

Arthur Williams Rose Bowl (Women)

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

Percy Johnson (Men)

Group "A"

	P	W	L	F	A	Pts
Dulwich	6	6	0	37	17	12
Thames Valley I.	7	5	2	41	22	10
Wandsworth I	7	5	2	37	26	10
Cr'don Bus. Hses	5	3	2	25	20	6

Harding Cup (Mixed)

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Thames Valley I	6	5	1	1	37	11	11
Byfleet	6	4	1	1	30	18	9
Guildford	5	4	0	1	30	10	8

Sutton Trophy (Juniors)

Byfleet	4	4	0	0	19	5	8
South London	3	1	0	2	9	9	2



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YORKSHIRE

by Cliff Darley

THIN ON THE GROUND

Only two umpires in the County are available for the European Youth Championships to be played at the Thornaby Pavilion, Teesside! I know all about it being from August 4-9th, but a reply to my circular would at least let me know you are away on holiday.

Now in the capable hands of Alan and Kathleen Thompson, our Juniors finally over came their Lancashire hoodoo, in the final match at Blackburn, to win the Junior (North) title. But, alas, it availed us nought at Loughborough in the Challenge matches.

The Yorkshire Dinner has been arranged on similar lines to last year. It will be held in Pontefract on 6th June when all the Yorkshire League trophies, and individual Merit Awards will be presented. If you wish to reserve a place, then please drop me a line. Oh yes, we do have postmen in Pontefract and the address is 13 The Booths! After dinner, you can drink and dance until midnight.

Saturday, 27th June, is the date of the County AGM, to be held during the afternoon in Leeds. Remember, it will cost your League 100np if not represented!

Over at Barnsley, all trophies changed hand in the Closed Champs. Brian Starkie beat Doug McGarry to win the men's singles final -16, 13, 19.

Lillias Hamilton was the women's singles winner beating Eileen Starkie, 9 and 10, but Eileen was only recently home after the birth of a baby. Glyn Hydes, brother of Alan, took the junior singles beating Davis White 18 and 19.

Saints, represented by John Airey, McGarry, "Chick" Robinson and David Sykes duly completed the league double adding the 4-a-side championship to the Division 1 title.

Clayton Heights beat Bethnel 8-1 in the final of Bradford's Burton Cup competition. The winners were captained by former inter-league star Terry Miller who, together with Alan Jones, kept a clean sheet. Nicky Marshall added the other two. So, for the fourth time in six years Bethnel had to be content as runners-up. In the semis, Clayton beat Hermits 8-1 only a few days after suffering a 9-1 league defeat against the same opponents!

Villa, represented by Graham Carr, Dave Weatherhead, Geoff Scaife and John Troughton, sealed the Harrogate League title when they beat their chief rivals Spa Casino Wanderers 6-4 with Weatherhead unbeaten.

Halifax League Sec., G. W. Barnes, has taken over the post of Yorkshire Organiser of the N.E. Summer League, and Ovenden Youth Club claim a T.T. Marathon for Halifax and District of 51 hours non-stop play by David Bowers (4299), Paul Bowers (5920), Peter Ogden (5022) and R. Danyluk (3545).

The Humberside "Hurricane", Neil Fulstow, gained his first international cap in the England v Wales match at Aberaman.

Hull's women are now leading contenders for the Yorkshire League

title, which has never gone to Humberside. Also in pursuit of honours are Hull Juniors.

HAMPSHIRE

by David Cosway

DON'T DO IT CHRISTINE!

GENERALLY a disappointing season which started with high hopes of a promotion play-off for the first team, and a Southern Division Championship for the second, but ended with both teams finishing in the middle order.

The first team had predictable early victories, but successive defeats by Devon, Worcester and Somerset were hard to swallow, especially the 2-8 catastrophe at Worcester. The season closed on a somewhat happier note, with a much improved performance against Gloucester. The only male player to emerge from this team with a degree of success was David Davies. The women performed as usual, the dependable twins playing as well as ever. Christine Davies played the majority of singles, and one hopes that her threats to retire from the game next season do not materialise. She is still far too young and too good a player to think of leaving a game which has given her so much pleasure.

A very mixed season for the second team, with good wins over Worcester and Oxford in the first half; creditable draws with the top two teams in the division, and then disappointing second half defeats by Berkshire and Oxford. The policy of the selectors in bleeding four of the junior players in this team fulfilled the original object of entering this Division. Most encouraging result of the season, was in fact reserved for the last match of the season, where one of the youngest-ever Hampshire teams beat the experienced Worcester, on their own table. The fight and will-to-win shown by the Hampshire youngsters would certainly show up a number of Hampshire players who have represented the first team this season! Over the season, Chris Shetler was outstanding with 75% in singles. He surely must soon make his first team debut.

The juniors middle-of-the-table position was predictable, but as several of the boys have still junior seasons ahead, the future is not too bleak. On the girls' side however, the top players will be seniors next season, and good up-and-coming girls are rather scarce.

In the inter-town league, Southampton carried off their sixth consecutive mixed division one title, with a 100% points record, although Portsmouth's results against other teams were the more impressive. In the Southampton team this season, the selectors have been faced with a great deal of apathy from their players, and in some matches it has been a question of finding a team able and willing to play, rather than select the strongest team. In their important match against Basingstoke, only one of the selected team played, and it was fortunate for their championship hopes that their opponent's team was also weakened, otherwise a defeat would have cost them the

title. The Isle of Wight and Bournemouth "B" are relegated from this division, to be replaced by Gosport "A" and Winchester. Champions of the second division Gosport "A" only dropped one point during the season, and that was to their second team! Basingstoke win their first-ever junior division title, with their three boys leading the individual averages, and all three are still juniors next season. In fairness to Bournemouth and Southampton however, one must point out that neither of these Towns played their top juniors in this division regularly, and Southampton's remaining strength was split between its two teams.

