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Table Tennis News

Official Journal of the English Table Tennis Association

Edited by George Yates

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Captain's Benefit

J. D. Bond and the Magnificent Seven



Photo by FRANK DAVIES

*A Happy Christmas and a Prosperous New Year
to All our Readers*

TABLE TENNIS NEWS

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Advertisements: Derek R. Tremayne, General Secretary, E.T.T.A., 26-29 Park Crescent, London. W1N 4HA. 'Phone: 01-580 6312.

Circulation: David R. Wolstencroft, 11, Aireworth Street, Wingates, Westhoughton, Lancs. 'Phone: Westhoughton 2021.

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

Professionalism

If we are to keep in step with modern day trends in the presentation of table tennis matches let our efforts in this direction be confined to the special occasion.

Let us begin on the bottom rung of the ladder and seek to make improvements in such mundane affairs as the ordinary club match in the local league.

How often has a visiting team arrived at some outlying venue only to find the premises locked and been forced to cluster, like some itinerant band of carollers, under some dripping veranda to await the advent of a host player?

Imagine a would be spectator, having studied the fixtures in the local press, taking him or herself off to some such fixture to see what it is all about. What kind of impression would be gained?

And what of the players on such occasions. Out of a battered duffle bag comes an equally battered pair of plimsolls and that, in a lot of cases, is their sole contribution to looking the part.

One, it is to be hoped, would not turn out for more important matches in faded and tattered jeans nor in a sweat-stained shirt more in keeping for the undersealing of a car and yet, th's is commonplace.

Why not turn a new leaf in the new year and create atmosphere for every match. Let the home team assemble in good time and have the table up and ready for play at the appointed hour with the playing area cleared of debris and an air of expectancy about the place.

Let professionalism prevail from the lowest strata and smartness of turnout be the keynote. Banish those rag bags to the dungeons and no matter how lucky you have been in wearing that battle soil shirt—get rid of it!

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On the International Front

by **GEORGE R. YATES**

HUNGARY THE PACE SETTERS

SANDWICHING the brilliant exploits of Chester Barnes and Denis Neale in the Yugoslav Open, England's stock slumped inexplicably in the Premier Division of the European League when beaten 5-2 by Czechoslovakia on Nov. 3, and 6-1 by Hungary eight days later.

These unpalatable crusts were provided firstly in Prague's Spartak Sports Hall wherein Neale was our only men's singles winner with victory over Stefan Kollarovits, the English Open title holder.

Otherwise, in this particular match, our only other success came with a Barnes/Neale doubles win over Milan Orlowski and Jiri Turai.

Worse was to follow in the People's Hall, Budapest where, with 500 would-be spectators turned away—memories of the 7-0 slaughter inflicted on Russia still fresh—only Neale met with success beating Istvan Jonyer in the final set. Barnes was without a win seemingly "not with it" as is his wont on long trips away from home. Results:—

- Czechoslovakia 5, England 2.
- S. Kollarovits bt C. Barnes 12, -18, 17.
- M. Orlowski bt D. Neale 20, 13.
- I. Vostova bt J. Shirley 12, -14, 18.
- Orlowski/J. Turai lost to Barnes/Neale -18, -20.
- Turai/Vostova bt Neale/K. Mathews 18, 10.
- Kollarovits lost to Neale -18, -20.
- Orlowski bt Barnes 17, 9.

- Hungary 6, England 1
- T. Klampar bt Neale 17, -19, 16.
- I. Jonyer bt Barnes 13, 18.
- B. Kishazi bt Mathews 11, 13.
- Jonyer/Klampar bt Barnes/Neale 10, 19.
- Jonyer/J. Magos bt Neale/Mathews -20, 14, 17.
- Klampar bt Barnes 19, 19.
- Jonyer lost to Neale -16, -17.

- Austria 0, U.S.S.R. 7
- G. Heine lost to S. Gomozkov -13, -16.
- H. Schlüter lost to G. Strelnikov 17, -17, -16.
- G. Smekal lost to S. Grinberg -12, -26.
- Schlüter/R. Weinmann lost to Gomozkov/Strelnikov -17, -15.
- Schlüter/Smekal lost to Gomozkov/Grinberg -12, 17, -8.
- Heine lost to Strelnikov -14, -11.
- Schlüter lost to Gomozkov -15, -16.

- Sweden 5, Czechoslovakia 2.
- H. Alser bt J. Kunz 19, 12.
- S. Bengtsson lost to M. Orlowski -14, -13.
- L. Anderson lost to Vostova -18, 18, -12.
- Bengtsson/B. Persson bt Orlowski/Turai 16, 20.
- Bengtsson/Andersson bt Turai/Vostova -16, 16, 14.
- Alser bt Orlowski 17, *11.
- Bengtsson bt Kunz 13, -22, 17.

Current positions—

	P	W	L	F	A	Pts.
Hungary	2	2	0	13	1	2
Sweden	2	2	0	11	3	2
Czechoslovakia	2	1	1	7	7	1
U.S.S.R.	2	1	1	7	7	1
England	3	1	2	10	11	1
Fed. Germany	1	0	1	1	6	0
Austria	2	0	2	0	14	0

In Division 2, Ireland gained revenge for their defeat in Malines last year when they surprisingly beat Belgium 4-3 in Ballymena on Nov. 5. With the score standing at 3-all, Tommy Caffrey was faced with the task of reversing last year's defeat by Frans Lanckman to clinch the match, and this he well and truly did. Results:—

- Ireland 4, Belgium 3
- T. Caffrey lost to N. Van der Walle 14, -14, -12.
- J. Langan lost to F. Lanckman -14, 12, -10.
- J. Warren bt A. Croveceour 13, 18.
- Caffrey/Langan bt Lanckman/Van der Walle 19, 12.
- Caffrey/Warren bt Lanckman/Croveceour 19, -19, 15.
- Langan lost to Van der Walle -16, -18.
- Caffrey bt Lanckman 14, 10.

- Denmark 4, Switzerland 3
- Greece 5, Netherlands 2

Positions:—

	P	W	L	F	A	Pts.
France	1	1	0	6	1	1
Belgium	2	1	1	9	5	1
Netherlands	2	1	1	7	7	1
Greece	2	1	1	6	8	1
Ireland	2	1	1	6	8	1
Denmark	2	1	1	5	9	1
Switzerland	1	0	1	3	4	0

Ormesby, over PTS Wega, Finland other Round 2 results to hand are:—Budapesti Spartacus, Hungary 5, 'KJ Wien, Austria 1; Csepel S.C. Hungary 5, DT Dommeldange, Luxembourg 0; Delta Lloyd, Netherlands 5, TTK Maccabi, Belgium 3; Mariestads Bois, Sweden 5, Spojnia, Warsaw, Poland 0.

Hungary's Spartacus club are the current holders of the Men's trophy hence that country's dual representation in the current competition.

FAIR CITIES CUP

Willesden's John Keble Club, runners-up to Teesside's Ormesby in the National Club Championships, are duly entered in the European Fair Cities Cup. A walk-over against SVE Utrecht, Holland takes them to an away match against Mayda, Barcelona, Spain in Round 2 due for completion by Dec. 15.



Mr. TANG TUCK WAH

Commonwealth Championships

Mr. Tang Tuck Wah, Secretary General of the Commonwealth Championships—to be held in Singapore's Badminton Hall from Mar. 20-25 next year—reports that up to Oct. 15 the following countries had indicated acceptance:—Australia, England, Fiji, Malaysia, New Zealand, Nigeria, India and Singapore.

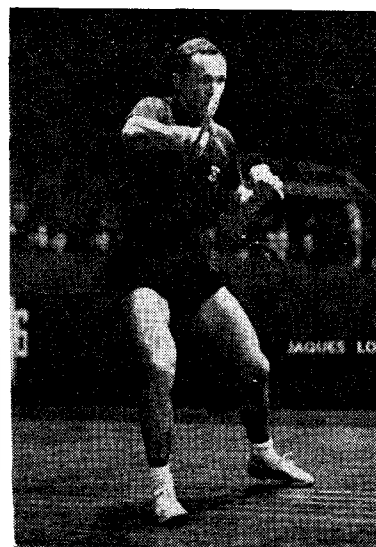
Events will comprise both men's and women's team championships together with M.S., W.S., M.D., W.D. and X.D.

Sub-committees now functioning comprise Opening and Closing Ceremonies, Referees', Liaison, Accommodation and Catering and Crowd Control and Security. All are in constant consultation with the Main Organising Committee.

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS 1973

Yugoslavia have accepted the task of staging the world championships of 1973 afforded them by the International Table Tennis Federation as a result of England having to give up their option due to the lack of suitable facilities in this country.

With no less than four suitable venues to choose from, the Yugoslav Association have not, as yet, named the operative one.



HANS ALSER

European champion Hans Alser (28) of Sweden, recent winner of the Yugoslav Open in Subotica, is to retire at the end of the season and become the national coach of the Federal German Association.

EUROPE CLUB CUP

Additional to the 5-2 win obtained by English Club Champions,

YUGOSLAV OPEN

Major European Title
for Barnes and Neale

as collated by The Editor

England's Chester Barnes and Denis Neale, with a combination of block and angle counter hitting, brought off their most meritorious win to date when, over the period Nov. 5-7 in Subotica, they won the men's doubles title against formidable opposition in the Yugoslav Open Championships.

It was a superb effort leaving in its wake such pairings as Holland's Nico van Slobbe/Frans Schoofs, and Federal Germany's Wilfried Lieck/Klaus Schmittinger both combines being despatched in straight games in Rounds 1 and 2.

Quarter-final opponents were the Yugoslav European title holders Anton Stipancic and Dragutin Surbek and what a fight they put up before bowing out 19, -20, 19, -16, 16 to the English pair.

In the semis, it was no less a harness than two world men's singles title winners, Nobuhiko Hasegawa (victor in Stockholm in 1967) and current holder Shigeo Itoh of Japan. But down they went -17, 15, 18, 17 to the Essex/Yorkshire combine, now playing like men possessed.

And so it continued into the final, against Japan's Shiro Inoue and Tokio Tasaka who, after twice levelling from being a game down, were finally crushed 17 in the decider. Scores:—17, -14, 18, -12, 17.

Both Barnes and Neale reached the fifth round of the men's singles losing to Itoh and Sweden's Hans Alser respectively. Barnes had wins over Rudolf Weinmann (Austria) and an 18, 13, 12 "romp home" against the Soviet's Stanislav Gomozkov!

After beating Edvard Vecko (Yugoslavia), Neale succumbed -19, -9, -25 to Alser, a player who, throughout his career, has always occasioned the Yorkshireman a great deal of trouble. The Swedish ace went on to win the title with a final victory over Melevo Karakasevic 18, 14, -20, -21, 18 when the Yugoslav penholder threw everything over the net "bar the kitchen sink".

In the counterpart women's event, Jill Shirley after beating Alicia Grofova 20, -14, 16, 12, lost to Rumania's Maria Alexandru -7, -8, -10.

Karenza Mathews had a good 15, 19 win over Eleanora Mihalca (Rumania) but lost in Round 4 to Svetlana Grinberg (U.S.S.R.) -16, -15, -23. Event winner was Toshiko Kowada of Japan who beat European champion Zoya Rudnova (U.S.S.R.) 16, -17, 20, 13.

Short and sweet was the reign of our girls in the women's doubles beaten in Round 2 by the East German pairing of Gabrielle Geissler and Doris

Hovestadt. Alexandru/Mihalca won the event beating the Czechs. Vostova/Grofova 11, 19, 8.

Neale and Mrs. Mathews were our most successful pair in the mixed reaching the quarter-finals before fading out to Jiri Turai/Vostova 17, -12, -21, -12. Barnes and Miss Shirley lost to the Japs., Itoh/Ohzeki -18, -12, -13.

TEAM EVENTS

In the Men's Team event after beating France II 3-0, Yugoslavia proved our undoing in a very tight match decided in the final set. Ironically we lost the doubles. Scores:—

v France (won 3-0)
Barnes bt Constant 15, 12.
Neale bt Roesch 6, 16.
Barnes/Neale bt Constant/Roesch 9, 19.

v Yugoslavia (lost 2-3)
Barnes lost to Stipancic 15, -15, -16.
Neale bt Surbek 10, -18, 16.
Barnes/Neale lost to Stipancic/Surbek -18, -14.
Barnes bt Surbek 19, 12.
Neale lost to Stipancic 20, -16, -14.

Jill Shirley and Karenza Mathews carried England's flag to the quarter-finals of the Women's Team event only to have it hauled down by Rumania, after beating Yugoslavia. Scores:—

v Yugoslavia (won 3-2)
Shirley lost to Resler 18, -18, -14.
Mathews bt Surbek 18, 17.
Mathews/Shirley bt Korpa/Resler 19, 15.
Mathews lost to Resler -11, 18, -11.
Shirley bt Surbek 18, -16, 11.

v Rumania (lost 1-3)
Shirley bt Mihalca 14, 17.
Mathews lost to Alexandru.
Mathews/Shirley lost to Alexandru/Mihalca -14, -8.
Shirley lost to Alexandru -9, -15.

LEICESTERSHIRE NOTES

by Philip Reid

SPATE OF MATCHES

A spate of county matches—no less than seven since the last issue. The seniors confirmed their good start with draws against both Staffordshire and Nottinghamshire in 2nd Division (Midland) fixtures. Paul Randell was brought into the team against Nottinghamshire and this 17-year-old had a wonderful debut, beating both Alf Saunders and Phil Spencer. Partnered by Graham Hughes, he also was successful in the Men's Doubles.

The Juniors have drawn all three of their matches to date, thanks largely to the girls. So far we have yet to lose a girls' singles, girls' or mixed doubles. The team is a young one and looks very promising. An outstanding prospect in the opposition ranks was Nottinghamshire's Adrian Ashley. At 14 years of age he has a superb temperament, showing no outward sign of emotion other than complete contentment in all he did. He was never slow to acknowledge an opponent's good shot, however—he could make a fine player. Karen Rogers has never looked in danger of defeat so far this season and the same can be said of Anita Stevenson and Janet Billson.

The Veterans have lost both their matches but both were thoroughly enjoyable. The highlight as far as Leicestershire have been concerned was John Bryant's victory over Ron Bolton.

In the **Midland League**, Leicester look likely candidates for promotion to the first division of the Men's Section. Hinckley are fighting hard in the 1st Division and their 8-2 defeat against Oxford gave no indication of the closeness of the match. Loughborough Intermediates look all set for another good season with Chris Brewer travelling down from Liverpool University each match to help their cause.

Newcomers to Division 3 in the **Leicester & District League**, Hugglescote WMC, are setting a hot pace with Brian Hagger and John Lenton their stars. Another team from Coalville—Grieves—are carrying all before them in Division 7. It is going to need a team of exceptional strength to stop Dennis Fairbrother, C. Hall and C. Hodson. Old Lancastrians, led by Paul Corral, are setting a hot pace in Division 9 whilst newcomers Hogg Robinson, skippered by Bob Files will take some beating in Division 10.

In the **Loughborough League** Knightthorpe are proving a very strong side. Their first team of Richard Hassall, Roger Morley and Bob Boyce looks good enough to extend anybody and beat most. Their 'B' team are going great guns in the third division and with a team consisting of Rosemary North, Pete Strong and Stan Ellison this will hardly be surprising. Spearheaded by Bob Casini, 'Shepshed 'A' already look strong candidates for promotion from division two whilst the Grieve trio of P. Middleton, B. Haywood and P. Paget look too strong for any opposition they are likely to encounter in division four.

The experiment of playing Leicestershire Town League fixtures over two days—one in each half of the season—comes into being on Dec. 13 at Loughborough when eight teams will compete. All five leagues in Leicestershire have entered—the first time a 100% turnout has ever been achieved.

COVER PICTURE

England's No. 2, Denis Neale, was the winner of an invitation hard bat tourney held in aid of Jack Bond's testimonial fund at Montague Burton's, Halliwell Clothing Works, Bolton, on Oct. 30.

Lancashire's cricket skipper — for long a playing member of Silcoms S.C. in the Bolton League—was a participant but, after being given the customary "free run" by Derek Schofield, retired early to the "pavilion".

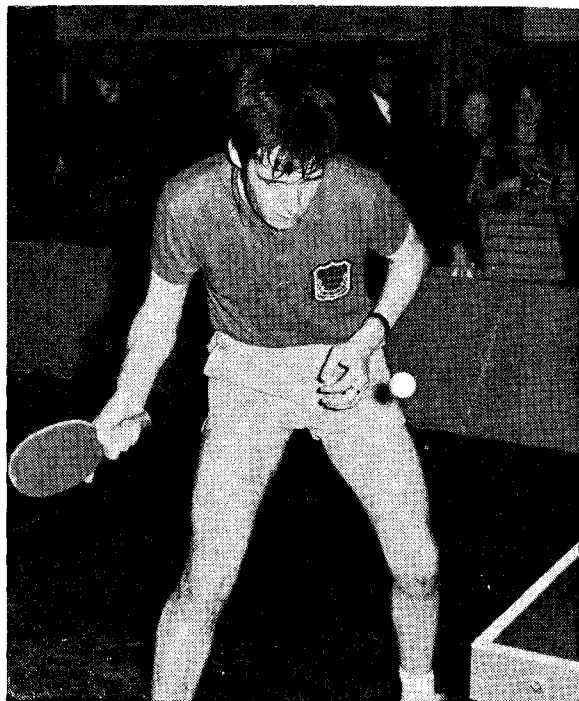
Top prize was a dinner service, the runner-up being the recipient of bathroom scales. Both were donated by the Bolton League and presented by E.T.T.A. Treasurer, Tom Blunn.

Pictured (l. to r.) are:—Denis Neale, Mike Johns, Laurie Landry, Jack Bond, Jeff Ingber, Benny Casofsky, Derek Schofield and former Lancashire county player Alan Costello.

RESULTS:—

Round 1—J. Ingber bt B. Casofsky 10, 15;
D. Neale bt L. Landry 18, 13;
D. Schofield bt J. Bond 15, 11;
M. Johns bt A. Costello 14, 11.
Semi-finals—Ingber bt Johns 19, 17;
Neale bt Schofield 16, 16.
Final NEALE bt Ingber 12, 13.

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JOHN WOODFORD

'slips in' with a continuation of . . .

CONTROVERSY

At the risk of incurring the wrath of certain manufacturers of sporting footwear, my probe this month turns the spotlight on alleged slippery floors at tournaments and why many players, especially defenders, cannot keep their balance.

It is, of course, well known that when it comes to playing table tennis on a ballroom floor, if dancing has taken place recently the surface often becomes slippery. Two recent instances have occurred in Sussex; one was at the Sussex Open when in the women's final Jill Shirley had great difficulty in moving to the well-placed drives of Karenza Mathews. It is quite useless applying water to non-porous wooden surfaces as the liquid remains on top and makes it even worse—this situation happened in the recent Sussex v. Yorkshire match at Littlehampton.

The answer lies in my view, in the depth of "tread" on the plimsolls! As we all know there are a number of different types on the market. There is an ever-increasing trend by players to buy a more substantial type of shoe with leather uppers, with a very reduced depth of tread. These may be great for many other kinds of sporting activity, but as soon as the tread wears down on the ball of the foot they are as much use as roller skates!

I have examined a number of players' footwear at recent events—the amount of wear leading to smooth surfaces is quite amazing. We have all heard well-shod players in action in shoes which make distracting musical noises—this indicates a good grip on the floor.

The shoes that overcome the problem have deep treads, often in a herringbone style, they come in two prices, around 30/-, and a cheaper imported imitation about 15/-, and the uppers will wear out before the soles! They are basically canvas tennis shoes. I would strongly recommend all players who have any trouble in moving to wide balls because of the glass-like surfaces of today in many tournament halls, to examine this question more closely, buy only canvas tennis shoes with deep treads, replace them frequently before they are worn out, and then stop moaning about the floors.

Once a tournament is booked for a certain venue these days, often a year ahead, the organisers can do little about the state of slip on the day, but at least the players can come prepared to get a grip on the situation and the floor.

'Let them decide for themselves'

SAYS MARY WRIGHT
ON THE JUNIOR ISSUE

Following up articles by John Woodford and Tony Pacitto, I should like to make a few observations of my own.

First of all, I am sure nobody would deny that junior table tennis is necessary as a breeding ground for new talent, but it is only a stepping stone to much greater things. Surely, if you ask any junior what his or her ambition is, the answer will be to become European or World Champion.

Chester Barnes is a prime example of a young player who broke through early, at 16, because he beat top SENIOR players, not because he won 15 or 16 junior titles. Denis Neale, when picked for his first International Tournament beat Kjell Johansson of Sweden, even though many of his results in England were poor, but he thrived on being thrown in at the deep end and beat numerous top European stars while still unknown.

Winning in local junior and senior tournaments is all very well, but the players who can win when the chips are down and the pressures are there are the players who will improve. International table tennis is a totally different game to the English tournament circuit game, as anyone who has played for England in big International events will tell you. The mental and physical pressures are becoming more and more severe, therefore a more professional approach by experts in training, playing, tactics and mental attitude, is needed to prepare our players for top class play. This is gradually being done, particularly with the juniors, but in return these players are expected to attend training camps regularly, attend practice sessions and keep up a high level of physical fitness on their own.

