



Photo by Peter Madge, Sydenham, London

This month's Star Features

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TIME TO PONDER

There can be no denying that the duties of a Referee entail a deal of responsibility and more so when the task in hand involves the running of such a tournament as the Norwich Union International Championships which attracted a host of European stars to Brighton.

Under the full glare of national publicity storms are inevitably whipped up if only because results at the table continue to elude home players forcing the newshawks, in pursuance of headline copy, to seek their "prey" whilst hovering over other pastures.

Now the scratching by the Referee of England's top-ranking duo from the men's doubles event was manna from heaven following what has sadly become the usual sequence of early dismissals in the major singles events.

Much play was made of the so-called "inflexibility" tag attaching to the Referee, but let us ponder awhile. Messrs. Neale and Taylor were due on court at 2-15 p.m., but it was not until fifteen minutes later that the Referee, after consulting with his deputy, gave the English pair 2 minutes to report to the table.

Surely a degree of onus must rest on the shoulders of the "offended" party in not seeking a time extension prior to their departure from the morning session-moreso as it over shot-or passing word through of their predicament created by having to wait overlong for their lunch.

Sympathy can flow in diverse directions but how many referees in charge of more mundane tournaments have been faced with this same vexed situation of having announced a match and then been left high and dry by the failure of a contestant to answer the call.

Without being afforded knowledge of a player's whereabouts or reason for absence just when does one apply the guillotine ?

COVER PICTURE

No fear of losing the two cheques presented by John McDonnell, Public Relations Manager, Norwich Union Insurance Group for the best English performances at Brighton.

The recipients, Desmond Douglas and Jill Hammersley, were the unanimous choice of the pressmen covering the championships.



On the International Front

by George R. Yates

WORLD TEAM **CHAMPIONSHIPS**

NEW regulations have been implemented in respect of teams taking part in the Swaythling and Corbillon Cup competitions at Sarajevo whereby, based on their finishing positions in the previous World Championships. they have been assigned to a category by the I.T.T.F. Classification Committee.

Teams 1 to 14 form Category 1, 15-28 Category 2, 29-40 Category 3 and 41-52 etc., Category 4. In the event of an entry of a team not having participated in the preceding Championships, it would normally be added at the end of the placing list unless an application, supported by results, is received from the Association concerned.

Such an application must have been received from the Soviet Union who had no team in the Swaythling Cup competition in Nagoya. But there can be no quarrel, in having such players as Stanislav Gomozkov, Sarkis Sarkhojan and Anatoliy Strokatov to call on, at the 14th position allotted them.

Unfortunately, from England's point of view, the Russians have been placed in the same Group 1B headed by Japan, the losing finalists in Nagoya.

In the first stage the teams of each category are placed in two parallel groups, A and B, who all play each other. The highest-ranked team in each category is placed in Group A, the second and third-ranked teams in Group B the fourth and fifth-ranked teams in Group A, and so on, until all teams have been allocated. Thus in Category 1, involving teams ranked 1 to 14, Group A will consist of the teams ranked 1, 4, 5, 8, 9, 12 and 13 and Group B of teams 2, 3, 6, 7, 10, 11 and 14 as follows (rankings in brackets):-

Group A --- Swaythling Cup

- 1. China (1) 2.
- Sweden (4) 3.
- Hungary (5) South Korea (8) 4.
- North Korea (9) 5.
- 6. Indonesia (12)
- 7. Austria (13)
- Group B
 - Japan (2)
 - Yugoslavia (3) 2
 - 3 Federal Germany (6)
 - France (7) ENGLAND (10) 4. 5
 - Czechoslovakia (11) 6.
 - 7. U.S.S.R. (---)
- Group A Corbillon Cup
 - 1. Japan (1)
 - Czechoslovakia (4) 2.
 - 3. U.S.S.R. (5)
 - 4. ENGLAND (8)
 - 5. Hungary (9)
 - Khmer (Cambodia) (12) 6.
 - 7. North Korea (---)

Group B

- 1. China (2) 2. South Korea (3)
- 3. Rumania (6)
- 4. Federal Germany (7) Sweden (10) 5.
 - 6. France (11)

In the following final stage, the first and second-placed teams of each parallel group will play off for places 1 to 4 assessing the results of play as already ascertained for the two teams of the same Group in the first stage. In the same way the third and fourth teams will play for positions 5 to 8.

Teams finishing in fifth, sixth and seventh places will subsequently be called upon to battle it out for places 9 to 14 but teams finishing in places 11 to 14 will be relegated to the next category.

England's chances of remaining in Category 1 can be considered bright, both in the Swaythling and Corbillon Cup competitions. The men should be equal to the task of beating both Federal Germany and France which would see them holding their station, anticipating further victories over Indonesia and Austria, the teams most likely to finish in 6th and 7th positions in Group 1A.

We must also be in with a good chance in the Corbillon Cup competition, allowing for wins over Rumania, France and Yugoslavia, and the possibility of a better result over Sweden's Birgitta Radberg and Lena Andersson than appertained at Brighton.

INDIVIDUAL EVENTS

especially in the two major singles contests in which the seeds, in draw order, are: ----

- Men
 - 1. Bengtsson (Sweden)
- 12. Hsi En-ting (China)
- 9. Kohno (Japan) 8. Li Ching-kuang (China)

- 6. Tasaka (Japan) 11. Stipancic (Yugoslavia) 15. Pak Sin-Il (N. Korea)
- Tiao Wen-yuan (China) 4.
- 3. Jonyer (Hungary)
- 16. Secretin (France)
- 14. Surbek (Yugoslavia)
- 7. Yu Yi-tse (China)
- 5. Johansson (Sweden)
- 13. Schöler (Fed. Germany)
- 10, Hsu Shao-fa (China) 2. Hasegawa (Japan)
- Women
- 1. Cheng Min-chih (China)
- Kishazi (Hungary) Chou Pao-chin (China)
- 4. Ohzeki (Japan) 3. Hu Yu-lan (China)
- 5. Lee Ailesa (S. Kor 7. Hamada (Japan) Lee Ailesa (S. Korea)
- 2. Li-Li (China)

England's top-ranking Trevor Taylor will do well to make a third round meeting with Hsi En-ting but Desmond Douglas, initially involved in preliminary contests, could come through to a first round meeting with Jean Krier of Luxembourg but, even allowing for further success, progress beyond Round 3 cannot be envisaged with the ace of blockers, Li Chingkuang, barring the way.

Alan Hydes can look forward to a second round meeting with Anton Far from rosy, however, are our Stipancic to complete our prospects in the individual events, the top section of the draw. Stipancic to complete our hopes in



I.T.T.F. Treasurer, Jean Mercier (France) had his figures proved wrong with the result of the European League match at Aylesbury but makes sure of his own being in order with a 'knock-up' in Brighton's Corn Photo by Cliff Darley Exchange.





New Zealand internationals Yvonne Fogarty (left) and Ann Stonestreet study the 1973 World Championship brochure from Sarajevo shortly after their selection as the New Zealand women's team to the 2nd Commonwealth Championships at Cardiff and the 32nd World Championships in Yugoslavia. Photo by Major L Tonkin Ltd., Christchurch, New Zealand.

In the lower half, Nicky Jarvis has Welshman Robert Bishop as his first preliminary round opponent, and two other sets to contest before gaining admission into the first round proper and a meeting with Chon Yang Vim (N. Korea) and the possibility of reaching seventh-seeded Yu Yi-tse of China.

The gods must certainly have turned their backs on Denis Neale whose first round opponent is none other than No. 2 seed and former world champion Nobuhiko Hasegawa of Japan!

In the counterpart women's event Jill Hammersley will renew acquaintance with South Korea's Na In Sook — they were in training together at Lea Green, Matlock — and next in line could well be Russia's penhold champion, Zoya Rudnova.

Linda Howard must await the outcome of three preliminary rounds which will provide her first round opponent, her second being the winner of the match between South Korea's Lee Ailesa and Mrs. Radberg.

Karenza Mathews is similarly placed in the bottom section of the draw with the expectation of meeting No. 2 seed Li-Li of China in Round 2.

JAPANESE CHAMPIONSHIPS

Played from December 5-10 in Nagoya, at the Aichi Prefectural Gymnasium where the 31st world championships were held in 1971, new individual champions emerged in the Japanese National Championships.

Shakehand defensive players Norio Takashima (21) and Sachiko Yokota (19) were the winners of the MS and WS titles respectively. Hasegawa was the favourite for the men's crown but after beating Tokio Tasaka in the semis (14, -19, -13, 23 and 11) he was beaten in the final by Takashima (9, -11, 5, 17). The new champion had a win over Yijiro Imano (7, -17, 15, 20) in his semi-final.

Yokota had a 3-straight win over Yukie Ohzeki in the quarters followed by a 3—1 success over Edano, a growing new player of shakehand drivetype. Final victory was accomplished at the expense of Takase. Top seed Ohzeki, seeking her fourth title in

which also resulted in her dismissal from the women's and mixed doubles events.

Other results:---

MD: Abe/Itoh bt Imano/Tasaka 20, 13.

this event, failed to find her touch

WD: Hirano/Konno bt Fukano/ Yamaguchi 11, 20.

XD: Abe/Sakamoto bt Nishii/Nishii 13, 12.

On December 13, three days after the National Championships, the following players were named to represent Japan in the 32nd World Championships in Sarajevo:—

Men: Nobuhiko Hasegawa (25), Tokio Tasaka (25), Mitsuro Kohno (26), Norio Takashima (21), Yujiro Imano (23), Masahiko Ohya (25) and Masayuki Kuse (18).

Women: Yukie Ohzeki (23), Miho Hamada (25), Yasuko Konno (22), Sachiko Yokota (20), Yoshiko Takase (22), Tomie Edano (19) and Tazuko Abe (20).

DUTCH CHAMPIONSHIPS

In a repeat final of last season, in Utrecht on February 24/25, Bert v.d. Helm won the Dutch national men's singles title beating Bert Schoofs (13, 13, -12, 16).

Sonja Heltzel won the counterpart women's event regaining the title she won in 1971 by beating Veronique van der Laan (-16, -15, 18, 19, 18).

Other results: — MD: C. Deken/B. Schoofs bt G.

Bakker/B. Onnes 17, 17, 20.

WD: S. Heltzel/A.v. Moorst bt V. v.d. Laan/M. Thuis 15, -18, 13, -17, 17.

XD: Schoofs/Heltzel bt v.d. Helm/E. v.d. Helm 19, 13, -19, -15, 13.

In Vlaardingen, Bert Schoofs (Deltalloyd) won the NTTB Cup competed for by the strongest men in Holland. Up-and-coming star Renee Hyne (Jouna), aged 16, from Utrecht finished runner-up.

Sonja Heltzel (Deltalloyd) won the counterpart Limbourg Coupe with Veronique van der Laan (de Treffers) placed second.

NEW ZEALAND AFFAIRS

Two youthful New Zealand internationals — schoolteachers Yvonne Fogarty (Otago — now of Hamilton) and Ann Stonestreet (Auckland) recently flew into England and participated in the Norwich Union International Championships prior to representing their country in the 2nd Commonwealth Championships and 32nd World Championships.

For 21-years-old Yvonne, it will be her second visit to our shores for, as a 15-years-old schoolgirl, she landed in Scotland about St. Patrick's Day in 1967 after a hectic airflight from the USA. On the following day she won the Scottish GS title and the WD. The third daughter of 1948 New Zealand men's singles champion W. J. "Bill" Fogarty who represented NZ way back in 1949 against the late Richard Bergmann and Victor Barna, Yvonne is hopeful of meeting many old friends.

20-years-old righthander Ann was just edged out of selection for the 1971 overseas tour but fought back later to take the NZ women's singles title at Wanganui. In our 1972 winter (writes *Frank O'Gorman*), the Auckland hardhitter defeated former international Kathy Fraser (Auckland) in the North Island final and then, after an unbeaten week at the "nationals" at Cowles Stadium, Christchurch, held off a strong challenge from Yvonne in a thrilling 5 games WS final.

Yvonne had just eliminated 1971 NZ representative Netti Traill (North-

land) at 25-23 in the 5th of a 'crack-ing' semi.

Geoff Jennings will be in Cardiff and Sarajevo as coach to the NZ women's team whilst another top coach, Trevor Flint (Canterbury) will act as Team Manager. As in Singapore and Nagoya, Trevor's wife, Joy, will be on hand to give assistance.

Back home in New Zealand, our NZTTA Secretary, Ken Wilkinson is shortly to commence his 25th year as national secretary. Recently he moved house — and NZ TT HQ — from Lindin Tawa to Garden Road Lower Hutt.

JUNIORS IN GERMANY

The National Selection committee, on March 19, announced the following team to represent England at the International German Youth Championships being held in Buende, near Hanover, on April 21/22, 1973.

Boys: David Alderson (Yorks.) and Simon Heaps (Ches.). Girls: Anita Stevenson (Leics.) and Gillian Taylor (Essex). N.P.C. Brian Wright.

These are the first Junior Open Championships to be held in Federal Germany and follows the trend set by England who were the first European country to stage a separate Junior Open Championships

England's sixth Junior Open will be held at Worthing Sports Centre, Sussex on May 19/20 with sponsorship provided by Worthing Borough Council.



OPEN TOURNAMENT SURVEY

by GEORGE R. YATES and JOHN R. MOORHOUSE



Twice former world men's singles champion, Johnny Leach, is here pictured after presentation of the Halex "Golden Rackets" awards to Denis Neale and Karenza Mathews at the Teesside 3-Star Open.

Photo by Tony Ross, Hessle.

SHOCKS ABOUND

ALTHOUGH disappointed by the absence of foreign competitors to the Sixth TEESSIDE 3-STAR OPEN, played at Thornaby Pavilion over the weekend of Feb 24/25, Alan Ransome could hardly complain with his bill of fare which was deserving of a bigger audience than actually attended.

Saturday was mainly devoted to the team events predictably won by England's top-ranking duos of Trevor Taylor and Denis Neale, and Jill Hammersley and Karenza Mathews, with Linda Howard.

But en route to the £30 (each) prize money, Neale was beaten 19, 14 by Desmond Douglas, playing for England III, and against England II, in the final, Alan Hydes and Nicky Jarvis brought off a doubles victory.

Lining up with three England sides in the semis was Lancashire, represented by Donald Parker and Wally Allanson, who began by beating Middlesex II (Bob Aldrich and Andy Barden) 3-2, to be followed up by a 3-0 win over Scotland's Patrick Forker and David Fraser.

Even against England II they made a brave showing when Parker equated the match score at 1—1 with a 24—22 third game win over Hydes! But that was the end of their conquests.

FIRST SHOCK

Nothing untoward occurred to prevent England's top women from reaching their target apart from Mrs. Mathews being taken to three games by Susan Howard in the final against a Middlesex team otherwise represented by Di Court. £5 each went into the purses of Jill. Karenza and Linda Howard.

First shock on Sunday morning was the sight of Jill Hammersley with bandaged eyes. Having rubbed same, forgetful of still having her contact lenses in, occasioned scratching necessitating drops and withdrawal from the championships.

Top seed in the men's singles, Trevor Taylor, after easy wins over Dennis Reed (Yorks), Brian Kean (Ches) and Scotland's Robert Kerr fell in the quarters to Nicky Jarvis. But, in the second quarter, thirdseeded Alan Hydes came safely through with a quarter-final victory over David Alderson.

The real shocks occurred in the third quarter of the draw in which Peter Taylor, seeded No. 4, lost to Paul Day who further succeeded in ousting Desmond Douglas, seeded No. 81

Yet another seed to fall was Cheshire's Mike Johns who was beaten 13 and 1 by Brian Burn who, in the second game, led 15-0! Secondseeded Denis Neale brooked no such nonsense from the Warwickshire county player nor from Day in the semis.

The Soham boy made a brave fight of it and was far from outclassed in a contest that demanded the undivided attention of one and all. Jarvis was the other finalist who came back, after losing the first game, to beat Hydes. But, with the scent of £100 in his nostrils, there was no denying Neale the title. Jarvis was hardly given a look-in.

WAY CLEAR

Jill Hammersley's withdrawal from

the women's singles left the way clear for Karenza Mathews to collect the £30 allotted to the winner.

It was not, however, against No. 4 seed, Linda Howard, that Karenza cleared the semi-final hurdle. Linda went out to Essex junior Elaine Tarten in the quarters.

In the top half No. 3 seed Susan Howard took Jill's place in the final having disposed of the threat posed by Janet Hellaby and Judith Walker. Against Karenza in the final, however, the Surrey girl gave a lack lustre performance and was outclassed completely.

Neale and Taylor took another dip in the 'treasure trove' in winning the men's doubles in which event Laurie Landry, let down by the non appearance of ''Les'' Haslam, reached the third round, with Mark Mitchell as his partner, before losing to Derek Munt and Allanson.

Yorkshire's Sylvia Broadbent and Judith Walker came through in the bottom half of the women's doubles draw and reached the place reserved for Jill Hammersley and Sue Howard. But it was Karenza and Linda Howard who got home having overcome stout resistance from Di Court and Janet Hellaby in the quarters.

NON-EVENT

Played on Saturday night up to the final, the mixed proved a nonevent in the staged finals with Neale and Karenza Mathews in receipt of a walk-over against Taylor and a 'blacked-out' Jill.

In the two Youth events shocks were no less plentiful with top seeds, Peter Taylor and Jarvis going out in the semis to Douglas and Jimmy Walker respectively, in the boys' section.

Sheffield's Judith Walker on her way to victory over Linda Howard in the final of the U-19 girls' singles event at Thornaby Pavilion.

Paul Day fell to David Alderson who carried on the good work by beating Douglas in the final, after losing the first game.

No more successful were the top seeds in the girls' event for, again in the semis, No. 2 seed, Janet Hellaby fell to Judith Walker who repeated her county match success by again beating No. 1 seed Linda Howard in the final.

Huddersfield's Geoff Brook was the winner of the veteran singles against who Kent's John Bromley tried hard but without success.

Defending with consummate skill, and hitting the occasional loose ball incisively, Boston's Brian Hill emerged as a qualifier to win the Men's singles title of the FENLAND 2-STAR Open at neighbouring King's Lynn on Mar 4. Player after player succumbed to his mastery, the four opponents before the quarters averaging fewer than 9 points a game.

EXPECTED

As expected, the ex-European champion, Maria Alexandru of Rumania proved too obdrate in her defence for anyone to trouble her seriously. However, the 15-year-old girls' singles winner, Karen Rogers, provided a major upset in the first round of the women's singles, when she beat Eleanora Vlaicov -12, 17, 18!

Together the two Rumanians had no difficulty in winning the WD title. However, Brian Burn and Mrs. Alexandru lost in the semi-final of the XD to Tony Clayton and Susan Howard, who in turn fell to Mike Johns and Mrs. Vlaicov in the final.

In the MD final neither couple performed well at the same time. The regular pairing of Clayton and Laurie



Karen Rogers of Leicester who had something to smile about at King's Lynn after winning the girls' singles event in the Fenland 2-Star Open, beating Judith Walker in the semis. Karen provided a major upset in the women's singles by ousting Rumanian international Eleanora Vlaicov.

Landry struck top form when it mattered at the end.

The girls seemed frightened of each other, as Karen Rogers reversed the earlier WS result and retrieved a deficit of 13-18 in the 3rd to win 21-19 against a shaky Elaine Tarten.

The highlights of the finals programme were: the two MS semi-finals -Peter Taylor's repeat win over a fighting Tony Clayton, and the classic match of Mike Johns' modern attack v. Brian Hill's enlightened defence, and the exciting BS final, in which the shrewd all-round play of Andrew Barden triumphed over the athletic hitting of David Tan.

Even those who lost seemed to find it an enjoyable tournament, with the international element perhaps attracted by prize money totalling £203!

16 TABLES

Thirteen hours of Sunday, Mar 11, were swallowed up by the 5th LAN-CASHIRE 2-STAR JUNIOR OPEN which had 16 tables in use at Bolton Institute of Technology.

Top seed Robert Wiley was successful in both U-15 and U-17 boys' singles even's but had a harder time of it in winning the lower age group title

Cheshire's Trevor diminutive Burrows tried to take the Ormesby player by storm in the semis and succeeded in winning the first game at 11, but thereafter was forced to take two doses of his own medicine as the blonde Teessider got into his stride.

But it was touch-and-go in the final of this U-15 event with Leicester's Chris Rogers responding to the limit in endeavouring to follow the dictates of his coach, John Ellis.

(semis) and Fhilip Ward (final) going down in straight games to Wiley.

Bolton's Nigel Hallows impressed in this event by ousling Brian Alderson but was then put in his place by Ward in no uncertain tashion.

Lancashire players had it all to themselves in the counterpart GS with Liverpudl'ans Brenda Williams and Suzanne Manning fighting out the final and together winning the GD, to provide Miss Williams with two titles

Long distance travell rs from Essex, in the charge of Alan Shepherd, had their reward in the U-15 and U-13 GS won, respectively, by Sandra Sutton and Janet Boulter. David Boulter was the runner-up to Chris Rogers in the U-13 BS.

Teesside 3-Star

TEAM EVENTS MEN

- Round 1
 - nd 1 England 1 3. Cheshire 0; Warwks 3. Middlesex 0; England 111 3. Scotland 11 0; Yorks 11 w.o. Wales 1; England 11 3. Northumberland 0; Yorks 1 w.o. Wales 11; Lancs 3. Middx 11 2; Scotland 1 3. Ducham 0.

 - Quarter-finals: England I 3. Warwks 0: England II 3. Yorks II 0; England II 3. Yorks II 0; Lancs 3. Scotland I 1.
 - Semi-finals: England 1 3, England III 1
- England I 3, England UI 1 T Taylor bt D. Alderson 15, 10; D. Neale lost to D. Douglas -19, -14. Neale/Taylor bt Alderson/Douglas 17, 13; Neale bt Alderson 16, 16, England II 3, Lancs 1, N. Jarvis bt W. Allanson 7, 9; A. Hydes lost to D. Parker 16, -18, -22; Hydes/Jarvis bt Allanson/Parker 15, 16; Jarvis ht Parker 14, 15
- larvis bt Parker 14, 15,
- ENGLAND I 3. England II 1.

the dictates of his coach, John Ellis. No such problems were posed in th U-17 event with David Yallop Neale/Taylor bt Jarvis 10, 17; Neale bt Hydes 18, 17; Taylor bt Jarvis 20, 17; Neale bt Hydes 18, 17; Taylor bt Jarvis 20, 17; Neale bt Jarvis 18, 17; Neale Jarvis 18, 17; Neale bt Jarvis 18, 17; Neale bt Jarvis 18, 17; Neale bt Jarvis 18, 17; Neale Jarvis 18, 17;

WOMEN

 Wond 1 England w.o. Lancs: Northumberland 3, Scotland 11 0; Middx 3, Yorks 1; Scotland I 3, Durham 1. Semi-finals: England 2, Northumberland 1, L. Howard bt B. Kearney 9, 14; J. Hammersley bt L. Clark 6, 7; Howard/K. Mathews bt Clark/Kearney 6, 13, Middx 3, Scotland 1 0, S. Howard bt G. McKay 7, 11; D. Court/ ht K. Angus 12, 13; Court/Howard b Angus/McKay 9, 15 Final: Szmi-finals: ENGLAND 3. Middleser 0. ENGLAND 3, MIGURANA Hammersley bt Court 8, 11; Mathews bt Howard -21, 10, 12; Howard/Mathews bt Court/Howard 17 17. Men's Singles: Quarter-finals: N. Jarvis (Yorks) bt T. Taylor (Yorks) Men 3 Singles: Quarter-mais: N. Jarvis (Yorks) bt T. Taylor (Yorks) 15, -17, 18; A. Hydes (Yorks) bt D. Alderson (Yorks) 14; ay (Cambs) bt D. Douglas (Warwks) Day (Cambs) bt D. Douglas (Warwks 7, -16, 16; Nea'e (Yorks) bt B. Burn (Warwks) p D 14. 16 14, 10, Semi-finals: IARVIS bt Hydes -14, 18, 17; NEALE bt Day 14, 15. Final: NEALE bt Jarvis 9, 12, Women's Singles: Quarter-finals: J Walker (Yorks) bt B. Kearney (Nthld)) Walker (Yorks) bt B. Kearney (Nthld) 12, 11; S. Howard (Surrey) bt J. Hellaby (Essex) 17, -9, 14; E. Tarten (Essex) bt J. Howard (Surrey) -23, 18, 14; K. Mathews (Middx) bt D. Court (Middx) Semi-finals: Semi-finals: S. HOWARD bt Walker 11 MATHEWS bt Tarten 8, 18, 14: Fi

ATHEWS bt Howard 14, 6,

- Men's Doubles: Semi-finals:
- Neale/Taylor bt W. Allanson (Laucs)/ D Munt (Warwks) 12, 8; Hydes/Jarvis bt D. Alderson/Douglas 15, 10.
- NEALE/TAYLOR bt Hydes/Jarvis 18, 17,
- Women's Doubles: Semi-finals: L. Howard/Mathews bt Court/Hellaby 14, -14, 18;

S. Broadbent (Yorks)/Walker bt B. Kearney/ L. Clark (Northumberland) -19, 15, 19. L. Final: HOWARD/MATHE'WS bt Broadbent/Walker 15, 16 Mixed Doubles: Semi-finals: T. Taylor/J. Hammersley (Bucks) bt Hydes/ L. Howard 13, ~21, 19; Neale/Mathews bt Douglas/Tarten 16, 17. Final Final: Nr:ALE/MATHEWS w.o. Taylo Hammersley (Scratched) Intermediate U-19 Boys' Singles: w.o. Taylor/ Quarter-finals: P. 16. 16. Taylor (Beds) bt B. Dunne (Warwks) 5. -19. 12; 16, -19, 12; Douglas bt B, Johns (Ches) 12, 15; D. Alderson bt Day 10, 14; J. Walker (Yorks) bt Jarvis 12, 14, 20, Semi-finals: Douglas bt Taylor 19, 19; Alderson bt Walker 20, 13, Windt Final A.DERSON bt Douglas -16, 16, 10, Intermediate U-19 Girls' Singles: Quarter-finals: Howard bt S. Manning (Lancs) 14, 12; Mellor (Derbys) bt K. Wilson (Yorks) L. M 19, 14: Walker bt B Kirkman (Lancs) 12, 17; Hellaby bt Kearney 17, -19, 16 Hellaby of reality 17, -17, 10. Semi-finals: Howard bt Mellor 11, 12; Marker bt Hellaby 17, -19, 16. Final WALKER bt Howard 14, -18, 17. Velaran Singles: Semi-finals: G. Brook (Yorks) bt D. Charlton (Durham) 16, 17; Bromley (Kent) by K. Skipp (Yorks) J. 14, 17. E. BROOK bt Bromley 10, 17.