The outstanding player individually was Portsmouth's Ray Lush, who heads the mixed division averages. He has been the most consistent player over the season despite the occasional unpredictable loss.

FINAL LEADING PLACINGS

Mixed Division One:

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
South'ton "A"	7	7	0	0	61	23	14
Portsmouth	7	6	0	1	65	19	12
Bourn'th "A"	7	5	0	2	58	26	10
Basingstoke	7	3	1	3	43	41	7

Men's Division

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Southampton	5	4	1	0	39	11	9
Aldershot	5	4	0	1	33	17	8
Portsmouth	5	2	2	1	30	20	6
Basingstoke	5	2	1	2	26	24	5

Junior Division

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Basingstoke	14	12	2	0	105	35	26
Bourn'th	14	9	3	2	90	50	21
South'ton A	14	8	3	3	89	51	19
South'ton B	14	8	2	4	87	53	18

The first event of importance in the County next season, is the Four T's Club Restricted Open, on Sunday, 20th September. This event is to be held in the larger premises of Southampton University, which it is hoped will attract a bigger entry. Entry forms can be obtained from the organiser Mr. C. Sims, at "Woodbury" Bakers, Drove, Rownhams, Southampton. Closing date for entries is 5th September.

STAFFORDSHIRE

by John Pike

SAD TIDINGS

IT is with regret that I have to start my final notes of the season with the news that Dorothy Deeley lost her baby, which was due to be born this month. From everyone in the county and from further afield, we send our sympathy to Dot and Alan on this tragic loss.

After losing their final match against Warwickshire, the county first team finished the season in third place, while the second team and juniors both finished runners-up in their respective divisions. A good season all round then, but I would like to see a bit more bite from the A team next term. We are making a habit of playing second fiddle when it comes to the "crunch" match each season.

The new veterans team, under the guidance of Don Pritchard, have carried all before them in their friendly matches and must now be hoping that their proposal for a

veterans division will be carried at the A.G.M.

Wolverhampton, who have won the first division of the county league, will be staging a special event, when the town put on a Festival of Sport week next month.

By way of a change some news from Lichfield. It was two veterans, Ernie Coggins and Jack Hood, who stole the show in their closed tournament.

After Ernie had beaten Jack to take the singles trophy, the pair joined forces to win the doubles. With their team, Walsall Wood, winning the first division, it has been a good season for the evergreens. J. Stallard (Bound Brook) won the handicap singles with K. Judge (Windmill) finishing runner-up.

County coach, Jim Hayward, still reports good progress at the Highfield Schools Centre, Wolverhampton, where the second course is now well under way. Bryan Merrett was due to pay a visit at the centre last month.

One of the Highfield youngsters, Glenys Nicholls, did well to win the women's singles, as well as the girls' event, in the annual Woodfield tournament.

As a Devonian, I would like to finish this season's notes, by congratulating Devon on reaching the county championship play-off.

CUMBERLAND

by George Gray

BATTY RETAINS TITLE

THE No. 2 seed, Ron Batty (Whitehaven), retained his men's singles title in the County Closed, played at Dalston, with a final victory over Peter Jenkins (Carlisle) who had knocked out top seed Bernard Hand in the semis.

The men's doubles title went to Carlisle for the first time for many years when George Gray and George Lapping teamed up to beat Batty and Hand.

John Willis completed a successful personal season when he won the junior title beating P. Broughton (Millom) very easily.

The women's singles was won by Clarice Rose (Millom) who defeated Mary Hail (Millom) and, partnered by John Reed, won the mixed.

Two extra awards were presented for outstanding performances and these went to D. Kirkpatrick (Carlisle) and Miss I. Schwarzer (Whitehaven), both juniors.

- Results:—
M.S.:
 R. BATTY bt P. Jenkins 18, 16.
W.S.:
 C. ROSE bt M. Hail 12, 17.
M.D.:
 G. GRAY/G. LAPPING bt Batty/B. Hand -17, 19, 18.
X.D.:
 J. REED/ROSE bt Gray/M. Hankin 17, 19.
B.S.:
 J. WILLIS bt P. Broughton 13, 6.
G.S.:
 I. SCHWARZER bt D. Hanna 16, 10.
B.D.:
 S. BENNETT/BROUGHTON bt D. Kirkpatrick/M. Zivtins 10, -14, 16.

NORTHANTS

by Gwyn Powell

NEW NAME ON TROPHY

This year's County Closed, held at the Kettering Drill Hall, proved to be one of the most successful County tournaments in recent years with many exciting games and quite a few upsets. In the Men's Singles, Pete Root, now living and playing in London, surprised everyone with his strong looped attack and quick hitting style and fought his way through to win his first Northants title. Root, who plays for U.T.C. 'A' in the Northampton league, put out No. 2 seed Roderick Marchant in the quarter-final in a terrific exhibition of modern table tennis, and then went on to beat George Tsow to reach the final, where he outthit the experienced defensive player, Colin Hogg to win by 20 and 17.

Hogg and Bryan Bond once again proved what an effective combination they are, especially under tournament conditions, when they beat Steve Lyon and Roderick Marchant, the 1 and 2 singles seeds, to win their 8th Men's Doubles title, the first being back in 1954. Dick Ingle also notched up his eighth county title when he beat Dick Cole in the final of the veteran's singles.