If Mr. Pacitto would sit down and study the E.T.T.A. calendar of events for the season (including the International Programme) bearing in mind the preceding paragraph, he would surely realise that it is just impossible for our top juniors, even if they wanted to, to attend many of the numerous junior tournaments up and down the country. If they want to improve, they must study the season's programme and decide FOR THEMSELVES which tournaments to enter, which days to rest (rest is as important as playing), and which competitions are going to help them improve the quickest. Of course a player should have loyalties to club, county and country, but there comes a time, as I found myself, when there are just not enough days in the week or hours in the day to fit everything in. I dropped out of local club and league matches, except for the National Rose Bowl competition quite early on, as I found that it was impossible to train and practice three or four nights a week when one night was taken up with playing three sets in a club match against people I could beat anyway.

How many other countries in the world have such a congested calendar as ours. The players, officials, umpires and organisers hardly have time to turn round as more and more matches and tournaments are crammed into our season, which now stretches from August to August. Cut the tournament programme in half, I say, and improve the standard of the conditions, organisation and play of table tennis in this country.

Finally, I would like to comment on the remarks made by both Mr. Mann and Mr. Pacitto on the subject of the alleged "unwanted players" at the European Youth Championships on Teesside. Do they realise that there were precisely 3 Official Captains to cover all the individual events of 33 English players. The captain's first priority is to the official team competing, and then to assist our other players wherever possible. This was done to the best of our ability and anyone who wishes to criticise should try calculating just how many games were involved, many on at exactly the same time, before making such sweeping condemnation of us.

and on the subject of 'Misguided Excursion'

MALCOM E. SCOTT

Hon. Life Member E.T.T.A.,
and Founder Chairman
of the Staffs. T.T.A. writes . . .

Having spent a lifetime promoting "our" game voluntarily in all its phases, for all ages, I am compelled for the first occasion to sparing the time from T.T. administration, to put pen to paper and set the foundations for action, to defend the prestige of our veteran players all over the country.

The term "Misguided Excursion" offers nothing but a slur on the calibre of the personnel of the county, who in their undying enthusiasm for the game, without seeking limelight, instituted yet another permanent foundation towards the well being of our Association.

In the first place, secretary of the county championships, John Wright, has no right to voice his biased opinion publicly. He has been told this personally by me and he received his answer from national responsible officers of our counties, who voted for this "Misguided Excursion" by a unanimous vote of 21-0 at the last C.T.T.C. A.G.M. in favour of Staffordshire's proposition, for the veterans "permanent way".

As an ageing yet active veteran I can only find one point in agreement and that is not to include a veterans final in open tournaments when the other finals are played.

Both John Woodford and John Wright must be made to understand that today's veterans helped to build our association voluntarily, without expenses either, when these two antagonists were still in nappies.

One must consider what these veterans really do for the game of table tennis. The efforts of my own county for the school children and young players must be reflected to all other "active" counties. We have, and organise the largest Schools Centre in the Country with 12 tables operating, and conducted by a rota of voluntary E.T.T.A. coaches.

The Proficiency Award Scheme for school children and juniors was instituted by Staffs. T.T.A. organised and carried out as a self supporting scheme, with no sponsorship for its first 12 months. This is about the only scheme doing essential work on a national scale today and paying its way.

As an industrialist, and having given a life long service to the game, I must

see that other "excursions" are conducted properly by voluntary efforts, and ensure that all standards of players, young and veterans, get a fair opportunity to serve our association, getting pleasure out of the game, whatever their particular category.

The veterans divisions of the C.T.T.C. harm no one, but it appears by the statements made by the two J.W.'s, they must spend a part of their time searching for the meagre evidence given. Both these members are capable of doing more useful work, which should be more rewarding, than trying to institute an ill-founded campaign.

The veterans must rise as one body to defend any further "excursions" into their few leisure hours from service to the game.

HUNTINGDON AND PETERBORO' NOTES

by David Obee

WELL DONE, LEN!

CONGRATULATIONS are due to Len Saywell, who has qualified as a 2-star diploma coach, one of only 10 in the country. Len, who has worked tremendously hard during this last few years thoroughly deserves this award, which puts the county right on the coaching "map".

Monthly sessions at the regional coaching centre at Longsands School, St. Neots, continue to be well supported with several coaches from the county helping out. Five tables are currently in use, and conditions are excellent.

The first junior county match of the season at home against Suffolk, resulted in a win for the visitors 6-4. Paul McArthur took both singles, Sue Richards took the girls' singles and John Last and Jean Allison won the mixed. This result was a disappointment for the county, who could have expected at least a point.

Following their 7-3 defeat by Northants at the end of October, when only Alan Albon, with two singles wins, showed his true form the county senior side turned in a fine display in their away fixture with Herts II. Successes from Albon (1 singles), Paul Charlton (1 singles), Barbara Webb (Women's) and Webb and Mary Maxfield (Women's doubles) and Maxfield/Albon (Mixed) gave a well deserved point to Hunts who brought in county junior McArthur for this match.

In the South East Midlands League, the fortunes of the county's three member leagues are fluctuating considerably. The St. Neots, Peterborough and Hunts Central men's sides have all started badly, but it must be remembered that each has played Cambridge, clearly the strongest side in the league.

St. Neots and Peterboro' women have started well, but generally the junior and veterans' teams are finding the going tough.

In its next match, at the time of writing, the senior county team faces Suffolk, while the juniors take on the might of Essex. For the seniors this is a vital fixture, for success in this match could mean that the county climb off the bottom of the championship table.

CUMBERLAND NOTES

by Clarice Rose

WITHDRAWAL ONLY TEMPORARY

CUMBERLAND may have been forced to withdraw from the County Championships (we hope only temporarily) but Table Tennis in the County is now making great strides. New Leagues are getting under way in Maryport and Keswick and for the second year there is a County Inter-League competition. The distances to be covered in Cumberland between Leagues are tremendous and the journeys are over what must surely be the most tortuous roads in the country, but nevertheless the Inter-League competition seems to be here to stay and is proving very successful.

Two Inter-County fixtures have now been played for both senior and junior teams, one against Durham and the other against Lancashire. Against Durham the senior team lost 4-6 and the Juniors 2-8. The Junior match was much closer than the score suggests, Peter Broughton (Millom) and Maris Zivtins (Carlisle) winning one singles each for Cumberland over J. Alsop and T. Brown. Durham's Eddie Taylor had an unsuccessful evening in the senior match losing to Carl Farrer and Maurice Bell (both from Whitehaven)—Cumberland's other wins were the Women's doubles and Women's singles. We were very pleased to

see Mr. and Mrs. Reay—good friends of Cumberland—at this match which was well presented by the Carlisle League.

At Millom, Lancashire won the senior match 7-3 and the junior match 6-4. This was a very good effort by Cumberland juniors. Broughton and Zivtins again winning one singles each and combining to win the doubles. Ian Smith from Whitehaven chalked up his first county singles win and our juniors are now showing real promise for the future. The Lancashire team was D. Parker, P. Riley, R. Jackson, Miss B. Williams and Miss K. Baxendale. In the senior match, Mary Hail (Millom) showing great improvement in her game this season, played very well, winning the Mixed Doubles with George Gray (Carlisle) and the Women's Doubles with Clarice Rose (Millom). Cumberland's other success came in the Women's singles with a win for Clarice Rose over Suzanne Manning. The Lancashire men, B. Parkinson, C. Heaps and D. Cottrell were too strong for Cumberland. We were very pleased to welcome George Yates to Cumberland for this match following his appointment as Deputy Chairman of the E.T.T.A. and the facilities at Millom were as usual excellent.

The Cumberland Schools' Association has increased its membership this season and is now well established. There are however still a number of schools in the County playing table tennis who are not

represented and these will no doubt be chased by John Reed again next year.

DERBYSHIRE NOTES

by Walter Reeves

MATLOCK WITHDRAW FIRST STRING

THE County Closed Championships have been allocated to Derby, and it is hoped to stage this tournament at the Railway Canteen—the usual venue—in March 1971.

Matlock, following administrative difficulties, have had to withdraw their representative team from Div. 1 of the County League the full line-up of which is:—

Div. 1—Alfreton, Burton, Chesterfield I and II, Derby and Glossop.

Div. 2—Alfreton II and III, Burton II, Derby II and III and Matlock II and III.

Junior—Alfreton, Burton, Chesterfield and Derby.

Chesterfield I could take the Div. 1 title if they chose to play their best players who, in effect, comprise the County first team. But in the past this has not happened, as usually only one of the county players has teamed up with whoever else is available.

This may be changed now with Eric Hall playing in Chesterfield and representing them with a 100% performance against Glossop. Also unbeaten was D. Morley, the one set lost being by M. Thorley beaten by P. Ashworth.

Derby, with their regular side of Doug. Foulds, Frank O'Sullivan and Chris Francis, should do well and will be around to take advantage of any Chesterfield lapses.

Derby II, relegated to Div. 2 seem set to go straight back with opening wins of 9-1 and 10-0 at the expense of Burton II and Alfreton II respectively.

Activity is brisk on the Junior front with Chesterfield's leading players passing on their knowledge and experience as evidenced by the Junior Ranking List which reads:— 1. I. Warner (Derby) and M. Cummins (Chesterfield); 3. I. Taylor (Chesterfield), 4. N. Marples and N. Taylor (Chesterfield); 6. D. Scoffins (Alfreton); 7. M. Stone (Alfreton) and 8. D. Yallop (Derby).

Both Derby and Alfreton are determined not to be left behind and both towns have coaching schemes to maintain the supply of juniors. On this theme Peter Simpson outlined progressive ideas at a meeting held at Lea Green.

The County Committee have accepted the ideas and moves are afoot to hold Proficiency Days at Derby, Lea Green and Chesterfield.

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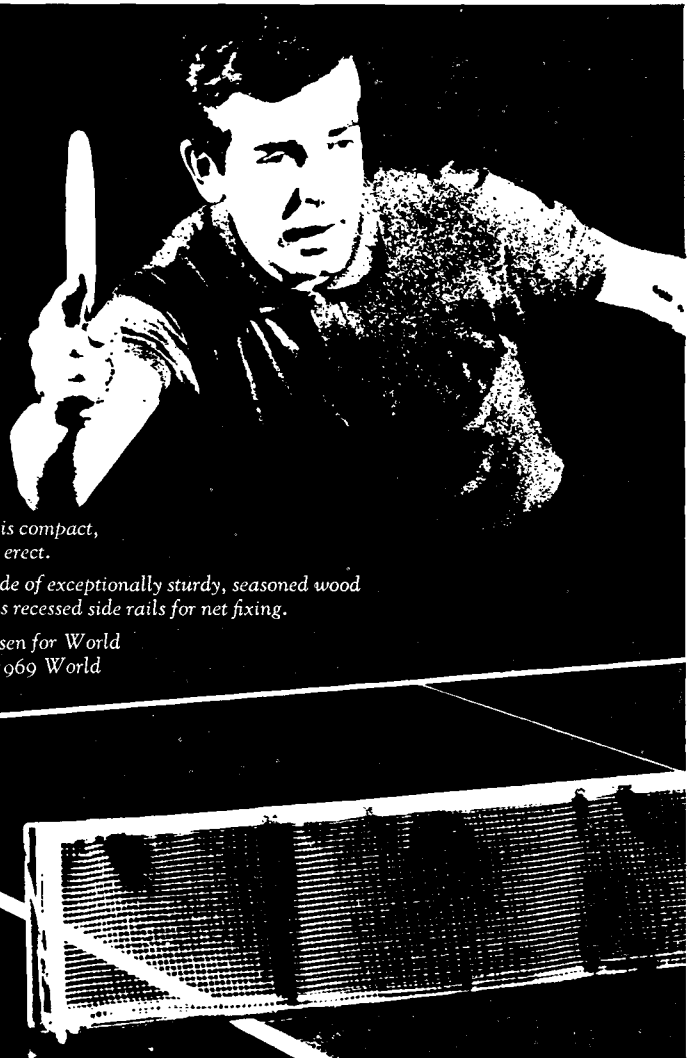
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TEARS, IDLE TEARS



by **Samir Chatterjee**
(India)

The curtain rises on the World Table Tennis Championships of 1954 in Tokyo. The scene is the quarter-final round in which are to figure seven Japanese and a solitary representative of the 30 other countries taking part, and he is India's Krishna Nagraj.

Enter Nagraj and his Japanese opponent. Action begins and Nagraj shoots into a 2-1 games lead. In the fourth game Nagraj is ahead by 20-17. Only one point stands between the chop-defence Chinese wall from Mysore and the semi-final. Will he be the first Indian to make the grade in World T.T.?

Ten thousand spectators watch with nerve-wracking suspense. Nothing but the mild thud of the celluloid sphere's impact on the surface of the racket is audible, even breathing seems to have stopped. But one vital point did not come to Nagraj and the fifth and final game was won by the Japanese. The Japanese typhoon succeeded in breaking the never-say-die resistance of Nagraj and India's hopes were blown off.

Nagraj fell as a giant tree struck by virulent lightning and looked a veritable symbol of self-pity and dejection. But there was no pity for him in the illuminated championship hall of Tokyo, the beauty-queen of the world's metropolitan cities. There the representatives from all the world's countries greeted Nagraj with thunderous cheers. As the only Indian to have figured in World T.T. men's singles quarter-finals, his name should be embossed in letters of gold in the annals of the game in India. Not for what he achieved, but what he was about to, failing gloriously at the post.

The scene is shifted to the Eden Gardens Indoor Stadium in Calcutta. It was a misty winter-evening of 1959. But there was no mist inside the covered stadium nor any such in Nagraj's determination and hope. He was bent on wresting the National singles title from the thrice-winner Gautam Diwan of Bombay. In the battle of nerves Diwan lost the first two games to Nagraj who also led 9-5 in the third.

PLAY SUSPENDED

The writer of this article had charge

of conducting the match from the umpire's chair. For some time by then a solitary spectator with some screws loose in his brain was shouting, off and on, and disturbed the proceedings with loud-throated cheers. It was impossible to conduct the game and the umpire had no alternative but to draw the attention of the Referee and through him of the members of the organizing committee. The crack-brained young man had to be forced to quit the hall, since he would not sit quietly, and play had to be suspended for over five minutes.

By the time play was resumed Diwan had recovered his nerves, while Nagraj's concentration had cracked as the tempo was punctuated. Diwan clinched the next three games in a row to retain the title, which Nagraj failed to win even once in his distinguished career. Who can vouch that Nagraj would not have recorded a straight win if the match would have proceeded smoothly? Was it not a fatal accident for the Mysorean?

Why should have these two incidents happened to that one courageous soul? Is there any answer why Desdemona had dropped her handkerchief? Tragedies do happen like that as the ancient Greek dramatists would vouch.

Yet Nagraj won the hearts of the real lovers of sport much more than what he could have done through facile successes. Tragic heroes always leave deeper marks in human hearts and therein are stored Nagraj's precious laurels of his table tennis career.

Now enters our heroine from Mysore, not all tragic with her, for she had been bent with dejection, but rose bouyant from pressure to soar to lofty heights.

AMBITIOUS TO CLIMB

She was a thin girl, skinny to be precise and visibly lacking physical fitness. Yet she was ambitious to climb the steep road to table tennis success. But as her physique would not co-operate, failure retarded her again and again.

Yet she would not give in, but try with double zeal and in course of time climbed the stairs to be ranked as India's No. 2 in 1960.

The Asian T.T. Championships were due in Bombay in a few months time. Miss Usha Sunderraj was confident of her selection in the National team for an international meet on Indian soil. For was she not the second-ranked woman player of India and two was the minimum number of representation. So who could stop her donning the India blazer?

Yet she was edged out by the No. 6 and No. 7, by what machinations of India's sports politics no one would ever know. The heavy blow, however could not lay Usha down. Wiping the tears with one hand, she fastened her grip on the racket with the other. The flicker of ambition now glowed with double strength, for she was bent on giving a proper reply to the selectors. And that she did with vindictive vengeance. From next year (1961) till 1968 Usha Sunderraj inscribed her name on the National women's singles trophy four times.

Yet, has all the glamour and glory she now enjoys as India's Table Tennis queen been able to heal the scar of disappointment in 1960? Maybe at moments of reminiscent mood, tears still burst through her heart and flow from the eyes to roll down the cheeks.

DARK HORSE

The scene recedes to 1938 as the first All-India Table Tennis Championships were being held at the Calcutta Rangers Club. Asit Mukherjee, a student of Calcutta University Law College, proved to be the dark horse, toppling top players like Kamal Banerjee, Khurshid Kapadia and others to find himself in the Men's Singles final.

Mukherjee was overjoyed at his prospect of contending for the first national title, but more so in the hope of representing India at the World Championships due in a few months in Cairo.

The night of happy dreams dawned into the day of the final match against Mohammad Ayub. Just before the start of the final, Mukherjee learnt from a brother player that he would be left out of consideration for the team to Cairo since his wonted style of play-the-pen-holder-grip was incapable of taking him far. Dejected he lost to Ayub by three straight games.

Since that day over 30 years have rolled by. Asit Mukherjee, the sportsman, still plays his table tennis, but with the orthodox shake-hand grip; for he had forsaken his pen-holder grip, which he had been convinced with a fatal blow, had no future. He plays today for the fun of it and undoubtedly enjoys every bit of it.

But can this otherwise successful man, a director of India Oxygen, help looking back now that he is past 50? When he finds that the pen-holder grip, for which he was summarily cut out from his claim of representing India in the World Championships, has won all the top titles and places in the world during the decade, pushing the shake-hand grip players to the back rows of world ranking, does he not heave a sigh, and with it, occasionally burst into laughter within himself at how poor foresight our self-styled prophets have.

Irish Corner

BY KEVIN DRUM

WORTHWHILE JOURNEY

Belgium's Norbert Van der Walle and A. Crovecoeur stayed over after the Division 2 European League encounter at Ballymena and travelled on to Lisburn for the Ulster Open championships. They made their journey worthwhile by capturing the two major titles.

In the men's semi-finals, Jim Langan showed something like his old form when he narrowly lost to Scotland's Malcolm Sugden. In the other semi, "Connie" Warren, having lost the first game to Van der Walle, won the second at 15 on expedite but having levelled at 20-all in the decider, was eventually beaten.

Sugden found the Belgian's defence far too good in the final and lost in straight games. Young Bernadette McGroarty, from Larne, beat Joan Warren in the women's semi-final but lost to the Belgian girl in the final.

International Cliff Thompson with a victory in the Armagh Open under his belt, defeated the holder, Mick Rice, to win the Loas/Offaly Open but Joy Geary successfully defended her women's crown defeating Dorothy Taylor in the final.

YORKSHIRE NOTES

by Cliff Darley

"MELODY" IN TUNE

ACE, one of the leading clubs in Barnsley, have a change of club-room moving from the Tollgate Hotel to the Old Students Union Building, Cockerham Lane.

In the Yorkshire Club Championships, Ace lost in the Men's section to Harrogate's Spa Casino 4-5 and, in the Women's Section to Sheffield's Albion by a like score. Monthly Junior coaching sessions are being held at the club with Brian Starkie and Geoff Williams in charge of proceedings. Players other than members of the Barnsley League are welcomed on such occasions.

At the time of writing R. Dalton, R. Harrison, B. Kaye, P. Merryweather, T. Platts, B. Starkie and R. Whittaker still hold 100% records in the Barnsley League.

Making her debut in Division 2 of the Bradford League for Unity Hall, 11-years-old Melody Ludi (what a nice name) must have created a record (Haunting Melody) in winning all her three sets.

Jean Pitts, wife of Yorkshire stalwart Maurice, made it a family affair when she played for Bradford's distaff side against Middlesbrough for the first time.

Still in Bradford, B.B.A. have signed Mick Stephenson who is to join their first team of David Laycock and Ian Gomersall in attempting to break the stranglehold of Hermits in Division 1.

Harrogate League have a record entry this season with 70 teams competing in 5 divisions. New, this season, is the introduction of 3-man teams but only in Div. 1. Nine singles and a doubles set are played with a point awarded for every set won.

"Osh" A. J. Marshall, although undefeated for the Hospital Board, could not stop league champions Villa "A", but it is Spa Casino Wanderers "A" who go to the top of Div. 1 having lost only four of the 50 sets played.

I.C.I. "A" lead Div. 2, but it was left to 13-year-old Wayne Morris to clinch the issue for Knaresborough Social "B" in their top-of-the-table clash in Div. 3 against Ripon YMCA.

Castleford, Pontefract champions, Lumbs Sports, lost an unexpected point to H. and S. led by former Yorkshire player Brian Milner. In the previous week H. and S. had disposed of league leaders Pontefract in the Cup.

W.R.W., Police "A" and C.I.S.W.O., the Disabled Miners' Organisation are new clubs doing well but Terry Walsh (Ferrybridge A/B) is still waiting for the rest of his team to find form. Undefeated himself, this season, the team have drawn one and lost 4—all by a 4-6 margin.

Hull's first team unexpectedly lost their first match in Div. 1 of the Yorkshire League when beaten by Doncaster—now with former Lancastrian Ronnie Allcock in their ranks. Neil Fulstow and Eddie Beedle failed to win a set. Fulstow was replaced by Paul Canham for the clash with Hull II won by the first team 6-4.

