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Table Tennis News

Official Journal of the English Table Tennis Association

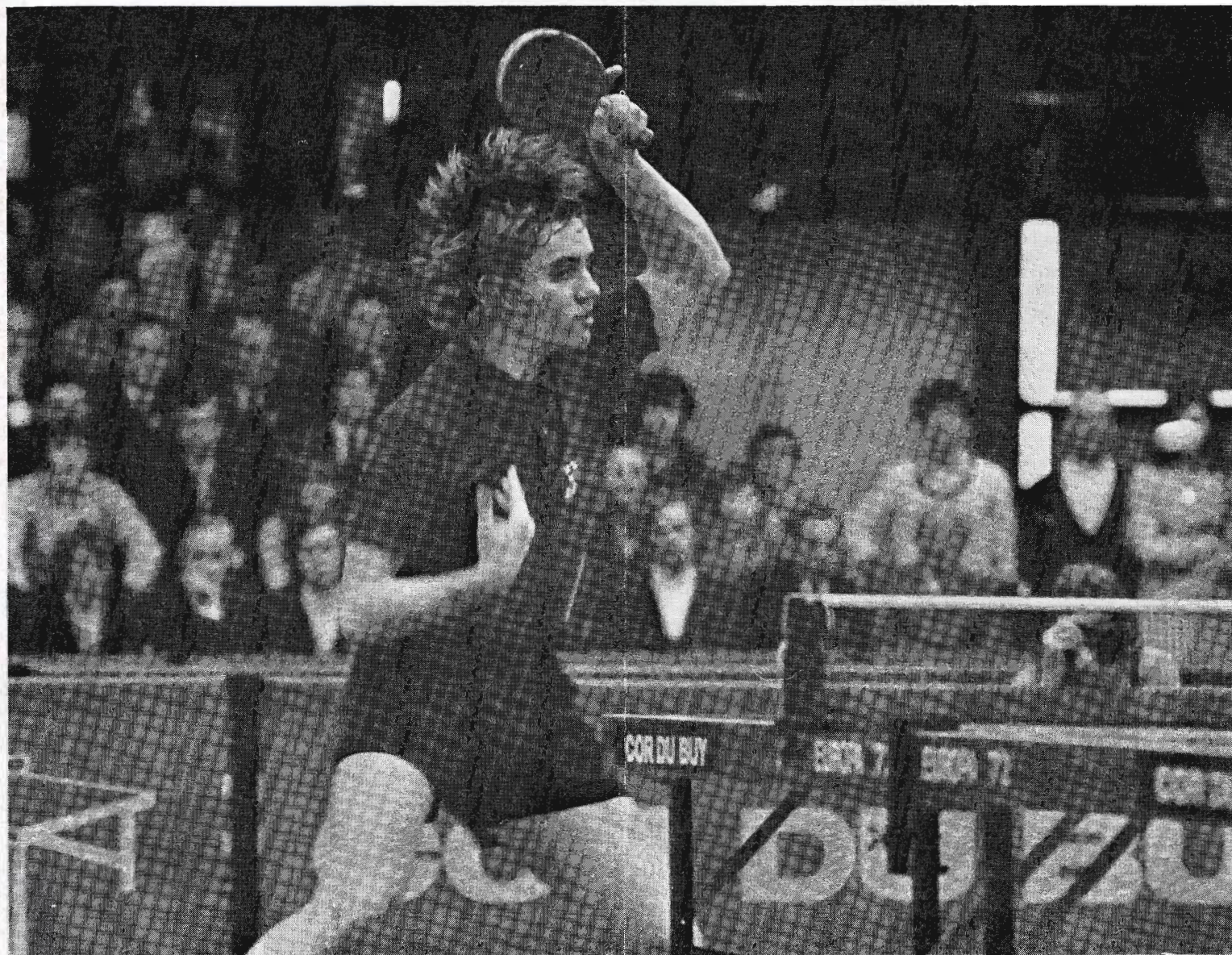
EDITED BY GEORGE YATES

No. 54

March 1973

Price 10p

TITLE DEFENDER AT SARAJEVO



STELLAN BENGTSOON

Photo by Cliff Darley, Pontefract

This month's Star Features

'DOUBLE HAPPINESS' by Alan W. Hydes
CZECHOSLOVAKIAN OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS

TABLE TENNIS NEWS

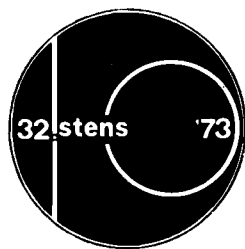
Published on the 1st of each month, October to May inclusive. Postal subscriptions £1 for eight issues.

Advertisements: Derek R. Tremayne, General Secretary, English Table Tennis Association, 21 Claremont, Hastings, Sussex, Phone: Hastings 33121.

Circulation: Albert W. Shipley, Assistant General Secretary, E.T.T.A. 21 Claremont, Hastings, Sussex. Phone: Hastings 33121.

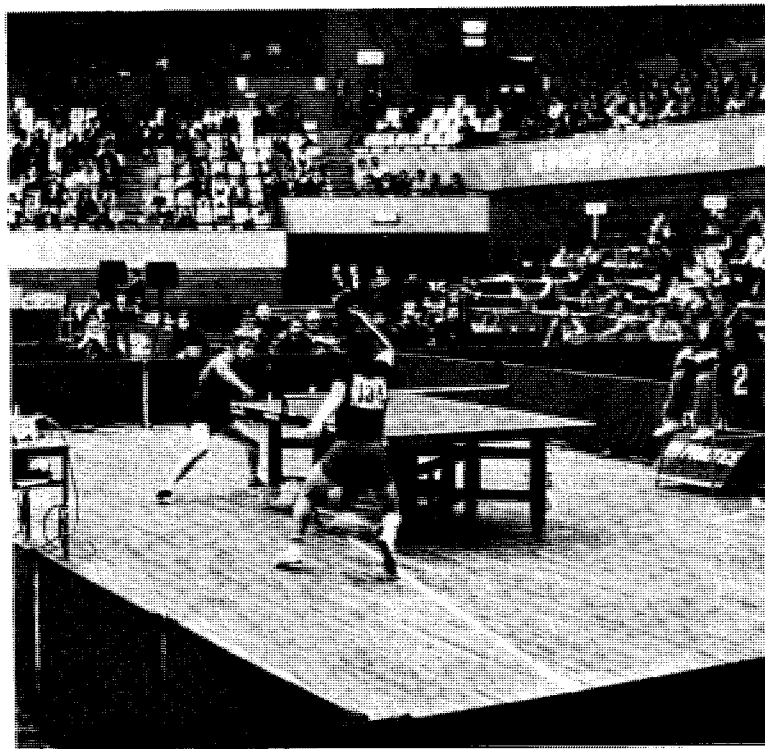
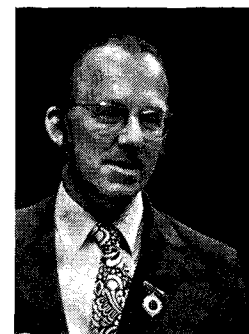
Distribution: Mrs. E. D. Yates, 43 Knowsley Road, Smithills, Bolton, Lancs. BL1 6JH. Phone Bolton 42223

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On the International Front

by George R. Yates



Asian champion, Nobuhiko Hasegawa of Japan (136) hammers one across to his European counterpart and current world champion, Stellan Bengtsson of Sweden.