The women's titles all went to Kettering with Tina Coleman beating Ann Lenton in the singles and Ann Lenton and Pat Rixon defeating Miss Coleman and Miss D. Doyle in the final of the doubles. Mrs. Lenton also featured in the final of the mixed which, with Northampton's Roger Steward, she won for the second year running. The junior events were dominated by Wellingborough players with John Moloney taking the Boy's Singles and the Doubles in which he was partnered by Pete Crawley. Susan Gordon, who has played regularly for the County over the last three years, beat Lesley Ekins to win her first Girl's Singles title.

Northampton's Veterans, Dick Ingle, Norman Blinco and Maurice Harradine, failed by only one point to retain the South East Midlands league title they won last season. In their final match against Ely they needed all ten points but dropped one so that this year Bletchley take the title and Northampton finish in second place.

In the Wellingborough v Northampton S.E.M. league match it was good to see how much the home ladies have improved. Barbara Pettifer who reached the semi-final of the County Ladies Singles, spearheaded her team to a useful 6-4 victory with a singles maximum, which included wins against previous county champions Joyce Rowson and Emily Twiselton.

John Moloney was the star of the Wellingborough Closed tournament when he appeared in four of the six finals and was successful in three. In the final of the Men's Singles he surprised the holder, Roderick Marchant, and won the first game. Marchant fought back to take the second and just pipped the very promising Moloney 21-19 to win his third consecutive title. Moloney won the Boy's Singles, beating Pete Crawley in the final and joined by Crawley won both the Boy's Doubles and the Men's Doubles. Barbara Pettifer took the

Ladies Singles and Doubles, with Chris Dilley which means that the Wellingborough Town Club swept the board, winning five of the six titles at stake.

George Tsow won the Men's Singles in the Daventry Closed but only after a fierce tussle with Brian Bliss swayed at the end by Tsow's spin serves. Even so he only managed to win 22-20 in the third game. R. Castle and G. Lewis of National Adhesives beat M. Neal and G. Franklin to take the Men's Doubles and the Ladies' Singles was won by Mrs. Evelyn Watson who proved far too steady for young Linda Atkin in the final. There were 44 competitors in this year's competition and the general standard seems to have improved a lot. B.B.C. 'A' won the Daventry First Division title having gone through the season without loss. Timken 'C' were the second division champions after close competition with the Fire Brigade 'A' with the situation only being resolved in the last week of the league programme. Division 3 was won by the Development Staff T.T.C. 'B'.

WILTSHIRE

by Ken Bostock

COOL CUSTOMER

Mick Andrews, playing for Lawns Evening Centre in the Swindon League, became the new men's singles champion with a final victory over John Candy in the Wiltshire Closed held at Swindon on 12th April.

Andrews, aged 22, with no credits in the Wiltshire or surrounding area, modestly confesses that he did win the Cheshunt League's men's title about four years ago.

In a never-to-be-forgotten final, Andrews held a 20-15 lead in the deciding game only for a grimly determined Candy to catch up at deuce and hold a set point himself! Brilliantly cool, Andrews then took the title from this position having disposed of No. 1 seed Bill Moulding in the semis.

Candy, for the second year running, upset the seedings by first putting out Richard Arney in the quarters and Frank Bailey in the semis.

Miss Alison Boyce, from Devizes, had a great day by winning the women's singles crown for the first time.

- Results:—
M.S.:
 M. ANDREWS bt J. Candy 14, -14, 22.
W.S.:
 A. BOYCE bt K. Leslie 13, 8.
M.D.:
 R. ARNEY/W. MOULDING bt F. Bailey/A. Wolff 11, 11.
W.D.:
 M. ALEXANDER/K. WATERS bt Leslie/J. Price 23, 14.
X.D.:
 A R N E Y/ALEXANDER bt D. Waters/Waters 23, 14.
V.S.:
 K. BOSTOCK bt G. Townsend 16, 18.

Richard Arney took all the glory at the Salisbury League's championships which had been Bill Moulding's

for the last three years. When these two met in the men's singles final, the speed and fury of the rallies and the eventual defeat of Moulding left the audience stunned and breathless.

Notable successes in the earlier rounds had been Roland Bennett's defeat of John Candy, and Dave Hill's elimination of Roy Smith.

- Results:—
M.S.:
 R. ARNEY bt W. Moulding 15, 20.
W.S.:
 K. WATERS bt M. Baker -15, 7, 18.
M.D.:
 ARNEY/MOULDING bt J. Candy/J. Nicol 5, 10.
W.D.:
 BAKER/S. BOSTOCK bt E. Eyers/Waters -19, 18, 18.
X.D.:
 D. WATERS/WATERS bt Moulding/Eyers -15, 20, 16.
J.S.:
 ARNEY bt S. Veale 10, 11.
V.S.:
 T. CASH bt K. Bostock 15, 20.

Hero of the West Wilts League championships was veteran J. Pearce who, for his performances, was awarded the Merit Shield. Though beaten in the men's singles final by John Ford, this was overshadowed by his feat in reaching a final he first contested and won over 30 years ago, and last held in 1958!

- Results:—
M.S.:
 J. FORD bt J. Pearce 14, 10.
W.S.:
 V. WEBB bt J. Missen 14, 12.
M.D.:
 J. CLEVELAND/FORD bt J. Blanchard/D. Morris 14, 17.
X.D.:
 B. LLOYD/MISSEN bt R. Johnson/Webb 19, -19, 16.
J.S.:
 R. ARNEY bt P. Norris 7, 10.
V.S.:
 D. MORRIS bt J. Blanchard 20, -14, 10.

