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Table Tennis News

Official Journal of the English Table Tennis Association

Edited by **George Yates**

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Japan Tour 1970

World Champion Itoh — A Barnes Victim

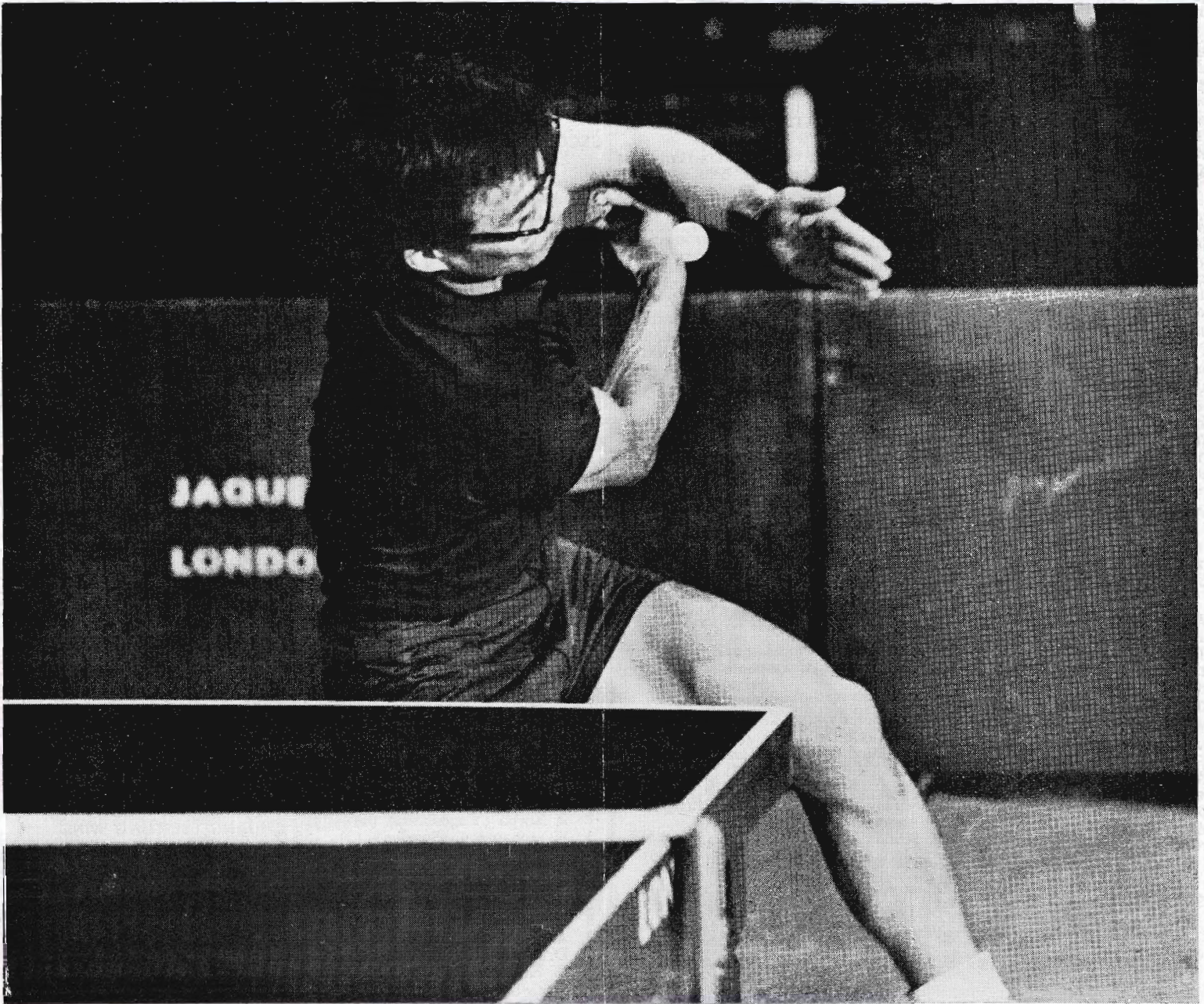


Photo by GERRY CRANHAM

This month's Star Feature

Soviet Inquest on European Championships

Conducted by Sports Master **GENNADI AVERIN**

TABLE TENNIS NEWS

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'No Option'

IN relinquishing the option to stage the 1973 World championships in this country, the E.T.T.A. really had no option at all.

Search as they did, there simply wasn't a suitable hall, measuring up to the rightly exacting standards as decreed by the International Federation, to be found. Only Earl's Court was big enough to provide the necessary space (18,000—20,000 sq. ft.) in one hall and that was booked up.

It was back in 1953-54 when the World championships were last staged in this country, at the Empire Pool, Wembley. But with the anticipation of at least 60 nations participating in 1973, the growth of affiliated nations to the I.T.T.F. has outgrown such modest venues.

In making the sad announcement giving up the option E.T.T.A. Chairman, Charles Wyles said:—

"It is a bitter disappointment that the lack of a suitable venue prevents us from staging what would have been the largest ever international gathering for a sporting event to be held in this country.

"We have the organisation and the financial backing would have been forthcoming, but the fact remains that there is not a large enough indoor sports arena available to meet our needs.

"We regard the loss of prestige both to British sport and to the E.T.T.A. as an indictment of the arrangements for the provision of sporting facilities generally in this country."

On a more cheerful note, a bid for an early option, after 1973 when the ATV Centre in Birmingham will be operational, has been made and it is pleasing to note that the E.T.T.A.'s request is to be placed before the Standing Orders Committee of the international body.

It could well be that the Birmingham ATV Centre will be functioning in 1973 but, without guarantee, the risk could not be taken.

ENGLISH TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION

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On the International Front

by **GEORGE R. YATES**

SHOCK SOVIET DEFEAT

Hungary's team of Tibor Klampar, Istvan Jonyer, Beatrix Kishazi and Judig Magos set Budapest alight on October 13 when they opened up their European League, Premier Division programme with a 7-0 slaying of the Soviet Union.



BEATRIX KISHAZI

Nor was it a weak Russian team that was totally submerged, boasting in its ranks European women's singles champion Zeya Rudnova together with Stanislav Gomozkov and Sarkis Sarkhajan!

Sweden commenced the defence of their title against Federal Germany in Hamburg on October 9 and, here again, European men's singles champion, Hans Alser, was beaten. His conqueror was world singles finalist Eberhard Schöler who, in the opening set, had gone under -8, -13 to Kjell Johansson.

Ebby's was the only home victory for Sweden ran out 6-1 winners. Results:—

Hungary 7 U.S.S.R. 0

- T. Klampar bt S. Sarkhajan -17, 13, 15.
- I. Jonyer bt S. Gomozkov 18, 19.
- B. Kishazi bt Z. Rudnova 18, -21, 15.
- Klampar/Jonyer bt Gomozkov/Sarkhajan 16, -15, 19.
- Jonyer/J Magos bt Gomozkov/Rudnova 17, 21.
- Klampar bt Gomozkov 22, 16.
- Jonyer bt Sarkhajan -16, 11, 7.

Federal Germany 1 Sweden 6

- E. Schöler lost to K. Johansson -8, -13.
- W. Lieck lost to H. Alser -5, -11.
- A. Simon lost to L. Andersson -15, -8.
- Lieck/K. Schmittinger lost to Alser/Johansson -18, -22.
- Schöler/D. Scholer lost to S. Bengtsson/Andersson 15, -19, -18.
- Schöler bt Alser -19, 14, 14.
- Lieck lost to Johansson -16, -11.



LENA ANDERSSON

England 7 Austria 0

In the *Second Division* newcomers Greece conceded three sets to Belgium, in Antwerp on October 17, being represented by two players only namely Christos Christodoulatos and Loukia Skrivanou. Results:—

Belgium 6 Greece 1

Netherlands 5 Ireland 2

France 6 Denmark 1

Last season's final league tables were:

PREMIER

	P	W	L	F	A	Pts
Sweden	6	5	1	31	11	5
U.S.S.R.	6	5	1	23	19	5
Hungary	6	4	2	25	17	4
ENGLAND	6	4	2	22	20	4
Czechoslovakia	6	2	4	18	24	2
Fed. Germany	6	1	5	18	24	1
France	6	0	6	10	32	0

SECOND DIVISION

	P	W	L	F	A	Pts
Austria	6	6	0	35	7	6
Denmark	6	4	2	30	12	4
Netherlands	6	3	3	19	23	3
Switzerland	6	3	3	18	24	3
Belgium	6	2	4	19	23	2
Ireland	6	2	4	15	27	2
Luxembourg	6	1	5	11	31	1

WESTERN EUROPEAN DIVISION

	P	W	L	F	A	Pts
Scotland	3	3	0	17	4	3
Wales	3	2	1	15	6	2
Jersey	3	1	2	10	11	1
Guernsey	3	0	3	0	21	0

MEDITERRANEAN DIVISION

Greece was the only entrant and considered the Winner to play off against Scotland for promotion to Division 2.

Result: Greece 5 Scotland 2

**EUROPEAN RANKING LIST
ALSER, THE TOPS**

Following his victory over Istvan Korpa in the European Championships in Moscow, Hans Alser, of Sweden, takes over the top spot in the latest European Ranking List recently issued by the European Union. The rankings (previous positions in brackets) are:—

MEN

- 1 H. Alser (Sweden) (9)
- 2 I. Korpa (Yugoslavia) (6)
- 3 K. Johansson (Sweden) (3)
- 4 E. Schöler (Fed. Germany) (1)
- 5 D. Surbek (Yugoslavia) (2)
- 6 S. Bengtsson (Sweden) (-)
- 7 T. Klampar (Hungary) (5)
- 8 S. Gomozgov (USSR) (4)
- 9 A. Stipanovic (Yugoslavia) (8)
- 10 D. Neale (England) (7)
- 11 S. Kollarovits (Czechoslovakia) (=16)
- 12 M. Karakasevic (Yugoslavia) (-)
- 13 I. Jonyer (Hungary) (12)
- 14 A. Amelin (USSR) (10)
- 15 J. Secretin (France) (15)
- 16 W. Lieck (Fed. Germany) (-)

WOMEN

- 1 Z. Rudnova (USSR) (2)
- 2 I. Vostova (Czechoslovakia) (4)
- 3 M. Alexandru (Rumania) (1)
- 4 D. Schöler (Fed. Germany) (3)

- 5 S. Grinberg (USSR) (6)
- 6 A. Simon (Fed. Germany) (5)
- 7 R. Pogosova (USSR) (7)
- 8 D. Hovestadt (Dem. Germany) (10)
- 9 E. Mihalca (Rumania) (-)
- 10 C. Crisan (Rumania) (9)
- 11 B. Kishazi (Hungary) (-)
- 12 M. Resler (Yugoslavia) (11)
- 13 J. Shirley (England) (-)
- 14 M. Neidert (Sweden) (-)
- 15 D. Calinska (Poland) (-)
- 16 A. Grofova (Czechoslovakia) (-)

Because of her retirement from international play Mary Wright has not been ranked, and because of insufficient evidence Edit Bucholz (Fed. Germany), and Marta Luzova-Hejmova (Fed. Germany) and Gabrielle Geissler (Dem. Germany) are also unlisted.

Omitted from the previous lists are S. Sarkhoyan (USSR) (11), G. C. Barnes (England) (13), M. Börzsei (Hungary) (14), J. Turai (Czechoslovakia) (=16) and A. Papp (Hungary) (12) from the women's list, which has now been extended from 12 to 16 players.

EUROPE CLUB CUP

As English winners, Ormesby T.T.C. represented by Denis Neale, Nicky Jarvis and Alan Ransome, have been drawn at home to P.T.S. Wega of Finland in a match reported elsewhere in this issue. If victorious their next round opponents will be the winners of the tie AS Messine, Paris v. Vjesnik, Zagreb.

Last season's winners were Spartacus. Budapest in what should have been a two-legged final. Spartacus won the first match 5-4 at Mariestad on May 9 but the Swedish club side were unable to play the second leg in Budapest and the Championship was awarded to the Hungarian team. Scores:—

- Neidert lost to Timar 16, -19, -19;
- bt Jonyer 12, -19, 14;
- bt Pignitzky 15, -19, 19.
- Alser bt Pignitzky 15, -17, 16;
- bt Timar 12, 9; lost to Jonyer -13, -17.
- Andersson lost to Jonyer -21, 14, -13;
- lost to Pignitzky -11, -7;
- lost to Timar -12, -14.

Statistika, Budapest won the women's section by beating Start, Prague.

CHUANG TSE-TUNG WINS

Players from China, Japan and Nepal were the participants in a tournament arranged for the King of Nepal's 30th Birthday Anniversary Sports Festival from: June 8 - 15.

- Results:
- M.S.: Chuang Tse-Tung bt Li Ching-kuang 17, 18, 18.
- W.S.: Lin Hui-ching bt Li Ho-nan 13, 16, 17.
- M.D.: Chuang Tse-Tung/Li Ching-kuang bt Yu Chang-chun/Hsi En-ting 16, -16, 14, 14.
- W.D.: Li Ho-nan/Li Li bt Lin Hui-ching/Cheng Huai-ying 13, 13, 18.
- X.D.: Yu Chang-chun/Cheng Huai-ying bt Li Ching-kuang/Li Ho-nan 16, 18, 20.

SWEDEN BEAT NEW ZEALAND

In an international match played in Hamilton, New Zealand on June 11 Sweden's touring duo of Hans Alser and Kje! Johansson defeated New Zealand 5-0. Scores:—Alser bt Lee 7, 12, 18; bt O'Carroll 12, 10, 8. Johansson bt O'Carroll 5, 14, 7; bt Lee 13, 13, 19. Alser/Johansson bt Tomlinson/Foster 12, 9, 17

30th CANADIAN CHAMPIONSHIPS

In the Canadian and International Championships played in Toronto (Sept 3 - 6) Dal Joon Lee of the U.S.A. succeeded Jaroslav Stanek (Czechoslovakia) as winner of the men's Open singles, a title won by England's Denis Neale in 1967 and again in 1968.

Counterpart women's winner was K. Kurimoto (nee Matsuzaki) taking over from Patty Martinez successive title holder in the previous two years.

In the Closed Championships, Derek Wall regained the men's singles title he won in 1968, Larry Lee the defending title holder going out to Errol Caetano.

Violletta Nesukaitis successfully defended her women's singles title with a final win over Jenny Marinko.

Results:

Canadian Open:

M.S.: DAL JOON LEE (U.S.A.) bt

bt J. Tannahill (U.S.A.) 13, 17, -10, -19, 13.
 W.S.: K. KURIMOTO (Japan) bt V. Nesukaitis (Canada) 15, 12, 12.
 M.D.: DAL JOON LEE/P. PRADIT (U.S.A.) bt B. Bukiet/D. Sweeris (U.S.A.) 15, -19, 12, 19.
 W.D.: KURIMOTO / S HILDEBRAND (U.S.A.) bt A. Green /C. Sweeris (U.S.A.) 15, 11, 21.
 X.D.: LEE/KURIMOTO bt D. Sweeris (U.S.A.)/Sweeris 14, -17, -19, 12, 12.

Canadian Closed:

M.S.: D. WALL (Toronto) bt E. Caetano (Toronto) 10, -22, 16, 7.
 W.S.: V. NESUKAITIS (Toronto) bt J. Marinko (Toronto) 7, 8, 15.
 M.D.: G. GEAR (Toronto)/WALL bt Caetano/B. Cheng (Toronto) 18, -14, -18, 17, 16.
 W.D.: M. KERR/H. SIMERL (Toronto) bt V. Adminis/Marinko (Toronto) 5, -9, 12, -19, 15

11th South African T.T.B. Championships

Held in Durban during June, Western Province were the winners of the E. H. Ismail Shield (men), Coo Ee Trophy (women) and the C. M. Bassa Trophy (boys).

Individual winners were:—
 M.S.: Clive Brooks.
 W.S.: Iris Barry.

M.D.: Brooks/Henry Naidoo.
 W.D.: Barry/Lola Jooste.
 X.D.: Naidoo/Barry.
 J.S.: Winston Thomas.
 J.D.: P. Manjee/A. K. C. Peer.

1970 rankings:—

MEN: 1—C. Brooks; 2—H. Naidoo; 3—Y. Randeree; 4—M. Moola; 5—M. Cornelius; 6—P. Meyer; 7—K. Valjee; and 8—A. Valjee.

WOMEN: 1—I. Barry; 2—S. Jithoo; 3—L. Jooste; and 4—F. Vahed.

JUNIORS: 1—W. Thomas; 2—U. Dupelia; 3—M. Chafeker; and 4—C. Ydawjee.

The player adjudged the most improved for 1970 was Y. G. H. Randeree (senior) and Umesh Dhupelia and M. A. I. Chafeker (Juniors).

Clive Brooks, Mike Cornelius, Henry Naidoo and Y. G. H. Randeree will constitute the South African Table Tennis Board's world championship team in Nagoya with C. M. Bassa, Esq., as the Team Manager.

EUROPEAN LEAGUE FIXTURES 1970/71

PREMIER DIVISION

Oct.	Austria v. Soviet Union	Vienna	17.10.70
Nov.	Czechoslovakia v. ENGLAND	Prague	3.11.70
	Hungary v. ENGLAND	Budapest	11.11.70
	Sweden v. Czechoslovakia		
Dec.	Austria v. Hungary	Vienna	5.12.70
	Fed. Germany v. Czechoslovakia	Karlsbad	15.12.70
	Soviet Union v. ENGLAND	Moscow or Leningrad	2.12.70
Jan.	Fed. Germany v. Hungary	Karlsruhe	6.1.71
	Austria v. Czechoslovakia	Vienna	15.1.71
	Austria v. Sweden	Vienna	28.1.71
	Czechoslovakia v. Soviet Union	Ostrava	29.1.71
Feb.	ENGLAND v. Fed. Germany	Guildford	11.2.71
Mar.	ENGLAND v. Sweden	Southend	1.3.71
	Soviet Union v. Fed. Germany	Moscow	5.3.71
	Sweden v. Hungary		
Apr.	Hungary v. Czechoslovakia	Budapest	21.4.71
	Sweden v. Soviet Union		
May	Fed. Germany v. Austria		

SECOND DIVISION

Oct.	Greece v. France	Athens	30.10.70
Nov.	Greece v. Netherlands	Athens	3.11.70
	IRELAND v. Belgium	Ballymena	5.11.70
	Denmark v. Switzerland		
Dec.	IRELAND v. Denmark	Dublin	3.12.70
	Netherlands v. Belgium	Groningen	12.12.70
	Switzerland v. France		
Jan.	France v. IRELAND	Chiasso	9.1.71
	Switzerland v. Netherlands	Chiasso	8.1.71
	Denmark v. Greece		16.1.71
Feb.	IRELAND v. Switzerland	Co. Down	4.2.71
	Belgium v. Denmark		13.2.71
Mar.	France v. Belgium	Maribo	13.3.71
	Denmark v. Netherlands	Maribo	20.3.71
	Switzerland v. Greece		
Apr.	Greece v. IRELAND	Athens	24.4.71
May	Belgium v. SWITZERLAND	Middelburg	8.5.71
	Netherlands v. France		



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HERTFORDSHIRE NOTES

by R. Bridges

NEW COUNTY CAPTAINS

John Barnes, our press officer for the last two years, has notified the County that he has to relinquish the post for personal reasons. Thank you, John, for all the good work you have put in during the last two seasons.

Changes at the County A.G.M. during the summer included a new junior team captain—Tony Hammond, and senior team captain—Barry White. D. R. Ingrey becomes the new Umpires secretary and those requiring information should direct correspondence to Mr. Ingrey, who's address can be obtained from any League Secretary.

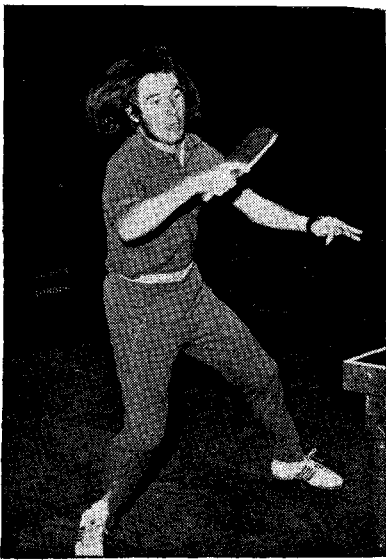
This season's Inter-League Championships commenced in a very uncertain fashion, two junior teams—Welwyn and St. Albans—withdrawing owing to a shortage of girls, and Letchworth Inter-Works in the senior section due to shortage of players!

Current Champions, North Herts., made a good start to their Inter-League programme with a 9-1 victory over St. Albans. Unbeaten North Herts. players were M. Harper, P. Taylor and Mrs. D. Baines.

Welwyn Garden City and Hatfield, relegated from Division 1 last season look like going straight back up, their first match resulting in the 10-0 whipping of Hemel Hempstead.

The Hertford & District League are looking forward to their best season for a number of years. Numbers are up, and the League has been extended from two divisions to three. Not only is the League bigger, but overall is stronger, too, and are expecting to improve on last season's Inter-League position.

Neighbours Cheshunt, also boast of increased membership, teams increased by six to 69, with a total of 339 registrations. In the League, East Herts. College have made a good start, and are looking for their first Championship win in three years.

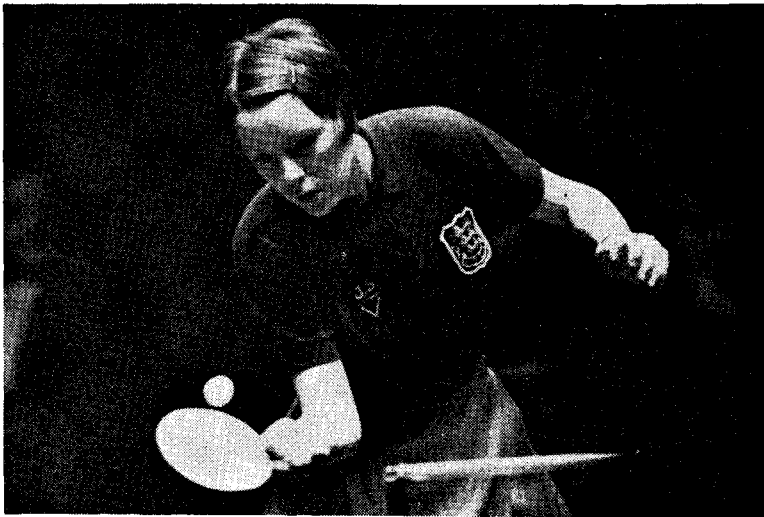


The No. 1's

CHESTER BARNES
(Essex)

Photo by Sport and General

and



JILL SHIRLEY
(Bucks.)