Photo by courtesy of Tamasu Co., Japan.

Time of Decision

Next month will see the 32nd World Championships taking place in Yugoslavia and thereafter, in 1975 the scene will shift to the warmer climes of India.

England, to coincide with the E.T.T.A.'s Golden Jubilee — the Association was formed on April 24th 1927 — hold the option for 1977, but at the Biennial General Meeting of the I.T.T.F. to be held in Sarajevo during the period of Championships, the question will be put as to whether the option is to be taken up or relinquished.

The time of decision is therefore nigh and the twin headaches appertaining to finance and venue must now be relieved to the extent of saying yes, or no, to an undertaking that could well be a gamble of the utmost magnitude.

Venues as far spread as Brighton, Bristol and Blackpool have merited the consideration of the Steering Committee but all, without exception, lack spectator accommodation of a fixed and permanent nature.

Nowhere, it seems, throughout the length and breadth of England, is there a Sports Hall remotely comparable with those to be found on the Continent housing, as they do, seating for upwards of 5,000 people.

By itself, this problem is not insurmountable, but the transportation and erection of portable seating would add further to the costs which by Munich and Nagoya standards could be astronomical.

If a gamble is to be taken, then it will be with the fullest expectation of wholesale backing by the membership at large, the trade, and last, but by no means least, the Sports Council.

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REVISED WORLD RANKINGS

SWEDEN'S current World and European men's singles champion, Stellan Bengtsson, together with Nobuhiko Hasegawa of Japan, who beat China's Hsi En-ting to win the men's crown in the Asian Championships in Peking last September, retain their leading positions in the revised world classification list.

Istvan Jonyer of Hungary, the defeated European finalist in Rotterdam — he avenged that defeat by victory in the French Open last December — is also left undisturbed at No. 3 but from then on, with the exception of Kjell Johansson of Sweden (No. 5) and Choi Seung-Kuk (South Korea) at No. 29 the changes are wholesale.

China's Tiao Wen-yuan, a member of the People's Republic team to these shores in Dec., 1971 moves up from No. 7 to No. 4 but the biggest leap of all is credited to Tokio Tasaka of Japan who moves up twelve positions from No. 18 to No. 6!

From nowhere Yu It-se of China comes into the reckoning, at No. 7 with his previously unranked compatriot, Hsu Shao-fa placed at No. 19.

Japan provides two other newcomers from the previous list, in Norio Takashima and Tetsuo Inoue, the fifth and last new placing being North

Korea's second-ranked player Kim Chang Ho. England's Denis Neale moves down from No. 23 to No. 27.

Out from the previous list go Wang Chia-in (China), (22), Yujiro Imano (Japan), (24), Janos Börzsci (Hungary), (26), Jaroslav Kunz (Czechoslovakia), (27) and Stefan Kollarovits (Czechoslovakia), (30).

The full list for men (previous rankings in brackets) is:—

1. S. Bengtsson (Sweden) (1).
2. N. Hasegawa (Japan) (2).
3. I. Jonyer (Hungary) (3).
4. Tiao Wen-yuan (China) (7).
5. K. Johansson (Sweden) (5).
6. T. Tasaka (Japan) (18).
7. Yu It-se (China) (—).
8. Li Ching-kuang (China) (4).
9. M. Kohno (Japan) (10).
10. Hsu Shao-fa (China) (—).
11. A. Stipanovic (Yugoslavia) (9).
12. Hsi En-ting (China) (8).
13. E. Schöler (Federal Germany) (14).
14. S. Itoh (Japan) (6).
15. D. Surbek (Yugoslavia) (12).
16. Pak Sin Il (North Korea) (21).
17. J. Secretin (France) (16).
18. M. Orłowski (Czechoslovakia) (19).
19. S. Gomozkov (USSR) (17).
20. Liang Ko-liang (China) (13).
21. T. Klampár (Hungary) (11).
22. I. Korpa (Yugoslavia) (15).
23. M. Karakasevic (Yugoslavia) (20).

24. N. Takashima (Japan) (—).
25. W. Lieck (Federal Germany) (28).
26. T. Inoue (Japan) (—).
27. D. NEALE (England) (23).
28. Kim Chang Ho (North Korea) (—).
29. Choi Seung-Kuk (South Korea) (29).
30. J. Furai (Czechoslovakia) (25).

Victor and vanquished in the 31st World Championships in Nagoya. China's Lin Hui-ching and Cheng Min-chih, retain their leading roles in the women's list now joined, at Nos. 3 and 4 by Li Li and Hu Yu-lan to provide an overall swamping of the top seeded positions by the People's Republic.

Hungary's Beatrix Kishazi retains her No. 7 position but Zoya Rudnova, of Russia, is demoted seven places to No. 10. Otherwise the top ten positions are dominated by Asian players with South Korea's Lee Aileas moving up from No. 14 to No. 6 and China's Chou Pao-chin upgraded sixteen positions to No. 9!

North Korea's Cha Kyung Mi heads the newcomers, at No. 18 followed by Sachiko Yokota of Japan (20), Park Mi-la (South Korea), (21), Miloslava Polackova (Czechoslovakia), (26), Edano (Japan), (29) and Chung Huiyusuk (South Korea), (30).

Jill Hammersley of England moves up three positions to No. 25, bigger leaps having been taken by Chang Li of China, from 22 to 13 and by Yasuko Konno of Japan, from 24 to 14.

Out from the previous list go Alicia Grofova (Czechoslovakia), (18), Tomoko Sakamoto (Japan), (19), Pak



Former world singles champions, Toshiko Kowada and Shigeo Itoh of Japan both subjected to demotion in the new world rankings.

Photo by Sports and General, London.



Beatrix Kishazi (Hungary) who retains her seventh position in the women's list.

Photo by Tony Ross, Hull.

Mi-la (South Korea), (26), Lin Mei-cheng (China), (27), Mirjana Ristic (Yugoslavia), (29) and Lena Andersson (Sweden), (30).

