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Table Tennis News

Official Journal of the English Table Tennis Association

EDITED BY GEORGE YATES

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Photo by courtesy of Hawker Siddeley Aviation Ltd.

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



TABLE TENNIS NEWS

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CAST THY BREAD

If ever a potential sponsor should have cause to meditate on the merits of investing money in the various activities of the English Table Tennis Association, one can only illustrate the ultimate achieved by Hawker Siddeley Aviation Limited whose involvement, to date, has resulted in the sale of Trident aircraft to China valued in excess of £68m.

It will be recalled that it was Hawker Siddeley Aviation who placed an aircraft at the disposal of the E.T.T.A. which solved, at a stroke, the manifold problems attaching to the transportation of a visiting representative team and officials from the People's Republic of China in December of last year.

Not only were our guests flown to their various destinations within the United Kingdom but, furthermore, flown in from Malmo, Sweden and returned, by air to Copenhagen, accompanied throughout by the chairman of the E.T.T.A., Charles M. Wyles.

All such journeys were executed with precise efficiency, the flights being smooth and comfortable — an accomplishment which must have made a favourable impression on our Chinese friends resulting in their subsequent placement of orders for British Trident aircraft.

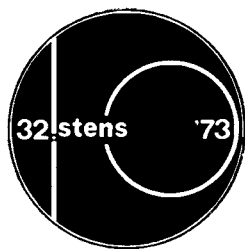
The E.T.T.A. are proud to have been associated with Hawker Siddeley Aviation and congratulate them in securing such contracts which can only further the newly established and valued links with the People's Republic of China.

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WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

WRITING from Zagreb, Zdenko Uzorinac provides the information that under the patronage of Yugoslavia's president, Josip Broz Tito, the 32nd World Championships, to be played over the period April 5-15 will be held in the "Skenderija" sports centre in Sarajevo. It is anticipated that the Championships will be the biggest ever held in the world, with the number of participants reaching Olympic proportions.

Under the presidency of Dragutin Kosovac, no less than seventeen commissions, or sub-committees, have been working for several months preparing for the Championships, the official abbreviation for which is 32 Stens '73, with a grasshopper as the official mascot.

In addition to being able to accommodate 6,000 spectators in the main hall — "Granska dvorina" — the complex further provides two practice halls which will house 9 and 6 tables respectively. Temperature in the main hall throughout the Championships will be at a constant 20 degrees Centigrade.



Zdenko Uzorinac

According to A. K. "Bill" Vint, Hon. Sec. of the I.T.T.F., some 70-80 countries will be participating, involving 750 players plus officials. About 600 umpires, technicians and officials will be at work throughout the Championships. Closing date for entries is Jan. 31/73, the draw being due to take place on Mar. 1.

Cover Photograph

Mr. Sung Chih-kuang, Chinese Ambassador to London, took delivery of the first Trident 2E seen on the tarmac at Hatfield decorated with four characters which, translated read: "Civil Aviation Administration of China". The aircraft was expected to be flown out to China by a Hawker Siddeley crew in mid-November.

On the International Front

by George R. Yates



During the championships, a symposium of doctors concerned with the health of sportsmen and women will be held, their theme being "Medical aspects of Table Tennis".

A well-known Sarajevo composer, Esad Arnataulic, is writing a tune for Stens '73 and new postage stamps will be issued to commemorate the event.

Some 500 journalists and correspondents are expected in Sarajevo, together with 120 radio and T.V. commentators, and photographers. The Press Commission has planned to provide a Press Centre with a non-stop snackbar and a special room, set apart, with specially installed T.V. sets, so that progress of the Championships can be followed in armchair comfort!

In conjunction with the Tourist Service, the Press Commission proposes to organise, for pressmen, sightseeing tours of the city as well as excursions to nearby and more distant places. According to proposals, all reporters will jointly visit Mostar, and foreign reporters would also visit extraordinary Dubrovnik.

SARAJEVO — HOST CITY

The history of man's presence on the soil of what is now Sarajevo is a long and interesting one.

In the City Museum one can find evidence displayed of the fact this area was settled by man since the time of neolithic man. Other objects witness to the Illyrian civilisation. At Illidza, 12 km. from the centre of Sarajevo, one can still see numerous remains of the Roman settlement which developed from the first to the fourth centuries A.D. to gain the status of a colony and become an administrative

and cultural centre of the Roman Empire in this area.

The remarkable and monumental gravestones of the Bogumils are evidence of the population of the area in the Middle Ages, and written sources and documents show that this area belonged to the area then known as Vrhbosne, part of the Kingdom of Bosnia.

Sarajevo was given its present name and took on the shape of a city with the arrival of the Turks in the middle of the 15th century. At the time of the governing of this area by the bey Gazi-Husref (1521-1541) the city achieved its most notable development becoming the largest, richest, and most beautiful city in this part of the Balkan Peninsula.

The rule of the Turkish Empire, which lasted four and a half centuries, was replaced by the Austrian occupation (according to the Berlin Agreement of 1878) which lasted four decades. This was a period of modernisation of the city, which took on a new appearance with buildings characteristic of Western European architecture of that era.

The assassination of the Archduke Franz Ferdinand on June 28, 1914 has been attributed as the direct cause of the outbreak of the First World War, which led to the final termination of the occupation of this area by Austria-Hungary.

In the period between the two world wars, the development of Sarajevo was ignored. The city existed in a state of stagnation until the Second World War, and only after the liberation of the city from the German occupiers did it again begin to develop.

At the present time, Sarajevo is the



"Skenderija", the sports centre in Sarajevo, Yugoslavia where next April's 32nd World Table Tennis Championships are to be played.

third largest city in Yugoslavia, the political, cultural, and economic centre of the Republic of Bosnia and Hercegovina. It is a city known for its interesting contrasts --- in architecture and in way of life. It is the meeting place of the East and West as well as of the past and the present.

In addition to its interesting history, Sarajevo has an extremely picturesque location, at the foot of the Trebevic mountain and surrounded by other steep slopes.

EUROPEAN LEAGUE

Czechoslovakia, defending title holders of the European League Premier Division championship, were beaten 5-2 in their opening match, against Sweden, played at Molndal on Oct. 11

Both Stellan Bengtsson and Kjell Johansson registered singles successes over Jiri Turai and Milan Orlowski, and further combined to take the men's doubles. Wins for the visitors were obtained by Iлона Vostova, who beat Birgitta Radberg, and in the mixed for Orlowski/Vostova over Bengtsson and Lena Andersson.

Scores:—

K. Johansson bt M. Orlowski 12, 15;
S. Bengtsson bt J. Turai, 7, 10;
B. Radberg lost to I. Vostova -19, -18;
Bengtsson/Johansson bt Orlowski/
Turai 15, 18;
Bengtsson/L. Andersson lost to
Orlowski/Vostova -15, -18;
Johansson by Turai 8, 17;
Bengtsson bt Orlowski 13, 11.

Next taking on Federal Germany, in Bad Kreuznach on Oct. 27, Sweden were beaten 4-3 when, in the final set with the match score standing at 3-all Ebby Schöler beat Bengtsson 14 and 12!! Scores:—

W. Lieck lost to Bengtsson -7, -19;
E. Schöler bt Johansson 19, -15, 18;
W. Hendriksen bt Andersson 13,
-10, 14;
J. Leiss/K. Schmittinger lost to
Bengtsson/Johansson -17, -16.
Schöler/D. Schöler lost to Bengtsson/
Andersson -18, -15;
Lieck bt Johansson 19, -18, 17;
Schöler bt Bengtsson 14, 12.

Next beating England, 5-2 at Leeds (reported elsewhere) Federal Germany take on the role of pace setters with maximum points from two engagements.

In Division 2, promoters Italy, made a bright beginning with a 4-3 away victory over Luxembourg on Oct. 28. Stefano Bosi was the Italian strong man with singles wins over Marcel Scheibel and Jim Cloos, and a doubles success in partnership with Stefano Malesci. Scores:

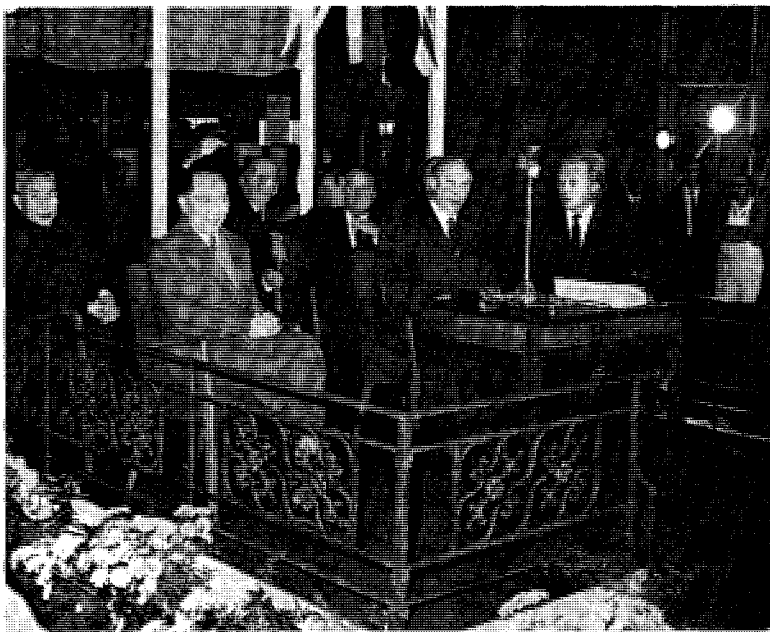
M. Scheibel lost to S. Bosi -19, -18;
J. Cloos lost to S. Malesci -14, -12.
Berthy Krier bt Francasca Marcone
13, 9;
Cloos/C. Putz lost to Bosi/Malesci
-10, -13;
Pütz/J. Dom bt Bosi/Marcone
-18, 18, 16;
Scheibel bt Malesci -10, 19, 19;
Cloos lost to Bosi -13, -12.

Other second division results to hand:—

Greece 0, Austria 7.
Belgium 5, Switzerland 2.
Belgium 4, Greece 3.

EUROPE CLUB CUP

Ormesby began the defence of their Europe Club Cup with a home match against Poland's Wlokniaz Lodz on Nov. 5. The effective score was a 5-2



A smiling Ambassador, Mr. Sung Chih-kuang, is seated in front of Mr. Ping Jun-Min, Chinese commercial counsellor, at the handing-over ceremony of the first Trident aircraft at Hatfield. Sir Arnold Hall, chairman of Hawker Siddeley, is seated behind the desk with the Minister of Aviation to his left.

win for the Teessiders who recorded the following results:—

T. Taylor bt P. Gasczynski 11, 16;
J. Walker lost to Z. Fraczni -16, 16,
-12;
D. Neale bt S. Fraczni 19, 20;
Taylor bt Z. Fraczni 17, -16, 19;
Neale bt Gasczynski 10, 15;
Walker lost to S. Fraczni -20, -17;
Neale bt Z. Fraczni 14, 17.

In the quarter-finals, Ormesby next take on Bulgaria's champion club Spartak Pleven who, in the previous round, defeated D. T. Schifflange, Luxembourg 5-1. Ormesby are again at home.

Gainsford, England's representative team in the counterpart women's event are next called upon to travel to Rumania for a quarter-final match against "Vointa" Arad who disposed of Sporting Club, Portugal 5-0 in Round 1. Matches in both competitions are scheduled for completion by Dec. 17 under penalty of being scratched. After previously beating Alpa CTT, Belgium, away, this will be Gainsford's second excursion onto the continent.

ST. KILDA CRICKET T.T.C.

The 39th Annual Dinner and Presentation of Trophies for season 1972 took place at the St. Kilda-Fitzroy Sports Club, St. Kilda on Oct. 29. The St. Kilda Cricket Club is over 100 years of age, and it comprises various sporting sections as well as the main body of cricket members, writes Peter Mascall.

Second biggest sub-section is the Table Tennis fraternity which has produced Australian internationals, created a club record number of wins in the Victoria Association men's "A" Grade competition and, in 1972, fielded a record number of teams --- 17.

Long service awards were made to the club chairman, Len Tipping, and to Norm McKellar both having completed 40 years membership. The club has a number of members who have completed 30 years membership and Arthur Cottle, who will complete

both Brian Burn and Tony Clayton proved great ambassadors.

Peter Mascall is Promotion Chairman of the Victorian Table Tennis Association whose postal address is P.O. Box 80, South Melbourne, 3205, Australia.

JAPANESE IN NETHERLANDS

From *Bas den Breejen*, in Bussum, Holland comes news of matches arranged against Japanese teams who, en route to the Scandinavian Open, took advantage of playing against European opposition both in France and Federal Germany, as well in the Netherlands.

In full scale internationals at Veghel on November 11 Japan beat the Netherlands 8-1 (men) and 8-1 (women) the two Dutch successes coming from Renee Fierlier, who beat Riyoko 15, -11, 17, and from Bert van de Helm who recorded a 14, 22 win over 18-year-old Masayuki Kuse.

Against DeltaLloyd teams, including guest players, v.d. Helm and Hans Lingen, Japan triumphed 9-0 in both matches.

Former world champion, Shigio Itoh, was a member of the Japanese party which further included Mitsuru Kohno, and Norio Takashima.

Other than Riyoko, Japan's women on the tour were Tatsuko Abe, Tomie Edano and Sachiko Yokota, Nobuhiko Hasegawa and Tokio Tasaka were flying direct to Boras (Sweden) to reinforce the Japanese threat.

International Front cont.

OVER THE BORDER

HELEN HAMILTON reports on two Scottish tournaments, the North of Scotland, in Aberdeen on Oct 21, and the Midlands Open, in Dundee on Nov. 11.

Richard Yule was the men's singles winner at Aberdeen proving himself far too fast for Eric Sutherland in a one-sided final. In the semis, Sutherland beat Robert Kerr, and Yule accounted for John Hawkins, both sets requiring a deciding game.

There was a very good final to conclude the women's singles event won by Elaine Smith over Kathleen Angus. From a trailing 5-13 position in the third, Elaine pulled up level to take the game and set from deuce.

In the boys' event, John McNee proved himself to be the undoubted No. 1 Scottish boy. In the final he beat Archie McCulloch, 16 and 14, but at no time was he at all troubled.

In Dundee, Sutherland came into his own to take the men's singles 'cake' without the loss of a game. Patrick Forker was the beaten finalist and he had been made to struggle in both his quarter and semi-final encounters with McCulloch, and the Glasgow youngster, David Fraser.

C. McBeath had her chances to beat K. Angus in 2-straight but wilted in the decider, as did Miss Angus herself when opposing Elaine Smith in the final of the women's singles.

In the junior girls' event, Miss D. Laird had a good result over Scotland's No. 1 girl, Pat Fleming. But another lass to catch the eye was Grace Mackay who, in her first season, took a game off Miss Fleming in the junior event and beat Margo Smith in Round 1 of the women's singles.

The Scottish ITA have compiled a ranking list based on the results of their first two home tournaments and an invitation event. It is, dated Oct. 22:—

1. Eric Sutherland (Edinburgh).
2. Richard Yule (London).
3. Robert Kerr (Edinburgh).
4. John Hawkins (W. of Scotland).
5. Archibald McCulloch (W. of S.).
6. George Anderson (W. of S.).
7. Patrick Forker (Edinburgh).
8. Ram Bhalla (W. of S.).
9. David Fraser (W. of S.).
10. John McNee (Cheshire).
11. David McIntosh (Dundee).
12. Brian Morgan (Aberdeen).
13. Brian Kean (Cheshire).
14. John Wilson (W. of S.).
15. Robert Thomson (Aberdeen).
16. Alastair Taylor (Edinburgh).

EXHIBITIONS AND DEMONSTRATIONS

Given by
ENGLISH INTERNATIONAL SQUAD

Denis Neale Alan Hydes
Nicky Jarvis "Les" Haslam
Jill Hammersley Karenza Mathews
Linda Howard

For details please contact Squad Administrator:—

Mr. Ken Mathews,
47 Court Avenue,
Old Coulsdon, Surrey.
Phone: Downland 54904.

OFFICIAL NOTES



Compiled by A. W. Shipley

HANDBOOK SUPPLEMENT

Apologies are hereby tendered to all League Secretaries for the delay in publication of this season's Supplement which is being produced in a different form whereby addresses of all persons listed will be contained in a single alphabetical section.

This, and the fact that we are using a photographic reproduction type of printing, means that we cannot go to press until every item of information is to hand. If all goes well, publication day will be sometime in December.

E.T.T.A. LOTTERY

Leagues will soon be receiving the chance of participating in this annual fund-raising scheme which benefits both the E.T.T.A. and selling agents. 50% of sales by Leagues or Counties is returned as a rebate so, without any risk or costs, a League can augment its funds by the simple expedient of selling tickets. In response to many letters, we are reducing the price of tickets to 2p each and with 5 tickets to a book we feel that this will make it easier to sell a book for the return of just one coin—a 10p piece. Several Leagues, last year, increased their income by £100 solely by this method, a useful sum in these days of ever-increasing costs.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Please note that the date of the E.T.T.A. A.G.M. has been altered to the 7th of July, 1973, a week forward from the date as published in the Tournament Diary.

NEW BOOK ON TABLE TENNIS

Chester Barnes has written another book, entitled "Modern Table Tennis Tactics" and copies are available from the E.T.T.A. office, price £2 (plus 15p p. and p.).

JAQUES TABLES

The E.T.T.A. Scheme, whereby Clubs could hire tables at a rental of £15 for four years, and a 'peppercorn' rent thereafter, has proved so popular that our allocation for the 1972/73 season has now been exhausted. There have been one or two cases recently where tables obtained by Clubs under this scheme have suffered accidental damage, e.g. fire, so if your Club has one of these tables please arrange adequate insurance.

WIN A TABLE FOR 50p

This lottery, open to affiliated Clubs, will be drawn at the Norwich Union English Championships at Crystal Palace on Jan. 6/73. So, if you are interested in the chance of winning a brand new, top quality Jaques table, make sure your counter-

foil is returned by the end of December.

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

Enquiries are being made with a specialist travel agent for quotations for a group of spectators to visit the 32nd World Championships in Sarajevo, Yugoslavia next April. When details are received they will be circulated to all League secretaries and in the pages of this magazine. The outward journey would be on Tuesday, Apr. 10 and return on Monday, Apr. 16/73 — the period of the individual events.

Further information on any of the foregoing items can be obtained from Mr. A. W. Shipley, E.T.T.A., 21 Claremont, Hastings, Sussex.

SURREY NOTES

by Geoff Ryan

MORALE BOOSTER

The 1st Team having secured two very good victories in their opening matches are full of confidence and are ready to engage Yorkshire on Dec. 16 at Guildford in what promises to be a fascinating evening. Roger Chandler has proved a great inspiration to the side and greatly boosted team morale which was sadly lacking on occasions last season.

The Juniors have opened their season with mixed fortunes, narrowly losing 4-6 to Hampshire and beating Kent by a good score of 8-2. Max

Crimmins (Rosehill), Martin Shuttle (Graham Spicer), and Bruce Williams (Larkhall), making his debut for the County, proved a useful combination.

Entry forms for the County 'Closed' to be held at University of Surrey Sports Hall Guildford over the weekend 13/14 January are now available from tournament organiser Trevor Channing at 6A Stockers Lane, Woking. Seventeen events are scheduled to be played with Junior and Veteran events on Saturday commencing 4 p.m. and the remainder of the Senior events on Sunday commencing at 11 a.m. with the finals timed for 7 p.m. Cash prizes are being offered for the winners and runners-up in all senior and veteran events and trophies for junior events. Closing date will be Dec. 23 so post early and avoid the Xmas rush. Remember, the success of the tournament depends on you, the players.

Brevity of news this month could be overcome if all member league secretaries regularly send me copy of all items of interest for inclusion in these notes, which have to be in the hands of the Editor by the 15th of each month—so jump to it men, pen to paper.

PLAYRITE SPORTS

Inadvertently, the 'phone number of Playrite Sports, 58 Streatham Hill, London, S.W.2 was given as 061-674 9121 in the October issue. It should be, as rectified in the November advertisement, 01-674 9121.

Bounce

halex Play against your opponent, not against the ball

TOURNAMENT DIARY

Date	Title and venue	Additional to normal events:	Organising Secretary
Jan. 6/7	Yorkshire 2-Star Junior, Y.P.I., Ferens Recreation Centre, Chanterlands Avenue North, Hull.	U-15 BS, GS, BD, GD.	R. Balmford, 205 Park Avenue, Hull. HU5 4DE. Closing date: 15.12.72.
7	International Club Hard-Bat Special, Barnet T.T. Centre, Barnet Lane, Barnet.		L. F. Landry, 53 Hillfield Road, London. NW6 1QD. Closing date: 21.12.72.
13	Lancashire 2-Star, Hawker Siddeley Dynamics, Lostock, Bolton.	VS.	G. T. H. Fackrell, 9 Clive Avenue, Orford, Warrington. Closing date: 28.12.72.
13/14	Middlesex 2-Star Junior, Walford Sports Hall, Bengarth Road, off Church Road, Northolt.	U15 BS, GS, BD, GD. U-13 BS, GS, BD, GD.	J. M. Wright, 124 Rusthall Avenue, Bedford Park, London. W4 1BG. Closing date: 22.12.72.
27	Pontefract 1-Star, Assembly Rooms, Pontefract, Yorks.	BS, GS, VS.	G. L. Johnson, 17 Rhodes Crescent, Pontefract. Closing date: 13.1.73.
27/28	Kent 2-Star, Folkestone.	YBS, YGS, VS	J. P. Heritage, 26 Cradle Bridge Drive, Willesborough, Ashford. Closing date: 9.1.73.
27/28	Burford 2-Star Junior, Grammar School, Burford, Oxon.	U-15 BS, GS, BD, GD. U-13 BS, GS, BD, GD. U-11 BS, GS.	M. J. Chalk, Old Grammar School, Burford, Oxon. OX8 4RN. Closing date: 10.1.73.
Feb. 3	Chelmsford 2-Star, Gt. Baddow Comprehensive School, Chelmsford.		G. J. Lightfoot, 57 Hopping Jacks Lane, Danbury, Chelmsford, Essex. Closing date: 20.1.73.
3	Exeter 1-Star Junior, Exeter Y.M.C.A.	U-15 BS, GS, U-13 BS, GS.	K. T. O. Ponting, 21 Southport Avenue, Redhills, Exeter, Devon.
3	South Yorkshire 1-Star, Middlewood Hospital, Sheffield.	BS, GS.	J. H. Broomhead, 18 Willis Road, Sheffield 6. Closing date: 20.1.73.
IRELAND			
Jan. 6	Co. Kildare Open (Maas).		Details of all Irish tournaments: from:— C. A. Moore, 78 Orby Drive, Belfast. BT5 6AG.
12/13	Irish Closed (Dublin).		
19/20	Belfast Open.		
26/27	Co. Antrim Open (Ballymena).		
Feb. 2/3	East of Ireland Open (Dublin).		
SCOTLAND			
Jan. 14	Edinburgh Open, Meadowbank Sports Centre.		Mrs. H. Hamilton, 6 Grove Street, Edinburgh.
27	West of Scotland Open.		Mrs. M. Doherty, 2 Muir Street, Renfrew.
WALES			
Jan. 27	Glamorgan Open.		Mrs. S. Sturgess, 16 Turnham Green, Penylan, Cardiff.

Note: Closing date approximately 14 days prior to event.

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TRAINING DATES

In an effort to afford tournament organisers with advance details of E.T.T.A. training camps the following programme has been prepared by England's Trainer/Coach Les Gresswell.

1972	Dec. 18-22— Crystal Palace (Junior)
1973	Feb. 11-16— Lilleshall (Senior).
Mar. 7-23— Lea Green (Senior) (Pre-Worlds).	
Apr. 14-19— Lea Green (Junior)	
*July 1-14— Sweden (Cadet).	
July 21-27— Littlehampton (Cadet).	
Aug. 9-22— Lea Green (Junior) (Pre-European Youth)	
Sept. 3-21— Lea Green (Senior).	
Sept. 23-28— Crystal Palace (Final Junior Assessment).	
Nov. 4-10— Crystal Palace (Junior).	
Dec. 15-21— Crystal Palace (Junior).	