Photo by E. D. Lacy

Chester back to No. 1.

Meeting at Birmingham on October 24, the National Selection Committee, as per their programme, got down to formulating a revised Ranking List based on current performances.

Few people will question the elevation of Chester Barnes back to the No. 1 position for with only one defeat (to Tokio Tasaka of Japan) this season and three tournament wins to his credit including the defeat of Denis Neale in two, plus an incredible win over the reigning world champion Shigeo Itoh, his credentials were of the highest order.

Following the retirement of Mary Wright from international activities, Jill Shirley moves up to the top of the women's ladder. Rankings (previous positions in brackets):—

MEN

1. C. Barnes (Essex) (2).
2. D. Neale (Yorks.) (1).
3. T. Taylor (Essex) (3).
4. A. Hydes (Yorks.) (4).
5. A. Piddock (Kent) (8).

6. M. Johns (Ches.) (5).
7. R. Penfold (Surrey) (6).
8. O. Haslam (Middx.) (7).
9. B. Burn (Warwks.) (9).
10. A. Clayton (Yorks.) (=12)
11. N. Jarvis (Yorks.) (10).
12. D. Munt (Warwks.).

WOMEN

1. J. Shirley (Bucks.) (2).
2. K. Mathews (Middx.) (3).
3. P. Piddock (Kent) (4).
4. J. Williams (Sussex) (5).
5. S. Hession (Essex) (6).
6. L. Radford (Essex) (7).
7. S. Howard (Surrey) (9).
- =8. L. Bashford (Yorks.) (10).
- L. Howard (Surrey) (=11).
- S. Lisle (Lancs.) (=11).

Omitted from the previous men's list are C. J. Warren (Surrey) (11) and three of the previous four joint No. 12's—D. Brown (Essex), R. Gunnion (Warwks.) and A. Ransome (Northhd.).

Maureen Robson, who is expecting a baby, is missing from the previous women's list, at No. 8, and Diane Simpson (Essex) drops out having previously been ranked at No. 11 jointly.

HAMPSHIRE NOTES

by David Cosway

RANKING BY RESULTS

The problems of being a selector are highlighted by the Hants. senior teams this season. In the past, selection committees have been criticized for not holding trials or by holding trials and then not picking their teams in line with the results. This season trials were held and ranking lists published based exactly on the results of the day's play as follows:—

Men. 1. K. Summerfield; 2. T. Bruce; 3. C. Pickard; 4. C. Shetler; 5. P. Crane; 6. B. Pickard; 7. R. Lush; 8. C. Carse; 9. P. Brown; and 10. S. Tannahill.

Women. 1. D. Gray; 2. A. Gilbert; 3. J. Woolf; 4. J. Daniels; 5. J. Hudson; and 6. C. Hutchings.

On the day's play no one can dispute these rankings, for both Keith Summerfield and Daphne Gray were undefeated. The surprises were the 'unknown' Terry Bruce and junior Phil Crane, who beat Shetler, Lush, Edwards and both Pickards, in the absence of Sheila Foster, the women's results ran along predictable lines.

The point to be made, however, is that players, even after many successful matches for the County, can have off days at trials and as a result end up way down the rankings.

Junior rankings:—

Boys. 1. P. Crane; 2. C. Sargeant; 3. C. Wilshire; 4. M. Caudrey; 5. G. Longland; 6. K. McQuade; and 7. G. Iacona.

Girls. 1. L. King; 2. S. Chapman; and 3. B. Davis.

FOUR T's RESTRICTED

For the first time the major trophies, in this only open tournament in the Southampton area, went to players outside Hampshire—and in fact two titles were 'exported'.

In the men's singles, Warwickshire No. 4, Richard Cooper, made his trip from Birmingham worthwhile, by going through the entry without the loss of a game. He beat Derek Holman of Bournemouth in the quarters, G. Blomfield (Essex) in the semis, and Chris Edwards 16 and 9 in the final to collect a briefcase donated by Snow's Office Supplies.

In the women's singles, a disappointing entry was made more interesting by the inclusion of Guernsey No. 1, Sally Du Feu. Sally with her clubmates from the Lion club, were the guests of the 4 T's club. In the final Miss Du Feu beat Julie Daniels (Southampton) -19, 18, 17.

Birmingham's Cooper and Bob Brown cruised their way through some strong pairs to win the men's doubles demonstrating why they are the closed champions at home and beating Roy Smith and David Hill in the final 12 and 19.

Surprise in the women's doubles was the final defeat of Julie Daniels and Julie Hudson by the scratch pair Sally Du Feu and Celia Hutchings 8 and 17.

The only trophy to stay local was the mixed doubles won by Summerfield and Julie Daniels with a final victory over Chris Pickard and Celia Hutchings.

The junior singles emphasised just how far behind Hampshire lag in this

field. The winner, G. Blomfield was ranked No. 8 in Essex last season (No. 3 now) went through an entry including all the top local juniors, beating Colin Sargeant of Basingstoke in the final.

AFFILIATED MEMBER

John Woodford (ETTA Press Officer—South), already a member of the Sports Writers' Association, has recently been elected an affiliate member of The Institute of Journalists.

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Coca-Cola Sponsorship

NEW THREE-PART INVOLVEMENT



by **DEREK R. TREMAYNE**
E.T.T.A. General Secretary

In August 1969 the Association announced a most ambitious sponsorship scheme in conjunction with the Coca-Cola Organisation. The 1969/70 season was to be the pilot year of a programme which could be worth £35,000 to table tennis over a period of four years.

There is no doubt that this news was received favourably by table tennis enthusiasts throughout the country and, in fact, throughout the world. The Association received first class co-operation from the game's administrators in many parts of the country although the cry came from many players and a number of leagues — "What's in it for us?"

During the pilot scheme players benefited from prize money at the English Open and Closed Championships and the Coca-Cola Award which in itself could only benefit one player. Readers of the previous issue of the magazine will know, however, that Denis Neale, the Award winner, generously donated £100 each to Linda Bashford and Nicky Jarvis of Teesside for the development of their playing careers. The Leagues received no direct benefit from the pilot scheme although a number will have benefited directly from arrangements to sell Coca-Cola at their headquarters. In some cases useful contacts were made with the Bottling Companies involved in the sponsorship scheme, Coca-Cola Southern Bottlers Limited, Coca-Cola Bottlers (Scotland and Northern) Limited and Coca-Cola Western Bottlers Limited, and at least one Open Tournament benefited directly from this liaison.

The E.T.T.A. received some direct financial benefit from the scheme although part of the figure of £5,000 for the pilot year was tied to specific items in the programme, including much valuable publicity.

At the end of the season it was clear to both parties that the agreement as originally envisaged was not suitable and the Coca-Cola Organisation agreed that overall sponsorship of a sport was not desirable for the sponsor of the sport.

PUBLIC RECOGNITION

In June, new discussions began on the most effective involvement of Coca-Cola with the E.T.T.A. aimed at a sponsorship which would give benefit to table tennis and to the sponsor. Many schemes were considered including a top-level invitation event which could cost several thousand pounds.

It was decided, however, that sponsorship by Coca-Cola should begin at local level if at all possible. It would be more effective in this way and prove to be of greater value to table tennis and the Coca-Cola Organisation. It is at this level that the sponsor would receive greater public recognition rather than at the more glossy international level.

Whilst rumours were spreading that the link between Coca-Cola and table tennis had been broken because of an unsuccessful pilot scheme, in actual fact this link was being strengthened because of the decision to find a completely new formula for the sponsorship. Finally, in late August a suitable scheme was presented to representatives of the Coca-Cola Export Corporation and the three Bottling Companies. This was accepted in principle and with modifications was presented in detail in early September.

At the end of September, news was received from Coca-Cola that they were prepared to accept the scheme in full and that the Bottling Companies would become very involved in the sponsorship. In overall terms this would be worth approximately £3,000 per annum to table tennis for a minimum of three years which could well be extended to five years if mutually satisfactory.

THREE PART SCHEME

The sponsorship is in the form of a three-part scheme which will give a wide range of benefits. The most important aspect concerns the involvement of Coca-Cola in our National Team Competitions. The second part gives confirmation to the continuation of the Coca-Cola Award but with a new range of Awards. The third part brings full involvement into the Association's training schemes, particularly with Juniors. This new scheme, therefore, gives benefit to players, leagues and the National body through training plans.

The sponsorship of the National Team Competitions will bring a new overall title and in future this event will be known as "The Coca-Cola National Team Trophy Competition". The four sections of the competition will remain as before and teams will still play for the Wilmott Cup, J. M. Rose Bowl, Carter Cup and Bromfield Trophy. In addition, a Coca-Cola Trophy will be presented annually to the winners of each event.

The Leagues will benefit financially from a prize structure which will operate from the Fourth Round onwards. This will operate for the Junior and Senior events and total prize money will be in the region of £530.

Full details of the prize structure are being circulated to participating leagues. Additional to the cash awards will be certificates and pennants for players and leagues. It is anticipated that the Bottling Companies will become fully involved in the events at this stage. Specially prepared print material is being made available for all stages of the competition for results, details of Draw, Press Release and local reports to the press.

Whilst it is appreciated that the announcement of the sponsorship follows the completion of the first round of the competition, it is sincerely hoped

that participating Leagues will give the sponsorship every support.

In order to give greater publicity to the Coca-Cola National Team Trophy Competitions, the E.T.T.A. have appointed John Woodford, Area Publicity Officer for the South, to act as Press Officer. His duties will include the preparation of National Press Releases and guidance will also be given to local Press Officers.

This competition is the most important link in our new look at sponsorship with the Coca-Cola Organisation. With full support throughout the country it must be possible to strengthen this bond.

TWO SCHOLARSHIPS

The second stage in the sponsorship agreement involves the Coca-Cola Award. This was one of the most successful aspects of the previous sponsorship agreement. It was felt, however, that the scope of the Award should be widened to bring more players into the running and also to encourage leading juniors. Details of the new points system, which in itself gives wider scope, appeared in the October magazine.

The new Coca-Cola Award will be worth £500 per annum to the players. There will be two sections for the Award — one for men and the other for women. The winner in each section will receive £100 and each runner-up £50. The leading junior boy and girl will also benefit by the award of two scholarships of £100 each. This will be con-

trolled by the Selection Committee and designed to benefit their playing career.

For the past two or three years there has been a gradual build-up of training camps organised by the Selection Committee. There is a definite need for a very full training plan if England is to regain a high position in World and European rankings in the future. The recent European Youth Championships in Teesside spotlighted the weaknesses. Readers will have read the article by Ron Crayden (Chairman of the Selection Committee)—"The Challenge of the Seventies" — in last month's issue.

THIRD ASPECT

The Coca-Cola Organisation are prepared to help the E.T.T.A. tackle this challenge by supporting our training plans to the extent of £1,000 per annum during the period of the contract. This is, therefore, the third aspect of the scheme which will prove to be of direct value to the future of English Table Tennis.

The overall agreement with Coca-Cola is the result of entirely new thinking following our pilot scheme in 1969/70. It has to be tested and tried and then developed. Nevertheless, it is a scheme which will be part of table tennis for three years at least and as such requires the full support of players and administrators throughout the country. The Association looks forward with enthusiasm to the successful development of this new sponsorship agreement.

"CHESTER BARNES" - "DUNLOP"

*

"HALEX" - "LOUIS HOFFMAN"

*

"JAQUES" - "STIGA" - "SPALDING"

*

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CONTROVERSY

MISGUIDED EXCURSION

Apart from having the same initials, John Wright and I certainly agree on the subject of this misguided excursion of veteran players into the county championships. What possible good can come from the general public being asked to witness a spectacle which will often consist of greying, balding, sweating men far past their table tennis best, bent on "pushing" to defeat their old rivals?

The veteran game is usually much slower. Those who dash in immediately they are 40 very often pack it in after a short time, finding that the effort is not worthwhile. So, if you are a veteran, you have your local league to play in weekly and you can easily play in a couple of leagues if you so desire.

I have no doubt that some of these veterans who will be playing for their counties are already doing fine jobs in administration, but I say that before they indulge in recalling past glories they should make sure they are doing all they can to help and coach young players because this is where the future of the game lies.

If these veteran county players were honest with themselves they would admit that this division has come into being purely for their own pleasure—what possible pleasure can it be for anyone else? Veterans finals should never be allowed in open tournament finals sessions. Most of those I have seen have been pathetic and enough to make the crowd walk out or at least become restless. Look what happened at the Sussex Open two years ago when an ageing veteran failed to comply with service regulations. The young unruly element came close to making the whole finals session a riot of disorder in front of local dignitaries!

Opposition must be organised to cut short this new venture in the county championships as soon as possible. I am sure that there are many people who would lend their support to such a campaign and I am sure John Wright and I would be pleased to hear from YOU!

and J. A. Pacitto

joins issue on

'SCRAP JUNIOR TABLE TENNIS AND PRODUCE CHAMPIONS'

Being one of the many guilty people who run junior tournaments, thinking this is to the benefit of our players, and having spent 12 years absorbing the arts of coaching, I feel capable of replying to John Woodford's article of last month.

What was said in that article is what leading juniors were being told last season and still are today. Whilst a number of juniors have themselves told me they are *not to go*, I have been given officially to understand this was only a recommendation.

Another story, currently going the rounds, is that no importance or notice will be taken of results of junior tournaments this season in relation to selection or ranking.

Unfortunately, after Laurie Landry's removal as Junior N.P.C. of England, one of the main criticisms was that unlike Laurie, who not only knew the current England players' form and personality, but also the rising young stars, England's Junior selectors were rarely seen at Junior tournaments. So perhaps, by recommending top juniors not to attend there will be no need for them to do so either.

For what purpose are junior tournaments run? Firstly, I would suggest, to provide competition, at all age levels, for our young players to get that extra competitive play. Take away the top strata and you reduce the competition in both quality and quantity. If your top 6 players are not there what incentive is there for those challenging.

What a thrill it is for a 13 or 15-year-old boy, or girl, to meet England's No. 1 and by keeping our leading players away I am of the opinion that our future standard will suffer.

Do away with these tournaments and the ever-increasing number of young players will decrease for how many parents would travel to Folkestone, or Hull, or Bolton to have their offsprings play against seniors. One must bear in mind the expense. How many would gamble on taking their children long distances to be patronised in two games of a senior tournament?

Top players should play in senior tournaments. I could not agree more, but not at the expense of the junior game. If these junior events are a waste of time why do the Germans, French and Belgians come to Folkestone and what made the Czechs play in the Slough Junior?

Mr. Mann commented in last month's magazine on the unwanted players at Teesside. I also saw this and was absolutely disgusted that our promising young talent was left to its own devices. How can we hope to compete with the best if we are not training our most promising 11 and 13-year-olds as well as our star 17-year-olds?

Competition is the keynote to success. Scrap Junior Tournaments? *Nonsense, make them more important.* Have our top players help the up-and-coming ones for this is where the rest of the world leave us behind. Have our stars forgotten what they were like in their first year and the help they were given?

Midland League

By PHILIP REID
MORLEY BACK FOR
GLOUCESTER

With nine divisions and 74 teams, the Midland League has got off to a good start in this, its 36th season. One new league—Bristol—have joined and we welcome Leamington back after a season's absence. Only league not to re-apply are Potteries.

In the 1st Division Gloucester, who narrowly avoided relegation last season should have no such troubles this season. West Bromwich, on the other hand who almost won the 1st division last season could be in trouble without their stars of last season. Roy Morley

is back in the Gloucester team yet again and opened with a maximum. Supporting him was Dennis Holland in their match with West Bromwich. The result was a 9-1 win with Ian Terrett winning a couple. Hinckley newly-promoted, gave Chesterfield a fright before losing 6-4. John Wallhead's maximum for the crooked spire town proved decisive, with John Iliffe taking two for Hinckley. Nottingham opened with a good 6-4 win over Oxford with a maximum from Alf Saunders being the highlight.

Leicester 'A'—strongly tipped for promotion—opened with an 8-2 win over Derby, Graham Hughes and Paul Randell both being unbeaten. Wolverhampton led 5-0 and 6-1 against Coventry 'B' in this division but eventually won 6-4.

Newcomers Bristol opened with a draw against Leamington in Division 3, whilst Darlston got off to a good start by beating Cheltenham 9-1, maximums coming from D. Fones and J. Hood. Chesterfield 'B', however, spoilt Darlston's start by winning there 7-3, Derek Marples being the star Leicester 'C', spearheaded by county champion Colin Truman and assisted by Alan Philpott and Bob Neal, beat Walsall 9-1 in their opening encounter.

Nottingham Juniors, with R. Dawkins and A. Ashley in great form, look all set for a good season. Both scored maximums in their 7-3 win against Leicester 'A'. Bob Broadmore and Martyn Davis were similarly undefeated when Birmingham Junior 'A' beat their 'B' team 8-2. Another 'local Derby' was the Coventry Junior 'A'—'B' fixture, which provided yet another 8-2 score. Top scorers were M. Lilley and F. Lask.

The Junior 2nd Division provided two very good matches—Leamington beat Oxford 6-4 with C. Morby (Leamington) being the only unbeaten player. Ian Warner showed how much he has improved when his team, Derby beat Worcester 7-3.

Birmingham 'A', holders of the Veterans 1st Division title, got off to a good start against Cheltenham with a 9-1 win, J. Peakman and R. Butterton getting the best results.

The Veterans 2nd Division looks full of interest. Coventry, who have Ron Buncle and George Tsow in their side are such a good team it is difficult to see who will stop them. Certainly they were too powerful for Darlston, whom they beat 9-1. A similar score was recorded at Walsall where the 'B' team (Harry Dixon and Brian Griffiths 3 each) beat Derby 9-1. Worcester 'B' took the first nine sets against Nottingham but dropped the last one. B. Gilbert and F. Dale were their 100% men.

This season there will be only one Intermediate Division but this is unlikely to worry Loughborough, who topped Division 2 last season. They opened with a 7-3 win at Nottingham.

Loughborough women were a little apprehensive as to how they would fare in their first season in the Midland League. Their worries were unfounded, however as they visited Cheltenham and their team of Jane Stevenson, daughter Anita and Rosemary North took all ten sets.

With 270 matches to be played it is going to be a busy season, but secretary Maurice Goldstein is confident that if clubs show the same sort of co-operation as last season there will be no complaints!

HUNTINGDON AND PETERBORO' NOTES

by David Obee

ACCENT ON YOUTH

For too long a "Cinderella" county, Huntingdon and Peterborough is placing the accent firmly on youth this season. In each of the county's three member leagues there will be every opportunity for promising youngsters to realise their full potential, with the chance of coaching sessions, and match play in the South East Midlands League.

At the southern end of the county the establishment in September of an E.T.T.A. regional coaching centre at St. Neots has led to a boom in enthusiasm, with the 4' Jaques tables never vacant.

Cliff Oliver, for years a stalwart of table tennis within the county has a team of hard working helpers, including Henry Fox and Stan Roberts, with his 'lieutenant' Len Saywell, who continues to progress along the coaching ladder.

At St. Ives, David Deller has as keen a bunch of young players as can be found for many miles. Already the fruits of his efforts are beginning to become apparent, with several St. Ives players prominent at the county junior trials.

This correspondent, shamed by the efforts of his fellow coaches at the other end of the county, has started coaching sessions at his home club in Peterborough and from here, too, several players with good potential are emerging.

All in all, the junior scene looks brighter than ever before, but at present it is mainly the 'old guard' who fill the county teams in this season's championships. For the first match in the Eastern Division Alan Albon was preferred to Paul Charlton at No. 1 with Gordon Cockram the other man, Barbara Webb and Mary Maxfield made up the women's contingent.

European Tour

The National Selection Committee announced the following team to represent England in European League matches in Czechoslovakia and Hungary in addition to participating in the Yugoslav Open.

Denis Neale (Yorks.), Chester Barnes (Essex), Jill Shirley (Bucks.) and Karenza Mathews (Middx.). N.P.C. Bryna Merrett.

The party, accompanied by ETTA Chairman, Charles Wyles, left London on Nov. 2 for a match against the Czechs in Prague on the following day.

Subotica sets the scene for this season's Yugoslav Open (Nov 5-7) and a friendly international against the Yugoslavs is scheduled for Nov. 9 in Sarajevo. The second European League match of the tour, against Hungary, will be played on Nov. 11 in Budapest.

IRISH DINNER

On the occasion of the Leinster Open, to be held in Dublin (Feb. 4-6/71) the Irish Association will provide hospitality for up to five members. There will also be, during the championships, the first Irish Swaythling Club Dinner.

SWAYTHLING CLUB

ZARKO LIVES IT UP !

Following on the Reception held for members of the Swaythling Club at Crystal Palace during the English Open Championships last March, two subsequent ones have brought members together in Moscow (European Championships) and on Teesside during the period of the European Youth Championships.

News has recently come to hand of another, held in celebration of Vice-President Zarko Dolinar's fiftieth birthday, which lasted throughout 2 days and 3 nights during which time 245 litres (54 gallons) of wine and 27 bottles of Sljivovica were consumed. A telegram was sent from the Club to Zarko which was read out to him in the presence of 150 guests.

Although not an official Swaythling Club reception, Zarko had extended an invitation to join the celebrations to all Club members who could be present.

INVITATIONS

The University Club of Mladost, Zagreb offered full hospitality for up to 15 members on the occasion of their 25th Anniversary last month.

The Yugoslavian Association issued an invitation with full hospitality for 5 Club members at their championships in Subotica when it was hoped that F. Sido, E. Gyctvay, A. Ehrlich and M. Meyer de Stadelhofen would be present.

For the Scandinavian Championships, to be held in Halmstad (Nov. 26-29) the Swedish Association have offered either hospitality plus train fares for two members, or full hospitality only for five or six members.

Next month and again in January 1971, it is hoped to stage matches between various former European stars in either Leiden or Noordwijk aan Zee (Netherlands). Hospitality will be free but not travel expenses. Interested members are asked to write direct to Will van Zeelan, Noordwijk aan Zee with a copy to Swaythling Club secretary, Jimmie McCormack, 2 Bramdean Place, Edinburgh 10, Scotland.

CAMBRIDGESHIRE NOTES

by Leslie Constable

FIRST JUNIOR OPEN TITLE OF THE DECADE

IT was gratifying to note that 12-years-old Paul Day won the boys' U-13 singles title at Newbury and also reached the semis of the U-15 event. It was the first time that a Cambs Junior has won a major title since Pat Inglis performed the feat in the '50's when she won the Bucks Junior Girls' Singles.