'So what's so special about a National Umpire?'

by **JACK RANDALL**

Secretary, National Umpires and Referees' Committee

There is no mystery about becoming a National Umpire. In the first place it should be understood that those who have qualified, and there have been 77 to the date of writing, were not 'rewarded' for long and faithful service, or for having the right coloured eyes.

It was intended from the inception of the Umpiring scheme to have a higher qualification for those who had, after three years standing as a County Umpire, acquired a certain amount of experience officiating at National events

From these experienced Umpires, those who wish to qualify as N.U. sit a written test under examination room conditions, and are then interviewed by two or three people from the National Umpires and Referees' Committee.

The object of the written test and interview is to ensure that those judged to be of N.U. status have the widest knowledge of not only the basic laws but also the rules and regulations

governing the various events such as Open Tournaments and International Matches.

In addition, the interviewing panel try, in the course of their somewhat informal chat with the candidate, to assess his/her capability to cope with the various difficulties that can crop up in big events. The Umpire must be quite sure where his responsibilities end and where those of the Referee begin.

Nevertheless, with discreet handling, many incipient troubles may be circumvented and the complication of calling in the Referee avoided. The Umpire may be subjected to rather subtle pressures in an International Match.

For example, take the case when a competitor is unfairly wasting time between points in order, perhaps, to gain a much needed respite. The Umpire must not allow an unfair advantage to be gained; must not appear to be over officious, and must not appear to be favouring one side over the other.

If one side were English, then there could be a tendency to allow the opposition to get away with a bit of

rule bending to demonstrate that there was no question of favouring the home side. This of course, would be as wrong as allowing any other deviation from the Laws, Rules or Regulations.

UNLIMITED

I am asked sometimes what questions are actually asked of N.U. candidates. The range is obviously not unlimited, so these questions are not published as specimen papers. The range may, however, be indicated, and covers much of what has been said above. The quickest way to summarise it would be to say that the candidate should have a good working knowledge of the contents of the Handbook for Umpires published by the International Table Tennis Federation.

This is divided into three sections; (a) Basic Laws of Table Tennis, (b) Basic Regulations and Recommendations for International Competitions, and (c) Guidance to Umpires.

The questions therefore cover the precise application of the Laws; how to deal with queries that might arise concerning conditions of play, and apparatus and clothing; complaints, and behaviour of players.

The candidate must be quite sure about the regulations applicable to various events governing such things as advice to players, e.g. by whom and when. In addition, some less usual occurrences are postulated to make sure that they can be dealt with adequately. The interview is also useful to resolve any obscurities that may have arisen in the written paper, since it is not desired to select only those candidates who are good at answering examination papers.

It has been found at these examination sessions that the people who do well are, in the main, those who have had most practical experience of umpiring at National events. Being teamed up with established National Umpires in a situation where it's "all happening" seems to be the best way of getting things sorted out in one's mind, and it is the rare individual who can proceed direct from theory to practice.

MORE FAILURES THAN PASSES

If somebody gets the thumbs down sign after such an examination, it doesn't mean that he can't still be a jolly good Umpire for most purposes; and if a person gets through, it doesn't mean that he isn't going to make any mistakes for the rest of his life.

That there are more failures than passes is only because we are endeavouring to keep up the standards set at the very beginning. It's no good having a qualification if it doesn't mean anything, but if I have made it sound too daunting, let me assure you that it is not.

Above all, the N.U.R.C. are most grateful to those people who submit themselves to the ordeal and trouble of the N.U. exam and we try to be as helpful as possible during it.

BUFFERS HIT AT SWINDON

Due to the resignation of Tournament Organiser, Mr. G. G. S. Turnbull, and a complete lack of local support, the Swindon 3-Star Open has been cancelled for this season. Such was the sad news imparted by Swindon League secretary Mr. A. W. King on Nov. 14.

COACHING AND SCHOOLS

By **PHILIP REID**

This month my notes are very much with a Northern bias—because it is from there that almost all my information has come this month. Lancashire features prominently. A coaching rally was recently organised by Peter Simpson at Urmston. This proved so popular that another is to be organised in the near future. Further north—at Ulverston—Glaxo Laboratories put on a coaching weekend for their members and young players from the Barrow League, and this proved equally successful. Westmorland has no county table tennis association but it does not prevent the enthusiasts from playing. Gateways Table Tennis Club (Kendal) have benefitted from coaching as have Lakeland School, Windermere and Milnthorpe School where Clarice Rose is doing sterling work.

There are now four Regional centres in the North—Blackburn, Stockton, Bingham, and a new one at Lightfoot (Newcastle). Harold Myers newly-appointed Lancashire Coaching Secretary is in charge at Blackburn but could do with some assistance. Alan Ransome and Bob Wiley look after Stockton whilst holding the fort at Bingham is Peter Hirst. Lightfoot—transferred from the old centre at Wallsend—is under Terry Hart's leadership.

Fancy an Easter Coaching course? The C.C.P.R. are organising a course at the City of Leeds and Carnegie College of Education from Friday evening to Sunday tea-time, April 14th-16th. The course is to prepare coaches for the Diploma Coach One Star Award or Club Coach Award. Applications to C.C.P.R., 2, Park Street East, Leeds LS1 2NQ. Peter Simpson and Harry Dignan will be in charge.

Latest Gold Award winners in the Junior Proficiency Scheme are:—Brian Sweetzer 15, Terry Lockyer 15, Susannah Kavallierou 18 (Sussex), Sylvia Broadbent 17 (Yorkshire).

Syd Frohlick had resigned from the Northern Panel owing to pressure of work. His support and experience will be greatly missed but there is a chance Syd will be able to return at a later date.

Finally—those people at the Midlands and South-West Coaching Rally who were going to write to me—what happened? Not one letter so far!



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Open Tournament Survey

Contributed by—
THE EDITOR
REA BALMFORD
PHILIP REID

Major shock in the Merseyside 3-Star Open, played at Dunlop's Speke on Oct. 31, was the ousting of top seed Denis Neale by Warwickshire's newly captured star Brian Burn.

For the former Northumberland player it was the realisation of a threat posed in the North of England Open at Manchester and executed with avowed intent at Liverpool.

But sadly, after the pools of perspiration had been mopped up in preparation of the finals arena, it was to no avail that Burn doused the floor anew in a gripping semi with Tony Clayton.

Studying at Liverpool University, the Yorkshire left hander had done his homework, but only just, in nosing home 22-20 in a tremendous decider, having earlier in the proceedings despatched no less a giant than "Les" Haslam.

Despite a late start, being fortuitous perhaps in starting at all, Alan Hydes cantered through to the semis there to meet up with Mike Johns resplendent in luxurious sideburns.

But the "red devil" was exorcised although it took Hydes to a second game score of 27-25 to accomplish it.

No such tension was attached to the final encounter when Greek met Greek with the Barnsley boy always in command over the Humbersider.

Pauline Piddock was the women's singles winner with final victory being accomplished against Judy Williams after the Kent lass had disposed of Finland's top-ranking Liisa Jarvenpaa.

Jimmy Walker scored yet again over his fellow Teessider Nicky Jarvis to win the boys' singles, and Janet Hellaby made her long journey worthwhile in winning the girls' singles, the beaten finalist being Scotland's Miss L. Montague.

Sadly it must be reported that as a 3-Star tournament the Merseyside was a flop. Not so much by reason of the people who were in control but by the absence of those who should have been.

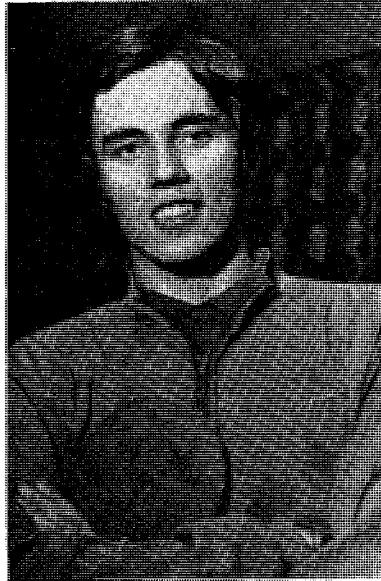
Smooth running of tournaments is dependent on floor staff but the Merseyside ground crew were conspicuous by their absence and therein lies the reason for a time schedule that went hopelessly awry.

HUMBERSIDE

Again with the ambition of taking over next season as one of the major 3-Star tournaments in the country, Hull's tourney, under its new-look name of the Humberside Open, stepped into the seventies with a slick moving competition.

Played on the day after the Merseyside, it culminated in a blaze of glory with one of the finest men's singles finals seen in the area for many years.

It was far from surprising that top seeds Denis Neale and Alan Hydes should come through a draw which included seven of the England ranked men—it should have been eight, but, following his defeat on Merseyside by



"How about that then?" Alan Hydes winner of the men's singles title in both 3-Star tournaments played this season.

Tony Clayton, "Les" Haslam failed to put in an appearance—and face each other in a battle for the top £25 prize put at stake by the sponsors, the Hull Brewery Co.

The final was a spectacular, hard-hitting affair in which Neale edged home 19 in the first, Hydes levelled at 25-23 and looked set for the title with an 18-16 lead in the decider.

But Neale was not to be pushed aside for a second time in one weekend, and hit his way to the next five points and the title.

Surprise semi-finalist was Lancashire junior Tony Boasman, who made his way past the solid defence of Derek Munt, and the attacking power of Robert Hellaby and Nicky Jarvis, to move into the semis with a win over K. Kataja, a member of the Finnish Club Champion side, who were in England following a Europe Club Championship match on Teesside.

The Lancastrian came to the end of the road at this point, however, having no answer to Neale. Holder Mike Johns reached his allotted place in the semis by beating Alan Fletcher, but there was no joy for Burn, who fell in the last 16 to Fletcher—a fine win for the local boy in his first season in the senior ranks.

Susan Lisle crossed the Pennines to take the women's title with a final win over Miss Jarvenpaa, conqueror of Linda Bashford. But with up-and-coming Sussex girl Suzanna Kavallierou also among her victims, the Scandinavian visitor will no doubt look back with satisfaction on her visit.

Jarvis gained revenge over Boasman in the boys' semi before disposing comfortably of Hellaby to retain the crown he took over last year.

MIDLAND COUNTIES

Good conditions, a strong entry, exciting play and plenty of surprises—that sums up the Midland Counties Open held at the Harry Mitchell Recreation Centre, Warley on Nov. 21-22.

Big shock in the men's singles was the defeat of England No. 2 Denis Neale by Graham Davies of Wales in the fourth round. It was a ding-dong struggle with fortunes swaying back and forth. At 21-20 in the third Davies hit a long ball which appeared to marginally miss the table.

Neale, however, signified at once that it had touched and was round the table to shake hands before waiting for the umpire's verdict—a very sporting gesture. Nonetheless, Neale contributed to his own downfall by playing into the Welshman's hands by a consistency of pace which Davies appeared to have been weaned on.

Davies subsequently went out to Tony Clayton so that three of the four semi-finalists were left handed. Clayton had a good win over Mike Johns, getting in some superb hits, but the other semi-final—Hydes v. Taylor—was more exciting.

The big crowd generously applauded some superb rallies and with Taylor recovering from a bad start to lead 14-10 in the third he looked a likely winner. But Hydes recovered well to get home at 17. The final was something of an anti-climax with Hydes always in command.

The shocks were not restricted to the men's singles, for in the women's singles the comparatively "unknown" Mrs. Diane Johnson, formerly with Cheshire and now with Lancashire, although living in the Derbyshire village of Baslow, beat Karenza Mathews in a most exciting third round encounter.

The next round, however, brought about Diane's downfall—to Shelagh Hession. The final—between Jill Shirley and Pauline Piddock—provided three games all of which were decided after the score had reached 20-all. Jill narrowly triumphed but it could so easily have gone the other way.

The boys' singles title went to Nicky Jarvis who, on this occasion, got the better of Jimmy Walker, surely the most improved junior in England this season.

Rarely is the women's doubles a very attractive final but certainly here it provided some sparkling play. The more attacking play of Lesley Radford and Diane Simpson gave them a very close victory over Judy Williams and Miss Hession in a set full of good table tennis. Shelagh, in particular, was in magnificent form making some wonderful returns besides executing a forehand kill at an angle from which most players would have been thankful to get the ball back. A great tournament.

Merseyside Open

Men's Singles: Quarter-finals:
 B. Burn (Warwks.) bt D. Neale (Yorks.) 15, -18, 18;
 L. Clayton (Yorks.) bt O. Haslam (Middx.) 16, 18;
 M. Johns (Ches.) bt N. Jarvis (Yorks.) 19, 25;
 A. Hydes (Yorks.) bt R. Gunnion (Warwks.) 12, 15.

Semi-finals:
 CLAYTON bt Burn -17, 13, 20;
 HYDES bt Johns 10, 25.

Final:
 HYDES bt Clayton 16, 7.

Women's Singles: Quarter-finals:
 P. Piddock (Kent) bt L. Jarvenpaa (Finland) 18, 17;
 S. Lisle (Lancs.) bt G. Stocks (Yorks.) 17, 16;
 L. Bashford (Yorks.) bt S. Kavallierou (Sussex) -14, 13, 12;
 J. Williams (Sussex) bt L. Reid (Worcs.) 13, 7.

Semi-finals:
 PIDDOCK bt Lisle 17, 16;
 WILLIAMS bt Bashford 19, 18.

Final:
 PIDDOCK bt Williams 12, -19, 14.

Men's Doubles: Semi-finals:
 HYDES/NEALE bt P. Glynn (Warwks.)/Gunnion 16, 17;
 J. HAMALAINEN/P. TUOMINEN (Finland) bt Clayton/U. Landry (Middx.) -10, 14, 21.

Final:
 HYDES/NEALE bt Hamalainen/Tuominen 16, 22.

Women's Doubles: Semi-finals:
 BASHFORD/LISLE bt Jarvenpaa/Reid -12, 15, 18;
 J. HELLABY (Essex)/WILLIAMS bt M. Green/S. Shirriff (New Zealand) 11, -16, 10.

Final:
 BASHFORD/LISLE bt Hellaby/Williams 15, 16.

Mixed Doubles: Semi-finals:
 JOHNS/LISLE bt w.o. Clayton/Williams (Scr.);
 NEALE/PIDDOCK bt A. Ransome (Northld.)/Bashford 17, 15.

Final:
 NEALE/PIDDOCK bt Johns/Lisle 17, 18.

Boys' Singles: Quarter-finals:
 Jarvis bt J. Nix (Warwks.) 13, 13;
 A. Boasman (Lancs.) bt S. Taylor (Warwks.) 15, 18;
 R. Hellaby (Essex) bt B. Johns (Ches.) 10, 15;
 J. Walker (Yorks.) bt J. McNee (Ches.) 16, 18.

Semi-finals:
 JARVIS bt Boasman 11, 16;
 WALKER bt Hellaby -15, 13, 17.

Final:
 WALKER bt Jarvis 18, -16, 16.



A sad-eyed Brian Burn reflecting on the glory that might have been his at Liverpool.

(Photo by John O'Sullivan)

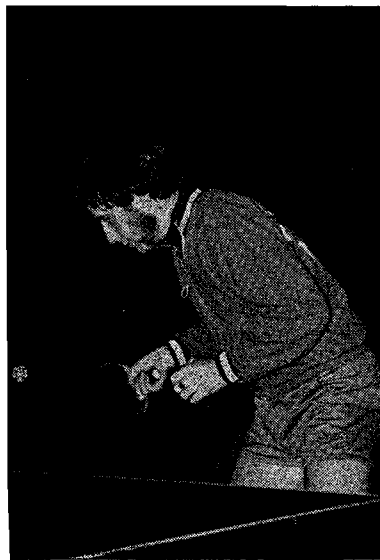
Girls' Singles: Semi-finals:
HELLABY bt B. Williams (Lancs.) 14, 15;
L. MONTAGUE (Scotland) bt M. Jones (Wales) -17, 8, 15.
Final:
HELLABY bt Montague 18, 17.
Veteran Singles: Semi-finals:
T. DONLON (Ches.) bt J. Mather (Ches.) 10, -19, 10;
D. SCHOFIELD (Ches.) bt D. Jackson (Ches.) 17, 11.
Final:
SCHOFIELD bt Donlon 13, 8.

Humberside Open

Men's Singles: Quarter-finals:
D. Neale (Yorks.) bt L. Clayton (Yorks.) 13, 18;
A. Boasman (Lancs.) bt K. Kataja (Finland) 12, 20;
M. Johns (Ches.) bt A. Fletcher (Yorks.) 16, 15;
A. Hydes (Yorks.) bt D. Schofield (Ches.) 4, 6.
Semi-finals:
NEALE bt Boasman 9, 6;
HYDES bt Johns 18, -17, 13.
Final:
NEALE bt Hydes 19, -23, 18.
Women's Singles: Semi-finals:
S. LISLE (Lancs.) bt L. Sutton (Yorks.) 13, 9;
L. JARVENPAA (Finland) bt L. Bashford (Yorks.) -19, 20, 9.
Final:
LISLE bt Jarvenpaa 10, -19, 12.

Men's Doubles: Semi-finals:
HYDES/NEALE bt Johns/B. Kean (Ches.) 2, 19;
N. JARVIS (Yorks.)/A. RANSOME (Northld.) bt D. Munt (Warwks.)/Schofield -19, 11, 13.
Final:
HYDES/NEALE bt Jarvis/Ransome 15, 17.
Women's Doubles: Semi-finals:
BASHFORD/LISLE bt D. Youngs/J. Youngs (Suffolk) 11, 16;
S. KAVALLIEROU (Sussex)/G. TAYLOR (Essex) bt J. Green (Ches.)/S. Read (Essex) 15, -15, 16.
Final:
BASHFORD/LISLE bt Kavallierou/Taylor 14, 9.
Mixed Doubles: Semi-finals:
HYDES/KAVALLIEROU bt Johns/Lisle -18, 19, 18;
RANSOME/BASHFORD bt Clayton/Sutton 18, 17.
Final:
HYDES/KAVALLIEROU bt Ransome/Bashford 13, 16.
Boys' Singles: Semi-finals:
JARVIS bt Boasman 14, -19, 20;
R. HELLABY (Essex) bt N. Fulstow (Yorks.) 21, 16.
Final:
JARVIS bt Hellaby 14, 12.
Girls' Singles: Semi-finals:
SUTTON bt Green 20, 19;
J. WALKER (Yorks.) bt P. Clements (Yorks.) 15, 7.
Final:
SUTTON bt Walker 19, 18.

Veteran Singles: Semi-finals:
SCHOFIELD bt R. Allcock (Yorks.) 12, -16, 12;
T. DONLON (Ches.) bt D. Marples (Derbys.) -18, 15, 17.
Final:
SCHOFIELD bt Donlon 11, 13.



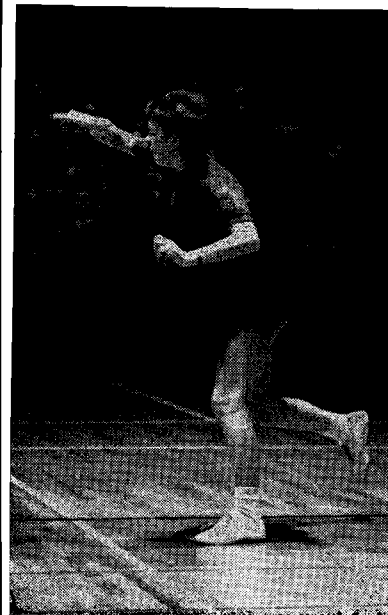
Bewhiskered Mike Johns — thrice a semi-finalist.

(Photo by John O'Sullivan)

Midland Counties Open

Men's Singles: Quarter-finals:
A. Clayton (Yorks.) bt G. Davies (Wales) 15, 17;
M. Johns (Ches.) bt E. Coster (Middx.) 15, 19;
A. Hydes (Yorks.) bt P. Williams (Sussex) 10, 10;
T. Taylor (Essex) bt R. Cooper (Warwks.).
Semi-finals:
CLAYTON bt Johns 17, -13, 10;
HYDES bt Taylor 9, -12, 17.
Final:
HYDES bt Clayton 12, 13.
Women's Singles: Quarter-finals:
J. Shirley (Bucks.) bt L. Radford (Essex) 16, 12;
J. Williams (Sussex) bt S. Lisle (Lancs.) 12, 13;
P. Piddock (Kent) bt L. Bashford (Yorks.) -18, 17, 18;
S. Hession (Essex) bt D. Johnson (Lancs.) 10, -11, 16.
Semi-finals:
SHIRLEY bt Williams 17, -17, -11;
PIDDOCK bt Hession 9, 15.
Final:
SHIRLEY bt Piddock -25, 20, 21.
Men's Doubles: Semi-finals:
HYDES/D. NEALE (Yorks.) bt A. Fletcher (Yorks.)/Taylor 14, -23, 14;
N. JARVIS (Yorks.)/A. RANSOME (Northld.) bt R. Brown/R. Cooper (Warwks.) 14, 12.
Final:
HYDES/NEALE bt Jarvis/Ransome 16, -19, 14.
Women's Doubles: Semi-finals:
RADFORD/D. SIMPSON (Essex) bt Mathews/Shirley 15, 15;
HESSION/WILLIAMS bt Bashford/Piddock 18, -13, 18.
Final:
RADFORD/SIMPSON bt Hession/Williams -19, 21, 17.
Mixed Doubles: Semi-finals:
TAYLOR/SHIRLEY bt Coster/Simpson 11, 15;

JOHNS/MATHEWS bt Hydes/Piddock 17, 14.
Final:
TAYLOR/SHIRLEY bt Johns/Mathews 20, 18.
Boys' Singles: Quarter-finals:
Jarvis bt R. Broadmore (Warwks.) 12, 16;
P. Taylor (Beds.) bt D. Atkin (Yorks.) 16, 15;
R. Hellaby (Essex) bt T. Martin (Yorks.) 15, -20, 12;
J. Walker (Yorks.) bt B. Johns (Ches.) 12, 20.
Semi-finals:
JARVIS bt Taylor 13, -16, 16;
WALKER bt Hellaby 6, 17.
Final:
JARVIS bt Walker 12, 17.
Girls' Singles: Semi-finals:
S. HAMILTON (Middx.) bt L. Jones (Wales) 11, 20;
E. TARTEN (Essex) bt J. Walker (Yorks.) -11, 11, 16.
Final:
HAMILTON bt Tarten 10, 16.
Boys' Doubles: Final:
JARVIS/WALKER bt Atkin/Taylor 12, 12.
Girls' Doubles: Final:
HAMILTON/WALKER bt Jones/A. McCarthy (Yorks.) 11, 14.
Veteran Singles: Semi-finals:
D. SCHOFIELD (Ches.) bt V. Tiplady (Cams.) -17, 15, 9;
L. BROWNING (Yorks.) bt J. Peakman (Warwks.) 16, 8.
Final:
SCHOFIELD bt Browning -24, 12, 21.