ESSEX

by Harry Walker

FEW SURPRISES

The County Closed Champs, both Senior and Junior, played at Southend, produced very few surprises and the entries were good.

- Results:—
Senior
M.S.:
 D. Brown bt C. Barnes.
W.S.:
 L. Radford bt D. Simpson.
M.D.:
 Barnes/R. Stevens bt Brown/D. Johnson.
W.D.:
 Radford/Simpson bt T. Dale/M. Know.
X.D.:
 P. Radford/Radford bt Barnes/Simpson.
V.S.:
 J. Osborne bt S. Norton.
Junior
Boys
 U-13—A. Bawdon bt M. Thorne.
 U-15—I. Horsham bt M. Bawdon.
 U-17—R. Hellaby bt M. Locke.
B.D.:
 M. Dvorak/Hellaby bt Horsham/Locke.
X.D.:
 Hellaby/J. Hellaby bt G. Blomfield/G. Locke.

Girls

- U-13—E. Tarten bt G. Taylor.
 U-15—J. Hellaby bt G. Taylor.
 U-17—S. Beckwith bt J. Hellaby.
G.D.:
 Beckwith/Locke bt Hellaby/S. Read.

In the Essex Team K.O. (Men's) competition, Gidea Park 1st meet Fellows Cranleigh. In the Women's Section—Hoffmans were defeated by Gidea Park 5-4 in the final.

The Bernard Crouch Trophy competition should have been completed by 5th March but two matches are still outstanding!!

Present positions:—

	P	W	L	F	A	Pts
Essex	3	2	1	14	13	4
Middlesex	3	1	2	16	11	2
Surrey	2	1	1	6	12	2

It seems a pity that a competition organised in memory of a great player should be treated with such indifference by the Match Secretaries of the three Counties.

Two further League Championships have been played with the following results:—

- Barking League**
M.S.:
 D. Johnson bt I. Horsham.
W.S.:
 S. Beckwith bt G. Locke.
M.D.:
 D. Bowles/M. Locke bt Johnson/S. Smith.
W.D.:
 Beckwith/Locke bt E. Tarten/G. Taylor.
X.D.:
 J. Holton/Locke bt M. Locke/Beckwith.
V.S.:
 B. Levinge bt R. Gallagher.
B.S.:
 M. Locke bt S. Kitteridge.
G.S.:
 G. Locke bt E. Tarten.
Braintree League
M.S.:
 F. Shelldrake bt D. Hutley.
W.S.:
 J. Plampin bt J. Pedder.
M.D.:
 D. Atterbury/Shelldrake bt I. Buck/A. Guy.
W.D.:
 Pedder/Plampin won.
X.D.:
 Atterbury/Pedder bt Hutley/V. Holmes.
B.S.:
 A. Smart bt J. Linin.

Most of the Inter-League Championships Matches have been played and probable winners and runners-up of the main divisions would appear to be:—

- Div. 1—ILFORD. Runners-up: East London.
 Div. 2—SOUTHEND (Basildon).
 Div. 3—DAGENHAM (Clacton).
 Vets. Div. 1—ILFORD (East London).
 Junr. Div. 1—BARKING (East London).

Harry Spraggs has had an addition to his family, a son being born on 25th March—Trevor Stuart—7 lbs. 10 ozs. Mother and son doing well. Harry will be moving south very shortly but will still retain his great interest in Essex.

Sad news is the departure from Essex of David Lomas of the Burnham League and Secretary of the Essex Schools' T.T.A. David has been appointed to a school in Surrey and all his Essex friends will wish him well. Essex have lost a good administrator—need I say more.

Finally, should any county be keen on challenging Essex to a game of cricket, how about it? Home or away please contact me at 118 Avon Road, Cranham, Upminster, Essex. (Phone: Upminster 24031).

HUNTINGDON AND PETERBOROUGH

by David Obee

ALAN AGAIN!

Alan Albon (St. Neots) won the men's singles for the second successive year when the County Closed tournament was held at Peterborough's Werrina stadium on 22nd March. From a record entry of nearly 100, he emerged to easily stave off the challenge of this season's regular County No. 2 Paul Charlton (Hunts Central). Paul's inexperience was his downfall as he slumped to a straight games defeat in the final, being unable to change his attacking style when the titleholder was defending at his best.

Earlier, Albon had beaten off a strong challenge in his semi-final against Brian Arnold (Hunts Central), who plays little table tennis these days; and Charlton had put out his doubles partner David Obee (Peterboro'), in his semi.

Barbara Webb (St. Neots) took the women's singles with a final win over Shelley Holland (Peterboro'), adding this to her St. Neots "closed" title.

The men's doubles went to Chalton/Obee who defeated Malcolm Stennett/Gordon Cockram (St. Neots) in the deciding game and the women's doubles resulted in a straight games win for Linda Mellin/Pat Bingham (St. Neots) over the mother and daughter combination of Evelyn/Jean Allinson (Peterboro').

Once again the mixed went to Obee/Miss Holland who overcame Albon/Miss Webb, whilst the junior events went to Paul MacArthur (St. Neots) and Pat Bingham (St. Neots).

Paul MacArthur was in fine form in his final to pull off a shock win over County No. 1 John Last, while Pat Bingham accounted for Peterborough youngster Jean Allinson.

The veteran's singles went to Peterborough's Eddie Berna who, on this occasion, proved too steady for holder Henry Fox (St. Neots).