The new list reads:--

1. Lin Hui-ching (China) (1).
2. Cheng Min-chih (China) (2).
3. Li Li (China) (5).
4. Hu Yu-lan (China) (12).
5. Y. Ohzeki (Japan) (4).
6. Lee Ailesa (South Korea) (14).
7. B. Kishazi (Hungary) (7).
8. M. Hamada (Japan) (15).
9. Chou Pao-chin (China) (25).
10. Z. Rudnova (USSR) (3).
11. I. Vostova (Czechoslovakia) (10).
12. J. Magos (Hungary) (13).
13. Chang Li (China) (22).
14. Y. Konno (Japan) (24).
15. M. Alexandru (Rumania) (8).
16. T. Kowada (Japan) (6).
17. D. Schöler (Federal Germany) (17).
18. Cha Kyung Mi (North Korea) (-).
19. Cheng Huai-ying (China) (9).
20. S. Yokota (Japan) (-).
21. Park Mi-la (South Korea) (-).
22. A. Simon (Federal Germany) (19).
23. M. Fukuno (Japan) (11).
24. B. Radberg (Sweden) (21).
25. J. HAMMERSLEY (England) (28).
26. M. Poloackova (Czechoslovakia) (-).
27. Takase (Japan) (20).
28. S. Federova (USSR) (16).
29. Edano (Japan) (-).
30. Chung Huyn-suk (South Korea) (-).

EUROPEAN LEAGUE

It's neck and neck again, between England and France, in the demotion stakes from the Premier Division of the European League.

To date both countries have played five matches with nought to show for their efforts and the wooden spoon awaits the losers in the final all-important match at Stoke Mandeville on Monday, Mar. 5.

England's penultimate encounter was away to Czechoslovakia, in



Zoya Rudnova of Russia, the only other European in the world's top ten.

Photo by Frank Davies, Bolton.

Karlovy Vary where, on Jan. 31, in front of 1,000 spectators, the host country — champions last season — wound up their programme with a 5-2 win.

Lacking the services of Denis Neale, a non-traveller because of 'flu, England came back from a 0-2 deficit to level at 2-all only to lose the next three sets in straight games.

Nicky Jarvis opened for England, in opposition to Jaroslav Kunz, and really tried very hard to win. Down 16-20 in the decider, after winning the second, the Teessider caught up at 'deuce' but then missed a chance ball and, with it, the set.

The match result hinged on the outcome of the second set between Milan Orlovski and Trevor Taylor.

But, the newly reinstated Hitchin international got off to a bad start as his opponent "went" for him in no uncertain fashion to win 2-straight

Next on court was Jill Hammersley who further enhanced her growing prestige with a great win over Ilona Vostova. And, in keeping with Jill's fighting spirit, Taylor and Jarvis made their mark in the doubles against Orlovski and Jiri Turai.

Thereafter it was the downhill path for England beginning with a difficult mixed against Orlovski/Vostova, one of the best pairs in the world. Partnered by Jarvis, Karenza Mathews hit well in the second game but it wasn't enough.

Taylor led 20-16 in the first game against Kunz, and Jarvis had a chance when leading Orlovski 19-16 in the second. But it was all in vain, yet if England can summon up the same spirit against France the chance of victory will be tremendous.

A succession of three 5-2 defeats, inflicted by Russia, in Moscow on Jan. 24, by Czechoslovakia, in Bordeaux on Feb. 6, and by Sweden, in Annecy on Feb. 14 has placed France 'on the ropes' for their final encounter. But surely that 6-1 win over England in Troyes last season cannot be repeated!

Indeed, apart from Jacques Secretin, whose one defeat in ten European League sets was inflicted by Kjell Johansson in Annecy—he had previously beaten Stellan Bengtsson

for the second time this season—who else can match his feats?

Hungary, now with Tibor Klampar back in the fold, are the only unbeaten side, Federal Germany having incurred their first defeat away to Czechoslovakia, in Prague, on Jan. 25.

Detailed results:--

U.S.S.R. 5, France 2

S. Gomozkov bt C. Martin 20, 12; S. Sarkhoyan lost to J. Secretin -19, -15;

Z. Rudnova bt B. Thiriet 8, 16; Gomozkov/Sarkhoyan bt Martin/Secretin 10, 15;

Gomozkov/Rudnova bt Secretin/Thiriet 13, 15;

Gomozkov lost to Secretin -19, -13; Sarkhoyan bt Martin 7, 18.

Czechoslovakia 5, Federal Germany 2

M. Orlovski bt E. Schöler 17, 20; J. Kunz lost to W. Lieck -21, -21; I. Vostova bt W. Hendriksen 16, -14, 5;

Orlovski/J. Turai bt J. Leiss/Lieck -20, 17, 20;

Orlovski/Vostova bt Schöler/I. Schöler -24, 20, 21;

Orlovski bt Lieck 19, 19;

Kunz lost to Schöler -14, 16, -18.

Czechoslovakia 5, England 2

Kunz bt N. Jarvis 18, -16, 20;

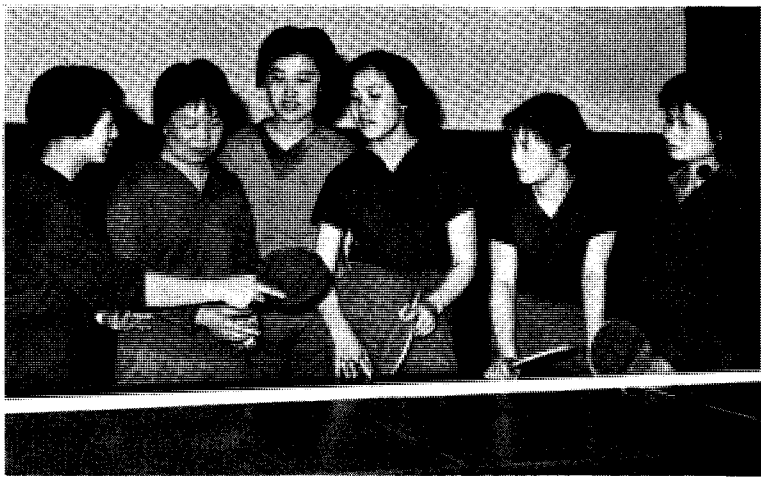
Orlovski bt T. Taylor 12, 12;

Vostova lost to J. Hammersley -18, 9, -15;

Orlovski/Turai lost to Taylor/Jarvis -13, 15, -12;

continued on next page

halex Play against your opponent, not against the ball



China's Cheng Min-chih passes on tactical advice which was well heeded by world triple champion, Lin Hui-ching (second left), who beat her tutor in the women's singles final in Nagoya.

Orlowski/Vostova bt Jarvis/K.

Mathews 12, 18;
Kunz bt Taylor 20, 16;
Orlowski bt Jarvis 14, 19.