1974	Jan. 7-25— Lea Green (Senior).
Feb. 11-16— Crystal Palace (Junior)	
Mar. 11-19— Lea Green (Senior) (Pre-European).	
Apr. 21-27— Crystal Palace (Junior).	

These camps will involve either the top senior or junior players.

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Irish Post for Eric Coster



Ireland) has been invaluable. Without the generous grants provided by the Ministry of Education it would be impossible for a relatively poor sport, such as table tennis, to embark on a major expansion of this nature.

My Stages of Development

By Kimiyo Kurimoto
(née Matsuzaki)

Translated by Kiyoko Gresswell from the *Butterfly TT Report*, May 1972

LOOKING back over my career, my improvement was gradual and took place in several stages. The first time was in Junior High School just one year after I started playing table-tennis and this development was very fundamental. The second occasion was when I was in the first year of Senior High School and played for the first time in the Japanese Championships. Watching the finals I was very stimulated and impressed by the various men's and women's performances. Returning to school I compared my play with that of the top players and realised how weak I was and where my defects were. Then I tried to imitate certain players and master the techniques of these stars. This motivation helped me to improve.

The next stage of development took place one month before the Inter-College Championships when I changed from reverse soft rubber to pimples outward, as I could not get any speed with the soft rubber. This change suited my style and gave me lots of confidence.

The fourth time of improvement, although the hardest, was also the most remarkable. Up to entering University, at 18, my best record had been second place in the Student Championships although many players were still ahead of me. During the first year of University I practiced extremely hard, but the practice was completely different from that of High School and I became confused. In the second year, however, things became clearer and the previous hard practice had done me good, helping improve my mental and physical condition. From April to the Japanese Championships in December I made rapid progress and felt I was getting nearer to the stronger players. At this particular Championship I became Champion of Japan for the first time.

Analysing my moments of progress since Junior High School I've established one common factor. My development was best when not under pressure, but when I practiced voluntarily and was prepared to make an effort by myself. I could not acquire any technique when it was forced upon me. After entering University, although we had many Training Camps and lots of organised practice, I made progress also by my own practice and tried always to increase my efforts. In terms of technical practice, too, I did quantity as well as quality and this way, I'm sure, help me develop strong mental concentration and a high physical level. Thus when I felt I would try something new I could overcome any painful experiences and master the subject.

I do not know about the present players, but I feel it's better to let the players have a natural, spontaneous approach, though teachers might have to lead them in Junior and Senior High School.

In conclusion the situation as for progress are, when the contents of the practice are of quality and effective, when practice can be sustained (quantity) and when players can develop their own style and manner.

Matsuzaki was World Champion in 1959 and 1963.—Ed.

Midland League

by PHILIP REID

MERRETT BACK IN ACTION

Bryan Merrett returns to Midland League table tennis! That's the headline this month, Bryan — one-time England number one — returned to the Midland League first division to play for Gloucester against Nottingham. It was an eminently satisfactory return, Bryan taking all three without any trouble.

It was, in fact, a good match for the 'over-thirties' for another player who also won three in the match was Roy Morley. Whilst Merrett defends, Morley hits and loops and looks a very sound player indeed. It is a tribute to the fitness of these two players that they are still amongst the best in the Midlands. Both have served Gloucester for years — their present form is such they could both go on for a long time yet!

Another player who is doing well is Derrick Marples, playing now for Chesterfield in the 1st Division. With Denis Neale and Colin Deaton both playing, Derrick hardly looked likely to be the player to complete the side. However his record speaks for itself — played nine, won nine! Last season Derrick managed 7 out of 21 — how do you do it Derrick?

Leicester's 8-2 defeat by a weakened Birmingham side has virtually ruined their chances of retaining the 1st Division title and it appears to be a straight fight between Birmingham 'A' and Chesterfield. With Denis Neale appearing regularly for the crooked spire side, it could be a close finish. Personally I fancy Birmingham's all-round strength will give them the title.

David Harvey has secured the services of R. Thornton to supplement the Cheltenham effort to regain division one status and this looks a very good side indeed. Oxford (Stan Hahn and C. Alcock so far unbeaten) and possibly West Bromwich look the strongest alternatives. My choice for the title? Oxford.

The Men's 3rd division has so far given no indication as to winners, nor in fact has the Junior Division One. Junior 2A Division has a very strong Worcester team which consists of two 13-year-olds and a 14-year-old. Oxford and Walsall are also unbeaten. The match between Derby 'B' and Loughborough should settle Division 2B. In 2A, Redditch have two players with almost identical names — M. Owens and M. Owen — as if we didn't have enough problems!

A fine maximum by Beryl Shaw

helped Nottingham women to a 7-3 win over Birmingham. Nottingham, Leicester and West Bromwich — the teams who finished in the top three last season — are the only three with maximum points.

The Veterans 1st Division champions, Oxford, have set off at a hot pace. The vital match here should be with Coventry. If Alan Bury and George Tsow play, Coventry must have a good chance. Bury is still all class and elegance — what a delight his effortless play is to watch! In the 2nd Division, West Brom, have chalked up two 10-0 wins and Oxford 'B' three 8-2 scores. Both look a little above the rest of the division.

Finally — result sheets. It would assist if secretaries or captains would include CHRISTIAN names also — it makes writing these reports that little bit more interesting. And a special thanks to Pat Hopkin. Pat, the Notts. women's captain writes out her result sheets immaculately — a pleasure to read. Well done Pat!

HALEX GOLDEN RACKETS

Up into the shimmering eighties have gone Denis Neale and Karenza Mathews as a result of points won in the Halex Humber side and Halex Midland Counties 3-Star Open championships.

They look to be firm favourites to qualify for a perpetual trophy in the form of a Golden Racket to be presented by Halex Table Tennis Ltd., whose points system, as outlined in the November magazine, is operated in all five 3-Star open championships this season.

Following this month's Middlesex, on Dec. 2/3, there will only remain the Teesside scheduled for Feb. 23/24 at Thornaby Pavilion.

Leading points gatherers are: -

Men

D. Neale (Yorks)	82
O. B. Haslam (Middx.)	43
T. Taylor (—)	27
L. A. Clayton (Yorks.)	19
M. Johns (Ches.)	19
P. Taylor (Beds.)	13
B. Johns (Ches.)	9
D. R. Munt (Warwks.)	9
B. D. Hill (Surrey)	8
L. F. Landry (Middx.)	7
P. Day (Cambs.)	5
J. Krier (Yorks.)	5
I. Robertson (Essex)	5
J. Walker (Yorks.)	5

Women

K. Mathews (Middx.)	80
J. Hammersley (Bucks.)	57
L. Howard (Surrey)	36
S. Howard (Surrey)	26
S. M. Lisle (Lancs.)	19
J. Hellaby (Essex)	11
J. Heaps (Ches.)	10
L. Radford (Essex)	10
D. Court (Middx.)	7
L. Sutton (Yorks.)	5
E. Tarten (Essex)	5
S. Hession (Essex)	4

OPEN TOURNAMENT SURVEY

by LAURIE LANDRY and GEORGE YATES



Warwickshire's Desmond Douglas holds up his boys' singles trophy at the Midland Counties 3-Star Open. Anita Stevenson of Leicestershire, winner of the girls' singles, gives a helping hand.

Photo by courtesy of "Birmingham Evening Mail".

None of the home players could make anything of Belgium's No. 1, Norbert Van de Walle, in the 37th **Sussex 2-Star Open** played at the White Rock Pavilion, Hastings over the weekend of Oct. 21-22. He just wore his opponents down and in the later rounds was simply invincible.

Against Malcolm Sugden in the final, Norbert retrieved some brilliant hits and then came in with telling counter strokes. He obviously benefits from using anti-loop on the backhand with a much quicker surface on the other side. The only game he dropped was against Ray Tilling of Kent in his first set when the accent was strictly defensive from both ends of the table.

Scores in Van de Walle's favour were -20, 13 and 8. Subsequently, en route to the quarters, the Belgian accounted for Ron Etheridge (12, 16) and Ian Robertson (6, 11).

Sugden too had an impressive passage beating Henry Buist (16, 11), D. Randall (15, 8) and Graham Blomfield (6, 8) prior to reaching the quarters.

Karenza Mathews easily won the women's singles but both Janet Hellaby and Lesley Radford could well have taken games, but it was a sign of class that Karenza came through unscathed.

Special prizes were awarded to David Brown for his fine semi-final

effort against Van de Walle, and to Elaine Tarten who almost beat Linda Howard, the Surrey girl winning 16, -19, 16. A special junior prize went to Mark Mitchell for a first-class effort against Roger Chandler whose victory was stretched to three games -21, 19, 11.

A non-runner in the North of England Open at Manchester, Trevor Taylor was a man with a mission at the **Halex Humberside 3-Star Open** at Hull, over the weekend of Oct. 28-29, and a distinct threat to the men's singles title holder, Denis Neale.

APPREHENSIVE

In the early rounds, the former Essex player made his presence felt by administering a hiding to Robertson, Trevor Stevenson and David Alderson before setting about "Les" Haslam, like a tiger unleashed, in a semi-final that was over almost before it began.

Small wonder then that Neale, apprehensive to a degree, had his title plundered from him whilst offering, what appeared to be, only token resistance.

First seed to go, in this star-studded event, was Mike Johns, beaten 9 and 19 by Jean Krier. Peter Taylor followed when ousted by Landry 20, -17, 19.

As in Manchester, in the women's

singles final, Jill Hammersley just made it over her arch rival Karenza Mathews and what a tip top set this was to cap an event which had little to enthuse about in the way of shocks.

Not so in the two junior events wherein Paul Day brought off a stunning victory over David Alderson to take the Boys' title, undefended by Simon Heaps, and Judith Walker had a semi-final win over Anita Stevenson but failed to ruffle Linda Howard, the holder, in the final of the girls' singles.

In this latter event Elaine Tarten brought off an astounding 21-2, 22-20 win over Mandy Mellor!

Making their first trip to a northern tournament, Peter and Lesley Radford caused consternation in the mixed doubles ranks by ousting such formidable combinations as Haslam/Hammersley and Johns/Susan Lisle before bowing the knee to Neale and Karenza in the final.

Jointly sponsored by Halex Table Tennis Ltd. and Hull Brewery, this 3-star tournament had all the ingredients and the management to make it a winner.

So too can be said of the **Cumberland 2-Star Open** held, for the first time, in the Market Hall at Carlisle on Nov. 4. Sponsorship here was again joint by Cumberland Newspapers and Sporthaus of Carlisle, the prize fund amounting to £103.

Tony Clayton, holder of the men's singles title, and a regular traveller to these parts, had some caustic comments to make about the influx of top-rankers attracted by the money! Even Neale was an entrant but gave backward.

SWALLOWED UP

Tony took his departure from the scene when beaten, in the quarters, by Jimmy Walker. It wasn't to his great advantage either for the Teesider was swallowed up by the eventual winner, Trevor Taylor, in the semis.

Mike Johns was again the beaten finalist but was hard put to against Donald Parker in the other semi-final. Second-order seeds, Alan Ransome was beaten by Peter Hoyles, and Derek Schofield by Brian Kean, the latter winning -10, 21, 23! Consternation in the Cheshire camp!

Top seed Susan Lisle retained her women's singles title with a final win over Ireland's Kyra Stewart who had seen off junior starlets Judith Walker and Brenda Williams. There was a further shock for Lancashire's Miss Williams when, in the quarter-finals of the girls' singles, the England No. 3 girl was beaten by Yvonne Brockbank the heroine of Millom School on the following Monday.

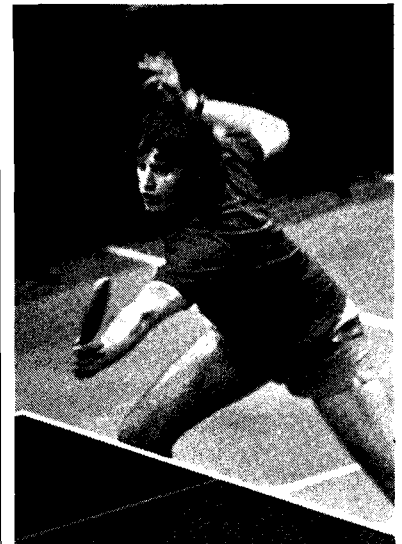
Yvonne was also successful in her semi-final against Barbara Kearney, but acknowledged defeat like a true sportswoman when beaten by Judith Walker in the final.

In the counterpart boys' event, David Alderson swept all before him

to retain his title, Brian Towell of Kendal, being the surprise semi-finalist.

LIKE CINDERELLA

The Stewart sisters, Kyra and Beverley, were the popular winners of the women's doubles title as, indeed, were Messrs. Clayton and Landry in the men's. But what about the performance of Derek Schofield, the veteran champion, who added the mixed title, when partnered by Sylvia Broadbent, with final success over Mike Johns and Susan Lisle?



Luigi Tony Clayton who was left without a mixed doubles partner at Carlisle.

Photo by Cliff Darley.

Pity about Clayton in this event when having to scratch from the quarter-finals because, like Cinderella, Kyra Stewart's time ran out. But there was no shoe to be found between Carlisle and Heysham from which port the boat awaited the Irish contingent!

It was revenge for both Karenza Mathews and Denis Neale at the 44th **Midland Counties Halex 3-Star Open**, played at the Harry Mitchell Recreation Centre, Warley, over the weekend of Nov. 11-12, where they reversed their Humberside defeats against Jill Hammersley and Trevor Taylor respectively.

Whilst Jill and Karenza once again treated the spectators to an exciting final, with Karenza hitting more powerfully than ever, Neale and Taylor tended to force errors from one another although Neale by deed of more accurate hitting won the day.

ASCENDANCY

Earlier surprise was Peter Taylor's victory over International Squad member "Les" Haslam. England's twelfth-ranked Taylor got better and better as he gradually gained the ascendancy always making his half-volley returns difficult to reach. Even earlier still, Haslam had made extremely heavy weather of disposing

of Brian Mitchell, the bespectacled Lancastrian studying at Birmingham University.

The junior finals were both first-class sets and Anita Stevenson, in the girls' event, confirmed her No. 2 ranking with a convincing win over Gillian Taylor which, when added to an excellent hitting-win over Diane Court (nee Simpson) in the senior event, made for her an interesting weekend.

Desmond Douglas and Paul Day played a see-saw boys' singles final which, in the end, hinged on the first game when Douglas won from 16-20 down with some courageous hitting.

Sad here was the performance of Simon Heaps in his semi against Day, Simon chose to retire after losing the first game and being pulled up for dodgy serving when he was well down in the second!!

All in all an eventful weekend made possible by the joint sponsorship of Halex and Cutler Prescott Ltd., the Edgbaston Turf Accountants.

Results:—

SUSSEX 2 Star

Men's Singles: Quarter-finals:
M. Sugden (Middx) bt B. Burn (Warwks) 14, 8;
C. Warren (Surrey) bt P. Taylor (Beds) 18, 17;
D. Brown (Essex) bt S. Gibbs (Essex) 15, 11;
N. Van de Walle (Belgium) bt R. Chandler (Surrey) 15, 18.
Semi-finals:
SUGDEN bt Warren 19, 17;
VAN DE WALLE bt Brown 15, 16.

Final:
VAN DE WALLE bt Sugden 16, 13.
Women's Singles: Semi-finals:
K. Mathews (Middx) bt L. Radford (Essex) 16, 19;
S. Hession (Essex) bt J. Williams (Sussex) -6, 13, 15.
Final:
MATHEWS bt Hession 10, 8.
Men's Doubles: Semi-finals:
Sugden/Warren bt Chandler/P. Williams (Sussex) 16, 17;
Gibbs/R. Stevens (Essex) bt Brown/Burn 18, -11, 24.
Final:
GIBBS/STEVENS bt Sugden/Warren -17, 17, 17.
Women's Doubles: Semi-finals:
L. Howard (Surrey)/Mathews bt G. Taylor/E. Tarten (Essex) 16, 18;
Hession/Williams bt D. Court (Middx)/Radford -19, 13, 17.
Final:
HOWARD/MATHEWS bt Hession/Williams 19, 9.

Mixed Doubles: Semi-finals:
P. Taylor/Court bt I. Robertson/J. Hellaby (Essex) -15, 12, 9;
Van de Walle/Mathews bt P. Radford (Essex)/Radford -17, 9, 17.
Final:
VAN DE WALLE/MATHEWS bt Taylor/Court 14, 14.
Veteran Singles: Semi-finals:
G. Chapman (Surrey) bt J. Osborne (Essex) 19, 17;
R. Etheridge (Kent) bt K. Beamish (Essex) -20, 15, 11.
Final:
CHAPMAN bt Etheridge 9, -9, 11.

HUMBERSIDE 3 Star

Men's Singles: Quarter-finals:
D. Neale (Yorks) bt J. Krier (Yorks) 10, 11;
L. A. Clayton (Yorks) bt L. F. Landry (Middx) -17, 14, 12;
O. B. Haslam (Middx) bt J. Walker (Yorks) 20, 15;
T. Taylor bt D. Alderson (Yorks) 12, 14.
Semi-finals:
NEALE bt Clayton 10, 18;
TAYLOR bt Haslam 7, 6.
Final:
TAYLOR bt Neale 15, 17.

Women's Singles: Quarter-finals:
J. Hammersley (Bucks) bt S. Lisle (Lancs) 10, 9;
L. Howard (Surrey) bt J. Hellaby (Essex) -16, 21, 9;
L. Radford (Essex) bt D. Court (Middx) 20, 15;
K. Mathews (Middx) bt S. Howard (Surrey) 12, 15.
Semi-finals:
HAMMERSLEY bt Howard 12, 9;
MATHEWS bt Radford -19, 9, 19.
Final:
HAMMERSLEY bt Mathews -10, 16, 22.
Men's Doubles: Semi-finals:
Haslam/Neale bt M. Johns (Ches)/Krier 19, -20, 15;
Clayton/Landry bt A. Ransome (Yorks)/Walker 21, 12.
Final:
HASLAM/NEALE bt Clayton/Landry 18, 24.

Women's Doubles: Semi-finals:
L. Howard/Mathews bt Hellaby/Radford 16, 20;
Hammersley/S. Howard bt Court/Lisle 15, 17.
Final:
HOWARD/MATHEWS bt Hammersley/Howard 19, 12.
Mixed Doubles: Semi-finals:
Neale/Mathews bt Clayton/S. Howard 13, -15, 9;
P. Radford (Essex)/Radford bt Johns/Lisle 19, 9.
Final:
NEALE/MATHEWS bt Radford/Radford 19, 15.

Boys' Singles: Quarter-finals:
D. Alderson bt P. Edon (Durham) 18, 11;
D. Parker (Lancs) bt D. Boulter (Essex) 9, 13;
A. Barden (Middx) bt S. Hosking (Durham) 14, 12;
P. Day (Cams) bt B. Alderson (Yorks) 18, 14.
Semi-finals:
ALDERSON bt Parker 17, 14;
DAY bt Barden 18, 14.
Final:
DAY bt Alderson 17, -10, 19.
Girls' Singles: Quarter-finals:
L. Howard bt L. Mellor (Derbys) 10, 11;
E. Tarten (Essex) bt M. Mellor (Derbys) 2, 20;

J. Walker (Yorks) bt B. Shepherd (Yorks) 17, 16;
A. Stevenson (Leics) bt W. Brown (Derbys) 16, 13.
Semi-finals:
HOWARD bt Tarten 15, -14, 13;
WALKER bt Stevenson -17, 22, 10.
Final:
HOWARD bt Walker 13, 11.
Veteran Singles: Semi-finals:
T. Donlon (Ches) bt W. Moran (Lincs) 16, 16;
L. Browning (Yorks) bt A. Shepherd (Essex) 11, 22.
Final:
BROWNING bt Donlon -15, 15, 19.

CUMBERLAND 2 Star

Men's Singles: Quarter-finals:
D. Parker (Lancs) bt B. Kean (Ches) 10, -19, 23;
M. Johns (Ches) bt P. Hoyle (Nthld) -19, 17, 7;
J. Walker (Yorks) bt L. A. Clayton (Yorks) 14, 19;
T. Taylor (-) bt D. Alderson (Yorks) 19, 7.
Semi-finals:
JOHNS bt Parker 19, -17, 18;
TAYLOR bt Walker 15, 14.

Final:
TAYLOR bt Johns 18, 11.
Women's Singles: Quarter-finals:
S. M. Lisle (Lancs) bt C. Rose (Cumb) 8, 17;
S. Broadbent (Yorks) bt P. Clark (Nthld) 14, 11;
K. Stewart (Ireland) bt J. Walker (Yorks) 9, -19, 18;
B. Williams (Lancs) bt B. Stewart (Ireland) 18, 16.
Semi-finals:
LISLE bt Broadbent 15, 16;
STEWART bt Williams 13, -17, 17.
Final:
LISLE bt Stewart 17, 18.
Men's Doubles: Semi-finals:
B. Johns (Ches)/M. Johns bt Taylor/Walker 13, 17, 20;
Clayton/L. F. Landry (Middx) bt W. Allanson (Lancs)/D. Schofield (Ches) 7, 11.

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Open Tournament (cont.)

Final:
CLAYTON/LANDRY bt Johns/Johns 15, 18.
Women's Doubles:
 Stewart/Stewart bt L. Bainbridge (Durham)/
 J. White (Lincs.) 13, 9;
 L. Clark/B. Kearney (Nthld) bt Rose/
 J. Pachul (Cumb) -17, 17, 19.
Final:
STEWART/STEWART bt Clark/Kearney
 5, -16, 16.
Mixed Doubles: Semi-finals:
 M. Johns/Lisle bt Landry/Williams 15, 18;
 Schofield/Broadbent bt J. Reed (Cumb)/
 Rose 14, 11.
Final:
SCHOFIELD/BROADBENT bt Johns/Lisle
 19, -11, 18.
Boys' Singles: Quarter-finals:
 D. Alderson bt I. Blackmore (Lancs) 5, 9;
 B. Towell (Westmld) bt M. Seed (Lancs)
 20, 15;
 P. J. Edon (Durham) bt N. Roberts (Ches)
 10, 15;
 Parker bt B. Alderson (Yorks) 11, 19.
Semi-finals:
ALDERSON bt Towell 13, 8;
PARKER bt Edon 15, 23.
Final:
ALDERSON bt Parker 15, 8.
Girls' Singles: Semi-finals:
 Y. Brockbank (Cumb) bt Kearney -17, 21,
 17;
 Walker bt P. Clements (Yorks) 11, 13.
Final:
WALKER bt Brockbank 4, 12.
Veteran Singles: Semi-finals:
 Schofield bt D. Marples (Derbys) 16, -17, 17;
 G. Brook (Yorks) bt G. Wadsworth (Yorks)
 22, -17, 18.
Final:
SCHOFIELD bt Brook 13, 14.

MIDLAND COUNTIES

3 Star

Men's Singles: Quarter-finals:
 D. Neale (Yorks) bt D. Munt (Warwks)
 13, 12;
 A. Clayton (Yorks) bt B. Burn (Warwks)
 10, 19;
 P. Taylor (Beds) bt O. Haslam (Middx)
 -13, 14, 10;
 T. Taylor (-) bt M. Johns (Ches) 13, 9.