Jill Shirley, home by a "whisker" at Warley.

(Photo by Tony Ross)

BABY BRUMMEL INVITATION

Enzo Presepi, secretary of the club, Polisportiva Baby Brummel in Senigallia, Italy, is anxious to establish contacts with junior clubs in England to play matches on an exchange basis.

Associated with the Italian Table Tennis Federation, the Baby Brummel club has, in ten years of steady activity, made a name for themselves by winning 10 junior titles in both the feminine and masculine fields.

Interested clubs in England are invited to write to Enzo Presepi at Via P. Bonopera 5, 60019 Senigallia, Italy.

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TOURNAMENT DIARY

Date	Title and Venue	Additional to normal events	Organising Secretary
Dec. 18/20	MIDDLESEX 3-STAR OPEN, Hampstead Civic Centre, Swiss Cottage, London N.W.3.	JBS, JGS, VS	Miss I. Moss, 49, Okehampton Road, Kensal Rise, London, N.W.10. E.T.T.A., 26-29, Park Crescent, London W1N 4HA.
Jan. 2/71	ENGLISH CLOSED,		
Jan. 3	Yorkshire Junior Open, Y.P.I. Ferens Recreation Centre, Chanterlands Avenue North, Hull.	U-15 BS, GS, BD, GD. U-13 BS, GS.	R. Balmforth, 205, Park Avenue, Hull, Yorks. Closing Date: 16/12/70.
10	Winton Restricted 1-Star Open, Winton Y.M.C.A., Bournemouth, Hants.	JBS, JGS.	J. Luther, G/F. Flat, 66, Frederica Road, Bournemouth, BH9 2NA.
16	Lancashire 2-Star Open, Hawker Siddeley Dynamics Ltd., Lostock, Bolton.	V.S	G. T. H. Fackrell, 9, Clive Avenue, Orford, Warrington. Closing date: 31/12/70.
17	Oxfordshire 2-Star Open, Gosford Hill School, Kidlington, Oxford.	VS.	P. S. Goode, 56, The Fairway, Banbury, Oxon.
23	Pontefract Restricted 1-Star Open, The Assembly Rooms, Pontefract.	JBS, JGS, VS.	G. L. Johnson, 17, Rhodes Crescent, Pontefract, Yorks.
23	Exeter Junior Open, Y.M.C.A., St. David's Hill, Exeter.	U-15 BS, GS, U-13 BS, GS.	K. T. O. Ponting, 21, Southport Avenue, Redhills, Exeter, Devon.
23/24	Essex 2-Star Open.	YSB, YSG, VS.	M. D. Watts, "Gleneagles", 25, Church Green, Sycamore Way, Canewdon, Essex.
30/31	Kent 2-Star Open, Marine Pavilion, Folkestone.	YSB, YSG, VS	G. M. Daniels, 89, Harvey Road, Willesborough, Ashford, Kent.
30/31	Burford Junior Open, The Grammar School, Burford.	U-15 BS, GS, BD, GD, U-13 BS, GS, BD, GD.	M. J. Chalk, Old Grammar School, High Street, Burford, Oxon. Closing Date: 11/1/71.
31	North Bournemouth Restricted 1-Star Open, Winton Y.M.C.A., Jameson Road, Winton, Bournemouth.	JS	C. B. Cashell, 16, Victoria Avenue, Winton, Bournemouth, Hants.

IRELAND

Jan. 1971 15/16	IRISH OPEN (Belfast).
18/22	East of Ireland Open, Pioneers Club, Dublin.
23	Co. Kildare Open (Naas).
30	Co. Antrim Open (Ballymena).

SCOTLAND

17	Edinburgh Open (Edinburgh).	J. M. McCormack, 2, Bramdean Place, Edinburgh, EH10 6JS.
23	West of Scotland Open (Glasgow).	J. Weatherstone, 57, Kirkland Street, Glasgow N.W.

WALES

16	Glamorgan Open (Cardiff).	Mrs. S. Sturgess, 16, Turnham Green, Penylan, Cardiff.
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Fund Raising Schemes



BY ALBERT SHIPLEY

Forty-two members and guests of the E.T.T.A.'s '100 CLUB' enjoyed a memorable Dinner on Nov. 21 when, at the Lambert Court Hotel, Birmingham, guest speaker was John Coghlan, a Regional Officer of the C.C.P.R.

Mr. Coghlan spoke on political involvement in sport. In complete contrast, E.T.T.A. Treasurer Tom Blunn kept the assembled company in convulsions of laughter with his own inimitable brand of humour.

The Dinner marked the end of Ron Crayden's term of office as Club Chairman and during the evening he introduced his successor, Arthur Upton of Liverpool, who will preside at the next gathering at Brighton on Feb. 27.

Main prize winners in the Draw were David Stanley of Huddersfield—£100, Alan Shepherd of Essex—£50 and Ron Crayden—£10.

Membership of the Club stands at 97, so with the enrolment of three more members the doors will close and subsequent applicants will be asked to join a waiting list. Immediate contact should therefore be made with me for the three vacancies that, at the moment, exist.

Lincoln Handicap Draw

All member Leagues of Counties not organising their own distribution of tickets have been offered the chance of selling tickets themselves. This is a simple yet effective way of augmenting League funds, without risk or cost, as for each £1's worth of tickets sold, a rebate of 10/- is given. By purchasing tickets, members can help their League or County and have the chance to win a prize of £250.

Master Points Scheme

Interest in the scheme remains steady with the total of Club Masters approaching the 1,200 mark. Many open tournaments are offering master points and any League or individual, interested in the scheme, should contact me at the E.T.T.A. office, 26-29, Park Crescent, London W1N 4HA.

Dunlop Table Draw

All Club Secretaries should, by now, have received via their Leagues an opportunity to purchase a chance to win a Dunlop Barna table which was used only for the European Youth Championships last August. Although the official closing date was Nov. 30, this has now been extended to the last day in December and the draw will be made during the English Closed Championships. Any club desirous of participating in the Draw can purchase a ticket direct from me at the E.T.T.A. office.

PERMIT MEMBERS

BY HARRY WALKER

ESSEX LEAD THE WAY

Following the article which appeared in the October issue of TABLE TENNIS NEWS, there have been 17 new applications and 40 renewals of membership. Present membership throughout the country is as follows:—

Beds.	1
Berks.	Nil
Bucks.	2
Camb.	5
Ches.	4
Cornwall	Nil
Cumb.	Nil
Derbys.	6
Devon	Nil
Dorset	1
Durham	Nil
Essex	19
Gloucs.	10
Hants.	6
Herts.	4
Hunts.	Nil
Kent	15
Lancs.	9
Leics.	Nil
Lincs.	Nil
Middx.	12
Norfolk	Nil
Northants.	Nil
Northumb.	6
Notts.	2
Oxon	Nil
Salop	Nil
Somerset	2
Staffs.	4
Suffolk	1
Surrey	10
Sussex	11
Warwks.	3
Wilts.	Nil
Worcs.	2
Yorks.	10

From the foregoing statistics it would appear that there are a large number of our members who are either unaware of, or evading, the Permit Member Regulations. These cover remunerations made to them for coaching, writing, exhibitions etc., in consideration of their skills.

Accordingly I would appeal to all County Secretaries to co-operate with the Association in making those concerned aware of their liabilities in this connection.

A few seasons ago, as an incentive to counties, and also to cover any expenses involved, it was agreed to pay a 20% rebate on all Permit fees received by March 31 in any one season.

Application forms can be had from me at the E.T.T.A. office, 26-29 Park Crescent, London W1N 4HA.

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BOOK REVIEW

"The Youngest Son"

(by Ivor Montagu—

Lawrence & Wishart, London, 1970).

I CAME across this first volume of the Hon. Ivor Montagu's memoirs purely by accident. Last summer my wife and I, and our second daughter, were on holiday in England, and we were invited to spend a few days with our great friends in this country, Mr. and Mrs. A. K. Vint. On my bedside table they left about a dozen books, amongst them Montagu's autobiographical sketches autographed by the author.

Although bedtime reading is one of my regular habits, I really didn't feel like looking at print the first evening in Hastings, having travelled from Brixton by coach which made me very tired. But seeing "Ivor Montagu" boldly printed on the spine of one of the books I couldn't resist the temptation and started browsing through it. In no time I found out that, prima facie, the book had a particular appeal to me, mainly for two reasons.

First of all, like the author I am a great lover of sport with special interest in table tennis. (I have been secretary or vice-president of the Malta Table Tennis Association these last ten years and I met Ivor Montagu in the Ljubljana World Championships in 1965 and in the London European Championships the following year). Secondly, I soon learnt that the author is a Cambridge man and I was privileged to undergo a course of studies at the Cambridge Institute of Education in 1967/68. So I decided to read the book and I do not regret staying up rather late those four nights we spent with the Vints.

The book, which covers the author's memoirs up to the age of 23, has a brief introduction and is divided into three sections: 1. Family Album, 2. Growth Factors, 3. Gilded youth.

In the first section I was very impressed by the author's vivid recollections of his early childhood days. As an educationalist I was greatly intrigued by his account and impressions of his schooling in the second section. He states, inter alia, that "Extra-curricular education can be more important even than schooling". I cannot agree more, Ivor. In the third section, which runs to two hundred pages, he recalls, first of all, his student life at Cambridge University from 1921 to 1924 and it is interesting to read about university life in those days and compare it with that of the sixties. He also retraces his wide travels in Europe, including the U.S.S.R., his activity as a zoologist, his connexions with table tennis, journalism, the film industry and politics, and finally his marriage.

Although he writes very little about table tennis, I am pretty certain that table tennis enthusiasts will enjoy reading about the varied and interesting early life of this outstanding table tennis personality. I was particularly impressed by the excellent style of his writing, his sense of humour and, above all, his sincerity and courage of his convictions. Quite

naturally, being a Roman Catholic I couldn't agree entirely with his philosophy of life, but nevertheless this did not in the least detract from my enjoyment in reading Montagu's stimulating book, and I am looking forward to the second volume of his memoirs.

EDWIN C. DEBONO.

OXFORDSHIRE

by Cecil W. Jackson

£100 IN PRIZES

PREPARATIONS are already far advanced for the Oxfordshire Open tournament to be held at the Gosford Hill School venue on Sunday, Jan. 18. Over £100 in prizes is already

guaranteed and the organisers are hoping to match the previous successful stagings of this event. Last year's men's singles final between Chester Barnes and Trevor Taylor is still on everyone's minds.

The County team has made a poor start to their Southern Division programme, a 9-1 defeat against Sussex II being followed by a 7-3 home reverse against local rivals Berks. The County veterans team, however, are likely to field an extremely strong side in this season's new competition.

In the Midland League, the Oxford team made a disastrous start and paid the penalty for lack of practice when visiting Nottingham losing 6-4. However, a 7-3 win at Coventry with three wins from Jackson and two

from Wolfe was more encouraging.

A subsequent visit to Hinckley resulted in an even better win, 8-2 against a home side which put up a great fight. Eight sets went to three but three wins from Jackson and three from debut man Rashid plus two from Stan Hahn saw Oxford to a great victory.

In the Oxford League, Culham College, led by unbeaten Brian Burn, have gone to the top of the first division with wins in their first seven matches. Oxford's visit to Banbury in the first round of the Wilmott Cup resulted in a run-away 9-0 victory and a home draw against St. Alban's in the next round gives Oxford a chance to have a good run in this season's competition.



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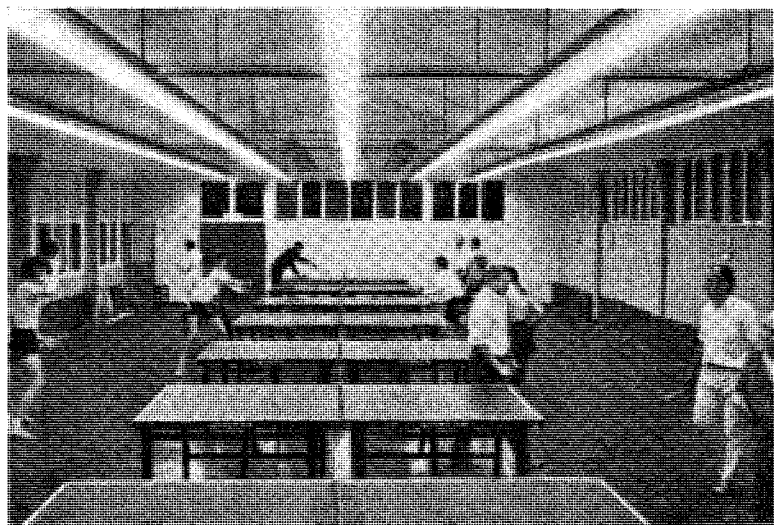
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OPEN HOUSE



The Barnet Table Tennis Centre which was officially opened on November 14th, 1970.

by Don Kenny

It has happened at last and now the Barnet Table Tennis centre is Officially Opened. This event occurring on what must have been the worst possible night of the year. Paradoxically, however, it may well have been a good night to have chosen since had it been a fine night there is no telling how many people would have come along not only to share in the general rejoicing, but also to watch what promised to be a great inter-counties match. As it was, the hall was so packed that it would have been most difficult to have packed many more in with the existing facilities.

This packed house, of course, made for a tremendous atmosphere and whether sitting in the front or standing at the back applauded with gusto the many incidents that were worthy of applause.

There was a most impressive list of guests drawn from various quarters, these included Charles Wyles, Chairman of the E.T.T.A. who made the very long trip from home to give his blessing, Derek Tremayne, who with Gordon Steggall and John Cornwell made a rapid exit from their coaching meeting in order to be on time. The Essex contingent included their President, Johnny Leach and his wife, their Chairman Ron Gingell and Secretary Mike Watts. Middlesex Chairman Ted Connell was forced by the weather to be an absentee, but the strong contingent included Iris Moss, Stuart Dane, Louis Hoffman, Doreen Stannard and John Wright. Last but not least came a bedraggled figure which turned out to be Geoff James who had had the misfortune to not only lose his way but also to get a puncture . . . no-one was more glad than he to sample the contents of the punchbowl which stood handily on the bar!

It was a pleasure too, for the organisers to see representatives from the Herts. Association, and also several representatives of neighbouring leagues. Clinton Savers, technical director of the C.C.P.R. was present as was Mr. D. McAdam of Coca-Cola Ltd. The many other guests included one of the founder-members of the Barnets league, several life-members,

President and Vice-Presidents, and some of the civic dignitaries who had helped the league get their centre by giving their permission in the first place.

Chief guests were Alderman and Councillor Mrs. Freedman, the deputy Mayor and Mayoress of the Borough of Barnet. The Mayor sportingly agreed to perform the actual opening by hitting a few balls across the table and Karenza Mathews no less sportingly agreed to act as 'feed' for the occasion. After getting his eye nicely in The Mayor declared that the next shot would be the official opening one and, with Karenza co-operating magnificently he blasted a real beauty of a forehand drive past her outstretched hand to the accompaniment of pleasurable applause.

The Mayor had previously paid tribute to the idea behind the centre and congratulated all concerned with the great amount of work involved. The Borough was, he said, keen to see the idea work and looked forward to a highly successful future for it. The centre had already proved itself to be of great value and he was glad to hear that both the E.T.T.A. and the Middlesex T.T.A. had already taken advantage of the added facilities.

The match itself proved most worthy of the occasion with Chester Barnes as a most welcome visitor, although "Les" Haslam on top form made him anything but welcome. This sensational start was followed by the most brilliant Table Tennis from all the players who, it is hoped, were helped by the great enthusiasm shown by the spectators. Both the Essex and Middlesex team secretaries were kind enough to say they appreciated the setting even though, as the Essex gentleman pointed out, it was rather odd to be playing in the Hertfordshire postal area.

This was the first time that a County match had been staged at the centre but not, it is hoped, by any means, the last. While there are some problems which remain to be solved regarding seating and staging it is felt that these can be overcome, and the hope is that the centre will become a regular venue for these top line games.

Already, since the centre opened for play in early May, it has been in fair demand for other purposes. Both the E.T.T.A. and Middlesex have used it for coaching activities while the Middlesex schools have booked the place for their four and two-a-side competitions with the English Schools' Association having booked it for the area finals of their competition.

Thus the dream which was dreamed so long ago has now turned into fact. Things are moving, the place gradually becoming more popular and more in demand, the bar which opened in September gradually becoming more and more used as people decide to pop in for a drink and a chat even if they don't want a game. Thus the place becomes more profitable and so eases slightly the very large financial burden which hangs over it. There's a long, long road ahead which will demand lots and lots more work and dedication before the centre actually clears itself of debt. The signs are good, however, and there is no slackening of enthusiasm. The doors are now Officially Open and the welcome sign hangs inside the door for all enthusiasts.

SOMERSET NOTES

by Ray Philpott

PLACES AND FACES

BOB HOUSE must surely have made more appearances for Bath than any other player, having been first selected for the town side 26 years ago as a 14-year-old. Apart from a year's absence at Agricultural College, Bob has been an almost ever-present for Bath in Western and Somerset League matches although he does admit to having been dropped once or twice!

Bob, who is mainly a defensive player, never spares himself at the table and he has always brought great credit to Somerset (when playing for the county) and to Bath as well as to himself. His "if you want to win you'll have to beat me" attitude has resulted in some great tussles but has also won him a great number of friends.

Some of his old battles with Mick Bennett, Joe Garland, Sam Ewens and Tony Russe really needed a calendar not a clock! Bob also has a very aggravating half volley when the occasion demands and the writer has shed pounds of weight in the past in endeavouring to overcome this.

Not satisfied with only being a player Bob has always been an excellent worker and committee member. Here's hoping to see plenty more of you in the future Bob.

Bob's younger brother, former international David House, was home from the U.S.A. (he now lives near Chicago) in early October and although not playing competitively these days he kindly gave a number of juniors at Percy Boys Club, Bath, the fine experience (and a hammering) of playing against him.

Percy Boys Club is nowadays buzzing with table tennis activity and all the hard work being put in there must eventually benefit Bath, Somerset, and the game in general. Carry on with the good work Bob Slocombe and Ian Currie.

At a recent Weston v. Taunton 2nd Division match it was good to see

Audrey Angell still going strong. Audrey has played for the Taunton 1st or 2nd Division teams for the past 20 years and during that time has acted for several years as Match Secretary and also served 10 years on the Taunton Committee.

Present at this match was Bill Waller who was for about 15 years Secretary of Chard T.T. Club. Bill now watches the games that wife Mary plays in and they both support the County side at all home and a good number of away matches.

Klaus Hoffman from Kulmbach, Bavaria, temporarily residing in Weston-Super-Mare, has made several appearances for the local side in the County League.

Barbara Bull who has been one of Weston-Super-Mare's top three lady players since 1952 is still playing regularly. Mrs. Bull who has made a number of appearances for the county is also a Somerset hockey player.

Ron Bowles who played in the county side for a good number of years has helped Failand to produce three other county players in Vernon Adams, Brian Reeves and Barbara Bowles. Failand also think they have another fine prospect in last year's No. 1 Junior, Roland Taysum who is in his first season as a senior. Ron, who has been a source of great encouragement to the young players at Failand over the years, has regrettably been dogged with ill health of late but nevertheless still keeps playing.

Pitmans A (John Hartry, Colin Tincknell and Mike Baker) last year's winners of the Bath League Premier Division and K.O. Cup have so far won all their this season's matches 10-0.

Rebecca Bryant confirmed her County No. 1 Junior Ranking when beating Nos. 2 and 3 Sue and Pat Beazer on her way to winning the Merton (Bournemouth) Junior Girls' Singles.