France 2, Czechoslovakia 5

Secretin bt Kunz 18, 14;
J. D. Constant lost to Orlowski -13, -15;
C. Bergeret lost to M. Polackova 14, -17, -18;

Secretin/Constant lost to Orlowski/Turai -17, -16;
Secretin/Bergeret lost to Orlowski/Vostova -14, -21;
Secretin bt Orlowski 10, 16;
Constant lost to Kunz -12, -16.

France 2, Sweden 5

Secretin bt S. Bengtsson 13, -17, 23;
P. Birocheau lost to K. Johansson -18, -16;
Bergeret lost to B. Radberg -18, -13;
Birocheau/P. Molodtsov lost to Bengtsson/Johansson -14, -20;
Secretin/Bergeret bt Bengtsson/L. Andersson 12, 22;
Secretin lost to Johansson -19, -18;
Birocheau lost to Bengtsson -3, -13.

League table:—

	P	W	L	F	A	Pts
Sweden	5	4	1	23	12	4
U.S.S.R.	4	3	1	21	7	3
Hungary	3	3	0	15	6	3
Fed. Germany	4	3	1	15	13	3
Czechoslovakia	6	3	3	20	22	3
France	5	0	5	11	24	0
England	5	0	5	7	28	0

Austria maintained their unbeaten record in **Division 2** when, in Vienna on Feb. 3, they beat Italy 5-2.

Scores:—

R. Weinmann bt R. Giontella 14, -10, 16;
F. Thallinger lost to S. Bosi 14, -16, -13;
G. Smekal bt S. Milic 13, 18;
Weinmann/G. Thall bt Bosi/Giontella 18, 17;
Weinmann/Smekal bt Giontella/Milic 18, -15, 7;
Weinmann lost to Bosi -16, -16;
Thallinger bt Giontella 17, 15.

Scotland, away to Luxembourg, were beaten 4-3 but Greece accounted for the Grand Duchy 7-0 in Athens. Table:—

	P	W	L	F	A	Pts
Austria	3	3	0	17	4	3
Belgium	3	3	0	14	7	3
Italy	4	3	1	15	13	3
Luxembourg	4	2	2	12	16	2
Greece	3	1	2	10	11	1
Scotland	4	0	4	10	18	0
Switzerland	3	0	3	6	15	0

EUROPEAN TOP 12

Europe's top twelve men and women gathered in Böblingen, Federal Germany over the period Feb. 16/18 to participate in the second Classification Tournament promoted by the E.T.T.U.

World champion Bengtsson came out on top of the men's section despite incurring two losses, to Istvan Jonyer and Ebby Schöler.

Winner of the women's section was Beatrix Kishazi and she too lost two sets, to Judit Magos and Ilona Vostova. England's Jill Hammersley finished a creditable 6th having accomplished wins over Vostova (3-0), Di Schöler (3-1), Agnes Simon (3-2), Alicia Grofova (3-0), Lena Andersson (3-0) and Mirjana Resler (3-0).

In her five defeats, Jill went down to Zoya Rudnova (1-3), Kishazi (0-3), Magos (2-3), Maria Alexandru (2-3) and Birgitta Radberg (0-3).

Final lists were:— (Ranking in brackets).

Men	Sets	Games
1. S. Bengtsson (Sweden) (1)	9-2	29-13
2. D. Surbek (Yugoslavia) (5)	7-4	23-16
3. A. Stipancic (Yugoslavia) (4)	7-4	24-18
4. K. Johansson (Sweden) (3)	7-4	23-18
5. M. Orlowski (Czech.) (11)	6-5	24-21
6. J. Secretin (France) (9)	6-5	23-20
7. E. Schöler (F. Germany) (7)	6-5	21-21
8. T. Klampar (Hungary) (6)	5-6	22-22
9. I. Jonyer (Hungary) (2)	4-7	24-25
10. S. Gomozkov (USSR) (10)	4-7	20-26
11. M. Karakasevic (Yugoslavia) (12)	3-8	17-26
12. I. Korpa (Yugoslavia) (8)	2-9	10-30

Women

1. B. Kishazi (Hungary) (2)	9-2	27-9
2. J. Magos (Hungary) (3)	8-3	30-14
3. I. Vostova (Czech.) (5)	8-3	26-15
4. Z. Rudnova (USSR) (1)	7-4	27-16

- M. Alexandru (Rumania) (4)
7-4 25-20
- J. Hammersley (England) (10)
6-5 23-18
- A. Grofova (Czech.) (9)
6-5 19-19
- B. Radberg (Sweden) (6)
6-5 20-22
- A. Simon (F. Germany) (8)
3-8 15-26
- L. Andersson (Sweden) (11)
3-8 12-25
- D. Schöler (F. Germany) (7)
2-9 15-29
- M. Resler (Yugoslavia) (13)
1-10 6-32

Mirjana Resler took the place of Svetlana Federova (nee Grinberg) of the U.S.S.R.

OBITUARY

Mr. Zdenek Heydusek, a former secretary of the Czechoslovak Table Tennis Association, has died in Prague at the age of 75. A civil engineer by profession, he was donor of the Heydusek Prize, the trophy for the world table tennis championship at mixed doubles and himself one of the few surviving founders of the International Table Tennis Federation and participant in the first world championships, held in London in 1926. He leaves a widow, son and daughter.

CANADIAN RANKINGS

MEN: 1. Caetano; 2. Wall; 3. Lee; 4. Gonda; 5. Germain; 6. Klevinas; 7. Pataky; 8. Feldstein; 9. Thomas; 10. Cheng.

WOMEN: 1. Nesukaitis; 2. Domonkos; 3. Simerl; 4. Gero; 5. Marinko; 6. Nesukaitis (F).

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Most magazines will, we know, be duplicated but what we want to study are things like readability, set-out, etc.

If leagues wish to have the findings of the panel, fair enough. In any case reasons why the winners have been chosen will be announced so go to it.

But — please go to it now — let us have those magazines. Who knows? **YOUR** League could be a winner.

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MAJOR TITLE FOR DOUGLAS

From an entry 30% up on recent years and only six short of an outright record, the *Kent 2-Star Open*, played at Folkestone on Jan 27/28, came two double champions - Sue Howard and Desmond Douglas. Both won the major singles titles as well as the U-20 events.

With three of the top women on 'foreign' duty, and some of the others declining a weekend by the sea, Sue Howard was top-seeded woman in all four events open to her and duly reached all four finals.

In the first, the U-20 GS, she was opposed by Janet Hellaby who went under, as did all before her, in 2-straight. In the counterpart boys' event, Douglas beat Andrew Barden, the Middlesex junior having played extremely well throughout the tournament and lifted himself to unexpected heights to beat Peter Taylor, the England No. 5 -- not a bad achievement for a 14-year-old!