Fenland 2-Star

18, 18;

- Men's Singles: Quarter-finals: A. Clayton (Yorks) bt A. Lampreli (Hunts) 17, 20; P. Taylor (Beds) bt M. Harper (Herts) 7. 5. 16; Johns (Ches) bt B. Burn (Warwks) -17 М

continued on next page



B. Hill (Lincs) bt D. Parker (Lancs) 21, -16, 12. Semi-finals: Taylor bt Clayton -17, 6, Hill bt Johns 14, -17, 14. 17: Final: HILL bt Taylor -13, 9, 14. Women's Singles: Semi-finals: M. Alexandru (Rumania) bt J. White (Lincs) 16, 11; Tarten (Essex) bt K. Rogers (Leics) E. 14, -8, 18 Final Final: ALEXANDRU bt Tarten 12, 6. Men's Doubles: Semi-finals: Clayton/L, Landry (Middx) bt B. Jones (Cambs)/M, Palmer (Suffolk), 14: Burn/Johns bt Harper/Taylor -22, 14, 14. CLAYTON/LANDRY bt Burn/Johns -14, 16, 10 16, 10,
Women's Doubles: Semi-finals: Alexandru/E. Vlaicov (Ru) bt S. Beckwith/ G. Locke (Essex) 8, 8;
Bird (Kent//S. Kavallierou (Sussex) bt L. Barrow (Essex)/E. Fletcher (Norfolk)
16, -15, 18, Final ALEXANDRU/VLAICOV bt Bird/ Kavallierou 15, 16 Navallierou 15, 10, Mixed Doubles: Semi-finals: Clayton/S, Howard (Surrey) bt Burn/ Alexandru 11, -6, 8; Johns/Vlaicov bt Dodd/White 9, 7. Binal. JOHNS/VLAICOV bt Clayton/Howard 15, 15. Boys' Singles: Semi-finals: D. Tan (Middx) bt Parker 15, 23; A. Barden (Middx) bt J. Fuller (Norfolk) 13, 16. Final Final: BARDEN bt Tan 12, -13, 20. Girls' Singles: Semi-finals: Tarten bt J. Richardson (Yorks) 12, -20, 12; Rogers bt J. Walker (Yorks) -16, 17, 14. Final: ROGERS bt Tarten 14, -19, 18. Lancashire 2-Star Junior

Under-17 Events Boys' Singles: Quarter-finals: R. Wiley (Yorks) bt G. Hall (Leics) 18, 11; D. Jaliop (Derbys) bt R. Robson (Yorks) 16, 16; Ward (Yorks) bt P. Halmshaw (Yorks) p. 9, 19; I. Hallows (Lancs) bt B. Alderson (Yorks) 9, 19; N. Hallows (Lancs) bt B. 18, 12. Seni-finals: Wiley bt Yallop 13, 19; Ward bt Hallows 9, 9. Final: WILEY bt Ward 14, 19. Girls' Singles: Quarter-finals: B. Williams bt K. Wilson (Yorks) 12, 21; M. Mellor (Derbys) bt M. Ludi (Yorks) ĥ7 17, 6;
S. Manning (Lancs) bt S. Sutton (Essex) 18, 11;
D. St. Ledger (Warwks) bt B. Shepherd (Yorks) -17, 18, 12.
Semi-finals:
Williams bt Mellor -15, 21, 10;
Manning bt St. Ledger -10, 20, 17.
Final: WILLIAMS bt Manning 20, 18. Boys' Doubles: Semi-finals: B. Alderson/Ward bt L. Eadie/D. Iszatt (Essex) 16, 18; P. Vickers (Derbys)/Yallop bt D. Boulter/ P. Hunt (Essex) 15, 19. Final ALDERSON/WARD bt Vickers/Yallop 14, ALDERSON/WARD bt Vickers/Yallop 14, 14. Girls' Doubles: Semi-finals: Manning/Williams bt Ludi/Mellor 16, 13; K Groves (Warwks)/St. Ledger bt W. Brown (Derbys)/J. McLean (Yorks) 16, 20. Final: MANNING/WILLIAMS bt Groves/St. Ledger 20. 21. Under-15 Events Boys' Singles: Quarter-finals: Wiley bt Eadie -13, 16, 11; T. Burrows (Ches) bt M. Thirkettle (Yorks) 21, 12; 21, 12; Hall bt Hallows 18, -12, 19; C. Rogers (Leics) bt M. Barry (Lancs) 15, 16. Semi-finals: Wiley bt Burrows -11, 9, 13; Rogers bt Hall 14, 12. WILEY bt Rogers 18, 20.

Wille 1 bt Rogers 16, 20, Girls' Singles: Quarter-finals: C Reeves (Berks) bt K. Cropper (Lancs) 16, 9; Wilson bt N. Carne (Yorks) 9, 16; Shepherd bt Groves 13, 19; Sutton bt P. Allen (Ches) -19, 17, 10. Semt-finals: Reeves bt Wilson 12, -15, 11; Sutton bt Shepherd 16, 9. Final:

Final: SUTTON bt Reeves -18, 17, 17.

Under-13 Events Boys' Singles: Quarter-finals: Rogers bt A. Smith (Warwks) 11, 16; M. Harrison (Yorks) bt A. Summerscales (Yorks) 11, 15;

D. Newman (Essex) bt Thirkettle 16, -12, 17 17; K. Hall (Leics) bt R. Allen (Derbys) 20. -19, 11. Semi-finals: Rogers bt Harrison 1, 11; Newman bt Hall 19, -18, 19. Final: ROGERS bt Newman 16, 22. Girls' Singles: Quarter-finals: J. Skipp (Yorks) bt S. Lister (Yorks) -8, 13, 17; C. Brown (Derbys) bt L. Holmes (Derbys) 14, 14; Bouiter (Essex) bt M. Leggatt (Derbys) I 11. 8; Newman (Cambs) bt L. Crook (Lancs) R 8

Semi-finals: Skipp bt Brown 14, 12; Boulter bt Newman 19, 15. Final

BOULTER bt Skipp -21, 11, 16.

THE LINCOLN HANDICAP

Mr. Sabey of 25 Lyndhurst Avenue, Tolworth, Surrey won the £250 first prize in the E.T.T.A.'s Lincoln Handicap Lottery when his ticket No. 120913 drew the winning horse Bronze Hill

Second prize of £50 went to R. Templeton of 2 Vogan Avenue, Crosby, Liverpool 23 whose ticket 153627 drew Queendom. The third prize of £25 was won by Mr. Fuller, c/o Smith and Turner Ltd., Griffin Brewery, Chiswick, London W.4. who drew the third placed horse Desperate Dee with ticket 368541.

£3 was paid out to the holders of all other runners.

LANCASHIRE NOTES

by George R. Yates

TIME NIGH

FOUNDED in 1929, the Preston and District League have never won the 1st Division championship of the Laucashire and Cheshire League but their time could well be nigh.

Since sharing the points with Stockport, back in Oct last, they have beaten Manchester (9-1), Blackpool (8-2), Bolton (6-4) and Farnworth (7 - 3).

And, during that time, junior inter-national Donald Parker has only been beaten once - by Bolton's Derek Schofield.

Much, however, will hinge on the result between Preston and Liverpool on April 6 for Tony Clayton, Wally Allanson and Pete D'Arcy, 7-3 con-querors of Stockport on Mar 22, still pose a considerable threat.

Lacking the services of Clayton, the Liverpudlians dropped a valuable point to Blackpool whose fate, along with Chester, is now sealed. Current

Р	W	D	LF	A Pts	
Preston5	4	1	0 35	15 9	ł
Manchester6	4	1	1 39	21 9	
Liverpool5	3	2	0 32	15 9 21 9 18 8 29 7 32 5 42 1 34 0	
Stockport6	3	1	2 31	29 7	
Bolton6	2	1	3 31	29 5	
Farnworth6		1	3 28	32 5	
Blackpool6	0	1	5 18	42 1	1
Chester4		0	46	34 O	
Favourites for pr	ome	otio	n to tl	he top	

flight are Blackburn, from Div. 2 (N) and Sale, from Div. 2 (S). Both are unbeaten with Blackburn boasting a 100 per cent record, Sale having been held to a draw by Ashton and Crewe.

Manchester, having beaten nearest rivals Liverpool 6-4, have it all to themselves in the Women's Div. 1 and, in the Junior Div. 1, Lancaster and Morecambe, have won the title despite having one match left, away to Bury. They have maximum points from seven engagements as have Liverpool in Junior Div. 2.

For the second successive season Burnley failed to lift the Norman Cook Memorial Trophy when, on Mar 17, they were beaten 5-4 by Lancaster and Morecambe.

From leading 2—1 Burnley slumped to 2—5 and the Trophy was, irre-trievably, lost once more and the 'paper tigers' as Arthur Hartshorn put it, failed yet again.

But all credit to the Div 3 (North) team whose Martin Simmons, Tin Nguyen, Carl Stebbing and Mrs. Doris Colbeck, in receipt of 3 points start per game, proved worthy winners. For the record Simmons and Mrs. Colbeck have now gone seven seasons without defeat in the mixed doubles. Indivi-dual scores (L & M names first):---

M. Simmons bt J. Keogh -19, 19, 18; T. Nguyen lost to D. Hodgson -18, 12, -21;

C. Stebbing lost to A. Hartshorn -7. -12:

Simmons/Mrs. D. Colbeck bt

Hartshorn/Mrs. J. Jackson 13, 17; Nguyen/Stebbing bt Hodgson/Keogh -18, 9, 9; Mrs. Colbeck bt Mrs. Jackson 3, 9;

Nguyen bt Keogh 10, -14, 7; Stebbing lost to Hodgson -16, -15; Simmons lost to Hartshorn -17, -20.

Congratulations to Liverpool's Brian Leeson on his elevation to National Umpire following in the wake of Bolton's Alan Porter and Gordon Campbell.

Tuesday, May 22 is the date of the Lancs. AGM again to be held at the East Lancs. Paper Mills Social Club, Cheetham St., Radcliffe which is some 200 yards distant from Radcliffe railway station.

Preceding the County AGM will be one to put into effect the Lancashire and Cheshire League as an indepen-dent body to be henceforward selfadministered with its own officers and elected members. This all-important meeting is timed for 7 p.m., at the same venue on the same date.

MIDDLESEX NOTES

by Laurie Landry

SUCCESSES FOR THE JUNIORS

MAIN activities in the Middlesex area this month have been centred on member leagues closed championships. It was pleasing to note that following the lead set by Andrew Barden (14) winning the County Closed, the other boys in the Middlesex Junior team, Mark Mitchell (15), David Tan (16) and Robert Huson (16) won the men's singles titles in the closed championships of Willesden, North Middlesex and Wembley respectively. What is more, these wins were all achieved against some of the best players in the County,

On the inter-league front, North Middlesex have won both the Senior and Junior Divisions - a true indication of strength in depth. The Junior side of Barden, Mitchell and Tan is also set for the final of the Coca-Cola Carter Cup Competition if they continue the form displayed thus far. Central are attempting to win the J.M. Rose Bowl yet again and it is difficult to see any other side stopping them.

Bbituar *p*

TOWER OF STRENGTH

BELATEDLY to hand comes the sad tidings of the death of Marjorie Alice Carrington, peacefully in hos-pital on Jan. 12, after a short illness.

Marjorie Carrington was assistant to former ETTA Scretary, Bill Pope, before and during the war period. As a back room girl she was a tower of strength and a first class worker.

It is one of the misfortunes of the passing of time that there are cur-rently few who would have known her but it was on people like Marjorie that the strength of the Association has been built.

A.K.V.

COUNTY DIARY

FIXTURES AND VENUES FOR APRIL, 1973

PREMIER DIVISION Apl. 28 Essex v Yorkshire. EASTERN Apl. 21 Cambridgeshire II v Suffolk. SENIOR PROMOTION CHALLENGE Api. 28/29 Redditch Youth Centre, ipsley Street, Redditch, Worcs. JUNIOR PROMOTION CHALLENGE Apl. 14/15 Loughborough Sports Centre, Loughborough, Leics. VETERAN CHALLENGE Apl. 14 Venue depends on winner of Veteran South.

top players are JOOLA-fans



top players are **JOOLA**-fans



Controversy JOHN WOODFORD questions a decision and touches briefly on other subjects.

NO one I have spoken to has ever doubted the application, hard work and skill put into major tournament refereeing by John Wright but I, along with many others question his decision to scratch Denis Neale and Trevor Taylor at Brighton.

Its a fine thing to be known as "inflexible" but as any successful business executive will tell you there are times when circumstances have to be taken into consideration. I do not accept John Wright's attitude, which roughly translated was. "I don't care what the players were doing or why they were held up, they were not here when required and that is that".

From my own personal experience it was asking the impossible to give anybody an hour to walk from the Corn Exchange to the Royal Albion Hotel, have their lunch and walk back because this is what was required of them. What Neale and Taylor could have done was to have skipped their sweet and coffee and then literally run back to the hall; they could also have telephoned to explain their pre-dicament. They were genuinely held up and should have been allowed to play.

England must be the only country in the world where over-zealous officials would penalise their own players in such circumstances.

Cases have occurred in table tennis and other sports where players have been given whole days to appear, even in this country — depending on the circumstances. If the players were deliberately absconding or just being awkward then I would be the first to say take them out.

But in this instance, their late arrival was not basically their fault and so they should have been allowed to play. Can you imagine Yugoslav officials in Sarajevo this month scratching Stipancic and Surbek in the same situation?

LATE ENTRIES

Swift reaction from the organisers of the Norwich Union International Championships to the recent acceptance by major tournaments of late entries. One entry, from a young lady soon expected to reach the bottom end of the England rankings, was refused as it was one day late. Postal delays these days are so frequent that I would have thought 24 hours grace would have been allowed, but on reflection the answer must lie with the players ---don't leave your entries to the last possible minute and throw yourselves at the mercy of the Post Office.

APPEALS

I realise now that my reference to appeals and the suggestion that correctly organised appeals are rare could have been mis-construed. I think that most counties know enough about proccdure by now to organise the sitting of an appeals committee. What really meant was that few leagues in my experience understand "natural justice" procedure in disciplinary procedure in disciplinary

Frequently, leagues suspend cases players with immediate effect and give the accused person or persons no op-portunity to defend themselves.

This of course is not on . . players suspended in this way without a hearing are on firm ground if they appeal against instant punishment and the league is on marshy soil; but often of course, the player does not know his rights and the league chairman forgets that even in sport an accused person has the democratic right to defend his position.

WORLD EVENTS

More and more table tennis fanatics are prepared to spend a week of their spring holidays supporting an England team playing in World's or European championships as most people now get four weeks holiday a year.

Countries organising World championships often start their preparations years ahead but are inclined to leave things like hotel accommodation for visiting supporters to virtually the last month. Tourism today is a major industry almost everywhere, no less in Yugoslavia the scene of this year's global spectacular at Sarajevo.

Having chosen a city in the mountains, with clearly less hotel accommodation than a coastal resort you would have thought that competing nations would have been advised months ago so that people could make their plans and decide if they could afford the trip. What has happened is that the E.T.T.A. have only recently been notified of the hotel situation, leaving What has happened is that the intending supporters literally three or four days to make up their minds. And the cost — after real bargain trips to Munich and Rotterdam intending supporters are faced with three choices of inclusive packages from $\pounds75$ to $\pounds98$ for a week—anyway, whose coming with me?

JUNIORS IN HOLLAND

DOUBLE DEFEAT AT DE LIER

Three wins for Bert van der Ham and two by Rene Hijne sufficed to give Holland a 5-3 win over England in a Junior Boys' International at De Lier on Mar. 10.

After Donald Parker had lost the opening set to v.d. Ham, England went into a 2-1 lead when Paul Day beat A. Vlieg and Simon Heaps accounted for Hijne.

The next England success came three sets later when Heaps also beat Vlieg to equate the match score at 3-all. But subsequent defeats for both Day and Heaps gave the Dutch a decisive lead and deprived Parker of the chance of success against the luckless Vlieg.

Individual scores, in match order, were:--

D. Parker lost to B. v.d. Ham -11, -20;

P. Day bt A. Vlieg 19, 6; S Heaps bt R. Hijne -18, 16, 15; Day lost to v.d. Ham -18, -17; Parker lost to Hijne 19, -9, -21; Heaps bt Vlieg 15, 9; Day lost to Hijne -13, -13; Heaps lost to v.d. Ham -16 -22.

A first class display by Anita Stevenson, who beat Holland's top girl Renee Fierlier as well as M. v.d. Vliet, failed to bring England a win

in the counterpart Girls' match won 3-2 by the home duo. A pronounced lack of mobility resulted in Elaine Tarten losing both her singles and the Dutch girls won the doubles. Scores'-

A. Stevenson bt M. v.d. Vliet -12, 15. 16:

E. Tarten lost to R. Fierlier -14, -20; Stevenson/Tarten lost to Fierlier/ Vliet -20, -11;

Stevenson bt Fierlier 11, 11; Tarten lost to Vliet -16, -15.

ROUND-ROBINS

On the following day at Schiedom, Anita further emphasised her superiority to win all her five sets in a round-robin tournament to come out in No. 1 position. Wins over Miss Fierlier, Monique Vogels and Marian Wagemakers earned Elaine runnersup place. Positions:

1. A. Stevenson

- 2. E. Tarten
- 3. R. Fierlier
- 4. M. Wagemakers
- 5. M. Vogels
- 6. M. v.d. Vliet

The boys also struck improved form with Heaps and Parker both making the semi-finals from two parallel groups the results of which were:-

Group A-

- S. Heaps
- bt S. Mulder 2-0
- bt R. Quadt 2-0
- bt W. Dumez 2-1

bt L. van Zuylen 2-1 lost to R. Hijne 0-2 Group B-P. Day lost to D. Parker 0-2

lost to v.d. Ham 1bt W. Ijsselstein 2-0 lost to H. Lingen 1-2 bt H. Oppenheim 2-0 D. Parker bt Day 2-0 bt Oppenheim 2-0 bt Lingen 2—0 lost to v.d. Ham 1—2

bt Ijsselstein 2-0

In the semi-finals Heap bt van der Ham -15, 16, 13 while Parker lost to Hijne 10, -17, -20. Heaps carried on the good work by beating Hijne in the final 18 and 16. In the playoffs for places 7 and 8, Day beat Dumez -12, 15 and 14.

- Positions:-
- 1. S. Heap
- 2. R. Hijne
- ± 3 . D. Parker and B. v.d. Ham
 - H. Lingen 5.
 - L. van Zuylen 6.
 - P. Day W. Dumez 7.
 - 8.
 - W. Ijsselstein 9.
- 10. R. Quadt 11. H. Öppenheim
- 12. S. Mulder

TREASURER'S PHONE

As from Monday, April 30, the business telephone number of the E.T.T.A.'s Hon. Treasurer, Mr. Tom Blunn will be Hull 224111.





FIRST WORLD UNIVERSITY **TABLE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS**

Variation on a theme by Pseud O'nym



Play during the men's singles final in the Sporthalle am Niedersachsenstadion, Hanover.

a flexible With like term 'University' to work around, it is small wonder that the First World University T.T. Championships, played in Hanover over the period First World Feb 20/25, produced such a variation in playing standard, from U.S.S.R., who fielded their entire national team, to Cambodia, who barely managed set throughout the whole week. Indeed, if Hungary had played and included Tibor Klampar, it would hardly have come as a surprise.

In the light of this, the team representing British Universities, con-sisting of Tony Clayton, Alan Fletcher, Brian Mitchell, Susan Lisle, Elaine Smith and Sheila Hamilton, with ETTA Northern Staff Coach Peter Simpson as n.p.c., fared neither better

nor worse than would have been expected, with the women finishing sixth and the men ninth in the team events.

MEN'S TEAM EVENT

The preliminary system of play in the team event was that of eight groups of two teams each, with the winners going forward and the losers going back and never the twain to meet - an odd system to say the least since it relies crucially on accurate seeding. The seeding, as it turned out, was fairly good, but still, Britain could consider themselves a trifle unlucky in finishing ninth, having lost only one match!

The first match resulted in a o-5 loss to a strong Austrian team, an



The British team (1. to r.) Elaine Smith, Alan Fletcher, Sheila Hamilton, Tony Clayton, Susan Lisle, Brian Mitchell and Peter Simpson (n.p.c.).

unflattering score, for, although the Austrian 1 and 2 ranked players, Hienz Schluter and Rudolf Weinmann, could arguably be said to be too good for either Fletcher or Mitchell, the unfamiliar slow conditions undoubtedly accounted for Clayton's loss to Schluter, since he beat the same player later in the week by scores of 16, 11, 11 in the Consolation Singles final. (More about our only title later!). Clayton also lost to the antiloop defender Dietmar Wachterhardy the brightest of starts.

Britain's subsequent matches against Belgium, Italy, Turkey and finally Luxembourg in the 9th place play-off, all followed a pattern, with Clayton undefeated and Mitchell and Fletcher losing to each team's No. 1 and beating the Nos. 2 and 3 in each case.

MEN'S TEAM FINAL

U.S.S.R. v. YUGOSLAVIA

The complete dominance of the U.S.S.R. in all the men's events throughout the week was given only a slight jolt by Yugoslavia in the men's team final. After Sarkis Sarkhojan had beaten Zlatko Cordas, and Stanislav Gomozkov had labouriously beaten the defensive Bela Mesaros, the Yugoslavs began a recovery with Milivoy Karakasevic thumping off Anatoly Strokatov and Cordas beating Gomozkov, his backhand kill to win the set being cheered as loudly as any shot throughout the week. The zenith came half way through the next set when Karakasevic suddenly decided that he was beating Sarkhojan a little too easily — he lost, and the Russians took the next two with a strong sense of purpose.

WOMEN'S TEAM EVENT

The British Universities women's team of Susan Lisle and Elaine Smith, with Sheila Hamilton as reserve, were placed in a preliminary group with Rumania, Sweden and the eventual winners, Federal Germany.

It was against Federal Germany that the first match was played — and lost, by a margin of 0-3. However, against Rumania, Susan Lisle started the match with an excellent win over Eleanora Vlaicov. Hopes slipped away easily after that, however, Carmen Crisan beat Elaine Smith convincingly and the doubles and Vlaicov v. Smith went the same way.

Britain were left to beat Sweden to binain were left to beat Sweden to go forward to the fifth place play-off, this they did by 3—o, with Sheila Hamilton replacing Sue Lisle for the doubles. France, with Claude Bergeret and Yveline Lecler then proved too strong and Britain finished a credi-table sixth.

WOMEN'S TEAM FINAL F. GERMANY v. CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Federal Germany's defensive pair of Wiebke Hendriksen and Gerlinde Glatzer, to the delight of the home crowd, won the women's team event final against Czechoslovakia, whose appearance there was due almost solely to Alicia Grofova. In fact, in beating U.S.A., Canada, U.S.S.R., France and finally losing 2-3 to Federal Germany, Grofova remained unbeaten, Helena Pauknerova won only one set (against Canada). As against the U.S.S.R., the match swung on the doubles, but in this case, the Germans won convincingly.

INDIVIDUAL EVENTS

Sarkis Sarkhojan and Alicia Grofova. both unbcaten in the team events, continued their run of form into the singles and carried off their respective titles.

In the women's final, Grofova repeated her team event win against Zoya Rudnova, in a match which saw a subdued Rudnova hit her way out of a dire position in the 4th game, only to lose -19 in the 5th.