All in all, the championships were voted a huge success, with nearly 300 matches played and the finals completed by 11 p.m. Tournament Secretary, Pat Tate, assisted by Alan White, received wide praise. Results from member leagues' closed tournaments were as follows:—

- St. Neots**
M.S.: A. ALBON.
W.S.: B. WEBB.
M.D.: ALBON/L. SAYWELL.
W.D.: D. BUSHBY/WEBB.
B.S.: R. MELLIN.
G.S.: L. MELLIN.
X.D.: ALBON/WEBB.
- Peterborough**
M.S.: P. CHARLTON.
W.S.: S. HOLLAND.
M.D.: CHARLTON/D. OBEЕ.
W.D.: P. BAKER/HOLLAND.
J.S.: G. MARTIN.
V.S.: D. CARTLEDGE.
X.D.: OBEЕ/HOLLAND.
- Hunts Central**
M.S.: P. CHARLTON.
W.S.: D. GREENWOOD.
M.D.: CHARLTON/G. MARTIN.
W.D.: E. GREEN/P. NORMAN.
B.S.: S. RICHARDS.
G.S.: S. RICHARDS.
X.D.: J. THOROUGHGOOD/
 GREENWOOD.

COUNTY TABLE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS LEADING AVERAGES 1969-70

Qualification: 2 matches played, and 50% record (Premier Division) or 60% record (all other divisions).

Premier

	P	W	%
G. Barnes (E)	10	10	100
A. Hydes (Y)	14	13	93
A. Lindsay (M)	8	7	88
D. Neale (Y)	14	12	86
A. Clayton (Y)	8	6	75
M. Sugden (Mi)	14	10	71
O. Haslam (Mi)	14	9	64
M. Johns (Ch)	14	9	64
A. Pidcock (K)	14	9	64
R. Penfold (Sy)	14	8	57
H. Buist (K)	14	7	50
D. Brown (E)	12	6	50
B. Burn (Nd)	12	6	50
D. Schofield (Ch)	10	5	50
S. Ogundipe (Sx)	6	3	50
A. Ransome (Nd)	6	3	50
B. Wright (Mi)	4	2	50
Mrs. M. Wright (Sy)	7	7	100
Mrs. K. Matthews (Mi)	7	6	86
Mrs. P. Pidcock (K)	7	4	57
Miss J. Williams (Sx)	7	4	57
Mrs. M. Robson (Nd)	4	2	50
Mrs. C. Duncombe (Nd)	2	1	50

2nd South

	P	W	%
B. Petch (Mi)	8	7	88
R. Hellaby (E)	6	5	83
F. Nilam (Mi)	8	6	75
L. Wooding (Bu)	8	6	75
J. Dabin (K)	10	7	70
S. Smith (E)	10	7	70
P. Beck (Sy)	12	8	67
S. Hahn (Bu)	12	8	67
P. Shirley (Bu)	12	8	67
P. Radford (E)	6	4	67
E. Coster (He)	8	5	63
D. Johnson (E)	8	5	63
G. Muranyi (Sy)	10	6	60
Miss J. Shirley (Bu)	5	5	100
Mrs. J. Head (Sy)	4	4	100
Miss J. Fitzsimons (Sy)	2	2	100

2nd North

	P	W	%
P. Abell (Y)	4	4	100
K. Forshaw (La)	4	4	100
N. Jarvis (Y)	4	4	100
P. Hoyles (Nd)	12	10	83
T. Hart (Nd)	6	5	83
P. Hirst (Y)	6	5	83
A. Chilvers (Nd)	10	8	80
J. Keogh (La)	12	9	75
R. Kettlewell (Nd)	8	6	75
D. Rayner (Y)	4	3	75
S. Kaufman (La)	10	7	70
J. Yeats (Y)	6	4	67
J. Hilton (Ch)	6	4	67
Mrs. C. Duncombe (Nd)	2	2	100
Mrs. D. Johnson (La)	6	5	83
Miss L. Forkes (Y)	4	3	75
Mrs. C. Moran (Li)	4	3	75
Miss C. Rose (Cu)	6	4	67

2nd Midland

	P	W	%
S. Davies (Gn)	4	4	100
D. Munt (Wa)	12	11	92
R. Gunnion (Wa)	10	9	90
R. Bishop (Gn)	6	5	83
P. Judd (Wa)	10	8	80
G. Warwick (St)	12	9	75

D. Baddeley (St)	4	3	75
F. Anderson (Gn)	10	7	70
G. Davies (Gn)	10	7	70
C. Deaton (Dy)	12	8	67
A. Saunders (Ng)	8	5	63
Miss K. Perry (St)	4	4	100
Mrs. J. Hill (Cornock)	6	5	83
(Wa)	6	5	83
Mrs. S. Walters (Dy)	4	3	75
Miss M. Phillips (Gu)	3	2	67

2nd West

	P	W	%
E. Hall (So)	14	14	100
R. Morley (Gs)	14	11	79
A. Kinsey (So)	8	6	75
P. Brown (Ha)	6	4	67
W. Moulding (Wi)	14	9	64
M. Rattue (Du)	14	9	64
Miss P. Mortimer (Du)	4	4	100
Mrs. J. Lloyd (Wo)	7	6	86
Mrs. J. Golding (Gs)	3	2	67
Mrs. J. Coop (Do)	5	3	60
Mrs. C. Davies (Ha)	5	3	60

Southern

	P	W	%
A. Watson (Bu)	16	14	88
A. Davies (Ox)	14	11	79
C. Shetler (Ha)	16	12	75
D. Campbell (Bk)	12	9	75
P. Brown (Ha)	8	6	75
T. McMichael (Bu)	8	6	75
R. Thornton (Bk)	16	11	69
P. Sears (Bu)	6	4	67
Mrs. H. Masters (Bk)	6	6	100
Miss J. Dalton (Bu)	5	5	100
Mrs. M. Massey (Bk)	2	2	100