Sue Howard returned on court to contest the third of the final events and disposed of the host county's only finalist, Betty Bird, to achieve her double.

The men's singles trophy had to be taken back to Warwickshire with that county providing both finalists -- Douglas and Brian Burn. Desmond was having a great weekend having disposed of Richard Yule in the quarters (the Scot having eliminated Peter Taylor) before meeting England No. 4 Alan Hydes in the semis.

This was one of the best sets of the day with the newly-ranked No. 10 taking the deciding game at 19. This performance put the crowd right behind the younger player in the final and he duly obliged with a 2-straight victory to take his first senior 2-Star Open title and give the tournament its second double champion.

According to Tournament Regulations, Luxembourg's Jean Krier should not have been allowed to enter the

Pontefract 1-Star played on Jan. 27, but there were no real complaints when he did. Except from Steve Rossington that is—who pointed out that they were both from the same league, Hull, and didn't ought to meet in the first round.

This appeal was over-ruled and Steve duly ousted the No. 2 seed. Derek Schofield always has a good day at Pontefract and thrives on jumping over outstretched legs within the narrow confines of the hall yet never complains. Unseeded he came through from the preliminaries to meet Tony Clayton in the M.S. final having earlier avenged his Lincs. Open defeat by Brian Starkie in the veterans' event.

Telegaph and Argus headline read "Bradford burns the midnight oil at Pontefract". But it wasn't quite as bad as that for, with the determination to run the mixed event this year, the time of finish was 11-45 p.m., when Steve Worsman and Sylvia Broadbent wound up the proceedings.

For the first time, according to Cliff Darley's memory, some entries had to be returned. "Sorry Halifax, but a 3p stamp might have done the trick and regrets also to Wharfedale/Airedale in their first year of affiliation to the Yorkshire T.T.A."

The *Chelmsford 2-Star Open*, played on the following weekend was full of interesting play with "Les" Haslam, the giant Jamaican-born Middlesex international dominating the men's singles with his own brand of awe-inspiring power.

Richard Yule, the Scottish international, was the only player to really extend him and in a crackerjack semi "Les" only got his nose in front in the third.

Brian Burn was his final opponent, Burn having defeated Desmond Douglas in the other semi, a surprise this for Desmond, the quicksilver junior international, who had beaten

his county colleague in the final of the Kent Open the previous weekend.

In the final, Burn had no answer to Haslam's hitting. "Les" just kept kept thumping away to win in straight games.

Another junior, Simon Heaps, had a good win over his Cheshire county teammate Mike Johns in an early round while top seed Peter Taylor was despatched by Burn.

Lesley Radford, the Essex No. 1, confirmed her No. 3 England ranking with a string of convincing wins. In the final she gradually wore down Shelagh Hession having encountered stiff opposition from Susan Beckwith in the semis. Shelagh had her usual marathon with Judy Williams in the other semi winning in the decider on expedite. Big shock in this event was the elimination of Diane Court by Cathy Stonell, the Essex junior.

The men's doubles saw the junior international partnership of Douglas and Heaps convincing winners over Haslam and Derek Munt. Their hardest set appeared to be over the other junior internationals, mighty midgets Paul Day and Andrew Barden, England's U-14 Cadet team.

Tit bit here was the struggle Day and Barden had to defeat local midgets Andrew Bawden and Steve Newman. In fact the international pair retrieved a five point deficit in the third!

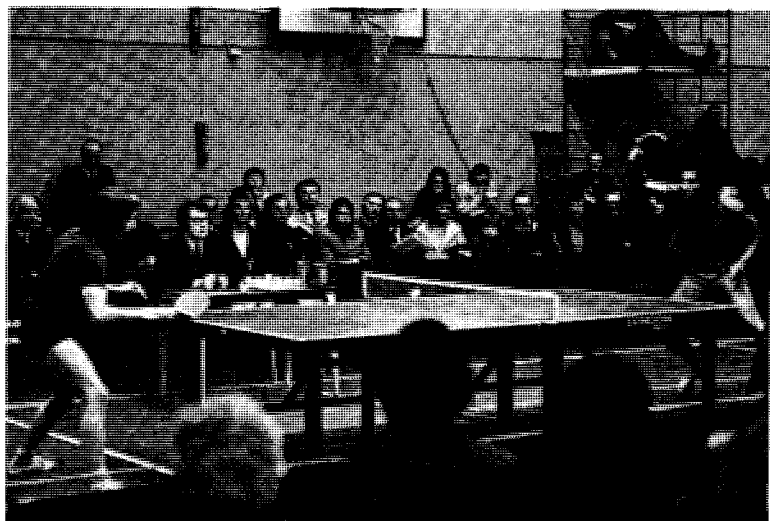
The mixed event provided another good win for Douglas and Susan Kavallicrou, surprising victors over favourites Mike Johns and Di Court in the final. Highlight in the rounds was the elimination of Peter and Lesley Radford by the very junior pair of Paul Day (14) and Angela Mitchell (12). Paul's fierce forehand looping being too hot to handle.

On the same day, in the *South Yorkshire 1-Star Open* at Sheffield, Lancashire's Donald Parker was making hay by winning his first senior men's singles title, beating Maurice Newman. And, for good measure, the young Lancastrian accounted for David Boulter in the final of the boys' event.

Judith Walker's shock exit in the third round of the women's singles was executed by Beryl Shaw but it was Sandra Walters who took the title.

Mick Askham beat Marice Billington in the second round of the men's

continued on next page



O. B. "Les" Haslam (right) on his way to victory over Richard Yule in the final of the men's singles event in the Chelmsford 2-Star Open.

Photo by courtesy of the "Essex Chronicle" series.

champion

halex Play against your opponent, not against the ball

singles, although Billington had the consolation of winning the men's doubles, this time with the help of Askham.

Mike Johns came into his own in the *Basingstoke 2-Star Open*, played on Feb 10, by winning the men's singles event. *And the beaten finalist, for the third weekend running was Brian Burn!* Top seed Alan Hydes failed to show for this tournament which is becoming far too regular an occurrence.

Suzanne Kavallierou brought off a creditable victory over Shelagh Hession in the semi but proved no match for Lesley Radford in the final.

Black mark in this tournament went to Ian Robertson who incurred the referees' displeasure by conduct prejudicial to the interest of the game as a result of which he was removed from the mixed event in the second game of a semi final involving Janet Hellaby and Peter and Lesley Radford.

On the junior front, the 14-event *Burford 2-Star Junior Open* held sway over the weekend of Jan 27/28 with Chris Rogers and Caroline Reeves taking the lion's share of the awards.

The only storm encountered by the Leicester youngster was in the U-15 BS event when he was beaten, in the semis, by Lancashire's Nigel Hallows who went on to win the title with victory over Jonathon Proffitt.