The men's final contrasted sharply to this, with Sarkhojan brushing aside Jaroslav Kunz with almost arrogant ease. When Sarkhojan is 'on' he is really worth watching, and he has a flair that few can surpass. (Remember his game against Kjell Johansson at Wembley in 1966?). It is a pity he is not seen more often. The Russians, as a formality, took the three doubles titles, and that was that.

Of British success in the major events there is little to report. All three men went out first round. Fletcher to Sarkhojan, Mitchel to Viktor Popov, the Russian No. 4, and Clayton, having the unluckiest draw possible, to Georg Nicklas, a German anti-loop dcfender.

However, in the Consolation singles, Clayton showed his true ability and stormed through to win, dropping only one game on the way. In the same event, Mitchell lost second round to Vaclav Adamek (Czecho) at 17 in the 5th, and Fletcher, in the quarters, led Jean Krier by 2-0 and 12-6, 12-6in the 4th and 10-8 in the 5th before losing.

The girls fared slightly better in their singles encounters. Susan Lisle beat Lecler over 5 games but was slightly bettered for speed by Asta Gedraitite (USSR). Sheila Hamilton beat Martin (USA) then lost to Vlaicov, and Elaine Smith was beaten by Pogosova (USSR) in Round 1.

Elaine then entered the Consolation singles and played determinedly to reach the final; her last three sets, two arduous 5-game struggles against defenders Hildegard Löbig (Fed. Germany) and Maria Korodi (Rumania) and the final against Lecler, involved two hours of play with hardly a break.

With no Consolation events to fall back on, success was scarce in the doubles, and the quarter-final reached by Sheila Hamilton paired with Korodi in the women's doubles, was in reality only the second round.

CONCLUSION

Taken all in all, should the cham-pionships be taken as a success or a failure? Clearly the Iron Curtain countries, and the U.S.S.R. in particular, will go on winning ad infinitum, unless by pure chance, some other country has three ranked players at university in the same year.

Nevertheless, the situation in reality is not that undesirable, the true success of the World University Championships is the chance for some of the world's lesser players to learn from and compete with some of the greater, and, from the English point of view, doesn't the same situation exist in the full internationals?

FINAL-PLACING TEAM RESULTS:-

- MEN
- U.S.S.R. 5, Yugoslavia 2, Federal Germany 5, Czechoslovakia 3, Sweden 5, Austria 1, Rumania 3, France 3, GT. BRITAIN 5, Luxembourg 2, Italy 5, U.S.A. 1, Belgium 5, Israel 1, Turkey 5, Cambodia 0, Canada 1/2 3/4
- 5/6 7/8 9/10 11/12
- 13/14 15/16 17

WOMEN NO 1/2 3/4 5/6 7/8 9

- Federal Germany 3. Czechoslovakia 2. U.S.S.R. 3. Rumania 1. France 3. GT. BRITAIN 0. Sweden 3. U.S.A. 1. Canada.



Tony Clayton pondering on the problems set by anti-loop defenders.

INDIVIDUAL RESULTS Men's Singles: Round 3: Men's Singles: Round 3: S Gomozkov (USSR) bt B. Persson (Sw) -19, 20, 15, 11; Z. Cordas (Yu) bt T. Georghe (Ru) 17, 13, 15; J. Leiss (FRG) bt V. Popov (USSR) 15, -16, 17, 20; J. Kunz (Cz) bt J. Schindler (FRG) 15, 12, 7; S. Sarkhojan (USSR) bt O. Krupnik (Cz) 10, 18, 5; Final
 Satisfield
 State
 A. 23, 18, 16; J. Karakasevik (Yu) bt P Birocheau (Fr) 12, 12, 13. М Quarter-finals: Gomozkov bt Cordas 14, 20, 19; Kunz bt Leiss -20, 14, 9, 15; Sarkhojan bt Schmittinger -18, 18, 19 -15, 16; Strokatov bt Karakasevik 18, -11, 8, 18. 12, 10, 19,

Semi-finals: KUNZ bt Gomozkov 12, -19, -11, 13, 19; SARKHOJAN bt Strokatov 11, 20, -19, -17, 13, SARKHOJAN bt Kunz 14, 18, 13. SARKHOJAN bt Kunz 14, 18, 13. ¹Women's Singles: Quarter-finals: Z. Rudhova (USSR) bt C. Bergeret (Fr) -18, 12, -10, 16, 15; R. Pogosova (USSR) bt C. Crisan (Ru) 20, -9, -19, 9, 16; W. Hendriksen (FRG) bt A. Gedraitite (USSR) 19, 16, 16; A. Grofova (C2) bt E. Vlaicov (Ru) 13, 13, 15, 15; Semi-finals: RUDNOVA bt Pogosova 15, 18, 23; GROFOVA bt Hendriksen 18, 18, 23. Final: GROFOVA bt Rudnova -11, 11, 14, -19, 19. Men's Doubles: Semi-finals: Leiss/Schmittinger bt Cordas/Karakasevik 14, -15, 6, 10; Gomozkov/Sarkhojan bt Krupnik/Kunz

Final: GOMOZKOV/SARKHOJAN bt Leiss/

GUMUZKOV/SARKHOJAN bt Leiss/ Schmittinger 9, -19, 15, 9, Women's Doubles: Semi-finals: L. Andreeva (USSR)/Pogosova bt Bergeret/ Y, Lecler (Fr) 14, 11, 14; Gedraitite/Rudnova bt Crisan/Vlaicov

15, 12, 11. Final: GEDRAITITE/RUDNOVA bt Andreeva/

GEDRAITITE/RUDNOVA bt Andreeva, Pogosova -25, 13, 20, 13, Mixed Doubles: Semi-finals: Gomozkov/Rudnova bt Strokatov/ Gedraitite 18, 13, -20, 15; Sarkhoian/Pogosova bt Leiss/Hendriksen 10, 21, 15.

Final

10, 21, 15.
Final:
SARKHOJAN/POGOSOVA bt Gomozkov/ Rudnova 12, 10, 12.
Men's Consolation Singles: Quarter-finals:
H. Schlüter (Au) bt V. Adamek (Cz)
11, -21, 12, 17.
Krier (Lux) bt A. Fletcher (GB)
-20, -17, 19, 16, 14;
V. Fursov (USSR) bt O. Vardar (Tur)
-17, 10, 16, 20;
A. Clayton (GB) bt Z. Pavelka (Cz)
-14, 20, 18, 11.
Semi-finals:
Schlüter bt Krier 16, 16, 19;
Clayton bt Fursov 13, 20, 18.
Final:

Final: ULAYTON bt Schlüter 16, 11, 11. Women's Consolation Singles: Quarter-finals: M. Korodi (Ru) bt R. Neubäumer (FRG) 18, 20, 15; E. Smith (GB) bt H. Löbig (FRG) -17, 21, 15, -19, 17; Lecler bt L. Andersson (Swe) 11, 10, -17, 19; E. Becker (FRG) bt B. Zips (FRG) CLAYTON bt Schlüter 16, 11, 11. -17, 19; E Becker (FRG) bt B. Zips (FRG) 23, 16, 17. Semi-finals: Smith bt Korodi -17, -19, 20, 14, 19; Lecler bt Becker 14, 14, 11. LECLER bt Smith 14, 16, -18, 18,

STATUS QUO

RETURNED unopposed for further term in office Charles Wyles (Chairman), George Yates (Deputy Chairman) and Tom Blunn (Hon. Treasurer) hereby tender their thanks for the vote of confidence as expressed by member leagues and counties of the E.T.T.A.

Gbituary

SAD LOSS

THE Newport League suffered a sad blow when their popular President, Mr. Ted Brooks, passed away, suddenly, on Mar 6. Last year, at the Western League AGM, Ted had been appointed a Vice-President in recognition of long-standing service to the League.

From 1947 to 1964 he held the position of Match Secretary of the Newport League and, in 1966, he was unanimously elected President in succession to Mr. D. C. Rowe who had left England to live in Malta.

Ted and his wife, May, were wellknown to competitors in the Gwent Open for since 1949 they had worked together on the tournament charts.

For the last two years Ted had lived with a pacemaker and, early in November last, had had a new one inserted. During that time he continued his activities so admirably even indulging in old time dancing, which he loved, because the doctor had banned him from playing table tennis

It came as a shock when he died so suddenly in the early hours of Tuesday, Mar 6, of coronary thromhosis.

Our sincere and heartfelt condolences are sent to May and son Lyndon and to daughter-in-law Helen. As a personal friend of mine for over 30 years I will sadly miss him.

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The Coca-Cola National Team Trophy **Competitions**

by Keith Ponting

IN THE MONEY FROM NOW ON

Once again the stage has been reached when winning teams can gain some much needed finance for their leagues and competition will no doubt leagues and competition will no doubt increase to fever pitch despite the fact that seven of the eight leagues concerned with the final stages at Birmingham last May are still going strong. Barking is the one exception having been beaten by Wandsworth.

Inter-Zone final results to hand:-WILMOTT CUP

Chesterfield 0, North Yorkshire 6 Trevor Taylor, Denis Neale and David Alderson were not really | East London 5, Romford 1 extended no set requiring a deciding game.

North Herts. 4, Cheshunt 5

A very exciting match with the visitors from trailing 3-4 winning the last two sets. Peter Taylor in great form for North Herts.

East Grinstead 0, Central London 6

A comfortable win for the Londoners with Peter Williams, Simon Heaps and Terry Kirby in convincing form.

Staines 7, Bristol 2 David Welsman was the hero for Staines with three wins in a hardfought match.

ROSE BOWL

Chesterfield 5, North Yorkshire 1

Although the home team ran out easy winners, the early sets were very tough. The first two, in particular, were real thrillers especially the one between Sheila Hamilton (N. Yorks.) against Mandy Mellor. For the home team Sandra Walters was never extended and is playing better than ever.

West Bromwich 8, Stowmarket 1

Jenny Cornock and Kath Perry in fine form for the home team but a good win was registered for the visitors when Janet List beat Ann Baker

Willesden 0, Central London 5

Another easy win for the 'super' team. Diane Court, Shelagh Hession and Judy Williams all outstanding.

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Janet Hellaby, Lesley Radford and Elsie Carrington far too good for Romford, Ann Hewitt beat Mrs. Carrington 22-20 in the third to break the Romford 'duck'. CARTER CUP

Hull 0, North Yorkshire 5

Hard though the Hull team fought they could make little impression on David Alderson, Philip Ward and Robert Wiley.

Preston 3, Stockport 5

Donald Parker got his usual maximum for Preston but Graham Jackson, Trevor Burrows and John Hook won enough sets between them to bring off an unexpected win.

Ipswich 6, Leicester 3

John Kitchener was the 'star' player on view, his three making sure for the Suffolk team.

Crawley 5, Newbury 1

Last season's surprise semi-finalists, Crawley, are having another good season and had little trouble in this match.

BROMFIELD TROPHY

Slough 0, Thames Valley 9

The score speaks for itself but full marks to the Slough girls who never stopped trying. Susan Tame, Shelagh Ryde and Kay Greenough in tremendous form for the visitors.

Reading 3, Guildford 6

The visitors were without Linda Howard, but with Nicolette Leslie winning three, overcame the handicap.

Additional Results WILMOTT CUP

Huddersfield 4, Manchester 5 Ely 1, Birmingham 5 East London 5, Barking 2

J. M. ROSE BOWL

Stockport w.o. Spalding (Scr) North Herts. 4, Reading 5 Worthing 6, Portsmouth 3 Taunton 0, Guildford 8

CARTER CUP

North Herts. 2, Cambridge 5 Barking 3, Wandsworth 5 North Middlesex 9, Folkestone 0 Bristol 7, Basingstoke 2

L. M. BROMFIELD TROPHY

Liverpool w.o. Wirral (Scr) Wolverhampton 5, Leicester 3 Bletchley 0, Cheshunt 6 Dagenham 7, Barking 2 Southampton w.o. Newbury (Scr)

> QUARTER-FINAL DRAWS (Closing date: 15 April, 1972)

Wilmott Cup

*North Yorkshire v. Manchester Cheshunt v. Birmingham East London v. Central London Staines v. Brighton

Rose Bowl

Stockport v. Chesterfield West Bromwich v. Reading *Central London v. East London Worthing v. Guildford

Carter Cup

Stockport v. *North Yorkshire Cambridge v. Ipswich North Middlesex v. Wandsworth Bristol v. Crawley

Bromfield Trophy

Liverpool v. Northumberland or Hull Wolverhampton v. Cheshunt Thames Valley v. Dagenham Southampton v. Guildford * denotes holders.

Midland League

by PHILIP REID

Still Excitement. With the season drawing to a close, there is still plenty of excitement in most divisions of the Midland League. Nowhere is this more true than in the Men's and Division. Cheltenham and Oxford, who have both dropped two points must be co-favourites and their match with each other could decide the tille but waiting for any slip-ups are Derby, West Bromwich and Wolverhampton who have each dropped five points. Equally there is rare battle going on at the other end of the chart where Leicester, Nuneaton and Walsall are engaged in a battle for survival.

The Women's Division is already settled - West Bromwich have topped the division without dropping a point. Their record of having dropped only ten of their 80 sets is a pretty formidable one. Jenny Cornock has lost only once and Kath Perry twice whilst completing the team is Anne Baker with an admirable 79.2%.

Loughborough lost their vital match with Coventry in the Intermediate Division and the position here is that Coventry need only draw with Redditch to finish top. An outright win should be well within their emphiliting energially with a correst capabilities, especially with so accom-plished a player as F. Lasek — who has lost only once this season (to Walsall's E. Ellis) in their side.

The set-up in the Junior 2B Division is that Loughborough must beat Derby outright to become champions It could be quite a match.

The long-awaited match in the Veterans 1st Division — between Coventry and Oxford — has still to take place but in the meantime G. Collins surrendered his 100 per cent. to Walsall's Don Pritchard, What is certain in this division is that Leicester will be relegated, though who will accompany them is not yet clear.

Gloucester play Derby in their last match in the Veterans' 2nd Division needing to win 10–0 to finish level on points and sets with Oxford, It's a formidable task. Top of the averages in this division is Oxford's D. B. Berging and the set of the task of task R. Benning, only one defeat (to Wor-cester 'B's Bernard Gilbert) in 24 sets.

In the Junior 1st Division, Birmingham slipped up by losing 7-3 to Nottingham, for whom Mick Douglas was on top form with a maximum. This division is now really wide open —Birmingham, Derby, Leicester and Nottingham are all there with a chance.

The Men's 1st Division shows Worcester being relegated after one season in the upper strata. Who accompanies them is anyone's guess. Bir-mingham 'A' must be very strong favourites for the title despite being unable to field a regular team. Only one player — Tony Isaac — has played more than twice for them this season! Paul Randell (Leicester) tops the divisional averages, closely fol-lowed by Alan Croome (Nottingham) and Roy Morley (Gloucester).

Unless they do anything startling in the last three matches, Wolver-hampton look certain to top the 3rd hampton look certain to top the gru Division. They have relied on the same three players all the season and though Messrs, R. Dixon, J. Cain and S. Hodgetts have registered only four maximums out of a possible 18 between them they have still to drop a point how's that for consistency? a point-how's that for consistency?

In the Coaching Field

by John O'Sullivan

INTER-DEPENDENCE

WE have been reading lately of the necessity for players to improve their standard of fitness as well as their table tennis prowess. It could be said that one depends on the other.

A first class example of this was afforded at the recent Lancashire Junior Open. I noticed that the first or preliminary rounds were played at 9 a.m. and the boys' final at 10 p.m.

This means that successful players in two events, boys' U-15 and U-17, were playing under considerable pressure over a period of thirteen hours. True they were not actively on the table for the whole of that time, but they never knew to the minute when next they would be called.

This in itself must persuade most juniors that to be successful must also entail fitness.

I now come to the coaches whose job it is to produce the players. It would be difficult for any coach to pretend it was only the player that he had to keep in good shape for it is essential also that he keep himself in like condition.

This leads me to the course for coaches at Carnegie College, Leeds organised by Peter Simpson and Harry Dignan over the weekend of Apl. 27/29.

Each year, other than last, courses have been held at this College, with the main emphasis centred on fitness. This year the title is "Decision Making", but I have no doubt that during the weekend enough effort will be required to help keep you fit. I am hopeful of seeing many of you there.

On the schools' front, I have recently witnessed 'the ESTTA National Team Finals at Stoke's Northwood Centre,

This year there were fewer top stars such as Nicky Jarvis, Jimmy Walker and Donald Parker but we did have John Kitchener who was made to work very hard to beat Tony Martin and Philip Ward from Teesside. And, even then, he must have been thankful for a fortunate 'net' at 21-all when playing in the vital set.

Most cncouraging feature at Northwood was the strength in depth of the U-11 and U-13 age group contestants. It was not a case of one star player per team but I have little doubt that some stars will emerge.

In a year or so we may have even more interest in these annual finals. Peter Simpson tells me of a recent visit he made to Eastmoor High School, Wakefield to present track suits to the U-13 boys' team and to conduct a coaching session. Out of a team of four boys, two were Chinese, and when it came to do the actual coaching he found that *all* of his 20 pupils, of both sexes, used the penholder grip!

The master in charge of table tennis at the school, Mr. Parr, said that his charges had adapted this style, with variations, after the Chinese boys had proved to be the best players. On the other side of the Pennincs, newly-appointed Lancs T.T.A. Coaching Secretary, Jim Hoy, has been very busy organising coaching sessions and establishing centres within the Red Rose county.

He has arranged for monthly training sessions at Wythenshawc Forum, Manchester and at Leigh County Secondary School. Jim also has hopes of opening another centre in North Lancashire ever hopeful of getting the necessary assistance from coaches resident within the county.

We now come to another problem. You have only to look at your Tournament Diary to see that it would be impossible to arrange a monthly programme of coaching sessions without clashing with some important tournament.

County players, and inter-league players, require to participate in these tournaments, and this may entail some coaches travelling to the venue.

From this observation, I hope that coaches within the area who have no wish to go to tournaments will offer their services to Jim Hoy who can be contacted at 11a Hillstone Close, Greenmount, Bury, BL8 1RB. ('Phone o61-764 5540).

COACHING PANELS

PANEL 4. We would like to correct a mistake in the constitution of this Panel (T.T. News Feb/73).

The Chairman is, of course, John Waterhouse, not John Luther as printed. Apologies to the two Johns for the confusion. John Luther is still the very active Coaching Officer for the Bournemouth League.

HALEX GOLDEN RACKETS

BASED on a simple points system operated in all five 3-Star open tournaments this season Yorkshire's Denis Neale and Karenza Mathews of Middlesex had sufficient points in hand before the Teesside Championships to merit receipt of the Awards at Thornaby Pavilion from Johnny Leach.

Leading finishing positions were: -- MEN:

1. D. Neale (Yorks.)	130
2. T. Taylor (Ormesby)	65
3. O. Haslam (Middx.)	46
4. P. Taylor (Beds.)	22
5. A. Clayton (Yorks)	19
6. M. Johns (Ches.)	19
7. N. Jarvis (Yorks.)	18
8. L. Landry (Middx.)	18
WOMEN	
1. K. Mathews (Middx.)	144
2. J. Hammersley (Bucks.)	77
3. L. Howard (Surrey)	48
4. S. Howard (Surrey)	35
5. S. Lisle (Lancs.)	21
6. L. Radford (Essex)	16
7. J. Hellaby (Essex)	15
8. E. Tarten (Essex)	15
Allocation of points:	
Singles Do	ubles
Winner 16	8
Runner-up 8	4
Semi-finalist 4	2
Quarter-finalist 2	1

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National Finals Report 1973 **BY PETER MORNARD**

Terry Cooper, Leeds United and England full-back, hands over The Norman Cook Cup to Northgate School's U-19 boys' captain Robert Oldfield with team-mates John Kitchener, Kevin Savage and T. Diss in the background.

WITH the general standard of play undoubtedly the highest it has ever been, particularly in the younger-agegroup events, 4 of the 7 titles changed hands at the National Finals of the Stiga-Sponsored English Schools' Table-Tennis Association Team Cham-pionships held at the Northwood Sports Centre, Stoke-on-Trent, on Sunday, March 18th.

This season's Championships, which in some counties started at local level way back in September last year, have involved record entries of over one thousand teams from over thirty counties from an estimated total of 600 schools of all types. At the National Finals, thirteen counties were involved in the seven events ranging from Under-11 to Under-19, with Suffolk and Lincolnshire being represented for the first time since the competition began in 1967.

With the emphasis on team playeach of the four players plays two sets — many leading Junior players were unable to prevent their school being eliminated in the early stages, though there were certainly a large number of most promising players on display, with the Girls' standard having risen dramatically over the last few years. One girl in particular who looks to have great potential is 9-year-old Maxine Abbott, the Kent Under-11 Champion, who won all her sets in the competition, though was unable to prevent her team from the New City School, Essex, from being eliminated at the South-East Region Finals in London on March 4th.

Maxine's brother, Alex, met with Maxine's brother, Alex, hiet with more success, with the Under-15 Boys' Team from Cumberland School, Newham, Essex, (formerly Plaistow), retaining their title, with Alex and

Devilder Schmbi once again remain-ing undefeated. Cumberland empha-sised their phenomenal success in schools' table-tennis by also holding on to their Under-19 Girls' title, trouncing both Millom School, Cumberland, and Newbury County High School, Berkshire 7-1.

Suffolk's first-ever representatives in the National Finals, and indeed, the first-ever East Anglian representatives, Northgate Grammar School, Ipswich, led by England ranked Junior John Kitchener, pulled off the biggest surprise of the day by winning the Norman Cook Cup for the Boys' Under-19 event, though only after the most dramatic of tussles with the holders, St. Mary's College, Middlesbrough.

With Northgate having beaten Brandwood School, Birmingham, 8---o, and St. Mary's surprisingly having dropped a set to Brandwood, the Suffolk side only had to draw with St. Mary's in the deciding match, to take the title. Northgate looked well set with a 3-1 lead, though Tecsside boys came fighting back to take the next three sets in a row, with everything hanging on the top encounter of the day between Kitchener and Tony Martin. In the most tense of three-game battles, Kitchener even-tually confirmed his ranking by winning 24—22 in the third, though the result could hardly have been closer.

The Under-15 Girls' event saw the unfortunate occurence of the team from Exmouth School, Devon, feeling unable to appear because of the Prep. School, Surrey, 6-2,

sudden illness of their No. 2, though sulden illness of their No. 2, though they must have been hoping to have improved on last year's 3rd placing in the same event. This left the issue to be decided between Southall School, Middlesex, who had knocked out title-holders Cumberland in the South-East Region Finals, and Andrew Marvell School, Hull, with the Southall team romping home 7-1.

The Under-13 Events were somewhat of a contrast, with Westlands School, Sittingbourne, winning the Girls' title for the third year running a truly fantastic achievement! Every credit should be given to Lincolnshire's first representatives, Kesteven and Grantham School, whose No. 1 Suzanne Hunt put in an out-standing performance to win both her sets against Westlands, the only two they have dropped for three years!

The Under-13 Boys' Event, how-ever, provided the real drama of the day, with Beverley School, Surrey, and Millom School, Cumberland, having to play a deciding doubles, since they had drawn when they met each other, and both beaten The Blessed Hum-phrey School, Birmingham, 8-0. The Beverley pair of Boxall and Critchley proved the herocs of the day, beating Recd and Smith 21-13, 21-19 to win the title for the first time, with this the second occasion that Millom have been very narrowly defeated.

Winchcombe Junior School took the Mixed Under-11 Event, having finished runners-up last year, beating the all-boys' team from St. George's



Winchcombe School's Mandy Smith displays the Mixed U-11 trophy— The Irene Elliott Cup—with Byron Johnson the odd "man" out in a team otherwise comprising Gillian Heath and Patricia Collins.



Not the kind of line-up to be found at Elland Road, but still a winning one provided by (1. to r.) Marylyn Sangster, Jill Campion, Sue Dove and Angela Palmer of Southall School winners of the U-15 Girls' trophy, The Mick Betts Cup also presented by Terry Cooper.

mingham.

a great match.

Photos by John O'Sullivan

U-13 BOYS: 1st: Beverley School, New Maldon, Surrey. 2nd: Millom School, Cumberland. 3rd: The Blessed Humphrey School, Bir-

U-13 GIRLS: 1st: Westlands School,

3rd: Kennet School, Newbury.

Sittingbourne, Kent. 2nd: Kesteven

and Grantham School, Lincolnshire,

U-11 1st: Winchcombe Junior School,

Newbury. 2nd: St. George's Prep. School, Weybridge, Surrey. 3rd: Brough Primary School, Yorkshire.

WESTERN LEAGUE NOTES

NECK-AND-NECK

Men's section table both having

identical records from five winning

engagements and their meeting, at

Salisbury, has all the ingredients for

In the Women's section, Plymouth

have it all to themselves and, despite

having yet to play Bristol and Devizes, seemed poised for honours.

in the men's section beating Newport

6-3 in their final match despite their

visitors including former Welsh inter-

national Jeff Spencer in their team.