Another Cambs Junior, Carl Dellar, partnered Michael Harper of Herts to reach the final of the U-17 Boys' Doubles all of which augers well for the future and underlines the effect of Junior Coaching brought about by John Cornwell and his band of enthusiasts.

In the Cambs League there have already been some interesting results and last season's runners-up in Div.

1, New Chesterton Institute, have been held to a draw by Guildhall, but University Press have displayed impressive early form.

Together with Soham II, Press head the division whilst in Div. 2 Soham III and Telephones I lead the way. Despite Brian Jones beating John Thurston he could not "do it alone" and Soham I were despatched by N.C.I. 8-2.

In the Cambs Cup, the annual triangular tournament, Cambridge City were successful for the fifth successive year when they overcame the challenge of Wisbech and Ely. Architect of Cambridge's win was Thurston who won all his sets with ease.

A great disappointment for Cambs is the loss of Alan Ponder who, now at Cambridge University, has abandoned table tennis for the time being.

SOUTH-EAST MIDLANDS LEAGUE

At the time of writing only two matches have been played, and Dunstable, compelled to play two reserves, were beaten by Wellingborough in this their first encounter. Nonetheless it was a match won for the 'Boro who did so well last season. Wellingborough's juniors won easily to maintain also last season's form.

Bedford had an 8-2 victory over Kettering and also succeeded in the Junior section but the veteran game ended all square.

It is interesting to cast one's mind back to when the League was formed in 1961. I was privileged to be at St. Neots in May of that year at the "Wrestlers Arms" on such an historic occasion. The founders of the League were the Associations of Bedford, Cambs, Hunts and Kettering.

All present were of the unanimous opinion that the object of the League was to promote inter-league table tennis, further the growth and raise the standard of play in the area.

This has certainly been achieved and with the arrival of the Annual Tournament, the interest and form shown has been fantastic.

The winner of the first men's singles was Albert Jackson of Cambridge and, since then, many fine players have participated including Trevor and Peter Taylor as well as Michael Harper.

Congratulations to John Constable, son of Cambs correspondent Leslie, who was married to Barbara Munslow on Sept 5. John was a Cambs Junior player and best wishes go to him and his bride. Ed.

SOMERSET NOTES

by Ray Philpott

HAVE PRESIDENT—WILL TRAVEL

It would be most difficult to imagine a harder working or more enthusiastic County President than our own Henry Whitmore, of Bath.

Mr. Whitmore, who is in his fourteenth year as Somerset President, attends all home County matches and, with very few exceptions, the away ones as well! From Worcester to Penzance Mr. Whitmore is as well known as his players.

He attends most Executive Committee meetings, sitting quietly but paying very close attention to the

business in hand and when he does offer advice he is always brief and much to the point.

Mr. Whitmore supports the County Closed in the morning as a player, later as a steward or any other job he can find to do, and then at the finals at night he makes the presentations and delivers speeches.

Keen on anything appertaining to the juniors, Mr. Whitmore was the driving force behind the forming of the Coaching Panel and his great interest in this work has helped to bring about excellent results.

Henry Whitmore is the hard working Chairman of the Bath Association and in his free moments from table tennis he is the principal of a successful Market Garden business; he is married and has one son, John, who is a County Coach.

All in all, Somerset owes a great debt of gratitude to Mr. Henry Whitmore, who is the most modest of men and I am sure to receive a gentle rap over the knuckles for this little article but some things just have to be written.

FAMILY PLAYERS

At the recent Somerset v Cornwall match at Weston-super-Mare YMCA, sisters Pat and Sue Beazer joined the ever-growing list of "family" players appearing in the same team for Somerset. Previous ones to my knowledge were: Bob and David House (brothers) Ray and George Philpott (uncle and nephew), Jack and Margaret Lindsey (husband and wife), Betty and Daphne Bonner (mother and daughter), Daphne and Penny Bonner (sisters), Ron and Barbara Bowles (uncle and niece) and Eric and Rusty Hall (husband and wife).

If I have omitted any pairs from this list please let me know.

CONGRATULATIONS TO . . .

Barbara and George Dickason on the birth of a daughter, Emma.

Susan Beazer and Rebecca Bryant on being included in Group "A" of the junior Ranking List. Susan was also the winner of the recent South West Schools' under-17 Tournament.

Graham Gear, on winning the Canada Men's Doubles title. In the Canadian Singles, Graham only narrowly lost in the fifth to Larry Lee.

Nigel Woodward, on winning the South West Schools' under-13.

Michael Williams, on reaching the final of the South West Schools' under-15. Michael also reached the semi-finals of the under-17 as did John Pratlett.

WARWICKSHIRE NOTES

by Richard Habgood

BRIAN BURN NEW NO. 1

Brian Burn (ex Northumberland) and currently at No. 9 in the England rankings, leads the new county ranking list which was issued on Sept. 30.

His strength will be a much-needed asset in our efforts to remain in the Premier this season. Chief omissions and "shocks" in the top ten are Paul Judd out through illness, and Pat Glynn, who played in every match for the first team last season, down to No. 9.

Missing, too, is Derek Backhouse and Graham Binney, both of whom have been regular Warwickshire stalwarts during the late 60's. Marcus Hall comes back at No. 5 following his unbeaten performance in the trials and Bob "Skippy" Brown thoroughly justifies his No. 7 position following his fine record in last year's second team.

Along with Brian Burn the County also welcomes Brian Mitchell from Lancashire and his No. 6 spot follows his victory in the "Players' League Tournament" held during the summer for the County squad. He now takes up the No. 3 berth in the second team.

Jenny Cornock still heads the women's list with Andie Jones moving up one place to No. 2. Pressing hard behind them both are Sue Clarke (3) and Doreen Griffiths (4) who unfortunately has been inactive during the close season due to a muscle complaint.

The top junior boys trio sees Jeff Nix included at No. 3 with Bob Broadmore justifiably taking the No. 1 spot from Martin Davis. It does seem a pity that Martin will not put himself out for the recognition that his obvious ability deserves!! Both Bob and Jeff are included in the England Juniors "A" Group ranking following their performances in the final England Trial.

Bob, in particular, must have been extremely close to obtaining a top 8 ranking position recording 7 wins and 7 losses in an all-play-all system.

With Sue Clarke no longer a junior the girls' ranking list is virtually the same as last year, with everyone just moving up a position or two.

There will be a new face in the Inter-League competition this year: The Birmingham Schools' League have entered a team bringing the total to 10. Two divisions have been formed with the top five teams from last year forming the first division and the bottom four (last season) plus Birmingham Schools forming the second. With the loss of one or two of their good players North Birmingham will be hard pressed to keep the title they have won for the last four years.

Finally, can I remind everyone about our own Midlands Open, which is to be held at the popular Harry Mitchell Recreation Centre on Nov. 21/22. This is a 3-Star tournament and, held over two days, it should rate as one of the major attractions of 1970. Finals start about 7 p.m. on the Sunday—see you there?

LUTON TEAM VISIT GERMANY

A mixed team of six players from Luton visited Wolfsburg, Germany, recently, where they played five matches against local sides. Wolfsburg is Luton's twin town and the visit coincided with the celebrations marking 20 years of friendship between the two towns.

Players came from Divisions 1, 2, 3 and 6 of the Luton League and included Gordon Reid (18) and Susan Richards (13), two of the most promising young players in the town. They both had good results and the Luton team won 3 out of their 5 matches. Reid had 7 wins in 10 sets, as did Paul Denton, and Susan Richards lost only once in seven excursions to the table.

Nissen Tournament

The Nissen Invitation Tournament is again to be held this season, on Friday, December 11th at The Sir Herbert Building, Loughborough University, Ashby Road, at 7 p.m.

The top seven men on the English Ranking List have been invited, together with the holder of the title, Malcolm Sugden, and the top four women on the Ranking List have also been invited.

Winner of the men's event will receive £100, runner-up £50, and the losing semi-finalists £25 each. Winner of the women's event will receive £50 and the runner-up £25.

WORCESTERSHIRE NOTES

by Ian R. Crickmer

WELL DONE, PAT

In view of comments that some County matches are mentioned in three separate places within this magazine, I will confine remarks on the opening Worcestershire fixtures to expressing disappointment, on the return to Division Two Midlands, at the first ever defeat by Leicestershire in five senior clashes, and to recording a success story, unusual for our girls, who generally have an unimpressive record in County affairs.

This concerns 16-years-old Dubliner Sheila Foley, who first aided Pat Woodward to the inaugural girls' doubles success since the Junior West system of play was revised, and then gained the first singles win for Worcestershire since November, 1967! Despite this impressive debut, the juniors were eclipsed 4-6 by Devon at Exeter.

WESTERN LEAGUE NOTES

by Grove Motlow

RESERVES FILL BREACH

Newport opened their season with a home match against Taunton and nosed home 5-4 in a very entertaining affair. Although without John Bloomer and Michael Nocivelli, the host league had capable deputies in Terry Roden and Roy Ward.

Both Roden and Tony Huish had wins over Roger Pendleton and Jim Andrews, the former also succumbing to Ward. Taunton's star was undoubtedly John Phillot, who registered a maximum despite being taken to expedite by Roden.

Bristol opened their programme with a home engagement against newcomers Weymouth and were beaten 5-4. For the winners Cliff Diffey had a treble success with two supporting sets from C. Bush, victory being accomplished when Diffey inflicted the only defeat suffered by Dinambro and Bush got the better of Watts.

Exeter brought off a 7-2 away win against Weston whose John Hartry was the only home player to stem the tide with wins over Paul Stone and Michael Lyons. Once again Michael Rattue was Exeter's star although hard pressed both by Ray Philpott and Hartry.

A similar home reverse was suffered by Swindon "B" against Newbury, whose R. Koslowski and D. Campbell were unbeaten, I. Bennett losing to Ken Harrison and George Turnbull but beating B. Hey.

Again by the same margin, Swindon "B" went down away to Newport, whose Roden and Huish figured in the 'untouchable' class, debutant Tony Watkins losing to Harriston and Maurice Neate.

Newport's women were beaten 8-1 at home by Swindon, the Welsh league undoubtedly suffering from the retirement of two former stars in Betty Gray and Stella Jones.

Only Barbara Roden remains from last season's team and she it was who chalked up Newport's only win when she beat Kath Leslie. In fairness to Pat Perrett and Avril Nind, both newcomers put up a game fight against more experienced opponents in the persons of Gwen Hazell and Joy Price.

Also new to the League, Weymouth's women gave a good account of themselves before going down 4-5, at home, to Exeter. The Dorset League's star was J. Vass, who won all her three sets including a straight-games triumph over Pam Mortimer.

R. Symes was Weymouth's only other winner with a victory over J. Farmer. For Exeter, Pam Mortimer and Maureen Spray both won two.

ORMESBY WIN

DENIS NEALE spearheaded Middlesbrough's Ormesby TTC to the quarter-finals of the Europe Club Cup competition on Oct. 29 when the Teessiders beat PTS Wega, Finland 5-2.

Neale was a treble winner over the visitors' nationally ranked Juha Hamalainen (2), Lars Langstedt (7) and Pentti Tuominen (9) with two supporting sets from Nicky Jarvis. Scores:

Neale bt Hamalainen 8, 12; bt Langstedt 9, 9; bt Tuominen 18, 19.

Jarvis bt Langstedt 7, 16; bt Tuominen -18, 6, 18.

A. Ransome lost to Tuominen -13, -12; lost to Hamalainen -17, -19.

Due to be played by Dec 27, 1970 Ormesby's next opponents will emerge from the tie AS Messine, Paris v. Vjesnik, Zagreb, Yugoslavia with the English club being called upon to travel.

FOUND

NOW in safe custody at the E.T.T.A. office 26-29, Park Crescent, London WIN 4HA, is a small gold signet ring bearing the initials "C.R.". The ring was found in the girls' dressing room at Thornaby Pavilion, Teesside after the European Youth Championships.



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MARY WRIGHT

—A Super Star

by Ron Crayden



Malmö, Sweden 1964.

A special hug for Mary from husband to be Brian Wright after her doubles success in the women's team championships final against Hungary.

THE retirement of Mary Wright from the tournament scene has left a gap that short of a divination would seem impossible to fill. Her superb skill, unquenchable spirit and keen competitive nature gave her a star quality that dwarfed most of her contemporaries to the point of embarrassment. Since the departure of Diane Rowe, she has been the heart-beat of the England team and her loss to the game is an immeasurable one.

I first came into contact with Mary when she came along to the Surrey Junior Coaching sessions I was running at the Putney Club. She was a pocket-size schoolgirl with a rubber bat, an impish grin and boundless enthusiasm. There was a naïveté and charm about her that belied her strength of character and latent qualities of perseverance and determination. Mary was not a normal entrant to these sessions, as she had already benefited from personal coaching by Harry Venner, but for one so young she had unmistakable talent and was potential International material. It is interesting to recall the appraisal I wrote of her in 1956/57 season.

"Here is a youngster with that indefinable something that champions possess. She has all the attributes that are necessary to make an International player and already has received personal supervision from Harry Venner. She has mobility, dogged determination and a consistent forehand drive. Her backhand attacking stroke however, is made with too much flourish, mainly due, I feel, to her diminutive stature. I predict a great future for her."

At the age of twelve, Mary represented Surrey in the Junior County Championships and a year later was chosen to play for England. In the Junior ranks, Mary had much success and indeed won the coveted English Junior Open singles title in the 1959/60 season, but in my opinion she never achieved greatness as a Junior player; that was to come later. In 1961 she gained her first International badge in the Senior team and then the following year she was selected for the team representing England in the European Championships.

THE FORMATIVE YEARS

It was in the 1961/62 season that the Selection Committee made one of their better selections when they brought together Mary Shannon, as she was then, with Diane Rowe. Although opposite in many ways they were complementary in many others and a partnership was born that re-wrote the record books. It was the fusion of an experienced campaigner who knew the International scene with a talented youngster desperately keen to learn: it was a teaming that was to become one of the most important factors in Mary's life. She learned from Di the importance of a professional approach to the game and in double quick time she became a professional in kind, from the tip of her 4½ shoe to the last strand of hair on the top of her head. To be a champion is not a tinselled wrapped gift, it is largely a question of sacrifice and will-power. Mary made sacrifices without compromise and willingly gave up many of the sweet things of life in a determined effort to reach the top. She began to ascend the heights.

THE SUCCESSFUL YEARS

It was towards the end of the 1962 season that Mary began to move into the big time when with Di as her partner she won the English Open and then the European Ladies' Doubles Titles. That summer was spent improving her singles game particularly with regard to cultivating a loop drive and the betterment of her sponge bat technique. A new season brought more Doubles successes with Di, culminating in their reaching the World final in Prague, a truly magnificent performance particularly as the Asians were there in force. Her singles game however, sparkled only to deceive but it was obvious to all that the break through was only round the corner. It came, when in the second half of the season she won the English Championship for the first time.

1964 was a magnificent year for Mary in all departments of the game. With Di, she won every National Doubles title entered, except one, and her singles game had reached a new high. Training and practice had developed her loop into a fearsome weapon of offence and she became the scourge of defensive players. Her top spin was not achieved by the mere

lift of the arm, her swing had an impetus and lift that brought the whole body into the action and when she unleashed the big hit it was as though a coiled spring had been released. No one who was there will forget her annihilation of the two famous Hungarian stars, Eva Koczian and Erzsébet Jurik in the final of the European Team Championship. She

actually beat Eva 21-13, 21-7. Later that week Eva Koczian won the European Singles Title and who do you think she beat in the final? Yes, her team-mate, Erzsébet Jurik. You may well ask what happened to Mary. Lurking in her quarter of the draw was the great Russian penholder, Zoya Rudnova (Current European Champion), perhaps the only player



Malmö, Sweden 1964.

Ron Crayden holds the European women's team championship trophy as he poses with England's happy quartet of Lesley Radford (nee Bell), Mary Wright (nee Shannon), Diane Schöler (nee Rowe) and Irene Ogus.

in the Championships who had the edge on Mary. Zoya, in a destructive spell, put out Mary 3-1, then in turn lost to Erzsébet Jurik, deuce in the fifth. We watched the final in more than just a contemplative mood.

Returning to England, Mary always serious about training and practice, spent much time analysing her game intent on improving her backhand control under pressure. More and more titles came in 1965 and 1966 including the important English Open Singles title. After the World Championships in Ljubljana, where Mary was unbeaten in the Corbillon Cup matches she became the highest ranked European in the World Ranking List and later the official ranked No. 1 player in Europe. A fantastic record. Becoming a star is a hard and

sometimes frustrating business and often brings disturbing reactions. Not so with Mary, she retained her next door girl image and today remains completely unaffected and unspoilt. She is not a glamour girl but there is an attractive natural charm about her that is quite infectious.

To catalogue her achievements would fill several pages of this Magazine but all must surely be overshadowed by that wonderful 1965/66 season when she was officially ranked No. 1 for her County, No. 1 for her Country, No. 1 in Europe and for good measure No. 7 in the World. In addition, I might add that she also found time to get married in September, 1965 and to set up a new home. Not only a Super Star, but in my books a rather Super person.



Ljubljana, Yugoslavia 1965.

Third place in Corbillon Cup (women's team championship) to China (1) and Japan (2), with Mary stealing a glance at Rumania's team of Ella Constantinescu, Eleanora Mihalca and Maria Alexandru.

KENT NOTES

by Allen Fisher

SITTINGBOURNE GIRLS MONOPOLISE

Interest in table tennis is definitely on the upward trend in the County despite the Metropolitan leagues suffering a slight decrease in membership. 'Out in the wilds' all the leagues report substantial increases with Maidstone continuing their rapid growth with a 17% to add to last season's 25% increase in teams.

A lot of digging at the local 'Quarry' has produced a 15% increase in teams in the Tonbridge area, whilst Tunbridge Wells and the Headcorn League both show 10% increases. Headcorn are only in their second season but have had to form another division. Canterbury, Gravesend, N.W. Kent and Tunbridge Wells all run, or foster, Schools and Junior divisions.

Spare a kind thought for the Junior Selection Committee who spent four consecutive Sunday afternoons trying to sort out 83 boys and 22 girls nominated for the County trials. After the usual trials and tribulations they issued the following list.

Boys. 1. Paul Guttormsen (Bromley); 2. Andrew Mitchell (Bromley); 3. Dean Dino-Smith (Folkestone); =4. Stephen Endersby (Bromley), Chris Hills (Maidstone) and Stephen Williams (Bromley); 7. Ray Frost (Bromley); =8. Neil Hobbs (Bromley), Martin Seymour (N.W. Kent) and Bill Sichel (Tonbridge); 11.

Barry Chapman (Canterbury); 12. David Weller (Sittingbourne).

Girls. 1. Lynda Chesson (Sittingbourne); 2. Julie Holtam (Sittingbourne); =3. Beryl Bushrod (Sittingbourne) and Lorraine Crosswell (Sittingbourne); 5. Barbara Millen (Sittingbourne); 6. Ann Butler (Canterbury); =7. Pat Gouge (Sittingbourne) and Lynn Holtam (Sittingbourne).

As the top three boys have at least three seasons as Juniors, the future looks bright. The older boys were unable to match the obvious talents or work rate of the youngsters.

The girls' list looks a bit bare without Paula Brenchley and Allison Chesson, who have 'retired'.

Since the trials, an U-14 development session has been held and two promising boys from Folkestone made a good impression. The pair were unearthed by Ted Inge's 'Enormous Blurb' sent to all coaches. Is there any more hidden talent around the County?

John Heritage (Ashford) and Keith Gregory (Canterbury) of the Tournaments Committee are well under way with the arrangements for the Kent Junior Open at Folkestone on Nov. 14/15. This is one of the better organised events in the junior calendar and it is hoped that the Belgian and Dutch juniors will add extra interest in the event. The host county's challenge for titles will be spearheaded by Lynda Chesson in the U-17 G.S., and the 'Blond Battler', Paul Guttormsen will hope to be in the running for the U-15 B.S. trophy in an effort to achieve a higher national ranking.

Jack Carrington

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behind Britain's last men's world champion

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1. Introduction; **2. The Table Tennis Revolution** (change but not decay, the story of the bat, buying a bat, effect of the bat revolution); **3. The Story of Styles;** **4. Techniques;** **5. Touch-play and Push-play** (practice with a controller, direction, slow-speed, length, turning and wrist control, timing, beginnings of chop); **6. Mobility for Learners;** **7. Topspin for Learners;** **8. Topspin for Improvers** (varying forward speed, varying the spin, varying the direction); **9. Defence for Improvers** (chopped defence, blocking defence, combination of both types); **10. Service** (rule changes, current requirements, use of services, receipt of services); **11. Spin and Flight;** **12. More Teach-ins for Improvers** (good position, timing, body balance, push-play, training discipline tasks); **13. Thoughts on Match-play;** **14. Furthering Techniques for Advancers** (loop-driving, stages 1 and 2, sidespin, mobility); **15. Thoughts on Match-play for the Advancer** (methods against chop,



risk-taking, assessment of situation, neutral play, specialist defence play); **16. First Steps for a Great Top-spinner** (theory, stance, timing, power, angles, consistency, variations, combinations); **17. A Great Top-spinner: Thoughts on Match-play;** **18. The Doubles Game** (choice of partner, service tactics, counter-hitting, movement, phasing the play, order of play); **19. Further Extracts from the Coach's Notebook** (speed, dress, tables, lighting, the ball and area of play, exercises, junior play, robot machine, proficiency awards, the world of competition).

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Letters to the Editor

TABLE TENNIS TRAINING

In reply to Mr. B. Mann's letter (T.T. News, October) I would like to state my support of his first paragraph and my condemnation of the remainder. His ridicule of recent advancements made in the training of junior players in this country is based on illogical argument.

England's successes in the European Youth Championships were earned by two young boys who were weaned on the very system Mr. Mann was attempting to ridicule.

What does Mr. Mann mean by a "one-shot game"? I am sure neither of the two aforementioned boys were restricted to such tactics. Of course, 'pushing' is not unimportant, indeed some players are capable of little more (myself included). But I certainly cannot envisage a 'pusher' beating Itoh. To use Bengtsson as an example in support of such argument is, to my way of thinking, futile.

The boys' final did not call for much analysis. After losing the first game, the unfortunate, dispirited and outplayed Orlowski could have been excused from playing any kind of shot, push or otherwise.