Mrs. Penny Perry (née Bonner) is now back in Somerset playing in the Bridgwater League. No doubt she will soon be forcing her way back into the county side.

DOUBLE DATE WITH SWEDEN

The National Selection Committee have announced the following teams to represent England in two international matches against Sweden this month.

On Thursday, Dec. 17 at the Pier Pavilion, Felixstowe, Suffolk (7-30 p.m.):—

Chester Barnes (Essex), Denis Neale (Yorks.), Jill Shirley (Bucks.) and Karenza Mathews (Middlesex).

On Friday, Dec. 18 at the 'Y' Sports Centre, Melrose Avenue, Cripple St., Maidstone, Kent (7-30 p.m.):—

Neale, Trevor Taylor (Essex) and Pauline Piddock (Kent). England Team Manager, Bryan Merrett will be the non-playing captain on both occasions.

At the time of going to press, details of the Swedish team were not available, but with Hans Alser, the current European champion, and Kjell Johansson—the pair are holders of the world men's doubles title—plus European Youth champion, Stellan Bengtsson, our visitors can be relied upon to turn out a strong team and one well worth watching.

ACTION SHOT! ESSEX NOTES

by Harry Walker

Submit your entries for the 1970/71 action shot photographic Competition. Action photographs may be of any ranked English players, Senior or Junior, or leading Foreign Players.

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Entries will be judged by a panel to be nominated by the Editor. Photographs by amateur photographers only will be accepted.

All prints will be retained and may be used for any purpose by the Association. Winning entries will be a star feature in the April edition of Table Tennis News.

Entries to:—

English Table Tennis Assoc.,
26/29 Park Crescent,
London W1N 4HA

Marked: ACTION SHOT!

SURPRISING SETBACK

First an apology for the lack of Essex News in the November issue. This was no fault of mine and copy was sent in to time but extenuating circumstances beyond anyone's control left our Editor with very little alternative but to make a cut somewhere and we were one of the unlucky ones, but we did receive an apology.

All our teams, with the exception of the Veterans, who suffered a surprising set-back against Oxford, made good progress last month. The availability of Chester for the Middlesex match did get most of us worried and his last minute change of mind was much appreciated by all his friends in Essex. I am sure that most people in our county understand his problem and that more thought should be given to these player problems by the powers that be, always bearing in mind that—and I quote a remark that Chester made to the press a few years back—"players are not machines".

The Ulster branch of the Irish Table Tennis Association, invited a team from Essex to play matches in Ulster and to take part in the Bangor Open, but unfortunately this has had to be declined owing to the unavailability of players. It is hoped to

invite a team from Ulster to come over at the time of the Essex Open to play matches and take part in this tournament.

Alan is now in the process of organising two coaches to go to Hull for the Yorkshire Junior Open on Sunday, January 3, and it is anticipated that these will be filled with not only juniors from Essex, but from Middlesex and Kent. What a pity that this tournament always follows on three arduous days at the English Closed. It would be so much more appreciated if something could be done about altering such a date.

Looking ahead still further, Alan is now in touch with Middlesex, Kent and Surrey junior secretaries and it is hoped to arrange an under-14 event at Crystal Palace in the early part of the new year.

I was surprised to hear that Brian Brumwell is playing again and even played in the Sussex Open and is included in Ilford's Wilmott Cup team. This is great news and what fighting spirit.

Have just seen the details of the County affiliations for the season and it is good to see increases in teams for Basildon, Braintree, Burnham, Chelmsford, Dagenham, Harlow, Romford, Southend and West Essex. On the other hand it is sad to see decreases in the three old established leagues of Barking, East London and Ilford.

At a recent National Council meeting the question of Permit members was discussed at some length and all counties were asked to co-operate by informing all concerned of their liabilities if they are receiving payment for writing, coaching or exhibitions. In order that all leagues in Essex are aware of the present permit members in the County, here are the names:—J. H. Carrington, Mrs. E. Carrington, M. N. Perryman, A. Toff, G. E. Thyesson, R. Barnes, Mrs. F. Birbeck, S. Ross, L. Hoffman, A. Thomas, B. Brumwell, J. A. Leach, R. Stevens, C. Barnes, Mrs. A. Hewitt, D. Mackinven, D. A. Lomas, G. R. Newman and T. Taylor. Application forms have been sent to a number of other players but there are still a large number of players in the County who should be registered and by not doing so are breaking the present regulations. If anyone reading this is in any doubt, they should contact their league secretary for details. Let Essex set an example.

Finally, congratulations from all his friends in Essex to Chester Barnes on resuming his rightful place as the England No. 1 player—well done, Chester, keep it up.

Operative ranking lists for the County are as follows:—

Men: 1, C. Barnes; 2, T. Taylor; 3, D. Brown; 4, R. Stevens; 5, P. Radford; 6, D. Johnson; 7, R. Hellaby; 8, I. Horsham; 9, S. Gibbs; 10, S. Smith; 11, M. Watts; 12, A. Condon; 13, K. Beamish; 14, J. Andrews; and 15, D. Bowles.

Women 1, L. Radford; 2, S. Hession; 3, D. Simpson; 4, J. Hellaby; 5, S. Beckwith; 6, T. Dale; 7, E. Tarten; 8, A. Hewitt; and 9, M. Know.

Boys: 1, R. Hellaby; 2, I. Horsham; 3, G. Blomfield; 4, M. Locke; 5, S. Kitteridge; 6, S. Hughes; 7, G. Bassett; 8, M. Bawden; 9, J. Burchell; and 10, P. Firbank.

Girls: 1, J. Hellaby; 2, S. Beckwith; 3, E. Tarten; 4, G. Locke; 5, S. Read; 6, G. Taylor; 7, L. Harvey; and 8, C. Stonell.

Veteran Men 1, K. Snaith; 2, P. Curtis; 3, S. Norton; 4, J. Osborne; 5, R. Drury; 6, G. McCauley; and 7, H. Levinge.

INTERNATIONAL CLUB

by Laurie Landry

RE-ELECTED

It has been fairly quiet in the Club since last season but the Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer were all successfully re-elected. I trust that we can assume that members are happy with the efforts of Geoff Harrower, Laurie Landry and Brian Wright since the constitution does allow for replacement.

The other members of the Committee are Betty Griffin (Steventon), Marjorie Cumberbatch, Len Adams, Les Cohen and Ron Crayden. Marjorie comes on for the first time.

Last May a match was played against Culham College, Abingdon, and this was won 7-2. Opposition included Brian Burn, the Club team being Stuart Gibbs, Simon Heaps and myself.

Future activities include a match against Maldon Youth Centre (Essex) on Mar. 6, our own rubber bat tournament on Sunday, Jan. 17, at Manchester YMCA and, next season, the first Rubber Bat Open tournament on the Sunday after the English Closed in January, 1972.

Engagement

This month, Cheshire international Mike Johns announces his engagement to Miss Annette Rung, a professional dancing instructress from Clitheroe, Lancs. The couple met during the summer at Butlin's Pwllheli camp. Congratulations.

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On the Junior Front

by Brian Wright

ANOTHER INNOVATION

The first of the season's Training Camps for juniors was held at Lea Green, Derbyshire, from 29th October to 1st November, under the control of myself, ably assisted by Mike Johns and Colin Henderson (Trainer). The camp was primarily intended as the first step in preparing our juniors for next August's European Youth Championships. Invitations were extended mainly to the younger element of our juniors and the following players attended:—

Girls: Linda Howard (Surrey), Gillian Locke (Essex), Suzanne Manning (Lancashire) and Karen Rogers (Leicestershire).

Boys: David Alderson (Yorkshire), Robert Broadmore (Warwickshire), Paul Guttormsen (Kent), Simon Heaps (Cheshire), Ian Horsham (Essex), Donald Parker (Lancashire), Dean Dino-Smith (Kent) and Robert Wiley (Yorkshire).

Following up the plan agreed by the Selection Committee, as outlined in the article by the Chairman of the National Selection Committee in the October issue of this magazine, further training camps have been arranged at Crystal Palace from 21st to 24th December, and at Lilleshall from 15th to 18th February, 1971 and 26th to 30th April, 1971.

A new innovation affecting our juniors this season, will be the commencement of Round Robin tournaments for our leading players based on the same all-play-all system which was used for the first time at the Final Junior Trials last September. The first of these tournaments will be held at Bolton on Sunday, 17th January, 1971, the day after the Lancashire Senior Open.

The Junior International Programme for the period up to end of May, 1971, is taking shape and subject to any changes will be as follows:—

Dec. 20/24, 1970—Training Camp at Crystal Palace.

Dec. 30/Jan. 1/2, 1971—English Senior Closed Championships.

Jan. 17—Round Robin Tournament at Bolton.

Feb. 15/18—Training Camp at Lilleshall.

Feb. 25/27—English Senior Open Championships at Brighton.

March 7—Round Robin Tournament.

April 10—English Junior Closed.

April 26/30—Training Camp at Lilleshall.

May 1/2—English Junior Open at Folkestone.

May 28/29—International matches against Holland (Away).

In addition, it is hoped to arrange Home Internationals against France and Germany and negotiations are at present in progress with France for a competitive Training Camp in France next April for our leading Under-15's.

The news announced last month that the Coca-Cola organisation are joining forces with the E.T.T.A. in supporting our Training plans was extremely welcome. Let us hope that with the cash injection into the Junior game the progress of our juniors can be advanced and that some of these junior players will be knocking on the door of the England Senior team in the near future.



A word of explanation to four most attentive onlookers.

Junior Tournaments

by Laurie Landry & Tony Mosson

NORTH HERTS

Brother and sister competitors were common in the Newbury Open held in the Corn Exchange where, in two full days, 14 titles were decided.

Gillian and Michael Locke of Essex had a particularly successful time, reaching the finals of the U-17 singles events.

The girls' singles event featured the most impressive performance by a Newbury junior in that Joyce Taylor easily beat Pat Beazer after the Somerset girl had ousted the favourite—Sheila Hamilton, England ranked at No. 4.

Miss Taylor subsequently went out to the eventual winner, Gillian Locke, who had a comfortable win in the final over Cheshire's Janice Green.

Michael Locke was not as fortunate as his sister, for he was up against a class player in Tony Boasman of Lancashire. The tall Mancunian soon made his presence felt with a 5-love lead off his own services and continued to dominate, finishing with a forehand blast which gave him the first game at 10.

The pattern was the same in the second, Boasman going from 15-10 to 20-10 on his service and crashing the winner past his bemused opponent to clinch the title.

Another player to catch the eye was Elaine Tarten. Winner of the U-13 title at Newbury last year, she did well to get the U-15 girls' singles with a 21-19 third game success over the Welsh No. 1, Lynda Jones.

Elaine and Gillian Taylor caused an upset in the U-17 girls' doubles final when they beat England ranked juniors Sheila Hamilton and Anne Painter.

Michael Owen of Wales was the U-15 star. From a field of 49 starters he took the boys' singles and followed this up with victories in the boys' and mixed doubles, the only hat-trick of the tournament.

Boasman again underlined his authority at Stevenage where, after a repetitive win over Graham Blomfield, he clobbered his way to his second U-17's boys' singles title of the season with impressive wins over England's No. 8 and No. 3 ranked players Robert Hellaby and Simon Heaps.

Sheila Hamilton took the counter-part girls' event making up the lost ground at Newbury, with a final win over her immediate superior in the ranking list—Janet Hellaby. The Essex girl also made amends by playing her part in two doubles successes, with brother Bob in the mixed and with Wendy Slade in the girls'.

Ely's Paul Day took his successive U-13 boys' title.

KENT

Once again a very successful Junior Open down at Folkestone with the most successful county, Essex, taking four titles and a share in four more.

Some very good play in the senior singles events with Ian Horsham moving the ball about the table very well indeed and Robert Hellaby, up to the table half-volleying and hitting the odd one. These two contested the final Horsham winning.

The best match in the girls' was the victory of Susan Beckwith over Linda Howard. This was a very open game with fluctuating fortunes. Susan found Janet Hellaby of the same county on excellent form and Janet went on to win the title.

Paul Guttormsen had a very good weekend and won three titles which included two doubles.

There were some very impressive players in the younger age group. The U-11 boys' final caught the eye and here Richard Jermyn, son of North Herts official beat Sam Harmer, brother of former junior international Paul, in an excellent game.



Full line-up at Lea Green (left to right): Robert Broadmore, Paul Guttormsen, Robert Wiley, Brian Wright, Donald Parker, Linda Howard, Suzanne Manning, Gillian Locke, Colin Henderson, Carol Rogers and Ian Horsham. Kneeling: David Alderson, Simon Heaps and Dean Dino-Smith.

But hold on, Sam has actually got two more years in this age group—no wonder I could hardly see him.

Yet another title for Paul Day, the 12-years-old Soham player, who brought off his third successive U-13's boys' singles title by beating Peter Hunt of Essex. They know the "time of Day" down Soham way!

Results:—

Newbury Junior Open

U-17 Events
B.S.: Quarter-finals:
 A. Boasman (Lancs.) bt D. Crayford (Kent) 15, 11;
 G. Blomfield (Essex) bt C. Sargeant (Hants.) 20, 16;
 D. Jemmett (Middx.) bt A. Bawden (Essex) 10, 14;
 M. Locke (Essex) bt M. Harper (Herts.) 8, 15;
Semi-finals:
 BOASMAN bt Blomfield 15, 20; LOCKE bt Jemmett -17, 15, 9.

Final:
 BOASMAN bt Locke 10, 10.
G.S.: Quarter-finals:
 J. Taylor (Berks.) bt P. Beazer (Som.) 13, 15;
 G. Locke (Essex) bt J. Hartwell (Herts.) 15, 15;
 A. Painter (Middx.) bt J. Walker (Yorks.) 17, 18;
 J. Green (Ches.) bt E. Tarten (Essex) -9, 17, 19.
Semi-finals:
 LOCKE bt Taylor 13, -19, 11; GREEN bt Painter 14, 8.
Final:
 LOCKE bt Green 16, 13.
B.D.: Semi-finals:
 C. DELLAR (Cambs.)/HARPER bt A. Bawden/M Bawden (Essex) 20, -21, 20;
 BLOMFIELD/G. HARDING (Berks.) bt Jemmett/Locke 16, 15.
Final:
 BLOMFIELD/HARDING bt Dellar/Harper 15, 18.
G.D. Semi-finals:
 S. HAMILTON (Middx.)/PAINTER bt G. Macrae (Surrey)/K. Mashford (Bucks.) 17, 14;
 TARTEN/G. TAYLOR (Essex) bt J. Holtam (Kent)/Locke 10, -19, 15.
Final:
 TARTEN/TAYLOR bt Hamilton/Painter 15, 20.

X.D.: Semi-finals:
 JEMMETT/HAMILTON bt Blomfield/P. Heale (Essex) 13, 13; BOASMAN/GREEN bt M. Owen/L. Jones (Wales) 17, 19.
Final:
 BOASMAN/GREEN bt Jemmett/Hamilton 21, 21.
Under-15 Events
B.S.: Semi-finals:
 OWEN bt K. James (Devon) 16, 21; A. MITCHELL (Kent) bt P. Day (Cambs.) 15, 10.
Final:
 OWEN bt Mitchell -12, 19, 19.
G.S. Semi-finals:
 TARTEN bt Walker 15, 16; JONES bt Locke 16, 16.
Final:
 TARTEN bt Jones 14, -20, 19.
B.D.: Final:
 A. MITCHELL/OWEN bt A. Bardon/M. Mitchell (Middx.) 20, 16.
G.D.: Final:
 K. ROGERS (Leics.)/WALKER bt Hartwell/C. Stonell (Essex) 15, 10.
X.D.: Final:
 OWEN/JONES bt A. Allars (Sussex)/Stonell 8, 18.
U-13 Events
B.S.: Final:
 DAY bt M. Mitchell 13, 16.

G.S.: Final:
 L. HOLTAM (Kent) bt L. Wales (Sussex) -15, 19, 22.
U-11 Events
B.S.: Final:
 C. ROGERS (Leics.) bt D. Newman (Essex) 12, 19.
G.S.: Final:
 V. CLOUT (Kent) bt K. Holtam (Kent) 11, 15.

North Herts

Junior Open

U-17 Events
B.S.: Quarter-finals:
 S. Heaps (Ches.) bt D. Jemmett (Middx.) 14, 2;
 P. Taylor (Beds.) bt M. Locke (Essex) 19, -19, 20;
 A. Boasman (Lancs.) bt G. Blomfield (Essex) 8, 20;
 R. Hellaby (Essex) bt D. Parker (Lancs.) 9, 11.
Semi-finals:
 HEAPS bt Taylor 19, -20, 14; BOASMAN bt Hellaby 20, 11.
Final:
 BOASMAN bt Heaps 13, 19.
G.S.: Quarter-finals:
 J. Hellaby (Essex) bt K. Mashford (Bucks.) 10, 13;
 G. Locke (Essex) bt G. Macrae (Surrey) 19, 11;
 L. Sutton (Yorks.) bt P. Heale (Essex) 8, 5;
 S. Hamilton (Middx.) bt J. Hartwell (Herts.) 9, 7.
Semi-finals:
 HELLABY bt Locke 5, -18, 14; HAMILTON bt Sutton 10, 20.
Final:
 HAMILTON bt Hellaby -20, 7, 19.
B.D.: Semi-finals:
 M. HARPER (Herts.)/HELLABY bt N. Fulstow/M. Wright (Yorks.) 17, -17, 16;
 HEAPS/TAYLOR bt Boasman/Parker 14, -19, 17.
Final:
 HARPER/HELLABY bt Heaps/Taylor 16, -14, 16.
G.D.: Semi-finals:
 HAMILTON/A. PAINTER (Middx.) bt J. Holtam (Kent)/Locke 15, 23;
 HELLABY/W. SLADE (Berks.) bt E. Tarten/G. Taylor (Essex) 19, 19.
Final:
 HELLABY/SLADE bt Hamilton/Painter -15, 14, 10.
X.D.: Semi-finals:
 HELLABY/HELLABY bt Wright/Sutton 18, 7;
 HARPER/TARTEN bt Locke/Painter 17, 21.
Final:
 HELLABY/HELLABY bt Harper/Tarten 13, 16.
U-15 Events
B.S. Semi-finals:
 P. GUTTORMSEN (Kent) bt M. Bawden (Essex) 18, 13;
 HEAPS bt A. Mitchell (Kent) 8, 4.
Final:
 HEAPS bt Guttormsen 10, -18, 12.
G.S.: Semi-finals:
 K. ROGERS (Leics.) bt Locke -19, 18, 19;
 MACREA bt Tarten -18, 20, 16.
Final:
 ROGERS bt Macrea 16, 12.
B.D.: Final:
 M. BAWDEN/HEAPS bt B. Crook (Lancs.)/Parker 14, -16, 20.
G.D. Final:
 TARTEN/TAYLOR bt S. Harding (Herts.)/Hartwell 18, 17.
U-13 Events
B.S.: Final:
 P. DAY (Cambs.) bt P. Hunt (Essex) 23, 18.
G.S.: Final:
 L. WALES (Sussex) bt J. Champion (Middx.) 8, 14.
U-11 Events
B.S.: Final:
 C. ROGERS (Leics.) bt R. Jermyn (Herts.) -16, 7, 11.
G.S.: Final:
 L. CROOK bt H. Randall 12, -19, 21.

Kent Junior Open

U-17 Events
B.S.: Quarter-finals:
 I. Horsham (Essex) bt R. Aldrich (Middx.) 12, 17;
 R. Broadmore (Warwks.) bt P. Bishop (Surrey) 18, 17;
 R. Hellaby (Essex) bt P. Guttormsen (Kent) -23, 18, 12;
 M. Locke (Essex) bt A. Mitchell (Kent) -17, 18, 14.
Semi-finals:
 HORSHAM bt Broadmore 7, 21; HELLABY bt Locke 16, 17.
Final:
 HORSHAM bt Hellaby 13, -11, 16.
G.S.: Semi-finals:
 I. HELLABY (Essex) bt S. Beckwith (Essex) 17, 20;
 L. CHESSON (Kent) bt S. Hamilton (Middx.) -12, 15, 18.
Final:
 HELLABY bt Chesson 16, 14.
B.D.: Semi-finals:
 ALDRICH/GUTTORMSEN bt M. Harper (Herts.)/Hellaby 16, -10, 18;
 BROADMORE/A. MITCHELL bt Bishop/Horsham 16, -10, 20.