Mike Putland but found Bob Davies,

Exeter's new up-and-coming star, just that little bit too good for him.

Jeff accounted for Mike Rattue and

Exeter have completed their fixtures

Salisbury and Plymouth head the

by Grove Motlow

Brough County Primary School, near Hull, 5-3, with Gillian Heath and Byron Johnson both showing exceptional promise, winning all their sets with some most mature table-tennis.

The trophics were presented in-formally by the Leeds and England Full-Back Terry Cooper, with the matches once again most efficiently organised by the hard-working body of schoolteachers, without whose continued enthusiasm and effort there would be no competition. With the standard growing year by year, there is now talk of an Individual event, which would no doubt prove very popular if the success and development of the Team Championships since 1967 is anything to go by!

RESULTS:

- U-19 BOYS: 1st Northgate Grammar School, Ipswich, Suffolk. 2nd: St. Mary's College, Middlesbrough, 3rd: Brandwood School, Birmingham.
- -19 GIRLS: 1st: Cumberland School, Newham, Essex. 2nd: Millom School, Cumberland. 3rd: U-19 GIRLS: County High School, Newbury Berkshire
- U-15 BOYS: 1st: Cumberland School, Newham, Essex. 2nd: Moor Grange School, Leeds. 3rd: Washwood Heath School, Birmingham.
- U-15 GIRLS: 1st: Southall School, Middlesex, 2nd: Andrew Marvell School, Hull, 3rd: Exmouth School, Devon.

Daviës lost to Tony Watkins but | John Bloomer, Newport's No. 3 had a rare off day losing all three.

Newport's women went down 4at home to Exeter whose Pam Mortimer, once again, was mainly instrumental for the Devon team's success in chalking up a maximum. Maureen Spray added the other two.

Young Sarah Luke, taking the place of Val Addicott, gave a commen-dable performance despite losing her three games. Trailing 2-4 at one stage, Newport staged a great recovery to level the match score at 4-all but Pam beat Betty Jones, 17, 14, in the final set to cap another competend performance.

Another close finish developed between Bristol and Devizes with the former's Joan Collier sealing a home victory by beating Alison Boyce in the third game of the final set. The win gave Joan a good maximum to which Barbara Bowles added the other two at the expense of Helen Rusby and Marguerite Alexander.

Leading positions: ----

MEN:				
Р	W	LΓ	A Pts	
Plymouth 5			14 10	
Salisbury5	5	0 31	14 10	l
Newbury6	4	2 37	17 8	
Bristol5	3	2 25	20 6	
Exeter8	3	5 28	44 6	
WOMEN:				
P	W	L F	A Pts	
Plymouth5	5	0 35	10 10	
Exeter5	4	1 25	20 8	
Newbury3	2	1 17	10 4	
Bristol4	2	2 20	16 4	

HUNTINGDON & PETERBRO' NOTES

by David Obee

ST. IVES SPECTACULAR

COUNTY sides all suffered reverses during last month's matches, with only the Juniors coming near to salvaging a point with their 6-4 defeat by Herts. Scorers here were Jean Allinson (GS), Allinson/Belinda Chamberlain Tim Speller/Kevin (GD). Moore (BD) and Pcter Berna/Jean Allinson (XD).

Kent proved too strong by far for the veterans in their encounter, run-ning out 8-1 winners with only Colin Dale saving a whitewash for Hunts.

In their final match of the current campaign the senior side went down 2-8 against Northants at Peter-borough. The outstanding perfor-mance in this match was that of Barbara Webb who scored a fine singles win over Connie Bane. Alan Albon was the other winner for the home side.

Dave Deller, St. Ives livewire, has organised a feast of table tennis for all enthusiasts on April 27. The Corn Exchange, St. Ives will provide the setting for matches, competitions etc., with Chester Barnes and Trevor Taylor the main attractions. Helping out will also be Paul Day and Mick Harper, so this is plainly an evening to be noted.

Results from the Peterborough and Hunts Central League's closed tournaments are now to hand and are:-PETERBOROUGH

MS: Paul Charlton bt David Obee.

WS: Shelley Holland bt Evelytt Allinson.

- MD: Charlton/Obec bt Peter Kingsford/Melville Shorrick.
- WD: Pip Baker/Holland bt Evelyn/ Jcan Allinson. XD: Obec/W
- Obec/Holland bt Charlton/ J. Allinson. BS: Peter Berna bt Greg Baker. GS: J. Allinson bt Emily Walters.
- GS: J. Allinson bt Emily Walte VS: Clon Dale bt Eddic Berna.
- HUNTS CENTRAL
- MS: Tim Speller bt Jim Sizer. WS: Barbara Webb bt Dilys
- Greenwood. MD: Gcoff Atkinson/Albert Jackson bt Syd Burgess/Sizer.
- WD: Webb/Eileen Green bt Greenwood/Pam Norman,
- XD: Dave Deller/Webb bt Martin Murden/Green
- BS: Speller bt Charles Lister. GS: Jane Harris bt J. Barratt.

NATIONAL CLUB **CHAMPIONSHIPS** By John Pike

MEN'S COMPETITION ORMESBY CUP

Some interesting zone finals are now in prospect as the Ormesby Cup competition reaches the last 16. In the Zone 1 final, Ormesby the holders, are at home to St. James' from the Carlisle League, following their 6-0 win at Fairfield Boys Club, Stockton, in the previous round. St. James' will now try and succeed where all other teams have failed, but despite their 8-1 win over Millom Cricket Club, their chance of victory against this star-studded Ormesby side must be pretty slim.

Needingworth (Hunts. Central) go to Boston Penmaen for the Zone 2 final after their narrow 5-4 win over the Ipswich League side, Rosary. The winners of this tie will be at home to the Zone 1 winners in the quarterfinals.

The Zone 3 final will be played in Liverpool where English Electric will meet either Gatley Y.M.C.A. from Stockport or the Yorkshire side, Moor Alerton. As expected, the Midlands final will be an all-Y.M.C.A. affair with Central Birmingham, going to Leicester, Both teams had convincing wins in the previous round against Cambridge (Walsall) and Shefford (Bedford) respectively.

M.G. Athletic, Didcot, reached the Zone 5 final with a 7-2 win over Dunstable Vauxhall and will now be at home to St. Annes, Staines, who got their final ticket with a 5-0 win at Maidenhead.

The next two zones, 6 and 7, take in clubs in the London area, and here, teams from Barking, Walthamstow, Romford and Cheshunt will be fighting for a place in the quarter finals. The draw reads, Fellows Cranleigh v. Metropolitan Water Board and in the other final, Dagenite are at home to Ponders End W.M.C. The last final, Zone 8, will be played at Southampton where Snows Sports take on Gossops Forresters from the Crawley League. Snows deserve this home draw following what must rate as the best second round performance, a 5-4 win at Weston Y.M.C.A. On this form, the Hampshire side look all set to receive another London club in the quarter finals.

NOTES : COUNTY NOTES : COUNTY NOTES : COUNTY NOTE

County Notes Supplement

WORCESTERSHIRE NOTES

by lan R. Crickmer

HECTIC CLIMAX

ALTHOUGH the end of the playing season is in sight for most of the local League players, it is a different story for Worcestershire officials, who face a hectic climax to the 1972-73 campaign. The County Association has agreed again to stage the Second Division Promotion Challenge matches for the County Championships at Redditch Youth Centre — as there are now five Second Divisions, this will necessitate ten matches being played on the week-end of April 28th and 29th, as compared with six in last season's series. The scene then moves some half a mile along the Birmingham Road to the new Abbey Stadium Sports Hall, which will be the venue on Saturday, May 12th for the ETTA Under-13 Singles finals. Play will start on that day at 12-30 p.m., as each finalist is to meet each of his or her seven fellow title-aspirants in this, the fifth National Finals of an everincreasing event.

Increasing event. It is encouraging to find an excellent response by Worcestershire's leagues to the Under-13 championships, and the county will have been well represented in Region 4 played at Cheltenham on April 7th, Mention has already been made by Phil Reid in his Midland League report of Worcester's success in Junior 2A Division — certainly things are looking up in junior representative matches these days. For the County juniors' encounter with Wiltshire, Mandy Mytton was recruited to fill the second girl's spot on the morning of the match. Being only 11 years, 3 months at the time, she has taken over the record of being the youngest player to appear in Worcestershire colours.

It was not realised at the time just how important was her success in winning the mixed doubles with Andrew Oakley, but it later transpired that the match score is amended from 7-3 to 6-4 because of an unfortunate ranking error amongst the Worcestershire boys.

Not having done so carlier, I would have liked to comment on this season's activity in the Worcestershire County League — unfortunately, news about this competition is almost as elusive as that long-awaited news of a mammoth pools win or maximum prize from Ernie which would enable your correspondent to retire from work and devote himself entirely to table tennis! Sadly, four unplayed fixtures in the Mixed Division had to be awarded by default at the last meeting of the County Executive, and it seems that some Leagues still have players willing to turn out only if some one else does all the secretarial and preparatory work.

Congratulations to Eddie Mitchell on his recent clevation to National Umpire status — bearing in mind that most "Nationals" emanate from those counties which have either Premier Division status or Premier Division

aspirations, Worcestershire can feel well satisfied now to have three holders of the N.U. award.

The first League to have decided its individual titles for 1972/73, is Malvern — in the unavoidable absence of Nick Bottomley, who was unable to obtain leave from his hospital duties at Oxford, there was an interesting tussle for the major title. Honours were eventually taken by Dave Buston (West Malvern), whose third final appearance at last produced success when he beat the colourful Neville Meredith (Ledbury Lions) 21-9, 22-20. The increased junior activity in the Malverns was reflected in a good competition won by Chris Brewer (Lower Wyche A) whose final victim was Glynford Bell (Summerfield School) beaten 21-16. The doubles saw Graham Collier (Wanderers) and Geoff Holland (Lansdowne) defeat Malcolm Dicks and Julian Stevenson (Malvernians) 15-21, 21-18, 21-19, whilst a fiercely contested consolation event went to Willie Ahern (Saint Wulstan's) with victory by 21-15, 21-16 over Roger Crump (Malvernians).

June 7th will be the twenty-first antiversary of the foundation of the Worcestershire Association – in keeping with modern tendencies, the celebrations will include not a formal dinner but a social evening on May 18th at the Worcester City Football Chib social premises. Details are obtainable from George Goode, 36 Goodwood Avenue, Worcester.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE NOTES

by Dave Foulser

COUNTY SENIORS IN DIRE TROUBLE

WITH only one match remaining the County Senior team looks destined for relegation from Div. 2 Midland of the County Championships. After being thrashed 9-1 at home by Leicestershire and then beaten 7-3away by Staffordshire we still have to gain a point!

Against Leics.. Roy Morley won our only set beating E. Hughes -19, 13, 14 but for the visitors their No, 1, Paul Randell, was outstanding beating Morley 12 and 19, and Dave Harvey 11 and 18. In the Women's Singles, England junior Anita Stevenson was far too good for Julie Mortimer playing in her first county senior match. The only bright spot was the venue – it was held at the Gala Club for the first time and had one of the biggest audiences for many a long year.

Against Staffs., our promising junior Chris Sewell won his first senior set beating J. Pugh 18, 14. Harvey also beat Pugh whereas when they met at Brighton it went the whole five games before Dave triumphed. Our other success was in the mixed doubles won by Sewell and Jean Golding.

The County juniors crashed 2-8 to Glamorgan in a match played under terrible conditions. Only Sewell and Willie Dawe showed anything like their true form winning one each.

The Bristol Closed championships were held in Feb, and the Men's title was won by John Marshall who beat Colin Feltham 17 and 15 although in the semi-final John Wise had given

him a much tougher fight going down -20, 16, -15. Sue Harding made an unexpected return for the tournament and almost made a clean sweep winning the W.S. (v. G. Wetmore -19, 14, 19), G.S. (v. D. Matthews 12, 11). W.D. with Wetmore (v. P. Rowe and J. Achurch 17, 21). But in the mixed Gill Wetmore with Feltham brought about her downfall winning 6 and 18. Junior Sewell teamed up with Marshall to take a close M.D. victory.

One sad event to be recorded is the retirement of Dennis Holland, the reigning Gloucester champion, many times County champion, and former junior English International. He played for his club, Gordon League, since his early days and played for England juniors against Federal Germany and Wales winning three out of his four sets. In open tournaments he has had many notable victories including two over the then great Chester Barnes, one each at junior and senior level.

He played for the Gounty seniors at 16 and was a member of that famous Gloucester team of the midsixties along with Ian Harrison, Bryan Merrett and Roy Morley who won the Wilmott Cup five years running and the Midland League 1st division seven years in succession. He was Gloucester champion six years out of the last eight and doubles champion seven times with Morley—hc will be greatly missed.

In the Gloucester League his team clinched the first division for the 13th consecutive season to set an all-time record in the League's history dating back to 1328. Mainstay of the side now is Stuart Griffin who has played brilliantly all season.

In the Cheltenham League, YMCA "A" look certain to lift the Div. 1 title led by County No. 2 Harvey together with Mike Dodwell and junior Malcolm Green. In the Stroud League, Nailsworth "A" are well placed at the top of Div. 1 to retain their title. In the Gloucester League, Morley gained revenge for his first half defeat by beating Berkshire No. 1. Bob Thornton, two-straight. Gloucester City juniors are faring well as are Cheltenham Veterans but there is little to be happy about in the County as a whole.

LEICESTERSHIRE NOTES

by Phil Reid

LOST ONLY ONE SET

1.EICESTERSHIRE Juniors. by virtue of their 7-3 win over Northants made not only certain of appearing in the play-offs, but completed a highly successful season in the Junior (Midland) Division without dropping a point. Their two Junior Internationals, Anita Stevenson and Karen Rogers, have, of course, been invaluable but the part paid by the boys must not be overlooked. Chris Rogers, for instance, lost only one set — to David Yallop — and he occupied the number one berth for the whole of the season. Stephen Penny and Grahame Hall, too, have backed him up admirably. We all realise it will be a difficult task to reach the Premier Division but it will not be for lack of effort if we fail to get there.

The Veterans celebrated the same day as the juniors. Their celebration was avoiding the wooden spoon by

dint of a 6-3 win over Worcestershire. Skipper Bryan Hall won two and it was appropriate that he should do so well after his efforts for the team this season. With Charlie Jacques eligible next season, this team could do very much better — unless of course he is needed for first team duty!

The Juniors' hopes in the Carter Cup vanished at the hands of Ipswich, Main difference between the teams was John Kitchener — a truly great prospect.

The team in the 'Radio Leicester General Knowledge Quiz' — Mike Long, Ken Tew, Tom Whiteman and myself appears (if I may say so in all modesty) to be doing rather well. Two years ago the Leicester League won the title. Last season they were eliminated at the first hurdle by St. Chad's. This season St. Chad's fell at the second hurdle — to us! Brilliant play by Mike Long in the 'Bell and Buzzer' round brought our victory.

An experimental series of tournaments run by the enthusiastic Dave Bowman were only moderately successful due to many club secretaries not letting their members know of these events. The enthusiasm of Dave and his helpers had to be seen to be believed — it deserved a better response.

Out two local stars, Karen Rogers and Anita Stevenson continue to pick up plenty of trophies on the tournament scene but my guess is that next season Chris Rogers would be increasing his tally in this field considerably.

The Rose Johnson Bowl competition is now reaching the final stage. Great Glen are already certain to appear in the final but their opponents are as yet undecided. Great Glen must be one of, if not the - keenest clubs in the country. In Dermott Whelan they not only have a first-class secretary but also (team-mate Johnny Aston tells me) a player capable of getting more nets and edges than the rest of the club put together!

ESSEX NOTES

by Alan Shepherd

POTTON SHINES

SUBJECT to the confirmation of John Wright we can now claim County Championship titles in the Second East, Southern, and Junior East Divisions. While not quite up to our usual standard (both Premier titles last season and the Veterans) we are quite pleased with the efforts of our players. Of course if Cheshire could beat Yorkshire 9—0, we would only have to beat Yorkshire 8—1 to win the Premier title this year! Now all that remains to be seen is whether Essex is going to be asked to put in a Fourth team next season. That would please our Treasurer.

Details of our 'Junior Closed' missed the last issue. 138 players entered and only one failed to turn up. There was 14½ hours play on 8 tables and there were some very tired young players (and officials) when play ended just before midnight. Nevertheless some magnificent play was seen and possibly the star of the day was 15-years-old Robert Potton, the County No. 10. Every one of the top 20 boys entered and 10 of the top 12

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girls. Results were as follows:--U-13 B.S.:

David Newman bt Tony Stonell 17. -19. 17. U.13 G.S.: Lynn Chamberlain bt Janet Boulter

17, 17. U-15 B.S.:

Robert Potton bt Les Eadie 21, 14. U-15 G.S.: Sheila Smith bt Sandra Sutton 16, 18.

U-17 B.S.: Les Eadie bl Robert Potton 17, 18. U-17 G.S.: Elaine Tarten bt Sheila Smith 17, 17.

X.D.:

Andrew Bawden/Jane Livesey bt David Newman/Gillian Locke 19, -10, 16.

G.D.:

Sheila Smith/Sandra Sutton bt Cathy Stonell/Jane Livesey 11, 18. B.D.:

1.es Eadie/David Iszatt bt Martin Bawden/David Newman, 14, -10, 15.

In the National Competitions East

London are still going strong in the Wilmott Cup and their team of Bobby Wilmott Cup and their team of Bobby Stevens, Stuart Gibbs and David Brown could get to the Final. Dagenham's team of David Randall, Brian Parrish and Brian Mailey had a good win over Ilford but their further progress was stopped when the younger Brian broke his leg playing football. He has always claimed he could heat me on crutches — new is could beat me on crutches - now is his chance!!

The East London Rose Bowl team of Lesley Radford, Janet Hellaby and Elsic Carrington is also going well and it will take a good team to oust them. On the Carter Cup front Barking have Peter Hunt, Les Eadie and Bruce Kettle, but may need a minor miracle to beat Wandsworth. However the Dagenham girls, Elaine Tarten, Sandra Sutton and Jane Livesey, are capable of a long run in the Bromfield Trophy.

On the Tournament Front the news is of another of those Essex onslaughts on a Northern Junior Open. A coach party of 28 made the long journey to Bolton for the Lancs. Junior and suc-ceeded in bringing back two titles. Janet Boulter did wonderfully well to secure the Under-13 Girls' Singles, beating Jane Skipp of the dreaded Ormesby Club, in the Final.

As Jane had earlier beaten Janet in preliminary rounds of the Under-15 and Under-17 events this was not bad going. After this Sandra Sutton exgoing. After this Sandra Sutton ex-celled in winning the Under-15 event, beating Julie McLean of Yorks en route, and Caroline Reeves (Berks) in the Final (which was splendidly fought out by both girls). David Newman tried his best to make it a three timer but lost to his arch rival Chris Rogers (Leics) in the Final of the Under-13 Boys' event.

CAMBRIDGESHIRE NOTES by Leslie Constable

DISMAL DISPLAY

BEATEN 9-1 by Middlesex II at Haverhill Sports Centre on Feb. 17, Cambs. gave a dismal display in front of a sizeable audience which included the Minister of Sport, Mr. Eldon Griffiths, and ETTA Chairman, Charles Wyles.



E.T.T.A. Chairman, Charles Wyles, greeting Mr. Eldon Griffiths to the Cambs. v. Middlesex II match at Haverhill, Also in the picture are Robert Aldrich and Paul Day.

quite out of touch against agile oppo-nents who gave nothing away. Michael Harper prevented the clean sweep by accounting for Mark Mitchell in the final set.

In an Eastern Division match at Northampton, Cambs. 11 were beaten 8-2 by Northants and at one time trailed o-7 before David Tiplady made his debut successful by beating John Goodall 28, -26 in the grd! He Further combined well with Ruth Puddick to win the mixed. Brian Jones suffered his first defeats of the season in losing to Rod Marchant and David Hogg.

Although losing to Hunts 3-7, Cambs Junior II gave a much im-proved performance especially the girls. 12-years-old Ruth Newman had a splendid match beating the experienced Jean Allinson in the GS and partnered Susan Ellis to a GD win over Miss Allinson and Belinda Chamberlain. Brian Richardson won the third set for Cambs by beating Kevin Moore.

In an important match away to Herts at Waltham Cross, Cambs, were beaten 7-3 but were without the services of Day. Harper, Ken Muhr and Sally Hirst secured the three wins and it remains to be seen whether Cambs, will survive in this division.

Against Kettering in the S.E.M. League, Cambridge City had an unhappy time and the men had their title hopes knocked into a "cocked hat" losing 2-8. The women, how-ever, continued on their winning way as did the veterans but the juniors, in a pathetic showing, were trounced 10-0.

In the East Anglian League, Cam-bridge lead the table after playing six matches without defeat in their first season in the League and look firm favourites to win the title. In a recent match they beat Wisbech 9-1, the one that got away being credited to Barry Wilson, the former Cambridge player, who beat Paul Chisnall and only lost to John Thurston -21, -19.

There is no change to report at the Paul Day, in particular, had a dis-appointing evening losing to Andy Barden and Bob Aldrich seemingly

and Soham I. Press II, with only 2 points to their name are doomed to and Division play next season.

Photo by C. M. Cushen

Only two points separate the top three clubs in Div. 2 with St. George's I, Fire Brigade I and N.C. Institute II involved in a tense battle.

Congratulations to Paul Day in reaching the quarter-final stage of the U-21 event in the Teesside 3-Star Open before going under to David Alderson. Paul was even more successsful in the senior event beating Peter Taylor, Alan Ransome and, in the quarters, Desmond Douglas!

Denis Neale brought Day's run to an end in the semis but with scores of 14 and 15 it was the Soham boy's best performance against the England No.

Day, of course, heads the Cambs. Junior rankings with his Soham colleague, Keith Richardson moved up to No. 2 displacing John Willis who drops to third. Subsequently listed are :

 Chris Fuller; 5. Brian Richardson;
 Paul Crickmer; 7. Philip Ward; 8. Ludovic Chapman; 9. Danny Page; 10. Alan Randall; 11. Anthony Holmes and 12. Derck Kiddle.

Karen Garner heads the girls' list followed by Carol Ellis, Ruth Newman, Susan Ellis and Jane Bradley.

Although both Cambs, representatives in the S.E. Region finals of the E.S.T.T.A. team championships failed to win a match, the Sawston girls gave Cumberland School a hard fight before going down 3-5. But Christine Daynes, Beverley Everitt and the Ellis twins, Sue and Carol proved no match against Southall School, the eventual winners. Carol Ellis was the only winner in a 7-1 defeat.

The Cambs Junior Open champs, to be held in Cambridge Corn Ex-change (May 27/28), look like being the success deserving of the efforts put in by promoter Gerald Coteman.

Players and fans will wish Frank Pettitt, Hon, Sec. of St. George's, a speedy recovery after his recent illness and a quick return to active service.

DERBYSHIRE NOTES by Walter Reeves

SPECIAL mention this month must be made of Doug Foulds who retained his Derby men's singles title to record four wins in a row. Doug has created a record with six wins out of seven appearances in this event.

His victory in the semis over lvor Warner was so casy — Doug winning 5 and 3 — but a mishap occurred during the set when Doug pulled a calf muscle. It did not prevent him from beating Chris Francis 9 and 12 in the final!

There was a surprise in the final of the counterpart women's event when the holder, Marilyn Deakin, fell in straight games to Junior girl champion Susan Holmes.

Susan, using anti-spin on her back-hand, casily contained Marilyn's spin to take the first game at 10. In the second after receiving advice from Mike Yallop, Marilyn changed hcr tactics but she could not hold Susan's hit and the game slipped away at 18.

Susan won three titles in all taking the mixed, with Francis, beating Frank O'Sullivan and Marilyn who were the holders. She also retained her JGS title with an easy win over Jo Nield.

Albert Hough, so many times a men's singles finalist, made a welcome return to the finals table this time in the Veterans' singles. He succeeded in beating the holder, Dennis Salmon, at his first attempt!

Arthur Downer has had a further set-back for, following the removal of his plaster, he still complained of pain. An X-ray revealed the leg was still fractured so it was back into a new plaster cast. Still occupied with nursing her husband, Carol had to forego the Norwich Union International Championships. Our best wishes again go to Arthur for a speedy end to his troubles,

Better news regarding the Midland Closed which, 1 now understand, will take place on Sunday, May 6th at the Worksop Social Centre, the staging body, Chesterfield, and Maurice Goldstein having finally agreed the venue. Distance could well be a problem but the location should suit the Derby, Chesterfield and Nottingham players as well as those from the Birmingham area.

The County Challenge Cup competi-tion has reached the quarter-final stage the first result to hand being a 5-4 win for St. Andrew's II over Cromp-ton's I. Crompton's actually won 13 games to 12, but, of course, it is the sets score that counts.