In furtherance of the argument I quote from the same issue of the magazine made by a person of wider experience of junior international encounters as follows:—"In the final the same treatment was administered to Orlowski, the holder, who just *could not get through the constant stream of hits* coming from Bengtsson's bat."

I suggest that the five pushes mentioned by Mr. Mann were a measure of compassion for the loser, and against higher opposition would have been treated with the derision they deserved.

Bengtsson comes from one of the best table tennis stables in Europe and has also received the benefits of Japanese training, so I think he may be *capable* of pushing.

In Japan, a vague term such as "physical fitness" would not be heard amongst specialist sports' advocates. Instead we hear terms like strength, power, muscular and cardio-vascular endurance, mobility, muscle and mental reaction times and controlled movement economy all associated with table tennis and all necessary involvements.

It is generally accepted that physical fitness can only be applied to a specific field or activity and should be a necessary quality in every human being, whether they play table tennis or not.

I certainly agree with Mr. Mann's four listed qualities but they are not the only requirements of a champion. I most certainly wish I could isolate all the qualities required for ultimate success for, believe me, it is not that easy.

Dave W. Smith.

Flat 11,
2A Effingham Road,
Lee, London, S.E. 12.

PRIORITIES OF CONTROL

Much has been said about coaching and the priorities of strokes and methods of play, but the more that's said the more confusing it becomes. Every player has a personal style and a natural flair for particular strokes.

What is often forgotten is, not so much the shots, as the mind. Hundreds of players can play all the strokes but not so many win matches.

Once learnt, strokes remain virtually the same, and then it is up to the player to get in as many playing hours as possible to gain experience, and to understand how and when to use them.

Most of all you must strive for consistency but one thing you must learn to control, perhaps the most important, is *nervous tension*.

Mervyn Perriman,
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47, Roach Avenue,
Rayleigh, Essex.

ANOTHER SEASON

Round white ball
Just out of reach
The penetrating drive
Scores that seem to level out
And keep a game alive.

To push, to chop,
to loop and drop,
The challenges of style
Balls that fractionally miss
Might well have been a mile.

Smooth side out
And pimples in,
Indeed complex decision,
To find a bat that suits one's play
With rubberised precision.

Those winning games
Like angler's tales
Include the frequent whopper
The desperate search by urgent youth
When up against a chopper.

No one doubts
That one day soon
The breaks will go our way
And then watch out for endless wins
... But that's another day.

We all return
When Autumn comes
For no apparent reason
Than to play our favourite game
In this ...
Another Season.

LAKELAND,
WELLINGBOROUGH

BELATED SYMPATHY

We extend our deepest sympathy to the family, friends, English Table Tennis Association and all its players upon hearing of the death of Mr. Richard Bergmann. He was well known all over the world as an excellent sportsman, an ambassador of good will, and an avid world-wide promoter of the game of Table Tennis and he will be sadly missed by all of us who knew him.

The Iranian Table Tennis
Federation and Players ...
M. ARVIN.

TOURNAMENT DIARY

Date	Title and Venue	Additional to normal events	Organising Secretary
Nov. 21/22	MIDLAND COUNTIES 3-STAR OPEN, Harry Mitchell Recreation Centre, Warley, Staffs.	VS, JBS JGS, JD	M. Goldstein, 415, Moseley Road, Birmingham, 12.
28	Cumberland 2-Star Open, Moorclose School, Workington.	JBS, JGS	R. Rigg, 4, Tower Hill, Loop Road South, Whitehaven, Cumb.
28/29	Newbury 2-Star Open, The Corn Exchange, Newbury,	VS	Mrs. G. M. Smith, Greenacres, Pinchington Lane, Newbury, Berks.
28/29	Woodfield Restricted 1-Star Open.	VS, JBS JGS, JD	J. Robbins, 18, Beckminster Road, Penn Fields, Wolverhampton, Staffs.
Dec. 12/13	Southend 2-Star Open, Cecil Jones School, Eastern Ave., Southend-on-Sea.	JBS, JGS, VS	M. D. Watts, Gleneagles, 25, Church Green, Sycamore Way, Canewdon, Essex.
18/19 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.
IRELAND			
Nov. 28	Bangor Open (Bangor).	Entry forms from:	C. A. Moore, 78, Orby Drive, Belfast, BT5 6AG.
Dec. 4/5	Connacht Open (Galway).		
SCOTLAND			
Nov. 22	East of Scotland Open (Edinburgh).		J. M. McCormack, 2, Bramdean Place, Edinburgh EH10 6JS.
Dec. 12	Scottish Closed.		"
WALES			
12	Cardiff Open (Cardiff).	JBS, JGS	J. Brown, 27, Heol Erwin, Rhiwbina, Cardiff.

Note: Closing dates approximately 14 days prior to event.

ENGLISH CLOSED

This season's English Closed Championships will be staged at Swiss Cottage Baths, Winchester Road, London, N.W.3 from Thursday, December 31, 1970 to Saturday, January 2, 1971. Appointed Referee is Mr. Jack Randall and the Organiser is Mr. Len Pilditch. Entry forms are now available from the E.T.T.A., 26-29 Park Crescent, London W1N 4HA.

BOURNEMOUTH RESTRICTED—

by David Young

TIBBLES SURPRISE FINALIST

This year's tournament was held at the new Avonbourne School and the entry was well up on last season.

Winner of the men's singles was Brian Petch (Middx.), who accounted for R. Thornton (Basingstoke) 16, 19 before defeating surprise finalist J. Tibbles (Coventry) 14, 14.

In an all-Dorset final Mrs. J. Coop beat Mrs. J. Vass 16, 18 after defeating Carol Randall (Sussex) in her semi.

The junior singles went to Dean Dino-Smith (Kent) who just got the better of Phil Crane (Hants.), 15, -16, 17.

Bournemouth's Chris and Brian Pickard won the men's doubles with a 19, -12, 19 win over Bill Moulding (Wilts.), and Ray Lush (Hants.) in the final.

Miss T. Dale (Essex) and Miss Randall won the women's doubles with an excellent final win over Mrs. Coop and Mrs. Vass -10, 14, 11.

Best set of the finals was the mixed, in which T. Smith and Mrs. Coop overcame Crane and Miss Randall 14, -17, 19.

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WILTSHIRE NOTES

by Ken Bostock

SWINDON OPEN IN DOUBT

Mick Andrews, who made such an impression last season by winning the Wiltshire and Swindon Closed Men's Singles Titles, has moved to London, and will be greatly missed by the County side and at the tournaments, as he will not be defending his titles.

Another Swindon and County player Tony Wolff (Junior), has also decided to quit the County scenery. We are hoping this is only temporary as Tony is still playing in the Swindon League, though he has changed his club and now plays for the British Railways Staff Association.

There is some doubt hanging over the staging of the third Swindon Open this season. Having been granted a "3 Star" tournament classification, and with a reputation of being second to none as regards facilities and playing conditions, the League is having difficulties in obtaining sponsors and organisers in order to raise the necessary prize money required by the "3 Star" label. As last season's Open was run at a loss things do look a little bleak at the moment.

The County Association will probably think twice in future before organising any Club Championships

as the response last season was pathetic, with only eight men's and three ladies' teams taking part.

However, the Finals were staged on Sept. 27 at Devizes, with Mere (Warminster) finishing as worthy 5-3 winners against Studley (West Wilts.). The combination of a treble from Richard Arney and a surprise double from Terry Kelly proved too strong for the Studley trio of Roy Smith, Dave Hill and Alan Maidment. Both losing semi-finalists, Unigate Sports and Walcot Park E.C., were humbled by five straight set defeats.

Thirteen boys and five girls took part in the County Junior Trials held at Salisbury on Oct. 3 to decide the County Rankings, which are as follows:—

Boys

- No. 1 Alan Bruce (Swindon)
- No. 2 Dave Tomlinson (Salisbury)
- No. 3 Leo Bushell (Swindon)
- No. 4 Karl Bushell (Swindon)
- No. 5 Colin Phipps (Swindon)
- No. 6 John Harding (Swindon)

Girls

- No. 1 Margaret Wolff (Swindon)
- No. 2 Nicola Hazell (Swindon)
- No. 3 Kenwyn Hazell (Swindon)
- No. 4 Christine Sherman (Swindon)
- No. 5 Dorinda Sherman (Swindon)

The first four boys and the first two girls will represent Wiltshire in the County Junior Team.

'Opinion rather than Fact'

writes JOHN CORSER

Table Tennis Correspondent of 'The Observer'

At the Sussex Open I commented that, in my opinion, one of our highly ranked women was too defensive. A prominent ex-International immediately claimed that defensive players were most successful in women's table tennis. He was supported by one of our leading women Internationals.

I drew their attention to the fact that no defensive player had won the world singles title since 1955, but I was told that they were talking about European players. The fact that Zoya Rudnova and Ilona Vostova, Europe's two top-ranked women, are all-out attackers did not seem to impress them. The ex-International said that, in his opinion, the best woman player in 1965 was the Chinese defender who was runner-up in the world singles final that year.

This brings me to my point. Too many people in table tennis are prepared to accept opinion rather than fact. This attitude, which can be seen at every level of English table tennis, betrays the amateur approach. Whilst this is an amateur sport, in the sense that we do not play for stake money, there is no excuse for this un-professional approach.

Consider the case above. On the one hand you have two players' opinion that defensive play is best for women. In addition, one of them believes that the best player did not win in 1965. On the other hand you have the facts that every world champion since 1955 has been an attacker and also that Europe's top two women are attackers.

CONCLUSIONS

If you were entirely new to the game, what conclusions would you draw? Of course, there are many ways of winning but an examination of the game of the best players in the world is ultimately the only reliable guide.

The trouble with this country is that there are too many die-hards (some of them quite young in years, too) who believe that one day the old-style European player will come back into his own. Although life goes in cycles it never actually returns to the same position and surely no serious student of the game can believe that we shall ever again see the sort of game played in the mid-thirties, accurately described by the late Richard Bergmann as, "Gentlemen's table tennis".

I am not writing this to berate F.T.T.A. Officials and Coaches (although the latter, in the main, have learnt their table tennis theory second-hand from books or other coaches rather than by personal experience and observation). I am writing in the hope that I can encourage a few of our young players to learn for themselves and not to accept meekly the opinion of the best player in their club (or even the local International). And the only way to learn is to study the play of the world's best players.

Having studied these players one must try to separate fact from opinion before arriving at any conclusions. This is the professional approach—and the only one which will give a chance of ultimate success.

Naoko Fukazy (Japan) was the winner of the women's singles title at Ljubljana in 1965, the defeated finalist being China's Li Fu-jung. Angelica Rozeanu of Rumania won her sixth successive and final world singles crown in Utrecht, Holland (1955) beating Austria's Linda Werlt. Editor.

COACHING AND SCHOOLS

By PHILIP REID

The Midlands and South-West Coaching Rally attracted over 60 coaches and most went away satisfied the day had been well-spent. Film shows, discussions and talks formed a varied and interesting programme. Jack Carrington and John Waterhouse both gave interesting talks and during the afternoon the conference was split into five discussion groups which brought forth a number of interesting suggestions.

Table tennis courses at Lilleshall are always popular and the one being held from Dec. 28 to 1 Jan. is likely to prove no exception. The course is open to players between 15 and 18 years of age and the course fee is £9. Applications to C.C.P.R., 26, Park Crescent, London W1N 4HA, accompanied by a stamped-addressed foolscap envelope.

The Junior Proficiency Award Scheme continues to gain in popularity. Here are the latest Gold Award winners:—

Karen Rogers (Leics.) 13; Christopher Rogers (Leics.) 10; Martin Bowden (Essex) 14; Marilyn Bawden (Essex) 16; Neil Marples (Derbys.); John Catterall (Oswestry) 20; Paul Byrne (Lancs.) 20; John Barnacle (Cheshire) 20; Steven Preston 15; Steven Jennis (Durham) 13; Carol Randall (Sussex) 16; John Connolly (Yorks.) 15; Michael Hare (Yorks.) 13; David Atkin (Yorks.) 14; Robert Wiley (Yorks.) 12; Leslie Atkins (Yorks.) 15; Paul Fennon (Yorks.) 15; Tony Martin (Yorks.) 15; Steven Doyle (Yorks.) 13; Brian Alderson (Yorks.) 14; Ann McBrodie (Yorks.) 15; Paul Drew (Glos.) 15; Anthony Perkins (Glos.) 16.

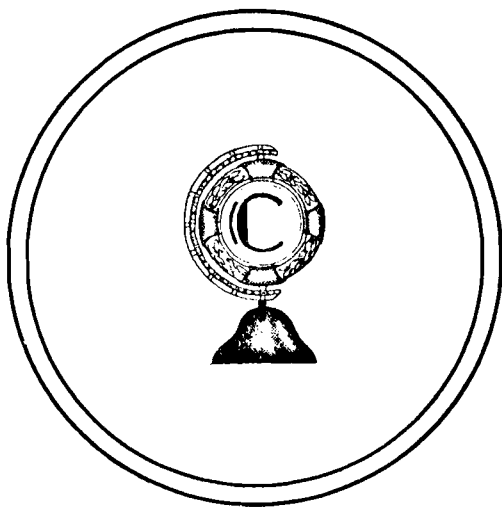
John Ellis will be running another course for Leicester schoolchildren at St. Jonathan North School following the success of the previous course. John is working on a system whereby the Staff Coach will coach potential coaches at one session, John himself will take the next two or three sessions and the Staff Coach will then return to see how much progress has been made.

Brian Chaplin of Daventry is one of the keener types—he recently travelled to Leicester to a coaching session — there's enthusiasm for you!

A Staff Coach for Eastern Region is expected to be appointed for the New Year — John Cornwell and his committee will surely welcome this development.

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Soviet Inquest on European Championships

Conducted by Sports Master
GENNADI AVERIN

The European Championships played in Moscow did not merely reflect, as any contest of this rank would, the new ideas and tendencies of the sport, but determined the path of its future development.

It is my deep belief that this tournament will hold a completely special place in the history of such meetings. Judge for yourself—five new champions out of a total of seven; the laureates of the preceding championships did not even get any medal-winning place; the appearance of new bright talents; the complete failure of the proponents of all-out defence; the triumph of the Soviet school of women's table tennis and also the Swedish, if we are to refer to the men.

The list of such high points is not exhausted. Let's try to decode them.

The offensive of the youth against the seemingly well protected fortress of the recognised Big Moguls was turbulent and clearly successful. But it cannot be explained at all by asserting that the veterans' weapons had become blunted. Quite the reverse—they even improved their play and one of them, Sweden's Hans Alser, even won recognition as Europe's No. 1.

Nonetheless, the tone was set by youth. In particular, the performance of Sweden's 17-years-old star Stellan Bengtsson, who climbed the bronze rung, was a revelation even for the experts.

The success scored by the Swedish players in general deserves detailed analysis. Whereas formerly the Swedes had inflicted merely, so to say, separate stings, in Moscow they conducted a massive offensive against all of Europe's highest titles (I am referring to the men's squad).

ALMOST PERFECT

The Tre Kroners of table tennis achieved almost a perfect result. Three Swedes and one Yugoslav racket wielder took part in the semi-finals of the singles.

What is the reason behind such a high flight? As I see it, in the high professional (in the good sense of the word) manner of the Swedish masters. Their play is distinguished by the neat execution of the shots, good tactics and physical fitness.

Alser, this maestro of table tennis, for instance changed his tactical pattern of play several times, depending on the style of his opponent. We saw in one instance a cautious Alser on the defensive, using rare but insidious

single shots that were very unpleasant for the fast Englishman Neale.

But against Yugoslavia's Karakasevic, who has a powerful forehand hit, it is hard to defend one's self. So Alser made up his mind right off to take a risk. He gained victory by fast top-spins and powerful attacks.

In meeting Gomozkov, Alser took into account the insufficiently confident play of the Soviet champion on his right, and conducted the entire match with spun semi-lobs to the right hand corner of the table.

Such diversity of style, strengthened by a stiff fighting mood, permitted Alser again to capture the European title after an eight-year break.

Today it is no longer so difficult to learn to use the forehand and backhand. But to teach one tactical mastery, the ability to change over in the course of a game, is much more difficult. One cannot become a high-class player without that. Keen tactical discernment was noticeable also in the actions of another Swede, Johansson, the young Bengtsson, as also in separate games played by Amelin (U.S.S.R.).

DETERMINED

As the encounters of the championships showed, European table tennis continues to develop in the old way, but with a slightly renewed recipe—attack and attack once more, but with slight deviations. The chief direction has been determined, and all that remains is to sharpen and polish up the details.

The top spin (the infernal twist on the ball from Tokyo, as it had been called before) has been known in Europe since 1960. But how it has changed! One can count a good dozen variants, with side and top spins, fast and slow, left and right and almost all the participants in the championships employed the top spin.

In general, an obvious shift towards increasing the number of sliced balls was noticed at the championships in Moscow. In this respect it may be said that the European and Asian table tennis schools have come closer together to a certain extent. It is true that the players of the Old World so far cede the palm to the Asian players in both speed of return and in physical fitness.

The proponents of the defensive style have met with failure. Neither European vice-champion Börzsei of Hungary nor silver medalist Schöler



ZOYA RUDNOVA
Winner of the four gold medals
in Moscow

Photo by courtesy of Novosti
Press Agency (APN).

(FRG) managed to get into the company of the four medal winners.

And, at that, their defence had not deteriorated at all. But the attack players have learned at last to breach the ferroconcrete defence. It is noteworthy that the Soviet stars picked fast the right key to the defence lock for both Amelin and Gomozkov confidently won against Börzsei and Schöler.

Nonetheless the Soviet players deserve more reproach than praise. The team's leaders Gomozkov and Amelin possess a very good technique. Gomozkov, I am convinced (and this is not my opinion alone but also that of many foreign experts) is technically the fittest player in Europe. But in difficult duels with tenacious oppon-

ents he lacked sufficient will-power — and the same can be said for his teammates.

And in table tennis strong nerves, self-possession and determination frequently count more than even ideal technique. Only in the mixed doubles did Gomozkov play at full strength—painstakingly, boldly and powerfully, to win the European title together with Zoya Rudnova.

TONE SET

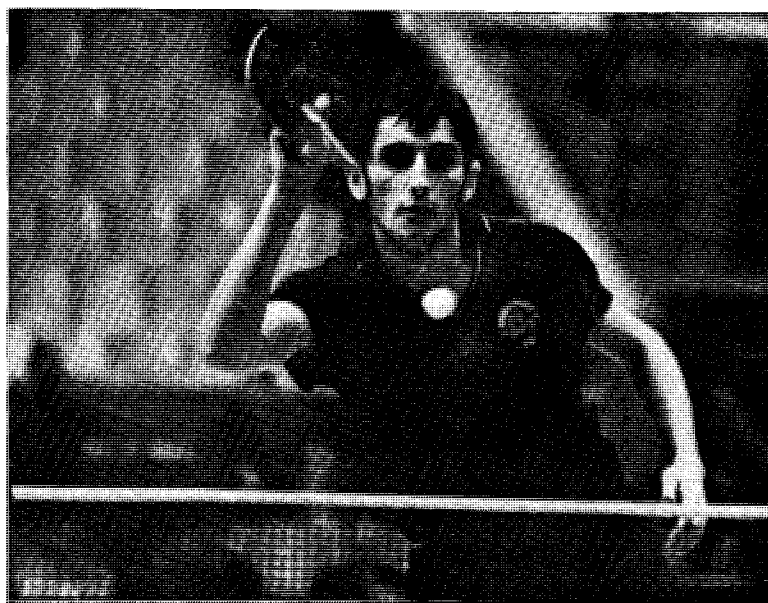
Whereas among the men the tone was set by the Swedes, in the women's event the Soviet players were unquestionably the best. Two girls of the Soviet squad—Rudnova and Rita Pogosova—made the top four with the former capturing the European all-round title. Four gold medals in a single tournament!

But, as a matter of fact, Rudnova had no easy time of it. Rita Pogosova fought against her desperately in the semis. It was only at the end of the fifth game that Zoya decided to risk it and overcame her rival with several powerful attacks on the right.

Two hours later she faced the decisive encounter with defending champion Ilona Vostova (Czechoslovakia). Two years ago the two girls met also in the final of the continent's championships in Lyons which the Czech girl won.

In Moscow, the battle was fought to the very end. But, just as two hours previously, Zoya managed to change the course of events by three sudden audacious smashes, the entire character of the Russian girl—a persistent, independent sportswoman unafraid of any big names and recognising only risk—was again evident in this encounter.

Rudnova made an excellent showing also in both of the doubles events. I happened to play with Zoya in mixed doubles (we won the national title five times) and I recall very vividly how pleasant it was to have such a partner



MELEVOY KARAKASEVIC
(Yugoslavia)
Possessor of a powerful forehand hit
Photo by courtesy of Tass

Soviet Inquest (cont.)

—clever, grasping everything, and possessing at that a powerful and real man's attack. Rudnova became European champion in both the mixed and women's doubles (with Svetlana Grinberg).

ESPECIAL SUCCESS

The U.S.S.R. team gained especial success in the mixed doubles. But, actually, this came as no surprise for many years ago the Soviet coaches set a course for improving the technique and tactics to be employed. The time for harvesting the crop had come, and it proved quite a rich one.

All the top three places were captured (in addition to the Gomozkov/Rudnova duet, also Sarkis Sarkhoyan/Pogosova and Amelin/Grinberg combinations distinguished themselves).

Four gold, one silver and four bronze medals—such was the credit side of the U.S.S.R.'s national squad. A weighty enough balance for us to assert that the Soviet table tennis school is on the right path.

As for the object lessons of the championships it is for the Soviet men to draw the most serious conclusions.

NEW COACH OF U.S.S.R. TABLE TENNIS TEAM

The Soviet table tennis player Gennadi Averin has replaced Sergei Shprakh as coach of the U.S.S.R. national team. He will concentrate on training the women's table tennis team.

Averin, who is 28, played last spring in the European Champions' Cup matches. He made his debut at 19 in a world championship in Peking and then took part in the 1966 European championship in Budapest. He won the title of the U.S.S.R. champion in 1960 and 1962.

Averin graduated from the geography department of Moscow University recently and is now a postgraduate student specialising in the economy of Siberia.

NON-RUNNER

Due to the lack of a suitable central venue, the Yorkshire 2-Star Open, scheduled for Dec. 5/70, has been cancelled.

THE EXPEDITE SYSTEM

by JACK RANDALL

Secretary, National Umpires
and Referees' Committee.