Midland

	P	W	%
P. Eaton (St)	6	6	100
B. Keates (St)	4	4	100
R. Cooper (Wa)	8	7	88
R. Brown (Wa)	6	5	83
M. Evans (St)	8	6	75
F. Gunning (Wa)	8	6	75
A. Hiscock (Sp)	4	3	75
D. Marples (Jy)	8	5	63
Mrs. A. Jones (Wa)	4	4	100
Miss S. Warner (St)	3	2	67

Eastern

	P	W	%
B. White (He)	6	6	100
C. Crowe (Bd)	10	9	90
W. Astbury (Bd)	10	8	80
A. Ponder (Ca)	10	8	80
S. Honor (Nk)	4	3	75
K. Muhr (Ca)	4	3	75
S. Andrews (Ca)	6	4	67
R. Mitcham (Nk)	10	6	60
Mrs. D. Baines (He)	2	2	100
Mrs. V. Scripps (He)	2	2	100
Miss C. Chapman (Ca)	5	4	80
Miss A. James (Bd)	5	3	60

Junior South

	P	W	%
C. Jones (K)	6	6	100
P. Guttormson (K)	10	9	90
J. Colin (Mi)	8	7	88
J. Dabin (K)	8	7	88
P. Bishop (Sy)	12	10	83
D. Jemmett (Mi)	12	10	83
J. Lawson (K)	6	5	83
R. Aldrich (Mi)	12	9	75
S. Tannahill (Ha)	10	7	70
P. Crane (Ha)	12	8	67
S. Marley (Sx)	10	6	60
Miss S. Hamilton (Mi)	2	2	100
Miss S. Howard (Sy)	6	5	83
Miss C. Mann (Mi)	4	3	75
Miss C. Randall (Sx)	6	4	67
Miss L. Chesson (K)	3	2	67

Junior North

	P	W	%
A. Fletcher (Y)	6	6	100
K. Hampson (Ch)	6	6	100
N. Fulstow (Y)	4	4	100
D. Rayner (Y)	4	4	100
B. Johns (Ch)	10	9	90
P. Abell (Y)	8	7	88
N. Jarvis (Y)	6	5	83
A. Boasman (La)	10	8	80
D. Newton (La)	6	4	67
D. Armstrong (Nd)	8	5	63
D. Parker (La)	10	6	60
Miss S. Lisle (La)	5	5	100
Miss L. Sutton (Y)	2	2	100

Junior Midland

	P	W	%
T. Bull (Ng)	10	9	90
M. Davis (Wa)	10	9	90
R. Broadmore (Wa)	8	7	88
P. Baker (St)	6	5	83
D. Fairholm (Ng)	10	7	70
K. Fellows (St)	10	7	70
S. Crawley (Np)	8	5	63
A. Holdsworth (Le)	10	6	60
M. Sykes (Wa)	10	6	60
Miss S. Clarke (Wa)	5	5	100
Miss J. Hamer (Le)	5	4	80
Miss B. Eardley (St)	5	3	60

Junior East

	P	W	%
M. Locke (E)	8	8	100
R. Hellaby (E)	4	4	100
P. Taylor (Bd)	4	4	100
M. Read (E)	8	7	88
M. Dvorak (E)	6	5	83
M. Harris (He)	12	9	75
D. Rawlinson (He)	12	9	75
M. Harper (He)	8	6	75
B. Hutchinson (Bd)	10	7	70
J. Fuller (Nk)	12	8	67
G. Reid (Bd)	12	8	67
Miss S. Beckwith (E)	3	3	100
Miss J. Hartwell (He)	2	2	100
Miss G. Locke (S)	2	2	100
Miss S. Haward (Sk)	5	4	80

Junior West

	P	W	%
H. Thomas (Mo)	8	8	100
A. Griffiths (Gu)	10	9	90
M. Nocivelli (Mo)	10	9	90
G. Sell (Mo)	8	7	88
M. Owen (Gu)	10	8	80
P. Parker (Gu)	10	8	80
R. Arney (Wi)	10	7	70
Miss L. Jones (Gu)	5	5	100
Miss P. Beazer (So)	4	4	100
Miss H. Rusby (Wi)	5	3	60

The following players were undefeated in the only match in which they played singles:

- 2nd South: D. Bowles (E); T. Campbell (Sy); D. Gilbert (He); A. Watson (Bu); Miss M. Cherry (Mi); Miss M. Walker (Mi);
 2nd North: Miss B. Cain (Ch); Miss P. Hale (Li); Miss J. Nield (Ch).
 2nd Midland: Mrs. R. Beebee (St.); Mrs. D. Deeley (St).
 2nd West: R. Lush (Ha); Mrs. M. Hockaday (Co).
 Southern: S. Tannahill (Ha).
 Midland: J. Bowden (Dh); Mrs. M. Cumberbatch (St).
 Eastern: D. Gilbert (He); P. Taylor (Bd); Mrs. C. Haldin (He).
 Junior South: D. Dino-Smith (K); S. Endersby (K); M. Fryer (K).
 Junior North: Miss S. Broadbent (Y); Miss J. Green (Ch).
 Junior Midland: M. Hall (Wa).
 Junior East: M. Baines (He); G. Blomfield (E); P. Hutton (E); R. Morris (He); Miss E. Halliday (Sk); Miss J. Hartwell (He); Miss J. Hellaby (E).