Interest within the County is now beginning to centre on the Derbyshire Championships with Foulds hoping to retain his MS title. Chief threat is likely to be posed by Junior champion David Yallop who seems destined to afford trouble before long. Neil and Derek Marples, Maurice Billington and M. Askham are others who will need Derby Closed results:watching

M.S.: D. Foulds bt C. Francis 9, 12. W.S.: S. Holmes bt M. Deakin 10, 18. M.D.: Francis/Hutchinson bt P. Vickers/D. Yallop -19, 16, 14. J.S.: D. Yallop bt Miss S. Holmes

11, 15. G.S.: Holmes bt J. Nield 5, 10. X.D.: Francis/Holmes bt O'Sullivan/

Deakin, V.S.: A. Hough bt D. Salmon 17, 20.

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NORTHUMBERLAND NOTES

by Pauline Jackson BORDER CLASHES

NORTHUMBERIAND'S first team maintained the form shown against Cheshire 11 the previous month, and went one better when taking both points away to Durham's first team at Hartlepool.

Peter Hoyles won both his singles against Malcolm Corking and Paul Freeman, while Alan Jones followed suit by defeating Corking and Stephen Haughney. Barbara Kearney had a good win in the women's singles over the in-form Lynn Bainbridge, while Jones and Lucifle Clark took the mixed to make the final result 6-4.

The second team again failed to live up to expectations when they lost 4-6 to Durham's second team at North Shields Y.M.C.A. This should cer-tainly have been 5–5, as Pauline Jackson and Nancy Ferguson were a game and 20–17 up in the W.D. against Brenda Murtagh and Cynthia Waite, but an unaccountable lapse of concentration saw the Durham pair take the next 5 points, and the third game at 21-16.

All credit to Durham, though, for a good comeback. Miss Jackson gained partial revenge by eventually scraping partial revenge by eventually scraping the women's singles 10 in the third against Miss Murtagh (after being 17— 12 up), and Bill Arkle won the only men's singles by defeating Ron Hall. Bill, partnered by Miss Ferguson, took the mixed against Hall and Maureen Minto, while Malcolm McMaster and Ron Kettlewell reproduced form not previously shown in their singles by taking the MD comfortably against Colin Eltringham and John Alsop.

The juniors, meanwhile, travelled to Hartlepool to play Durham carlier in the day, and were successful in winning 7-3. Andrew Clark again won both his singles, and this included a very good win over Peter Edon, who only last season had beaten Cheshire's Brian Johns in the Junior Boys' singles semi-final of the Northumberland Open.

The breakthrough must now be very near for Andrew, and it is hoped that next season will see due reward. Glenn McCardle won the other boys' singles, and together with Lucille Clark, the mixed. The girls, in fact, were unbeaten, as Barbara Kcarney was successsful in her singles against Carol Walker, and Barbara and Lucille took the GD. It is unfortunate that both girls will be over junior age next season, as there is an acute shortage of girls (and women) at present.

In a tense and exciting Rose Bowl match, switched from the original North Shields YMCA venue to North Shields Boys' Club owing to unforcseen circumstances. Northumberland just lost 4-5 in their Zone Final to North Yorkshire, and thus failed to avenge their last season's defeat by the same score.

North Yorkshire included in their team Sheila Hamilton, the former Middlesex and England junior international, but she failed to get past the hard bat defence of Lucille Clark. who scored an unexpectedly easy victory. It looked all over for the visitors when Pauline Jackson led 11-3 in the third against Carol Knight with in the third against Carol Knight with the match score 4-4 but the Ormesby player cracked her way back into the P. Cater bt Legge 18, 13; bt R. The only sides iel Competitions are and Brighton men.

match to win 18 in the third. Scores (Northumberland names first):-B. Kearney lost to S. Hamilton -19,

bt M. Readman 12, 17; bt C. Knight -21, 13, 10, 1. Clark bt Hamilton 19, 11; lost to Readman -12, 16, -8; bt Knight 11, 10, P. Jackson lost to Hamilton -13, -8; lost to Readman 18, -10, -19; lost to Knight 17, -12, -18.

The Knock-Out Cup (Northumberland League) has now reached the semi-final stage, and as organiser Robert Lumb has taken the trouble to let me know all the quarter-final

results, I am happy to publish these

in their entirety. BLYTH YMCA 'A' 6, BRITISH OLIVETTI 3 — Peter Hoyles wou three for Blyth, Bill McCabe two and Fred Stokoc one. The opposition, however, were not quite "written off" as Charlie Hobson won two sets, and Harold Young one.

B.W.S.C. 'A' 3, NORTH SHIELDS YMCA 'A' 6 – One set each from Terry Wilkinson, Jim Thomson and Brian Reid was not enough to upset North Shields, who triumphed with three sets from Mike Ford, two from Joe McLcod and one from Charlie Robertson.

NORTH SHIELDS B.C. 3, BYKER C.C. 'A' 6 — Tony Borg, Frank Buck and Brian Pierce each took one set, but Ron Kettlewell won three, Malcolm McMaster two and Ray Neal one to see their team safely through to the semi-final.

NEWCASTLE YMCA 6, D.H.S.S. 'B' 0 — David Donalson and Chris Shepherd did the "necessary" by taking three sets each against a gallant DHSS team of Stan Lawson, Kevin Spence and Liam Deegan.

LINCOLNSHIRE NOTES by Jim Flowers

EASY FINAL WIN

AT North Shields on Mar. Lincolnshire's senior team completed their Div. 2 (North) fixtures with an casy 7-3 win over Northumberland. Peter Taylor (Grimsby), playing in his first county match, began with a nervous below par performance against Ron Kettlewell, easily the best Northumberland player.

In the mixed, Taylor combined well with Mrs. Connic Moran to beat W. Arkle and Nancy Ferguson. Scores:-

B. Hill bt W. Arkle 12, 11;

bt D. Armstrong 11, 19.

M. East bt Armstrong -19, 6, 15; lost to R. Kettlewell 22, -13, -13. P. Taylor lost to Kettlewell -10, -8; **P**.

bt Arkle 16, -11, 17. Miss J. White bt Miss P. Jackson 15, 7. East/Hill lost to Armstrong/Kettlewell

-10, -15 Taylor/Mrs. C. Moran bt Arkle/Miss

N. Ferguson 9, 17. Moran/White bt Ferguson/Jackson 15.

Q.

On the same day, at Boston, our juniors gave another excellent performance in beating Staffordshire 9-1. The only set lost was the boys' doubles which was a 'cracker' with Colin Boyd and John Smith winning the first game 21-7 but going down narrowly in the next two. Scores :-

Pritchard 15, 16, Smith bt Pritchard 8, 15;

bt Russell 14, 9, Miss S, Hunt bt Miss R, Hodgkiss 13,

16. Boyd/Smith lost to Legge/Russell 7.

-20, -23.

Cater/Miss J. Hackford bt Pritchard/ Miss H. Johnson 16, 17. Hackford/Hunt bt Hodgkiss/Jackson 20, 10.

During the closed season, last year, Boston's Brian Hill changed over to an 'Anti-loop' bat. He tells me it took him all summer to get used to it during which time he struggled against players he would normally beat easily. Fortunately Brian struck form right at the start of the season and since then he has won 7 out of 8 county sets, all his Haigh Cup sets and the men's singles title at the Fen-land 2-Star Open beating English internations Mike Johns (semi) and Peter Taylor (final).

The meeting of Boston (10 pts from 6 matches) and Grimsby (9 from 5) had all the ingredients for a splendid Haigh Cup encounter. It turned out to be just that with Brian Hill scoring a home treble for Boston although extended by Matt Sheader who, in top form, accounted for Mick East (16, 17) and Gary King (11, 17).

Grimsby's Brian Allison was also in good form beating East (13, 16) and King (-18, 11, 13). After the penulti-mate set Boston led 5-4 but had to be content with a division of the spoils when, in the final doubles set Sheader and Allison beat Hill and King 15, 17.

SUSSEX NOTES

by **ROBIN PIERCE**

YORKSHIRE came to Little-hampton and thrashed the Sussex Premier side 8-1. Even so there were still a few optimists who held that Sussex might still avoid the big drop.

But despite improved performances from Sam Ogundipe it will be and Division table tennis at the seaside come next October, Warwickshire and Cheshire snuffed out the final hopes by each defeating the martlets by 5 4

It looks as it quite a lew years will pass before we reach the big time again. Judy Williams and Ogundipe may well have a few more years at the top but there are doubts concerning the future availability of Peter Williams, and John Clarke.

The and team disappointed away to Hants, and were thrashed 8-2. There had been hopes that they would win this one and be in a position to challenge. But that's not on now. Anyway, only Suzanne Kavallicrou is any where near Premier standard so there can be no complaints.

Indeed, of the present crop of youngsters, only Suzanne and Gerald Pugh are showing anything like the dedication needed to succeed in the highest spheres.

The junior selectors have had their troubles with youngsters who feel they know it all but whose deeds at the table fail to match their verbosity.

Officials and players will have to re-examine and evaluate their aims. It is back to square one for Sussex table tennis

The only sides left in the Coca-Cola Competitions are Worthing women

King of veterans, Brighton's Len Gunn, won the vital fifth tie for his league in the local derby against Worthing. Not so pleased was Len's victim, Andy Meads, who made the move from Crawley to Worthing in order to find at least one town which would include him in a representative team.

Eastbourne's Linda Woodcock became the fifth of our county players to be involved in a car crash in the last 18 months.

Caught in a snowstorm near Chichester whilst driving to Cosham, Linda's car was extensively damaged in collision with the rear-end of heavy lorry. Linda was lucky in that she only sustained cuts and bruises and she was able to leave hospital after a few hours

The car, however, was not so fortunate and will probably be written off",

The other players who have been in smashes are Arthur Downer, Suzanne Kavallicrou, Roger Chandler and Peter Williams. Looks as if we and Peter Williams. Looks as if we shall be going A.S.L.E.F. permitting, on the train to all future matches!

NORFOLK NOTES

by J. S. Penny

ANXIOUS WAIT

THOSE of you who read the editor's note last month will know that Jack Penny was due to have operations on his eyes for glaucoma. To date only one eye has been dealt with and Jack awaits anxiously the specialist's report before undergoing treatment on the other eye. We wish him well.

The brightest news to break during this current period concerns one Stan Ford of Swanton Morley. Stan has just been successful in passing the National Umpires' test and so becomes the second of Norfolk's National Umpires. He is an indefatigable worker for table tennis and already holds his 2-star referees' certificate.

Swanton Morley has also hit the headlines by winning, for the third time running, the R.A.F. Maintenance Command Team Championship, John Bishop has made three winning appearances, Joe Thorogood two and Stan Ford one. Incidentally John, besides running the North Norfolk League, is an excellent wine maker and on the invitation to a party to celebrate his half century the duration of the festivities was from 8 p.m. to oblivion1

March 4th was the date of the Fenland Open in King's Lynn. March 3rd was the date of Norwich City's appearance at Wembley, and several local lads failed to make the deadline local lads failed to make the deadine at the Corn Exchange on Sunday morning. Those who did arrive in time thoroughly enjoyed their spells at the tables and their somewhat longer periods of watching. All were impressed with Brian Hill's performance with his new bat, described to me by one rather young enthusiast whose knowledge of natural history was rather more sound than that of table tennis, as an "antelope" bat.

Next month's report should contain news of championships in Cromer, Norwich, Fakenham, Wymondham and North Norfolk. In addition the posi-tions in the three sections of the East Anglian League should be resolved.

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STAFFORDSHIRE NOTES

by John Pike



CHRIS SEWELL

GREAT FUTURE

WITHOUT any doubt, March proved to be the busiest month in the Staffs calendar this season. With county matches at the beginning and the end of the month, plus three close tourna-ments, it really was a busy time for players and officials alike.

Pride of place must go to the Stafford League for the way they staged the county match with Gloucester-shire. Both teams agreed after the game that the conditions at Dormans were perfect, and one hopes, this venue can be used again next season. With the best crowd I have seen at a county match for many years, one has to give full credit to Ken Weston and his committee for a splendid evening. Even the Staffs, team rose to the occasion to win 7-3, but a word of praise for young Chris Sewell, a 14-year-old who must have a great future with Gloucestershire for many years to come.

Staffs, had a double bill with Warwickshire at the end of the month with the seniors meeting at Nuncaton and the juniors at Wolverhampton.

Staying with Wolverhampton for a staying with wolverhampton for a moment, they did well in the Staffs. closed at Stoke. True Walsall and West Bromwich had their annual championships on the same day, but even so, Wolves players came back on the M6 with a fair share of the molls. Sue Wayner set the spoils. Suc Warner won the women's singles with Barbara to Women's Margaret Bowyer taking the doubles. Len Dawes put his name on the veterans' cup, while at the other end of the scale, the Highfield youngsters, Gail Round, Janet Carr, and Heather Johnson all did well in the junior girls' events. Robert Legge from Cannock dominated the boys' events. The top prize of the day, the men's singles, went to Steve Rowe from the Potteries.

West Bromwich had their problems this year when the Drill Hall they were to use, was put out of bounds by the bomb scares, and so the tourna-ment finished up at the Oldbury Sports Centre, much to the relief of John Carter. The finals will be played this month at Albright and Wilson.

All Staffordshire will be hoping that this will be West Brom's year in the Rose Bowl. After their 8-1 win over

secretary, is now helping the Shrop-shire Association to sort their umpires out.

Next month sees the much awaited tournament at Joseph Leckie, Walsall, for juniors. The man with all the details, — Sid Parker, 3 Moreton Close, Gospel Oak, Tipton, Staffs.

YORKSHIRE NOTES

by Tony Ross

KNARESBOROUGH CELEBRATIONS

Climax to a truly wonderful season for the County occurred at Cheadle Hulme on 18th March when Yorkshire made certain of the Premier Division title by defeating Cheshire 8-1. A week earlier, wins over old rivals Lancashire, at Doncaster, and Cumberland, at Millom, sealed the White Rose claims to the Second Division (North) and Junior Division (North) titles, to add to the Junior Premier Division title already secured at Loughborough on 31st December last.

As befits such an occasion, the cele-tations at the annual Y.T.T.A. brations at the annual dinner-dance, to be held this year in Knaresborough on Tuesday, 1st May, will be honoured by the presence of E.T.T.A. President "Bill" Vint and E.T.T.A. Treasurer Tom Blunn, who, as many will know, has residential qualifications for Yorkshire. Perhaps many don't know that Tom also has playing qualifications for Yorkshire, being captain of the Hodgson-Harris "B" team in Division 4 of the Hull League ! Another guest will be Y.T.T.A. Vice-President George Preston, still a keen follower of the county's fortunes and a member of the Knaresborough Social Club team in Division 6 of the Harrogate League, although well on the wrong side of retirement age.

We are very proud of the 25 players who represented Yorkshire so ably this season and made the quadruple title feat possible, an occasion unique in the county's history. They have all been invited to the dinner as guests, where their achievements will be accorded proper acclaim. They are:-

PREMIER DIVISION - Denis Neale (Middlesbrough), Nicky Jarvis (Middlesbrough), Tony Clayton (Hull), Jimmy Walker (Middles-(Hull), Jimmy Walker (Middles-brough), Alan Ransome (Middles-brough), Judith Walker (Sheffield). (Middles-

SECOND DIVISION (North)-Jimmy Walker, Alan Ransome, David Alderson (Middlesbrough), John Krier (Hull and Luxembourg), John Kedge (Huddersfield), Tony Martin (Middlesbrough), Lynda Sutton (Hull), Sylvia Broadbent (Bradford), Karen Wilson (Hull).

JUNIOR PREMIER DIVISION-David Alderson, Robert Wiley (Middlesbrough), Brian Alderson (Middlesbrough), Dhah Alderson (Middlesbrough), Philip Ward (Middlesbrough), Judith Walker, Pat Clements (Middlesbrough), Karen Wilson, Melody Ludi (Bradford), Julie McLean (Hull).

JUNIOR DIVISION (North)-Philip Ward, Andrew Kilburn (Middlesbrough) Stephen Souter (Middlesbrough), Rose Bowl. After their S—1 win over Stowmarket, it was a trip to Reading for the quarter-finals. Mr. Benson, who is doing a good job in his first season as Umpires (Middlesbrough), Stephen Souter (Middlesbrough), Paul Cox (Don-caster), Michael Thirkettle (Hull), Karen Wilson, Melody Ludi, Jeanette Richardson (York), Carole Grayson (Hull), Julie McLean (Hull).

It is certain that Barnsley international Alan Hydes would have contributed to the first team's achievement but for his far eastern travels Redhill 4. and subsequent unfortunate illness.

We are hoping for a full house at Knaresborough on 1st May and Yorkshire supporters and friends everywhere are invited to book their tickets now. The venue is Spencer's Restaurant, Market Place, Knares-borough, at 7-30 p.m. for 8 p.m., with dancing to midnight and a bar extension. Tickets are £1-50 each and may be obtained, with any further information, from Social Secretary Alan Cram, 8 Heath Drive, Boston Spa, Yorkshire, Home Tel.: Boston Spa 842829, Office Tel.: Leeds 30931. In addition to the County Championships celebrations, there will be the usual presentations for the Yorkshire League Championships, Yorkshire Club Cham-pionships and Yorkshire League Merit Awards.

Barnsley North End's tremendous run of 44 consecutive Barnsley League victories, extending over 3 seasons, was ended a few weeks ago when the reigning Division 1 champions were held to a 5-5 draw by Ace. Star of the Ace team's fine effort was the ultra-consistent Brian Starkic, who won each of his 3 singles. The Ace team's fifth set was won by his son David, who beat former county player Doug McGarry 19 in the third.

SURREY NOTES

by Geoff Ryan

WANDSWORTH ALMOST THERE

After a fine start in the County Championships, the first team have met with defeats in the last two matches. Against Yorkshire all ou: efforts were in vain and, against Warwickshire, we fared little better. Still, with one match to go, at home to Kent, we could still finish runnersup, a fine achievement.

The second team are neck-and-neck with Bucks in 2 South the result hanging on games average. The Juniors are poised to win their divi-sion if Hants, slip up in their remaining fixtures.

The inter-league competitions are nearing completion, the pattern having emerged as follows:-

In the Percy Johnson Div. 1, Wandsworth (Holman, Adams, Walsh and Bonner) have virtually assured themselves of the title by beating Thames Valley 6-3. For the losers Chris Thornes beat both Derek Holman and Tom Adams and further combined with Mike Fisher for a doubles win over Holman and Gerry Walsh.

Redhill and Wandsworth "B" are in contention for the Div. 2 title with the odds favouring Wandsworth following their 5-4 victory over Redhill.

In the Arthur Williams Rose Bowl Byfleet and Thames Valley are duelling for the crown whilst in the Harding Cup the same two leagues have matters all their own way. Thames Valley "A" are holding off a strong challenge from Leatherhead in the Sutton Trophy.

Latest results:-

P.J. Div. 1. - Croydon "A" 7, during the season.

Sutton 2; Wandsworth "A" 9, Croydon "B" 0.

Div. 2. - Wandsworth "B" 5,

A.W. Rose Bowl - Leatherhead 2, Thames Valley 7; Guildford 3, Byfleet 6.

Harding Cup - Leatherhead 1, Thames Valley 7; Byfleet 7, Guild ford 1.

Sutton Trophy — Leatherhead 8, Byfleet 0; Guildford "A" 4, Thames Valley "A" 4,

Steve Lyons has won this season's Jim Forrest Trophy award and was presented with a replica at the Closed. Results of the Satton Closed were -

M.S.: E. Emecz bi D. Crowley 14, 6,

M.D.: Emecz/Z Schramm bi Crowley/C. Harper 12, -17, 17,

Y.S.: D. Harding bt S. Tame 19, 12,

R.S.: B. Tyrell bt C. Rogers 11, 9. Thames Valley Closed winners

were: -

M.S.: C. Thorns; W.S.: S. Tame; M.D.: M. Fisher/Thorns; W.D.: K. Greenough/Tame; X.D.: Fisher/ Greenough, R and H: S. Boxall.

DURHAM NOTES

by Fred Inch

ALTERNATIVE SCHEME

PHILADELPHIA clinched the Durham League's scnior title with a grear 6-3 win over Stockton at Houghton-le-Spring YMCA. Detailed scores (Philadelphia names first) were:

C. Eltringham bt M. Corking

-15. 10, 17; bt J. Alsop 17, 11.

J. Armstrong bt Alsop 18, -17, 13;

bt Corking 15, 12.

R. Hall lost to P. Edon 16, -17, -14; lost to H. Robinson -16, -14.

K. Henry bt Robinson -13, 14, 16;

lost to Edon -16, -20,

At mstrong/Eltringham bt Corking/ Robinson 6, 9.

Sunderland, following their outstanding win over Philadelphia, by 6 sets to 3, have won Division 2 but Philadelphia were just about given the women's title on a plate when Sunderland were beaten 5-4 by a Murton side that contained three juniors,

Julie Inch won two, Shirley Jenkins and Margaret Lambert one each, with the latter pair successful in the doubles. Margaret, incidentally, is the League Secretary.

It looks like being a one horse race again in the Boys' section with Stockton proving just that bit too strong for the rest. Philadelphia should win the Girls' Division.

I have heard that plans are afoot to scrap the Durham County Senior League. In my opinion this would be a retrograde step as the competition provided is vital for players to maintain their ability, especially for those who do not enter open tournaments and the like.

It is my intention, at the next management committee of the Association to put forward a suggestion to play this competition next season on six weekends, one per month

Norwich Union International Championships 1973

Team Events Lena Andersson's slow looping con-tinues to improve although jill Ham-



by John Woodford

Double triumph for Sweden

WITH the exception of the gcm of a win by Desmond Douglas over Kjell Johansson, I felt that these 1973 team championships lacked much of the sparkle of previous occasions, probably because several countries, notably Hungary and Federal Germany, did not send us their strongest players.

We would all have enjoyed much more a men's final between Sweden and Hungary had it been Bengtsson and Johansson against Jonyer and Klampar. All credit though to Sweden for their double triumph in winning both the men's and women's competition.

In the men's final the always spectacular Dragutin Surbek started well with a great win over Bengtsson 19, -19, 16. This led to hopes that a tremendous battle would be joined especially as Johansson was shown to be vulnerable carlier in the day. I have always been an admirer of Stipancic since seeing him beat Chinese and Japanese men on the Continent. Had he beaten Johansson on this r.ight, Sweden would really have been in trouble but it was not to be. The lanky Swede got home 19, 12, to level the match.

The two final sets, the doubles and Bengtson's defeat of Stipancic, pro-vided some scintillating play but Sweden always looked the more compact outfit and more capable of driving their opponents to the back of the court and then to win against the sky-high lobs that never fail to stir the crowds.

Those of us who saw Birgitta Radberg play badly at Guildford in the European League match in December must have been impressed by her vastly improved performances throughout the three days at Brighton. To beat Karenza Mathews 16, 11 and then get through Jill Hammersley's defence 19 and 14 is no mean achieve-ment for the Swedish girl who proved on the following days that it was no fluke by going on to win the individual title and breaking the Alexandru stranglehold.

mersley coped extremely well with this type of attack to beat the slim Swedish girl 18. 10. It was, however, Mrs. Radberg who continued to perform in top European class and complete the double for Sweden by stopping Mrs. Hammersley.

SO EARLY

England's table tennis population must now be hoping that a few years from now we will be recalling Desmond Douglas's win over Johannson as his first giant step up the ladder to world class. It happened just after breakfast while many of the Press men were still taking their coats off and sharpening their pencils.

What attracts me about Desmond's game, apart from his fine temperament and delicate touch, is his ability to absorb on the half-volley most of the very hard top-spin drives from men like Johansson. With every respect to Denis Neale he gets in the greatest to Denis Neale ne gets in the greatest trouble when trying to block top-spin on his backhand specially against, for example Vikström. Douglas, on the other hand, seems able on many occasions to make this half-volley leaving his opponent so surprised that the Birmingham lad can then score with a quick hit.

So after the Douglas-Johansson shock, Stellan Bengtsson showed his mood was a fighting one by easily overcoming Tony Clayton. The doubles went to Sweden 19, 6 putting them 2-1 up. The crowds then gathered in the hope that the Birmingham lad might do the "impos-sible" by beating Bengtsson but that of course was asking too much. The world champion swept on 11, 5.

Denmark's Claus Pedersen seems to be one of the most improved players on the Common Market mainland, In Round 1 of this event his efforts brought the defeat of Hungary (Rozsas and Beleznai) and he beat them both. In the second round the Dane struck again when he stopped Neale and Trevor Taylor. But, luckily for us, Ramberg provided few problems and England scraped it, 3-2.

Czechoslovakia (Turai - Orlowski) were too strong for England II (Jarvis-Hydes) who were taken out by the undignified score of 3-0. Meanwhile, England women's side were engaged in a fierce encounter with France which they eventually won but only at 3-2.

SADDLED

No one as petite, as feminine and as French as Miss Bergeret should be as French as Miss Bergeret should be saddled with a christian name like "Claude"; out of France it must lead to a whole parcel of jokes. But her table tennis game is no joke. Her rapid hitting is certainly strong enough to break up Karenza Mathews' ton-spin machine. Claude beat top-spin machine. Claude beat Karcnza here at 13, -13, 15 and then did it again in the second international match at Hastings on Mar. 6.