THE Laws of Table Tennis were discussed in a general way in a recent article. The Expedite System is an example of an attempt to improve the game when it was found that certain styles of pushing play were bringing the sport into disrepute. Players were "mainly concerned with keeping the ball in play themselves and not attempting to render difficult, except by exhaustion, a return in play by the opposing player or pair" as the regulations of the day put it. At that time, two ways of getting a result were possible: the player who was leading when 20 minutes was up was declared the winner (if the score was level they had five minutes to score the next point or the game was void), or a duly appointed authority could decide that the players weren't trying hard enough and cause the game to proceed under a ruling which permitted the server a limited number of strokes in which to win the point or otherwise he would be considered as having lost it. This is more or less the present-day method, except that instead of having to take the awkward decision about whether the players are trying or not, it is left to the clock to decide.

The difficulty in the current system from the umpiring point of view is that you don't (thank goodness) get much practice at applying it; there are two sets of numbers running simultaneously—the number of strokes and the score in the game, and in addition the order of calling the score has to be reversed every time a point is scored. Here are the details of the Expedite System as it operates today:

If any game in a table tennis match is not completed by 15 minutes after the commencement of that game the Expedite System is brought into use. The System remains in force for the rest of the 3 (or) 5 games of the match. A timekeeper advises the umpire when the 15 minutes are up by calling 'Stop'. The umpire then interrupts play by calling a 'Let' and tells the players that the rest of the match will proceed under the Expedite System. Play is then restarted immediately, without interval, and the requirement now is that the server shall win the point with the service or within 12 subsequent strokes, or he shall be declared to have lost the point. The service alternates between the players, as it does after '20-all' in any game.

If the 'let' called to bring in the Expedite System occurred between points, the player who received service in the last point becomes the server. If play was interrupted by the 'let', the last server serves for the next point.

A 'stroke counter' (usually the person who was the timekeeper) counts the strokes made by the receiver of

the service in a voice which is audible to the players, but not so loud as to be distracting. The counter should call the number of the stroke just after the receiver has made his stroke. Therefore, if the counter calls '13' and that shot is 'good', the server has lost the point, but usually the point is over before then. The counting, incidentally, is done in the language of the home country where the event is taking place. If the players carry on after 13 strokes have been counted, the umpire calls 'Stop'.

I have not heard of a doubles game going to Expedite, and of course it is theoretically possible still that a match could go on for ever. I don't know of a very high score for a long close game under the Expedite System, but I was involved in a game where the score was 0-0 when the 15 minutes was up. That at least must be a record!

STAFFORDSHIRE NOTES

by John Pike

EARLY FROST!

If Staffordshire's opening match at Nottingham was anything to go by, it is going to be a long, hard winter for the county. With Warwickshire, Derbyshire and Glamorgan now playing in other divisions, county officials were quietly optimistic that Staffs. would be in the hunt this season for second division honours. At this early stage, one can only hope their performances improve as the season progresses. Changes on the county committee sees Marion Colclough taking over as the new Assistant Secretary, while Ken Weston at Stafford, is now looking after the County League. Ron Harvey from Stone moves up the ladder by virtue of his selection on the regional coaching panel.

The county second team captain, Mac Evans, is shortly to leave for his second spell in New Zealand. We wish Mac and his family well on his trip "down under". Because of rising costs and little demand, the committee decided against having a county handbook this season.

Around the Leagues now and first to Wolverhampton. Here they have a new secretary in Mike Leach and from all accounts he is settling down well. Bernard Francis, who held the post before him, is now doing a good job at Cannock.

Interest continues to grow at the Wolverhampton Schools Centre and it has now reached the stage where local coaches, headed up by Jim Hayward, are working overtime to cope with the demand.

West Bromwich have their team problems this season and this was underlined in their opening match with Gloucester when they were forced to field a very much under-strength side. They lost this one 9-1 and then found themselves having a match against Wolverhampton claimed 10-0. All in all, a dismal start for the town, that has been the backbone of Staffordshire table tennis for so many years. The Wall-sall chairman, Don Pritchard, will again be looking after the affairs of the county veterans side, while over at Lichfield, another veteran, Ernie Coggins, is their new secretary of the County League.



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Open Tournament Survey

contributed by—

**LOUIS HOFFMAN,
ALAN RANSOME and
JOHN WOODFORD**

Chester Barnes followed up his win in the Plymouth "Mayflower" by a repeat performance at the North Middlesex Open played at Tottenham Drill Hall for which prize money, donated by Reddings Ltd., the tea people amounted to £130.

Finalists at Plymouth, Barnes and Malcolm Sugden contested the semis at Tottenham with the Essex international winning in like manner. Meanwhile, in the other half of the men's singles draw Denis Neale (a non-starter in the "Mayflower") accounted for Trevor Taylor.

Alan Hydes and Mike Johns were given a sound thrashing in the men's doubles final which was followed by Jill Shirley, fighting to prove she is the successor to Mary Wright by beating Karenza Mathews.

Then came the match that people had been waiting to see, and it really was worth waiting for—Barnes v. Neale.

Barnes won the first amid loud cheers from his loyal supporters. The second game was taken by Neale and his followers let their presence be felt. But in the third Barnes was unstoppable and the cheering that followed his success was reminiscent of 20 years back when Bergmann was the star.

Up in Manchester, at the North of England, Neale had matters very much to himself being troubled only by Brian Burn in a hard semi. Not once in seven sets was the Yorkshireman taken to a deciding game.

Only one of the four seeds failed to make his allotted place in the semis. Tony Clayton was the faller, down to Jimmie Walker the England No. 2 junior who subsequently lost to Derek Schofield -18, -17. Schofield too went in the next round to Alan Ransome who offered but token resistance to Mike Johns in the penultimate stage.

Judy Williams retained her women's singles title coming out on top after the usual dour struggle with Shelagh Hession which necessitated the invoking of the Expedite Rule.

Big shock in the veteran event was the defeat of Schofield by former Mancunian international Ron Allcock now living in Doncaster. But when Ron is on, he certainly takes some stopping.

SUSSEX

This year's Sussex Open excelled all previous occasions. It had drama, comedy, a five-star entry and a new venue (Hastings Pier Ballroom) and even glorious weather.

The man who emerged with most of the honours, most of the cash and the longest hair was of course Chester Barnes. Chester saw it all right through an exacting weekend to again beat Denis Neale who, try as he did, could not break Barnes's unbeaten run.

Comedy was provided by a Dan Blagojevitch serving episode in the

veteran event and drama came before the finals session when a nightmare situation developed over the tungsten lighting. Ken Beeching had to spend half-an-hour precariously working in the roof of the Pier ballroom to produce the necessary lights just in the nick of time.

One of the main problems was the slippery floor at the new venue. Jill Shirley literally slid to defeat in the women's singles final to Karenza Mathews, but Karenza was in such great form that I think the Middlesex girl might just have won even if Jill had been able to hold her feet on the ground.

In fact, the only defenders who managed to overcome the floor were Judy Williams and Shelagh Hession who performed yet another task against the odds beating Jill and Karenza in the women's doubles.

Neale had the last laugh of the weekend however when, partnered by Alan Hydes, he won the men's doubles final over Barnes and Trevor Taylor, who usually does so well in Sussex, but failed on this occasion.

"Les" Haslam and Tony Piddock were the stars of the men's quarters. Haslam, as most regular fans know, is capable of great things and he chose this moment of glory to get those great heaving drives on the table. The giant Jamaican crashed his way to the semis to the consternation of Taylor.

Piddock and Hydes provided the most spectacular clash with the Kent man taking the initiative throughout leaving Hydes, mostly in vain, trying to recover shots six foot high from the back of the court.

The Blagojevitch incident came in the quarters when Dan faced Alan Shepherd in a long dour struggle. The ex-Yugoslav just managed to get his service accepted by umpire Bert Mayern but in the semis, against Osborne, he was not so lucky.

Umpire Denis Read was not satisfied with the throw-up so Blagojevitch retired and conceded the set at 6-14 in the first game. In the final Stan Jacobson had little trouble in taking the title against John Osborne who won the Sussex Junior Open title on Hastings pier 22 years ago.

JUNIORS

Jimmie Walker, from Alan Ransome's Teesside stable, was the winner of both the Teesside Junior and the junior boys event at the North of England.

At Thornaby, fourth seeded Walker, beat top seed Peter Taylor in the semis and Michael Harper in the final after the Essex boy had "tollled the bell of parting day" for Tony Boasman and Neil Fulstow.

Surprise winner of the girls' singles was Susanne Manning of Liverpool, and David Alderson won his first U-15 title in very impressive manner beating Donald Parker of Preston—a very much up-and-coming Lancastrian.

Down at the Essex, Walker faded from the scene in the quarters when beaten over three games by Simon Heaps, but the eventual winner of the boys' singles was Paul Bishop who beat Heaps in the final.

NORTH OF ENGLAND OPEN

Men's Singles: Quarter-finals:
D. Neale (Yorks.) bt R. Chandler (Sussex) 11, 12;
B. Burn (Warwks.) bt R. Cooper (Warwks.) 19, 13;
A. Ransome (Nthld.) bt D. Schofield (Ches.) -16, 9, 17;
M. Johns (Ches.) bt P. Williams (Sussex) 15, 20.

Semi-finals:
NEALE bt Burn 18, 22;
JOHNS bt Ransome 12, 13.

Final:
NEALE bt Johns 17, 19.

Women's Singles: Quarter-finals:
J. Williams (Sussex) bt K. Perry (Staffs.) 14, 11;
L. Bashford (Yorks.) bt V. Lee (Lancs.) 8, 19;
S. Lisle (Lancs.) bt P. Hammond (Notts.) 5, 18;
S. Hession (Essex) bt M. Leigh (Lancs.) 7, 14.

Semi-finals:
WILLIAMS bt Bashford 5, 16;
HESSION bt Lisle 14, 12.

Final:
WILLIAMS bt Hession 17, 22.

Men's Doubles: Semi-finals:
BURN/L. ROBERTSON (Nthld.) bt Neale/Ransome -25, 17, 19;
B. JOHNS (Ches.)/M. JOHNS bt A. Clayton (Yorks.)/L. Landry (Midddx.) 18, 15.

Final:
BURN/ROBERTSON bt Johns/Johns -19, 17, 7.

Women's Doubles: Semi-finals:
HESSION/WILLIAMS bt L. Barrie (Scotland)/S. Broadbent (Yorks.) 13, 15;
LISLE/PERRY bt Bashford/M. Cummings (Yorks.) 13, 16.

Final:
HESSION/WILLIAMS bt Lisle/Perry 17, 22.

Mixed Doubles: Semi-finals:
NEALE/WILLIAMS bt Ransome/Bashford 15, 17;
M. JOHNS/LISLE bt Chandler/Hession 17, 16.

Final:
NEALE/WILLIAMS bt Johns/Lisle 18, 16.

Boys' Singles: Quarter-finals:
A. Boasman (Lancs.) bt R. Wiley (Yorks.) 14, 18;
R. Broadmore (Warwks.) bt D. Alderson (Yorks.) -18, 11, 11;
J. Walker (Yorks.) bt P. Fennon (Yorks.) 18, 19;
P. Guttormsen (Kent) bt D. Atkin (Yorks.) -17, 11, 12.

Semi-finals:
BOASMAN bt Broadmore 18, 14;
WALKER bt Guttormsen 19, 13.

Final:
WALKER bt Boasman -18, 21, 14.

Girls' Singles: Semi-finals:
J. GREEN (Ches.) w.o. P. Clements (Yorks.);
A. McREDDIE (Yorks.) bt L. Montague (Scotland) -34, 16, 8.

Final:
McREDDIE bt Green 11, -23, 18.

Veteran Singles: Semi-finals:
J. ALLCOCK (Yorks.) bt D. Marples (Derbys.) 18, -23, 14;
SCHOFIELD bt V. Hankey (Ches.) 12, 13.

Final:
ALLCOCK bt Schofield 16, 12.

NORTH MIDDLESEX OPEN

Men's Singles: Quarter-finals:
D. Neale (Yorks.) bt B. Burn (Warwks.) 12, 15;
T. Taylor (Essex) bt A. Clayton (Yorks.) 13, 16;
M. Sugden (Midddx.) bt A. Hayes (Yorks.) 19, 14;
C. Barnes (Essex) bt R. Penfold (Surrey) 15, 13.

Semi-finals:
NEALE bt Taylor 19, -14, 14.
BARNES bt Sugden 15, 13.

Final:
BARNES bt Neale 12, -12, 15.

Women's Singles: Semi-finals:
J. SHIRLEY bt S. Hession;
K. MATHEWS bt P. Piddock.

Final:
SHIRLEY bt Mathews 13, 11.

Men's Doubles: Semi-finals:
BARNES/TAYLOR bt Neale/A. Ransome (Nthld.) 15, 15;
HYDES/M. JOHNS (Ches.) bt E. Coster (Midddx.)/Sugden 19, 20.

Final:
BARNES/TAYLOR bt Hydes/Jones 8, 12.

Women's Doubles: Semi-finals:
MATHEWS/SHIRLEY bt L. Howard/J. S. Howard (Surrey);
HESSION/PIDDOCK bt J. Hellaby (Essex)/J. Warren (Surrey).

Final:
MATHEWS/SHIRLEY bt Hession/Piddock -15, 20, 5.

Mixed Doubles: Semi-finals:
P. RADFORD/L. RADFORD (Essex) bt Neale/S. Howard -11, 17, 19;
TAYLOR/PIDDOCK bt Johns/D. Simpson (Essex) 10, 18.

Final:
RADFORD/RADFORD bt Taylor/Piddock -16, 16, 19.

Junior Boys' Singles: Semi-finals:
S. HEAPS (Ches.) bt M. Harper (Herts.);
P. TAYLOR (Beds.) bt D. Alderson (Yorks.).

Final:
HEAPS bt Taylor 12, -17, 19.

Junior Girls' Singles: Semi-finals:
HELLABY bt L. Howard;
S. BECKWITH (Essex) bt S. Hamilton (Midddx.).

Final:
BECKWITH bt Hellaby 14, -20, 14.

Veteran Singles: Final:
K. SNAITH (Kent) bt L. Hoffman (Midddx.) 18, -17, 20.

(The absence of certain scores is regretted).

SUSSEX OPEN

Men's Singles: Quarter-finals:
D. Neale (Yorks.) bt R. Penfold (Surrey) 12, 12;
A. Piddock (Kent) bt A. Hydes (Yorks.) 19, 13;

O. Haslam (Midddx.) bt T. Taylor (Essex) 17, -10, 10;
C. Barnes (Essex) bt M. Johns (Ches.) 14, 11.

Semi-finals:
NEALE bt Piddock 21, -15, 19;
BARNES bt Haslam 12, 14.

Final:
BARNES bt Neale -17, 13, 10.

OPEN TOURNAMENTS (cont.)

Women's Singles: Quarter-finals:
 J. Shirley (Bucks.) bt L. Radford (Essex) 8, 14;
 J. Williams (Sussex) bt L. Howard (Surrey) 14, 18;
 S. Howard (Surrey) bt P. Piddock (Kent) 19, 19;
 K. Mathews (Middx.) bt S. Hession (Essex) -12, 12, 15.
Semi-finals:
 SHIRLEY bt Williams 9, -25, 10;
 MATHEWS bt S. Howard 19, 15.
Final:
 MATHEWS bt Shirley -16, 19, 8.
Men's Doubles: Semi-finals:
 BARNES/TAYLOR bt Haslam/Johns 16, -14, 17;
 HYDES/NEALE bt B. Burn (Warwks.) /D. Brown (Essex) 14, 18.
Final:
 HYDES/NEALE bt Barnes/Taylor 16, -15, 16.
Women's Doubles: Semi-finals:
 HESSION/WILLIAMS bt B. Bird (Kent)/Piddock 14, -19, 15;
 MATHEWS/SHIRLEY bt L. Howard /S. Howard 9, 9.
Final:
 HESSION/WILLIAMS bt Mathews /Shirley 14, -18, 14.
Mixed Doubles: Semi-finals:
 P. RADFORD (Essex)/RADFORD bt Taylor/Piddock -14, 16, 14;
 BARNES/MATHEWS bt Johns /D. Simpson (Essex) 11, 15.
Final:
 BARNES/MATHEWS bt Radford /Radford 10, 10.
Veteran Singles: Final:
 S. JACOBSON (Middx.) bt J. Osborne (Essex) 8, 17.

ESSEX JUNIOR OPEN

U-17 EVENTS:
Boys' Singles: Semi-finals:
 S. HEAPS (Ches.) bt J. Fuller (Norfolk) -17, 12, 12;
 P. BISHOP (Surrey) bt I. Horsham (Essex) 15, -9, 10.
Final:
 BISHOP bt Heaps 17, -17, 15.
Girls' Singles: Semi-finals:
 G. LOCKE (Essex) bt L. Harvey (Essex) 9, 13;
 S. HAMILTON (Middx.) bt A. Painter (Middx.) 18, 17.
Final:
 HAMILTON bt Locke 17, 19.
Boys' Doubles: Semi-finals:
 G. BLOMFIELD/G. BASSETT (Essex) bt R. Aldrich (Middx.)/P. Guttormsen (Kent) -14, 20, 11;
 BISHOP/HORSHAM bt N. Fulstow /M. Wright (Yorks.) 10, -16, 23.
Final:
 BISHOP/HORSHAM bt Blomfield /Bassett 14, 16.
Girls' Doubles: Semi-finals:
 HAMILTON/PAINTER bt J. Green (Cheshire)/S. Read (Essex) 8, 19;
 J. HOLTAM (Kent)/LOCKE bt E. Tarten/G. Taylor (Essex) 13, 13.
Final:
 HAMILTON/PAINTER bt Holtam /Locke 19, 14.
Mixed Doubles: Semi-finals:
 D. JEMMETT (Middx.)/HAMILTON bt Blomfield/J. Hartwell (Herts.) 19, 22;
 WRIGHT/L. SUTTON (Yorks.) bt Locke/Tarten 20, -14, 18.
Final:
 WRIGHT/SUTTON bt Jemmett /Hamilton 21, -15, 16.

U-15 EVENTS

Boys' Singles: Final:
 HEAPS bt D. Alderson (Yorks.) -16, 15, 17.
Girls' Singles: Final:
 TARTEN bt Locke 16, 15.
Boys' Doubles: Final:
 ALDERSON/D. ATKIN (Yorks.) bt Guttormsen/A. Mitchell (Kent) -14, 15, 22.
Girls' Doubles: Final:
 G. McCREA (Surrey)/K. MASHFORD (Bucks.) bt Holtam/Locke -15, 14, 17.
U-13 EVENTS
Boys' Singles: Final:
 C. ROGERS (Leics.) bt A. Barden 11, 11.
Girls' Singles: Final:
 J. KELLY bt L. Wales 19, 20.

U-11 EVENTS

Boys' Singles: Final:
 ROGERS bt R. Jermyn 21, 10.
Girls' Singles: Final:
 V. CLOUT bt A. Pilcher 15, 14.

TEESSIDE JUNIOR OPEN

UNDER-17 EVENTS

Boys' Singles: Quarter-finals:
 P. Taylor (Beds.) bt D. Alderson (Tees.) 11, 14; J. Walker (Yorks.) bt D. Parker (Lancs.) 14, 9; N. Fulstow (Yorks.) bt D. Atkin (Tees.) 16, 21;
 M. Harper (Herts.) bt A. Boasman (Lancs.) 15, 18.

Semi-finals:

WALKER bt Taylor -16, 15, 14;
 HARPER bt Fulstow 15, 18.
Final:
 WALKER bt Harper 18, -18, 15.
Girls' Singles: Quarter-finals:
 L. Sutton (Yorks.) bt P. Clements (Tees.) 9, 14; J. Green (Ches.) bt R. Jaeger (Lancs.) 16, 13; S. Manning (Lancs.) bt E. Tarten (Essex) -15, 19, 24; B. Williams (Lancs.) bt J. Priestley (Nthind.) 19, -9, 15.
Semi-finals:
 SUTTON bt Green 6, 9;
 MANNING bt Williams 14, 15.
Final:
 MANNING bt Sutton 18, 16.



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Open Tournaments (cont.)

Boys' Doubles: Semi-finals:

HARPER/TAYLOR bt Boasman/N. Marples (Derbys.) 10, 14;
ALDERSON/WALKER bt Fulstow/M. Wright (Yorks.) -17, 12, 15.

Final:

HARPER/TAYLOR bt Alderson/Walker -19, 20, 17.

Girls' Doubles: Semi-finals:

G. MACRAE (Surrey)/TARTEN bt A. McReddie/L. Oliver (Tees.) -17, 10, 15;

MANNING/WILLIAMS bt Green/Priestley 13, 21.

Final:

MACRAE/TARTEN bt Manning/Williams 15, 18.

Mixed Doubles: Semi-finals:

BOASMAN/MANNING bt Wright/Sutton 14, 17;
TAYLOR/WILLIAMS bt Harper/J. Dyer (Ches.) 2, 19.

Final:

TAYLOR/WILLIAMS bt Boasman/Manning 19, 18.

UNDER-15 EVENTS.

Boys' Singles: Semi-finals:

ALDERSON bt J. Kitchener (Suffolk) 12, 9;

PARKER bt A. Bawden (Essex) 11, 18.

Final:

ALDERSON bt Parker 17, 13.

Girls' Singles: Semi-finals:

MACRAE bt Manning 22, 12;
TARTEN bt A. Stevenson (Leics.) 13, -15, 14.

Final:

TARTEN bt Macrae 13, 12.

Boys' Doubles: Semi-finals:

ALDERSON/R. WILEY (Tees.) bt M. Bawden (Essex)/Kitchener 14, 18;
B. CROOK (Lancs.)/PARKER bt Atkin/B. Alderson (Tees.) 15, 20.

Final:

ALDERSON/WILEY bt Crook/Parker 17, -14, 19.

Girls' Doubles: Semi-finals:

MACRAE/TARTEN bt J. Billson (Leics.)/Stevenson 19, -18, 19;

MANNING/WILLIAMS bt M. Caster (Tees.)/Clements 9, 17.

Final:

MANNING/WILLIAMS bt Macrae/Tarten 24, 19.

UNDER-13 EVENTS.

Boys' Singles: Semi-finals:

WILEY bt M. Day (Tees.) 8, -16, 21;
A. BAWDEN bt A. Clark (Nthld.) 13, 18.

Final:

WILEY bt Bawden 8, 20.