County Championships Round-up

by JOHN WRIGHT

PROMOTION CHALLENGE MATCHES

After a successful weekend at the wonderful Bingham Sports Centre, **Buckinghamshire** and **Warwickshire** move up to the Premier Division to take the vacancies left by Northumberland and Cheshire. A brave effort by Northumberland II did not bear fruit, but Devon deserve sympathy for three matches in which just nothing went right for them. I think that Bucks and Warwks success owed much to their ability to take the vital points: Devon noticeably failed here.

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE 6 NORTHUMBERLAND II 3

P. Shirley bt P. Hoyles -9, 13, 16; bt R. Kettlewell 13, -23, 13. S. Hahn lost to Hoyles -15, -21; lost to A. Chilvers -14, -15. L. Wooding bt Kettlewell 12, 21; bt Chilvers 17, -16, 17. Hahn/P. Shirley bt Chilvers/Hoyles 19, 20. Miss J. Shirley bt Mrs. C. Duncombe 7, 8. Wooding/Miss Shirley lost to Kettlewell/Mrs. Duncombe 13, -13, -17.

Fine win for Paul Shirley over Peter Hoyles after being swamped in first. Unexpected XD win for Nthld. who should have taken MD to a 3rd game. In the opening set, Stan Hahn needed about 25 attempts to make his first 10 services—this included a run of 3 'lets' and a run of 4!

WARWICKSHIRE 9 DEVON 0

D. Munt bt B. Davis 14, 15; bt C. Judson -18, 16, 14. R. Gunnion bt Davis 11, 14; bt M. Rattue 13, 15. R. Cooper bt Judson 11, 14; bt Rattue -12, 13, 19. Cooper/P. Glynn bt Davis/Rattue 12, 19. Mrs. J. Hill bt Miss P. Mortimer 20, -19, 17. Gunnion/Mrs. Hill bt Judson/Miss Mortimer 18, 10.

With (quite a bit of) luck Devon could have been 3-all. But they found themselves 0-6 and Warwks controlled everything from here.

NORTHUMBERLAND II 3 WARWICKSHIRE 6

Hoyles bt Munt 14, 17; lost to Gunnion 16, -16, -20. Kettlewell lost to Munt -13, 16, -16; lost to Cooper -19, -12. Chilvers lost to Gunnion -16, 14, -6; lost to Cooper -20, 20, -11. Chilvers/Hoyles bt Cooper/Glynn 17, -18, 20. Mrs. Duncombe bt Mrs. Hill 16, 17. Kettlewell/Mrs. Duncombe lost to Gunnion/Mrs. Hill 19, -21, -12.

What a disastrous start for the 2nd North champions. With just a little luck they could have led 3-1: instead they trailed 0-4. MD success made it 1-4, a good win by Cynthia Duncombe made it 2-4. Hoyles (who should have beaten Gunnion) superb against Derek Munt, repeatedly killing "impossible" balls. 3-4. When Arthur Chilvers deservedly took Ralph Gunnion to a final game tension mounted: Gunnion, however, made him pay dearly for this indignity leading 19-3 in the 3rd before granting a few more points.

DEVON 0 BUCKINGHAMSHIRE 9

Davis lost to Shirley -11, -17; lost to Hahn -13, -13. Judson lost to Shirley -6, -7; lost to Wooding -18, -11. Rattue lost to Hahn -17, -11; lost to Wooding -21, -7. Judson/Rattue lost to Hahn/Shirley -10, -12. Miss Mortimer lost to Miss Shirley -17, 20, -6. Davis/Miss Mortimer lost to Wooding/Miss Shirley -15, -17.

A very tired Devon team did not do themselves anything like justice. Their 320 mile journey really told and only Pam Mortimer, who seriously worried Jill Shirley for two games, presented any difficulties.

DEVON 2 NORTHUMBERLAND II 7

Davis lost to Hoyles -7, 13, -7; lost to Chilvers -14, 18, -15. Judson lost to Hoyles 15, -14, -15; lost to T. Hart -19, -14. Rattue lost to Chilvers -13, 18, -18; lost to Hart 16, -13, -19. Judson/Rattue lost to Chilvers/Hoyles 18, -15, -19. Miss Mortimer bt Mrs. Duncombe 22, 8. Davis/Miss Mortimer bt Kettlewell/Mrs. Duncombe 14, 16.

Unable to take even one of the 6 sets which went to 3, Devon slumped again. Encouragement from Pam Mortimer who constantly exploited Cynthia Duncombe's weakness to a diagonal backhand topspin service, and also victorious in XD. Cleve Judson's last appearance for his county: since joining them from Oxfords four years ago he has been a valuable member of the team.

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE 6 WARWICKSHIRE 3

Shirley bt Munt 9, 20; lost to Gunnion -13, -17. Wooding lost to Munt -18, -12; bt Cooper 15, 16. T. McMichael lost to Gunnion -14, -19; bt Cooper 15, 18. McMichael/Wooding bt Cooper/Glynn -18, 18, 9. Miss Shirley bt Mrs. Hill 17, 12. Shirley/Miss Shirley bt Gunnion/Mrs. Hill -19, 14, 15.

Les Wooding's only MS defeat, followed by Paul Shirley's only reversal (to the unbeaten Gunnion) gave Warwks a 2-0 lead. Stand-in Tom McMichael played a big part in making this 3-2 to Bucks and although Munt fought back against Shirley from 3-10 in 2nd the only other success for the Midland team came from "captain Ralph". What would have happened had Paul Judd been well enough to play?

ESSEX TRIUMPH IN JUNIOR CHALLENGE

Well staged by Reg Billson, Dave Arterton and the Loughborough League, this season's Junior Challenge was a great success. With essentially the same team that finished 3rd last year, Essex took the title for the first time since 1964-65. A high overall standard—by far the best I have seen in my six years as CTT Secretary.