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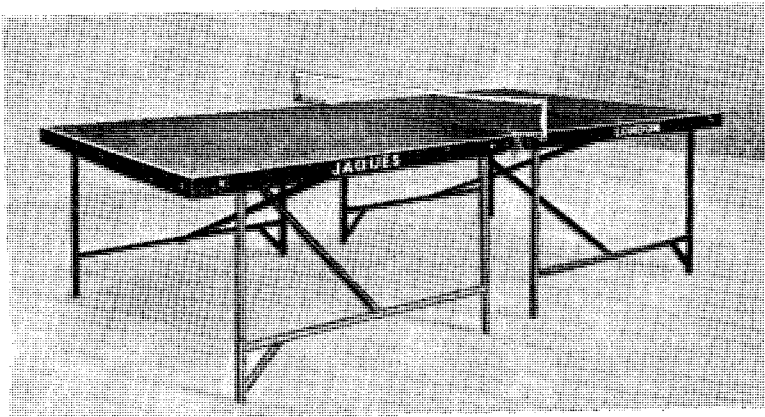
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KENT JUNIOR OPEN

Final:
ALDRICH/GUTTORMSEN bt Broadmore/
Mitchell 17, -19, 17.
G.D.: Semi-finals:
L. HOWARD (Surrey)/S. READ (Essex) bt
Hamilton/A. Painter (Middx.) 14, 11;
CHESSON/HELLABY bt Beckwith/A. Heffer-
nan (Kent) 15, 15
Final:
HOWARD/READ bt Chesson/Hellaby 15, 16.
X.D.: Semi-finals:
HORSHAM/HOWARD bt Harper/E. Tarten
(Essex) 7, -17, 15;
HELLABY/HELLABY bt Guttormsen/Cheeson
19, 15.
Final:
HORSHAM/HOWARD bt Hellaby/Hellaby
10, -10, 16.
Under-15 Events
B.S.: Semi-finals:
GUTTORMSEN bt P. Hunt (Essex) 13, 14;
A. Mitchell bt T. Clark (Bucks.) 12, 15.
Final:
GUTTORMSEN bt Mitchell 16, 19.
G.S.: Semi-finals:
G. LOCKE (Essex) bt Tarten 22, 19; J.
Holtam (Kent) bt L. Wales (Sussex) 9, 11.
Final:
LOCKE bt Holtam -18, 20, 18.
B.D.: Final:
GUTTORMSEN/A. MITCHELL bt D. Cray-
ford/D. Weller (Kent) 21, 22.
G.D.: Final:
LOCKE/HOLTAM bt Tarten/Taylor -19, 19,
17.
X.D.: Final:
MITCHELL/HOLTAM bt M. Bawden/Locke
-17, 20, 13.
U-13 Events
B.S. Final:
P. DAY (Cams.) bt Hunt 19, -19, 20.
G.S. Final:
J. KELLY (Essex) bt J. Gavin (Kent) -15,
18, 14.
U-11 Events
B.S.: Final:
R. JERMYN (Herts.) bt S. Harmer (Beds.)
12, 18.
G.S.: Final:
A. MITCHELL (Middx.) bt D. Collar (Kent)
16, 17.

Information Bulletin

Yellow Balls

There still seems to be some confusion over the legality of yellow table tennis balls, but they are definitely not allowed for play between affiliated organisations. The use of these balls last season was merely an experiment, held at the request of the I.T.T.F. and national Associations were asked to give their opinions, gleaned from all levels of play. The display of these balls in sports shops has led many players to believe that they are an approved ball, but this is not so. The Laws of table tennis still require the ball to be white.

Jaques Tables for Hire

This scheme is now in its third year and the demand has been such that we now have only three tables left from the 1970-71 supply, so if your Club is contemplating hiring one of these tables they should write to the E.T.T.A. office without further delay.

Lapel Badges

We now have a supply of good quality metal stick-pin lapel badges, rectangular in design, comprising of the three leopards with the initials E.T.T.A. underneath, in blue/gold. A completely new design, they are priced 3/- each, plus 6d., for postage and packing.

HOME FROM DOWN UNDER

FORMER Surrey international Harry Venner has returned to England after three years coaching in Australia. He is quoted as saying "My family prefers to live in England. Now I hope to put my ideas to use in English table tennis again".

English Closed

Due to technical difficulties associated with T.V., the English Closed Championships will not now take place at Swiss Cottage Baths.

Pending confirmation, it is hoped to stage the Championships at the University of Kent, Canterbury.

All E.T.T.A. member leagues will be duly notified of the new arrangements and individuals are asked to phone the E.T.T.A. office (01-580 6312) to obtain the relevant information. The short notice is regretted.

WORCESTERSHIRE NOTES

by Ian R. Crickmer

EDDIE THE INDEFATIGABLE

Increasing emphasis in Worcester-shire affairs is being placed on the Redditch League, which though the smallest in membership is one of the most enthusiastic. Organised by the indefatigable Eddie Mitchell, they are already providing a County junior in Richard Warby, and on Dec. 12 they will be hosts to first Somerset juniors and then Nottinghamshire seniors. The County Closed tournament, scheduled for Sunday, March 14, will again be played at the Sports Hall of the new Redditch Youth Centre, and being so near the centre of England, Redditch may in the near future be called on to stage a national event. The only Worcester-shire entrants to the National Team competitions, Redditch made a quick exit from the Wilmott Cup against the formidable Leicester side.

Cookhill T.T.C. must start firm favourites to take the County Team knock-out championship, but it is sad to record that only eight entries were received; by contrast, however, twenty-eight teams will be chasing the Handicap title.

By comparison with some neighbouring counties, Worcestershire receives few players of note moving into the area—one recalls former England junior international Louis Devereux when he was with the County Cricket Club, and Ray Lush gave thirteen years' service before returning to his native Hampshire. A recent arrival is Nicholas Bottomley, formerly of Hyde, Cheshire, who is now living at Malvern Wells. A student nurse in the Psychiatric Department at Saint Wulstan's Hospital, Bottomley made his first Worcestershire appearance with two singles victories against Shropshire. His choice of Saint Wulstan's for his studies is a happy one, as the staff club now runs six teams in the Malvern League.

From time to time, one reads of elder players—"venerables" was suggested as a title—an enquiry has come from Evesham's Bill Robbins to ask if he is Worcestershire's oldest League player, 65 years "young" last June, he issued a challenge four years ago to anyone of comparable age working for the G.P.O. His opponent from Cardiff, a year younger, went under in all five games they played.

Any takers?

Christmas

is

Coming



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Books: "Progressive Table Tennis" by Jack Carrington (25/-), "More than a Match" by Chester Barnes (25/-), "The Way to the Top" by Denis Neale (25/-), "Better Table Tennis" by Johnny Leach (19/-). Subscription to "Table Tennis News" 15/- per annum (8 issues).

All these items are available from the E.T.T.A. Office, 26-29, Park Crescent, London W1N 4HA.

CAMBRIDGESHIRE NOTES

by Leslie Constable

CAMBRIDGE are to stage an International match between England and Federal Germany on January 21/71 at the Guildhall and I know that this will attract a big crowd which will give the game a big impetus in the city and surrounding districts.

In the Cams. League, University Press are strongly defending their Div. 1 title with the help of Dick Clode and Tony Littlechild. It is hard to see, at this stage, how they can be toppled.

Michael Harper, England's fifth ranked junior, is now playing for YMCA but was beaten by Clode in an early season fixture. Nonetheless, he is proving a tremendous asset to his club.

New Chesterton Institute are again in the forefront with Veteran John Baird lending valuable assistance to John Thurston and Stephen Andrews. Cambridge University, however, beat the 'Stutes by a 4-set margin and are making a strong challenge.

In this match, John Corral won all his sets, including a great victory over Thurston, but Alan Ponder, now playing for the Varsity, could only muster one win.

Soham II are having a very good season and are level with Press at the top of the table. They recently crushed YMCA I with the help and experience of Cheshire man Wilf Crompton whose one loss in the match was to Albert Jackson. It is unfortunate that Crompton will be leaving the district in the near future.

In a Div. 2 top-of-the-table clash, Soham III thrashed Telephone I by 9-1 to regain the lead. Carol Payne saved Telephones from a "white-wash" by beating Paul Day, the 12-year-old wonder boy. Bottom of the table Bassingbourn, still seeking their first point, went down 2-8 to Telephones II for whom David Triplady won three.

John Cornwall has obtained his three-star coaching diploma after doing a tremendous amount of coaching during the past few years.

SOUTH EAST MIDLANDS LEAGUE

In the Men's Section of the S.E.M.L. champions Cambridge City have again started off in fine style by winning their first four matches by wide margins. Once again it is the "old firm" of Thurston, Littlechild and Andrews who are making this possible.

Ely had a good win over St. Neots but Northampton II, after beating Kettering, fell to Bedford. In this match, Copperwheat won both his sets but with the score at 4-4 Northampton lost both doubles and thus slid to defeat.

North Herts. are again a force to be reckoned with and easily defeated both Wisbech and Peterborough. Wellingborough beat Dunstable by a 4-set margin but then lost to Hunts Central.

In the Women's Section, Bedford are again well to the fore, as indeed are North Herts. and I feel that these two teams will again be fighting it out for the championship.

Wellingborough have got off to a fine start in the Junior Section and, as last season, will surely be near the top at the season's end with North Herts. keeping them company.

Leighton Buzzard, newcomers to the League, lost their first match to St. Neots, but I am given to understand that a draw would not have been an injustice.

I would like to remind Team Secretaries that I would like much more information on result cards to enable me to assess the merits of all players.

And one last thing, Secretary Henry Fox won all his sets for St. Neots in the Veterans' match against Cambridge City. I also note that Bob Ingle, the Veteran champion, made his presence felt in helping Northampton defeat Kettering in a close match.

WILTSHIRE NOTES

by Ken Bostock

Wiltshire League Results

Division One

Salisbury "A" 3, Warminster 7 (R. Arney 3, R. Smith 3).
West Wilts. 9 (J. Ford 3, J. Analts 3), Swindon 1.
Devizes 7 (J. Revell 3), Salisbury "B" 3.
Salisbury "B" 4, West Wilts. 6.
Swindon 5, Salisbury "A" 5 (N. George 3).

Mixed Division

Devizes "B" 8 (J. Revell 2, Mrs. P. Hawkins 2), Salisbury 2.
Devizes "A" 7 (Miss H. Rusby 2, Miss A. Boyce 2), Salisbury 3 (K. Bostock 2).

Junior Division

West Wilts. 8 (R. Barker 3), Burford School 2.



The Coca-Cola National Team Competition by Keith Ponting

NORTH YORKSHIRE SAFELY THROUGH

IN the first round of the Coca-Cola National Team Trophy Competition, only one of the holders was required to play. This was in the Wilmott Cup in which competition North Yorkshire easily accounted for Newcastle 5-1.

In the J.M. Rose Bowl, Central London received a walk over against Beckenham. Bromley, in the Carter Cup, and Sittingbourne in the Bromfield Trophy received byes. With the large number of byes, 63 matches were played in the four competitions.

WILMOTT CUP

Harlow 3, Welwyn 6.—This was a very closely contested match, with seven of the nine sets going to three. D. Watts played well to win three for the Garden City.

London Business Houses 4, Central London 5.—Another very close match with no player gaining a maximum.

Cheshunt 6, Barnet 2.—All six players involved in this match play in the Cheshunt League, and five in the Barnets League. A friendly affair, but not by Barry White, who won three for the home team.

Blackburn 4, Preston 5.—After the home team had taken a 3-2 lead, the visitors won the next three sets, with A. Rigby doing the damage with three.

Aldershot 4, Worthing 5.—M. McClaren was the "star" man for Worthing, winning his three in convincing style.

Guildford 6, Basingstoke 3.—R. Thornton played well for the visitors, being unbeaten.

Wisbech 4, Ely 5.—Two evenly matched teams providing some good table tennis. J. Ashman's three wins carried Ely through.

Bournemouth 5, Portsmouth 4.—The home team opened with a 3-sets lead and never looked back.

Luton 5, St. Neots 2.—Luton never in trouble in this one, with C. Crowe and D. Holden in top form.

Chiltern 1, St. Albans 8.—The lone winner for the home team was I. Gough, beating G. Bax 23-21 in the third.

Blackpool 5, Widnes 1.—This was all over when the home team won the first five sets.

N. Middlesex 8, Dagenham 1.—Five sets went to three, but N.M. won the first eight.

S.W. Sussex 0, Southampton 9.—With only two players, the home team had no chance.

Basildon 1, Ilford 5.—The set won by Basildon was accomplished by R. Melling who had a 26-24 third game win over veteran Brian Brumwell.

Norwich 8, Lowestoft 1.—Lowestoft made it 1-1, but that was it!

Bolton 6, Sheffield 0.—An easy win for Bolton, but "A" ranked junior David Rayner gave them some trouble.

Carlisle 0, Huddersfield 9.—J. Mear, D. Hirst and J. Kedge were in tremendous form for the visitors.

East London 9, Colchester 0.—Only one set went to three when David Brown lost the first -19 to B. Cartwright. However, David moved up a gear and won the next two 2 and 5!

Chelmsford 8, Southend 1.—Another easy win with only the first set going to three.

West Bromwich 0, Derby 5.—No need for the remaining sets in this one, although four went to a decider.

Banbury 0, Oxford 9.—C. Alcock, S. Hahn and D. Harse had little trouble.

Bedford 1, Watford 5.—A convincing win for the visitors. D. Whiffen won his team's only set.

Hyde 7, Bury 2.—J. Hilton and B. Stanway were unbeaten for Hyde.

Barrow 0, Liverpool 9.—As the score suggests—all too easy for Liverpool.

Chester 0, Manchester 9.—Another one-sided affair, with only one set needing a decider.

Stockport 2, Burnley 5.—Jack Keogh, the Lancashire No. 2 unbeaten for Burnley.

Northampton 1, Cambridge 8.—Captain John Thurston and Dick Clode were the mainstays for Cambridge with three wins each.

Beckenham 5, Romford 1.—Romford's P. Smith did well to win one, beating Vic Ireland.

Brighton 8, Hastings 1.—Sam Ogundipe celebrated his wedding by leading his team to an easy win.

Peterborough 2, Gt. Yarmouth 7.—P. Gilbertson and D. Tasker were unbeaten for the visitors.

Dunstable 5, Leighton Buzzard 1.—All over when Dunstable went into a 4-0 lead.

ROSE BOWL

Wembley 4, Willesden 5.—Marjorie Walker played well to win three for the visitors in a match between two well-balanced teams.

London Civil Service 5, Barking 4.—Another close match, with Susan Beckwith winning three for the losers.

Luton 3, Welwyn 5.—Luton won the first two sets but then the visitors moved into gear. It was unfortunate for the home team that one of their players arrived late and only played one set.

Romford 6, London Business Houses 3.—Mrs. A. Hewitt was unbeaten for the home team.

East London 6, Dagenham 3.—Playing as a late substitute, young Lynn Lambert was unlucky not to take a game, but Lesley Radford and Elsie Carrington saw East London through to the second round.

Bromley 6, Gravesend 3.—A maximum by Mrs. R. Buick for the home team.

Northampton 1, West Bromwich 6.—West Brom did much better than their men did in the Wilmott and

had little trouble with Kath Perry scoring a treble.

Leighton Buzzard 0, Reading 9.—Mrs. E. Foster, Miss M. Spratley and Mrs. M. Massey were far too good for the home trio with only one set going to a decider.

Basildon 5, Chelmsford 4.—A match which could have gone either way. Miss S. Faldo the best player on view.

Lowestoft 5, Ipswich 4.—Wins by the Youngs sisters gave Lowestoft a close verdict. The seaiders seem to have missed Linda Woodcock. All sets decided in two.

Derby 0, Birmingham 6.—No trouble at all for Birmingham with D. Griffiths, A. Jones and J. Rowley in form.

CARTER CUP

Bury 0, Manchester 9.—New Lancs. No. 1 Tony Boasman led the Mancunians to an easy win.

Burnley 1, Bolton 6.—No trouble for the Bolton lads, but a pat on the back for Burnley's Stephen Catlow who won his team's only set.

Southend 0, East London 9.—G. Bromfield, R. Hellaby and S. Hughes were in fine form for the visitors.

Banbury 1, Birmingham 8.—Plenty of single figure wins for the Birmingham boys.

Chelmsford 4, Romford 5.—Despite a fine maximum by B. Topham, the home team just failed to win.

Derby 4, Leicester 5.—A cliff-hanger, with the result in the balance until the final set. Leicester's hero was C. Rogers who beat D. Yallop 13, 12. **Newbury 1, Bournemouth 8.**—David Ulbright won the only set for the losers.

Leighton Buzzard 9, Welwyn 0.—One interesting score in this run-away win—J. McClelland beat E. Gould 19, -31, 15.

Kettering 4, Northampton 5.—P. West kept his unbeaten record in this match when inflicting the only loss suffered by J. Thompson (Kettering) in the final set.

Barnets 8, Luton 1.—The home team won the first four and the last four. In between, I. Perks recorded the visitor's only success.

Cambridge 7, Bedford 2.—J. Willis was the star player for Cambridge winning three.

BROMFIELD TROPHY

Dagenham 8, Southend 1.—Eileen Tarten, S. Read and P. Heale had little trouble winning this one. Miss G. Foster was the lone winner for Southend.

Wembley 2, Cheshunt 7.—Although four sets went to three, Cheshunt



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pulled through with J. Hartwell winning three. L. Stalbow, making her debut, showed great promise in winning Wembley's two sets and taking Miss Hartwell to deuce in the first game.

Thank you for a trouble free round and I trust the pattern will continue. One final point. I am surprised that with Master Points at stake, matches are played through to finality. Surely this is throwing points away!

Midland League

By PHILIP REID

ONLY TWO ON MAX

Close finishes have been the order of the day in the Midland League matches played so far this season. In the Men's 1st Division only two teams are with maximum points — Birmingham 'A' and Chesterfield. Chesterfield have acquired the services of Eric Hall, formerly of Harrogate and Weston-super-Mare and he looks very strong indeed. Barry Hayward's maximum gave Birmingham 'B' a point against Nottingham, for whom Brian Mayfield was outstanding. Walsall have made a good start in Division 2 and promotion could be within their grasp if they continue to show the same sort of form. One team appears to outshine all others in Division 3 (Men's) and that team is Chesterfield 'B'. Only Derek Marples has still to taste defeat this season in this division.

Birmingham have only played one match in the Intermediates Division but they won all ten sets and along with Loughborough look likely championship contenders.

The Birmingham 'A' - Coventry 'A' match looks likely to decide the destiny of Junior Division 1, but several good results have been recorded in this division. B. Dunne (Birmingham 'B') and D. Jones (Coventry 'B') both recorded maximums.

Loughborough have a fine team in the 2nd Division (Junior) with four players—Clive Stretton, Janet Billson, Peter Angrave and Anita Stevenson—of about the same strength. Playing well for Worcester are Trevor Gatfield and Ian Schofield.

No divisions are fought more keenly than the veterans divisions, and Nottingham brought off a great performance when they defeated last season's champions Birmingham 'A' by seven sets to three. Ron Bolton and Johnny Burraston were the heroes, each recording a maximum. Dennis Pritchard's broad bat gave him a maximum when Leicester 'B' played Walsall 'A' the match ending in a draw. R. Phillips made his debut in the veterans ranks for Gloucester by winning all three against West Bromwich.

I said in last month's notes that it would need a good team to stop Coventry in Veterans 2nd Division. This is still true but emerging as outstanding challengers are Oxford. So far this season they have dropped only one of their 30 sets. Certainly nobody is going to find Arthur Davies easy to beat.

The women's division as usual finds Birmingham in a commanding position with Andy Jones so far getting the best results.

Yorkshire Spectacular

MIDDLESBROUGH-born Denis Neale playing for England in the men's team event of the Scandinavian Open against China—making their first appearance in the West since 1966—brought about the first defeat in six years of former world champion Chuang Tse-Tung with scores of 10 and 19.

England, represented by Neale and Chester Barnes were beaten 3-2 but China then lost to Tibor Klampar and Istvan Jonyer of Hungary who beat Sweden 3-0 in the final.

Hans Alser was the winner of the men's singles event beating Stellan Bengtsson -10, 17, -16, 20, 14, his youthful compatriot having ousted Chuang Tse-Tung in the semi-final.

Barnsley's Alan Hydes added the Newbury Open men's singles title to his impressive array of wins this season beating Tony Piddock of Kent 13, -16, 17.

And, up in Workington, Tony Clayton of Hull, won the men's singles title of the Cumberland Open with a final 15, 20 success over Northumberland county player Alan Ransome.

Full reports of all the foregoing events played over the period November 26-29 will appear in the January issue of TABLE TENNIS NEWS. Spread the word especially round the county of the broad acres.

SUSSEX JUNIOR

DUE to the venue not being available on Sunday, April 4/71, the Sussex Junior Open will be staged entirely on Saturday, April 3.

In order to ensure a 10 p.m. finish the U-15 BD, U-15 GD and XD have been deleted from the schedule. Events to be played are:—Boys' Singles—U-17, U-15 and U-13; Girls' Singles: U-17, U-15 and U-13, Boys' Doubles: U-17 and Girls' Doubles: U-17.

STAFF COACH (Re-advertisement)

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

The duties of the Staff Coach will include organisation of general coaching within the E.T.T.A. Coaching Scheme and supervision of training for leading senior and junior players.

The starting salary will be based on age, qualifications, and experience and will be within the scale of £1,188—£1,400.

Application forms are available from the E.T.T.A. Office and should be submitted to the General Secretary, E.T.T.A. 26 Park Crescent, London, W1N 4HA, by 31st December, 1970.

Envelopes to be marked — "COACH".

AFGHANISTAN REACHED

FORMER E.T.T.A. Staff Coach, Les Gresswell, was reported in October as having reached Kabul, Afghanistan on his overland excursion to Japan. Writing from an hotel balcony, in a temperature of 85 degrees, Les was resting up for a week prior to journeying on into India, Nepal and ever Eastwards to Japan where, it is his intention, to study Japanese coaching methods.