It was a reversal of the Lancastrian's defeat in the quarters of the U-17 event, again in three, which afforded Rogers his springboard to final victory over David Boulter.

Although the entry for the *Exeter 1-Star Junior Open*, played on Feb 3,

was below that of previous years, it was not without the usual interesting features.

It was a good day for Chris Sewell in that he took both the U-17 and U-15 BS. Last season he won the U-13 title. The main event proved somewhat easy for the Bristol player against Michael Williams who only offered token resistance in the final. In the U-15 final Bill Dawe, after losing the first game easily, put up a stern fight in the second and extended Sewell to 'deuce' before going down.

Linda Wales and Caroline Reeves did battle four times during the day. In the U-15 semis, Caroline won through to the final to face Jill Wilson and she had to go to three games to overcome the girl from Bridgwater.

Caroline had to concede defeat in the top event to Linda who proved far too steady for the Berkshire girl.

Janet New had to pull out all the stops to take the U-13 GS against Mandy Smith. More success came to the Reeves family when David took the U-13 BS by beating Ian James, the Cornish boy with a big future.

Exeter had a part success in the mixed when Martin Ashcroft teamed up with Linda Wales to overcome Steve Wilson and Julie Reading. Mention must be made of Richard Bergemann who caught the eye and is sure to come to the fore very soon.

Biggest shock on the junior front occurred at Warley on Feb 10 when, in the West Midland 2-Star Junior Open, England top junior Desmond Douglas was beaten in straight games, in the final of the U-17 BS by Donald Parker.

Preston's pride and joy swept through with a succession of 2-game victories. But, then, so too did Douglas!

In the U-17 BD, Douglas, partnered by A. Cotten, was again subjected to a Parker onslaught which was only subdued at 23-21 in the third by the Warwickshire pair against a cock-a-hoop Prestonian partnered by county teammate Nigel Hallows of Bolton.

Completing a happy weekend for the Red Rose county, Liverpool's Brenda Williams triumphed in the U-17 GS with final victory over Susan Holmes after the Derby girl had basked in the limelight of a quarter-final win over Karen Rogers!

Diane St. Ledger was the losing girls' U-17 finalist but she, together with Douglas, redressed the balance a little by taking the mixed title for Warwickshire with final victory over Chris and Karen Rogers of Leicestershire.

Kent 2 Star Open

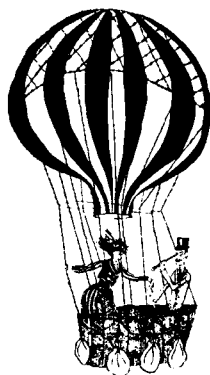
Men's Singles: Semi-finals:
B. Burn (Warwks) bt M. Johns (Ches) 13, 17;
D. Douglas (Warwks) bt A. Hydes (Yorks) 20, 14, 19.
Final:
DOUGLAS bt Burn 17, 17.
Women's Singles: Semi-finals:
S. Howard (Surrey) bt D. Court (Middx) 9, 8;
B. Bird (Kent) bt J. Hellaby (Essex) 6, 14.
Final:
HOWARD bt Bird 12, 16.
Men's Doubles: Final:
HYDES/JOHNS bt D. Brown (Essex)/R. Chandler (Surrey) 16, -23, 17.
Women's Doubles: Final:
BIRD/COURT bt Howard/K. Mashford (Berks) -19, 9, 20.
Mixed Doubles: Final:
JOHNS/COURT bt Hydes/Howard 15, -17, 20.

U-20 Boys' Singles: Final:
DOUGLAS bt A. Barden (Middx) 15, 16.
U-20 Girls' Singles: Final:
HOWARD bt Hellaby 17, 16.

Pontefract 1 Star Open

Men's Singles: Quarter-finals:
D. Schofield (Ches) bt N. Eckersley (Ches) 18, 17;
J. Yeats (Yorks) bt D. Marples (Derbys) 19, -12, 18;
A. Clayton (Yorks) bt T. Donlon (Ches) 12, 15;
J. McNea (Ches) bt R. Swain (Yorks) 18, 18.
Semi-finals:
Schofield bt Yeats 13, 17;
Clayton bt McNea 11, 14.
Final:
CLAYTON bt Schofield 14, 17.
Women's Singles: Quarter-finals:
S. Lisle (Lancs) bt L. Sutton (Yorks) 7, 10;
B. Williams (Lancs) bt G. Stocks (Yorks) 19, 14;
S. Broadbent (Yorks) bt B. Shaw (Notts) 18, 18;
J. Walker (Yorks) bt K. Wilson (Yorks) 11, 15.
Semi-finals:
Lisle bt Williams 16, 17;
Walker bt Broadbent 24, 8.
Final:
LISLE bt Walker 14, 14.
Men's Doubles: Semi-finals:
S. Kosmowsky/R. Priestley (Yorks) bt C. Brewer (Leics)/Clayton -16, 19, 12;
J. Krier (Luxem)/M. Wright (Yorks) bt P. D'Arcy (Lancs)/Eckersley 9, -16, 13.
Final:
KRIER/WRIGHT bt Kosmowsky/Priestley 10, 19.
Women's Doubles:
Final:
BROADBENT/WALKER bt Lisle/A. McCarthy (Yorks) 15, 12.
Mixed Doubles: Final:
S. WORSMAN (Yorks)/BROADBENT bt Clayton/Lisle -19, 17, 10.
Boys' Singles: Quarter-finals:
McNee bt P. Halmshaw (Yorks) 16, 10;
P. Morris (Lancs) bt G. Hill (Yorks) 10, 17;
P. Cox (Yorks) bt B. Baxter (Yorks) 12, 11;
M. Hoy (Lancs) bt R. Dawkins (Notts) 16, 19.
Semi-finals:
McNee bt Morris 6, 9;
Hoy bt Cox 16, 19.
Final:
McNEE bt Hoy 16, 22.

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Girls' Singles: Quarter-finals:
Walker bt McCarthy 12, 19;
S. Manning (Lancs) bt B. Kearney (Nthld)
13, 19;
M. Ludi (Yorks) bt L. Clark (Nthld)
21, 18;
Williams bt J. Richardson (Yorks) 9, 13.
Semi-finals:
Walker bt Manning 20, 19;
Williams bt Ludi 12, 10.
Final:
WALKER bt Williams 19, 11.
Veteran Singles: Semi-finals:
B. Starkie (Yorks) bt Marples 16, 19;
Schofield bt G. Brook (Yorks) 16, 19.
Final:
SCHOFIELD bt Starkie 16, -10, 15.