Semi-finals:
NEALE bt Clayton 15, 13;
T. TAYLOR bt P. Taylor 12, 16.
Final:
NEALE bt Taylor -14, 11, 16.
Women's Singles: Quarter-finals:
 J. Hammersley (Bucks) bt A. Stevenson
 (Leics) 13, 9;
 S. Howard (Surrey) bt S. Hession (Essex)
 15, 15;
 J. Heaps (Ches) bt L. Howard (Surrey)
 18, -14, 16;
 K. Mathews (Middx) bt S. Lisle (Lancs)
 19, 15.
Semi-finals:
HAMMERSLEY bt Howard 18, 13;
MATHEWS bt Heaps 15, 19.
Final:
MATHEWS bt Hammersley 15, -11, 18.
Men's Doubles: Semi-finals:
 Haslam/Neale bt D. Douglas (Warwks)/
 S. Heaps (Ches) 13, 18;
 B. Johns (Ches)/M. Johns bt Taylor/Taylor
 -19, 20, 18.
Final:
HASLAM/NEALE bt Johns/Johns 17, 12.
Women's Doubles: Semi-finals:
 L. Howard/Mathews bt D. Court (Middx)/
 Hession 21, 11;
 Hammersley/S. Howard bt Heaps/Lisle
 12, 19.
Final:
HOWARD/MATHEWS bt Hammersley/
 Howard 15, 11.
Mixed Doubles: Semi-finals:
 Neale/Mathews bt Clayton/S. Howard
 13, 18;
 Haslam/Hammersley bt M. Johns/Lisle
 -20, 13, 11.
Final:
NEALE/MATHEWS bt Haslam/Hammersley
 -19, 17, 19.
Boys' Singles: Quarter-finals:
 Douglas bt D. Tan (Middx) 7, 16;
 J. Kitchener (Suffolk) bt D. Boulter (Essex)
 19, 13;
 P. Day (Cams) bt S. Newman (Essex)
 9, 10;
 Heaps bt A. Barden (Middx) 17, 20.
Semi-finals:
DOUGLAS bt Kitchener 11, 18;
DAY bt Heaps 15, 18-11 (retired).
Final:
DOUGLAS bt Day 21, -8, 14.
Girls' Singles: Quarter-finals:
 Stevenson bt M. Mellor (Derbys) 18, 16;



Mixed doubles finalists at Warley (from l. to r.) Denis Neale, "Les" Haslam, Jill Hammersley and Karenza Mathews—all are members of England's International Squad.

Photo by courtesy of "Birmingham Evening Mail".

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E. Tarten (Essex) bt K. Mashford (Berks)
 19, 13;
 G. Taylor (Essex) bt C. Reeves (Berks)
 15, 14;
 J. Walker (Yorks) bt D. St. Ledger
 (Warwks) 13, 22.
Semi-finals:
STEVENSON bt Tarten 15, -20, 13;
TAYLOR bt Walker 17, 19.
Final:
STEVENSON bt Taylor -19, 13, 11
Boys' Doubles: Semi-finals:
 Douglas/Heaps bt Kitchener/Tan 17, 13;
 Barden/Day bt P. Vickers/D. Yallop
 (Derbys) -20, 16, 15.
Final:
DOUGLAS/HEAPS bt Barden/Day 18, -21,
 15.
Girls' Doubles: Semi-finals:
 Tarten/Taylor bt Mellor/Stevenson 13, -17,
 17;
 J. Hartwell (Middx)/K. Rogers (Leics)
 bt St. Ledger/Walker 20, -14, 15.
Final:
TARTEN/TAYLOR bt Hartwell/Rogers
 19, -18, 13.
Veteran Singles: Semi-finals:
 R. Morris (Somerset) bt A. Shepherd
 (Essex) -18, 9, 12;
 T. Donlon (Ches) bt J. Harrison (Warwks)
 20, 14.
Final:
MORRIS bt Donlon -17, 13, 13.

regularly in the Northumberland
 League.

"Pop" says "I enjoy table tennis
 as it demands quick reflexes like foot-
 ball, and is good exercise. It also pro-
 vides a good variety to training, as
 well as helping me keep fully fit. I
 practice once a week, and usually
 have a league match each week as
 well".

Robson could not combine the two
 sports at top level, of course, as they
 would clash in the winter months.
 But "Pop" practices with leading
 Essex players and could reach the
 necessary standard.

French Open

With England's International Squad
 players taking part in the Middlesex
 3-Star Open, the following team was
 selected to represent England in
 the French Open Championships,
 scheduled to take place in Paris
 from Dec. 3-5:—Mike Johns (Ches.),
 Tony Clayton (Yorks.), Desmond
 Douglas (Warwicks.), David Alderson
 (Yorks.) and Paul Day (Cams.).
 N.P.C.—Brian Wright.

The French Association were dedi-
 cating their championships as a
 memorial to the late Victor Barna and
 the E.T.T.A.'s chairman, Charles
 Wyles, was accompanying the English
 team.

TYNE-THAMES STAR

Bryan "Pop" Robson's sporting
 activities are not confined to top class
 soccer. He is also no mean table tennis
 player and turns out regularly for
 Ilford Ltd. in that hotbed of T.T.—
 Essex.

Not surprising really as his wife,
 Maureen (nee Heppell), is a former
 international and "Pop's" reputation
 in this sphere goes back to his New-
 castle days when both of them played

MERSEYSIDE 2-STAR OPEN

DOUGLAS BRINGS OFF THE IMPOSSIBLE

by George R. Yates

Sponsored by Barker & Dobson Ltd., and played at Dunlop's spacious Speke Canteen, Liverpool, on Nov. 25, nothing could have bettered the Boys' singles final between England's two leading juniors Desmond Douglas and David Alderson.

The latter was 10—1 up in the third and deciding game at the change of ends and Douglas was still trailing 14—17 after a tremendous rearguard action.

From that point on, however, the Warwickshire boy really got the scent of victory in his nostrils and won game, set and match by taking the last 7 points, the final two by unreturnable hammer blows. It was a heartening experience to see such a fight back—a rarity these days.

By comparison, the Men's singles final was a dull affair although affording Trevor Taylor yet another title.

Tony Clayton never really looked like making a match of it and was completely outplayed in the second game.

Alan Ransome had earlier had his spot of glory in beating Peter Taylor but, against Clayton in his semi-final, appeared another player entirely.

Susan Lisle added the Women's singles title to the one she won in the Cumberland, at Carlisle, but young Anita Stevenson made the Lancashire girl fight all the way.

Winner and runner-up in the singles event combined to take the Women's doubles and Anita also carried Leicestershire's flag to victory in the Girls' singles with final victory over Gillian Taylor.

Playing in his first season as a veteran, Liverpool's George Smith took the only home title, in this event, by beating Stockport's Terry Donlon.

The red-shirted Johns brothers, Mike and Brian, combined well to take the Men's doubles title with final victory over Trevor Taylor and Jimmy Walker after previously eliminating the holders, Clayton and Laurie Landry.

Although down to play and seeded No. 2, Alan Hydes was an unexplained absentee although, still suffering from jaundice, he could have been feeling the effects of his exertions against Federal Germany in the European League match at Leeds on the previous Tuesday.

Men's Singles: Quarter-finals:

T. Taylor bt B. Burn (Warwks.) 7, 7;
M. Johns (Ches.) bt D. Alderson (Yorks.) 18, -18, 10;

A. Clayton (Yorks.) bt J. Walker (Yorks.) 17, 21;

A. Ransome (Yorks.) bt P. Taylor (Beds.) 16, 18.

Semi-finals:

TAYLOR bt Johns 9, 16; CLAYTON bt Ransome 13, 18.

Final:

TAYLOR bt Clayton 17, 10.

Women's Singles: Quarter-finals:

S. Lisle (Lancs.) bt E. Tarten (Essex) 12, 14;

J. Walker (Yorks.) bt K. Rogers (Leics.) 15, 16;

M. Mellor (Derbys.) bt B. Williams (Lancs.) 9, 18;

A. Stevenson (Leics.) bt D. St. Ledger (Warwks.) 14, 19.

Semi-finals:

LISLE bt Walker 19, -10, 18;

STEVENSON bt Mellor 16, 11.

Final:

LISLE bt Stevenson -16, 18, 9.

Men's Doubles: Semi-finals:

T. Taylor/Walker bt D. Alderson/Ransome 16, 17;

B. Johns (Ches.)/M. Johns bt Clayton/L. Landry (Middx.) 11, -18, 14.

Final:

JOHNS/JOHNS bt Taylor/Walker -17, 11, 18.

Women's Doubles: Semi-finals:

Lisle/Stevenson bt Mellor/Rogers 18, -9, 10;

Tarten/G. Taylor (Essex) bt L. Barrow/L. Budd (Essex) 21, -17, 17.

Final:

LISLE/STEVENSON bt Tarten/Taylor 12, 17.

Boys' Singles: Quarter-finals:

D. Douglas (Warwks.) bt J. McNee (Ches.) 7, -19, 18;

M. Owen (Wales) bt P. Day (Cambs.) 19, 18;

S. Heaps (Ches.) bt R. Wiley (Yorks.) -17, 18, 20;

D. Alderson bt A. Barden (Middx.) 11, 11.

Semi-finals:

DOUGLAS bt Owen 12, 5;

ALDERSON bt Heaps 14, 17.

Final:

DOUGLAS bt Alderson -18, 18, 19.

Girls' Singles: Quarter-finals:

Stevenson bt St. Ledger 19, -8, 18;

Tarten bt Mellor 18, 20;

Taylor bt Walker 6, 8;

Williams bt Rogers 17, 19.

Semi-finals:

STEVENSON bt Tarten -11, 15, 17;

TAYLOR bt Williams -18, 13, 20.

Final:

STEVENSON bt Taylor 18, 19.

Veteran Singles: Semi-finals:

T. Donlon (Ches.) bt A. Land (Ches.) 17, -18, 16;

G. Smith (Lancs.) bt N. Jones (Lancs.) 8, 15.

Final:

SMITH bt Donlon 15, 13.

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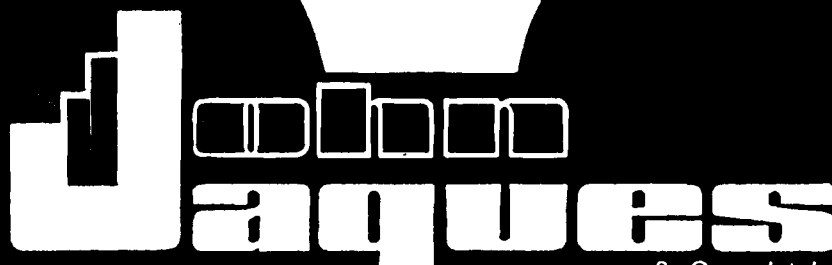
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LINCOLNSHIRE NOTES

by Jim Flowers

NO WORRIES

THE 3rd Lincolnshire Junior Closed tournament sponsored, for the first time, by R. E. Pawson Food Plans of Louth and Scunthorpe, showed that the County should have no worries on the junior front for several years, with so many 12-15-year-olds acquitting themselves well in all the events. An excellent turn-out of 69 competitors—the best ever—provided the many spectator enthusiasts with a feast of table tennis throughout the day, and the introduction of the group system seemed to go down well with the competitors.

Jimmy Brewster held on to the U-17 title for the third successive year, having little difficulty with anyone all day. With Christine Hunt not available, the No. 2 girl, Janet Hackford, confirmed her ranking by retaining her U-17 title, and shared the mixed title again, this time with Pete McKay.

The strong Grantham contingent, particularly the girls, were much in evidence, taking home the girls' doubles (Suzanne Hunt and Marie Featherstone) and both U-15 titles (Nat Neal and Suzanne Hunt), as well as runners-up medals in girls' U-17, girls' U-15 and mixed. Colin Boyd and John Charlesworth retained the boys' doubles title and Ian Willson won the U-13 title again over Martin Norman, who was also the loser in the boys' U-15 event.

The standard of play was the highest ever seen at Junior level in the County and augurs well for the future. Trophies were presented by

Mrs. R. E. Pawson, a director of the company which sponsored the event, and Mrs. J. Norman, wife of the Tournament Secretary. Results:

B.S. U-17 (Grimsby and District TTA Cup)

Quarter-finals:

C. Brown (Boston) bt J. Smith (Lincoln)

16, 20;

J. Brewster (Boston) bt S. Glenn (Grantham)

16, 19;

C. Boyd (Scunthorpe) bt P. McKay

(Grimsby) 20, 14;

J. Forbes (Lincoln) bt P. Cater (Boston)

19, -16, 20.

Semi-finals:

Brewster bt Brown 9, 18;

Boyd bt Forbes 14, 16.

Final:

BREWSTER bt Boyd 21, 18.

B.S. U-15 (Cherry Valley Trophy)

Semi-finals:

N. Neal (Grantham) bt I. Willson

(Mablethorpe) 16, 5;

M. Norman (Louth) bt R. Houlthby (Mable-

thorpe) -16, 15, 17.

Final:

NEAL bt Norman 13, 11.

B.S. U-13 (J. J. Robertson Cup)

Semi-finals:

Norman bt P. Johnson (Louth) 17, 13;

Willson bt P. Daubney (Boston) 7, 7.

Final:

WILLSON bt Norman 13, 11.

G.S. U-17 (Peterborough Investment Co.

Trophy)

Semi-finals:

J. Hackford (Grimsby) bt S. Norman (Louth)

6, 19;

M. Featherstone (Grantham) bt S. Hunt

(Grantham) 21, -17, 17.

Final:

HACKFORD bt Featherstone 16, 17.

G.S. U-15 (Fossitt and Thorne Cup)

Final:

HUNT bt Featherstone 16, 18.

B.D. (G. E. Spenlow Cup)

Final:

BOYD/J. CHARLESWORTH (Scunthorpe)

bt Brewster/Cater 18, -16, 21.

G.D. (Grantham TT Youth Coaching Group

Trophy)

Final:

FEATHERSTONE/HUNT bt E. Blastland

(Grimsby)/Hackford 13, -19, 14.

X.D. (Parsons Bros. and Snape Cup)

Final:

McKAY/HACKFORD bt Neal/Hunt 15,

-21, 15.

European League

CONVINCING WIN BY HUNGARY

Played at the National Sports Gymnasium in Budapest on Oct. 25, the European League Premier Division match between Hungary and England drew a crowd of over 2,000. This was the first league match for each country and Hungary proved themselves much stronger by winning convincingly 6-1.

This was not a good performance by England and although it would have taken a supreme effort to win, more resistance could have been shown in defeat.

Opening for England, "Les" Haslam encountered a much more improved Istvan Jonyer whose topspin now carries more speed without so much sidespin. This change makes him even more difficult to contain and Haslam went down two-straight. Next Denis Neale equalised the score by outplaying Janos Börzei and played very tight, hitting very hard.

Beatrix Kishazi proved her success recently is no fluke by beating Jill Hammersley 2-straight. Her awkward style takes time to work out and the English girl never really got going.

By losing the two doubles, England conceded the match and it was here that chances of success lay. If Neale and Karenza Mathews could have got the second game they may well have beaten Jonyer and Judit Magos, as the English pair seemed to have mastered the topspin.

Neale versus Jonyer produced some superb table tennis and if Neale had served tighter in the third game, the result may have been reversed. Börzei beat Haslam in the last set of the evening to round off the Hungarian success. Scores:—

Jonyer by Haslam 12, 11.

Börzei lost to Neale -19, -15.

Kishazi bt Hammersley 12, 14.

G. Gergeley bt Haslam/Neale 17, 10.

Jonyer/Magos bt Neale/Mathews

16, 18.

Jonyer bt Neale -14, 16, 15;

Börzei bt Haslam 21, 14.

The English team stayed over to play a friendly international match at Miskolc the next day. Again the Hungarians came out on top, but this match was very even and the English team should have done better than lose 2-5, letting a lead of one game and 20-16 go in the men's doubles.

Results:

M. Beleznai bt Neale 15, -20, 14.

A. Molnar lost to Mathews 17, -12, -8.

Gergeley bt Haslam 18, 12.

Beleznai/Gergeley bt Haslam/Neale

-18, 20, 17.

Molnar bt Hammersley 16, 16.

Gezezai bt Haslam 11, 16.

Gergeley lost to Neale 13, -19, -15.

Owing to the Christmas and New Year Holidays the January issue of the T.T. News will be a few days late.

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Decision Making in Table Tennis

by Peter Simpson, E.T.T.A. Northern Staff Coach

The following article, which is in two parts, relates to DECISION, REACTION and MOVEMENT TIME in STROKE PLAY and PRACTICE. This method of play can be used as a basic framework from which to work and can be adapted to a wide variety of players.

Many of our players today have been introduced to Condition Training which has limited their ability. Many players have come to a premature stop in their development through stagnant training and have become one speed players. They should be made aware of the key factors relating to the game and that skill in playing a stroke is not enough.

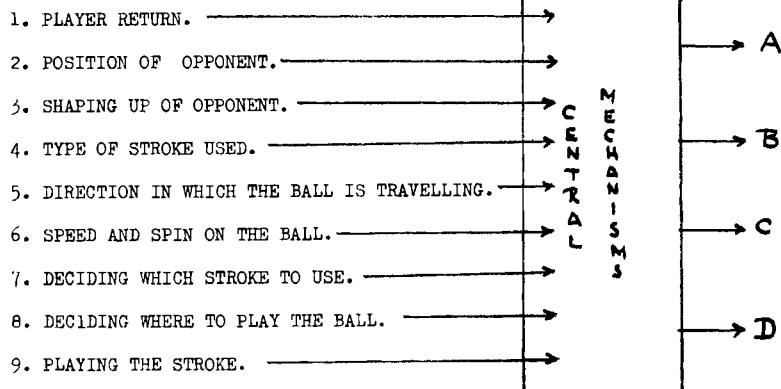
Both the coach and the player should be aware of how to process information received from the environment and how this affects their decision making and response.

INFORMATION PROCESSING

Before a player can use his skills efficiently and effectively he will have to go through several processes, as a result of information gathered from the environment, both internal and external — i.e. - type of stroke used, position, return of ball etc. This will go to the brain as nine bits of information, this will then be computed in a fraction of a second and the result will be four sequences.

As the skills in Table Tennis are triggered off so quickly, the player cannot always take in all the information available from the environment at once. So a player should develop the ability to select the information which is most important to them. Experience and early reading of a situation will be a key factor.

The information processing given below is not laid out in any particular order as the information differs in importance from player to player.

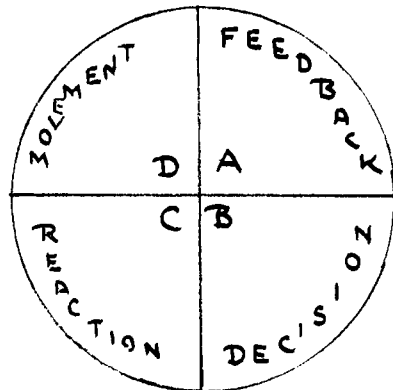


All rallies should be thought of as a chain of sequential events, the player using two main kinds of feedback:-

1. Audio and Visual—this is external feedback that is received from the environment—i.e. - sound of ball on bat, opponent action.
2. Kinaesthetic and Tactile—this is internal feedback from the player's own action from the muscles and joints and touch.

SEQUENCE

- A. FOREPERIOD (ANTICIPATION).
- B. DECISION TIME.
- C. REACTION TIME.
- D. MOVEMENT TIME.



FOREPERIOD (ANTICIPATION).

This is the time interval between the player's return and the presentation of the opponent's stroke. It is important in reaction time during the FOREPERIOD that the player ANTICIPATES the result of his own return and reacts to the expected stimulus as quickly as possible. Experience will be one of the key factors here. Out of these points the expert will pick out very early in a display the factors important to him and act upon them. When reacting to a display the player has four phases of reaction:-

1. SENSE ORGAN TIME. This is the time it takes for the organ (EYE, EAR etc.) to absorb the signal.
2. NERVE TRANSMISSION TIME. This is the speed at which the impulse is passed from the sense organ to the central nervous

3. DECISION TIME. This is the time in which a player decides how to deal with the signal received.
 4. MUSCLE TIME. This is the time it takes to initiate the response at the muscle.
- There is also MOVEMENT TIME—this is the duration of the response.

It is important to distinguish REACTION TIME from MOVEMENT TIME. A player could have a fast reaction time but be retarded by a slow movement time by:-

1. Length of stroke used (stroke too long and over-exaggerated).
2. Not using the correct joints.
3. Slow joint movement by lack of flexibility and mobility.
4. Incorrect angle of arm.
5. Incorrect balance.
6. Playing too close to the table.

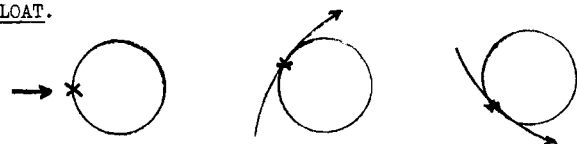
STROKE PLAY BASED ON DECISION: REACTION AND MOVEMENT TIME.

A player should have the ability to vary his strokes so that the opponent will find it hard to distinguish what is "on" the ball. Players are at a disadvantage if they do not have the ability to vary their returns. This will allow the opponent to adapt to their returns more easily.

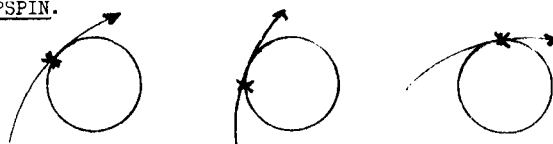
All strokes start with a preparatory movement before the impact on the ball and if there is no variation in the stroke the opponent will have no difficulty in detecting the stroke and the type of spin on the ball during this anticipation period. Variation of strokes will help a player to tactically out-play his opponent by delaying the opponent's decision making.

If there is no variation, the opponent is at an advantage in that he has more time in which to make the necessary reaction. So to remove this advantage, the player should cut down the preparatory movement and vary their strokes and their bat angle. By doing this, the opponent will find

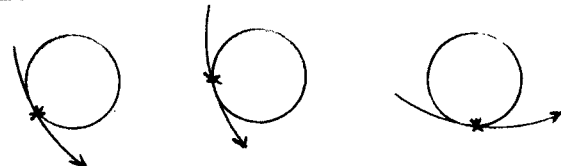
VARIATION OF FLOAT.



VARIATION OF TOPSPIN.



VARIATION OF BACKSPIN.



it harder to decide what is on the ball. If completely successful, the ball will have been played before the opponent can detect what is "on" it and decide what course of action to take.

As the preparation time is reduced, so will be the anticipation period of the opponent—thus making errors more likely.

VARIATION IN PLAYING STROKES.

All strokes should be efficient and effective and played with variation. They should be developed with the minimum amount of time and energy involved. Strokes can be classified as follows:-

1. Short.
2. Medium.
3. Long.

The strokes should be played in relation to the position at the table, speed and spin on the ball. Taking advantage of the full range of movement in the:-

1. Shoulder.
2. Elbow.
3. Wrist.

In the arm, the wrist is the quickest, then the elbow and the shoulder has the slowest movement, but the shoulder is the more powerful, then the elbow and the wrist is the weakest. At the beginner stage the wrist should not be used.

Co-ordinating the joints and varying the angle of the bat using:-

1. Shoulder, elbow, wrist.
2. Shoulder, elbow.
3. Elbow, wrist.
4. Shoulder.
5. Elbow.
6. Wrist.

Plus body movement this will also give the player:-

1. Better balance.
2. Better control over the ball.
3. Quicker recovery time.

VARIATIONS OF PLAYING A BALL.

The player should be experienced in playing the ball in a number of different ways, making the returns less predictable. The player should also vary the height at which he plays the ball and the spin and speed.

FLIGHT OF BALL.

- | | |
|--------|-------------------------------------|
| SLOW | FLOAT. |
| MEDIUM | SPIN (TOPSPIN; BACKSPIN; SIDESPIN). |
| FAST | SPEED AND SPIN. |

VARIATION OF SIDESPIN.

This has to be seen in three dimension as there are numerous types of Sidespin variations.

TIMING.

To achieve maximum success with variation play, it is essential to incorporate timing:-

1. EARLY.
2. PEAK OF BOUNCE.
3. LATE.

Part 2 of this article will refer to PRACTICE and its relation to INFORMATION PROCESSING and the number of functions being used during practice, also DECISION MAKING in MATCH PLAY.

County Notes Supplement

CHESHIRE NOTES

by Brian Kean

DETRIMENTAL POLICY

I would like to make it quite clear that this month's notes are in no way meant to stimulate competition to the JOHN WOODFORD — CONTROVERSY articles, it just so happens that the following matters have been the centre of controversial discussions by the CHESHIRE COUNTY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

The first item to come under fire from the 'Powers that Be' is the general structure of the Northern Area Junior Assessment Camp held at Sheffield in the close season.

It is our considered opinion that this camp was by no means a fair and correct assessment of the standard and strength of Northern juniors. Each county was asked by the E.T.T.A. to nominate their six top juniors from which the E.T.T.A. selected players who, in their estimation, were of the standard required to attend.

The question I would like to pose to Messrs. Wright, Gresswell and Crayden, bearing in mind, of course, their very few and limited visits to Northern pastures is this, did they honestly know the individual standard of every player selected? — I doubt it!—Why didn't they consider calling on the services of our area Staff Coach Peter Simpson? Surely his greater knowledge of the players in question would have eliminated the selection of weaker players at the expense of better. In some cases a selected No. 2 from one county would gain his place at the expense of a better No. 4 from a stronger county.