WESTERN LEAGUE NOTES

by Grove Motlow

REEVES CLINCHER AGAINST WEST WILTS.

NEWBURY brought off an exciting 5-4 win away to West Wilts after they had got off to a 3-0 lead with opening successes by A. Reeves, R. Kozlowski and D. Campbell. The home team struck back through R. Smith and D. Arney and again, after being 2-4 in arrears, Smith narrowed the gap before Reeves clinched the issue with a win over D. Hill.

Taunton had a good 7-2 home win over Plymouth with J. Phillott and J. Andrews unbeaten. For the losers, both P. Dunstan and R. Parkins beat R. Pendleton.

The local "derby" between Swindon I and II, resulted in a 6-3 win for the first team. Commanding roles were played by A. Wolff and F. Bailey, both recording maximums, but B. Leakey gave second best to the "B" team trio of Turnbull, Harrison and Neate.

Newport entertained Weston and were beaten 5-4 after taking a 2-0 lead. Weston fought back to go ahead 3-2 but T. Roden again levelled matters before J. Garland and R. Phillott put the issue beyond doubt. Joe Garland did well to win three whilst Tony Watkins won two for Newport with Roden and Huish one each. Helping Garland along to Weston's good victory was Ray Phillott with two wins.

Despite a treble from M. Rattue, Exeter were beaten 6-3 by Newbury, and Plymouth beat Bristol 8-1 after their visitors had taken the first set.

Weymouth had a 7-2 home win over Taunton whose Phillott and Andrews beat D. Case. For the winners C. Bush and C. Diffey were unbeaten.

Bristol's women were surprisingly beaten 7-2 by Newbury. Pat Rowe did well to beat Newbury's No. 1 Mrs. H. Masters, 21 in the third, and also Mrs. A. Waters.

Newbury's Mrs. J. Smith played well throughout to win three despite being extended to 25-23 in the decider against Joan Collier. Mrs. M. Alexander and Miss A. Boyce achieved maximums in Devizes' 7-2 win over Newport in which match Miss H. Rusby made her debut.

Mrs. Alexander was an absentee against Exeter who, inspired by a treble from Pam Mortimer, the Devon County No. 1, beat Devizes 7-2. Pam was, however, given a run for her money by Miss Boyce, the Wiltshire No. 1, in a 3-games set. Maureen Spray did well to beat Miss Boyce after losing the first game but went on to record a maximum. For Devizes, both K. Waters and A. Boyce beat Mrs. J. Farmer.

Pam Mortimer lead Exeter to a brilliant 5-4 win over last year's champions, Newbury, clinching victory in the final set with her third victory, over Mrs. Masters.

After taking a 3-0 lead over Bristol, at home, Devizes were "pegged back" to 3-all, and then 4-all, before A. Boyce beat Mrs. J. Price for the match. Newport beat Weymouth 6-3 but, for the visitors, Jenny Vass was fully deserving of her treble success against Barbara Roden, P. Perrett and L. Hobbs.

Shades of Summer!

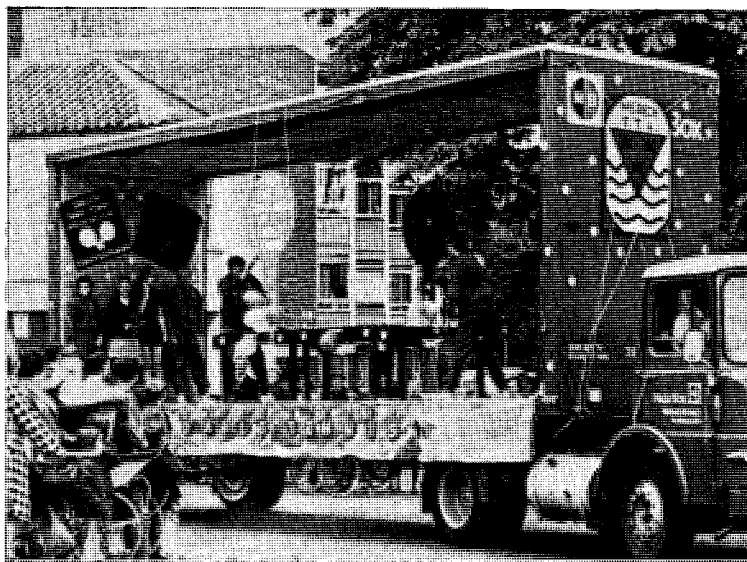


TABLE TENNIS ON WHEELS was the unique contribution of the Wisbech and District T.T.A. to the Cambridgeshire Towns' Annual Rose Festival Procession. The ensuing strawberry teas are now but a final memory for Chairman Rex Archer and his enterprising committee.

ENGLISH SCHOOLS TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION

BY PRESS OFFICER
DAVID LOMAS

Although the English Schools' Table Tennis Association has dealt with its fair share of problems since its formation just over two years ago, two 'headaches' still remain.

Firstly, support for the National School Team Championships depends to a great extent on the willingness of teachers themselves to undertake the voluntary task of organising county area qualifying tournaments.

Whilst, obviously, there is a great difference in the degree of enthusiasm for the game from county to county, the hard-working General Secretary—Mr. Gerald Gurney—stated in his first Annual Report that "there is no doubt at all that pupils in schools everywhere are keen to take part in the Association's activities".

Admittedly the number of fully-constituted Associations has risen to twenty-five and teams from thirty counties took part in last year's competition. But it does seem difficult to understand that in spite of every encouragement and assistance given by Association and E.T.T.A. local officials there are still counties who are unable to supply even ONE team of four players.

The second great problem is one well-known to all table tennis organisers—finance. The Association is grateful for help received from local education authorities in making school premises available and to certain manufacturers for providing equipment for the finals. But the plain fact remains that the main means of income—affiliation fees and competition entry fees—is quickly absorbed by the cost of arranging Area and Regional Tournaments.

Thus any plans for expansion and development are to a large extent governed by the financial situation. When seen in this light it is therefore vitally important that every effort is made to get more schools, more counties, more children and more TEACHERS involved in the National School Team Competition.

OFFICIAL NEWS

The Competitions Secretary, Mr. J. M. Wright, reports that according to information received from County Associations the total entry should compare favourably with last year's figure of 167 teams in seven different events.

Each County Association shall be required to submit to Mr. Wright by DECEMBER 31, 1970 the names of the schools or colleges representing the

County Area in the Area Finals which are being staged in January and February at nine venues throughout the country.

THIS DATE CANNOT BE
EXTENDED UNDER ANY
CIRCUMSTANCES.

PRELIMINARY ENTRIES:

NORTH REGION

In the North the situation varies from a strong entry in Area 2 where LANCASHIRE have maximum entries followed by CHESHIRE, DERBYSHIRE and STAFFORDSHIRE with six each, to Area 3 where the news is not so good.

LEICESTERSHIRE were not represented last year and it's no better at the moment. No reply received from NOTTS., but LINCS. and YORKS. should rescue a grim plight by providing all eleven teams!

In the other Area Finals DURHAM and WESTMORLAND have good entries but there is no representation from NORTHUMBERLAND.

MIDLAND AND WEST REGION

GLOUCESTERSHIRE could well have six teams in action—six more than last year. HEREFORDSHIRE are unable to improve on a nil entry last season and there is no news from NORTHANTS. WARWICKSHIRE, boosted by successful Birmingham schools, have a maximum entry. WORCESTERSHIRE will definitely enter all three boys' events.

Area 5 is disappointing. CORNWALL are again on the sidelines whilst DORSET and WILTSHIRE will not be represented. SOMERSET and DEVON provide all thirteen teams.

Area 6 Finals are due to be staged at the Kennet School, Thatcham, Newbury, Berks., on Sunday, Jan. 10 and there could be twenty-one teams involved.

SOUTH AND EAST

This region is once again the best-supported. Last year only one county—HUNTS., were not involved, and news is awaited of their intentions this year. CAMBS., NORFOLK and SUFFOLK are set to improve their totals whilst there is no change regarding the Area 8 Final involving KENT, MIDDLESEX, SURREY and SUSSEX.

To end on a bright note. If HERTS. are able to enter seven teams there will be a maximum of 28 teams in Area 9 involving BEDS., ESSEX COUNTY and ESSEX METROPOLITAN. And that means nine hours continuous play on ten tables!

Full details of the Area and Regional Finals were published in last month's edition of "Table Tennis News".

Umpires are required urgently for the National Finals at Stoke-on-Trent, Staffs., on SUNDAY, MARCH 28, 1971. Unless you are involved in the WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS which start in Japan on that date the REFEREE, MR. I. CRICKMER, 12 Cypress Street, Barbourne, Worcester WR3 8AU would like to hear from you if you can help. A free tea, travel expenses and our thanks are all we can offer.

SURREY NOTES

by Geoff. Ryan

"CONNIE" BACK AT SCHOOL!

JOHN ZENTHON our Press Officer has notified the County that he has to relinquish the post for business

reasons. Thank you John for all the good work you have put in. John will still be involved within the County by running the "Closed" which will be held at the Crystal Palace on successive weekends 9th and 16th Jan. 1971. Entry forms can be obtained from him at 92, Foxley Lane, Purley, closing date being Dec. 28.

Belated congratulations to Paul Bishop on winning the Essex Junior Open, also to Guildford's Howard sisters for both being included in the National Ranking List, Susan at No. 7 and Linda at joint 8th.

Surrey Ranking List is as follows:
MEN: (1) Ron Penfold; (2) "Connie" Warren; (3) Barrie Hill; (4) Gordon Chapman; (5) Paul Bishop; (6) Paul Beck; (7) Mick Kercher; (8) Emil Emezz; (9) Andrew Shooler; (10) Robert Bradstreet; (11) Peter Brennan; (12) Chris Thornes.
LADIES: (1) Sue Howard; (2) Linda Howard; (3) Joan Warren; (4) Ruth Miles; (5) Hilda Cathcart; (6) Jillian Macrae.

"Connie" Warren has opened a Table Tennis Club in Stockwell which is situated at Larkhall School, Gaskell Street, London, S.W.4. It is open from 6 to 10 p.m. on Monday to Friday. The conditions are first class and consist of seven tables and shower facilities, new members are always welcome.

Tickets are now available for the England v. Germany European League Match to be played at Guildford on Thursday the 11th February, further details can be obtained from Trevor Channing, 6A, Stockers Lane, Kingfield, Woking.

Inter-League results so far in the Percy Johnson Cup Group 'A' indicate a close fight between Guildford (Miller, Bradstreet, Shooler, Wellsman), Croydon (Emezz, Riley, Horton, Brennen) and Wandsworth (Chapman, Adams, Root, Bonner). All three have maximum points from two games. Results: Byfleet 5, South London 4; Croydon 5, Thames Valley 4; Dulwich 3, Wandsworth 6; Croydon B.H. 1, Guildford 8; Wandsworth 7, Byfleet 2; Thames Valley 4, Dulwich 5, Croydon B.H. 2, Croydon 7; Guildford 8, South London 1.

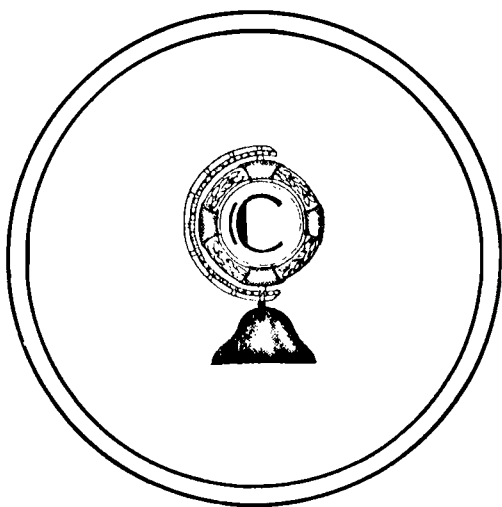
Attention all 'budding' amateur photographers. The County are looking for someone to take photographs of all the Surrey Team members with a view to building up dossiers on each player for press reviews. Here is a chance for your talents to be recognised and could lead to all sorts of interesting assignments in the Table Tennis world. Contact yours truly at 688-6936.

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NORFOLK NOTES

by J. S. Penny

WELL DONE JUNIORS

NORFOLK had a fairly easy win over Suffolk when they notched a 7-3 majority at the Britannia Club, Ipswich, after being 5-0 in the lead. The same day, Norfolk Juniors could claim only two sets against Essex, but John Fuller beat the Essex Nos. 1 and 2, both of whom have open titles to their credit. Fuller beat S. Hughes 10, 19 and G. Bassett 13, 22. Now, as we go to press, comes the news that the Juniors have redeemed themselves against Cambridgeshire at Sawston by a 9-1 victory. Besides Fuller, Chris Bensley won two singles, and Peter Burton won one. Leslie Read for the girls won her singles and the doubles with Christine Mayhew. Christine teamed with Peter to take the mixed. Well done, Juniors!

Les Holdom continues his coaching at the Alderman Jex Youth Centre, Norwich. He has a promising prospect in 9-year-old Douglas Bennett, son of veteran Vic, of Electricity. Douglas won an Under-16 Singles at Butlin's, Skegness, in August. He also received the News of the World 'Boy of the Week' award, and had a session of coaching from Denis Neale. Stuart Sayer and David Marrison have won events at local holiday camps.

In Division 1 of the E. Anglian League, King's Lynn had drawn 5-5 with Yarmouth, but when they came

to Norwich, the present champions, they were soon 0-4 down. Then their No. 1 arrived, delayed en route, and at the end of the evening it was only a 6-4 win for Norwich.

The North Norfolk League (Secretary John Bishop) continues to provide competition at a somewhat lower level than the E. Anglian. Some recent results have been:—Fakenham 5, Dereham (champions) 5; Fakenham 4, Cromer 6; King's Lynn 9, Fakenham 1; Dereham 8, Wisbech 2.

DURHAM NOTES

by Fred Inch

RETROGRADE STEP

AT the last National Council Meeting the Teesside Association were accepted into good standing by the E.T.T.A. on the assurance that it was for administrative reasons only. But, since then, some members of this Association have got together and are trying to make Teesside into a County Association.

My comment here is that I entirely disagree with this objective for a far reaching reasons. But most of all because Durham County would lose the Stockton League.

I feel it would be a retrograde step and not in keeping with the good work done this season to heal the wounds of the past. Furthermore, I sincerely hope, that when the time comes for this issue to be voted upon, that the rest of the country will veto

the proposal. Let the people concerned forget about it and get down to working with, and for, their particular County Association.

Michael Ford, Sunderland League Junior Champion in 1960, has long been on the fringe of a regular place in the County team. But, with the consistency over the years of Wilf Barker and Eddie Taylor, Michael's opportunities have been limited to odd appearances.

But this season, with Barker and Taylor not being available against both Yorkshire II and for a friendly match against Cumberland, Michael was duly called upon and by his all-round effort earned himself a place against Cheshire.

Letters to the Editor

THE CAMERA NEVER LIES!

THE cover picture of world champion Itoh in action appearing in last month's issue is a very fine example of high speed photography. If, however, it is meant to convey an interpretation of the Service Law I am afraid that it will leave my old friend Dan Blagojevitch more perplexed than ever!

Bert Mayern, N.U.

7, Georgian Court,
Wembley, Middx.

COUNTY DIARY

FIXTURES AND VENUES FOR DECEMBER, 1970 AND JANUARY, 1971

PREMIER DIVISION

Dec. 19	Buckinghamshire v. Warwickshire. Kent v. Essex, Duncan Bowen School, Ashford. Surrey v. Yorkshire, St. George's College, Weybridge.	7-00 p.m. 7-00 p.m.
	Middlesex v. Sussex, Southall G-T School, Boyd Ave., Southall.	3-00 p.m.
Jan. 9	Essex v. Yorkshire, Grove School, Tisseys Road, Harlow. Middlesex v. Buckinghamshire, Barnet T.T. Centre, Barnet. Surrey v. Kent, Sutton Adult School, Sutton.	7-00 p.m. 7-30 p.m. 7-00 p.m.
	Sussex v. Warwickshire, North Mundham Village Hall, North Mundham, Nr. Chichester.	7-00 p.m.

SECOND DIVISION SOUTH

Jan. 9	Hampshire v. Essex II, Wimbledon Park Sports Centre, Tadwell Road, Portsmouth. Hertfordshire v. Middlesex II, Rickmansworth and Uxbridge Valley Water Co., Batchworth, Rickmansworth. Kent II v. Buckinghamshire II, Woolwich Institute, Kings Park, Eltham Palace Road, Eltham, S.E.9.	7-00 p.m. 7-00 p.m. 7-00 p.m.
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SECOND DIVISION — NORTH

Jan. 9	Cheshire v. Lancashire, C.C.P.R.O., Grove Lane, Cheadle Hulme, Nr. Stockport. Durham v. Derbyshire. Yorkshire II v. Northumberland, Messrs. Field & Co. Canteen, Clayton Road, Bradford.	7-30 p.m. 7-15 p.m.
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SECOND DIVISION — MIDLAND

Dec. 12	Worcestershire v. Nottinghamshire, Cookhill Village Hall, Cookhill, Nr. Redditch.	7-00 p.m.
Jan. 9	Gloucestershire v. Leicestershire, Bedminster Y.M.C.A., Gladstone Road, Bristol. Warwickshire II v. Staffordshire, Friary Youth Club, Nuneaton.	7-00 p.m. 7-00 p.m.

SECOND DIVISION — WEST

Jan. 9	Devon v. Somerset. Monmouthshire v. Glamorgan. Wiltshire v. Dorset, Salisbury Youth Activity Centre, Wilton Road, Salisbury.	7-00 p.m.
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SOUTHERN DIVISION

Jan. 9	Oxfordshire v. Sussex II, St. Margaret's Hall, Polstead Road, Oxford	6-30 p.m.
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EASTERN DIVISION

Jan. 2	Norfolk v. Hertfordshire II.	
9	Cambridgeshire v. Huntingdonshire, Metal Box Company, Weasenham Lane, Wisbech. Northamptonshire v. Suffolk, Weatherbys Social Club, Sanders Road, Finedon Industrial Estate, Wellingborough.	7-30 p.m. 6-30 p.m.

NORTHERN DIVISION

Jan. 9	Derbyshire II v. Nottinghamshire II.	
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MIDLAND DIVISION

Jan. 9	Staffordshire II v. Denbighshire.	
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JUNIOR PREMIER

Dec. 12	Warwickshire v. Yorkshire, Vicarage St. Schools, Nuneaton.	6-00 p.m.
13	Glamorgan v. Yorkshire.	
Jan. 9	Essex v. Hertfordshire, Dunlop Sports Co. Canteen, Lea Road, Waltham Abbey. Glamorgan v. Warwickshire. Lancashire v. Middlesex, Montague Burton's Clothing Works Canteen, Wapping Street, Halliwell, Bolton.	2-30 p.m. 2-30 p.m.

JUNIOR SOUTH

Jan. 9	Buckinghamshire v. Sussex. Hampshire v. Berkshire, Wimbledon Park Sports Centre, Tadwell Road, Portsmouth.	5-00 p.m.
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JUNIOR NORTH

Jan. 9	Durham v. Derbyshire.	
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JUNIOR MIDLAND

Jan. 9	Staffordshire v. Northamptonshire. Warwickshire II v. Bedfordshire, Colebridge Youth Club, Colebrook Road, Shirley, Solihull.	3-30 p.m.
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JUNIOR EAST

Dec. 12	Norfolk v. Suffolk, County Hall, Norwich. Hertfordshire II v. Essex II, Barnet T.T. Centre, Barnet Lane, Barnet.	2-00 p.m. 7-30 p.m.
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Jan. 9	Norfolk v. Huntingdonshire. Suffolk v. Cambridgeshire.	
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JUNIOR WEST

Dec. 12	Worcestershire v. Somerset, Cookhill Village Hall, Cookhill, Nr. Redditch.	3-00 p.m.
Jan. 9	Somerset v. Devon, The Chard T.T. Club, Park Road, Chard. Wiltshire v. Monmouthshire, Swindon.	2-30 p.m. Afternoon
10	Worcestershire v. Gloucestershire, Cripplegate Pavilion, Tybridge Street, Worcester.	3-00 p.m.

VETERAN SOUTH

Jan. 9	Essex v. Hertfordshire, Warwick Youth Centre, Walthamstow, London, E.17. Oxfordshire v. Hampshire, St. Margaret's Hall, Polstead Road, Oxford.	3-30 p.m. 6-30 p.m.
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VETERAN MIDLAND

Jan. 9	Nottinghamshire v. Cheshire, Nottingham T.T. Centre, Beech Avenue, New Basford, Nottingham. Leicestershire v. Staffordshire, Knighton Park T.T. Club, Avenue Road Extension, Leicester.	7-15 p.m. 3-00 p.m.
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"CHESTER BARNES" - "DUNLOP"

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"HALEX" - "LOUIS HOFFMAN"

*

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*

"SCHILDKROT" - "TIGER"

*

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LANCASHIRE NOTES

by George R. Yates

ENTRIES SOAR FOR COOK MEMORIAL

FOR the first time since its inception four years ago, the Norman Cook Memorial Trophy—administered by Gordon Campbell on behalf of the Lancashire and Cheshire TT. League—will be based on a handicap system and as a result entries have shot up from 14 last season to 26.