Jill Hammersley kept England on course by keeping out Bergeret 19, 11



Sweden's non-playing captain, Christer Johansson, holds the men's team trophy in front of Stellan Bengtsson flanked by Kjell Johansson.



Brighton's Mayor, G. C. C. Packham, Esq., poses with Sweden's all-conquering women's team of Birgitta Radberg and the blonde Lena Andersson, also in the picture is Sweden's other non-playing captain, Björne Mellström. Photos by Peter Madge

to beat Lecler 17, -16, 18.

The next stage for our girls was against Rumania where nearly everyone was expecting them to bow out against the Alexandru-Vlaicov two-some; but, surprise, surprise, Jill excelled many of her previous bests by fooling Vlaicov 14, 14 and then Karenza followed suit by going one better, taking Maria herself 15, 13— a five-star performance if ever there was one. Watching both teams arrive

and then Karenza was fully extended | back at the Royal Albion dining room for lunch I was unable to decide which team looked most surprised!

England men started their semi-final against Yugoslavia with one of those wins by Taylor over foreign opposition when he nailed Surbek 19, 18 but Stipancic held too many aces for Neale and got through 16, -18, 10. Surbek followed a Yugoslav win in the doubles by scuppering Neale -18, 13, 14 and England were out.



Beaten finalists in the women's team event were England whose representatives Karenza Mathews, Linda Howard and Jill Hammersley can still raise a smile. N.P.C. Bryan Merrett completes the line-up.

Photo by Peter Madge

And so Stellan Bengtsson, Kjell Johansson, Birgitta Radberg and Lena Andersson were the successful national side in the finals winning both matches 3–1, the men over Yugo-slavia and the girls against England.

It therefore looks as though Sweden have the best chance of bringing the Swaythling and Corbillon cups to Europe at Sarajevo this month, unless those Hungarian giants Istvan Jonyer and Tibor Klampar emerge from the

shadows to pose a major threat to Asians who are never so happy play-ing in Europe as they are in their own continent.

Team Results

MEN Round 1 Kound 1 Sweden I 3, England III 1, K Johansson lost to D. Douglas -17, -15; S. Bengtsson bt A. Clayton 14, 13; Bengtsson/Johansson bt Clayton/Douglas 19, 6;

France I 3, Belgium 0. England II 3, New Zealand 0. N. Jarvis bt D. Couper 8, 7; A. riydes bt G. Jennings 13, 17; Hydes/Jarvis bt Couper/Jenn ngs 12, 13. Hydes/Jarvis bt Couper/Jenn ngs 12. Czechosłovakia 3, Ireland 0. J. Turai bt C. Thompson 11. 6; M Orlowski bt J. Langan 17. 15; Orlowski/Turai bt Langan/Thompson 10. -18, 10. England I 3, Federal Germany 0, T. Taylor bt H. Deutz 13, 13; D. Neale bt M. Baum 8. 9. Neale/Taylor bt Baum/Deutz 12. 14. Dormaek 3. Humore 1. Denmark 3, Hungary 1. Demmark 3, Hungary 1. Sweden II 3, France II 0. Yugoslavia 3, Scotland 0. A. Stipancic bt R. Yule 13, 15: Z. Cordas bt D. Fraser 14, 17; Stipancic/D. Surbek bt Fraser/Yule 12, -19, 9. Quarter-finals: Sweden I 3, France I 1. Sweden 1 3, France 1 1, Czechoslovakia 3, England II 0. Turai bi Jarvis 24, 17; Orlowski bi Hydes 11, -21, 17; Orlowski/Turai bi Hydes/Jarvis 13, 22. Orlowski/lurai bt Hydes/Jarvis 13, 22, England 13, Denmark 2, Neale bt N, Ramberg 13, 15; Taylor lost to C. Pedersen 19, -19, -19; Neale/Taylor bt Pedersen/Ramberg 13, 14; Neale lost to Pedersen -17, -18; Taylor bt Ramberg 13, 15. Yugoslavia 3, Sweden II 0. Semi-finals: Sweden I 3, Czechoslovakia 0. Johansson bt Orlowski 10, 18; Bengtsson bt Turai 14, 16; Bengtsson/Johansson bt Orlowski/Turai 19, 20

Benutsson bt Douglas 11, 5.

19, 20, Yugoslavia 3, England I 1. Surbek lost to Taylor -19, -18; Stipancic bt Neale 16, -18, 10; Stipancic/Surbek bt Neale/Taylor 14, -18, 19; Surbek bt Neale -18, 13, 14

Final:

SWEDEN I 3, Yugoslavia 1. Bengtsson lost to Surbek 19, -19, -16; Johansson bt Stipancic 19, 12; Bengtsson/Johansson bt Stipancic/Surbek 22, -18, 12; Bengtsson bt Stipancic -19, 20, 17.

WOMEN

Round 1: New Zealand 3, Belgium 0, A. Stonestreet bt M. van Gelder 5, -20, 13; Y. Fogarty bt M.F. Petre 17, 18; Fogarty/Stonestreet bt Petre/van Gelder -11, 10, 15.

France 3, Ireland 0. C. Bergeret bt M, Donnier 10. 13. Y, Lecler bt B. Stewart 9, 13; Bergeret/Lecler bt Donnier/Stewart 9. -14. 20. Federal Germany 3. Denmark 1. Quarter-finals: Contormals, J. New Zealand 0. 1. Vostova bt Fogarty 12, 6; M. Polackova bt Stonestreet 7, 20; Polackova/Vostova bt Fogarty/Stonestreet 9, 19, Sweden 3. Hungary 1. Sweden 3. Hungary 1. England 3. France 2. [Hammersley bt Lecler 14, 9; K. Mathews lost to Bergeret 13, -13, -15; L. Howard/Mathews lost to Bergeret/ Lecler 14, -14, -10; Hammersley bt Bergeret 19, 11; Mathews bt Lecler 17, -16, 18. Rumania 3, Federal Germany 0. Semi-finals: Sweden 3, Czechosłovakia 0, B. Radberg bt Vostova 9, 15; L. Andersson bt Polackova -9, 15, 13; Andersson/Radberg bt Polackova/Vostova 22 22 15 22, 15. England 3, Rumania 1. Hammersley bt E. Vlaicov 14, 14; Mathews bt M. Alexandru 15, 13; Howard/Mathews lost to Alexandru/Vlaicov -16, 22, -17; Hammersley bt Alexandru 11, 10. **Final:** SWEDEN 3, England 1. SWEDEN 3, England 1. Radberg bt Mathews 16, 11; Andersson lost to Hammersley -18, -10; Andersson/Radberg bt Hammersley/Mathews 17, 12; Radberg bt Hammersley 19, 14.

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Norwich Union International Championships 1973

Individual Events

By Philip Reid



Stellan Bengtsson, who retained his men's singles title, holds aloft the Oldroyd Cup with his trusty left hand.

Photo by Peter Madge

Swedish-Czech domination

THE Norwich Union International Championships provided plenty of exciting fare and some shock results, particularly, in the latter rounds.

There was no shock winner in the men's singles where World Champion STELLAN BENGTSSON looked quite imperturbable. Apart from the final where he was taken to a fourth game, Bengtsson only once dropped any games. In the first round he disposed of the useful Richard Cooper with alarming speed. At precisely the same time this match started, Derek Munt and Christian Martin (France) commenced their match on an adjoining table. When Bengtsson and Cooper walked round to shake hands at the conclusion of their set, the Martin-Munt set had reached 5–2 in the first!

It was in fact Martin who provided Bengtsson with the most trouble. The 18-year-old French boy hit only occasionally but as in Vejle, in the European Youth Championships, he looked very formidable. In the first game Martin was clearly over-awed by the situation and collected only six points. However he started to show much more consistency in the second, pulled away and won at 16. The third game also went to Martin who was picking out the occasional choice hit and people gathered excitedly round table 6 for the shock which now seemed a real possibility.

Calm and composed as ever, Bengtsson took the fourth and all was set for the decider. Martin, playing perhaps his best table tennis of the match, raced away to a 9-5 lead and a defeat for the holder looked probable. Another point at this juncture would surely have put the French boy in very high spirits. But instead of changing 10-5 up he changed at 9to down and Bengtsson went on to reach 18 before the disappointed Martin could collect another point, Bengtsson moving on to a 21-13 win. A tremendous performance by Martin but Bengtsson - who never stopped going for his shots - showed the metal of a champion.

Martin was to be Bengtsson's only

troublesome opponent. Desmond Douglas found Bengtsson's consistency and short placings altogether too much for him and the Czech, Turai apart from a brief flutter in the second game - was never in it. Anton Stipancic, who looked impressive in the earlier rounds, appeared to give up the fight and whilst Kjell Johansson provided a magnificent final, one always had the feeling Bengtsson would win. Perhaps his greatest asset is his fleetness of foot which is deceptive indeed. So fast does he move that he always seems to have time to play his shots with ease. A drop-shot produced by Bengtsson was a classic — a shot of supreme accuracy executed at lightning speed.

DOUGHTY DEFENDER

Maria Alexandru, the Women's Singles holder had won the title for three years in a row and looked all set to create a new record by making it four. Susan Howard caused English hearts to flutter when she took the first game off the doughty Rumanian defender but a good effort in the third game brought no reward for the Guildford girl who was beaten 3---1. Claude Bergeret, the French No. 1, appears to have little idea how to play Alexandru, who conceded but 28 points in three games.

Into the semi-final, Lena Andersson suffered a similar fate. Earlier Miss Andersson had beaten Jill Hammersley in a very long but interesting set ultimately won at 16 in the fifth by the slim Swedish girl. Meanwhile in the other half of the draw BIRGITTA RADBERG beat number two seed llona Vostova in a really superb set in which four of the five games were 21-18 or closer.

The final itself was long but always interesting. The majority of the crowd clearly wanted a new name on the trophy but in the first game it seemed unlikely their wish would be granted. Slowing the game down in the second, Mrs. Radberg came into the picture much more and won fairly easily. One got the impression Mrs.

Radberg would not have been overworried if the match had gone to expedite but Mrs. Alexandru took the lead for the second time when she won a very close third game.

Towards the end of this game occurred one of the two incidents of a type for which Mrs. Alexandru is wellknown. Leading 20—18, Mrs. Alexandru hit a ball which appeared to clearly hit the side of the table. The only person who appeared to have any doubts was Maria Alexandru who guestioned in turn the umpire, her captain and finally her opponent. Frankly I think Alexandru knew she had little chance of getting away with it but there was just the chance it might unsettle her opponent. Although Mrs. Alexandru did collect the next point it was only after a fairly long rally.

The fourth game was the longest of the five — although none of them were very short — and once again Mrs. Alexandru incurred the wrath of the crowd by walking away from the table towards the end of the game. As it was this game was only seconds off expedite and my opinion is that had it gone to expedite Mrs. Alexandru could well have won. Certainly whenever I have seen her play expedite games her attack has looked very formidable indeed. Mrs. Radberg's attack, though, is such that she could have made it a very entertaining final game indeed.

As it was it went the same way as the previous four with most of the attacking shots being provided by Mrs. Radberg. It was, though, enthralling stuff to watch. Not all the gamesmanship came from Mrs. Alexandru. Towards the end of the fifth game Mrs. Radberg made a point of going for her towel after almost every point —a tactic which, if employed by Mrs. Alexandru would surely have brought more roars of disapproval from the crowd. When at 20-14, Mrs. Radberg was given the set by a wild hit from Alexandru, it was to thunderous applause.

continued on next page



Christian Martin (France) who took world champion Bengtsson, to five games in Round 2 of the men's singles. Photo: by Frank Davies, Bolton.

Contesting the final of the mixed doubles were Stipancic and Dragutin Surbck of Yugoslavia, the holders, and BENGTSSON and JOHANSSON. Both pairs had shown great consistency in reaching this stage and only in the – where the Swedish pair quarters dropped the first game to the French left-handers Constant and Secretin had a set gone beyond three games.

INTERESTED SPECTATOR

The Yugoslav pair in fact took the second game from the Bengtsson/ Johansson combination but they rarely looked to have the consistency of the Swedish pair. Johansson, in particular hit some magnificent forehands. In 1966 he won the European men's singles at Wembley — in this set he was playing almost up to that standard.

Bryan Robson, the West Ham footballer, was an interested spectator at the finals and Bengtsson particularly impressed him. 'After seeing how fast he moves, I intend to take up table tennis again seriously' he told ne. His wife is, of course Maureen Robson, formerly Maureen Heppell and at one time England No. 3.

Mrs. Alexandru and Mrs. Vlaicov had won the women's doubles for the two previous seasons, but they were denied a hat-trick of wins by the Czechs ILONA VOSTOVA and MILENA DOLACYOVA MILENA POLACKOVA. Miss Vostova had not looked to be on her top form at these championships but she showed a refreshing enthusiasm to hit in the final of this event. Only in the third game did the Czech pair let the set slip but they regained all their composure in the fourth to win without undue trouble.

England's only appearance in a final was in the mixed where Denis Ncale and Karenza Mathews were opposed to MILAN ORLOWSKI and ILONA VOSTOVA who had struggled to beat Tony Clayton and Susan Howard in the Quarters, being two games to one down and in a very perilous position in the fourth. In fact they finally managed to extricate themselves to win at 19 and having been thus duly pardoned went on to win the fifth easily. Fourth seeds Persson and Radberg went out in the second round — to Turai and Polackova — whilst third seeds Surbek and Vlaicov were the victims of Trevor Taylor and Jill Hammersley.

The number one and two seeds safely reached the semi-final stage but at this juncture Neale and Karenza brought off one of their best-ever victories to beat the World doubles finalists Alexandru and Stipancic. It was a tremendous win, a victory through team-work. With Denis really 'ort song' and Karenza also hitting well, the English pair looked a very good combination indeed and once they moved away in the fifth there was really only one pair in it. Alas for our hopes of a title! The English pair were never able to get into their stride against the Czech pair who romped home to a three-straight win, the only final won by this margin.

HOW LONG?

What of the English performances? In the main not very exciting but how long is it since the English men players have done really well at the 'English Open'?

Desmond Douglas showed some very encouraging signs. The bearded Dane, Pedersen had beaten both Neale and Taylor in the team event but third team member Douglas, hitting as ever very early and angling the ball well, took the first two. In the third Pedersen led 20-12 but Douglas showed he had the right temperament as well as skill to pull up to 20–19 before losing. The fourth game found Douglas 20–18 in arrears but back he bounced to win 23-21!

His next opponent was his teammate in the earlier events, Tony Clayton. Another quick-hitting lefthander, the exchanges as one would expect were very fast indeed and the rallies brought frequent loud applause from the crowd. This match was being played on the next table to the Bengtsson-Martin epic and both aroused great interest.

As expected Douglas met his Waterloo when opposed to Bengtsson. With his shrewd tactical brain, the World Champion never let Douglas get in at all, playing the ball short until he himself could get in a hit. All the same a very impressive performance by Douglas.

Trevor Taylor, unfortunately, went out at the first hurdle to Ingemar Vikström. The Swedish boy has made rapid strides in the past two seasons. Taylor's great strength of course is his consistency and this was the thing lacking in his set with Vikström. A fine display of hitting in the third by Taylor flattered to deceive, the Swedish player going on to take the fourth game and the set.

Neale had two easy sets to start with - Alan Ransome (Yorks.) and Neils Ramberg (Denmark). Matyas Beleznai, the Hungarian, was a different prospect. With players of the strength of Jonyer and Klampar available, Beleznai is very much a 'sccond string' member of the Hun-garian team but he is a very useful player none the less. Denis was desperately keen to succeed and thus qualify for a match with Surbek. Beleznai, though, showed all the signs of a class player and he was able to get points when they mattered most in the first and third games. This largely swung the set in his favour and it was only in the fourth that Neale faded.

Nicky Jarvis was another source of encouragement to the English selectors. Peter Rozsas is still a force to be reckoned with but the Hun-garian ballet-dancer could not cope with the speed of Jarvis, whose loop was functioning well. Clifford was functioning well. Clifford Thompson had earlier beaten Bobby Stevens in three straight but found Jarvis quite a different proposition. Nobody fights harder than the Belfast school-teacher but he found Jarvis too powerful

The man to stop Jarvis was the ace French defender Jacques Secretin. Secretin, moreover, was prepared to mix it with some powerful hits and Jarvis was never in it. Clearly Jarvis reeds more practice against top defenders before he becomes a force to be reckoned with in top European circles - but where is he going to Munt is the pick of the England? Munt is the pick of the English defenders and he barely scrapes into the ranking list.

Alan Hydes was perhaps unfortunate to play a player of the class of Orlowski as early as the second round. Orlowski — speedy, elegant and assured in all he does — carried too many guns for Hydes who appears to be not yet 100 per cent. fit.

WAITING GAME

In the women's singles no English player survived the third round and only the top two reached that stage. Perhaps the biggest sensation in the tournament was the scratching of the



I.T.T.F. President, H. Roy Evans, O.B.E., shakes hands with Sweden's Birgitta Radberg following her triumph over Rumania's Maria Alexandru in the women's singles final.

Jill Hammersley had two comfortable | wins - against Polackova and Monica Kneip (Federal Germany) before losing a truly great set to Lena Andersson. The Swedish girl played a waiting game and the result was many long rallies. Jill in fact took the first game but lost the next two, both at 19. With a little more power Jill would surely have won both these games but this is no time to criticise a player who gave the best performance I have ever seen from her at Brighton. Jill took the fourth but she made too bad a start in the fifth to really have much chance against a determined opponent who gave nothing away.

Karenza Mathews also started with two comfortable wins but against Birgitta Radberg was rarely in the picture. On this performance, the number six ranking in Europe in no way flatters Mrs. Radberg, who looked a very competent player indeed. Linda Howard was another Radberg victim, beaten three-straight in the previous round.

Susan Howard's play in these championships was impressive and to take the first game off Maria Alexandru was no mean feat.

Dismal indeed was the England record in the women's doubles — only our top pairing of Linda Howard and Karenza Mathews could manage more than one win and they were quickly disposed of by the Alexandru/Vlaicov partnership.

SENSATION

Photo by Peter Madge

top English pair, Neale and Taylor from the Men's Doubles. What is certain is they were late for was 'Should they have long enough for lunch?' The Press Room was buzzing with excitement and to a man they felt Neale and Taylor should have been allowed to play. A meeting of the jury was called — consisting of one member from each competing country --- to decide whether the verdict should be upheld but this meeting was called whilst the players who Neale and Taylor should have been opposed to were in the middle of their next round! This set was stopped while the jury met and their decision was that Neale and Taylor should not be reinstated. My feeling is that if a jury meeting were to be called it should have been done so considerably earlier than it was.

General opinion was that in any other country the top two players would not have been scratched in their own country but along with that was the suggestion that it was unlikely that the top two players in any other country would be late enough to allow the opportunity of them being withdrawn anyway!

None of the English pairs got past round two and it was in the mixed doubles where England fared best in doubles events. Three pairs reached the quarter-finals, two reached the semi-finals and one pair reached the final! It was altogether a good performance by England in an event in which they have not always shone. Since 1960 they have only once won

this event and it was Denis Neale ... Individual Results partnered by Mary Wright who was successful in 1970. Denis reached the final again - this time with Karenza Mathews - but as already mentioned there was no repeat performance.

Trevor Taylor and Jill Hammersley are now making strides as a very good mixed doubles partnership. Mixed doubles partnerships take some time to build up but the consistency of this pair now looks to be capable of bringing them very good results indeed. Moreover each time they play good results with each other they seem to play with more confidence and understanding - two attributes vital in any mixed doubles partnership. Their victory over Surbek and Eleanora Vlaicov must rank amongst their best. They were in no particular hurry to kill the ball but they rarely let any chance go amiss. Orlowski and Vostova - who won the event the previous season looked much too composed for them and won without ever looking in much trouble.

There were then no trophies for England but some sound performances with some hope of better things to come.

and Jill Douglas Desmond Hammersley both collected f_{100} for the best English performances, a decision no one will quibble with.

A good tournament, thoroughly enjoyed by players, officials and spectators alike. Congratulations to Geoff Daniels and his hard-working committee. Geoff is a man of few words but plenty of action and seemingly limitless energy.

 Men's Singles: Round 3:

 S. Bengtsson (Sw) bt D. Douglas (Eng)

 10, 13, 15;

 J. Turai (Cz) bt R. Schalley (Bel)

 12, 19, 18;

 J. Secretin (Fr) bt N. Jarvis (Eng) 14, 9, 19;

 A. Stipancic (Yu) bt B. Persson (Sw)

 -15, 11, 18, 14;

 M. Beleznai (Hu) bt D. Neale (Eng)

 18, -13, 18, 14;

 M. Orlowski (Cz) bt C. Warren (Surrey)

 10, -16, 12, 12;

 K. Johansson (Sw) bt H. Deutz (Fed. Ger)

 16, -14, 16.

 Quarter-finals;
 Quarter-finals: Quarter-inais: Bengtsson bt Turai 12, 17, 11; Stipancic bt Secretin -20, 19, 13, 11; Surbek bt Beleznai 17, 11, -18, 11; Johansson bt Orlowski 19, 13, 16 Semi-finals: BENGTSSON bt Stipancic 14, 8, 20; JOHANSSON bt Surbek 12, 17, 18. Final: BENGTSSON bt Johansson 19, 13, -14, 19. Momen's Singles: Round 2:
M. Alexandru (Ru) bt S. Howard (Surrey) -18, 12, 15, 11;
C. Bergeret (Fr) bt E. Poor (Hu) 20, -24, 15, -14, 14;
L. Andersson (Sw) bt Y. Fogarty (N.Z.) 19, 13, 12;
J. Hammersley (Eng) bt S. Poulsen (Den) 16, 13, 4; J. Hammersley (Eng) bt S. Poulsen (Den) 16, 13, 4;
B. Radberg (Sw) bt L Howard (Eng) 16, 8, 14;
K. Mathews (Eng) bt J. Hartwell (Middx) 14, 7, 13;
E. Vlaicov (Ru) bt J. Williams (Sussex) 12, 10, 19;
I. Vostova (Cz) bt J. Kruger (Fed. Ger.) 12, 11, 12. Quarter-finals: Alexandru bt Bergeret 11, 12, 5; Andersson bt Hammersley -18, 19, 19, -14, 16; Radberg bt Mathews 11, 15, 13; Vostova bt Vlaicov 11, 10, 15. Semi-finals: ALEXANDRU bt Andersson 15, 15, 17; RADBERG bt Vostova -18, 21, -19, 14, 18.

Final: RADBERG bt Alexandru -14, 15, -19, 18, 15. Men's Doubles: Quarter-finals: Bengtsson/Johansson bt J D. Constant (Fr)/ Secretin -20, 16, 12, 16;



Matyas Beleznai of Hungary who ousted England's Denis Neale in Round 3.

Photo by Frank Davies, Bolton

Orlowski/Turai bt Z. Cordas (Yu)/ D. Munt (Warwks) 19, 14, 11; Persson/Vikström bt Beleznai/P. Rozsas (Hu) -18, 15, 8, 9; Stipancic/Surbek bt C. Pedersen/N. Ramberg (Den) 13, 19, 12. Alexandru/Vlaicov bt Bergeret/Y. Lecler (Fr) -17, 12, 6, 16; L. Howard/Mathews bt E. Tarten/G. Taylor (Essex) 17, 18, -16, 12; M. Polackova (C2)/Vostova bt S. Hession (Essex)/Williams -20, 15, 7, 6;

Semi-finals: BENGTSSON/JOHANSSON bt Orlowski/ Turai 10, 17, 16; STIPANCIC/SURBEK bt Persson/Vikström 18, 18, 20.

Final: BENGTSSON/JOHANSSON bt Stipancic/ Surbek 19, -15, 9, 15,

Women's Doubles: Quarter-finals:

Andersson/Radberg bt Hammersley/S. Howard 13, 12, 18. Semi-finals:

ALEXANDRU/VLAICOV bt Howard/ Mathews 18, 12, 17; POLACKOVA/VOSTOVA bt Andersson/ Radberg -20, 16, -19, 9, 13.

continued on next page

PONTINS HOLIDAY CAMPS 1973 SEASON TABLE TENNIS COMPETITIONS

Once again Pontins will be staging table tennis competitions at their holiday centres both at home and abroad. Weekly winners return for a reunion weekend at the end of the season when the finals are played off.

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DENIS NEALE with over 200 Internationals and former, junior International, COLIN DEATON, can be seen at the following camps:---

Blackpool, Middleton Towers, Prestatyn and Southport.

International PETER TAYLOR and Essex county player STEVIE SMITH can be seen at the following camps:---Broadreeds, Camber Sands, Bracklesham Bay, Seacroft, Hemsby, Pakefield.