Having thus established the point that the scheme wasn't strictly for the best players, I now say that from Cheshire's view, having players of a very even standard, it caused us considerable embarrassment when confronted by our juniors and left to explain why from our ten boys and girls nominated, only three were selected, the remaining seven discarded without a trial. I say that such disappointment to a junior could, at this stage in his or her Table Tennis career, prove of great detriment to their furtherance in the game.

People will now say it's easy to sit back and criticise, true—however, I will now offer what in my opinion is the simple answer.

To gain a realistic concept of our juniors standard we must organise a number of regional camps within each staff coach's area. Further to this all players nominated by a county should at these regional camps be fairly assessed.

I am somewhat appalled at the decision of the Lancashire Executive Committee in refusing Susan Lisle permission to register for the county of her choice, Cheshire, Susan, a Northumbrian by birth and a regis-

tered member of C.T.T.A. through the Gately Y.M.C.A. Stockport League side, has been very much part of the Cheshire set up for a few years. The greatest part of her success as a player has, on her own admission, been largely due to the coaching and training received at the Gately and Cheshire top squad training sessions. On asking Susan her reasons for opting for Cheshire she replied—'I feel I should try and return a little to the county I have had an awful lot from' — Lancashire's decision is, as effective as a ban on the England-ranked Susan, as it is preventing her from participating in County matches.

I say this is harsh treatment on a player who has given them good service. It would also appear that the L.T.T.A. have short memories as without the permission of the C.T.T.A. they would not have had the services of ex-Cheshire star Diane Johnson.

Finally, as a point of interest, although Cheshire are currently part of the Premier Division there would be little personal gain for Susan as she would have to play second string to our No. 1 England-ranked Judy Heaps. With that fact in mind it highlights Susan's sincere reasons for opting to sport Cheshire's red shirt.

Concluding this month's notes I would like to respond to a comment made by our No. 1, English International Mike Johns, at the recent Cumberland Open.

Mike, I apologise for my lack of recognition of your performances this season, it's just that you have been our No. 1 for so long and have carried the County Banner on the tournament scene so creditably, that we tend to take you for granted. However, I assure you we think you're the greatest and if we get similar service from other county players we'll have very little to worry about. P.S. I hope you don't have to meet Krier again this season!!!

CAMBRIDGESHIRE NOTES

by Leslie Constable

ONE POINT SO FAR

Cambridgeshire teams have made a disappointing start in the County Championships, gaining only one point from three matches. The Senior Team had a difficult opening fixture, with Essex II at Ilford, and went down 7-3. Michael Harper, making his debut for Cambs., and Paul Day, both had good wins over David Bowles and Steve Smith respectively, but both lost to Stuart Gibbs. Tony Littlechild, who is leaving the district, lost to Smith and Bowles. Day and Deborah Clarke gained the mixed by beating Bowles and Susan Beckwith.

The second team were involved in a thriller with Huntingdonshire at Haverhill, the match ending 5-5 after Cambs. had trailed 2-4. Geoff Atkinson, former Cambridge Guildhall player, won both his singles for Hunts, beating Muhr and Chisnall. The match was a personal triumph for Brian Jones, who won both his singles, including the match-saving last set against Gus Albon. He also won the mixed with 14-year-old

Karen Garner, who acquitted herself well in her first senior match. Ken Muhr beat Paul Charlton, but Paul Chisnall had a fruitless evening. Barbara Webb of Hunts, beat Deborah Clarke 15, and 6.

The Junior Second Team, not surprisingly, lost 9-1 to Hertfordshire's First at Letchworth. The County's sole success came from young Brian Richardson — his first for the Juniors. Ludovic Chapman, although losing both his singles, was not outclassed.

In the South East Midlands League, Cambridge City proved too strong for Peterborough in their opening fixture at the Cambridge Corn Exchange. The Men's Team had a comfortable 8-2 win, with Stephen Andrews and Gerald Coteman winning their singles, and a weak Women's team managed to force a 5-5 draw, largely due to County player Karen Garner, who won all three singles, in a team which had an average age of 13.

The Junior Team won 8-2, with Chris Fuller and newcomer Philip Ward winning all their singles, whilst the Veterans' Team coasted home, 9-1, with John Baird and Ron Nunn winning three singles each and John Loker two. In a further match, the City defeated Wellingborough in the Men's, Women's and Veterans' matches, but went down 4-6 in the Junior encounter.

In the Men's fixture, John Thurston, Coteman and Andrews put Cambridge ahead in the singles, a lead they retained to the end. But, in the Junior Match, despite good play by Fuller, who won all his singles, the City went down to an unexpected defeat. The Women won 8-2, with the help of Sally Hirst, playing her first match of the season alongside Karen Garner and Deborah Clarke. The Veterans' won their second match with the team of Baird, Nunn and Loker set to notch the title for the second time running.

In the Sussex Open, Muhr, partnered by Brian Mitchell of Lancashire, had a notable second round doubles win over Sammy Ogundipe and Derek Munt, winning 19 in the third. John Willis and Chisnall lost in the third round to M. Waldman and F. Manthor of Middlesex. Littlechild was the most successful Cambridge player in the singles, losing to Peter Taylor in round 3.

In the Newbury Junior Open, Day lost to Simon Heaps in the final of the U-17 B.S., and in the U-17 X.D., partnered by Elaine Tarten, lost an exciting semi to Martin Bawden and Gillian Taylor, -16, 21, -22. In the U-13 B.S., Chapman did well to reach the fourth round before losing to Martin Shuttle (Surrey). Carol Ellis lost to Marilyn Sangster (Middlesex) in round 2 of the U-17 G.S., -14, 22, -11.

In the Humberside Open, Day beat David Alderson in the final of the Boys' singles, this being the second time that he has beaten the England No. 2. Day also had an excellent success in the mixed when, partnered by Miss Tarten, they beat Laurie Landry and Diane Court before losing to Tony Clayton and Susan Howard.

Cambridge beat Great Yarmouth 9-1 in the East Anglian League and were never in trouble. The best performance was by Deborah Clarke, who had a splendid win over Edna Fletcher, who has had many years service with the Norfolk Team.

In the Cambs. League, Soham I had an easy 8-2 win over Y.M.C.A. II, with Day and Brian Jones winning all their sets. Coteman and Loker both beat Stephen Palmer for Y.M.C.A. Following their 10-0 win over Press II, Guildhall maintained their position as leaders of Division I. Y.M.C.A. II beat Cambridge University 8-2, this being the University's first match, and on this showing they look likely to struggle. New Chesterton Institute lost their unbeaten record to Soham I and Thurston lost at 19 in the third to Day.

Late news to hand is the death of Mr. B. J. S. White who was a vice-president of the Cambs. T.T.A. for many years and a great friend. He was Mayor of Cambridge in 1957-58. Sympathy goes out from the Association to Miss Joan White, his daughter.

Cambridge retained the Keki Mistry Trophy by defeating March and Haverhill in the Annual Triangular Tournament at Haverhill Sports Centre.

SOUTH-EAST MIDLANDS LEAGUE CHATTER

by Leslie Constable

CONVINCING WINS

Ely (last season's champions), North Herts, Northampton and Cambridge are the leading contenders in the Men's Section. Ely have had convincing victories over Wellingborough and St. Neots, and North Herts. have disposed of Hunts. Central and Dunstable in similar fashion. Northampton had a good victory over Bedford and then beat Bletchley away 7-3. Cambridge, too, have made a good start by easily beating Peterborough and Wellingborough. In the Peterborough match Stephen Andrews and Gerald Coteman each won two for Cambridge and J. Greenwood won two for Peterborough.

In the Junior Section, North Herts. are already firmly placed at the top with Ely and Leighton Buzzard their nearest rivals. The match between Cambridge and Peterborough was significant in that it produced a junior, Gregory Baker, who although only ten-years-old made a name for himself by beating Ludovic Chapman who is a leading Cambridge junior. As a witness I can vouch for the fact that Gregory will be going places in the near future.

In the Women's Section there are several teams who are undefeated and this division may see a tight finish. Cambridge have made a good start in the Veterans' Section by winning their first two matches, against Peterborough and Wellingborough and appear to be heading for the title again, North Herts. and Northampton will be strong contenders.

WORCESTERSHIRE NOTES

by Ian R. Crickmer

PUZZLING ASPECT

THE almost complete absence of any Worcestershire players at the Midland Open is a puzzling aspect of recent activities — this event is the Open involving least travelling for the County's representatives, and it is to be hoped the juniors will make amends at the West Midlands Junior on February 10 and the Leckie One-Star at Walsall on May 5 and 6.

On the same week-end as the Midland, it was unfortunate to learn that the conflict between table tennis and other School sports had resulted in the cancellation of the arrangements to bring together the County's schools to determine the Worcestershire representation in the E.S.T.T.A. regional play at Brandwood on 20 January. Instead, some 20 schools will be involved in competition up to Christmas to decide the Worcestershire champions. Redditch has already held its tournament in the six categories other than primary, with Bridley Moor capturing four titles, and Abbey High preventing the "grand slam" by taking the Boys' Under-13 and Girls' Under-15 groups.

The County Team Knock-Out competitions will be well under way when these notes appear — 35 teams are chasing the Handicap title, whilst the eight sides in the Non-Handicap championship should provide a good contest with the winners emerging as true leading club of the county.

Redditch are again the only Worcestershire league to have given their support to the Coca-Cola National team Competitions, and have been rewarded with home matches in the senior competitions versus Leicester men and Northampton women. Their tussles with East Midlands sides will continue when the Redditch girls travel to Kettering, and their quartet of matches is completed with the boys' visit to Birmingham. The Redditch teams should have taken heart from their men's fine 6-4 home win over Loughborough in a recent Midland League encounter.

In areas of greater urban concentration, the multi-league player is a frequent occurrence. However, with Worcestershire's nine Leagues encompassing two thousand square miles, it is interesting to note the frequency with which local players are to be found in two or three leagues. The latest to join these ranks are Kidderminster T.T.C., now performing competently in Worcester's Third Division — their mentor is Ian Knights who did so much to put Martley's Chantry School on the table tennis map. After a period working in the Youth Service at Chichester, where he participated in the widespread activity of the South West Sussex League under Father Rowley, he has returned to the Midlands to teach at West Bromwich.

Another much-travelled young lady is Denise Morton, who has moved from Walsall to live at Halesowen. Her arrival in Worcestershire coincided opportunely with the County's loss of Wendy Salter—Wendy, though still a junior, is now working in Birmingham and understood not to

be playing. She is therefore most unlikely to add to her County junior record of eighteen appearances, having eclipsed the previous highest tally of seventeen by Derek Aston between 1964 and 1969. Denise is yet another player to have joined the ranks of the Cookhill T.T.C.

Finally it is an added incentive to all those who have worked so hard of late in the Worcestershire coaching sessions to learn that their efforts have been noted to the extent that Worcester is under consideration as one of the proposed inter-regional centres, which it is intended will develop from the activities of the E.T.T.A. Coaching Panels.

DERBYSHIRE NOTES

by Walter Reeves

STILL NOT SURE

DESPITE the difficulties at Alfreton not appearing to have been resolved, the County League has, at last got under way. It is still not certain whether Alfreton are competing or not. Matlock, however, have entered two teams and have booked a room at a local 'pub' for their home matches.

Derby and Chesterfield met in a Midland League fixture and, fortunately for Derby, minus Doug Foulds, it was the spire town's second string team which provided the opposition. Doug was preparing for an examination in connection with his work.

Ivor Warner was substituted and both he and Francis had two wins each with Frank O'Sullivan getting the other in a 5-all draw. Derby, on this showing, cannot afford to be without Foulds when they play Chesterfield 1st.

Derbyshire's County team has been selected as D. Foulds (Derby), C. Deaton, D. Marples, Mrs. S. Walters (all Chesterfield) and Miss M. Deakin (Derby). All the men have a similar style of play, favouring the defensive game, with Foulds, the current County champion, using anti-spin.

For many years, Doug stuck to his ordinary rubber bat only changing to Imm. Green (defensive) rubber about two seasons ago, making the change to anti-spin at the end of last season. The latter change has made all the difference from his being an ordinary run of the mill player in the Derby League, occasionally troubling the leading County players, to being the County's No. 1.

Derby have agreed to stage the County Championships yet again. It should prove popular as Chesterfield are down to stage the Midland Closed — tentative date Sunday, April 15, 1973 — although they are having trouble in finding a suitable venue.

In the Coca-Cola Junior competitions, Derby were drawn against Leicester whose girls won 6-3 but whose boys just managed it 5-4.

The Bromfield Trophy match saw both Anita Stevenson and Karen Rogers unbeaten as was Derby's David Yallop in the Carter Cup tie.

At local league level, more and more players are using anti-spin bats causing the modern game exponents considerable trouble. All Derby's

leading juniors, Yallop, Phil Vickers, Sidu Singh and the leading women, M. Deakin and S. Holmes, are experiencing difficulty in countering this new surface.

Doug Foulds is the best player using anti-spin, and others not far behind him include his brother, Brian, and Roland Hutchinson. "Rolly" has only returned to league play this season, following a torn Achilles tendon that happened in the second match at the start of last season.

Other users of anti-spin include Terry Carlisle and Joe Cope, both former junior champions. Joe's defensive game has been strengthened by his new bat, but Terry, normally an attacking player, is finding the new surface difficult to master but, without it, he has problems in returning better spin services.

WESTERN LEAGUE NOTES

by Grove Motlow

SURPRISE WIN

SALISBURY, making a welcome return to the League, opened their campaign with a surprise 7-2 home win over Newbury. But, in fairness to the visitors, they were without their 'stars' Duncan Campbell, Arthur Chilvers and Derek Basden.

For Salisbury, Bill Moulding and Chris Shetler both obtained maximums at the expense of Dave Wise, Dick Kozlowski and Andy Schooler, while Terry Bruce beat Wise.

Plymouth had a comfortable 8-1 home win against Weston with Bob Parkins and Keith James on 'max' and Dave James losing to Jim Andrews. Newport, at home to Weston, won 7-2 with a 'max' from Angie Evans and two wins each by John Bloomer and Roy Ward.

Bristol's young team made a very encouraging start when Jeff Douglas, John Marshall and Chris Sewell accounted for Weymouth 6-3. This was an excellent encounter with the "man of the match" tag going to Syd Brice who played brilliantly for his three victories for Weymouth. Young Sewell, Bristol's 13-year-old starlet, again showed excellent promise and did well to take Brice to a deciding game.

Salisbury followed up their victory over Newbury by beating Weston, away, 7-2, Weston's only successes came from their old stalwart Ray Philpott who beat Bruce and Moulding. For the visitors, Shetler had a good maximum bearing Paul Drew, Joe Garland and Philpott.

Bristol had another good win when they visited Newport and triumphed 7-2. Sewell and Marshall paved the way to victory with three wins each, Douglas losing to Evans and Bloomer.

In the Women's Division, the strong Plymouth team of Mavis Scott, Nancy Hollywood and Barbara Pearson proved far too strong for visiting Weston who were beaten 9-0. Devizes had a hard home match against Exeter losing 4-5 after being 4-3 in front. Pam Mortimer and Valerie Addicott were responsible for the sting in the Exeter tail.

For Devizes, Alison Boyce was undoubtedly their 'star' winning all her

three including a brilliant 17, 10 triumph over Pam Mortimer. Pam and Maureen Spray each won two for Exeter while Val Addicott won the all-important last set against Helen Rusby.

Devizes were also concerned in another close match, away to Newport but, on this occasion, they won 5-4 after being 3-4 down. Helen Rusby and Alison Boyce came up 'trumps' in the last two sets. Both Betty Jones and Barbara Roden beat Margaret Alexander and Helen Rusby but found Alison Boyce just too good.

Away to Weston, Newport won 5-4. With the score standing at 4-3 in Weston's favour, Betty Jones beat Barbara Dickason to level and, in the final set, Gwen Hazell clinched victory for Newport by beating Elizabeth Taylor having previously lost to Ann Wilson and Barbara Dickason.

NORTHANTS NOTES

by Gwyn Powell

A GIANT STRIDES ON

At last month's meeting of the Northants' Association the committee learned, with mixed feelings, that its match secretary for the past two and a half years, Cyril Lakeland would be leaving the county early in the new year to take up a new appointment on an estate just over the Welsh border in the Abergavenny area.

Since moving to Castle Ashby, Cyril has put in a tremendous amount of work for table tennis at local, league and county levels. He was instrumental in setting up a social club at Castle Ashby and quickly turned this into one of the best single-table venues in the county and one in which everyone loves to play. He has served in various capacities on both the Wellingborough and Northampton league committees and could always be relied upon to put in sterling work at any of the local tournaments, transporting tables, erecting lighting, umpiring, organising and clearing up.

As County Match Secretary, Cyril worked wonders at improving communications within the county and the general presentation of matches. He launched several schemes for raising money from local firms in support of County affairs two notable ones being that which floated last season's enlarged County handbook which was distributed to all players in Northants and this season's effort which has raised enough money to sponsor a series of training/coaching sessions for second, third or fourth string juniors from all over the county, at the Weavers Road Sports Hall, Wellingborough which are now taking place.

Cyril is not severing his connections with table tennis as his many friends may well have guessed and he has already been in touch with the Welsh Association and the Abergavenny league and doubtless will very soon be back in harness in his new surroundings. What has been a considerable loss to Northamptonshire will thus surely be Abergavenny's and probably Monmouthshire's gain. Thank you for all you have done, Cyril, good luck to you and your family in your new venture.

YORKSHIRE NOTES

by Tony Ross

NAY, JIM LAD!

Although performing creditably for Yorkshire against Warwickshire, Middlesbrough's Jimmy Walker found the early season tough going at Yorkshire League level, where Sheffield's David Rayner and David Sykes, and Bradford's Bob Shutt and Ian Gomersal can all boast of victories over the England No. 10. Trevor Taylor turned out for Middlesbrough against Sheffield, together with Walker, Alan Ransome and David Alderson, and no further concessions were granted to the Sheffield quartet — Rayner, Sykes, Brian Broadhurst and Roy Brothwell—who went down 8-2. A youthful Teesside second team was, however, no match for the south Yorks. side, who won this one 7-3, with Sykes and Broadhurst unbeaten.

Newly promoted to Division 1, Bradford II earned their first points with a 6-4 win over Leeds, with Paul Cottenham and Richard Priestley winning all their singles for Bradford. Hull began with convincing 10-0 and 8-2 wins over Bradford II and Doncaster but have lost Neil Fulstow, now resident in London. In Division 2, Halifax registered a meritorious 7-3 over newly relegated Hull II.

Newcomers Wharfedale & Airedale won their first two encounters in Division 5, but fellow freshers Keighley had no such fortune in their first match.

In the Women's Division, Middlesbrough got away to a fine start with three victories in succession. Could the fact that Middlesex ex-junior international Sheila Hamilton is now domiciled on Teesside have anything to do with it?

The huge Junior Division has 14 teams, with Middlesbrough a strong bet to retain the "M. D. Shaffner" Shield for this division. However, the Middlesbrough attack was blunted slightly in the 7-2 defeat of Leeds, for whom Glenn Dodds defeated county-ranked boys Andrew Kilburn and Stephen Jennis.

Ormesby opened their defence of the "Montague Burton" Challenge Cup for the men's club championships by defeating Bradford Hermits 6-0, but last year's beaten finalists, Barnsley North End, went out in the first round, beaten 5-4 by the Shipley Conservatives trio of John Page, Mick Holt and Andy Holdsworth.

In the county championships Yorkshire's teams have started well, with the second junior team's 9-1 defeat of Durham probably the most noteworthy.

One of the drawbacks of a county the size of Yorkshire is the distance people have to travel, but despite this, county coaching at Bradford's Parkside Centre, organised by the new county coaching and development sub-committee, shows signs of promise. County Coaching Secretary Geoff Barnes, at 137 Canterbury Crescent, Boothtown, Halifax, can supply details of the monthly sessions, held on Sundays, which are for juniors of inter-league standard or near, and nominated in advance by their

leagues. Also involved behind the scenes are E.T.T.A. Northern Staff Coach Peter Simpson and Liaison Officer Cyril Villiers of the Yorkshire & Humberside Sports Council. The next two sessions are on 17th December and 14th January — League Coaching Secretaries please note!

Congratulations to Huddersfield's No. 1 and county No. 9 John Kedge, and wife Lynda, who were married at St. John's, Moortown, Leeds, on 21st October last. A welcome also to Selby, who recently decided on county and national affiliation.

LEICESTERSHIRE NOTES

by Philip Reid

Leicester's early season 8-2 defeat at the hands of Birmingham has virtually killed the team's hopes of retaining the Mens 1st Division title. Birmingham were without Desmond Douglas and Derek Munt but were still too good for Leicester for whom only Paul Randell could win anything.

In the Men's 2nd Division, Leicester have lost all three matches to date. An indication of the reliance placed on skipper Colin Truman will be gauged from the fact that he has won five of the seven sets they have been able to collect. The juniors have made a good start, however, and there are high hopes in this direction.

The women, too, with an 8-2 win, followed by one of 10-0, could also be amongst the championship challengers. Having played powerful sides Coventry and Oxford, the veterans will doubtless be hoping for better things from their remaining matches. A rather modest start to the season apart from the juniors and women.

Hinckley have entered no less than three men's teams with Chris Brewer replacing the retired McLeish. They will have to pull out all the stops to finish in a reasonable position but in Newman, Iliffe and Brewer they have three real fighters. Hinckley's other two teams are unlikely to escape the lower regions of division three but they are certain to benefit from the experience of playing at this standard.

Loughborough have perhaps had the best start. The Men's team won 9-1 (v. Hinckley 'B'); the juniors have won both their matches as have the intermediates — 5 out 5!

In the Leicestershire Towns League, Leicester 'A' and Hinckley 'A' alone remain unbeaten but Raul Sanchez gave Hinckley a fright when he beat both Brewer and Newman. A good performance.

The Rose Johnson Bowl is running well, thanks to the co-operation of most clubs and even doubling the entry fees has not affected its popularity — it resulted in an increase of entries!

A welcome to the Market Harborough League who have joined our ranks. They have had a rather 'up and down' existence having been affiliated to Leicestershire, Northamptonshire and for a while nobody. We are of course delighted to have them back in the fold and there is little doubt that Ian Nicoll is the man

mainly responsible. He has been working like a trojan behind the scenes and I am hoping to persuade a top name player to attend the finals of the Market Harborough Championships on May 2.

There is plenty of work going on behind the scenes for the English Junior Closed Championships, being held at Loughborough on Dec. 30. Reg Billson, as usual, has accepted responsibility for much of the work and there is little doubt this popular man has done as much as anyone to put Loughborough where it is — firmly imprinted on the table tennis map.

Yes, there's plenty happening in the Hunting shire!

SUSSEX NOTES

by ROBIN PIERCE

CONFLICT ON ELIGIBILITY

CONTROVERSY will abound at the next meeting of the Sussex Executive where a proposal to bar players from the Sussex 'Closed' will be considered.

It is thought, in many quarters that, players representing other counties in C.T.T.C. matches should remain content with taking part in the closed tournament of their county of choice. Should the Sussex Committee back this line people such as Roger Chandler, already the champion on seven previous occasions, Alan Hydes and Mike Johns would be left sitting on the sidelines.

For over 30 years the Brighton League has run the Sussex 'Closed' and their chairman, Paul Woosnam, was not very happy at the last County meeting over the effects that the new proposals might bring.

Much to Mr. Woosnam's astonishment, his own league committee, in slightly amended form, backed the proposals by 15 votes to 8.

Brighton will ask the County to defer putting the regulations into operation until next season as their plans for this season's tournament are well advanced.

There would appear to be little doubt that most leagues will fall into line with Brighton but there could still be some opposition from one or two prominent Sussex officials.

The best thing of all would be a national policy for 'Closed' Tournaments coming from the game's new H.Q. in Hastings.

Nine towns entered the Junior League Competition and the finalists are Brighton and Crawley. There has been a mini-revival in the junior game at Brighton and it is good to see them somewhere near the top again.

But Brighton have little hope of defeating the New Town lads in the final, due to be played early in 1973. Crawley, led by England No. 11 junior, Gerald Pugh, can call on the top juniors in Sussex.