Girls' Singles: Semi-finals:

J. RICHARDSON (Yorks.) bt J. Skipp (Tees.) 3, 5;

Y. DOBSON (Tees.) bt A. Marples (Derbys.) 13, 13.

Final:

RICHARDSON bt Dobson 19, 18.

Boys' TEAM EVENT.

Semi-finals.

HARPER and TAYLOR bt D. Atkin and A. Martin (Teeside) 3 sets to 1.
BOASMAN and PARKER bt D. Alderson and J. Walker by 3 sets to 2.

Final:

BOASMAN and PARKER bt Harper and Taylor by 3 sets to 0.

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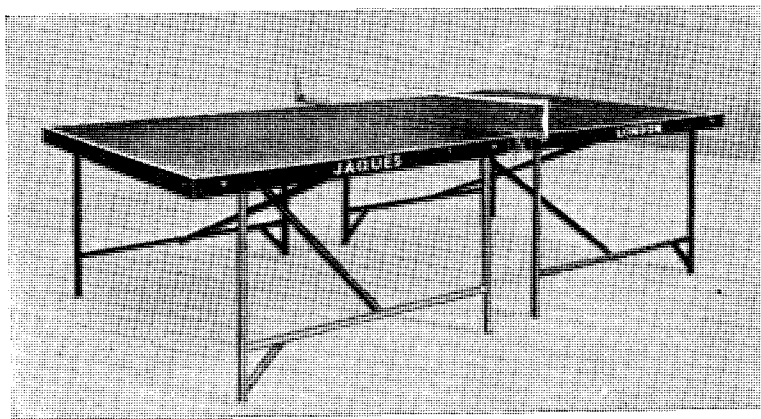
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SUSSEX NOTES

by John Woodford

YET ANOTHER ACQUISITION

Strength in depth accurately describes the powerful group of girls in the 17-21 age group now in the Sussex county teams with the overflow the envy of several neighbouring counties. Suzanna Kavallierou, after a summer of intense coaching by Alan Hydes, and visits to Butlin's Bognor and Lilleshall, has emerged as the new No. 2 woman after Judy Williams.

Hitting harder than ever Hailsham's Diane Gard is just about holding on to the No. 3 spot with Carol Randall (spurred on by stopping Diane Simpson at the Sussex Open) pressing very hard for a place in the Sussex second team in the southern division. The Chelsea College of Physical Education at Eastbourne continues to provide Sussex with potential strong Rose Bowl and county players. Our latest acquisition is Linda Woodcock from Lowestoft, who will be shortly throwing out challenges in tournaments and league play.

At Hastings the three very experienced fighters, Joyce Sheppard, Margaret Dignum and Susan Franklyn are still on the scene, really fancying their chances against any of their rivals I have mentioned, except possibly Judy Williams.

In the lower age groups, the "mini-girl" juniors are also strong—two more Randall sisters, Christine (14) and Heather (10) are on the tournament scene, plus Worthing's Linda Wales (ranked No. 4 Sussex junior girl) who is now scooping up trophies at southern junior opens with increasing regularity.

Coaching is really beginning to move in the county with Bernard Rowley, Ken Merrett, John Peake, Jim West and a number of other stalwarts getting the eternal problem under control.

One of the most pleasant aspects to look forward to for Sussex players, officials and supporters, will be the return of the English Open to Brighton in February. Having tasted world-class play at The Royal Albert Hall recently, I say again that the setting at The Dome, Brighton, is the best in this country for open finals and international matches.

JAPAN TOUR 1970



THE LINE-UP

Team leader Saodo Futagami with (to his left): Ohzeki, Kowada, Koji Kimura, Tasaka, Itoh and Imano.

Photo' by Sport and General.

Quadruple defeat but no disgrace

as collated by The Editor

Despite winning the opening set in all four matches, England failed to pull off a win against a five-strong Japanese team comprising world singles champions Shigeo Itoh and Toshiko Kowada, world semi-finalist Tokio Tasaka and two newcomers, Yujiro Imano and Yukie Ohzeki.

But how gallant was their failure and how close they came to bringing off the 'impossible' when, at Exeter in the second match, with the match score poised at 3-all, only an inspired spell of all-out hitting by Imano against Denis Neale denied them victory.

World champions Itoh and Kowada were both beaten during the tour, in singles combat by Chester Barnes and Karenza Mathews and, in harness, they fell to Neale and Mrs. Mathews in a mixed doubles set.

In conjunction with the competitors in the Sussex Open at Hastings, the Japanese took time off to bask in the warm sunshine of an exceptional weekend and to recover from their journey before travelling up to London for the first clash of the series at the Royal Albert Hall.

Barnes had the auditorium ringing in the very first set when he extended his unbeaten record this season at the expense of Imano. The Essex international realised his so often-latent potential by turning in an exceptional performance that was a delight to behold, especially his variation of pace. Five set points were saved by Imano but to no avail as Barnes always seemed to be in total command.

Thereafter Japanese victories were repetitive although Neale and Barnes held two set points over Tasaka and Imano and Jill Shirley fought tigerishly against Kowada, winning the first game and leading 9-8 in the decider before going down.

NO ACCIDENT

The following evening the two teams faced each other again before a capacity crowd in the Sports Hall of Exeter University and here England were to prove that the close sets of the previous night were no accident.

Neale set the match alight by turning in his best performance so far this season defeating Tasaka in straight games; a great start. Trevor Taylor then faced Itoh but was unable to cope with the incredible speed and spin on the ball. Not good scores perhaps but good experience for the new Essex star.

Jill Shirley certainly knew how to play the awkward Ohzeki and was unfortunate not to be able to clinch the set. Having had five set points she finally lost at deuce in the third. Again we were unlucky not to win the men's doubles where Neale and Taylor combined well and had leads in the deciding game.

3-1 down and then it all started happening. Neale and Karenza Mathews played in the mixed against Ito and Kowada and completely demolished them. In that set our pair really looked invincible.

This was followed by a fantastic win, perhaps the best of the whole tour by Karenza over Kowada. This was probably the finest table tennis that Karenza has ever played! The press were right when they said she looked far more like a world champion than Kowada.

Three-all and it really looked as if the match could be ours particularly after Neale led 1-0 in the final set against Imano. But then Imano did what the Japanese are so good at by producing incredibly accurate powerful table tennis when it was most needed. He saved the match for Japan by taking the last two games.

A great match for England and it must give us great heart that at last our top players have reached the standard where they can bring the world champions literally to within one or two points of defeat.

FAVOURITES

Writing in the "Daily Telegraph" on Thursday, Oct. 22, after the Exeter match, Geoffrey Harrower commented, "England, two matches down, and with only two to play against Japan, unbelievably are in the position of favourites to square this series. This is recognised by the Japanese themselves, for yesterday non-playing captain Koji Kimura, cancelled his players' sight-seeing tour of London and ordered six hours of concentrated practice."

It paid off but although Japan took a 3-0 lead in the series when they won 5-2 before another good crowd in Birmingham's Central Hall it was an Englishman who took the major honours.

Still defending his unbeaten record, Chester Barnes brought forth such applause when completely outplaying world champion Itoh that traffic must surely have been brought to a halt round the Bull Ring!

Never letting his opponent settle, Barnes displayed remarkable consistency in speeding his way to an incredible 21-15, 21-13 victory!

Subsequently after Neale and Karenza Mathews had been beaten in straight games, back came the Essex man to partner Neale beating Tasaka and Imano to level the match score at 2-all.

It came as no surprise, therefore, after two more English losses, Barnes finally had his flowing locks 'trimmed' by Tasaka to surrender his unbeaten record in the final set.

DIFFICULT PROPOSITION

By the same 5-2 margin England again went down at Thornaby Pavilion in the final match of the tour on Teesside.

Once again the first step was firm when Barnes maintained his week-

long brilliance in overcoming Imano in the opening set—an opponent considered by the victor to be a much more difficult proposition than Itoh.

Japan came back strongly to take the next five sets to put the match beyond the reach of mere mortals but Alan Hydes was far from disgraced in making Itoh fight all the way for his win.

High light of the evening was the final set in which Tasaka made local hero Neale play as only he can and when victory came with the third and final game, the impression was afforded that all Teesside wanted to be in on the applause.

Undoubtedly this was a tour that did more for English morale than any preceding it in the last decade and throughout it all the visitors, led by the indefatigable Sadao Futagami, endeared themselves to all and sundry by their friendliness and general bonhomie. Farewell fine friends—come again, soon.

RESULTS:

England 1 Japan 6

(London 19.10.70)

C. Barnes bt Y. Imano 15, -23, 21, D. Neale lost to S. Itoh -18, -11, K. Mathews lost to Y. Ohzeki -16, -17, Neale/Barnes lost to T. Tasaka/Imano -18, 18, -20, Barnes/Mathews lost to Itoh/T. Kowada -20, -16, J. Shirley lost to Kowada 18, -13, -14, Neale lost to Tasaka 18, -14, -14.

England 3 Japan 4

(Exeter 20.10.70)

Neale bt Tasaka 17, 14, T. Taylor lost to Itoh -12, -12, Shirley lost to Ohzeki 20, -10, -23, Neale/Taylor lost to Tasaka/Imano 19, -18, -18, Neale/Mathews bt Itoh/Kowada 11, 17, Mathews bt Kowada 13, 13, Neale lost to Imano 15, -13, -17.



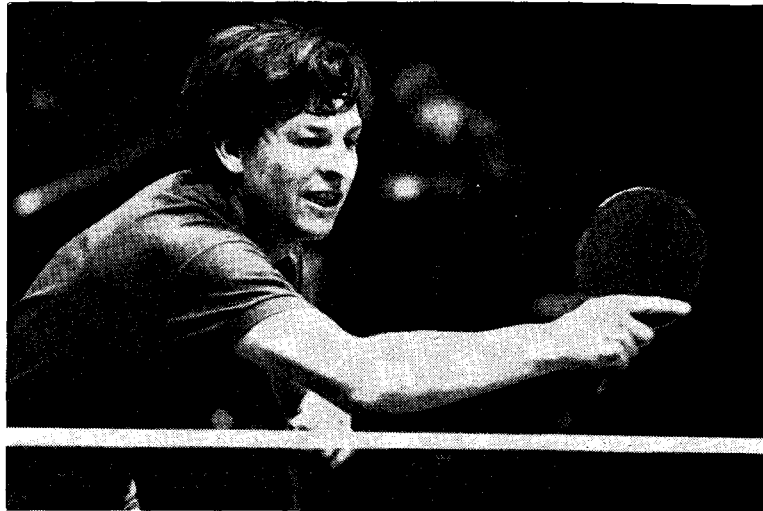
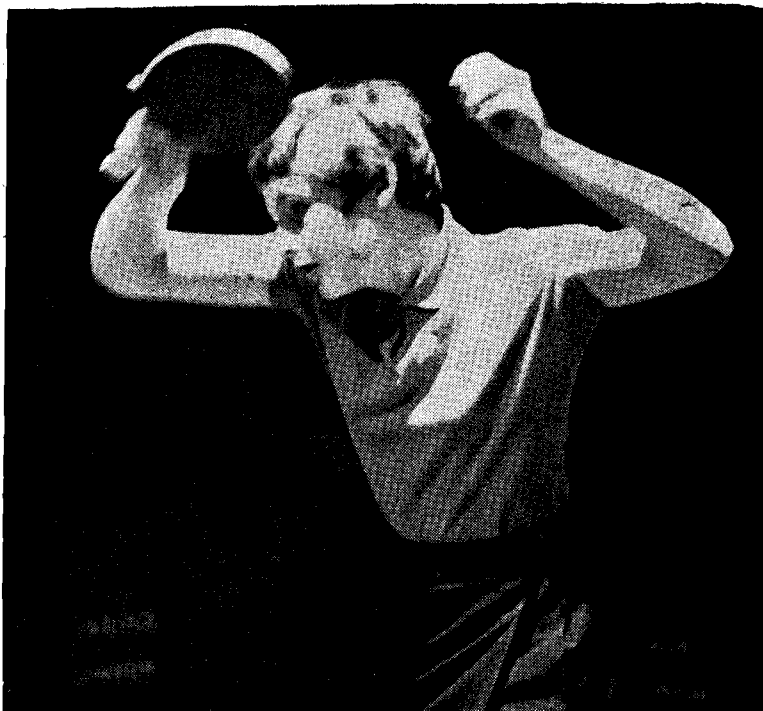
IN THE MAYOR'S PARLOUR, HASTINGS

(Left to right) A. K. Vint, O.B.E. (E.T.T.A. President), Tasaka, Imano, Ohzeki, Sadao Futagami, Itoh, Kowada (Seated), Councillor E. P. Nye (Mayor of Hastings), Koji Kimura, Charles Wyles (E.T.T.A. Chairman), George R. Yates (E.T.T.A. Deputy Chairman).

Photo' by George E. Gregory, St. Leonards-on-Sea.



The World Beaters



CHESTER BARNES KARENZA MATHEWS DENIS NEALE

Photos by: Cliff Darley Keystone Press E. D. Lacey

JAPANESE TOUR (cont.)

England 2 Japan 5
(Birmingham 22.10.70)

Barnes bt Itoh 15, 13.
Neale lost to Imano -11, -15.
Mathews lost to Kowada -11, -17.
Neale/Barnes bt Tasaka/Imano -19, 9, 19.
Neale/Mathews lost to Itoh/Kowada 17, -15, -17.
P. Pidcock lost to Ohzeki -14, -19.
Barnes lost to Tasaka -13, -12.

England 2 Japan 5
(Teesside 23.10.70)

Barnes bt Imano 13, -14, 15.
A. Hydes lost to Itoh -12, -18.
Neale/Barnes lost to Tasaka/Imano -18, -15.
Neale/Mathews lost to Itoh/Kowada -16, 17, -18.
K. Mathews lost to Ohzeki -20, -18.
Pidcock lost to Kowada -16, 18, -14.
Neale bt Tasaka 15, -24, 18.

NORTHANTS NOTES

by Gwyn Powell

NEW LEAGUE ESTABLISHED

One of the main developments since last season is the setting up of a new league, the county's fifth, based on Towcester and catering for the villages of South Northants which had previously been unable to take part in competitive table tennis. The league's secretary is to be Mr. Noel McGeough, the village policeman from Pattishall, and matches should be in full swing by the middle of the month.

The new league owes its establishment to the hard work and dedication of Daventry league secretary, Bob Boughton, who, under the auspices of the County Association, made all the arrangements for calling a public meeting in the area and generally played a big part in the setting up of his second league in the space of a few years. If his home league, which has been in existence for only four years, is anything to go by, the Towcester venture should be a great success.

Both senior and junior county teams will again be participating in the County Championships, the seniors in the Eastern Division and the juniors in the Midland section. This season each team will be under the supervision of a team manager, Bryan Bond looking after the seniors and National Councillor and County Coaching secretary, Ken Marchant organising the juniors. In addition, to look after the paper work of both teams, Cyril Lakeland, a newcomer to the County committee, has taken on the job of Match Secretary.

The County Association has decided to purchase a stock of maroon shirts for use in County matches, the players themselves having to provide sky blue shorts or skirts, thus reverting to the original Northants colours. The players are keen to begin the new season, both juniors and seniors having had pre-season get-togethers and trials and are looking forward to a more successful year than last when only one match was won by each team.

English Schools

Table Tennis Association

Calling all Schools

By DAVID LOMAS

The English Schools' Table Tennis Association decided at its A.G.M. to adhere to the successful format of last season's National 4-a-side School Team Championships.

At this stage of the season the competition is concentrated on local area qualifying competitions and county championships—the results of which must be sent to the Competition Secretary not later than Dec. 31.

Each County Association should have already indicated what events they hope to enter for the coming competition.

There will be seven events as last year:

- Under-19, boys, girls.
 - Under-15, boys, girls.
 - Under-13, boys, girls.
 - Under-11, boys/girls/mixed.
- (ages to be reckoned as at midnight Sept. 1/2)

A minor alteration in the playing procedure is the introduction of a doubles set if other methods of determining group winners are indecisive.

Winning teams from the County Area Finals will take part in the nine Area Finals to be played not later than Sunday, 14 Feb., 1971.

Dates and venues which are already settled are shown below: (Please note that the composition of the areas may be amended according to entries received).

NORTH REGION

AREA 1 (Cumberland, Durham, Northumberland, Westmorland).
6 Feb. Bishop Auckland.
Organiser: G. Thatcher, 22 Windermere Drive, West Auckland, Co. Durham.

AREA 2 (Cheshire, Derbyshire, Lancashire, Staffordshire).
14 Feb. Matlock. **
Organiser: A. Jones, 9 Afon Terrace, Afon Goch, Ruabon, Wrexham.

AREA 3 (Leicestershire, Lincolnshire, Nottinghamshire, Rutland, Yorks.).
10 Jan. Monks Dyke. **
Organiser: R. Balmforth, 205 Park Avenue, Hull HU5 4DE.

MIDLAND AND WEST REGION

AREA 4 (Gloucestershire, Herefordshire, Northamptonshire, Shropshire, Warwickshire, Worcestershire).
23 Jan. Nuneaton.
Organiser: J. A. Maxwell, Fairway, South Street, Atherstone, Warwicks.

AREA 5 (Cornwall, Devon, Dorset, Somerset, Wilts.).
24 Jan. Exeter.
Organiser: K. T. O. Ponting, 21 Southport Avenue, Redhills, Exeter EX4 1RA.

AREA 6 (Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, Hampshire, Oxfordshire).
10 Jan. Thatcham. **
Organiser: A. A. J. Mosson, 29 Croft Road, Newbury, Berks.

SOUTH AND EAST REGION

AREA 7. (Cams., Hunts., Norfolk, Suffolk).
23 Jan. Bury St. Edmunds.
Organiser: D. A. R. Ames, 95 Leggatt Drive, Bramford, Ipswich.

English Schools cont.

AREA 8 (Kent, Middlesex, Surrey, Sussex).

23 Jan. Crystal Palace.

Organiser: H. Beasley, 2 West Wing, "Merrylee", Rickmansworth Road, Northwood, Middlesex.

AREA 9

7 Feb. Chelmsford. **

Organiser: D. A. Lomas, 72 Wydehurst Road, Addiscombe, Croydon CR0 6NG.

(Note: ** indicates provisional date/venue).

Winners from each of the Area Finals will compete in the REGIONAL FINALS to be played on Sunday, 28 Feb., 1971 as follows:

NORTH REGION

Leeds

Organiser: R. Balmford, 205 Park Avenue, Hull HU5 4DE.

MIDLAND AND WEST REGION

Burford.

Organiser: M. J. Chalk, The Flat, Old Grammar School, High Street, Burford.

SOUTH AND EAST REGION

Barnet.

Organiser: D. Lomas, 72 Wydehurst Road, Addiscombe, Croydon CR0 6NG.

The NATIONAL FINALS will once again be held at the Northwood Sports Centre, Stoke-on-Trent, on Sunday, 28 March, 1971.

The Dunlop Sports Company Ltd. have generously agreed to provide tables as in previous years and it is hoped to invite a leading sports personality to present the trophies.

REFEREE will be Ian Crickmer, former Hon. Treasurer of the Association and now a member of the Senior Association's Management Committee.

CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

In a pre-season message to County Associations the Chairman of the Association, Mr. John Maxwell, makes an appraisal of the present position of schools table tennis.

"Without doubt we can say that the National School Team Championships are very popular and that there is keen competition to succeed at every level." But he warns that "there is a need for greater commitment at school and county level, both from the point of view of finance and of assistance with organisation" and he goes on to appeal for support from all concerned at whatever level.

He concludes by thanking the E.T.T.A. for their ready assistance both at local and national level, epitomised by the help which the Association has had from Derek Tremayne, the General Secretary.

JACK CARRINGTON has accepted the Presidency of the Association; a

fitting recognition to his services to the game in schools. Harry Leeke of Birmingham, who rendered valuable assistance in the early days of the Association has become a Vice-President.

NEW HANDBOOK

The Official Handbook of the Association is already available and contains full details of county associations, the National School Team Competition and the National Awards Scheme. Copies have already been distributed to county associations and members of the National Council of the E.T.T.A.

Further copies of the Handbook are available—while limited stocks last—from the General Secretary. The cost 2/- (top) each, includes postage.

NEWS FROM COUNTIES

Two of the most thriving County Associations in the country report increased interest. SURREY show an increase in the number of teams entered in their schools' league from 40 to 71. The boys' U.15 League has doubled in size and now involves four divisions.

MIDDLESEX now has 70 affiliated schools producing 146 teams. By the time these notes appear in print both leagues will be in full swing and each Association organises a full programme of activities during the season.

ESSEX COUNTY'S main 'production' is the Annual County School Team Championships which have produced many National Finalists in recent years. This season it will be staged at the Cecil Jones School, Southend, on Nov. 29.

NORFOLK is now a fully-constituted county Association, which indicates that progress in "spreading the message" is continuing.

From HERTFORDSHIRE comes news from the Bishops Stortford Boys' High School who run a thriving table tennis club which competes in the Bishop's Stortford and District League. If their enthusiasm—epitomised in the production of an excellent handbook—is anything to go by, it shouldn't be long before Herts. form a Schools Association.

ARE YOU INTERESTED?

If you are one of the younger readers and interested in your school entering the National School Team Competition remember that whilst some schools enter with their sights set on National fame others like to 'have a go' just to see how far they can get. There are four players in each team and with each player playing two sets it is a TEAM competition.

If you aren't already involved then get your school to contact the county association.

FURTHER INFORMATION concerning the competition can be obtained from the Competition Secretary, Mr. J. M. Wright, 124 Rushall Avenue, Bedford Park, London, W.4.

INFORMATION concerning the Association should be addressed to the General Secretary, Mr. G. N. Gurney, Guildhall Orchard, Great Bromley, Colchester, Essex.

THE PRESS OFFICER, Mr. D. A. Lomas, 72 Wydehurst Road, Addiscombe, Croydon, CR0 6NG would welcome news, articles, etc., for inclusion in this column.

LANCASHIRE NOTES

by George R. Yates

NOT MISSED . . . AS YET!

KEVIN FORSHAW'S decision not to assist the County this season in Division 2 (North) of the County Championships—he prefers to let youth have its fling—has not, as yet, had any effect on the fortunes of the Red Rose county in their bid to regain Premier Division status.

Two wins, against Lincs and Durham, has brought Manchester's Tony Boasman into prominence for, at the County's pre-season trials, the 17-years-old international came out on top both as a senior and a junior.

Thus far, the timings and location of Junior Premier Division matches have allowed Tony to engage in all encounters.