Chelmsford 2 Star Open

Men's Singles: Quarter-finals:
B. Burn (Warwks) bt P. Taylor (Beds)
16, 18;
D. Douglas (Warks) bt P. Randall
(Leics) 18, 12;
O. Haslam (Middx) bt D. Brown (Essex)
16, 10;
R. Yule (Scot) bt S. Heaps (Ches)
-16, 8, 16.
Semi-finals:
BURN bt Douglas -16, 8, 14;
Haslam bt Yule 17, -11, 14.
Final:
HASLAM bt Burn 15, 12.
Women's Singles: Quarter-finals:
L. Radford (Essex) bt A. Painter (Middx)
12, 14;
S. Beckwith (Essex) bt C. Stonell (Essex)
13, 17;
S. Hession (Essex) bt A. Stevenson
(Leics) 15, 13;
J. Williams (Sussex) bt B. Bird (Kent)
12, 4.
Semi-finals:
Radford bt Beckwith 18, 11;
Hession bt Williams 20, 20, 10.
Final:
RADFORD bt Hession 9, 19
Men's Doubles: Semi-finals:
Haslam/D. Munt (Warwks) bt P. Beck/
A. Mitchell (Kent) 16, -16, 19;
Douglas/Heaps bt A. Barden (Middx)/
P. Day (Cambs) 19, -12, 15.
Final:
DOUGLAS/HEAPS bt Haslam/Munt 14, 20.
Women's Doubles: Semi-finals:
D. Court (Middx)/Radford bt Beckwith/
G. Locke (Essex) 13, 16;
Bird/S. Kavalierou (Sussex) bt Hession/
Williams 12, -12, 19.
Final:
COURT/RADFORD bt Bird/Kavalierou
17, 16.
Mixed Doubles: Semi-finals:
Johns/Court bt K. Beamish (Essex)/
Hession 15, 18;
Douglas/Kavalierou bt Haslam/Bird
-18, 15, 10.
Final:
DOUGLAS/KAVALIEROU bt Johns/Court
19, 15.

South Yorkshire 1 Star

Men's Singles: Quarter-finals:
D. Parker (Lancs.) bt D. Rayner (Yorks.)
13, 14;
D. Boulter (Essex) bt A. Sanderson (Yorks)
19, -10, 20;
M. Newman (Leics) bt D. Marples (Derbys)
21, -18, 6;
N. Marples (Derbys) bt N. Davies (Yorks)
-17, 8, 11.
Semi-finals:
Parker bt Boulter 9, 21;
Newman bt N. Marples 20, 17.

Final:
PARKER bt Newman 13, 15.
Women's Singles: Semi-finals:
B. Shaw (Notts) bt C. Moran (Lincs)
18, 17;
S. Walters (Derbys) bt M. Mellor (Derbys)
11, 13.
Final:
WALTERS bt Shaw -18, 18, 16;
Men's Doubles: Semi-finals:
Rayner/Sanderson bt Davies/A. Jones
(Nthld) -13, 16, 19;
M. Askham (Yorks)/M. Billington (Derbys)
bt E. Hall/M. Thorley (Derbys)
-16, 19, 13.
Final:
ASKHAM/BILLINGTON bt Rayner/
Sanderson 14, 14.
Women's Doubles: Semi-finals:
L. Hamilton/E. Starkie (Yorks) bt
B. Shepherd/K. Wilson (Yorks) 16, 16;
P. Hopkin (Notts)/Shaw bt M. Mellor/
Walters 13, -16, 17.
Final:
HAMILTON/STARKIE bt Hopkin/Shaw
10, -17, 9.
Mixed Doubles: Semi-finals:
Newman/K. Rogers (Leics) bt D. McGarry
(Yorks)/Hamilton 19, 5;
R. Brothwell/J. Walker (Yorks) bt J.
Marshall (Lancs)/S. Broadbent (Yorks)
17, -16, 20.
Final:
BROTHWELL/WALKER bt Newman/
Rogers -19, 15, 19.
Boys' Singles: Quarter-finals:
Parker bt M. Harrison (Yorks) 6, 10;
D. Yallop (Derbys) bt D. Johnson (Warwks)
-18, 10, 18;
M. Seed (Lancs) bt D. Robson (Yorks)
15, 16;
Boulter bt B. Baxter (Yorks) 10, -15, 19.
Semi-finals:
Parker bt Yallop 10, 10;
Boulter bt Seed 19, 18.
Final:
PARKER bt Boulter 15, 11.
Girls' Singles: Semi-finals:
Walker bt Wilson -19, 12, 16;
Rogers bt M. Mellor 14, 13.
Final:
WALKER bt Rogers 9, 24.

Basingstoke 2 Star Open

Men's Singles: Quarter-finals:
B. Burn (Warwks) bt C. Warren (Surrey)
17, 13;
D. Munt (Warwks) bt P. Taylor (Beds)
8, -21, 7;
R. Chandler (Surrey) bt G. Walsh (Surrey)
13, 14;
M. Johns (Ches) bt D. Brown (Essex)
17, 16.
Semi-finals:
Burn bt Munt 5, 11;
Johns bt Chandler 17, -18, 12.
Final:
JOHNS bt Burn 18, -16, 14.
Women's Singles: Semi-finals:
L. Radford (Essex) bt J. Hellaby (Essex)
9, 19;
S. Kavalierou (Sussex) bt S. Hession
(Essex) 19, 18.
Final:
RADFORD bt Kavalierou 15, 5.
Men's Doubles: Semi-finals:
Munt/Taylor bt D. Bowles/P. Radford
(Essex) 20, 19;
Brown/Chandler bt Johns/Warren 24, 19.
Final:
BROWN/CHANDLER bt Munt/Taylor
13, -20, 13.
Women's Doubles: Semi-finals:
D. Court (Middx)/Radford bt N. Leslie/
S. Tame (Surrey) 14, 13;

Hellaby/J. Warren (Surrey) bt Hession/
J. Vass (Surrey) 19, 23.
Final:
COURT/RADFORD bt Hellaby/Warren
11, 18.
Mixed Doubles: Semi-finals:
Johns/Court bt S. Kinge (Hants)/Tame
14, 15;
Radford/Radford bt I. Robertson (Essex)/
Hellaby 18, 8 (retired).
Final:
JOHNS/COURT bt Radford/Radford 15,
-18, 12.