Arthur Downer, injured in a road accident three months ago may be leaving Derby Royal Infirmary any day. He tells me that he still has to face many months of treatment, however.

Although Arthur's chances of playing this season are slim he has every

hope of showing the lads the way home next September.

Peter Wales, Nelson's leading player in the Worthing League last season, has retired from competitive play. Rather a pity for Peter, an ex-county player, could still show most of the youngsters what this game is all about.

His retirement does explain, however, why Nelson withdrew from the 1st Division of the Worthing League after having been placed there against their wishes.

The club had only two players for this section, Pat and Linda Wales. I hardly think that these two would have been able to survive against three-man teams in the League's top division.

NORFOLK NOTES

by J. S. Penny

ACTIVITY PLUS

NOVEMBER has seen the East Anglian League very active. In Div. 1, Norwich travelled to Wisbech and won 8-2, and at Norwich, the home side beat Beccles 7-3, Beccles' three successes coming from Simon Ball, who beat Chris Bensley and Bob Mitcham, and, with Sara Henderson, took the Mixed against Mitcham and Freda Burrell.

In Div. 2, Norwich 'B' lost the first three sets against Wymondham 'B', but fought back for a 5-5 draw. In their next match, at home to Lowestoft, Norwich fielded their three Junior boys, Peter Burton, Trevor Bunn and Dougie Bennett, the latter having a successful debut. Norwich 'B' won 8-2. In the Junior Division, Norwich also beat Lowestoft, this time away, and by the score 7-2. Helen Moffatt, recently awarded her "bronze", made her debut for Norwich.

The Coca-Cola Wilmott Cup this season includes Thetford, an enterprising move by this young league. They were drawn against Beccles, away. In the Coca-Cola J. M. Rose Bowl Norwich Ladies (Freda Burrell, Val Hartman and Pat Ross) made a hasty exit against Stowmarket at Bury St. Edmunds. The Coca-Cola Carter Cup for Junior Boys sees Yarmouth at home to Wisbech and Norwich to Stowmarket.

Results in the English Schools' U-19 include Yarmouth G.S. 7, Attleborough S.M. 1, and Hamond's (Swaffham) 5, Norfolk College of Arts and Technology (King's Lynn) 3. And, in the Norfolk Schools' U-19, Hamonds beat Long Stratton 6-2.

Yarmouth League have held their Handicap Tournament and this time it was won by that young lady, Lesley Reed, the Norfolk Junior. In the final she defeated Wes. Haydock.

All eyes are beginning to turn to the 26th Norfolk Closed to be held at the University of East Anglia on Dec. 10.

League tables show Lad's Club top of Norwich Premier. At Dereham, Cranes beat Beetley to forge ahead of defending champions Hippos 'A', but Hippos have a game in hand.

NORTHUMBERLAND NOTES

by Pauline Jackson

FOOTSTEPS TO FOLLOW

THE recent County trials, held in the Canteen of the Dept. of Health and Social Security, Newcastle-on-Tyne, resulted in the following ranking lists:—

Men: 1 Peter Hoyles; 2 Alan Jones; 3 Terry Hart; 4 David Armstrong; 5 Malcolm McMaster; 6 Bill Arkle; 7 Joe McLeod; 8 Jo-jo Hanson; 9 Ron Kettlewell; 10 David Donaldson.

Women: 1 Barbara Kearney; 2 Lucille Clark; 3 Nancy Ferguson; 4 Pauline Jackson; 5 Florence Kauffman; 6 Daphne Russell.

Boys: 1 Andrew Clark; 2 Peter Clark; 3 Glenn McCardle; 4 Tony Walton; 5 Maurice Bowman; 6 Brian Howe.

Girls: 1 Barbara Kearney; 2 Lucille Clark.

The surprisingly low ranking of both Ron Kettlewell and Jo-jo Hanson can be explained by the fact that as neither player was able to attend the trials, they were given a nominal ranking until further information regarding performances was available.

Both Barbara Kearney and Lucille Clark came through the trials with flying colours, and as a result take over the Nos. 1 and 2 positions in the Women's rankings above County champion Nancy Ferguson who unfortunately was off-form on the day.

Barbara, who plays for Newcastle YMCA in Div. 1 and Lucille, who plays for West End B.C. in Div. 2B, have both achieved notable wins over some quite efficient male players; unfortunately, this will be the last season for both players as juniors, but there is no doubt that with their dedication they will both remain forces to be reckoned with in senior circles.

The Junior Boys' trials were held separately from the main event, and ranking turned out to be much as expected. The Clark brothers, Andrew and Peter, took over top positions; both boys play for Briarside Fandango in Div. 1. No. 3 Glenn McCardle, yet another product of North Shields YMCA, is also doing well in his first season in Div. 2B, and this summer was successful in reaching the Grand Finals of the News of the World national coaching scheme while at Butlin's Pwllheli camp.

The first three County matches of the season resulted in heavy defeats for both our senior teams, at the hands of Lancashire, but the juniors restored some prestige by beating Cumberland 7-3.

In this latter engagement the Clark brothers and Barbara Kearney were unbeaten. Barbara, in partnership with Lucille Clark, also took the girls' doubles — a title which, incidentally, they won at the recent Meadowbank Open.

It is the first time I can remember two brothers and a cousin playing on a County team at the same time. But they have a great tradition to follow, as Andrew and Peter are the sons,

and Lucille the niece, of Phil Clark, ten times women's champion of Northumberland. It should be interesting to see if any of them can follow in the footsteps of Maureen Robson (nee Heppell), another niece of Phil.

Several players and friends visited Bergen during the period October 26-November 2 as guests of the Bergen TTA. This is an annual event in which Newcastle and Bergen play each other in a series of matches for the North Sea Cup. There is also an invitation tournament which stretched over the weekend.

Barbara Kearney was our most successful player; she won the women's singles and doubles, with Pauline Jackson, plus the mixed with Peter Hoyles. Peter lost to Norway's Knut Havag in the men's singles final.

In the North Sea Cup match on the Monday we lost 2-3. While we won the women's and veterans' matches (Jim Jackson remaining undefeated in the latter), we lost heavily in the men's "A" and "B" team encounters and the men's doubles matches.

KENT NOTES

by Brian Jordan

The new Kent League season is now well under way. Champions of the Men's Section, Woolwich, made an encouraging start in defence of their title by beating Canterbury "A" 9-1, but their task was made much easier by the failure of Stan Brocklebank to turn up for Canterbury. Last season's runners-up, Bromley "A", also started well and with wins over Bromley "B" and Beckenham "B" have already shown they are well capable of recovering the title they last held at the end of the 1970-71 season.

In the Second Division it is another Bromley side, Bromley "C" who are the early pacemakers but their hopes of promotion can only be realised if Bromley "B" should be relegated from the first division as any one Association may not have more than two teams in the top division. Tunbridge Wells are the team that will be hoping for success in this division, for the Wells have never had a side in the first division of the league. Three points from their first two matches suggests that this could be Tunbridge Wells' year.

In the Junior Section Folkestone with five players ranked amongst the first ten juniors in the county will expect to retain the first division championship they won last season but they will need to watch out for the strong Bromley "A" and Tunbridge Wells "A" sides both of whom can include county-ranked players.

Canterbury in recent years have produced more Kent League junior players than any other Association and although they have twice missed the first division title by only one point they have made a habit of dominating the second division which they won in 1969-70, and 1970-71. This year their "B" team has made another good start and with two early wins over Tonbridge "A" and Medway "B" they top the table.

The Women's Section of the League

looks likely to be won again by Medway who include county player Mrs. Joyce Ellis. Medway's opening match was against Maidstone and their 7-3 victory included a win for Mrs. Ellis over her county team rival Mrs. Betty Bird.

In the second division, relegated Gravesend with two wins against Folkestone "B" and Canterbury, look likely to regain their first division place. The new Girls Section of the League will almost certainly be won by Sittingbourne as they have the top four ranked girls in the county and the only question is whether Folkestone can finish second.

Results:

Men's Section, Division One. Beckenham "B" 2, Beckenham "A" 8; Canterbury "A" 1, Woolwich "A" 9; Bromley "A" 7, Bromley "B" 3; North West Kent "A" 4, North West Kent "B" 6; Bromley "A" 9, Beckenham "B" 1; Sittingbourne 5, Bromley "B" 5; Beckenham "B" 4, Canterbury "B" 6; Beckenham "A" 8, Canterbury "A" 2.

Junior League, Division One. Folkestone "A" 8, Folkestone "B" 2; Tunbridge Wells "A" 10, Canterbury "A" 0; Canterbury "A" 6, Medway "A" 4; Ashford "A" 6, Bromley "A" 4.

STAFFORDSHIRE NOTES

by John Pike

WITH no county matches for Staffordshire last month, the local spotlight was fixed firmly on the Woodfield 1-star tournament at Wolverhampton. Officials at the club were delighted with a record entry with players coming for the first time from outside the Midlands. A local charity will certainly benefit from this and a full report will appear on the tournament in next month's issue. Wolverhampton, the town where there are more juniors than chapels in Cornwall, have been forced to withdraw their youngsters from the Midland League because no official will look after the team.

Never a dull moment at the Highfield centre these days. After deciding to give the schools' scene a miss this season and concentrate on Open tournaments, the school will now be the venue for squad training in the New Year. This means that some of the Midlands' top juniors will be coming to Wolverhampton once a fortnight to practice under the watchful eye of Bryan Merrett and local coach Jim Hayward. It was good to see the Highfield girls playing in the Midland open at Warley, no success, but the experience was worth a lot.

Talking to Roger Morris at the "Midland", he thought my forecast for Leicestershire's title hopes were a bit optimistic and he was convinced it was the year for Warwickshire seconds. As he is the new veterans champion of the Midlands, who am I to argue.

The upside down story of the month comes from West Bromwich where Warwickshire's No. 1 Jenny Cornock turned out for the home team against Birmingham in the Midland League. The result, an 8-2 win for West Bromwich.

Dorothy Deeley, who has been missed from the county scene this season, is expecting an addition to the family in April. Good luck Dot.

In the first round of the Coca-Cola competition West Bromwich drew a bye in both the Rose Bowl and the Carter Cup, while the men had a home tie with Nottingham.

As the Potteries is very much part of the county set up in Staffordshire, perhaps one of their officials can let me have some news of events in the north of the county to include in next month's issue.

WARWICKSHIRE NOTES

by Ron Anson

NO MATCH

In their first match upon returning to the top flight Warwickshire soon came face to face with the reality of what to expect in the Premier grade. Derek Munt, Richard Cooper, Ralph Gunnion, Brian Burn and Jenny Cornock were no match for Neale, Clayton, Walker and Judith Walker going down 9-0. When one considers that Jimmy Walker and Tony Clayton were probably only "standing in" for Alan Hydes and Nicky Jarvis, away in Japan, one can only envy the depth of talent in the Yorkshire Squad. Some confidence was restored when, with Douglas coming in for Cooper, Kent were beaten 6-3, but a hard struggle lies ahead.

The County 'B' team of Douglas, Judd, Glynn, Doreen Hazzard and Di St. Ledger, opened their account with a convincing 9-1 success over Gloucestershire. The Junior 'B' team of Pilgrim, Jones, Shropshire, Miss M. Williams and Miss C. Vines were rather disappointingly beaten by a Derbyshire team for whom Yallop was the outstanding performer.

Troubles continued for the 'B' side when Pilgrim and Jones were obliged to honour a schools' tournament commitment and were replaced for the Northants fixture by Horne and Wainwright. With Margaret Allen coming in for Christine Vines, the eldest player was only 14! Not surprisingly the occasion proved to much and they suffered a 9-1 reverse which did not do justice to these youngsters who fought hard and were only just edged out in many of the games.

The Veterans, making their first venture at County level, were successful in Staffordshire with Eric Edwards, Bill Dawson, Jim Peakman and Joyce Scott coming out on top 6-3.

In the Midland League, Isaac, Cooper and Judd overwhelmed Leicester 8-2 while Munt, Douglas and Isaac defeated Hinkley by the same score.

Giles, Dunne and Taylor accounted for Darlston to the tune of 7-3, but the women ("Andy" Jones, Doreen Hazzard and Di St. Ledger) have disappointed going under 7-3 to Nottingham and drawing with Worcester.

On the coaching scene it is intended to run 3 courses for student coaches at Nuneaton, Stratford and Birmingham while early application is advised for the Junior Course at Lilleshall (Jan. 1 to Jan. 5) cost £8-75, with Brian Merrett in charge.

Spotlight on India's Kaity Chargeman • • none quite like her



Kaity Chargeman (now Mrs. Khodaiji) who performed a unique hat-trick of hat-tricks by winning the triple crown for the third year in a row at the Hyderabad Nationals. Kaity has also played the star role in Maharashtra's supremacy in the women's team championship. For her excellence and sporting qualities, Kaity has been honoured with a string of awards, "Player of the year", the Arjuna Award, the Shiv Chhatrapati Award, the Sports Journalists' Association Bombay's "Sportsman of the year from Bombay" award, to mention a few.

Though the general standard has never been very high, some outstanding women players have graced the Indian table tennis scene. In their heyday, Sayeed Sultana, Meena Parande and Usha Sunderraj were formidable. But there has been none quite like Kaity Chargeman.

Miss Sultana reigned supreme between 1949 and 1955, winning the national crown five times in a row and six times in all. Miss Parande rose to dispute her superiority and succeeded to the crown thrice. Thereafter, Miss Sunderraj held sway. She is still an active player after becoming the national champion five times.

Comparatively, Miss Chargeman's third success in a row at the recent National at Hyderabad may appear modest. But then she claimed the mixed and women's doubles events as well to complete a unique hat-trick of triple crowns. And what really stamps out this frail-looking 22-year-old Bombay girl is her mode of play. She can hit the ball almost like a man.

Comparisons are always not very apt. The style of a player often reflects the prevailing trends. Thus

it was perhaps that Miss Sultana and the rest developed as stonewallers. They developed a high degree of concentration and consistency in their returns but, with the exception of Miss Parande, they could seldom raise their hand in attack and clinch a point on their own. Often, they won all 21 points of a game and all three games of a match solely by courtesy of their opponents' mistakes.

Miss Chargeman, on the other hand, is never more happy than when she is pounding away. She believes in attack and does so with gusto on both flanks. Only an extraordinary sound defensive player can keep her quiet but that too only for brief spells. Even as she is "pushing", she is biding her time to hit.

In this respect, it may be said that Kaity represents the present generation of rebellious youth and mod fashions. But the switch from defence to attack isn't as easy as changing over from the conventional saree to the "mini". Otherwise, all the women table tennis players in the country today should be whacking away, which isn't the case. Hence it is that I said there has been none quite like Kaity.

How difficult it is to achieve a high degree of power and accuracy can be seen from the time and labour Kaity has had to devote to the game. She first caught the eye when she played in the Inter-School Tournament in 1963 and has ever since been devoting all her spare time every day to training sessions. And hers is not a story of success following success.

It was in 1964 that she secured her first women's singles title at the Mysore Association in Bombay, a "minor" affair. The very next season, however, there was a remarkable improvement in her play. She devoted the whole of the summer vacation to practice sessions with the boys at Matunga Gymkhana and, lo, she walked away with the first major title of the 1965 season at the P. J. Hindu Gymkhana.

During the Jullundur National that followed, Kaity tasted her first big success. She was a member of the victorious Maharashtra team, won the women's doubles with Prisca Rosario and the mixed event with Farrokh Khodaiji. Kaity and Khodaiji have remained unbeaten till today.

Still, the highest honour, the singles crown, eluded her. In 1966 and '68, she was beaten by Usha Sunderraj and in 1967 by Prisca Rosario. Even though Prisca had declined (she is now in Australia), Usha Sunderraj remained a formidable obstacle. Till the start of the 1969 season, Kaity had beaten Miss Sunderraj only once in a zonal competition.

For a time it looked as though all Kaity's attacking prowess would not be enough to penetrate the "iron curtain" that was Usha's defence.

Far from becoming discouraged, Kaity applied herself with greater fervour and determination. She was also quietly preparing a new tactic. When the two clashed during the West Zone Championship at Nagpur that year, Kaity did not plunge once again into attack. Instead, she relentlessly kept pushing the ball and keeping the game going. Soon her plan was obvious. Kaity wanted the expedite rule to be enforced. Under the rule, the rivals will have to serve alternately and claim a point within 12 strokes once a game has been in progress for 15 minutes. The moment the rule was enforced, Kaity swung into attack once again and ran away with the match.

"I won all right, but I got a headache, too", Kaity told me at the end of the match but, then, she had just found the cure to the biggest headache on her path to the national crown.

Kaity became the national champion for the first time in 1969 at Bangalore, the home town of Usha Sunderraj. With each year, she has been widening the disparity in the standards between her and the rest. She would have had the amazing distinction of remaining unbeaten in three National Championships in a row had she not lost to Rupa Mukherjee, of Bengal, in the team championship earlier this year. The mental "pressure" proved too much for her and it showed that Kaity is only human after all.

Kaity has placed herself on a high pedestal not simply by switching her style of play but through sheer application. She is so devoted to the game that she has few other interests. Her fighting spirit is such that she brings out her best when lesser mortals would simply crack down. In the semi-final of the recent National, for instance, she was once again struggling against her old foe, Usha Sunderraj. Kaity trailed by two games to nil and then unaccountably slumped from 9-3 to 9-14 in the fifth and final game. But she rose splendidly to the occasion and won the match at 21-19.

Since the Table Tennis Federation of India dubbed women players as sub-standard they were denied an opportunity to go abroad for the World and Asian Championships. When she at last got the chance after much persuasion and pleading by various quarters, Kaity immediately proved everyone wrong. She was instrumental in gaining India the 15th position at the World Championships in Japan last year, just one place behind what the men achieved. Not only that, she put up a courageous fight against some of the most renowned players in the world. She was also India's star player at the recent Afro-Asian in Peking.

Even today, Kaity looks just like a schoolgirl but the amazing power behind her strokes is the result of constant practice and timing. She has shown what a "little girl" can achieve. The national champion always inspires the up-and-coming player. Thus Kaity's refreshing approach, her devotion and her impeccable conduct on and off the table ought to serve as a shining example to the coming generation of players. Truly has Kaity set a new trend.

RATING RELIEF

"THE LAW"

Rating authorities are county borough councils, non-county boroughs, urban and rural district councils. Rates to be paid depend upon the poundage in respect of the rateable value.

Responsibility for rating valuation lies with the Department of Inland Revenue who work through local Valuation Officers. Valuation lists are available at council offices for public examination.

Under the Rating and Valuation Act, 1961, local authorities have power to grant relief to charitable and other organisations concerned with sport and recreation.

(a)—Mandatory Relief

Charities, or trustees of charities, registered under the Charities Act, 1960, who occupy property that is wholly or mainly used for charitable purposes can apply for rating relief. Where such applications are made local authorities are bound to grant 50% mandatory relief.

(b)—Discretionary Relief

Where property is occupied by a club, society, or other organisation not established or conducted for profit, and wholly or mainly used for recreational purposes, application may be made for rating relief.

The granting of such relief is entirely at the discretion of the local authority as the best judge of the local conditions. According to the local authority's assessment of the value of the club, society or organisation to the general welfare of the community the percentage may vary from 0-100%.

Discretionary relief may be granted either year by year, for a term of years not exceeding five or for an indefinite period terminable by a year's notice.

If relief is refused there is no legal redress, nor is there provision for appeal to any other body. There is, however, no reason why an application should not be repeated from time to time.

The eligibility of a charity to receive mandatory relief does not preclude the granting of further discretionary relief.

In the summer of 1966, the Yorkshire and Humberside Sports Council set up a sub-committee which looked into the discretionary rate relief granted by local authorities in the region to sports clubs.

DOES YOUR CLUB PAY RATES? IF SO, HAVE YOU APPLIED FOR RELIEF???

The Editor is grateful to Mr. Cyril Villiers of the Yorkshire and Humberside Sports Council for his permission to publish the foregoing paper on "Rating Relief".

SCANDINAVIAN OPEN

Denis Neale (Yorks.), "Les" Haslam (Middx.), Jill Hammersley (Bucks.) and Karenza Mathews (Middx.) was the team selected to represent England in the Scandinavian Open Championships being held in Boras, Sweden from Nov. 24-26. Les Gresswell was the N.P.C.

35 Years of Change (or No Change?) in Table Tennis

by JACK CARRINGTON
ETTA Coaching Advisor

The French have a proverb for everything—one of them is "the more things change, the more they are the same". How true is this of Table Tennis?

I should be well placed to consider this question as a veteran of 35 years of competition or active coaching play.

What does remain the same in the Table Tennis scene?

Unchanged:

The Table; the size and weight of ball; the scoring procedure, and the eternal optimism of the players.

Changes:

The Net: Height reduced from 6 $\frac{3}{4}$ " to 6", around 1937.

The Ball: Yellow now allowed (under certain conditions) in addition to white. Quality about the same as ever—some say "just as difficult as ever to find a perfect one", but I personally believe this is due to the fact that more people know a good one when they see it, and so they are quickly taken.

New materials now allowed, but yet to prove themselves.

Lighting: No change in principle, but for wider appreciation of the need for light over the whole arena, not just the table. Modern techniques demand much higher lighting fitments.

Umpiring: Greatly improved in many countries. International exchange groups—great!

Bats: In 1935 the plain pimped rubber bats held 95% sway, with a few players still using plain wood, sandpaper facing, cork facing, etc.

Today it is 90% sponge rubber facing materials, with a few players using "pimped" facing, etc. Cork and sandpaper are not allowed now.

Despite passionate debate about the facing materials, which very nearly split the International Federation, the legal position has not been changed much.

Even in 1935, sponge or "sandwich" bats were permitted (and sometimes used), but today the thickness is limited.

Colours: Legally, no change—light colours, dazzles, etc., are still banned. There is a colour code but it appears to be operated by colour-blind judges. I am pleased about this; I still believe that white is an unfair colour (when using a white ball), but bright modern colours put new life into the whole game.

Dress: When I started, "real" T.T. players wore the proper dress—grey shirts, grey pullover, long grey trousers, or grey middi-skirts, grey

socks and grey rubber shoes, with heels. The heels are coming back in a way, in the modern training shoe, but for the rest—look around you.

It is a pleasing change that now, Table Tennis is automatically linked with proper sports dress, yet still offers scope for levels of colour.

Juniors: Until 1939 the limit was under-18, now it is under-17. But then, very few players entered the game until they were 16. Nowadays some of them start at 8 and consider retiring at 16!

Veterans: No change—40 was the age and 40 it remains, although the U.S.A. have discreetly named categories of "seniors", over 35, and "Esquires" over 50. Worth looking into?

Coaching: Of course an enormous change has occurred; in 1935, you were on your own, life was itself very competitive and this suited most of us. Today in many countries, professionally organised and nationally-sponsored networks of teaching and training centres offer almost any youngster a good start. In the home countries, our tolerant philosophy dictates that all shall share the opportunities available from communal funds; most other countries spend their resources in re-inforcing the elite talents of their Youth, arguing that this gives a "spin-off" to inspire the ordinary mortals.

In 1935, such a debate would have been purely theoretical!

PLAYING STYLE?

Some welcome changes here. Faster exchanges, fitter players at many levels, more inventiveness in the strokes. True the harmonious rhythms which delighted the spectator of 1935 are disrupted, but possibly "harmonious" might mean "sleepy" to today's onlooker? We have lost some of the poetry in favour of blank verse—but we have also lost some of the dullest prose!

Could we claim again "no change" because it is true that penholder players were dominant well before 1930 and are again? Not really, the "penholders" of today more resembles his shake-hands opponents than his 1930 predecessors. The styles are merging to "the same".

PLAYING TECHNIQUES:

Believe me these are the same, only better. We saw all today's techniques of spin service, half volley, looping, sidespin drives, in 1935, but they were not so fast in flight, not so emphatic in spin, partly because the bats of the day gave only a small range of variation in their bounce and spin.

But today's development is only possible due to the wide range of elasticity-ratios and rebound-ratios in the bats.

Along with this goes a wider range of elasticity and rebound in the players' bodily movements.

Service: Change: Finger spinning banned (1937). BUT "No change": the higher spinning-power of sponge bats now produces comparably difficult services!