But the time is rapidly approaching when this will not be possible and the choice will have to be made as to which team will be deprived of his services.

Will it be Junior or Senior team? A hard decision to make especially after that 7-3 win over Yorkshire Juniors at Ferrybridge. Current rankings submitted are:—

MEN

1. A. Boasman (Manchester), 2. J. Keogh (Burnley), 3. R. J. Kelly (Bolton), 4. B. Parkinson (Blackpool), 5. C. Heaps (Bolton), and 6. D. Newton (Burnley).

WOMEN

1. S. M. Lisle (Manchester), 2. D. Johnson (previously with Bury), 3. C. Moore (Blackpool) and 4. P. Gleeson (Blackpool).

BOYS

1. Boasman, 2. D. Parker (Preston), 3. C. A. Taylor (Bolton), 4. B. Crook (Preston), 5. P. Riley (Bolton), 6. L. Roberts (Burnley), 7. M. Foulkes (Blackpool), 8. S. Catlow (Burnley), and 9. D. Hewitt (Burnley).

GIRLS

1. S. Manning, 2. K. Baxendale and 3. B. Williams (Liverpool).

The emergence of Liverpool's youthful trio of junior girls has been something of a revelation to Lancashire officials and under the watchful eyes of coaches Les French and John O'Sullivan targets are unlimited.

Manchester, the reigning champions of the Lancashire and Cheshire League's first division, came a cropper against Hyde when, being represented by two players only (Forshaw and Jack Warne) they went down 4-6.

Newly appointed County Coaching Officer, Harold Myers of Darwen, most certainly has some fine prospects to handle for, the Liverpool girls apart, Preston also have an "ace" in their pack in Donald Parker.

EXCEPTION

TOO late for inclusion in last month's magazine came the written announcement that the Bristol Restricted Open (due to have been held on November 7) had been cancelled due to exception being taken at the clash of dates with the Woolwich Open.

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Netherlands Open

KLAMPAR AVENGES MOSCOW DEFEAT

by Geo. R. Yates

Hungary's Tibor Klampar avenged his defeat by Stellan Bengtsson in the quarter-finals of the European Championships in Moscow by defeating Sweden's European Youth champion 3-1 in the final of the Netherlands Open played in the Energiehal, Rotterdam (Sept. 25-27).

In the semis, Bengtsson had beaten Istvan Korpa 3-1 and Klampar was a 3-0 victor over Istvan Korpa.

Denis Neale was England's last representative in the men's singles losing to Bengtsson -19, -15, -12 in the quarters after accounting for Christian Martin (France) and Ferenc Timar (Hungary).

Alan Hydes, after a comfortable win over Hans van den Broek, figured in a tremendous struggle with Korpa in the second round, the Yugoslav eventually winning 13, -7, -14, 15, 20.

Two qualifying wins over Dutchmen Suiskens and Onnes saw Trevor Taylor through to the first round proper but, despite fighting all the way, was then ousted by Jonyer. Scores: -13, -17, -19. World finalist Schöler lost to Jonyer -15, -18, -14.

In the women's singles, Jill Shirley advanced to the quarters losing in straight games -13, -16, -12 to Beatrix Kishazi. Karenza Mathews had a surprising loss to Veronique van der Laan (Netherlands) -16, 13, 21, -20, -19 and Pauline Piddock, despite playing well, could only achieve first round scores of 9, 7 and 5 against Diane Schöler after two qualifying wins!

However, in the mixed doubles event Pauline, partnered by Alan Hydes, really came into her own, the English pair reaching the final.

En route they had despatched such pairs as Bengtsson/Lena Andersson (Sweden) and Lieck/Simon (Fed. Germany) beating Bert van der Helm and Aukye Coltof (nee Wynia) in the semis. In the final it was Czechoslovakia's Milan Orlowski/Iлона Vostova who just got the verdict but what a fight they were given.

Pauline and Karenza combined well to overcome Andersson/Hellman (Sweden) and Coltof/v.d. Laan in the women's doubles losing in the semis to Schöler/Wetzel (nee Buchholz). Jill had no less a performer than Kishazi as her partner but they too surrendered to Diane and Edit, the German combination winning all 5 games on expedite! Scores: -21, -16, 11, -16, 13.

In the counterpart men's event, Neale and Hydes had a good win over Pignitsky/Timar (Hungary) losing over 5 games to Bengtsson/Persson (Sweden) in the quarters, 18, -15, 17, -19, -15.

Taylor played with Ebby Schöler but as a pair they never really clicked despite beating Karakasevic/Daken (Yugoslavia) in Round 2. In the next round they succumbed to Jonyer/Klampar -14, -16, -15.

Neale and Karenza reached the mixed quarters, losing to Orlowski/Vostova, and Taylor and Jill went out to Ebby and Di Schöler -17, -18, -16.

Results:

Men's Singles: Semi-finals:

T. Klampar (Hungary) bt I. Korpa (Yugoslavia) 13, 16, 17;

S. Bengtsson (Sweden) bt I. Jonyer (Hungary) 18, -16, 14, 7.

Final:

KLAMPAR bt Bengtsson 18, -12, 15, 20.

Women's Singles: Semi-finals:

A. Simon (Fed. Germany) bt I. Vostova (Czechoslovakia) -17, 13, 15, 19;

B. Kishazi (Hungary) bt L. Andersson (Sweden) 19, 10, 12.

Final:

SIMON bt Kishazi 20, 20, -20, 17.

Men's Doubles: Semi-finals:

Jonyer/Klampar bt W. Lieck/M. Ness (Fed. Germany) 10, 19, 20.

Bengtsson/B. Persson (Sweden) bt B. Jansen/J. Leihis (Fed. Germany) 11, -19, 16, 10.

Final:

JONYER/KLAMPAR bt Bengtsson/Persson 23, -17, 15, -18, 18.

Women's Doubles: Semi-finals:

D. Schöler/E. Wetzel (Fed. Germany) bt K. Mathews/P. Piddock (England) 18, -12, 20, 15.

E. Juhos/J. Magos (Hungary) bt B. Scharmacher (Fed. Germany)/Simon 14, 17, 13.

Final:

SCHOLER/WETZEL bt Juhos/Magos 8, 12, -18, 19.

Mixed Doubles: Final:

M. ORLOWSKI (Czechoslovakia)/VOSTOVA bt A. Hydes/P. Piddock (England) -18, 15, -18, 20, 18.

TEAM EVENTS

In the men's team event, after beating Sweden's second string of Svensson and A. Johansson, England lost to Federal Germany 2-3. Scores: TAYLOR bt Jansen 17, -17, 13; lost to SCHOLER -13, -18. Neale lost to SCHOLER -19, -14; lost to JANSEN 14, -15, -10. HYDES/NEALE bt Jansen/Leihis 16, 21.

It was a similar story for the women for they too started off with a 3-0 win over Netherlands II (Ellen Klatt/Juul Nitisusanta) then lost to Hungary 2-3. Scores: Piddock lost to KISHAZI -19, -19; lost to MAGOS -17, -10. SHIRLEY bt Magos -11, 13, 13; lost to KISHAZI -19, -18. MATHEWS/PIDDOCK bt Juhos/Magos -20, 21, 18.

FINAL RESULTS:

Men:

HUNGARY 3 YUGOSLAVIA 0

JONYER bt Karakasevic 14, 14.

KLAMPAR bt Korpa 12, 18.

JONYER/KLAMPAR bt Karakasevic/Klampar 15, 16.

Women:

FED. GERMANY 3 HUNGARY 0

SCHOLER bt Magos 6, 11.

SIMON bt Kishazi 6, 16.

SCHOLER/SIMON bt Kishazi/Magos 12, 17.

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BRAVO KARENZA!

RON CRAYDEN

Reports from Madrid

With the grace of a Flamenco Dancer, the trim figure of Karenza Mathews danced her way through the field at the Spanish Open to win her first International singles title. To complete her day she also won the women's doubles with Pauline Piddock and with Denis Neale fought out the final of the mixed.

In the male department, England were represented by top ranking Neale and Alan Hydes who played well but without the necessary 'competitive edge'. I felt that they had not fully shaken off the effects of their summer coaching holiday. Denis in particular, who relies so much on his lightning speed and reflex actions, seemed strangely subdued and lacking his customary bite.

TEAM AND INDIVIDUAL MATCHES

So that the host country could gain maximum benefit from this tournament they dispersed with the conventional team competition and instead elected to play two of their teams, both men and women, in representative matches against France and England. Although two of their senior men put up spirited resistance, they were unable to prevent the whitewash.

The pattern in the individual events was similar until, to the delight of his supporters and the surprise of all others, the seasoned Spanish international J. Pales beat the French seeded string C. Weber. The established French star and holder of the title, Jacques Secretin was in fine form and retained his singles crown by beating Alan in the semi and Denis in the final.

On the distaff side, Pauline Piddock narrowly succumbed to the aggressive play of Yveline Lecler in the semi-final but played well with Karenza in the women's doubles for them to take the title. The women's singles final was a game of hit and counter hit, with Karenza in command all the way.

Although the entry was not of the highest order it was still a title that had to be won and the competition was always keen. In concluding I can do no better than quote Karenza's own words "It is nice to win an Open title particularly when one plays at the top of one's form." Results:—

TEAM MATCHES

Men—

England bt Spain 5-0; bt Spain "A" 5-0.

France bt Spain 5-0; bt Spain "A" 5-0.

Women—

England bt Spain 5-0; bt Spain "A" 5-0.

France bt Spain 5-0; bt Spain "A" 5-0.

INDIVIDUAL

Men's Singles: Semi-finals:

J. Secretin (France) bt A. Hydes (England) 10, 19;

D. Neale (England) bt J. Pales (Spain) 9, 11

Final:

SECRETIN bt Neale 21, -8, 21, 14.

Women's Singles: Semi-finals:

K. Mathews (England) bt C. Bergeret (France) 17, 16;

Y. Lecler (France) bt P. Piddock (England) 18, -11, 16.

Final:

MATHEWS bt Lecler 14, 16.

Men's Doubles: Final:

SECRETIN/C. WEBER (France) bt Neale/Hydes 15, 14.

Women's Doubles: Final:

MATHEWS/PIDDOCK bt Lecler/Bergeret -13, 16, 17.

Mixed Doubles: Final:

SECRETIN/LECLER bt Neale/Mathews 15, 18.

CHESHIRE NOTES

by Jim Beckley

ROGER EXPECTED BACK

Good news from Swansea could well effect Cheshire's hopes for a quick return to the Premier Division. For presently working in that part of the world is Roger Hampson. Roger hasn't been a regular member of the Cheshire side for quite some time, in fact not since those balmy, far-off days when they attained the grand position of finishing half-way in the Premier Division. However, I am told that very soon, Roger will be making a return. Many will remember the doubles partnerships that Roger and Mike Johns set up for Cheshire and I for one, hope that it will not be too long before we see them playing together again.

With Judy Heaps back in form, she is at present working in Manchester and playing in the Stockport League for Gatley YMCA, this could be a brighter season than anyone could have expected when Cheshire were relegated from the Premier Division last May.

Off on a three-week tour of Nigeria goes Mike Johns and by doing so missed his first county match in seven years.

Terry Donlan, who organises Sunday coaching sessions at Gatley YMCA, is getting known. For Terry, official coach to the Stockport Table Tennis League, received a letter recently from a player in Ireland asking for details. If anyone in this country wants details, write to Terry at 7 Grasscroft, Brinnington, Stockport, Cheshire.

STANLEY RESTRICTED

INTER-COUNTY BATTLE FOR TITLES

by Ray Neal

Stanley Youth Centre, Co. Durham, staged their first open championships on Oct. 3/4 and players from neighbouring Northumberland and Durham battled it out for initial successes.

Results:—

M.S.: P. Hoyles (Northld.) bt W. Barker (Durham) -9, 13, 8.

W.S.: J. Turnbull (Durham) bt N. Ferguson (Northld.) -15, 18, 23.

S.D.: Barker/M. Corking (Durham) bt Hoyles/R. Kettlewell (Northld.) -16, 20, 19.

B.S.: J. Alsop (Durham) bt T. Brown (Durham) 15, 14.

G.S.: J. Watson (Durham) bt B. Bond (Durham) -13, 17, 11.

J.D.: Alsop/P. Eden (Durham) bt Gorman/Rowell (Northld.) 13, 15.

Team of Two: Hoyles and Kettlewell bt A. Chilvers/P. Holt (Northld.) 3-1

LEICESTERSHIRE NOTES

by Phillip Reid

TRAGIC DEATH

I have to start by reporting a tragic car crash in which Great Glen's Charles Granger was killed recently. Charles, only 18 and a player of great promise was one of Great Glen's keenest players and he will be greatly missed in local table tennis circles.

Leicestershire opened their fixtures in the 2nd Division (Midland) by beating Worcestershire 6-4. Perhaps the hunting county were a trifle fortunate to win but they are two points in the bag and two we were very pleased to receive! Charlie Jacques and Graham Hughes were both unbeaten.

The County Junior trials provided plenty of shocks, perhaps the biggest being the greatly-improved form shown by David Barry. He finished top and thus takes the number one spot. The Ranking List is 1. D. Barry (Leicester); 2. C. Stretton (Loughbro'); 3. C. Rogers (Leicester); 4. W. Erskine (Loughbro'); 5. P. Angrave (Loughbro'); 6. G. Hall (Leicester). Girls: 1. Miss K. Rogers (Leicester); 2. Miss J. Billson ((Loughbro')); 3. Miss A. Stevenson (Loughbro'); 4. Miss S. Elsdon (Leicester); 5. Miss T. Fowkes (Loughbro').

Preparations are already in hand for the 'Leicestershire Open' and everything points to a successful tourney. Various donations have already been

promised. Only one snag—the Championships fall right in the middle of the World Championships, which will mean the top players will be missing—but I forecast it will still be a great tournament.

Greater participation in the Midland League and Open tournaments is also pleasing to report. Leicester have eight teams, Loughborough three and Hinckley one in the Midland League. The Leicester League are sponsoring their juniors for several open tournaments this season. The result must in the long run be an improved standard of play.

Live-wire Graham Sparham reports an increased membership in the **Coalville League**. The league has already produced one outstanding player in Maurice Newman but with such prospects as John Lenton and Gregg Nichol there could be many more in the pipe-line.

When Ernest McLeish turns his hand to anything there is nothing half-hearted about it and at the moment he is devoting much of his time to making the **Hinckley League** a stronger force.

Another county champion—Colin Truman—is very much involved with the **Melton League** and there is no doubt that many of our top players put plenty back into the game.

The **Leicester & District League** is well under way and in the first division only one team is unbeaten—Leicester YMCA. Graham Hughes, Paul Randall, Bob Phillips and Phil

Powell look a strong quartet, though, of course, it is still early days.

A team to be reckoned with in the **Loughborough & District League** first division this season is Knightthorpe. With Roger Morley, Richard Hassall and Bob Boyce, nobody is going to find them easy.

Attractive fare will be provided at Loughborough on Friday Dec. 11, when the Nissen Tournament is held. The top players in all the home countries are expected to attend and it should attract a good audience.

Irish Corner

by Kevin Drum

NETHERLANDS AVENGE DEFEAT

Ireland's opening match in Division 2 of the European League, in Den Haag, saw the Netherlands gain revenge for the narrow defeat inflicted in Dublin last season.

Jim Langan and Tommy Caffrey got Ireland off to a good start with repeat victories over Frans Schoofs and Bert van der Helm but there the success story ends.

Langan failed to confirm his superiority over v.d. Helm, and Caffrey again failed to Schoofs. Joan Warren fared no better than did Betty Warwick last year against Aukje Colthoff-Wynia. Results:

Langan bt F. Schoofs 22, 17; lost to v.d. Helm -10, 12, -15. Caffrey bt v.d. Helm -17, 13, 19, lost to Schoofs -14, -14. Warren lost to Colthoff-Wynia -13, -12.

Langan/Caffrey lost to Schoofs/v.d. Helm -20, -16. Langan/Warren lost to v.d. Helm/Colthoff-Wynia -16, -21.

Socially the close season has been quite eventful, with two of Ireland's top internationals entering the matrimonial stakes.

On May 16, at the church of St. Peter and Paul, Mitcham, Surrey, our top woman, Joan Fitzsimons, married English International Cornelius Warren, and on September 12 at the Church of Mother of Divine Grace, Dublin, top man Jim Langan wed Catherine Flanagan.

Congratulations to both couples and to Irish No. 2 Tommy Caffrey and his wife Eileen on the birth of their daughter, Gillian.

DUTCH INVITATION

The E.T.T.A. has been invited by the Nederlandsche Tafeltennisbond to provide eight English Umpires to help in the European Championships to be staged in Rotterdam in April, 1972. Similar invitations have also gone to Sweden and Federal Germany.

While the invitation to England has been accepted in principle, the actual umpires to be nominated will be selected by the N.U.R.C. in being at the date of the Championships.

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European League

by John Woodford

ENGLAND CRUSH AUSTRIA

Playing with calm destruction, England thrashed Austria 7-0 in the Premier Division of the European League at Hazelwick School, Three Bridges, Crawley, on Oct. 16.

Promoted Austria, playing for the first time in Europe's top class, were no match for Denis Neale, Chester Barnes, Jill Shirley and Karenza Mathews.

England's players won all seven sets in straight games and never looked like losing at any time. There was only one slight chance for Austria when Barnes opposed the Austrian No. 2 Heinz Schlüter.

The Essex man found the Austrian's counter-hitting troublesome, but some great bursts of backhand hitting forced his victim into errors. In the final set Barnes faced the Austrian champion Franz Thallinger, but again he thrashed his way to victory to complete the slaughter.

SCORES:—

D. Neale bt F. Thallinger 16, 13; bt H. Schlüter 16, 7. C. Barnes bt Schlüter 23, 19; bt Thallinger 11, 16. J. Shirley bt E. Willinger 9, 11. Neale/Barnes bt Thallinger/Schlüter 16, 17. Neale/K. Mathews bt Schlüter/Willinger 10, 13.

Progressive Table Tennis

by Jack Carrington (Bell 24s.)

When the word 'Coaching' is mentioned, many people instinctively think of Jack Carrington . . . and with good reason. He is recognised as one of the foremost authorities in the game on this subject. In his latest book 'Progressive Table Tennis' his knowledge is imparted into words and the result is a book which should appeal to table tennis players in all walks of life.

Starting with beginners, Jack systematically goes through the range of strokes, footwork, etc., but rather than dictating *advises* what type of game to play, which grip to use. For the newcomer to the game the book is perfect for the simple reason every part of it will be more than useful to him.

Coaches too are going to find this book contains nearly all the answers to their questions. In the book one can visualise the mind of the author, painstaking, knowledgeable, tolerant, helpful and ever-eager to talk (or in this case) write about the game.

Photographs, illustrations, coaching tips—the lot—all in one book.

As a book it makes good reading. As a Coaching Manual it is invaluable.

P.R.



POPULAR TOURNAMENT CIRCUIT player Sam Ogundipe, Sussex No. 3, was married at Brighton on September 26th to Miss Angela Rowe. Having secured such an attractive young wife, Sammy has two remaining ambitions—a return to the professional stage—he has already appeared in "A Taste of Honey" and "The Hasty Heart" and more appearances on the international table tennis scene for his home country of Nigeria.

Photograph, John Carter, Brighton.

NORFOLK NOTES

by J. S. Penny

BETTY CASSELL CELEBRATES HER "21st"

NORFOLK'S senior team—Tony Hipperson, Bob Mitcham, Phillip Graver, Edna Fletcher (formerly Edna Allen) and Betty Cassell—had a very stiff fight against Cambridgeshire at King's Lynn. Bob Mitcham must have been in very good form (or even, perhaps, had a slice of luck) when, trailing 15-20 against Steve Andrews in the final game, he managed to bale out and give Norfolk a draw. Congratulations, Bob, upon your County colours, presented to you after the match! This match was notable for another reason, that Betty Cassell took part in Norfolk's first County Championship match, against Cambridgeshire at King's Lynn, 21 years ago. The date was November, 1949, and Betty is still going strong!

Norfolk Juniors have three promising youngsters in John Fuller, Chris Bensley and Peter Burton. Chris Bensley reached the last sixteen (and the last eight of the boys) in the News of the World competition at Bognor. He also becomes the first Norfolk player to be awarded the gold proficiency flash.

Thetford League have 45 teams this season, almost double last year's number. Among them, it is pleasing to note that six of them are women's sides. Les Rayment ran a summer coaching school for between thirty and forty youngsters, and there was also a summer league, won by British Legion.

Dereham have entered a Junior side in the E. Anglian League.

Wymondham start their 21st season with a record 39 teams, and have added a fourth division.

At Cromer, I hear that Jack Crossfield, ex-Chairman, now becomes Secretary, and that ex-Secretary Harry Mitchell becomes Chairman. Cromer have three divisions.

NATIONAL TEAM COMPETITIONS

NUMBERS AGAIN INCREASE

by Keith Ponting

It is a pleasure for me, in my first year as National Team Competitions secretary, in succession to Les Davis, to report an increase in the number of leagues who have entered the competitions.

115 leagues, an increase of five, have entered 272 events, compared with 259 last season. Broken down, the figures are:—

	1969-70	1970-71
Wilmot Cup - - -	100	100
Rose Bowl - - -	63	73
Carter Cup - - -	65	70
Bromfield Trophy -	23	21
	251	264

It is disappointing to note the drop of two leagues in the Bromfield Trophy competition, and also the drop of two, from 23 to 21 in the number of leagues who have entered all four competitions. However, I hope this is only a temporary drop and that more and more leagues will enter next season to keep up the good work of the previous four seasons when the numbers have gradually increased.

I look forward to receiving your scorecards, and I hope that team captains will make a note of any interesting or unusual happenings during their matches, on the back of the scorecard. I am sure that will make my subsequent reports much more interesting to all readers of "Table Tennis News".

PAT ARCHDALE

After being detained in Bristol's Frenchay Hospital with head injuries following a car crash, it was pleasing to note the attendance of National Umpire, Mrs. Pat Archdale at the England v Japan match in Birmingham.

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by Fred Inch

ALAN STRICKLAND MOURNED

It is sad to commence any season with the loss of a stalwart and such was Alan Strickland of Newton Aycliffe, who died on Oct. 11. As a county player, League and Match secretary, Alan will be remembered but more so for his courage during months of illness.