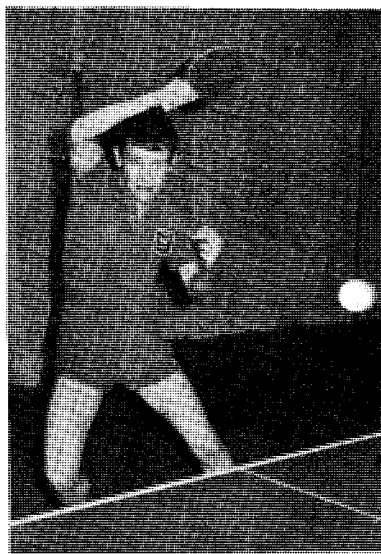
Maximum handicap will be 12 points per game, to be conceded by a team finishing in the top half of Division 1 last season against a team in either Division 4 North or South.

First round ties (to be played by Dec. 31) are:—

Wirral v. Ashton (2); St. Helens (10) v. Stockport; Macclesfield v. Horwich (2); Manchester Banks v. Sale; Mid-Cheshire v. Stockport YOC (8); Burnley v. Nelson (10); Bolton v. Preston (4); Blackpool v. Barrow (2); Lancaster Morecambe (6) v. Hyde; Liverpool v. Blackburn (8). Byes: Bury, Chester, Crewe, Farnworth, Manchester and Oldham.

Promoted from Div. 2 (North) this season, Preston are going great guns in Division 1 of the Lancs and Ches. League. To date they have drawn 5-all with Stockport and have beaten Burnley (6-4) and Mid-Cheshire (7-3).

Star performer has been Lancashire's No. 2 ranked junior Donald Parker and the Prestonians have something to be proud about with this young man. Among his victims this season have been Lancs. No. 2 senior Jack Keogh (Burnley), beaten 21 and 4, Doug Hodgson, Alan Crossley and Peter Pownall of Stockport, and Mid-Cheshire's top trio of Brian Johns, Jimmy Nevin and Alec Hough. His one loss to date has been to Stockport's Brian Kean, the Scottish international.



DONALD PARKER
(Preston)

Photo by D. A. Crook

Unlike Derek Schofield, who has joined forces with Bolton, playing for the local YMCA, Kean is uncommitted in respect of the Wilmott Cup.

Derek celebrated his debut for Bolton's Wilmott Cup team on Friday, Nov. 27—after helping to beat Blackpool 6-1—by prematurely "wetting the new baby's head". His wife Doreen, gave birth to her second daughter, Sandra Jill (wt. 6lbs. 8ozs.) later that evening. They now have two of each! Congratulations Mr. and Mrs. Schofield.

Current positions at the top of Div. 1 in the Lancs and Ches. League are:

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts.
Preston	3	2	1	0	18	12	5
Bolton	2	2	0	0	16	4	4
Mid-Ches.	3	2	0	1	20	10	4
Hyde	3	2	0	1	18	12	4

No match in Div. 1 of the Women's section has ended up with a score of less than 10-0 positions being:—

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts.
Manchester	2	2	0	0	20	0	4
Stockport	2	2	0	0	20	0	4
Blackpool	1	0	0	0	10	0	2
Liverpool	2	1	0	1	10	10	2

STAFFORDSHIRE NOTES

by John Pike

VETS ON WARPATH

As John Woodford is a good friend of mine, we serve on the Publicity Committee together, it is not my wish to take issue with him over the piece he wrote in last month's "Table Tennis News" about Veterans playing in the County championships. His remarks, however, caused quite a stir in the county, for it was Staffordshire's idea to form this new division in the first place. I think you will find a suitable reply from our county chairman on another page in this issue.

With the two county teams failing again in November to beat Bedfordshire and Shropshire, it now looks like things are left to the junior team to restore some of our past glory.

Now that Ray Dixon is in charge of the county second team, he automatically joined the selection committee.

The coaching weekends at Lilleshall certainly seem to be paying off and Jim Hayward is now looking forward to another good session there next month. Still on coaching, Darlaston are keen to see youngsters on Saturday afternoons at the Boys' Club, where Len Dawes and Norman Bloomer are available to help any players under 21.

Sid Parker is also doing a good job in a local school at Walsall and I am sure this can do nothing but good for our county teams of the future. Even the teachers at the Highfield School, Wolverhampton, are more "with it" now, following Bryan Merrett's recent visit.

The Staffs Restricted tournament has been fixed for Jan. 31, while the Beattie trophy, taking a new form this season, will be held in April. The Woodfield club at Wolverhampton again helped charity with their annual tournament and there will be more details about this in next month's issue. Umpires, or rather the lack of them, are still proving a problem to the county officials and one can only hope that this position will improve next season. Of course, we need a county umpires secretary first!

MIDDLESEX NOTES

by Laurie Landry

HASLAM DOES IT AGAIN

With victories over Kent and Surrey, the County first team went out to play Essex at the New Barnet T.T. Centre on the official opening night, Nov. 14.

"Les" Haslam was once again the hero—we all remember his victory over Neale last season—with a blasting win against Chester Barnes. As usual, however, one cannot expect everything to come off at the same time and four was our limit to five for Essex. Well done, Essex.

The second team is really setting a good pace in the Second (South). New man Eric Coster from Herts., and Brian Petch are both unbeaten in wins over Bucks. II and Surrey II. The juniors, too, are well endowed with all-round strength giving them 8-2 victories over both Glamorgan and Herts.

Domestically, newly promoted South West Middlesex are finding it tough in the top division whilst relegated Acton and Willemsden seem assured of an early return to the top flight.

Looking still further ahead, some really promising 11 and 12-year-olds are showing their form at the special monthly sessions.

This month the big event will be the Middlesex Open at the Hampstead Civic Centre, Swiss Cottage. This promises to be more popular than ever since the English Closed will be at the same venue in the new year, so many players will want to survey the conditions.

COUNTY TABLE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS

Divisional Tables to 22nd November, 1970

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts.
Premier							
Essex	3	3	—	0	22	5	6
Sussex	3	3	—	0	17	10	6
Middlesex	3	2	—	1	17	10	4
Yorkshire	3	2	—	1	16	11	4
Kent	3	1	—	2	12	15	2
Surrey	3	1	—	2	8	19	2
Warwicks.	3	0	—	3	10	17	0
Bucks.	3	0	—	3	6	21	0
2nd South							
Essex II	3	3	0	0	25	5	6
Middlesex II	2	2	0	0	17	3	4
Hampshire	3	1	1	1	16	14	3
Kent II	2	1	0	1	11	9	2
Surrey II	3	1	0	2	11	19	2
Herts.	2	0	1	1	6	14	1
Bucks. II	3	0	0	3	4	26	0
2nd North							
Lancs.	2	2	0	0	16	4	4
Cheshire	2	2	0	0	14	6	4
North'land	3	2	0	1	20	10	4
Yorks. II	2	2	0	0	12	8	4
Derbys.	3	1	0	2	12	18	2
Lincs.	3	0	0	3	9	21	0
Durham	3	0	0	3	7	23	0
2nd Midland							
Notts.	3	2	1	0	19	11	5
Warwicks. II	2	2	0	0	14	6	4
Leicesters.	3	1	2	0	16	14	4
Staffs.	3	0	2	1	12	18	2
Worcs.	2	0	1	1	9	11	1
Gloucs.	3	0	1	2	13	17	1
Bedfords.	2	0	1	1	7	13	1

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts.
2nd West							
Glamorgan	4	4	0	0	32	8	8
Somerset	2	1	1	0	11	9	3
Wiltshire	3	1	1	1	14	16	3
Devon	2	1	0	1	13	7	2
Dorset	2	1	0	1	11	9	2
Monmouths.	2	0	0	2	4	16	0
Cornwall	3	0	0	3	5	25	0
Southern							
Sussex II	3	3	0	0	24	6	6
Berkshire	2	1	0	1	11	9	2
Hants. II	2	1	0	1	7	13	2
Oxfords.	3	0	0	3	8	22	0
Eastern							
Herts. II	2	1	1	0	13	7	3
Cambs.	2	1	1	0	12	8	3
Norfolk	2	1	1	0	12	8	3
Northants	2	1	0	1	9	11	2
Hunts.	2	0	1	1	8	12	1
Suffolk	2	0	0	2	6	14	0
Northern							
Nth'mlnd II	1	1	0	0	7	3	2
Derbys. II	1	0	0	1	3	7	0
Notts. II	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Midland							
Worcs. II	2	1	1	0	13	7	3
Glamorgan II	1	1	0	0	9	1	2
Shropshire	2	1	0	1	9	11	2
Denbighs.	2	0	1	1	6	14	1
Staffs. II	1	0	0	1	3	7	0
Junior Premier							
Kent	3	2	1	0	21	9	5
Middlesex	2	2	0	0	16	4	4
Lancs.	2	2	0	0	14	6	4
Essex	2	1	1	0	15	5	3
Warwicks.	2	1	0	1	9	11	2
Herts.	3	0	0	3	10	20	0
Yorks.	1	0	0	1	3	7	0
Glamorgan	3	0	0	3	2	28	0
Junior South							
Surrey	3	3	0	0	27	3	6
Hampshire	3	2	0	1	19	11	4
Sussex	3	2	0	1	16	14	4
Berkshire	3	1	0	2	12	18	2
Bucks.	4	0	0	4	6	34	0
Junior North							
Cheshire	2	2	0	0	19	1	4
Durham	1	1	0	0	9	1	2
Lincs.	2	1	0	1	8	12	2
Derbys.	2	0	1	1	6	14	1
Nrth'mland	3	0	1	2	8	22	1
Junior Midland							
Warwicks. II	2	1	1	0	14	6	3
Leicesters.	3	0	3	0	15	15	3
Staffs.	1	1	0	0	8	2	2
Bedfords.	1	0	1	0	5	5	1
Notts.	2	0	1	1	7	13	1
Northants.	1	0	0	1	1	9	0
Junior West							
Devon	2	2	0	0	12	8	4
Gloucs.	2	1	1	0	12	8	3
Worcs.	2	1	0	1	13	7	2
Wilts.	2	1	0	1	10	10	2
Somerset	2	0	1	1	9	11	1
Monmouths.	2	0	0	2	4	16	0
Junior East							
Essex II	2	2	0	0	17	3	4
Suffolk	2	2	0	0	12	8	4
Norfolk	2	1	0	1	11	9	2
Cambs.	2	1	0	1	9	11	2
Herts. II	2	0	0	2	6	14	0
Hunts.	2	0	0	2	5	15	0
Veteran South							
Herts.	1	1	—	0	6	3	2
Oxfords.	1	1	—	0	6	3	2
Essex	1	0	—	1	3	6	0
Hants.	1	0	—	1	3	6	0
Veteran Midland							
Cheshire	2	2	—	0	14	4	4
Notts.	2	2	—	0	11	7	4
Leics.	2	0	—	2	7	11	0
Staffs.	2	0	—	2	4	14	0

County Championships Round-up

by JOHN WRIGHT

I FEEL I should comment again on the subject of this Veteran Competition. John Woodford's comments go further than I would on the undesirability of this competition, and I doubt that the venture can be cut short as quickly as he would like. What does seem wrong to me is that two counties are using players for their veteran team instead of their "proper" county team, one county is running a veteran team, complaining of lack of young players, and running no junior team; and another county which has (as far as I know) never had a junior team would have run a veteran team this season but was too late. Enough said.

My apologies to the many people who tried to 'phone me on Sunday, 15th and found my 'phone out of order.

PREMIER DIVISION

Kent 4 - Sussex 5

A. Piddock bt R. Chandler 12, 13; bt P. Williams -16, 10, 15.
H. Buist lost to Chandler -9, -14; bt S. Ogundipe 18, 11.
D. Basden lost to Williams -12, -12; lost to Ogundipe -17, -17.
Buist and Piddock lost to Chandler and Williams -19, -17.
Mrs. P. Piddock bt Miss J. Williams -18, 17, 7.
Basden and Piddock lost to Williams and Ogundipe -11, -14.

First ever Premier win for Sussex over Kent. After losing both doubles in dismal fashion, Pauline and Tony Piddock raised the score from 1-4 to 3-4 but then Peter Williams played on top form to overwhelm luckless Derek Basden who had never previously lost either to him or to Sammy Ogundipe.

Warwickshire 3 - Surrey 6

B. Burn lost to R. Penfold -18, 11, -20; lost to C. Warren -19, 18, -20.
D. Munt bt Penfold 10, -17, 20; bt B. Hill 14, 18.
R. Gunnion lost to Warren -20, 11, -17; lost to Hill -19, -10.
Burn and Gunnion bt Penfold and Warren 10, -25, 19.
Mrs. H. Hamilton lost to Miss S. Howard -18, -9.
Munt and Hamilton lost to Hill and Howard -17, -16.

A blank debut for Helen (Elliott) Hamilton.

Middlesex 4 - Essex 5

M. Sugden lost to C. Barnes -14, 18, -12; lost to T. Taylor -15, -18.
O. Haslam bt Barnes 14, -18, 16; bt D. Brown 19, 25.
A. Lindsay lost to Taylor -16, -11; bt Brown 17, -20, 16.
Sugden and Wright lost to Barnes and Taylor -15, 18, -17.
Mrs. K. Mathews lost to Mrs. L. Radford -16, -19.
Wright and Mathews beat P. Radford and Radford, 19, 18.

Big Les Haslam gave Middlesex the start they desperately needed beating Chester Barnes: the frequent soft service always had Barnes in trouble. Malcolm Sugden always in trouble v. Trevor Taylor, Alan Lindsay usually in command over David Brown. 2-12 in first of XD, then Middlesex caught to 13-all and

won two straight. 3-1 lead looked very good, particularly when Middlesex led 15-10 in third of MD, then scored only two more points. Then the shock result, with Lesley Radford continually making Karenza Mathews stretch for her forehead. 12-17 in second, Karenza took the next six points but could manage only one more. Although sneaking the second from Barnes, Sugden never really in the set and hard though Lindsay fought he was not good enough for Taylor. So Essex turned 1-3 into 5-3 for a fine win.

Yorkshire 6 - Buckinghamshire 3

A. Hydes bt P. Shirley 16, 11; bt S. Hahn 13, 14.
A. Clayton bt Shirley -17, 17, 12; lost to L. Wooding -18, -19.
N. Jarvis bt Hahn -20, 12, 12; bt Wooding 16, 16.
Hydes and Jarvis bt Hahn and Wooding 13, 17.
Miss L. Bashford lost to Miss J. Shirley -15, -11.
Clayton and Bashford lost to Shirley and Shirley -21, -19.

A poor crowd by Yorkshire standards saw both Tony Clayton and Nicky Jarvis having to work hard for points with little luck going Bucks. way. Jill Shirley untroubled, and acrobatic brother Paul provided good entertainment.

2nd SOUTH

Buckinghamshire II 0 - Essex II 10

Bucks. best effort came in W.D. where Jean Williams and Mrs. A. Adams came back to save second game from 11-20 and lead 10-5 in third. But only one other set needed the final game.

Hampshire 5 - Hertfordshire 5

Herts. led three times, then trailed twice before David Seaholme earned them their point. He, with Chris Pickard and Daphne Gray, the most successful.

Surrey II 2 - Middlesex II 8

Rather closer than the score suggests, with Middlesex players having the edge. Good win by Emil Emecz 19, -19, 19 over Melvin Waldman who lost also to Gordon Chapman.

2nd NORTH

Durham 4 - Yorkshire II 6

Derbyshire 6 - Northumberland 4
A much better showing by the home players. Unbeaten Eric Hall and wife Rusty (née Canham) ran up five successes in a very even match.

Lincolnshire 4 - Cheshire 6

2nd MIDLAND

Nottinghamshire 5 - Leicestershire 5

Four-and-three-quarter hour match with four expedite sets including M.D. (pity the poor umpire with an amended order every point for almost 2 games!) Alan Croome and visiting P. Randell (watch this name) the stars.

Staffordshire 5 - Bedfordshire 5

Worcestershire 5 - Gloucestershire 5

A point for Worcs. from 2-5 down in a match where every player featured in at least one win. Despite playing almost all match with broken bat, Roy Morley unbeaten and Brian

Belcher won both his M.S. for Worcs. Long battle in W.S. with Joyce Lloyd successful in -12, 8, 17 over Jean Golding.

2nd WEST

Devon 10 - Cornwall 0

Monmouthshire 2 - Dorset 8

A poor performance by Monmouths. with Haydn Thomas particularly disappointing.

Somerset 5 - Wiltshire 5

Glamorgan 7 - Dorset 3

SOUTHERN DIVISION

Oxfordshire 3 - Berkshire 7

Berkshire 4 - Sussex 6

Oxfordshire 4 - Hampshire 6

Another defeat for OxforDs, who sadly need young talent. Hants. recovered from 2-3 to 6-3 although Chris Shetler had a struggle against off-colour Clive Alcock. David White pulled into side although short of practice and led B. Pickard 10-5 in third but could not hold on. One hopes the developing interest in coaching may lead to a revival.

EASTERN

Hertfordshire II 5 - Huntingdonshire 5

Creditable debut by 14-year-old Paul Macarthur, but the honours to Barbara Webb (who saw off Barbara Peters) and David Seaholme whose X.D. recovery from 11-19 and 15-20 in third was not quite enough (lost 19-21).

Cambridgeshire 7 - Suffolk 3

The result never in doubt after Cambs. led 4-0 although some respectability to the score with visiting M.D., X.D. wins. Colin Tucker played well for Suffolk, his -16, 19, -19 loss to Tony Littlechild the evening's best set.

NORTHERN

Northumberland II 7 - Derbyshire II 3

MIDLAND

Denbighshire 5 - Worcestershire II 5

Dream senior debut for Trevor Davies who was unbeaten and showed great composure to defeat fellow phenol Ivor Jones for a point. Home women Barbara Williams and Pat Halsall just too good in a match where Denbighs. never behind.

Shropshire 7 - Staffordshire II 3

The non-arrival of Brian Keates too great a handicap.

JUNIOR PREMIER

Middlesex 8 - Hertfordshire 2

A shaky start, but visible improvement with each following game. Julian Colin (on form) and Anne Painter saw a 17-8 third game X.D. lead become 17-18 before winning 22-20. Nice win for Bob Aldrich 18, 19 over Michael Harper.

Kent 5 - Essex 5

A great match with a just result. The vastly improved Andy Mitchell had set point over Ian Horsham before losing -16, 20, -21 and Horsham beat Paul Guttormsen 17, -20, 21 surviving set point there as well. G.D., X.D. a little one-sided to Essex but the Kent boys earned their point and all contributed. Horsham's

extra experience the vital factor when it mattered.

JUNIOR SOUTH

Hampshire 4 - Sussex 6

Surrey 10 - Buckinghamshire 0

Surrey boys far too strong. Little teamwork showed by any pair in doubles: this comes with experience. Gillian Macrae a little steadier than Karen Mashford and won through 16, -15, 16 in blow-for-blow battle.

Buckinghamshire 3 - Berkshire 7

Sussex 2 - Surrey 8

Paul Bishop far too good for Stephen Marley (who might have fought harder) when ahead, but uncertain when behind. Grant Taylor worked very well to beat David Harding.

JUNIOR NORTH

Derbyshire 5 - Northumberland 5

Lincolnshire 0 - Cheshire 10

JUNIOR MIDLAND

Leicestershire 5 - Nottinghamshire 5

Third draw for Leics. with girls still unbeaten. Best set D. Barry v. A. Ashley with the visitor's fine temperament pulling him through 10, -17, 21.

Northamptonshire 1

Warwickshire II 9

Again and again Northants took early leads but could not hold the visitors when pressure applied. T. Carpenter shows good promise as defender.

JUNIOR EAST

Hertfordshire II 2 - Cambridgeshire 8

Herts. wisely using this team to "blood" players, including 10 year old Richard Jernyn who was unlucky to fall -20, -20 to John Willis.

Cambridgeshire 1 - Norfolk 9

Cambs. outplayed—not till the eighth set did they get a game and not till the tenth a set when John Willis overcame Peter Burton.

Essex II 9 - Huntingdonshire 1

Hunts. fought, but were outclassed. Paul Macarthur their best player and 13 year old Cathy Stonell showed promise for Essex.

Suffolk 6 - Hertfordshire II 4

JUNIOR WEST

Gloucestershire 5 - Somerset 5

The slow conditions most to the liking of the home girls and visiting boys. Nice 18, 20 win for Gillian Westmore over 'A' group Rebecca Bryant.

Monmouthshire 1 - Worcestershire 9

How are the mighty fallen! 6-0 was the Worcs. lead before Alan Harrison gained a consolation win over Trevor Gatfield. Monmouths. missed Kim Allen.

Wiltshire 4 - Devon 6

Enthusiastic Devon party a little fortunate to take both points from enjoyable game. K. Reeve beat Alan Bruce 18, -21, 19 in the number one's battle which was as close as the score indicates.

VETERAN SOUTH

Essex 3 - Oxfordshire 6

Hertfordshire 6 - Hampshire 3

VETERAN MIDLAND

Nottinghamshire 5 - Leicestershire 4

John Burraston played a big part in this victory although the decider was X.D. (only set needing third game) won by Notts. after 14-16 deficit in third.

Cheshire 8 - Staffordshire 1