Change: Service may now start outside the side-lines.

Doubles: Change: It is now compulsory for the partners to reverse their playing sequence in successive games.

Time-limits: Change: The marathon

type of game has been banned—a change nobody regrets.

PERSONALITIES:

Top men do not change. They always are the skilled men who do not kick against the odds of life and sport, but adapt their talents to them.

There is a change near the middle level, however. In 1935 no "apprentice" could hope to **blast** through the legions of moderately talented experienced workmen. By the time he did, the fire might have gone from him.

With today's techniques, youthful fire and speed can break through several of the lower ranks before having to pause for serious work.

ADMINISTRATION:

Change: Professional administration at national level, financial sponsors, money prizes, etc.

But no change—still thousands of good hearted sportsmen in voluntary associations for both the fun and the chores of our great sport.

WHAT THE PAPERS SAY

KEITH WATTS, a member of the ETTA's Management Committee and an Honorary Life Member, has been presented with a silver tankard in recognition of his 25 years' service — 18 of them as chairman — with the Sussex County T.T.A.

London Evening News, 7.11.72.

TREVOR TAYLOR, England's No. 2 table tennis player who declined to accept the conditions required for the international training squad, is omitted from the team to meet West Germany in the European League at Leeds on Nov. 21. But Taylor's return may not be long delayed. It is understood he has changed his mind and is now ready to comply.

Daily Mail, 7.11.72.

CHESTER BARNES is back in training and raring to go for the big prize money available in top table tennis. And that's bad news for his tournament opponents!

I've always said Barnes, the Cockney playboy, could be world champion if his dedication matched his talent. Now 25, he is still at loggerheads with officials and is out of favour with the England selectors because of his unpredictability over the years.

Barnes is also serving a 12-month suspension by his county, Essex. But though unlikely to represent his country or county this season, he remains the major threat to tournament opponents now he is back in serious training.

Denis Neale, England's No. 1 and Chester's greatest rival over the years, had already won more than £600 in tournament prize money in the first few weeks of this season. But he can't rest easy now he knows Chester is back on the warpath.

Johnny Leach, News of the World,

5.11.72.

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From the Editor's Postbag

MEMORIES REVIVED

The picture on Page 26 of the October issue of Table Tennis News brought back to me many memories of that memorable match.

I first got interested as an official in season 1928-29, for the London League, when I was working for Spalding Bros. who I left in 1936. The Villa rights were bought from J. M. Rose by Spalding Bros.—C. Kitchenside was our Manager at the time—and the tables for the 1935 Worlds at Wembley were supplied by Spaldings. The late A. J. Wilmott was in charge of equipment—that's when I was brought into the picture.

R. D. Jones of West Ealing was co-opted to try out the tables before a final decision was made to use Villa equipment. It was then my job to get all the tables 'knocked in' at my club, A.P.V., before the great day arrived to deliver them to Wembley.

The table on finals night was put on a built-up platform, approx. 18ins. high. It was in the second game that Michael Szabados, in trying to retrieve a long ball from Victor, crashed off the platform and cut the palm of his hand. This was plastered before he could continue.

It was in the last game, when the score stood at 18-17 — I am not certain who was in the lead—when Victor got cramp in his right arm. Massage was applied for what seemed a long time before he could continue. But, upon resumption he made three or four 'winners' on the trot to give him the match. Tickets for Wembley in those golden days were more difficult to get than those for the Cup Final.

This same table was retained by my club and anyone who played against A.P.V. T.T.C. from 1935 onwards can say I played on the same table as the great Victor Barna.

During the later years of the war, this same table was loaned to Victor (who knew we still had it) to give exhibitions to H.M. Forces. Alec Brook also went on this tour.

When the table was finally returned to me, Victor told me it had entertained many of our lads in uniform in its 35,000 miles of travel, and could he buy it off us as he had got very much attached to it. But how could I sell it when so many great players of the era had used it, including the three musketeers—Barna, Bellack and Szabados?

You may say how did I know what took place on finals night. Well, I was there, accompanied by my wife who had been with me throughout the tournament, and who had assisted me with the various odd jobs. That's us on the front row, behind the umpire's left shoulder. My wife even remembers wearing a brown coat with a fur collar!

I wonder how many people officiating during that great tournament, being present on that particular night,

are still trying to do their bit for T.T.?

C. F. JOYCE,
Chairman, Surrey T.T.A.

84, Tinsley Lane,
Crawley, Sussex.

FEEDBACK FROM LEA GREEN

"For once, a course with equilibrium"

I felt that Peter Simpson, added a new dimension to table tennis coaching at Lea Green for the week-end: 20th to 22nd October.

He helped to broaden a narrow outlook on table tennis coaching by introducing into table tennis coaching, lectures on: Skill, Learning, Decision Making related to Stroke Play, Training Practice and Match Play, and Equilibrium with Practicals related to the lectures.

After I'd participated in coaching for two years, I began to wonder if there was something lacking. The young players seemed to lack something different: "That indeterminate something", but what? I've read articles taken from the Japanese magazines and the first thing that struck me was their attitude to the game. They are workmen, they are players who analyse their own game, i.e. they think about it! They adopt good ideas, they allow peculiarities which fit naturally into a style of a player, only if it isn't detrimental to a player's future performance. But do we as coaches know what to allow. I thought Peter Simpson, helped to clarify these points through his carefully prepared lectures.

The course at Lea Green echoed the need of individuality in the new "up and comings". The course provided the equipment for a coach to be able to think about the game and pre-determine his results. There are too many coaches who follow the proverbial book; I think this is good, if you can't think and it's better than resting on unrevised laurels 25 years old!

The next time I coach, I hope I am a better coach and do not think that my only problem is: "What exercise shall I give them?" But instead, "Is this exercise suitable for this type of attitude and is it natural for his build?" Or "Is this stroke suitable for him?" Also, "is this stance suitable for his build?" What it all boils down to is: "Why change something that might be basically good in a beginner and that is akin to his nature and build".

The only question that the course failed to answer was: "When will there be a similar course?"

AVO SUBRIS,

(Secretary, Bradford Schools'
Table Tennis Association).

20 Cornwall Crescent,
Baildon, Shipley, Yorks.

P.S. The course met with overwhelming approval from all the coaches present and the discussions after the course did not even end at the Yew Tree!

CHALK AND TALK

I was asked by John O'Sullivan to pen a few words by way of comment upon the course for coaches held in October, at Lilleshall.

In Peter Simpson's own words this course was "something of an experiment in the table tennis world".

My verdict, and that of a fellow coach who travelled with me from the South, certainly different from the usual "coaches' weekend", and proof enough that there is room for the chalk and talk approach to coaching.

What in concrete terms did the course give us? Firstly, food for thought and secondly an answer—in part — to that nagging question of where we, as coaches, should be going.

Full marks to Peter for an original approach. There needs must be follow-up courses of a similar nature, since we were able only to skim the surface of the subject at this initial session.

With time between in which to experiment, we both look forward to the next meeting up North (unless, of course, Peter and Harry Dignan are invited to pass on their ideas to groups here in the Southern counties!).

HARRY BEASLEY

2 West Wing,
"Merrylee",
Rickmansworth Road,
Northwood, Middlesex.

ENOUGH SAID!

I SEE from the County Championships Round-up notes in the November issue that the only reason I beat "Les" Haslam in the Surrey/Middlesex match was because he had changed his bat rubber that day.

Middlesex are rather famous for their blatantly unsporting comments but I should point out that "Connie" Warren beat "Les" 17 and 11 after changing his rubber only a few hours before the match.

ROGER CHANDLER

44 Oakdale Road,
Streatham, London S.W.16.

TAYLOR YET AGAIN!

Trevor Taylor was the winner of the Halex Middlesex 3-Star Open over the weekend of Dec. 2-3. A report of these championships together with the Southend 2-Star — also won by Taylor—will appear in the January issue.

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Now that a third of the season has gone by, the remaining stocks of Diaries are now on sale at 10p each or £1 per dozen (no postage).

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BERKSHIRE NOTES

by Robin Lockwood

GIRLS BADLY MISSED

THE Royal County has started its first season in Division 2 South with a draw against Sussex II. Berkshire II, in the Southern division, also picked up a point with a draw against Hertfordshire II. Berkshire juniors badly missed the numbers 1 and 2 girls in their match against Surrey II and were well beaten 8-2. Surrey had won the first eight sets before Paul Trout and Alan Hicks pulled a couple back for Berkshire — Paul beating Matthews by a score of 23-25, 21-18, 26-24!

In the first half of the Berkshire Competition, played at the Bracknell Sports Centre on Sunday, Nov. 19, the towns finished as follows:

MEN'S DIVISION 1

- 1—Newbury (5 wins)
- 2—Reading 'B' (4 wins)
- 3—Reading 'A' (3 wins)
- 4—Didcot 'A' (2 wins)
- 5—Maidenhead 'A' (1 win)
- 6—Bracknell 'A' (0 wins)

MEN'S DIVISION 2

- 1—Maidenhead 'B' (5 wins)
- 2—Didcot 'B' (4 wins)
- 3—Reading 'C' (3 wins)
- 4—Bracknell 'B' (2 wins)
- 5—Maidenhead 'C' (1 win)
- 6—Didcot 'C' (0 wins)

LADIES

- 1—Maidenhead (4 wins)
- 2—Bracknell (3 wins)
- 3—Newbury (2 wins)
- 4—Reading 'A' (1 win)
- 5—Reading 'B' (0 wins)

BOYS

- 1—Reading 'A' (6 wins)
- Equal 2nd—
Maidenhead 'A' (5 wins)
- Newbury (5 wins)
- Equal 4th—
Reading 'B' (4 wins)
- Didcot (4 wins)
- Equal 6th—
Bracknell (2 wins)
- Reading 'C' (2 wins)
- 8—Maidenhead 'B' (0 wins)

GIRLS

- 1—Reading 'A' (4 wins)
- 2—Newbury (3 wins)
- 3—Reading 'B' (2 wins)
- 4—Bracknell (1 win)
- 5—Maidenhead (0 wins)

One or two surprises here. No doubt there will be some changes in the order following the second half of the competition due to take place on Jan. 14 again at the Bracknell Centre.

The current Berkshire ranking lists are as follows:—

Men: 1 A. Chilvers, 2 R. Thornton, 3 D. Basden, 4 D. Campbell, 5 N. Heaps, 6 R. Rosinski, 7 J. Tibbles, 8 R. Schoeder, 9 D. Wise, 10 N. Byng, 11 S. Montgomery, 12 D. Jacobs.

Women: 1 K. Mashford, 2 C. Reeves, 3 J. Taylor, 4 J. Smith, 5 J. Tyler, 6 S. Ryan, 7 C. Houghton.

Boys: 1 B. Sweetzer, 2 A. Hicks, 3 D. Reeves, 4 P. Trott, 5 S. Douglas, 6 A. Wellman, 7 G. Roberts, 8 T. Heaps, 9 A. Williams, 10 D. Hurley, 11 A. Wijeratne, 12 R. Moyse.

Girls: 1 K. Mashford, 2 C. Reeves, 3 S. Masters, 4 M. Johnson, 5 D. Foster, 6 C. Ingham, 7 G. Jones, 8 J. Thorpe, 9 M. Smith, 10 C. Rogers.

From the Editor's Postbag

APPRECIATION

We would like to express, through the medium of the magazine, our sincere appreciation of the fine demonstration of modern table tennis, laid on by Ken Mathews and Les Gresswell, by the English International Squad at the canteen of Silhouette (Salop) Ltd., Shrewsbury on Oct. 17 last.

This has certainly fired the imagination of the youngsters and put new life into many of the established players. There can be no doubt that this kind of exhibition will help to improve the game nationally and other associations and leagues would benefit by organising similar events.

Our sights are now set on an international fixture at Shrewsbury.

PADDY JACKSON,
Coaching Organiser,
Shrewsbury & Dist. T.T.A.

30 Broadway Close,
Sutton Farm,
Shrewsbury, Shropshire.

MACCABIAH GAMES — ISRAEL

by Frank H. Phillips

THE 9th Maccabiah Games are scheduled to take place in Israel next

July. These Games are described as the "Jewish Olympics" and are held every four years.

In addition to the events that make up the Olympic sports, table tennis and tennis are also included. In 1969 over 1,500 competitors from 27 countries took part in 21 different sports and it is hoped that in 1973 there will be an even greater number of entries.

In table tennis, this country has always provided one of the strongest and most successful teams. Our team last time came second in the men's team competition and Manchester's Jeff Ingber was the runner-up in the men's singles event.

Trials will be held in London next April and are open to any person of the Jewish faith. It is hoped to send a women's team as well. Application forms for the Trials can be obtained from the Maccabiah Organising Committee, 1 Manchester Square, London, W.1.

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Assistant Referee: S. E. FRANCIS (T.R.)

Organiser: G. M. DANIELS

Assistant Organiser: J. P. HERITAGE

—::—

PROVISIONAL TIMES OF PLAY

Thursday, January 4th—

6-00 p.m. Qualifying Competition.

Friday, January 5th—

9-00 a.m. Men's Singles 1st, 2nd and 3rd Rounds.
Women's Singles 1st and 2nd Rounds.

2-00 p.m. Men's Doubles 1st, 2nd and 3rd Rounds.
Women's Doubles 1st and 2nd Rounds.

6 00 p.m. Men's Singles Quarter Final and Semi-Final Rounds.
Women's Singles Quarter Final and Semi-Final Rounds.
Men's Doubles Quarter Final and Semi-Final Rounds.
Women's Doubles Semi-Finals.

Saturday, January 8th—

9-00 a.m. Mixed Doubles 1st, 2nd Quarter Final and
Semi-Final Rounds.
Consolation Events.

2-00 p.m. Finals.

The Referee reserves the right to modify or alter drastically the above, which is given purely for the guidance of intending competitors.

DIRECTIONS TO CRYSTAL PALACE N.S.C.

BUSES—154, 157, to Anerley Road, or 2, 3, 49, 63, 108, 137, 186, 227 to Crystal Palace Parade.

NEAREST STATION—Crystal Palace (S.R.) Station (two trains an hour from London Bridge and Victoria).

CAR PARK—Entrance in Ledington Road off Anerley Road.

TELEPHONE No.—01-778 0131.

TOUGH TASK AHEAD FOR TAYLOR



Trevor Taylor who will be defending his title at the Lancashire 2-Star Open at Bolton on Saturday, January 13th, 1973.

On January 14th, 1972, Trevor Taylor, the Essex left-hander, won the Men's Singles title at the 2-Star Lancashire Open Tournament against opposition that included, not only the top England players, but also the members of the Russian contingent who had played against England on the previous night in a European League match.

Taylor is expected to defend his hard-won title at the next Lancs. Open on Saturday, January 13th in Bolton but this time the going may be even more difficult than before.

On the previous evening in Bolton's Institute of Technology some sixteen top players of England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales plus the cream of the Continental countries that are at present members of the Common Market will be competing in the Government-sponsored "Fanfare for Europe" table tennis event and it is hoped that many of these players will be present at the Lancashire Open on the next day.

FUND RAISING FOR CLUBS by Alan J. Cavell

The easiest way for a club to raise money is to increase subscriptions and, for special purposes such as a new table, to have a whip round among all the members. Other ways require a special effort by a few members, an effective organisation and usually the co-operation from people who are not members of the club.

As small clubs cannot derive advantages from supporters sections and social membership it is desirable to have a constant drive for new members. Every extra member is a family group gained. Parents of juniors, wives and husbands of playing members and friends of all will support

the fund raising efforts of their club. Encourage new members to take part in some club activity other than playing table tennis.

County Associations and town leagues can raise money quite easily by joining in with the E.T.T.A. Lincoln Handicap lottery. Local clubs wishing to raise a quick £50 - £100 can also run their own lottery occasionally. The provisions of the Betting, Gaming and Lotteries Act of 1963 must be complied with.

Of possible social events, dances are usually the easiest for a club to run. Hire a hall and a band or D.J. and then sell enough tickets to more than cover the expenses.

Stalls at fetes usually involve much work and little financial gain: fete organisers usually reserve the most profitable stalls for themselves. Jumble sales and the collection of specified commodities for subsequent sale involve the willing co-operation of very many people and may give rise to storage problems.

Some voluntary National organisations lend, and sometimes give, money to clubs. They assist more willingly those clubs which contribute to their national fund raising efforts e.g. by providing personnel for flag days. The National Playing Fields Association has raised and distributed over £2½ million since it was formed in 1925.

Money is not "there" for the asking: people do not help people unwilling to help themselves. However, by the efforts of individual club members, money can be obtained to make their club an even better one: each club so improved makes itself more acceptable to those who require high standards of playing conditions and a pleasant social atmosphere and thereby improves its membership figures.

MIDDLESEX NOTES

by Laurie Landry

THE first of the Junior Premier Division weekends saw Middlesex with mixed fortunes at South Croydon. Starting with a 6-4 win over Cambridgeshire followed by a 3-7 reverse to Surrey, our youngsters then came up trumps with a brilliant 9-1 win over Essex who had earlier swamped Surrey! The effort puts us in second position behind the northern leaders, Yorkshire.

Every woman on the English ranking list was an entrant for our 3-Star Open at the Royal Horticultural Hall and it was nearly the same again in respect of the men.

The entire prize fund of £100 (in the form of gift vouchers) for the Middlesex 2-Star Junior Open to be played at Walford Sports Hall, Northolt on Jan 13/14 has been sponsored by Currys, retailers of Radio, TV and domestic electrical appliances.

Play commences at 9 a.m. on both days and the closing date is Friday, Dec 22. Don't forget to send off your entry form in good time. Remember it's Christmas time and postings will be heavy.

HERTFORDSHIRE NOTES

by R. Bridges

With a blank County calendar in November, only one County match has been played in the last month. In the Junior Division South our junior seconds lost 4-6 to Berkshire, played at the Barnet Centre on Oct. 28.

The move to Barnet suited Johnathon Proffitt (he was erroneously called Parfitt last month) winning his three sets in no uncertain terms. Colin Williams won the fourth. More second team debuts for Linda Towler, Denise Norris and Gary Harding. We have a keen team here in these five; it seems a pity if they have to be broken up but there are yet more who would jump at the chance of playing like eleven-year-old Gavin Booth and ten-year-old Adam Proffitt.

On Oct. 29 the senior trials were held, again at the Barnet Centre. Barry White, County No. 1, was absent due to business commitments, and of the 12 who attended everybody was beaten at least once.

Barbara Andrews was absent from the Women's section, Barbara Peters was unbeaten and in tremendous form.

The senior rankings will be dealt with at the next County Executive and be published in time for next month's magazine.

In the County Inter-Club competition, a lower entry than in previous years, but stronger in the Open Section.

Last year's winning team Swan Engineering (N. Herts.) have disbanded. Peter Taylor, ex-member of the winning team, will turn out for G. W. Kings (N. Herts.) who have been drawn to play Waltham Cross (Cheshunt) in the first round, who can call on Hampshire's Chris Pickard.

Beaten finalists last year, Hertford, must be favourites to win the com-

petition having added Barry White to the already strong Alan "Digger" Lanprell and Mark Mitchell. (N.B. They should also win the Cheshunt League and Cup).

Hertford's first match is away to ICL (Letchworth).

Intermediate section winners last year—Letchworth LTC—are led by Junior No. 1 Richard Jermyn. They move onto the Open section after promotion from N. Herts, Div. 2 to the Premier. They must stand a chance against Cheshunt II.

More entries than in recent years in the Women's section. The winning team of the competition should emerge from the first round tie involving Acorn (St. Albans) and Letch-

worth Settlement I.

The Herts. Inter-League competition is well under way. Cheshunt must be favourites to win the first division, for the third time in a row, with first team players Barry White, Chris Pickard, Mark Mitchell, Tina Pickard and Jane Hartwell.

HERTS. INTER-LEAGUE RESULTS

FIRST DIVISION
Bps Stortford 3 North Herts 7
Cheshunt 6 Cheshunt II 4
Cheshunt II 8 Bps Stortford 2
St. Albans 4 WGC/Hatfield 6

SECOND DIVISION
North Herts II 5 Cheshunt III 5
Hemel Hempstead 1 Hertford 9
Watford 7 WGC/Hatfield II 3

JUNIOR DIVISION
Cheshunt II 1 Cheshunt 9
St. Albans 5 WGC/Hatfield 5
Bps Stortford 9 Borehamwood 1
North Herts II 3 Cheshunt II 7

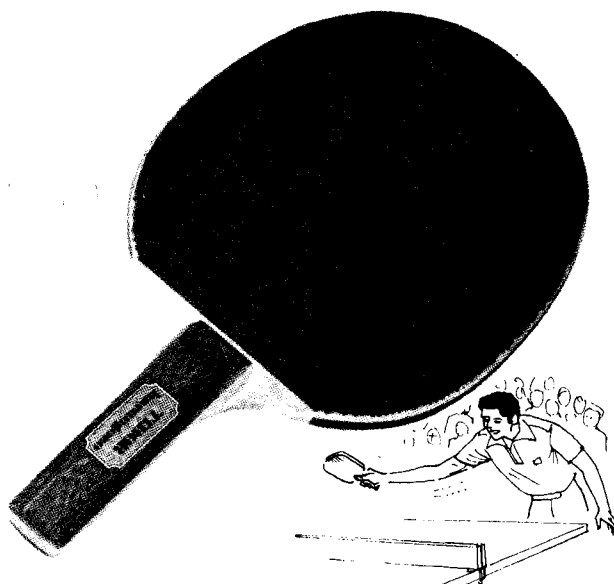
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has been discovered that each type of game requires a sponge rubber playing surface of a special texture — the right thickness and the correct wood. Under the brand name TIBHAR — INDIVIDUAL we have available six models, each one designed for a particular style of play.



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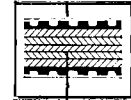
1. Light in weight — nicely balanced — attractively finished.
2. Completely new specially developed sponge rubber playing surfaces and wooden blades.
3. Unsurpassed adherence qualities, which enables instant control even with the fastest type of sponge rubber playing surfaces.

1. LEARN-BEG:

The playing surface on this bat has been specially developed for beginners. It blends a little of all table tennis sheet characteristics — speed — spin — control without allowing any one of these features to dominate. Reverse 1.5mm sponge rubber — colour black only.

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Reverse 1.5m.m. sponge rubber



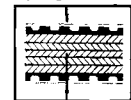
Specially selected 5 ply

2. LEARN-SPIN TOMI:

Extremely fast — has excellent ball control with special qualities for loop drive and counter looping drive. Reverse 1.8mm sponge rubber base — red only — individually boxed.

SUGGESTED RETAIL — £3.25 EACH

Reverse 1.8m.m. sponge rubber



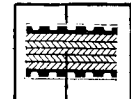
Specially selected 5 ply

3. DEFENSE:

Specially developed sponge rubber playing surface — with correct speed of wood for defensive play. Perfect for backspin strokes countering the loop drive and defensive counter attack. Reverse 1mm red and green — individually boxed. This bat was used by CHRISTIAN MARTIN of France who was undefeated in the recent team event of the European Youth Championships — as a result France are now the reigning European Champions.

SUGGESTED RETAIL — £4.50 EACH

Reverse 1 m.m. sponge rubber



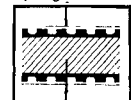
Specially selected 5 ply

4. CATA-SPIN TIBOR HA:

Specially developed sponge rubber to give catapult effect with a completely new type of fast single wood. Reverse 1.5mm red and green — individually boxed.

SUGGESTED RETAIL — £7.50 EACH

Reverse 1.5m.m. sponge rubber



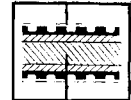
New ply 9m.m.

5. CONTROL-SPIN TIBOR:

This specially developed sponge rubber has an unsurpassable surface adherence, due to special glueing procedure and rubber combination. It is perfect for the looping drive and counter looping drive and also promotes excellent ball control. To secure these special characteristics the sponge rubber sheet is produced in 1.8mm thickness only. To produce the best possible playing qualities completely new 3-ply 9mm wood is used. Red only individually boxed.

SUGGESTED RETAIL — £9.00 EACH

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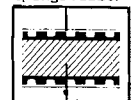
Specially selected 3 ply 9m.m.