Final: POLACKOVA/VOSTOVA bt Alexandru/ Vlaicov 25, 16, -16, 16. Mixed Doubles: Quarter-finals: Stipancic/Alexandru bt Secretin/Bergeret Stipancic/Alexandru bt Secretin/Bergeret 13, 19, 20; Neale/Mathews bt Turai/Polackova 19, -14, 16, 21; T. Taylor/Hammersley bt Surbek/Vlaicov -17, 18, -18, 16, 11; Orlowski/Vostova bt A. Clayton (Eng)/ S. Howard 16, -16, -11, 19, 11. Semi-finals: NEALE/MATHEWS bt Stipancic/Alexandru NEALE/MAINEWS of Suparcic/F 19, -16, 17, -16, 15; ORLOWSKI/VOSTOVA bt Taylor/ Hammersley 11, 14, 13, Finals ORLOWSKI/VOSTOVA bt Neale/Mathews 15. 16. 15 Men's Veteran Singles: Quarter-finals: R. Lush (Hants) bt L. Browning (Yorks) -19, 16, 19; G. Chapman (Surrey) bt G. Brook (Yorks) 15, 19; Schofield (Ches) ht R. Morris (Somerset) υ 16, 15; (Belgium) 14, 7. R. Semi-finals: LUSH bt Chapman 22, 15; SCHOFIELD bt Etheridge 12, 9. Final: SCHOFIELD bt Lush 17, 14. Women's Veteran Singles: Semi-finals: D. GRAY (Hants) bt P. Lauder (Essex) 12, 13; 1. PROWEN (Middx) bt J. Williams (Bucks) 20, 17. м. Final: GRAY bt Prowen 17, 13. Men's Consolation Singles: Quarter-finals: Cordas bt Constant -20, 17, 16; J. Langan (Ir) bt B. Alderson (Yorks) 20, 9; J. Langan (Ir) bt B. Alderson (Yorks) 20, 9; A. Fletcher (Warwks) bt R. Canor (Fr) 12, 20; Pedersen bt A. Barden (Middx) 19, 17. Semi-finals: Cordas bt Langan 10, 16; Pedersen bt Fletcher 11, 15. Finals CORDAS bt Pedersen 16, 9. Women's Consolation Singles: Quarter-finals: A. Stevenson (Leics) bt D. Rees (Gloucs) 7, 13: M. Kneip (Fed Ger) bt B. Stewart (ir)

Hession bt M. Donnier (Ir) 16, 11; B. Anderson (Den) bt J. Hellaby (Essex)

13. 12. Semi-finals: Kneip bt Stevenson 13, 17; Hession bt Andersen 8, 12.

Pinal: KNEIP bt Hession 9, 17.

STAR PHOTOGRAPHS FROM THE NORWICH UNION INTER-NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS AT BRIGHTON.

Stellan Bengtsson-Sweden Kjell Johansson—Sweden Anton Stipancic—Yugoslavia Dragutin Surbek—Yugoslavia Matyas Beleznai—Hungary **Denis Neale-England** Nicky Jarvis—England Jacques Secretin—France Christian Martin—France

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Stellan Bengtsson looks on as interviewer Phil Reid checks his notes at Brighton.

Photo by Cliff Darley

Talking to Stellan Bengtsson

by Philip Reid

Twelve months ago I spoke to | Stellan Bengtsson at Brighton. I took the opportunity to have another chat with him this year. In twelve months he hasn't changed. Still bubbling with enthusiasm. Still delighted to meet people. At the airport his eager handshake shows there is nothing indifferent about Bengtsson. A World Champion we should be proud of. I mean 'we'. After all he belongs to 'our' game.

- P.R. Stellan, since I had a chat with you twelve months ago you've won amongst other things, the English Open and the European Championships. The pressures on you must be tremendous every time you go on the table. Everyone trying to beat the World Champion.
- S.B. True but I just try to play each opponent on merit. Once I'm out there I forget about being World Champion. After all — I've still got to play to win.
- P.R. What other championships have you won besides the English Open and the European Championships?
- S.B. I won the Yugoslavian, East German and Czech Opens.
- P.R. A pretty formidable list. One that seems to be missing is your own Scandinavian Open. What happened there?
- S.B. I lost to Secretin, the French player. He played very well indeed and although I usually do well against him he was too good for me in this set.
- P.R. Did he win the tournament?
- S.B. No the title stayed in Sweden. Kjell Johansson was the winner.
- P.R. What preparations have you made for the Worlds?

S.B. Well we have been in training for two years now. On July 1st last year the National team got together and have been training for one week each month since then. We shall be stepping up the practice. Much of the emphasis will be peak physical how exhausting a World Champion-ships can be both physically and mentally.

P.R. Do you do anything else for a living besides table tennis?

S.B. I just don't much have time for anything else. I do a little coach-ing at my local school when I have time.

P.R How popular is table tennis in Sweden?

- S.B. Quite popular and gaining in popularity all the time.
- P.R. I have been led to believe that any country which has a World Champion will find that particular sport will automatically become more popular. For instance we have a chap in England called David Bryant who won the World Bowls singles. Bowls is not the fastest of sports but he is always news simply because of his World title. Do you think this applies in Sweden?
- S.B. Certainly it has made a difference to the coverage we get on T.V. and in the press.
- P.R. Who coaches you now?
- S.B. Christer Johansson. He is at all the Training Camps, usually held at Falkenburg — my home town or Trollattan.
- P.R. I believe you are in the army. That you were conscripted for National Service?
- S.B. Yes, I went in the Army on 3rd July but I have been given leave since December to concentrate on the Worlds. I have to do nine months in all so I shall have about I have to do nine three months to do after the Worlds.
- P.R. Does left-handed give you an advantage?
- S.B. I don't think so really. There are so many left-handers about now.
- P.R. Is there any player who gives you particular difficulties?
- S.B. Yes, Eberhard Schöler.
- P.R. There must be a reason?
- S.B. Yes, he is a really great defender. In Sweden we have no defenders of a high standard.
- P.R. You must have a pretty good chance of retaining your World title

although there will be a very strong entry.

- S.B. Yes the draw looks difficult B. Yes — the draw tooks dimension for me. But obviously if I am going to do very well, then I will have to beat good players.
- P.R. Since the Worlds, which tournament gave you most pleasure to win?
- S.B. No doubt at all about this one. The European. Many people said L was a bit lucky to win the Worlds in that I had to play hardly any European players on the way. Tò win the European gave me a lot of pleasure.
- P.R. I'm sure it did. Stellan --- I know that it would give everyone in this country enormous pleasure if you were able to retain your world title. From, I'm sure, everyone over here — all the very best.

Swaythling Club **Reception**

During the Norwich Union Inter-national Championships at Brighton, the English Swaythling Club held a reception for members at the Pavilion Theatre, Organised with its usual efficiency by Johnny Leach the recep-tion enabled many old friends and Swaythling Club members to meet again and talk over old Championships and the countries in which they were held.

There was a good European entry at Brighton so it was possible to invite distinguished guests from Europe, Swaythling Club members among them. Johnny made all wel-come in a brief but well chosen speech and introduced Mrs Susie Barna whom everyone was delighted to see present. In a speech of great courage, Susie took the opportunity to thank Johnny for his kind invitation and to thank the very many friends in the Swaythling Club who had done everything possible to make her tragic loss a little more bearable.

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2nd COMMONWEALTH **CHAMPIONSHIPS**

England's Trevor Taylor and Jill Hammersley retained their individual titles in the 2nd Commonwealth Championships which ended at Championships Cardiff on April 1.

Defeated finalists Denis Neale and Karenza Mathews combined to take the mixed doubles.

Taylor and Neale won the men's doubles and Mrs. Hammersley, with Susan Howard, won the women's doubles

It was a clean sweep for England who also retained both their team titles.

A report (by Albert Shipley) will appear in the May/June issue together with detailed results.

Northumberland **1-Star Open**

by George R. Yates

68 POINTS WINNER

PLAYING for a top prize of £20 cash, Ormesby clubmates Alan Rausome and Jimmy Walker, fought out a men's singles final that was deserving of five times that amount in sheer entertainment value.

It climaxed a long but rewarding day for that small band of administrative workers bent on making a success of the Northumberland 1-Star Open played at Newcastle-on-Tyne on March 24,

Walker just made it in that memorable MŠ final but no-body can question the fitness of the Ormesby supremo who caused the former No. 1 England Junior to fight for every one of the 68 points it required to subjugate his coach and mentor.

Another Walker, Judith by name, was also concerned in a tense final encounter with an elder opponent but this time the verdict went the other way when Lincolnshire's Jean White just made 24---22 in the third.

Earlier in this event, Carol Knight advanced the cause of the Ormesby club in the female sphere by ousting Bradford's Sylvia Broadbent and Jane Skipp reached the last eight before falling to Spalding's Monica Green.

Derrick and Neil Marples formed a father/son partnership in the men's doubles and well they performed in reaching the final providing some consolation, at least, for Derrick who was twice beaten by Len Browning both in the MS and the veterans' event.

Misses Walker and Broadbent came into their own in the WD and Ransome, in partnership with Miss White, carried the day in the mixed.

Judith was also the winner of the GS but not without a degree of resistance from Barbara Kearney. Like-wisc, in the counterpart boys' event, winner Philip Ward, was rocked more than a little in his semi-final encounter with Ormesby clubmate Stephen Souter.

Len Browning returned to his winning ways in the VS proving that if his choice for the Lincoln Handicap was 'redundant' he most certainly was not!

Men's Singles: Quarter-finals: L. Browning (Yorks) bt P. Ward (Yorks)

9, -20, 18; A. Ransome (Yorks) bt P. Hoyles (Nthid) -14, 14, 8; A. Jones (Nthid) bt B. Alderson (Yorks) 18, 10; J. Walker (Yorks) bt N. Eckersley (Ches) 8. 17. Semi-finals: Ransome bt Browning 6, 6; Walker bt Jones 16, 14. Final: WALKER bt Ransome 19, -25, 20 Women's Singles: Quarter-finals: Wohen C. Kargar, J. White (Lines) bt C. Kargar, J. 20, 16;
B. Kearney (Nthld) bt J. Richardson (Yorks) -21, 17, 19;
M. Green (Lines) bt J. Skipp (Yorks) 11, 14, J. Walker (Yorks) bt P. Clark (Nthld) 10, 16 Semi-finals: White bt Kearney 16, 18; Walker bt Green 11, 24. Finals WHITE bt Walker 17, -11, 22.

Men's Doubles: Semi-finals: Eckersley/B. Johns (Ches) bt Ransome/Ward -20, 18, 19; D Marples/N. Marples (Derbys) bt A. Martin (Yorks)/Walker 16, 14. Final: ECKERSLEY/JOHNS bt Marples/Marples 18. 12. Women's Doubles: Semi-finals: S. Broadbent (Yorks)/Walker bt N. Carne/ C. Williams (Yorks) 15, 15; Green/White bt J. Green/J. Mannion (Ches) 12, 13, Final: BROADBENT/WALKER bt Green/White 20. 14. Mixed Doubles: Semi-finals: B. Johns/J. Green bt W. Allanson (Lancs/ Broadbent 17, 12; Ransome/White bt Hoyles/Kearney -11, 13, 16,

Final: RANSOME/WHITE bt Johns/Green 11. 8. Boys' Singles: Quarter-finals: Ward bt A. Clark (Nthld) 13, 16:

S. Souter (Yorks) bt B. Hay (Durham) 11 13; 11, 13;
 B. Alderson bt M. Barry (Cumb) 13, 22;
 R. Wilson (Westmorland) bt J. Fennah (Ches) 26, 15,
 Semi-finals:
 Ward bt Souter 12, -12, 17;
 Alderson bt Wilson 15, 16. WARD bt Alderson 11, 12. Girls' Singles: Quarter-finals: Girls Songless Quarter-Infals: Walker bt Knight 15, 18; J. Pachul (Cumb) bt Williams 12, 15; L. Clark (Nthld) bt Richardson 7, 11; Kearney bt J Bullock (Cumb) 8, 11. Semi-finals: Walker bt Pachul 16, 16; Kearney bt Clark 16, 13. Final: Final ALKER bt Kearney -16, 17, 13. Veteran Singles: Semi-finals: G. Smith (Lancs) bt H. Dignan (Nthld) 21, 11; Browning bt D. Marples 15, -15, 13.

Final: BROWNING bt Smith 16, 17.

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From the Editor's Postbag

CAUSE AND EFFECT

My first thoughts on reading Mr. Atterano's letter re the Hampshire v. Kent Veteran Match was to treat it with the contempt it deserves but as I was present at the Match, as Referee, I can make a factual and accurate report of the unfortunate affair.

(a) The venue, chosen because of its nearness to Kent, was the Indoor Sports Centre, Southsea, a place that holds eight tables, the Match table being located at one end screened off by surrounds.

(b) At 6-15 p.m. the Hants. team had "knocked-up" and were waiting the arrival of the Kent team. A County Umpire and a few spectators were present in addition to myself.

(c) For the first 30/45 minutes there was no suggestion made to me in respect of claiming the Match or any sets. However, as more time elapsed, a restless atmosphere became apparent, no doubt due to the importance of this Match and the feeling of anti-climax. I was then asked to verify the reason for lateness when the visitors arrived for, if Hants, were not satisfied, they might decide it right and proper to claim some sets.

(d) On the arrival of the Kent Team at 7-50 p.m. I welcomed them and courteously asked to speak to the member of the team whose wife was in Hospital. Having done this and acquainted the home team with the details both they and myself were of the opinion that the situation was known earlier in the week and several methods could have been used to avoid what actually happened. It was further thought that the excuse given only represented a minor part for the unreasonable lateness.

(e) The final outcome, after both Captains and myself had spoken by telephone to the CTTC Secretary, was that **not** the Match, **not** five but three sets would be claimed by Hampshire so that a Match of sorts could at least be played.

(f) In reference to dress, the Hants. team were in Blue shirts and Grey shorts, one player wore a Portsmouth City League badge in addition to the County badge. There were some irregularities in the dress of the Kent team but I have no wish to record them here.

(g) Some rain water did come in from a leak in the roof—the table and surrounds were moved to the next position down.

(h) The "nearby" table was at the far end of the Hall about 65ft. distant on which it is said that other persons were playing I believe these people had intended to watch the Match, had it started on time, and to play after.

Mr. Atterano casts aspersions on the inale members of the Hants. team. He should know that the Hants. No. 1, Ray Lush, recently reached the final of the Veterans' event in the English Open before losing to Derek Schofield. Our No. 2, Cyril Bush, has reached the semi-finals twice in recent

seasons. This should erase any doubts regarding the ability of the players in question.

Kent, on this occasion, were **not** beaten by the rule book. Mis-management in failing to travel a fairly short distance and bring a team to a venue for a very important fixture resulted in them not having a reasonable chance. But to lay the blame on Hampshire adds insult to injury. It is degrading to table tennis, or any other sport, to place a host team in such a position by arriving so late to cause such action as was taken. A very good relationship between the two counties has existed for many years at Senior and Junior level and know that the official Kent attitude will in no way condemn Hampshire for the decision taken. As Match Sec. for the team, I provided a map showing the route from Portsmouth outskirts to the venue. A copy of this map will be forwarded to the Kent Assoc. and to the CTTC Sec.

R. YATES

12 River Walk, Townhill Park, Southampton.

TIME FOR ABANDONMENT

RE Alan Shepherd's article in the Feb. issue concerning the Junior County Championships. I must first of all confirm three points that he made, as I was in attendance at Loughborough for the Sunday matches.

(a) The umpiring situation was abysmal. As soon as I entered the building, I was directed by John Wright to unpire the Lancs. v. Cambs match. My astonishment turned to disbelief when, having informed him that I was not a County Umpire, he ascertained that I knew something about the game, and gave me the score sheets. Still, the show had to go on! Umpiring will always be a problem at big events, and what a way to downgrade the atmosphere of this event by the provision of nonqualified umpires.

(b) Yes, a total lack of atmosphere so essential to an event such as a County match.

(c) "General lethargy and super saturation" — a super phrase by Alan to epitomise the state of mind of many of the contestants on that Sunday. Surely it is an attitude of mind that produces the excitement which is attached to the whole concept of the development of a competition throughout the season. There was no energy left in some players to get excited about the course of the County Championships on the final day. (This was probably also tempered by the fact that Yorkshire were obviously on the way to the trophy).

In fact, it is my opinion that the time has come to abandon the Junior County Championships. One major factor in support of this argument is the increasing commitment of players to schools events. The game is developing rapidly in the schools, and as Ian Crickmer states elsewhere in the February magazine, school comes even before county representation.

Apart from this, efforts are still being made to introduce new tournaments to the crowded calendar. The calibre of juniors playing in county matches wish to play in many senior tournaments, as well as the recent explosion of new junior competitions. (Incidentally, I believe a junior player

improves far more by going round as many tournaments as possible rather than playing representative matches and the juniors 1 know agree with me).

Will the players miss the Junior County Championships? I don't think so. We are catering for the players, are we not? (We don't get any spectators to speak of to cater for at junior matches). Players will have plenty of opportunity to play for their County at Senior level in the years ahead, when junior tournaments and school commitments are no longer pressing.

BERNARD YARNOLD, Midland League Sec. Coventry. 52 Mill Hill, Bacinton

Baginton, Coventry CV8 3AG.

TOURNAMENT ENTRIES NOT RECEIVED

If the object of Mr. Woodford's "Controversy" column is to swell the Editor's postbag, and its title would suggest the reason for its existence, then he is successful. I do not think his February column should be allowed to pass without yet further comment.

I do not understand why there should be any reference to the Rules Committee in the way suggested—it is not their job to decide whether a Referee's decision is right or wrong, but to give an interpretation, if asked, of one of the Association's Regulations; no Regulation is referred to Drafting and interpretation is the limit of the Rules Committee's function with regard to Tournament Regulations—they do not decide the policy. That is done by the National Council on the advice of the Tournaments Committee.

Mr. Woodford also mentions appeals—does he mean that an appeal is a rare happening, or only one that is correctly organised? If the decision of the Referee was a discretionary one, then there would seem to be little point in appealing; if it was a question of whether the Referee had acted contrary to Regulation, what useful purpose would now be served by the Board of Appeal deciding that he had ?

I heartily endorse the sentiments in Mr. Reed's letter (March issue). All players are entitled to rely on the same closing date. At the same time the organiser compiling the draw can only include entries actually received, as he is not required to be telepathic. If entries close on a certain date except for entries by certain privileged players, then the Entry Form should say so.

A. J. H. WICKENS

2 Frensham Walk, Farnham Common, SLOUGH, Buckinghamshire.

SHORT SIGHTED POLICY

I note in the March issue of Table Tennis News that the National Selection Committee have selected a squad of junior players with the main target being selection for the European Youth Championships. Amongst those listed I see that there are 2 boys under 14, presumably included for the Cadet side of the Championships, but once again no under 14 girls are included in these select few. Does this mean that the girls are not

going to participate in the Cadet teams? If this is so then England must surely be very short sighted in not including girls in this event. Where do they think that their future under 17 players are going to gain valuable experience against other countries when they are omitted.

This point was raised at the last A.G.M. and the question was asked at that time if money was preventing their inclusion. The answer was it was not lack of money but they did not think anyone was good enough. There were at that time 4 girls who would not have let England down and they, themselves, felt let down that no-one was chosen. This has been to the detriment of England Junior Table Tennis, as from those 4 girls, one could not care less, two are playing purely for themselves, thus presenting a very selfish attitude, and one gave up altogether. I should hate to see this happen again this year as there is already one under 14 girl in the ranking list and there are at least 3 on her heels which would constitute the makings of a 2 girl team for these Championships.

I should also like to know why the Under 13 competition is run if not for the potentiality of the next junior England players but as no selector or coach attends the finals, presumably those taking part are doing it for fun, rather than as a step on the rung for the Cadet side to gain experience for the Youth side

It appears that girls are overlooked as far as England teams are con-cerned, apart from some who are pushed regardless of their results, but especially those whose style does not comply to the England way of thinking. I sometimes wonder if England really do want to produce a champion when they leave out players who win with an orthodox style against those who can only use a minimum of strokes and do not produce results. If the selectors do not look at each player as an individual and base their games and training on their ability, I think the same headline could appear in next October's issue but vejle" it would read "What went wrong in Vejle" it would read "What went wrong in Athens".

May I close by asking the Selectors that if they were not going to put in a Cadet girls team to think again and thus give these younger players something to aim for and not knock the confidence out of them at a most impressionable age.

> PAT WALES, Diploma Coach.

Laybrook, 60 Nelson Road, West Worthing, Sussex BN12 6EN

SAME RULES FOR ALL

WITH reference to Mr. Billson's letter (Feb. issue) regarding behaviour at the English Junior Closed — "Exemplary Conduct". This is more than can be said for the local Organisation Committee's pre-tournament behaviour.

My daughter's entry form was posted in time to reach the ETTA office for the closing date — Dec. 9 at this time there was no delay in postal deliveries. Since we had not received notification of times of play before Dec. 29, I spent most of that day trying to contact both Mr. Reid and Mr. Billson without success — I did nothing before then because I knew there were postal delays over the Christmas period.

On the morning of the tournament, we received a letter from Mr. Shipley, posted in Hastings on Dec. 28, returning her entry form and fees, saying he had been asked by the local organisers to do so since her application had been received too late.

The entry form had been date stamped by the ETTA Dec. 11, and yet in Mr. Woodford's article "Controversy" it states that two young star players were admitted after "a great deal of bother and pressure". I was not in the fortunate position of exerting any pressure since I naturally assumed the entry had gone forward Future stars and starlets are not produced by stabbing them in the back!

There is far too much 'behind the scenes' pulling of strings and the sooner the game is cleaned up the better for everyone. When there are rules they should be kept and let us have the same rules applying to everyone equally. This also goes for the Service Law.

In National tournaments where entries are sent to the ETTA any rejected applicants should be notified immediately and not left to a local organiser to decide.

I do not know whether the unknown girl referred to in Mr. Woodford's article was my daughter, but although she may be comparatively unknown in tournament results, she is very well known in a wide area, ranked No. 1 junior in the County and represent-

ing Peterborough in the South East Midland League.

Mrs. E. ALLINSON, Hon. Sec. Hunts. TTA. 11 Orwell Grove.

Paston, Peterborough PE4 6XU.

G.O.M. OF TABLE TENNIS

Who is the oldest League player in the U.K.? His name is David Brown, and he's 78 years of age. He plays in the Wandsworth League, and is Secretary of the team in which he takes part.

I have played against him twice. The first time I made the mistake of playing him at his own game expecting him to falter. When I was a game down I could no longer stand back from the table and admire his retrieving.

I won the next two games for the set and made no mistake the second time, winning two-straight. But, calling all leagues up and down the country, any advance on 78?

Just as a coincidence, Paul Day beat David Brown (Essex) at Crystal Palace 14-21, 17-21, 24-22, 22-20, 26-24. I should think that is a record.

K. E. WOODARD

38 Worple Road, Wimbledon,

London. SW19 4EQ.

TOURNAMENT DIARY

Date	Title and venue	Additional to normal events	Organising Secretary
May 5/6	Leckie 1-Star Junior, Joseph Leckie School, Walsall, Staffs.	U-15 BS, GS, BD, GD. U-13 BS, GS, BD, GD. U-11 BS, GS.	Tipton, Staffs
12/13	Dagenham 2-Star, Redbridge Sports Centre, Forest Road, Barkingside, Ilford, Essex.	BS, GS, VS.	Miss M. E. Harden, 173 Alma Avenue, Hornchurch, Essex, RM12 6BL. Closing date: 20.4.73.
19/20	6th ENGLISH JUNIOR OPEN, Worthing Sports Centre Worthing, Sussex. o	International Junior Team Competitions (by invitation f the E.T.T.A.)	S. Dane, 21 The Ridgeway, Southgate, London, N14 6NX. Closing date: 21.4.73.
26/27	Cambridge 1-Star Junior, Corn Exchange, Cambridge.	U-15 BS, GS, BD, GD. U-13 BS, GS.	M. G. Coteman, 16 Fulbrooke Road, Newnham, Cambridge.
June 2	Aycliffe 2-Star, Woodham Secondary Schoo Newton Aycliffe, Co. Durham.	JBS, JGS. l,	J. A. Masson, 10 Teesdale Avenue, Darlington, Co. Durham. Closing date: 19.5.73.

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Stop Press Notice Coca-Cola

INTERNATIONAL MATCHES

England v. Japan

April 18 at 7-15 p.m.

Palace Hotel, Torquay, Devon.

Ticket enquiries: Mr. K. T. O. Ponting, 2 Southport Avenue, Redhills, Exeter, Devon. EX4 1RA. 'Phone: Exeter 78642 (Home).

April 20 (Good Friday) at 7-15 p.m.

The Leisure Centre, Bletchley, Bucks.

Tickets priced at £1-25 and £1-00 from venue.

April 22 (Easter Sunday) at 2-30 p.m.

National Sports Centre, Crystal Palace, London S.W.19.

priced q08 Tickets at (Adults) and 50p (Children) from venue or E.T.T.A. office, 21 Claremont, Hastings, Sussex.

AN APOLOGY

The photographs on pages 12-13 of the Girls of Winchcombe and Southall Schools are incorrectly captioned. The captions should, of course, be transposed Our apologies to all concerned.