KENT 4 ESSEX 6

Ian Horsham fortunate to overcome

Paul Guttormsen -18, 15, 20 in a set far more vital than was realised at the time John Dabin particularly impressive against Michael Read.

WARWICKSHIRE 1 YORKSHIRE 9

After Bob Broadmore had surprisingly taken the first from Nicky Jarvis, Yorks strolled to 5-0. Then a shock for Valerie King who lost -16, 16, -18 to Sue Clarke. But despite fine fight by Broadmore v Peter Abell (he lost -18, -22) Warwicks got no more.

YORKSHIRE 5 KENT 5

Abell trailed to Colin Jones 6-14 but won 15! Dabin's only defeat of the weekend to Jarvis and a real shock, with the match score 4-all. Guttormsen smashed Abell 11, 16. Alan Fletcher comfortably took the last set for the draw.

ESSEX 8 GLAMORGAN 2

Aian Griffiths let slip a lead of 14-5 in 3rd v Read to lose the opening set. Good win for Linda Jones over out-of-touch Susan Beckwith.

GLAMORGAN 2 YORKSHIRE 8

Philip Parker deserved a 3rd game with Abell, losing -22, -21. Sylvia Broadbent never got going v Linda Jones in her only set of the weekend.

KENT 8 WARWICKSHIRE 2

Kent generally had a bit too much for this young Warwks. team who should do well in the next two seasons.

ESSEX 8 WARWICKSHIRE 2

Bob Hellaby through v Broadmore only by 20, -10, 21, and Horsham taken close by Jeffrey Nix. Superb 17, 19 win by Sue Clarke over Susan Beckwith with the Warwks. girl 14-5 up in 2nd, caught at 15-all when Susan really put her game in order.

GLAMORGAN 4 KENT 6

Paula Brencley stopped Linda Jones for only time and Kent owed much to Dabin and the girls for this win.

WARWICKSHIRE 2 GLAMORGAN 8

Two more desperately close reversals for Broadmore: just that bit more experience needed. A pity Sue Clarke did not play GS in this match.

YORKSHIRE 4 ESSEX 6

A great match; it had everything. Essex needed a draw, Yorkshire (who had drawn with Kent) had to win. Essex expected 3 sets from the girls got the two others quickly when Hellaby beat Fletcher and Horsham whipped Fulstow (preferred to Abell). Then a shock as Yorks led 11-5 in the 3rd of GD, caught at 15-all, lost at 18. Linda Sutton lost first to Susan Beckwith but 19-14 up in the 2nd., only to lose 24. Jarvis too good for Hellaby; 3-4.

Essex 10-7 up in 3rd of XD took only three more points (well played Valerie) and then the climax as Read beat Fulstow 12, -20, 16 after trailing 5-10 in 3rd. With the Championship decided, Horsham accounted for Fletcher.

2nd Division West:

Devon 6 Worcestershire 4

An excellent finish to a closely fought division (if we omit the results of Cornwall's matches—they had a dreadful season—three-quarters of the matches were drawn or 6-4). Devon trailed 0-1, led 5-1 and then 5-4 before Cleve Judson scored the final win 21, 14 over Mike Prosser. John Heathcote unbeaten for the visitors, but Joyce Lloyd had a rare blank day.

Junior Division East:

Norfolk 2 Hertfordshire 8

Final Table

	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Essex	4	0	0	28	12	8
Yorkshire	2	1	1	26	14	5
Kent	2	1	1	23	17	5
Glamorgan	1	0	3	16	24	2
Warwickshire	0	0	4	7	33	0

E Gn K Wa Y

	E	Gn	K	Wa	Y
Essex					
R. Hellaby		2	1	2	1
M. Read		2	0	2	1
i. Horsham		2	2	1	2
Miss S. Beckwith		0	1	0	1
Doubles		2	2	3	1

Glamorgan

A. Griffiths	0	1	2	0
P. Parker	0	1	1	0
M. Owen	0	1	2	0
Miss L. Jones	1	0	1	1
Doubles	1	1	2	1

Kent

J. Dabin	2	2	2	1
J. Lawson	0	0	1	
P. Guttormsen	1	1	2	1
C. Jones				0
Miss L. Chesson	0			1
Miss P. Brencley	1		1	
Doubles	1	2	2	2

Warwickshire

M. Sykes	0	0		
M. Davis			1	0
R. Broadmore	1	0	0	0
J. Nix	0	1	0	0
Miss S. Clarke	1	0	1	
Miss V. Russell		0		
Doubles	0	1	1	0

Yorkshire

N. Jarvis	2	2	2	2
A. Fletcher	0	2	1	2
N. Fulstow	0			
P. Abell	2	1	2	
Miss V. King			0	0
Miss L. Sutton	0			
Miss S. Broadbent		0		
Doubles	2	2	1	3

Junior East:

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Essex	6	6	0	0	55	5	12
Herts.	6	5	0	1	46	14	10
Beds.	6	4	0	2	31	29	8
Huntingds.	6	3	0	3	23	37	6
Norfolk	6	2	0	4	26	34	4
Suffolk	6	1	0	5	19	41	2
Cambs.	6	0	0	6	10	50	0

2nd West:

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Devon	7	6	1	0	42	28	12
Somerset	7	6	0	1	43	27	11
Worcesters.	7	3	2	2	43	27	8
Hampshire	7	4	0	3	39	31	8
Glouceters.	7	2	2	3	37	33	6
Dorset	7	2	1	4	35	35	5
Wiltshire	7	1	2	4	29	41	4
Cornwall	7	0	0	7	12	58	0

All other final tables published in April edition.