6. SPEEDY SPIN TIBOR:

Possibly the fastest sponge rubber capable of imparting intricate spin which is available on the world markets, and because of its special adherence qualities one can acquire control very quickly. Completely new one ply 9mm wood. Reverse 1.5mm — red only. Individually boxed.

SUGGESTED RETAIL — £9.90 EACH

Reverse 1.5m.m. sponge rubber



Specially selected one ply 9m.m.

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CONTROVERSY

JOHN WOODFORD

looks at

THE MOBILE POT HUNTER

It would seem that the E.T.T.A. rules experts have never quite got to grips with the problem of the mobile pot-hunters — perhaps this is a problem that is better dealt with at league and county levels. Most of us have heard by now of a recent happening where a Midlands player became the closed champion of three counties and many instances of players winning three or more town titles.

Taking the leagues first, there seems no difficulty for a league who wishes to make its "closed" tournament closed. The best and most popular formula is to make a condition that a man (few women players seem to travel widely in search of trophies) must be required to play a certain number of local league matches in a season in order to qualify. I understand that some leagues state on their entry forms that players must play as many as 10 matches. The snag there is that some genuine reserve players could find themselves excluded from their town tournament.

I believe that Kent and Middlesex are two counties who have taken

steps in the right direction by making some fairly stringent regulations. For the organisers of a county "closed" there is quite naturally a fairly strong temptation to make the event fairly open by allowing any player who is a member of a club in the county to appear, even though he or she maybe appearing for another county in the County Championships.

But of course this could lead to a farce involving perhaps four very strong men, three of whom could be working or living in the county but whose allegiance in the County Championships is centred elsewhere.

I know of a county where moves are currently being made to rectify the situation. The surprising factor so far, is that most leagues in that county seem to have voted strongly in favour of sanctions and I have it on good authority that one of the star players who would be excluded from this forthcoming county "closed" has declared that he is in favour of the ban!

It may well be that the player has scented the wind of change but it

now seems to me a lot easier to introduce legislation on this controversial issue than I believed it was a year ago.

The recommendation is for leagues and counties who believe that the word "closed" should mean what it says to go ahead with confidence. There is bound to be opposition but it does seem that the day can be won on a majority vote. After all, there are plenty of "open" tournaments for these travellers to go to although we all know their chances of success on the open circuit are very considerably less — tough luck — but let's tie these "closed" events up tighter for the sake of the lesser players.

QUIZ TIME ?

with JOHN PIKE

With players and officials everywhere enjoying the Christmas break, I thought it would be appropriate this month to run a Christmas quiz. You can of course send in your answers earlier if you wish, but if you do it now or later in the month, I would like all entries to be sent to my home address, 15 Glendale Drive, Wombourne, Staffs., to arrive not later than first post on January 1st.

The three prize winners will be announced in the February issue of Table Tennis News.

QUESTIONS

1. When was the first table tennis international played in this country and who were England's opponents?

2. Can naturalised players represent England?
3. When was the E.T.T.A. formed?
4. Has table tennis ever been included in the Olympic Games?
5. Who was the only man to have been both president and chairman of the E.T.T.A. at the same time?
6. Can a player who has dropped his bat, return the ball with an empty hand?
7. Which player won a world singles championship at table tennis and then later in his career, won the men's singles trophy for tennis at Wimbledon?
8. How old was Ann Haydon when she first played table tennis for England?
9. The 2nd Commonwealth Championships will be held next March. Where?
10. Name two teams that will meet Scotland this season in the second division of the European League?

ANGLO-FRENCH DATE

ORIGINALLY listed for Feb. 26/73, the European League match between England and France, to be played at Aylesbury, Bucks., will now take place on Monday, Mar. 5/73.

The French team will obviously stay over after competing in the Norwich Union International championships at Brighton from Mar. 1-3.

It will be recalled that in the corresponding match last season, at Troyes, France brought off an astounding 6-1 victory.

SREMOS INTERNATIONAL ONE INCH TOURNAMENT TABLE

Words and pictures cannot describe this table. It is an ALL OUT record breaking selling table in use in Schools, Colleges and Clubs throughout the U.K. and the Continent. There are more than 2000 in use in England alone, and you can therefore appreciate how proud we are to present this table to you.

Can we point out just a few features:

- * 1" Tournament Playing Surface.
- * Multisection, Laminated construction top which precludes warping or dead spots.
- * High Speed green, non-reflecting finish.
- * Fold away wooden legs.
- * Each section fitted with roller wheels.



Club price £35.00

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In the Coaching Field

with JOHN O'SULLIVAN

THE meeting of coaches and officials at Leeds Carnegie College last June had a most impressive list of speakers and attracted an audience from many parts of the country.

It is not my intention to give an account of that meeting at this late date, but one of the speakers was a certain Mr. Matthews, a headmaster at a Leeds school.

This particular school is most fortunate in having a man at the helm who has such an interest in sport. I believe the school is in possession of 12 tables and has an excellent table tennis section to which other schools are invited.

I mention this now because there has been an encouraging rise in the co-operation of teachers, especially headteachers, and after the talk given by Mr. Matthews at the Leeds meeting, I do not think such a state of affairs has come about by coincidence.

Following on the Leeds gathering came the teachers' training courses carried out by the E.T.A. Staff Coaches in various parts of the country. I attended one such course catering for coaches and student coaches some of whom were also school teachers.

This was held at Lea Green, Derbyshire and organised by Peter Simpson, the Northern Staff Coach. It was not just an extension of other courses I had attended, for a new aspect of coaching was introduced.

It appeared to me that the students on this particular course had already covered most of the preliminaries of coaching and were being introduced to new ideas on "Balance and Movement".

After listening to one of the lectures by Peter Simpson, it was obvious that he had put in a lot of homework by way of preparation. Although the material was not new to me, it was approached from a new and interesting angle, and gave an insight into players' problems and some of the answers.

From the comments made by the people attending, I can see that there will be a demand for more of this sort of information, as given in the lectures, and extended to practical work on the tables. As some of the coaches intended using the ideas at their own coaching sessions, I only hope that some of them will let me know how they made out.

By the time you read these notes, there will have been held, at the Leeds Athletic Institute, a Progressive Resistance Training course for table tennis given by Mr. W. Paish, B.A.A.B., a national coach for the Amateur Athletic Association. The information supplied on the application form certainly interested me and it is my intention to attend and give details of the course in the next issue of this magazine.

Back in April of this year, Basingstoke formed a Coaching Association and Mr. H. Caudrey was appointed its secretary. At the time I received a few notes on its formation with the promise of a progress report.

As Basingstoke is a little far for me, just to pop in, could I call on Mr. Caudrey, or Mr. Bevan, to afford me some details for subsequent publication? But, in the meantime, I am open to invitations to visit sessions anywhere in the country and if two or three birds can be killed with one stone so much the better.

Recently, with Brian Kean of Cheshire, I gave a helping hand with a coaching session at Millom School, Cumberland. This school has a table tennis club which can boast over 90 members, and is organised by Diploma Coach, John Reed.

There are many school clubs through the country and I have visited some excellent groups. But Millom is not just a school club; they cannot join a schools' league for the next school is more than 20 miles away: so they are, in fact, a schools' league within themselves.

To prevent chaos with such a large number of members, each pupil signs a form stating exactly how involved they wish to become and how often they would like to play.

Some of the pupils play in the Barrow League and as this outlet involves a deal of travelling John Reed must have some means of knowing who will be available well in advance.

Although the inhabitants of Millom get a little tired of cracks about the isolation of the area — such as "Indians attacking the mail coaches" (not to be confused with 'Male Coaches') and the "Natives getting restless" this isolation does make the job of a table tennis coach so much harder.

For the lack of opposition, a standard likely to be of help to up-and-coming 'stars' can only be found by travelling long distances each weekend.

During the weekend Brian and I were there, we were using 8 tables — not all that Millom School possess, for their money raising efforts last year netted them over £500 and some £750 has been garnered in thus far this year.

While many tournament officials are scraping around to borrow court surrounds, Millom School have made their own and are not shy in advertising the fact in bold lettering on each screen.

Millom School is co-ed and teams of both sexes represent the school in both open tournaments and school competitions. You may see teams from the school at any tournament that John Reed can reach in a day's driving. They also involve themselves in the Coca-Cola national team competitions with entries in both the Carter Cup and Bromfield Trophy.

The school is fortunate in having its own transport, in the form of a mini-bus driven by John Reed as, I am sure, only he can.

I did come across the old problem of pupils, having left school, encountering difficulty in furthering their interest in the game. But this, I believe, is being looked into by the formation of a senior local league.

It now appears that the representatives for the 10 Area Coaching Panels have been approved and, except for one or two names to be added, each Panel now has members plus a chairman. Composition of the Panels:—

EAST REGION

Staff Coach: Peter Hirst.
Adviser: John Cornwell.

Panel No. 1

Chairman: M. Kercher.
Members: A. Fisher (Kent),
B. Rowley (Sussex).

Panel No. 2

Chairman: L. Landry.
Member: Mrs. D. Harmer (Beds).

Panel No. 3

Chairman: K. Marchant.
Members: K. Muhr (Cams),
L. Saywell (Hunts),
D. Barrett (Suffolk) and
R. Maybury (Norfolk).

MIDLAND/S.W. REGION

Staff Coach: Bryan Merrett
Adviser: Leo Thompson

Panel No. 4

Chairman: W. J. Luther.
Members: J. A. Pacitto (Bucks),
P. Charters (Berks),
A. Wetstein (Hants), and
N. McKichnie (Oxon).

Panel No. 5

Chairman: B. Worts.
Members: T. Honey (Cornwall),
P. Kitchen (Dorset).

Panel No. 6

Chairman: P. Cruwys.
Members: Mrs. D. Henderson
(Somerset),

Mrs. G. Hazel (Wilts),
F. Southam (Worcs), and
R. Owens (Hereford).

Panel No. 7

Chairman: J. Hayward.
Members: C. Truman (Leics),
A. Cavell (Salop),
R. Harvey (Staffs), and
B. Hayward (Warwks).

NORTH REGION

Staff Coach: Peter Simpson.
Adviser: Harry Dignan.

Panel No. 8

Chairman: Not yet appointed.
Members: B. Kean (Chcs),
H. Myers (Lancs).

Panel No. 9

Chairman: D. Foulds.
Members: Mrs. K. Foulds (Derbys),
W. Moran (Lincs), and
J. Bostock (Notts).

Panel No. 10

Chairman: A. Ransome.
Members: Mrs. Minto (Durham),
Mrs. P. Clark (Nthld), and
G. W. Barnes (Yorks).

It now only remains for you to find your local representative and offer whatever help you feel you are able. On the other hand if you require any help or information, I am sure the Panels will do their best to oblige.

COACHING IN YORKSHIRE

PROFICIENCY AWARD COACHING
AND ASSESSMENT DAYS.
(Bronze and Silver)

CODE Y/489

Venue: The Central College of
Further Education, York.
Date: Sunday, Jan 7/73 (10-30 a.m.
to 4 p.m.).
Fee: 30p. Closing date: 29 Dec/72.

CODE Y/490

Venue: Charter County Secondary
School, Broadway, Barnsley.
Date: Sunday, Jan 21/73 (10-30 a.m.
to 4 p.m.).
Fee: 30p. Closing date: 12 Jan/73.

CODE Y/491

Venue: Granby Park Secondary School
Harrogate.
Date: Sunday, Jan 28/73 (10-30 a.m.
to 4 p.m.).
Fee: 30p. Closing date: 19 Jan/73.
(Gold)—For players who hold the
Silver Award

CODE Y/492

Venue: Parkside Sports Centre,
Bradford.
Date: Sunday, Feb 11/73 (10-30 a.m.
to 4 p.m.).
Fee: 40p. Closing date: 1 Feb/73.

Application forms, together with
fee, and a *s.a.c.* should be forwarded
to:—

The Sports Council (Yorkshire &
Humberside Region),
5, St. Paul's Street,
Leeds. LS1 2NQ.

Merton 1-Star Restricted

OVER SUBSCRIBED

C. G. Fuggett tenders his apologies
to all those players who had their
entries returned in respect of the
Merton 1-Star Restricted Open held
at Winton Y.M.C.A., Bournemouth
on Sunday, Oct. 22.

With an overall entry topping the
100 mark, the tournament committee
must be praised for the efficient
manner in which they conducted their
affairs with all finals completed by
11 p.m.

Main disappointment was the non-
arrival of top seed Bob Brown
(Worcs.) who was the winner at the
Bournemouth 1-Star held on Oct. 1.
Such was the junior entry that the
ambitious Merton Club are now con-
templating holding a Junior Open
next season, providing a suitable
venue can be found.

The "Player of the Day" trophy
was presented to Miss Lesley King of
Southampton. Results:—

M.S. s-f:
K. Summerfield (Hants.) bt R.
Bowles (Somerset) 14, 10;
T. Bruce (Wilts.) bt S. Brice
(Dorset) 18, -14, 17.
Final: **Bruce** bt Summerfield 13, 17.
W.S. s-f:
S. Foster (Hants.) bt J. Coop
(Dorset) 11, 17;
B. Peters (Herts.) bt J. Vass
(Dorset) 19, 15.
Final: **Foster** bt Peters 18, 17.

M.D. Final:
D. Holman (Surrey)/T. Smith
(Hants.) bt R. Arney (Wilts.)/
C. Shetler (Hants.) 12, 16.
W.D. Final:
Coop/Vass bt S. Boyce (Herts.)/
Peters 12, 13.

X.D. Final:
Holman/J. Hudson (Hants.) bt
Smith/Coop 17, -11, 15.

B.S. s-f:
K. McQuade (Hants.) bt P. McNally
(Somerset) 11, 17;
A. Whitcher (Hants.) bt J. Brixton
(Hants.) -16, 15, 15.
Final: **McQuade** bt Whitcher 17, 15.
G.S. s-f:
L. King (Hants.) bt E. Lamb
(Devon) 18, 12;
L. Wales (Sussex) bt S. Harding
(Hants.) 15, 14.
Final: **Wales** bt King 16, 19.

LANCASHIRE NOTES

by George R. Yates

EARTHQUAKE AT BAMBER BRIDGE

BEATING Chester 9-1 on Deeside kept defending champions Bolton at the head of affairs in Division 1 of the Lancashire and Cheshire League. But their tenure as title holders would appear precarious having subsequently been beaten 5-4 by second division Burnley in the first round of the Coca-Cola Wilmott Cup competition.

Both Derek Schofield and Colin Lang recorded trebles against Chester whose Ian Johns saved the 'whitewash' by beating Phil Riley. County veteran champion, Arthur Hartshorn, was Burnley's chief executioner in the cup match to whose treble — included the beheading of Schofield — Jack Keogh, as was to be expected, added the other two!

Bad as this result was for the 'Frotters', it was a tremor of minor proportions when measured against the earthquake recorded at Bamber Bridge where Preston brought off a shattering 9-1 league victory over Manchester!

Granted the Mancunians had fledgling Peter Rodwell at No. 3 but with Tony Boasman and Phil Bowen in the side this was a disastrous result for the 'city slickers' whose fortunes in recent years have slumped alarmingly, the repercussions having also effected the County's status.

Both Donald Parker and Tony Rigby starred as invincibles in Preston's colours, the odd man out being Jim Clegg who lost to Bowen.

Promotees Farnworth, with only two players at their disposal, were beaten 8-2 by Liverpool whose Tony Clayton

I'm told he is playing for Hull in the Wilmott — was unbeaten. Both Wally Allanson and Peter D'Arcy lost to Clive Heap.

Lacking the services of Gordon Beardsworth, Blackpool made a fight of it away to Stockport but went down to their second defeat when beaten 6-4 with Brian Kean inflicting the most damage in the singles encounters. Current positions:—

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Bolton	2	2	0	0	16	4	4
Preston	2	1	1	0	14	6	3
Liverpool	2	1	1	0	13	7	3
Stockport	2	1	1	0	11	9	3
Farnworth	2	1	0	1	10	10	2
Manchester	2	0	1	1	6	14	1
Blackpool	2	0	0	2	7	13	0
Chester	2	0	0	2	3	17	0

Burnley, runners-up last year to Farnworth in Div. 2 (North), were surprisingly beaten 6-4, at home, by Blackburn who, now with three wins to their credit, go top being the only team with a 100 per cent record.

In this battle of the East Lancs. giants, Blackburn's David Cottrell had a maximum in the singles, plus the doubles with Alan Grimshaw. Alan Whittle and Frank Thomas had wins over the luckless Stephen Hargreaves. Hartshorn and Keogh shared Burnley's four wins.

Manchester, the champions, and Liverpool have identical records in the Women's Division 1 both having won their opening fixtures 9-1 and 7-3.

Two Lancastrians currently in the 'sick bay' are Barry "Bas" Crook of Preston and Jack Warne, former Manchester inter-league secretary.

"Bas" was hospitalised, in Preston, as the result of a road accident when on his motor cycle. Jack is recovering, in Ashton Infirmary, from a minor heart attack. Best wishes for an early

return to full health is hereby afforded the pair of them.

Preliminary round matches for the Norman Cook Memorial Trophy, to be played by Dec. 16, are:—

- Blackburn (4) v. Blackpool.
- Manchester v. Urnston (8).
- Barrow-in-Furness v. Bury.
- Liverpool v. Macclesfield (10).

Farnworth, the holders, have a first round tie away to the winners of the Manchester v. Urnston match.

DURHAM NOTES



by Fred Inch

BACK IN HARNESS

Some weeks ago Charles Freeman had a very serious motor car accident but, I am pleased to be able to inform all his many friends that he is on the way to a complete recovery. Indeed he is already hounding League secretaries to bring their inter-league fixtures up to date. His job as County Registrar is just one of the many posts he holds in local affairs.

On Thursday, Nov. 23, at the Red Hills Hotel, Durham, Mr. Benny

Long, who retired as President of the Durham County T.T.A. at the last A.G.M., was the recipient of numerous presentations. Tributes were also voiced by representatives of County Leagues, Clubs and individuals who had gathered to associate themselves with sincere thanks to a man who was a founder member of the Stanley League and who had served the County exceptionally well over many years.

He had been Father and Friend to many players who had sought his advice. The occasion was further marked by Benny being made a Life Member as were Edgar and Jean Reay, together with Harry Senior of Darlington. These were the first Hon. Life Memberships to be bestowed in the history of the County, the citations being for long and distinguished service, and very well deserved.

Also at the gathering were representatives of Joshua Wilson and Bros. Ltd., the V.G. Foodstore wholesalers, who presented the County with a cheque for £150 sponsorship to be used for the benefit and advancement of table tennis in the County of Durham.

Congratulations to our neighbours Ormesby T.T.C. for successfully accomplishing the first hurdle in their bid to retain the Europe Club Cup by beating Polish club champions, Wloknarz Lodz. Next opponents, away, will be the champion club side of Bulgaria. Thanks too, for staging the friendly match against the Poles at the Bernard Gilpin School, Houghton-le-Spring. This match was watched by over 300 spectators, in perfect conditions and if the Officials of the E.T.T.A. are reading this—how about an International Match in the not too distant future?

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Of Historic Interest

MR. FRANK RUSHFORD, Sports Editor of the 'Kent and Sussex Courier' and a vice-president of the Tunbridge Wells and District League, was researching recently in connection with the centenary celebrations of his newspaper's foundation.

As a result, he sent to H. Binfield, Esq., Hon. Sec. of the Tunbridge Wells league, an extract from the 'Courier' dated January 31st, 1902 giving details of the first recorded mention in the paper relating to Table Tennis or ping pong as it was then known of course.

The extract reads as follows:—
EXTRACT FROM THE 'KENT AND SUSSEX COURIER' DATED JANUARY 31st, 1902

"Ping a pong a penny" has certainly come to stay in Tunbridge Wells. It is a game which is eminently suited to the locality.

I see the young ladies who have not their arms tied up with red ribbon are already commencing to carry their racquets or battledores — or whatever they may be called — about in the streets with them.

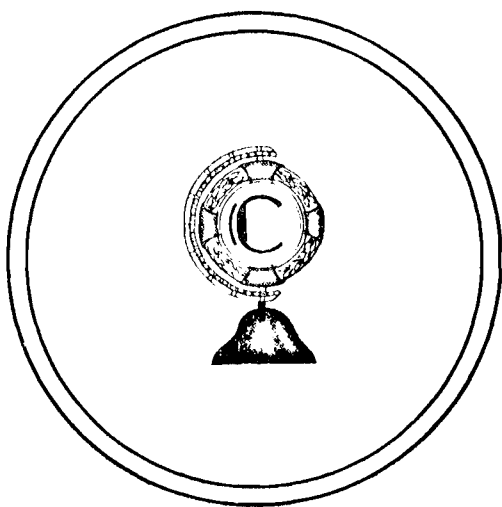
Ping-Pong parties are all the go, though I am thankful to say I have, so far, escaped the ordeal and at several Hotels, notably at the Mount Ephraim, some brilliant rallies may be witnessed of an evening. Candidly, I confess when on my way to witness my first game of ping-pong, I went forth to curse, like Balaam. If I did not return blessing, I was certainly impressed with the necessity for a quick eye and a nimble wrist, which the game demands from its votaries. There is something in it. It don't help you to put on much muscle and I should say, in the middle of August, it would be quite possible to put oneself in a mild perspiration but as an indoor recreation, it has undoubtedly its merits.

But, for my sake, don't let us lose our heads over the new baby. Don't let us institute any Amateur Championships of Calverley Road or Leagues or Tournaments for the Ping-Pong North Ward Challenge Cup! As a social, clever game in which our sisters, and cousins, and aunts can join, there is none better. Go mad over it, make a championship of it, and it becomes a 'reductio ad absurdum'.

Tonbridge 589, Tunbridge Wells 548 was the result of a match at ping-pong, played at the Angel Hotel, Tonbridge ... Bother those Tonbridge chaps!"

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COUNTY DIARY

FIXTURES AND VENUES FOR DECEMBER, 1972

PREMIER DIVISION

Dec. 16 Cheshire v. Kent, Sports Centre, Grange Road West, Birkenhead. 7-15 p.m.
Essex v. Sussex.
Middlesex v. Warwickshire.
Surrey v. Yorkshire.
Middlesex v. Surrey, East Finchley T.T. Centre. 7-30 p.m.

SECOND SOUTH

Dec. 16 Berkshire v. Surrey II, Baptist T.T. Club, Baptist Church, Cheap Street, Newbury. 6-30 p.m.
Buckinghamshire v. Hampshire.
Kent II v. Sussex II, Satellite Youth Club, Grosvenor Recreation Ground, Tunbridge Wells. 7-00 p.m.

SECOND NORTH

Dec. 16 Lancashire v. Durham, Montague Burton's Canteen, Wapping Street, off Halliwell Road, Bolton. 2-30 p.m.
Lincolnshire v. Cheshire II.
Yorkshire II v. Northumberland.

SECOND MIDLAND

Dec. 16 Gloucestershire v. Derbyshire, Fromside Youth Centre, Whatleys End Road, Winterbourne, Bristol. 7-00 p.m.
Staffordshire v. Nottinghamshire, Beattie Hall, Stone. 7-15 p.m.
Worcestershire v. Leicestershire, The Church Hall, Bridway Road, Bengeworth, Eversham. 7-15 p.m.

SECOND EAST

Dec. 16 Essex II v. Hertfordshire.
Norfolk v. Middlesex II.
.. 17 Bedfordshire v. Cambridgeshire, Pioneer Boys' Club, A5 High Street, Dunstable. 4-00 p.m.

SECOND WEST

Dec. 16 Dorset v. Somerset, Dorchester Youth Centre, Colliton Street, Dorchester. 7-15 p.m.
Wiltshire v. Cornwall.
.. 17 Dorset v. Devon, Dorchester Youth Centre, Colliton Street, Dorchester. 3-00 p.m.

SOUTHERN

Dec. 9 Hampshire II v. Oxfordshire.
.. 16 Essex III v. Berkshire.

NORTHERN

Dec. 16 Derbyshire II v. Cheshire III.
Durham II v. Lancashire II.
Northumberland II v. Cumberland.

MIDLAND

Dec. 16 Monmouthshire v. Staffordshire II, Alcan Welfare Centre, Rogerstone. 7-00 p.m.
.. 17 Glamorgan II v. Shropshire.

EASTERN

Dec. 16 Huntingdonshire v. Norfolk II.
Northamptonshire v. Suffolk, Doddridge Church Rooms, Doddridge Street, Northampton. 6-00 p.m.