JILL LEAPS AHEAD DAVID AND LINDA OVERHAULED

Picking up 350 points in the E.T.T.U.'s second Classification Tournament at Boblingen, Federal Germany (Feb. 16/18) has been the significant feature contributing to Jill Hammersley's gap-widening lead over Karenza Mathews in pursuit of the Coca-Cola \underline{f} 100 Award in the women's section.

Failure by Linda Howard to add a single point to her end-of-the-year tournament total has resulted in her being overhauled by Elaine Tarten as the leading junior girl who will also qualify for \pounds_{100} —such to be administered by the E.T.T.A., unlike the senior awards.

Home tournament successes, together with the capture of 100 points by beating Kjell Johansson in the Dome at Brighton, has taken top boy Desmond Douglas 345 points in front of David Alderson and into third place in the men's section still headed by Trevor Taylor.

The published points table includes home tournaments up to and including the Fenland 2-Star Open on Mar. 4, but is not inclusive of County matches played in 1973. These will be added in the next list.

Figures in brackets denote points won in home tournaments, County matches and in the International field for which the Norwich Union International Championships qualified. Juniors are signified by an asterisk. Men

1. T. Taylor (Ormesby) (1067-0-325) 1392 2. D. Neale (Yorks.) (715-30-330)



Marks of Distinction Ltd. (Alec Brook Ltd.) 124 Euston Road, London, NW1, 01-387 3772/3/4 3 *D. Douglas (Warwks.) (258-75-230)

- 4. N. Jarvis (Yorks.) (410-0-115)
- $\frac{525}{378}$ P. Taylor (Beds.) (358-20-0) $\frac{5}{6}$ M. Johns (Ches.) (238-85-30) 353 O. Haslam (Middx.) (233-15-45) 7.
- 293 A. Clayton (Yorks.) (218-30-15) 8.
- 263
- A. Hydes (Yorks.) (235-0-25) 260 B. Burn (Warwks.) (180-75-0) 255 9. 10.
 - *D. Alderson (Yorks.) (168-20-30) 218 2
- 12.
 J. Walker (Yorks.) (140-35-0)
 175

 13.
 *P. Day (Cambs.) (112-10-0)
 122

 14.
 D. Munt (Warws.) (88-30-0)
 118
- R. Chandler (Surrey) (30-85-0) 15.

115

145

138

δq

63

Women

- 1. J. Hammersley (Bucks.) 1986 (891-0-1095)
- K. Mathews (Middx.) 2. (1104-25-215) 1344
- L. Radford (Essex) 369-0-0 369J. Williams (Sussex) (205-65-10) à. 4
- 280
- S. Hession (Essex) (241-35-0) 276 **6**.
- S. Howard (Surrey) (230-10-0) 240 179
- 7. *E. Tarten (Essex) (129-50-0) 8. J. Heaps (Ches.) (85-60-0) 9. S. Lisle (Lancs.) (138-0-0)
- 10. *L. Howard (Surrey) (112-20-0)
- 132 D. Court (Middx.) (116-15-0) 131 11.
- J. Hellaby (Essex) (106-10-0) 12. -116
- 13. S. Kavallieron (Sussex) (88-5-0)
- 14 *J. Walker (Yorks.) (74-15-0) 15. B. Bird (Kent) (63-0-0)

European League

by George R. Yates

ENGLAND SHATTER FRANCE

ENGLAND swept all their cares away with four devastating wins to give them a decisive lead over France, at Stoke Mandeville Stadium, Aylesbury on Mar 5, and a final 5-2 victory to maintain their membership of the European League's premier division.

Denis Neale set England's course with a repeat of his 'Fanfare for Europe' victory over French champion Jacques Secretin and Trevor Taylor carried on the good work by accounting for Patrick Birocheau surprisingly preferred to Christian Martin who played so well against Stellan Bengisson at Brighton

Jill Hammersley easily over-powered a nervous Claude Bergeret and Taylor combined with Nicky Jarvis for a men's doubles success to seal an unbeatable position.

Relaxing from then on, France took the mixed doubles and Secretin the final set over Taylor. Sandwiched between these two French successes was a second scalp for Neale.

Detailed results (in match order) were:-

- D. Neale bt J. Secretin 20, -19, 15. T. Taylor bt P. Birocheau 11, -16. 13;
- Mrs. J. Hammersley bt Miss C. Bergeret 10, 12;
- N. Jarvis/Taylor bt J. D. Constant/ Secretin -9, 21, 13; Neale/Mrs. K. Mathews lost to Secretin/Bergeret -19, -6;
- Neale bt Birocheau 12, 11; Taylor lost to Secretin -9, 8, -10.

League table (inclusive of Hun-Germany at Hattersheim on Feb 15): G.S.: L. Jones bt D. Michael 14, 7.

)		LΓ		
3	Hungary4 4	0 20	84	
	Sweden	1 23	12 4	
Ś	Sweden	1 21	7 3	
5	Fed. Germany5 3	2 17	18 3	
;	Czechoslovakia6 3	3 20	22 3	
	England6 1	5 12	30 1	
3	England	6 13	29 0	

Gwent Open

by Grove Motlow

GEORGE STILL KING

1T was unfortunate that this season's Gwent Open, played at Newport on Mar. 17, clashed with the Somerset and Wiltshire closed championships thus denying the Welsh tournament of a number of regulars.

Still, there was a fair entry but once again George Evans, the ex Welsh No. 1, proved conclusively he is still the best player in Wales by retaining his MS title with final victory over John Mansfield. Time limit was expected in this encounter but both players abandoned any such notions and a good final ensued.

In the counterpart women's event, between Joyce Lloyd of Worcester and Betty Gray of Swansea, only one minute separated the first two games from expedite and barely half a minute in the decider won by Mrs. Lloyd.

For the first time since 1951 a Newport and Monmouth County pair won the men's doubles when John Bloomer and Tony Watkins beat Bob Bishop and Jeff Spencer

Mrs. Lloyd and her Worcs. colleague Mrs. J. Hunt beat the Welsh pair, Linda Jones and Betty Jones in the WD final whilst Mrs. Hunt collected her second title, with A. Rigby (Lancs.) in the mixed with final victory over Linda Jones and Mike Owen

In the JBS, Welsh No. 1 Walter Hussey was beaten by Scottish No. 1 John McNee but Linda Jones retained her title by beating Dawn Michael. Dawn sprang a surprise in the WS by beating Betty Jones in Rd. 2 which also brought about the downfall of top seed Linda Jones by the former Welsh international Audrey Coombes-Jones.

Bob Bishop, top seed in the MS went out in the quarters to Bob Brown of Worcs, while Hussey lost in the semis to Mansfield. Brown losing to Evans.

In the WD, Jean Beer and A. C. Jones did well to beat Janet Evans and Betty Gray, the top seeds, as did the young Welsh pair, Hammett and Thomas, in ousting Brian Everson and Mansfield in the MD. In the XD, Glenys Thomas and Bishop, seeded No. 1, went out in the semis to Mrs. Hunt and Rigby. Final results:-

M.S.: G. Evans bt J. Mansfield 17, 17

W.S.: J. Lloyd bt E. Gray 16, -19, 20.

- J. Bloomer/A. Watkins bt M.D. R. Bishop/J. Spencer 16, 20.
- W.D.: J. Hunt/Lloyd bt E. Jones/ L. Jones 14, 18.
- X.D.: A. Rigby/Hunt bt M. Owen/ L. Jones -10, 19, 18
- B.S.: J. McNee bt W. Hussey 10, 18

CHESHIRE NOTES by Brian Kean

BEFORE a capacity crowd at CPRO Cheadle Hulme on Mar 18 Cheshire were handed out their heaviest defeat this season. A talented Yorkshire team blasted their way to the Premier Division title by crushing Cheshire 8—1. A tribute was paid to the Tykes who have collected four county titles, by Cheshire President 'Wally' Sharples.

The sincere appreciation of their talents was apparant by the standing ovation given by this hearty Cheshirz crowd, who despite the 8—1 reversal remained sporting and unbiased throughout.

The week previous, our premier side travelled to Sussex where they were successful to the tune of 5–4. Yet another tremendous double from Mike Johns set the scal on the match.

Despite the loss of four leading players due to various reasons we enjoyed four wins from five matches only the Juniors slipping at the last hurdle to deprive us of a maximum.

In the National Club Championship, Gatley progressed to the last cight when they overcame the skills of the Yorkshire club Moor Allerton.

A Brian Kean treble backed by two wins from ageless Derek Schofield assured the Stockport club of an away tic to English Electric of Liverpool.

The Cheshire closed has been provisionally arranged for Saturday and Sunday, May 19 and 20 at the Railway Works Canteen, Goddard Street, Crewe. All deails can be obtained from Len Green 061-748 6164.

On behalf of the players and officials of the CTTA I would like to express our gratitude to the lads and lasses of the CPRO for their wonderful efforts in staging this season's county matches. I feel the tremendous job done by Peter Wilson and his able assistants is second to none and I wish Peter every success on his new business appointment in Liverpool.

Since Cheshire's recent revival on the administrative front, they have lost the services of General Secretary John McKim. John, who is also Lancashire Secretary has, because of the extra involvement in Cheshire holding separate meetings, been forced to resign. His services will be a great loss and we convey our thanks for all his assistance.

I cannot conclude this month's notes without bearing a mention to the playing conditions and premises of the Stockport and Manchester League side St. Andrew's,

The hall greatly resembles the back-stage scene of the London Palladium or Windmill with abandoned stage scenery piled roof high, wall to wall wide it presents problems when trying to find the ball, — in one match the cry 'NEW BALLS' was heralded more times than in a fortnight at Wimble-Behind the table an open don. fronted piano rings out anything from 'The Party's Over' to 'My Sweet Lord' as the ball bounces inside and along Responding aptly and the kevs. the keys. Responding aptly and humorously to the surroundings, Alf Barber entertains with quick fire Jimmy Tarbuck style gags and top of the bill and last to appear is Alan Crossley who graces us with his presence two minutes before the Nine Clock deadling. Although this is a o'Clock deadline. Although this is a criticism of conditions for social enjoyment and friendliness this place cannot be beaten, and to cap it all Eddie Brown serves up tea and biscuits second to none.

SOUTH-EAST MIDLANDS LEAGUE CHATTER by Leslie Constable

Ely are currently riding high at the top of the table in the Men's Section and are all set to retain their title so narrowly won last season. Barring a complete upset of form they should have made sure of the title by the time these notes appear in print.

Last season's runners-up, Cambridge City, have faltered badly and look like finishing no higher than fourth, a position which will be very strange to them. North Herts are favourites for the runners-up position although Hunts. Central and St. Neots are still in contention.

Kettering have improved their lowly position somewhat of late and may yet avoid the "wooden spoon".

In the Women's Section, North Herts, are doing very well and are currently leading the field although challenged by Bedford and Cambridge City, the latter having made a vastly different showing from last season.

North Herts, also head the Junior Section. They are unbeaten and definitely have the edge over their chief rivals Leighton Buzzard. Cambridge lead in the Veterans' Division although St. Neots must be favourites as they have yet to lose a match and have a vastly superior sets average. Northampton too are by no means a spent force with North Herts. close behind. Leading positions:—

Men	\mathbf{P}	W	D	L Pts
Ely	9	8	1	0 69
Hunts. Central	10	6	0	4 56
St. Neots	9	4	2	3 52
North Herts.	8	5	2	1 51
Bedford	9	4	2	3 51
Northampton	9	5	1	3 48
Women				
North Herts	7	6	0	1 57
Bedford	7	5	1	1 50
Cambridge	7	6	1	0 48
Northampton	7	4	1	2 40
Hunts. Central	7	2	0	5 33
Dunstable	6	4	0	2 32
Juniors				
North Herts	9	8	1	074
L. Buzzard	8	7	0	1 63
Dunstable	9	5	2	2 56
Kettering	10	4	1	5 55
Peterboro'	11	4	1	6 51
Ely	10	5	2	3 49



Continued from page 28

Huntingdonshire 4, Hertfordshire 6 All 6 x BS to the visitors, but Jean Allinson and Belinda Chamberlain did not drop a game in their sets.

either

JUNIOR WEST

Worcestershire 6, Wiltshire 4

Level pegging to 3-all, but then Worcs. drew away. New Junior champion Simon Claxton got three wins, well supported by John Lancaster and Andrew Oakley, Mandy Mytton, 11, making debut at 5 hours notice, helped Oakley to a 15, -17, 19 XD win, and Derinda Sherman took GS and GD for Wilts.

Gloucestershire 7, Devon 3

The Gloucs. all-round boys strength too great. Chris Sewell very good, beating Keith James 14, 17.

Devon 10, Monmouthshire 0

Monmouths, found their hosts on top form and were unable to get even a game. Their sportsmanship. however a model.

VETERAN SOUTH

Kent 8, Huntingdonshire 1

Oxfordshire 9, Hertfordshire 0

Northamptonshire 1, Essex 8

VETERAN MIDLAND Cheshire 7, Warwickshire 2

Challenge result

The first and the last sets to Warwks., but the rest all Cheshire. Very friendly atmosphere and good support from Hyde League members who travelled to Crewe (will they travel to the Challenge?). Cheshire

Hampshire or Kent

Leicestershire 6, Worcestershire 3 The 5th 6-3 for Leics., but the first one in their favour ! 5 x MS went the distance and the No. 2's Bryan Hall and W. Smith unbeaten in singles.

hopeful to improve on last season's

against

Staffordshire 3, Nottinghamshire 6

PREMIER

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Cheshire 7				28	35	6	Berkshire 6 5 0
Middlesex ϵ				27	27	4	Sussex 6 4 0
Kent 6	1	- 0	5	19	35	2	Bucks 6 3 0
Sussex 6	i C	0 0	6	17	37	0	Kent 6 2 0
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Ì	MIDLAND—Final	Tabl	le				AGM AT BRIGHTON
	P Classes II 4	WI		F	AI		The tenth Annual General Meeting
	Glamorgan II 4 Staffs, II 4			29 27	$\frac{11}{13}$	6 6	of the Club was held in the Dome,
	Monmouths, 4				16	5	Brighton following the finals of the
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Norwich Union International PWDLFAPts Championships. Sorrow was expressed 0 55 5 12 at the untimely death of the Club's founder, Gcoff Harrower, and it was 8 decided that a trophy, to be known as 8 the 'Geoff Harrower International, Club Trophy' be presented annually 4 to an individual who, in the opinion of the Committee, had done most for 2 0 Table Tennis as a player or an ad-ministrator, or indeed both, for it was WDLFAPts in all aspects of Table Tennis that 1 42 12 10 Geoff is remembered. 0 33 12 10

The success of the 2nd Rubber Bat Open was noted and Denis Neale and Pauline Piddock were congratulated on retaining their titles in the respect of the men's and women's singles. Other winners were Neale and Paul Beck (MD), Mrs. Piddock and Jean Williams (WD) and Mike Johns and Mrs. Piddock (XD). Former internationals Brian Wright and Joy Faulkner won the consolation events.

NEXT ISSUE

As last season, the final issue of the present series of Table Tennis News will be a May/ June edition combining the 32nd World Championships and the latter events in the home programme. Publication will be in late May but normal copy will be required by May 1.

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County Championships Round-up by JOHN WRIGHT

CLEAN SWEEP FOR YORKSHIRE

As expected Yorkshire have won the Premier Division and this brings their haul to 4 titles by 4 teams, a total matched only by Essex last season whose 6 teams included the "Double" of Junior and Senior Premiers.

Interesting to note that two of the four 2nd Divisions decided have been won by 2nd teams (with Warwks. II contending to make it 3) and two Junior Divisions are likewise topped (with Surrey II my tip to make it 3 here also). At least half the teams challenging for promotion will thus not have won their respective divisions.

Only a 0-10 thrashing from Derbys can keep Leics. from challenging from 2nd Midland, the other Senior challengers being Bucks. Lancs., Beds. and Glamorgan from South, North, East and West respectively. The Junior Challenge includes Leics., Northumberland and Glamorgan from Midland, North and West, together with Hants. or Berks. and Suffolk or Herts. A draw is good enough for Hants, against Berks, but Suffolk look pretty safe as they take on Cambs. II who are unlikely to deprive them of the 3 sets needed.

Cheshire for second season are in the Veteran Challenge and will meet Hants. (if they beat Öxfords.) or Kent who have a better set average.

PREMIER Kent 2, Middlesex 7

- A. Piddock bt O. Haslam 18, 10; lost
- to M. Sugden -13, 18, -18. C. Morris lost to Haslam 15, -13, -16;
- bt R. Aldrich -18, 17, 11. A. Mitchell lost to Sugden -20, -2;
- lost to Aldrich -13, -15. Mitchell/Morris lost to Aldrich/
- Sugden -19, -17. Mrs. J. Ellis lost to Mrs. K. Mathews

-10, -12. Piddock/Ellis lost to Haslam/ Mathews -22, -14.

Surrey 2, Warwickshire 7

- R. Chandler lost to B. Burn -16, -12, lost to D. Munt -17, -20.
- G Chapman lost to Burn -14, -12; lost to D. Douglas -15, -9.
- P. Bishop lost to Munt -14, -15; lost
- to Douglas -17, -16. Chandler/B. Hill lost to Burn/ Douglas -18, -17.
- Miss S. Howard bt Miss D. St. Ledger 17, -17, 18.
- Hill/Howard bt R. Gunnion/St. Ledger 12 -15, 19

A clear-cut victory for Warwks... who completely dominated the men's events. The absence of ''Connie'' Warren sorely felt by Surrey, who gave Paul Bishop his first Premier outing—he performed creditably on a difficult debut. Di St. Ledger on this form looks likely to be occupying the female spot for Warwks. for some vears.

Sussex 4, Cheshire 5

- S. Ogundipe lost to M. Johns -15, -12; bt D. Schofield -13, 9, 14.
- P. Williams lost to M. Johns -9, -19; bt B. Johns 13, 13.

- J. Clarke lost to Schofield 22, -15, -13; lost to B. Johns 16, -17, -13. Clarke/Williams bt Johns/Johns 19, 20.
- Miss J. Williams bt Miss J. Heaps 19. 11Ogundipe/Williams lost to Schofield,
 - Heaps -20, -11.
- Cheshire 1, Yorkshire 8 M. Johns lost to D. Neale -14, -17;
- bt A. Clayton 19, -4, 12.
- B. Johns lost to Neale -7, -10; lost to J. Walker -15, -18.
- B. Kean lost to Clayton -12, -20; lost to Walker -18, -20.
- Johns/Johns lost to Clayton/Neale 15, -17, -18. Mrs. D. Schofield lost to Miss J.
- Walker -16, -17. Kean/Schofield lost to A. Ransome/
- Walker -15, -16.

The four sets Yorkshire needed to be certain of the title had all been picked up by the interval when they led 4-1. Could have been 2-3. The enthusiastic crowd (praised by Yorks. Chairman Harry Flinton) "lifted" the players who produced some wonderful entertainment. CPRO staged this well with their usual "standing room only" crowd.

2nd SOUTH

Hampshire 5, Berkshire 5

Trailing 2-5, Hants. took the next three for a draw. Karen Mashford for Berks. and Trevor Smith and Keith Summerfield for the hosts the best players.

Berkshire 9, Kent II 1

An incredible result with the first seven sets all going the distance and Berks, leading 7-0!

Buckinghamshire 6, Surrey II 4

The result I had hoped would not happen as these teams tied on both points and sets ! But the division to Bucks., whose 71-44 games record far better than Surrey's 66—54. Bucks, owed much to Alec Watson: they trailed 0-2 and 1-3 but came back well, Jill Hammersley a great asset, but brother Paul Shirley again failed in MS while Leslie Wooding and Watson maintained unbeaten MD record.

Hampshire 8, Sussex II 2

Sussex had an outside chance of a Challenge position, but unbeaten Chris Shetler and Keith Summerfield blasted it away.

2nd NORTH

Cheshire II 9, Durham 1

Half the sets went the distance, three finishing at 19 in 3rd or closer. Without two regulars this was a fine team effort by Cheshire.

Northumberland 3, Lincolnshire 7

Missing the top four men, Northumberland well beaten by workmanlike Lincs. Their only consolation the form of Ron Kettlewell who returned to the 1st team with a maximum. Brian Hill and Jean White very steady for the winners.

Yorkshire II 7, Lancashire 3

Jean Krier and John Kedge pro-vided turning point winning MD -25, 16, 20 from 17—20 in 3rd: their whole team showed usual Yorkshire grit.

Alan Ransome's business efforts do not appear to be affecting his play, and for Lancs. Bob Kelly impressed although a sprained wrist forced him to concede the second game to Krier. 2nd MIDLAND

Gloucestershire 1, Leicestershire 9

Five sets went the distance, but none really close in 3rd. Roy Morley, Paul Randell, Karen Rogers and Anita Stevenson the stars in a convincing win

Derbyshire 7, Worcestershire 3 Staffordshire 7, Gloucestershire 3

Chris Sewell had a good match with a MS win over John Pugh, and an XD success with Jean Golding.

Warwickshire II 6, Nottinghamshire 4 Notts. came back from 1-4 to 4-all, slipped to 4—5, and in a real nail-biter Paul Judd a little fortunate to defeat Brian Mayfield -19, 21, 19 for the match.

2nd EAST

Essex II 8, Middlesex II 2

Middlesex, with 2 players on senior debut, not disgraced by this result, but the "old hand" Mark Mitchell impressed with two fine MS victories.

Hertfordshire 7, Cambridgeshire 3

Cambs, missed Paul Day (on International duty) and the best play of the evening came from Sally Hirst and Barbara Peters with Sally winning 19, -19, 21.

Norfolk 4, Bedfordshire 6 2nd WEST

Devon 10, Cornwall 0

Glamorgan 8, Somerset 2

Wiltshire 9, Dorset 1

The margin a surprise, but Wilts. well worth it on the day. A good team spirit seems to have prevailed in a regular team, and the results show it. SOUTHERN

Oxfordshire 1, Essex III 9

Hampshire II 2, Hertfordshire II 8 A great fight by Hants, who included 5 Juniors. 6 sets needed the decider and the result could have been much closer.

NORTHERN

Cumberland 0, Lancashire II 10

Durham II 4, Cheshire III 6 Cheshire took the first three, all in

three games, then Durham took the next three, also with full distance sets. Cheshire not daunted by this grabbed the next three, all straight, for the match.

Northumberland II 4, Derbyshire II 6 Promising debut for Dave Donalson and strong MS play by the visitors in an otherwise undistinguished match. MIDLAND

Staffordshire II 8, Worcestershire II 2 Continued on page 27

Monmouthshire 3, Glamorgan II 7 A great opening for Glamorgan with Jeff Bowden crushing Haydn Thomas 9, 12 and Glamorgan led 4-0 John Mansfield spearheaded the recovery with a -17, 11, 10 win over Bowden and the capture of XD with Betty Gray. But 3-5 was the best Monmouths could manage.

Worcestershire II 6, Shropshire 4 EASTERN

Huntingdonshire 2,

Northamptonshire 8 Northants made no mistake here in collecting the points to give them their first-ever division title (and 2nd Division table tennis next season if the shortage of officials can be over-come!) Their reliance on Rod Marchant this season has been considerable: only in the first MD of the season did he not "come good".

JUNIOR SOUTH

Surrey II 10, Oxfordshire 0 A real slaughter, with the first love game I can recall seeing on a CTTC result sheet.

Berkshire 9, Kent 1

Sussex 7, Hampshire 3 A $3\frac{1}{2}$ hour match provided Hants. first reverse of the season, and has probably let Surrey II slip in for the title. 5 x BS for Sussex who also took BD (Daniel Cammiade on 2nd appearance played well) and XD (Alan Reed on debut).

Hertfordshire II 2, Buckinghamshire 8 JUNIOR NORTH

Westmorland 6, Cumberland 4

Cheshire II 3, Durham 7

Cheshire fought hard, losing 3 sets in three, but Durham had the edge. Not one "genuine" win in two seasons for this side, but useful experience.

Cumberland 2, Yorkshire II 8 Westmorland 5, Northumberland 5 **IUNIOR MIDLAND**

Leicestershire 7, Northamptonshire 3 Chris Rogers and Gary Alden the outstanding players in a match which saw Leics, win their first ever Junior title without dropping a point. Only their third title of any kind !

Lincolnshire 9, Staffordshire 1

Nottinghamshire 2, Derbyshire 8 Nottinghamshire 6, Warwickshire II 4 JUNIOR EAST

Bedfordshire 7, Norfolk 3

Essex II 6, Suffolk 4

A draw would have been enough to give Suffolk the title, and when Kevin Rose led David Newman by a game and 19-13 in the 10th set all looked safe. But Newman recovered to win -20, 20, 11 to give Essex their 10th Junior East championship. An electric BD with Les Eadie and Robert Potton just home 13, -19, 26 over Rose and Robert Oldfield and a maximum by Simon Ball some more of the highlights of a very fine match. As Suffolk lacked John Kitchener (International duty) they were moral victors here

STIGA BATS AND T.T. ACCESSORIES FROM OLYMPUS SPORTS **9 HEADSTONE DRIVE, WEALDSTONE**

HARROW, MIDDLESEX

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