The funeral service was conducted at St. Clare's Church and was attended by County officials as well as representatives from Newton Aycliffe, Darlington, Bishop Auckland, Philadelphia and Sunderland Leagues. A wreath of blue and yellow flowers, the Durham County colours, was laid at his graveside by the Hon. Joint Secretaries of Durham, Jean and Edgar Reay.

Imagine a ship that for years has steered a course through quiet waters, never having had a storm to contend with but just a gentle rippling of the waves which soon subsided. And then came a storm so intense that it seemed created by the Devil himself.

The ship, named Durham County TTA, did not sink but rode the tumult to a degree of being strengthened by it and to encourage those able-bodied men who man her the signs are encouraging by:—

- (a) The best ever entry for Inter-League competition.
- (b) The largest increase is in the Junior Division.
- (c) The many differences of opinion are at last being discussed openly . . . and
- (d) A Rules Committee has been formed to help guide the ship on a true course for the future.

Indeed, the ship is being repaired, but the requirements for a successful operation are patience, courage and a will to let commonsense prevail.

County rankings following trials have been submitted as follows:—

Men: 1. W. Barker (Sunderland); 2. M. Corking (Stockton); 3. E. Taylor (Sunderland); 4. M. Ford (Sunderland); 5. John Alsop (Stockton); and 6. C. Eltringham (Philadelphia).

Women: 1. M. Minto (Philadelphia); 2. J. Turnbull (Stanley); 3. B. Charlton (Philadelphia); and 4. M. Goosey (Hartlepool).

Boys: 1. Alsop; 2. T. Brown (Bishop Auckland); 3. J. Crawford (Bishop Auckland); and 4. M. Tupling (Stockton).

Girls: 1. B. Murtagh (Tyne Dock); 2. C. Waite (Tyne Dock); 3. S. Peters (Sunderland); and 4. V. Waite (Tyne Dock).

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continued from page 28

MIDLAND

Glamorgan II 9 - Denbighshire 1

A gentle outing for Glamorgan's new 2nd team; their men far too strong. Shirley Sturgess, however, well-taken by the experienced Barbara Williams.

Worcestershire II 8 - Shropshire 2

Bert Hiscock ('flu) missed by the visitors. Will the "serve and kill" tactics of the three young home men prove as effective with the stronger opposition to come?

JUNIOR PREMIER

Glamorgan 0 - Essex 10

Even without Bob Hellaby, Essex far too strong, denying the Welsh even a game.

Hertfordshire 4 - Kent 6

A well-contested match, with Paul Guttormsen the best player on view (the Herts boys seemed a little overawed at their first Junior Premier outing). Jane Hartwell unlucky to go down 19, -20, -17 to Julie Holtam but played well and won GD with Sandra Harding, the latter also succeeding in XD.

Lancashire 7 - Warwickshire 3

All three girls sets to Lancs, with Suzanne Manning and Kathleen Baxendale on debut and doing well. A pity Valerie Russell was not allowed to travel. Donald Parker avenged an early season defeat by Bob Broadmore and with Tony Boasman also in good form Lancs made a good start to their programme.

Kent 10 - Glamorgan 0

Kent's quick boys had little trouble and only one BS went the distance. This could be a very useful team.

Warwickshire 6 - Hertfordshire 4

Yorkshire 3 - Lancashire 7

Missing Nicky Jarvis and Linda Sutton, Yorks outplayed by fine Lancs side but (Jimmie Walker apart) showed little real spirit in defeat. A pity Walker did not meet the greatly improved and matured Boasman who had little difficulty. At 14, Parker one of the best prospects in England.

Middlesex 8 - Glamorgan 2

Two successes for Michael Owen to get Glamorgan started.

	P	W	L	F	A	Pts.
Kent	2	2	0	16	4	4
Lancashire	2	2	0	14	6	4
Essex	1	1	0	10	0	2
Middlesex	1	1	0	8	2	2
Warwicks	2	1	1	9	11	2
Herts	2	0	2	8	12	0
Yorkshire	1	0	1	3	7	0
Glamorgan	3	0	3	2	28	0

JUNIOR SOUTH

Berkshire 1 - Surrey 9

Buckinghamshire 1 - Hampshire 9
Jill Anderson, substitute for injured Karen Mashford, had a cracking set with Lesley King with the visiting girl doing well to recover from 10-18 in third to win 17, -18, 24. But the Bucks boys outclassed.

Berkshire 4 - Hampshire 6

Hampshire's boys gained a 3-0 lead but Berks fought back to go ahead 4-3. Wendy Slade (Berks) and Colin Sargeant the most successful players.

Sussex 8 - Buckinghamshire 2

JUNIOR NORTH

Northumberland 2 - Lincolnshire 8

A sound start by Lincs first junior team.

Cheshire 9 - Derbyshire 1

Durham 9 - Northumberland 1

Durham on top throughout in a match where all six boys were on debut. Decisive singles win for Brenda Murtagh over Janet Newham. Durham very concerned at the fact that nine of the ten players in this match resident in their County.

JUNIOR MIDLAND

Bedfordshire 5 - Leicestershire 5

"Thank God for Jeremy" the verdict with Charter scoring two BS wins and helping in BD. Added to two easy Peter Taylor wins Beds gained a draw (but are 8 players in a Junior team too many?).

Nottinghamshire 2 Staffordshire 8

Extra Staffs fight at the vital stages meant no home points this time.

Warwickshire II 5 -Leicestershire 5

JUNIOR EAST

Huntingdonshire 4 -Suffolk 6

A sparkling display by Paul MacArthur gained the only two home BS wins and Sue Richards weighed in with GS on debut.

Norfolk 2 - Essex II 8

Two wins for John Fuller but Essex otherwise too strong.

JUNIOR WEST

Devon 6 - Worcestershire 4

Somerset 4 - Wiltshire 6

Monmouthshire 3 - Gloucestershire 7

VETERAN MIDLAND

Staffordshire 3 - Nottinghamshire 6

Leicestershire 3 - Cheshire 6

Even without a woman (poor show, Cheshire) the visitors too good. Vince Hankey, the fittest player, had nice set with John Bryant, full of good stroke play.

COUNTY DIARY

FIXTURES AND VENUES FOR NOVEMBER, 1970

PREMIER DIVISION

- Nov. 14 Kent v. Sussex, County Police Headquarters, Maidstone. 7-00 p.m.
- Middlesex v. Essex, Barnets Table Tennis Centre, Barnet. 7-30 p.m.
- Warwick v. Surrey, Warwick Youth Club, Emscote Road, Warwick. 7-00 p.m.
- Yorkshire v. Buckinghamshire, Fields & Co., Canteen, Clayton Road, Bradford. 7-15 p.m.

SECOND DIVISION — SOUTH

- Nov. 14 Buckinghamshire II v. Essex II. 7-00 p.m.
- Hampshire v. Hertfordshire, Surrey II v. Middlesex II, Banstead Hospital, Belmont, Sutton.

SECOND DIVISION — NORTH

- Nov. 14 Durham v. Yorkshire, School of the Sacred Heart, Hart Lane, Hartlepool. 6-30 p.m.
- Derbyshire v. Northumberland, Sheepbridge Engineering Canteen, Sheepbridge, Chesterfield. 7-00 p.m.
- Lincolnshire v. Cheshire, Y.M.C.A., St. Rumbold Street, Lincoln. 6-45 p.m.

SECOND DIVISION — MIDLAND

- Nov. 14 Nottinghamshire v. Leicestershire. 7-30 p.m.
- Staffordshire v. Bedfordshire, Woodfield Sports and Social Club, Penn Road, Wolverhampton.
- " 15 Worcestershire v. Gloucestershire, Cripplegate Pavilion, Tybridge Street, Worcester. 4-00 p.m.

SECOND DIVISION — WEST

- Nov. 14 Devon v. Cornwall, Exmouth Leisure Centre, Imperial Road, Exmouth. 7-15 p.m.
- Monmouthshire v. Dorset, Alcan Drill Hall, Rogerstone. 7-00 p.m.
- Somerset v. Wiltshire, Y.M.C.A., St. James Street, Taunton. 7-15 p.m.
- " 15 Glamorganshire v. Dorsetshire, 53 Club, Oxford Lane, off City Road, Cardiff. 2-30 p.m.

SOUTHERN DIVISION

- Nov. 14 Berkshire v. Sussex II, Bracknell Sports Stadium. 1-30 p.m.
- Oxfordshire v. Hampshire II.

EASTERN DIVISION

- Nov. 7 Hertfordshire II v. Huntingdonshire, Brookside Boys' Club, Buckton Road, Borehamwood. 7-00 p.m.
- " 14. Cambridgeshire v. Suffolk, C.I.B.A. Canteen, Duxford. 7-30 p.m.

NORTHERN DIVISION

- Nov. 14 Northumberland II v. Derbyshire II, North Shields Y.M.C.A., Church Way, North Shields. 3-00 p.m.

MIDLAND DIVISION

- Nov. 14 Shropshire v. Staffordshire II.

JUNIOR PREMIER

- Nov. 13 Middlesex v. Hertfordshire, R.A.F. (Hendon), Gymnasium, The Hyde, Colindale, N.W.9. 7-30 p.m.
- " 21 Kent v. Essex.

JUNIOR SOUTH

- Nov. 14 Buckinghamshire v. Berkshire. 7-00 p.m.
- Sussex v. Surrey.

JUNIOR NORTH

- Nov. 14 Derbyshire v. Northumberland, Sheepbridge Works Canteen, Sheepbridge, Chesterfield. 2-30 p.m.
- Lincolnshire v. Cheshire, Y.M.C.A., St. Rumbold Street, Lincoln. 2-30 p.m.

JUNIOR MIDLAND

- Nov. 14 Leicestershire v. Nottinghamshire, Loughborough Sports Centre, Granby Street, Loughborough. 3-00 p.m.
- Northants v. Warwickshire II, Victoria Mixed Junior School, Stanley Road, Wellingborough. 6-30 p.m.

JUNIOR EAST

- Nov. 14 Cambridgeshire v. Norfolk, Sawston Youth Centre, Sawston. 2-30 p.m.
- " 21 Essex II v. Huntingdonshire. 7-00 p.m.
- Suffolk v. Hertfordshire II, The Dome, 193 Defoe Road, Ipswich. 3-00 p.m.

JUNIOR WEST

- Nov. 14 Gloucestershire v. Somerset, Farmor's School, Fairford, Secondary Modern School, Fairford. 3-00 p.m.
- Monmouthshire v. Worcestershire, Alcan Drill Hall, Rogerstone. 3-00 p.m.
- " 15 Wiltshire v. Devonshire, Upper Room, Lower Buildings, Youth Centre, Newtown, Bradford-on-Avon. 2-30 p.m.

VETERAN SOUTH

- Nov. 14 Essex v. Oxfordshire. 7-00 p.m.
- Hertfordshire v. Hampshire, Rickmansworth and Uxbridge Valley Water Co. Sports Canteen, Batchworth, Rickmansworth

VETERAN MIDLAND

- Nov. 14 Cheshire v. Staffordshire. 7-00 p.m.
- " 15 Nottinghamshire v. Leicestershire.

County Championships Round-up

by JOHN WRIGHT

VITAL TO BOTH

ESSEX and Middlesex have both made their expected good starts in the Premier Division, and their clash at Barnet this month will be vital to both.

Pride of place must go to the Sussex team, victorious over Yorkshire after trailing 1-4. The Junior Premier has made a promising start: a fine win here for Lancashire over Yorkshire, and Glamorgan clearly struggling with too many new players to "blood". As in previous seasons, no report means none was sent to me by the home match secretary.

PREMIER

Buckinghamshire 2 - Sussex 7
P. Shirley lost to R. Chandler -19, 17, -14; lost to P. Williams -9, -15.
S. Hahn lost to Chandler -12, -12; bt S. Ogundipe -11, 17, 12.
L. Wooding lost to Williams -10, -7; lost to Ogundipe -5, -17.
Hahn/Shirley lost to Chandler/Williams -17, 18, -15.
Miss J. Shirley bt Miss J. Williams -19, 17, 22.
Wooding/Shirley lost to Ogundipe/Miss Williams -12, -16.

Not rare for a brother and sister to play in the same match, but a pair on each side is unusual—has it happened in the Premier before?

Kent 3 - Middlesex 6

A. Piddock lost to M. Sugden 18, -16, -7; bt O. Haslam 16, 12.
D. Basden lost to Sugden -13, -13; lost to A. Lindsay -11, -18.
H. Buist lost to Haslam -18, 19, -17; lost to Lindsay -17, -17.
Buist/Piddock lost to Sugden/B. Wright -16, -16.
Mrs. B. Bird bt Miss M. Walker, 16, 13.
Basden/Mrs. Bird bt Wright/Miss Walker 16, 19.

Excellent play from Betty Bird (first Premier match since Oct '66), meant that Kent missed Pauline Piddock less than Middlesex missed Karenza Mathews. Not a really convincing win for the visitors as Tony Piddock fell to Malcolm Sugden after holding a good lead in 2nd, and Henry Buist twice went down from promising positions.

Surrey 0 - Essex 9

R. Penfold lost to C. Barnes -16, 18, -20; lost to T. Taylor 16, -15, -19.
C. Warren lost to Barnes -14, -13; lost to D. Brown -11, -13.
B. Hill lost to Taylor -8, -17; lost to Brown -12, -16.
Penfold/Warren lost to Barnes/Taylor -11, -7.
Miss S. Howard lost to Mrs. L. Radford -9, 17, -18.
Hill/Miss S. Howard lost to P. Radford/Mrs. Radford -22, 16, -13.

Essex far too strong although Ron Penfold unlucky to lose both his sets narrowly in the third. Surrey will miss Mary Wright but Susan Howard showed up well in her Premier debut. Trevor Taylor on debut for visitors.

Warwickshire 3 - Yorkshire 6

B. Burn lost to A. Clayton -15, -19; bt J. Kedge -18, 10, 13.
D. Munt bt Clayton -16, 12, 15; lost to N. Jarvis -15, -18.

R. Gunnion bt Kedge 16, -22, 19; lost to Jarvis -14, -15.
Burn/R. Cooper lost to Clayton/Jarvis -15, -6.
Miss J. Cornock lost to Miss L. Bashford -18, 18, -15.
Gunnion/Miss Cornock lost to Kedge/Miss Bashford -19, -13.

Essex 8 - Buckinghamshire 1

C. Barnes bt P. Shirley 9, 15; bt S. Hahn 5, 15.
T. Taylor bt Shirley 12, 14; bt A. Watson 7, 14.
D. Brown bt Hahn 11, 12; bt Watson 14, 11.
Barnes/Taylor bt Hahn/Shirley 15, 16.
Mrs. L. Radford lost to Miss J. Shirley -15, -11.
P. Radford/Mrs. Radford bt Watson/Miss Shirley 14, 18.

Kent 5 - Warwickshire 4

A. Piddock bt B. Burn -22, 15, 15; bt D. Munt 19, 6.
H. Buist lost to Burn -13, -16; lost to R. Gunnion 20, -16, -20.
J. Dabin lost to Munt 19, -12, -20; lost to Gunnion -15, 16, -11.
Buist/Piddock bt Burn/Munt 10, 15.
Mrs. P. Piddock bt Mrs. A. Jones 16, 14.
Dabin/Mrs. Piddock bt Gunnion/Mrs. Jones 15, -19, 18.

A blank, but despite this an encouraging debut for John Dabin who could soon find himself with a regular spot in this team. Two wins for the consistent Tony Piddock and two for Warwks from the rotund Ralph Gunnion—both doubles to Kent and Pauline Piddock's singles made 5.

Middlesex 7 - Surrey 2

M. Sugden bt R. Penfold 12, 17; bt C. Warren 19, 14.
L. Haslam bt Penfold 14, -21, 17; lost to B. Hill 14, -17, -20.
B. Petch lost to Warren -11, -13; bt Hill 12, -18, 17.
Sugden/B. Wright bt Penfold/Warren 10, 12.
Mrs. K. Mathews bt Miss S. Howard 15, -16, 2.
Wright/Mrs. Mathews bt Hill/Miss Howard 15, -15, 13.

Middlesex led 7-0 but rather flattered. Pity poor Susan Howard, just on her feet after 'flu and fighting well to take the 2nd from Karenza but then with no steam left for the 3rd; earlier in the XD she (with Barry Hill) had taken the first from Brian Wright and Karenza Mathews. Comfortable win for Malcolm Sugden over Ron Penfold, then some reward for Surrey with a win for "Connie" Warren and a shock success for Hill over "Les" Haslam.

Sussex 5 - Yorkshire 4

R. Chandler bt A. Hydes 15, 12; lost to A. Clayton -18, 18, -14.
P. Williams lost to Hydes -5, -18; bt N. Jarvis 18, 16.
S. Ogundipe bt Clayton 15, -23, 18; lost to Jarvis -15, -11.
Chandler/Williams lost to Hydes/Jarvis 19, -14, -14.
Miss J. Williams bt Miss L. Sutton 6, 15.
Ogundipe/Miss Williams bt Clayton/Miss Sutton 18, 10.

Best ever home Premier result for Sussex—and after being 0-3 and 1-4. Match set alight by Roger Chandler's

superb play against Alan Hydes, forcing the Tyke away from the table and dominating the set with swerving loops and kills. Sam Ogundipe raised his defensive game to great heights to edge out gallant Tony Clayton then Peter Williams (earlier made to look ordinary by Hydes) too experienced for Nicky Jarvis. Judy Williams a tough opponent for Linda Sutton's first Premier outing.

	P	W	L	F	A	Pts.
Essex	2	2	0	17	1	4
Middlesex	2	2	0	13	5	4
Sussex	2	2	0	12	6	4
Yorkshire	2	1	1	10	8	2
Kent	2	1	1	8	10	2
Warwicks.	2	0	2	7	11	0
Bucks	2	0	2	3	15	0
Surrey	2	0	2	2	16	0

2nd SOUTH

Middlesex II 9 - Buckinghamshire II 1
Peter Sears went so close in both his singles, but it was left for Jean Williams to take the only set for the visitors. First Middlesex match for Eric Coster.

Essex II 6 - Kent II 4

Hampshire 4 - Surrey II 6
A new-look Hanis side in most exciting match with the issue in doubt 'till the last set. The experience of Emil Emezc then saw Surrey home.

Buckinghamshire II 3 - Hampshire 7

Hertfordshire 1 - Essex II 9
A slightly depleted Herts team no match for powerful visitors. David Rawlinson, on 1st team debut, unlucky to fall -18, 17, -20 to Steve Smith in final set.

Surrey 11 3 - Kent II 7

Good performance by Kent against full-strength home team.

2nd NORTH

Durham 1 - Northumberland 9

A good crowd for a match far closer than the score suggests—visitors won all 6 of 3-game sets. Wilf Barker v. Peter Hoyles the highlight and Durham's new WD pairing of Mrs. Minto and Miss Turnbull could become very useful.

Derbyshire 2 - Cheshire 8

Five sets went to third game, but visitors more "match tight" and won them all. Colin Deaton and Tony Hunt both earned third game with Mike Johns, Eric Hall (ex Yorks., Herts., Somerset) improved after indifferent start, and Simon Heaps gave most mature performance. Nice to see his sister Judy back again.

Lancashire 8 - Lincolnshire 2

Impressive debut by Lancs new No. 1 Tony Boasman with wins over Brian Hill and John Beaumont and XD (with Susan Lisle) over Mick East and Jean White.

Lancashire 8 - Durham 2

Repeat performance for Boasman but spirited opposition from Malcolm Corking who gained a narrow verdict over Jack Keogh. Mick Ford registered visitors only other win against Bob Kelly. Lancs women far too strong.

Northumberland 7 - Lincolnshire 3

Yorkshire II 6 - Derbyshire 4

9-1 the result on sets played, but

John Kedge not eligible for Yorks II and three sets forfeited. A fine match with young Alan Fletcher and Jimmie Walker performing well. 8 sets went the distance and Derbys only "real" win gained by Eric Hall at the end.

2nd MIDLAND

Leicestershire 6 - Worcestershire 4

A dour struggle (8 3-games) with Leics a little lucky to win. Charlie Jacques and Graham Hughes (Leics) with Joyce Lloyd (Worcs) the stars.

Nottinghamshire 8 - Staffordshire 2

What a shock! Notts first-ever victory over Staffs I, and an early reward for the hard training which had led up to the match. Phil Spencer's opening set win over Glenn Warwick started things off and from there the whole team played well five times taking a set after losing the opening game. This division now promises a real tussle.

Warwickshire II 6 - Gloucestershire 4

Richard Cooper the star with a win over Roy Morley by 18, 21.

Gloucestershire 4 - Nottinghamshire 6

Staffordshire 5 - Leicestershire 5

A disappointing display by the home men who could manage only one singles between them. Inexperience of A. Isaacs (who lost both his in 3rd) told—he could well improve on this.

Bedfordshire 2 - Warwickshire II 8

Cooper again the star with two MS wins (including defeat of Peter Taylor 17, 13 from 13-17 in 1st) and pairing with R. Brown to take MID 19, 19, 17 in ding-dong battle with Taylor and Bill Astbury. Beds not disgraced.

2nd WEST

Glamorgan 9 - Wiltshire 1

Somerset 6 - Cornwall 4

Cornwall 1 - Glamorgan 9

Weish No. 1 Margaret Phillips felled by Sheila Rapsey's sound defence and patient wait for the ball to hit (18, 17). Visiting men too strong with Graham Davies seemingly able to raise game at will.

Wiltshire 8 - Monmouthshire 2

Devon 3 - Glamorgan 7

SOUTHERN

Sussex II 9 - Oxfordshire 1

John Clarke in serious trouble against veteran rubber-bat Alf Davies with all his best shots coming back. But at 10-all in third a hectic exchange won on an edge ball and the next ten points all went to Clarke as well. Robin Stace in rampant mood.

Hampshire II 1 - Sussex II 9

The improved Chris Shetler (who had 3 set points v. Clarke in 2nd) the only home winner.

EASTERN

Norfolk 5 - Cambridgeshire 5

Norfolk lucky to snatch a draw with R. Mitcham recovering from 15-20 in 3rd to take 7 points from Steve Andrews. Norfolk men disappointing, but good to see both Edna Fletcher and Betty Cassell back. Dick Clode will strengthen Cambs.

Northamp'shire 2 - Hertfordshire II 8

Huntingdonshire 3 - Northamp'shire 7

Revenge here for Northants for last season's defeat. Match turned on WD where Barbara Webb and M. Maxfield let slip 3 set points in 2nd game. Well done Alan Albon who figured in all home wins.

Suffolk 3 - Norfolk 7

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