JUNIOR PREMIER

Dec. 29 P.E. Centre, Loughborough College of Education. 6-00 p.m.
Cambridgeshire v. Warwickshire. 6-00 p.m.
Cheshire v. Essex. 6-00 p.m.
Lancashire v. Middlesex. 6-00 p.m.
Yorkshire v. Surrey. 9-30 a.m.
.. 31 Essex v. Lancashire. 9-30 a.m.
Middlesex v. Cheshire. 9-30 a.m.
Surrey v. Warwickshire. 9-30 a.m.
Yorkshire v. Cambridgeshire. 9-30 a.m.
Essex v. Yorkshire. 1-15 p.m.
Lancashire v. Cambridgeshire. 1-15 p.m.
Middlesex v. Warwickshire. 1-15 p.m.
Surrey v. Cheshire. 1-15 p.m.
Cambridgeshire v. Cheshire. 4-00 p.m.
Surrey v. Lancashire. 4-00 p.m.
Warwickshire v. Essex. 4-00 p.m.
Yorkshire v. Middlesex. 4-00 p.m.

JUNIOR SOUTH

Dec. 16 Hampshire v. Hertfordshire II, Winton and Moordown School, Coronation Avenue, Winton, Bournemouth. 3-00 p.m.
Oxfordshire v. Berkshire.
Sussex v. Buckinghamshire, Holy Family Convent, Norfolk Road, Littlehampton. 3-30 p.m.

JUNIOR NORTH

Dec. 16 Cheshire II v. Westmorland, St. Michael's School, Newhey Road, Woodchurch, Birkenhead. 3-00 p.m.
Cumberland v. Durham.
Northumberland v. Yorkshire II.

JUNIOR MIDLAND

Dec. 16 Derbyshire v. Lincolnshire, Derby T.T. H.Q., Normanton Barracks. 3-00 p.m.
Osaston Park Road, Derby.
Staffordshire v. Northamptonshire, Woodfield S. & S. Club, Woodfield Avenue, Penn, Wolverhampton. 3-30 p.m.
.. 17 Warwickshire II v. Leicestershire.

JUNIOR EAST

Dec. 16 Cambridgeshire II v. Essex II.
Hertfordshire v. Norfolk, Brookside Boys' Club, Buckton Road, Borehamwood. 2-30 p.m.

JUNIOR WEST

Dec. 16 Glamorgan v. Monmouthshire.
Somerset v. Wiltshire.
.. 17 Worcestershire v. Gloucestershire.
Jan. 6/73 Devon v. Glamorgan, Devonport Guildhall, Ker Street, Plymouth. 2-30 p.m.

VETERAN SOUTH

Dec. 16 Essex v. Kent.
Hertfordshire v. Hampshire, Brookside Boys' Club, Buckton Road, Borehamwood. 7-00 p.m.
Huntingdonshire v. Oxfordshire, Eaton Socon Sports Club, St. Neots Road, Eaton Socon. 7-30 p.m.

VETERAN MIDLAND

Dec. 16 Leicestershire v. Staffordshire.
Warwickshire v. Worcestershire.

My renewed apologies for this listing being so incomplete, but Counties continue to be remarkably reluctant to inform me of the necessary details. J.M.W.

ESSEX NOTES

by Alan Shepherd

ISSUE IRRELEVANT

CHESTER BARNES has hit the headlines locally yet again. He recently asked the County to consider lifting his suspension and the matter was considered at the November Executive Committee Meeting. Unfortunately the delegates present could not reach a decision, there being no clear majority in favour of any specific course of action. As a result a Special Meeting of the Executive Committee has been fixed for mid-December and it is hoped that a way will then be found to resolve the deadlock. Meanwhile the County Association wishes to make it abundantly clear that under no circumstances will they re-instate Chester Barnes in order to avoid relegation from the Premier Division, since by doing so they would be defeating the principles involved. If Chester is to be re-instated it will be because the Association feels that he has been sufficiently punished and that his reinstatement will benefit the game foremost, the County secondly and Chester himself thirdly. The relegation issue is completely irrelevant in the view of the officers of the County.

On the 20th November, 1972, Chester was at Southend, not to win the Southend Open, but to get married to Jo Harding of Rayleigh, winner of a recent Beauty Queen contest, at which Chester was the chief judge!! Regardless of the present issues between Chester and the County I feel quite sure that everybody associated with the game in Essex would want to join me in wishing Chester and his lovely bride every happiness in the future.

New ranking lists have now been issued which are as follows:—

Senior Men:

1 David Brown; 2 Ian Horsham; 3 Bobby Stevens; 4 Stuart Gibbs; 5 Peter Radford; 6 Ian Robertson; 7 Steve Smith; 8 David Bowles; 9 Graham Blomfield; 10 Michael Reed.

Senior Women:

No change.

Junior Boys:

1 David Boulter; 2 Martin Bawden; 3 Andrew Bawden; 4 Peter Hunt; 5 David Iszatt; 6 Leslie Eadie; 7 David Newman; 8 Alex Abbott; 9 Devinder Sehmbi; 10 Robert Potton.

Junior Girls:

1 Elaine Tarten; 2 Gillian Taylor; 3 Gillian Locke; 4 Cathy Stonell; 5 Julie Kelly; 6 Jane Livesey; 7 Sandra Sutton; 8 Sheila Smith; 9 Penny Abbott; 10 Janet Boulter.

Our Junior Team commenced the defence of their County Championships title with matches against Surrey, Cambs. and Middlesex on November 18th. A magnificent win by Elaine Tarten over Linda Howard was the cornerstone of our 7-3 win over Surrey but her efforts were backed up by the splendid play of David Boulter, Martin Bawden and Gillian Taylor. A nervy tussle against Cambs. was also won 7-3 but reaction clearly set in when we faced our sternest test and Middlesex had an almost bloodless victory by 9-1. Both camps were of the opinion that this play-off idea has proved to be a failure and it is to be hoped that it will not be repeated.

HUNTINGDON & PETERBRO' NOTES

by David Obee

HECTIC SCHEDULES

ALTHOUGH a month has passed without any further County Championships matches, all three member leagues within the County have nevertheless had hectic schedules. The South East Midlands league, with its five sections, has kept St. Neots, Peterborough and Hunts Central at full stretch and in addition Wilmott Cup and Carter Cup first round matches have been decided. News from the three leagues in brief:—

PETERBOROUGH

S.E.M.L. Results have been poor only two matches, both Cambridge (2-8) and N. Herts (2-8) proving too strong. The men's side looks like the familiar line-up of Obee, Fisher, Dale with the No. 4 spot wide open. Colin Dale with 4 wins out of 4 looks to be heading for another successful season. The women's team with a 5-5 draw against Cambridge started promisingly but the juniors and veterans' sides have it all to do in this tough competition.

In what was the most exciting men's match for many years, the men's side made an early exit from the Wilmott Cup at the hands of Leamington 3-5, with six sets going to a decider. At the time of writing the women have still to meet Cambridge in the Rose Bowl, and the juniors Kettering in the Carter Cup.

HUNTS CENTRAL

The men have started well in the S.E.M.L. with wins over Kettering and Wellingborough, whilst the juniors after an early reverse against North Herts have defeated the same towns, as well as Wisbech.

The women's team is strengthened with the addition of Barbara Webb this season, she having moved over from St. Neots. In the national knock-out cups the juniors Kevan Moore (3). Tim Speller (2) beat Northampton 5-4 and the men trounced Kettering 8-1. Still to come is the Rose Bowl, away to High Wycombe.

ST. NEOTS

With Alan Lamprell, Herts No. 2, playing in their men's team, and currently unbeaten, the town has been faring well in this section of the S.E.M.L., beating Blethley 7-3, drawing with Bedford and going down only 3-7 to the powerful Ely side.

In the Carter Cup, the juniors found Wellingborough too strong and went down 2-7. The Wilmott Cup sees the men visit Leighton Buzzard whilst Wembley will be entertained in a Bromfield Trophy fixture.

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Continued from page 28

two games between Douglas and David Alderson won by the Midlander 20 and 5!

JUNIOR SOUTH

Hertfordshire II 4, Berkshire 6

Continuing their "bleeding" policy, Herts, introduced 2 new girls and 1 new boy in this match, Linda Towler did well to take a game from Caroline Reeves, and Jon Proffitt (9 in 2nd match) picked up 2 x BS and BD.

Kent 2 Surrey II 8

Max Crimmins got Surrey off to a bright start and this quickly became 5-0 before Julie Holtam, using forehand counterhit well, accounted for Susan Tame 20, 20. Crimmins and David Weller a battle marked by simple errors and great noise, then Robert Mellin notched the other home success.

Berkshire 2, Surrey II 8

Missing both their regular girls, Berkshire were seriously weakened and slumped to an 0-8 position. The most exciting set of the match followed, with Paul Trott successful over Peter Matthews -23, 18, 24.

Kent 9, Oxfordshire 1

JUNIOR NORTH

Yorkshire II 9, Durham 1

JUNIOR MIDLAND

Northamptonshire 9,

Warwickshire II 1

With two real "cliff-hangers" going their way early on, Northants gained confidence and actually led 9-0. Warwicks, however, deserved better for their efforts.

Nottinghamshire 7, Staffordshire 3

Derbyshire 4, Leicestershire 6

The highlight of a fine match was Anita Stevenson's -17, 21, 15 defeat of Mandy Mellor. David Yallop the pick of the boys (he took both BS) but the other two Derbys. boys, despite their efforts, not quite good enough to deny the well balanced visitors both points.

JUNIOR EAST

Suffolk 8, Bedfordshire 2

Suffolk well worth this win although John McLellan and Janette Goble performed valiantly for the visitors.

VETERAN MIDLAND

Nottinghamshire 1, Cheshire 8

TABLES TO DATE — — —

PREMIER

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Surrey	2	2	0	0	13	5	4
Yorkshire	1	1	0	0	9	0	2
Kent	2	1	0	1	11	7	2
Middlesex	2	1	0	1	9	9	2
Cheshire	2	1	0	1	8	10	2
Warwicks.	2	1	0	1	6	12	2
Essex	2	0	0	2	6	12	0
Sussex	1	0	0	1	1	8	0

2 MIDLAND

Warwks. II	2	2	0	0	18	2	4
Leics.	2	2	0	0	16	4	4
Notts.	2	1	0	1	8	12	2
Staffs.	2	1	0	1	8	12	2
Worcs.	2	0	0	2	8	12	0
Derbys.	1	0	0	1	1	9	0
Gloucs.	1	0	0	1	1	9	0

JUNIOR PREMIER

Yorkshire	3	3	0	0	22	8	6
Middlesex	3	2	0	1	18	12	4
Surrey	3	2	0	1	16	14	4
Essex	3	2	0	1	15	15	4
Cheshire	3	1	1	1	16	14	3
Lancashire	3	1	0	2	11	19	2
Warwicks.	3	0	1	2	11	19	1
Cambs.	3	0	0	3	11	19	0

JUNIOR SOUTH

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Sussex	2	2	0	0	19	1	4
Hampshire	2	2	0	0	16	4	4
Surrey II	3	2	0	1	20	10	4
Kent	3	1	0	2	15	15	2
Berkshire	2	1	0	1	8	12	2
Bucks.	2	1	0	1	6	14	2
Herts. II	2	0	0	2	4	16	0
Oxford.	2	0	0	2	2	18	0

JUNIOR MIDLAND

Leics.	2	2	0	0	15	5	4
Notts.	2	2	0	0	14	6	4
Northants	2	1	0	1	12	8	2
Derbys.	2	1	0	1	11	9	2
Staffs.	2	1	0	1	3	7	0
Warwks. II	2	0	0	2	4	16	0
Lincs.	1	0	0	1	1	19	0

JUNIOR EAST

Suffolk	2	2	0	0	16	4	4
Norfolk	1	1	0	0	10	0	2
Essex II	1	1	0	0	9	1	2
Herts.	1	1	0	0	9	1	2
Hunts.	2	1	0	1	9	11	2
Beds.	3	0	0	3	6	24	0
Cambs. II	2	0	0	2	1	19	0

European League

by Geo. R. Yates

DOWN AGAIN

There is no denying that England had the chances to beat Federal Germany in their European League Premier Division match at the Leeds University Sports Hall on Nov. 21 where they went down 5-2 for their second reverse of the season.

Denis Neale made the best of starts with a sparkling victory over Wilfried Lieck and, after Alan Hydes—a surprise choice—had gone down to Ebby Schöler, Jill Hammersley put England back into the lead with a great win over Agnes Simon.

This was women's table tennis at its very best and what a performance Jill gave, fully deserving of every clap that thundered out at the conclusion of a set that just escaped 'expedite' in the deciding game.

Neale and Hydes, after winning the first game against Lieck and Jochen Leiss, held match point in the second yet failed to capitalise on it.

Again, in the mixed, Neale and Karenza had matters running their way in the deciding game when they stormed back from 12-18 to level at 18-all only to lose -19 to Ebby and Di Schöler.

After two such exhausting sets, it was hardly 'on' for Neale to beat Schöler in the penultimate set, yet once again a third game was demanded with the Yorkshireman visibly tiring after his opening game success.

This was the set that sealed England's fate for Hydes, in both his singles encounters, did not seem up to it having only recently returned from China suffering from jaundice and still being under doctor's orders.

Individual scores in match order:—
D. Neale bt W. Lieck 17, -16, 18.
A. Hydes lost to E. Schöler -16, -17.
Miss J. Hammersley bt Mrs. A. Simon -21, 19, 19.
Hydes/Neale lost to J. Leiss/Lieck 19, -20, -15.
Neale/Mrs. K. Mathews lost to Schöler/Mrs. D. Schöler 11, -16, -19.
Neale lost to Schöler 15, -7, -12.
Hydes lost to Lieck -11, -13.

County Championships Round-up

by JOHN WRIGHT

QUIET MONTH

THIS has been a very quiet month, with what activity there has been mostly at Junior level. The first sessions of the "new-style" Junior Premier were played at the Monks Hill and Darwen Sports Centre and went smoothly: it is far too early to say with any certainty what the likelihood is of this system becoming a permanent feature of the scene, but the saving in cost, travel and time may well (in this particular division at least) be thought to outweigh the loss of match atmosphere and the gradual development of a competition throughout the season. My thanks to Gordon Campbell and Len Green for their handling of the Darwen group, and also to Dave Arterton and his staff for the Southern section.

The remaining matches will be played at Loughborough at the end of this month. A really busy time this for Reg Billson, who is heavily involved with the English Junior Closed as well as the organisation for this series of matches.

Finally a reminder on the Leslie Forrest Memorial Trophy, where nominations must reach me by the end of the month.

PREMIER DIVISION

Warwick 6, Kent 3.

B. Burn bt A. Piddock 17, 10; bt C. Morris -11, 13, 16.
D. Munt lost to Piddock -12, -9; bt A. Mitchell 19, 19.
D. Douglas bt Morris -20, 15, 9; bt Mitchell 20, 10.
Burn/Douglas lost to H. Buist/Piddock -13, 18, -15.
Miss J. Cornock lost to Mrs. J. Ellis -16, -17.
R. Gunnion/Cornock bt Buist/Ellis 17, 15.

A satisfying Premier debut for Desmond Douglas and a good all-round home performance. Tony Piddock the best Kent player, (far too good on the night for Derek Munt).

2nd DIVISION MIDLAND

Nottinghamshire 6, Worcestershire 4 Derbyshire 1, Warwickshire II 9.

The sole home success recorded by Doug Foulds 19, 18 over Des Douglas. Fine win by Di St. Ledger -18, 13, 21 over Sandra Walters.

NORTHERN DIVISION

Derbyshire II 6, Durham II 4.

JUNIOR PREMIER

Essex 7, Surrey 3.

D. Boulter bt D. Bangerter 16, 19; lost to G. Walsh -18, 18, -11.
P. Hunt lost to Bangerter -19, -18; lost to S. Lyons -14, -11.
M. Bawden bt Walsh 20, 16; bt Lyons 14, 16.
Boulter/Hunt bt Lyons/Walsh -15, 18, 12.
Miss E. Tarten bt L. Howard 16, 19.
Bawden/Miss G. Taylor bt Bangerter/Miss N. Leslie 19, 16.
Tarten/Taylor bt Howard/Leslie 21, -16, 22.

Fine start by Surrey who led 2-0: the Essex recovery owed much to Elaine Tarten who narrowly took GD (with Gillian Taylor), then scored convincing success over Linda Howard.

Middlesex 6, Cambridgeshire 4.

A. Barden lost to P. Day -19, -13; bt J. Willis 12, 18.
M. Mitchell lost to Day -18, -9; bt K. Richardson 13, 17.
R. Huson bt Willis 16, -16, 11; lost to Richardson -17, -19.
Mitchell/D. Tan bt Richardson/Willis 19, 15.
Miss J. Hartwell bt Miss K. Garner 14, 18.
Barden/Miss M. Sangster lost to Day/Garner 11, -13, -16.
Miss J. Campion/Miss A. Mitchell bt Miss C. Ellis/Miss D. Silk 10, 7.

Middlesex made to look a fairly ordinary side, with Andrew Barden quite unable to keep Paul Day quiet in XD where Middlesex changed ends with a nice lead.

Cambridgeshire 3, Essex 7.

Day bt Boulter 8, 11;
bt Hunt 10, 19;
Willis lost to Boulter -14, -14;
lost to Bawden -16, -13.
Richardson lost to Hunt -16, 17, -20;
lost to Bawden -13, -17.
Day/Richardson bt Boulter/Hunt -19, 20, 15.
Garner lost to Miss C. Stonell 17, -14, -24.
Willis/Garner lost to Bawden/Taylor 15, -16, -11.
Ellis/Silk lost to Stonell/Tarten -12, -17.

Cams. could, with luck, have taken a point here: Karen Garner involved in probably the most exciting set of the Southern weekend with Cathy Stonell.

Surrey 7, Middlesex 3.

Bangerter lost to Barden -17, -11; lost to Mitchell -13, -12.
Walsh bt Barden -14, 18, 17;
bt Tan 19, -23, 11.
Lyons bt Mitchell 15, 20;
bt Tan 15, 20.
Lyons/Walsh lost to Barden/M. Mitchell -19, -17.
Howard bt Hartwell 4, -17, 14.
Bangerter/Leslie bt Huson/A. Mitchell 17, -19, 14.
Howard/Leslie bt Campion/Sangster -12, 10, 14.

Gerald Walsh and Steve Lyons did Surrey proud here, with Lyons crashing forehands through Mark Mitchell with great regularity.

Cambridgeshire 4, Surrey 6.

Day bt Bangerter 11, 16;
bt Walsh 16, 19.
Willis lost to Bangerter -21, 19, -18;
lost to Lyons 14, -16, -11.
Richardson lost to Walsh -9, -11;
bt Lyons 17, -19, 17.
Richardson/Willis lost to Bangerter/Walsh 13, -15, -19.
Garner lost to Leslie 9, -10, -13.
Day/Garner bt M. Crimmins/Miss S. Tame 16, 16.
Ellis/Silk lost to Leslie/Tame -10, -12.

Day rounded off a fine personal

weekend — unbeaten in singles or doubles, with Walsh the only player to take him really close. Surrey fortunate to take both points as the opening singles and BD could both have gone the other way.

Middlesex 9, Essex 1.

Barden bt Boulter 19, 14;
bt Bawden 15, 12.
Mitchell bt Boulter 16, 14;
bt L. Eadie 13, 10.
Tan bt Bawden 10, 16;
bt Eadie 12, 15.
M. Mitchell/Tan bt Boulter/Eadie 13, 18.
Hartwell bt Tarten -20, 20, 14.
Barden/Hartwell bt Bawden/Taylor 11, 13.
Campion/A. Mitchell lost to Tarten/Taylor -16, -22.

A most surprising result in view of the teams' performances against Surrey. Middlesex started well and never really looked back, with Jane Hartwell's singles win the clincher (again, though, compare the results of Hartwell and Tarten against Howard!). Could the England selectors have been right in using some of the phrases so objected to last month by Alan Shepherd?

Cheshire 5, Warwickshire 5.

J. McNee lost to D. Douglas 18, -18, -17;
bt D. Shropshire 11, 13.
S. Heaps bt E. Lasek 18, 16;
lost to Douglas -18, -14.
T. Burrows bt Shropshire 10, 17;
bt Lasek 15, 13.
Heaps/McNee bt Lasek/Shropshire 19, -19, 19.
Miss P. Allen lost to Miss D. St. Ledger -10, -17.
J. Hook/Miss J. Truman lost to Douglas/Miss K. Groves -13, -19.
Allen/Truman lost to Groves/St. Ledger -18, -12.

John McNee a constant threat to Desmond Douglas who only just made it in a tight finish. The diminutive Trevor Burrows in good form.

Lancashire 2, Yorkshire 8

G. Young lost to D. Alderson -9, -10;
lost to B. Alderson -11, -11.
D. Parker bt R. Wiley 14, 8; lost to D. Alderson 7, -20, -10.
N. Hallows lost to B. Alderson -20, -17; lost to Wiley 17, -20, -10.
Hallows/Parker lost to Alderson/Alderson 18, -22, -20.
Miss B. Williams bt Miss J. Walker -25, 14, 18.
M. Hoy/Miss S. Thompson lost to Wiley/Miss P. Clements 13, -10, -18.
Thompson/Williams lost to Clements/Walker -18, -10.

Tough initiation for Nigel Hallows, Michael Hoy and Sheila Thompson against the star-studded Yorkshire team but all performed with credit.

Warwickshire 4, Lancashire 6

Lasek lost to Parker -12, -13; bt Hoy -19, 14, 14.
Douglas bt Hallows 8, 11; lost to Parker 14, -17, -18.
Shropshire lost to Hoy -10, -13; lost to Hallows -19, -13.
Lasek/Shropshire lost to Hallows/Parker -12, -12.
St. Ledger lost to Williams -20, -19.
Douglas/Groves bt Young/Thompson 10, 11.
Groves/St. Ledger bt Thompson/Williams 18, 18.

This match turned on the result of the Douglas v. Parker encounter which the Lancastrian won after losing the first game. Nice wins for Hallows and Hoy over the luckless David Shropshire.

Yorkshire 6, Cheshire 4

Wiley lost to Heaps -13, -19; bt Burrows 19, 14.
D. Alderson bt McNee 12, 13; lost to Heaps -17, -15.
B. Alderson bt Burrows 15, 16; lost to McNee -24, -14.
Alderson/Alderson lost to Heaps/McNee 16, -15, -16.
Walker bt Truman 15, 16.
Wiley/Clements bt Burrows/Allen -16, 13, 19.
Clements/Walker bt Allen/Truman 9, 12.

A shock in this match for David Alderson, beaten 2-straight by Simon Heaps who further combined with McNee to inflict further damage to pride against the same opponent partnered by brother Brian. Cheshire's girls not really up to this one and Burrows twice beaten.

Cheshire 7, Lancashire 3

McNee lost to Parker -9, -14; bt Hoy 20, 17.
Heaps bt Hallows 18, 17; bt Parker -11, 19, 14.
Burrows bt Hoy 15, 20; bt Hallows -19, 21, 13.
Heaps/McNee bt Hallows/Parker 21, -14, 21.
Truman lost to Williams -8, -16.
Hook/Allen bt Young/Thompson 10, -10, 22.
Allen/Truman lost to Thompson/Williams 18, -14, -10.

Burrows the "mighty mouse" in this one, Hallows in particular underestimating his opponent. BD and XD desperately close affairs with Cheshire pairs just having the edge.

Warwickshire 2, Yorkshire 8

Lasek lost to D. Alderson -15, -13; lost to B. Alderson -8, 15, -17.
Douglas lost to Wiley -20, 17, -11; bt D. Alderson 20, 5.
Shropshire lost to B. Alderson -15, 20, -16; lost to Wiley -12, -9.
Lasek/Shropshire lost to Alderson/Alderson -14, -19.
St. Ledger bt Walker 16, -15, 18.
Douglas/Groves lost to Wiley/Clements 16, -21, -21.
St. Ledger/Miss M. Williams lost to Clements/Walker 14, -14, -20.

Great win for Robert Wiley over Douglas, and for Di St. Ledger over Judith Walker. But what about the

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