Burford 2 Star Junior Open

U-17 Events:
Boys' Singles: Quarter-finals:
M. Douglas (Sussex) bt D. Reeves (Berks)
19, 13;
C. Rogers (Leics) bt N. Hallows (Lancs)
18, -18, 14;
G. Hall (Leics) bt S. Newman (Essex)
14, 19;
D. Boulter (Essex) bt D. Yallop (Derbys)
5, -8, 13.
Semi-finals:
Rogers bt Douglas 18, 12;
Boulter bt Hall 18, 20.
Final:
ROGERS bt Boulter 8, 16.
Girls' Singles: Quarter-finals:
C. Reeves (Berks) bt S. Holmes (Derbys)
18, 19;
J. Campion (Middx) bt S. Dove (Middx)
18, 10;
K. Greenough (Surrey) bt M. Sangster
(Middx) 11, 18;
C. Stonell (Essex) bt E. Lamb (Devon)
11, 17.
Semi-finals:
Reeves bt Campion 12, 18;
Greenough bt Stonell 13, 19.
Final:
REEVES bt Greenough 19, 11.
Boys' Doubles: Semi-finals:
Hall/D. Newman (Essex) bt M. Bawden
(Essex)/Boulter 18, -15, 18;
A. Hicks (Berks)/Reeves bt A. Allars
(Sussex)/Douglas 13, 16.
Final:
HALL/NEWMAN bt Hicks/Reeves 17, 14.
Girls' Doubles: Semi-finals:
Campion/Stonell bt Dove/Sangster 18, 22;
P. Allen (Ches)/Reeves bt M. Johnson/
M. Williams (Berks) 19, 18.
Final:
ALLEN/REEVES bt Campion/Stonell
19, 16.

U-15 Events:
Boys' Singles: Quarter-finals:
J. Proffitt (Herts) bt P. Trott (Berks)
18, -18, 13;
Allars bt R. Jermyn (Herts) 20, 19;
Hallows bt G. Hoy (Lancs) 13, 19;
Rogers bt D. Newman 16, -15, 17.
Semi-finals:
Proffitt bt Allars 19, -16, 17;
Hallows bt Rogers -10, 12, 12.
Final:
HALLOWS bt Proffitt 17, 15.
Girls' Singles: Quarter-finals:
A. Mitchell (Middx) bt Williams 18, 18;
Campion bt Dove 17, 19;
Greenough bt Sangster -13, 16, 12;
Reeves bt Allen -17, 14, 11.
Semi-finals:
Campion bt Mitchell 20, 18;
Reeves bt Greenough -16, 16, 13.
Final:
REEVES bt Campion 12, 21.
Boys' Doubles: Semi-finals:
Allars/Douglas bt A. Proffitt (Herts)/
J. Proffitt 20, 11;
Hall/D. Newman bt Jermyn/M. Shuttle
(Surrey) 15, 8.
Final:
HALL/NEWMAN bt Allars/Douglas 19, 15.
Girls' Doubles: Semi-finals:
Campion/Mitchell bt Greenough/S. O'Brien
13, 14;
Allen/Reeves bt Dove/Sangster 18, 13.
Final:
CAMPION/MITCHELL bt Allen/Reeves
-13, 12, 15.
U-13 EVENTS:
Boys' Singles: Semi-finals:
Rogers bt D. Newman 18, -16, 15;
Jermyn bt D. Reeves (Berks) 13, 19.
Final:
ROGERS bt Jermyn 12, 12.
Girls' Singles: Semi-finals:
Mitchell bt M. Wakely (Devon) 18, 9;
J. New (Hants) bt B. Chamberlain (Hunts)
15, -17, 14.
Final:
MITCHELL bt New -19, 11, 19.
Boys' Doubles: Semi-finals:
Rogers/K. Hall (Leics) bt Shuttle/A. Stonell
(Essex) 8, 14;
G. Aldon (Northants)/D. Newman bt
T. Boyle/S. Kinge (Hants) 13, 12.
Final:
HALL/ROGERS bt Aldon/Newman 12, 13.

continued on next page



Desmond Douglas and Susan Kavalierou who took over the XD title from Peter and Lesley Radford at the 2nd Chelmsford Open.

Photo by courtesy of the "Essex Chronicle" series.

TOP
Spin
halex Play against your opponent,
not against the ball

Girls' Doubles: Semi-finals:
Chamberlain/Mitchell bt M. Mytton/
R. Newman 6, 10;
Lamb/New bt J. Douglas/Wakely 15, 14.
Final:
CHAMBERLAIN/MITCHELL bt Lamb/New
14, 15.
U-11 EVENTS:
Boys' Singles: Semi-finals:
A. Proffitt bt N. Dines 8, 8;
G. Baker bt C. Wilson 14, 13.
Final:
PROFFITT bt Baker 14, 10.
Girls' Singles: Semi-finals:
M. Smith (Berks) bt A. Gordon (Berks)
13, 16;
G. Heath (Berks) bt M. Mytton (Worcs)
17, 17.
Final:
SMITH bt Heath 11, 16.

Exeter 1 Star Junior Open

U-17 EVENTS
Boys' Singles: SEWELL (Gloucs) bt M. Williams
(Gloucs) 16, 9
Girls' Singles:
L. WALES (Sussex) bt C. Reeves (Berks)
16, 16.
Boys' Doubles:
W. DAWE (Gloucs)/WILLIAMS bt
R. Svendsen/R. Woodward (Gloucs)
12, 8.
Girls' Doubles:
REEVES/M. SMITH (Berks) bt K. Rowe
(Devon)/Wales 18, 15.
Mixed Doubles:
M. ASHCROFT (Devon)/WALES bt
S. Wilson (Somerset)/J. Reading (Hants)
13, 15.

U-15 EVENTS
Boys' Singles: SEWELL bt Dawe 12, 20.
Girls' Singles:
REEVES bt J. Wilson (Somerset)
-21, 16, 14
U-13 EVENTS
Boys' Singles:
D. Reeves (Berks) bt I. James (Cornwall)
18, 7.
Girls' Singles:
J. NEW (Hants) bt M. Smith (Berks)
-19, 11, 19.

West Midland 2 Star Junior Open

U-17 Events:
Boys' Singles: Quarter-finals:
D. Douglas (Warwks) bt C. Sewell
(Gloucs) 15, 14;
R. Wiley (Yorks) bt C. Rogers (Leics)
14, 12;
B. Alderson (Yorks) bt K. Alden (Leics)
13, 16;
D. Parker (Lancs) bt D. Newman (Essex).
Semi-finals:
Douglas bt Wiley 23, 17;
Parker bt Alderson 7, 15.
Final:
PARKER bt Douglas 18, 19.
Girls' Singles: Quarter-finals:
B. Williams (Lancs) bt J. Skipp (Yorks)
5, 11;
D. St. Ledger (Warwks) bt J. Boulter
(Essex) 3, 2;
P. Allen (Ches) bt M. Sangster (Middx)
-22, 17, 21;
S. Holmes (Derbys) bt K. Rogers (Leics)
-16, 12, 15.
Semi-finals:
Williams bt St. Ledger 20, -11, 15;
Holmes bt Allen 15, 7.
Final:
WILLIAMS bt Holmes 14, -17, 17.

Boys' Doubles: Semi-finals:
N. Hallows (Lancs)/Parker bt K. Hall
(Leics)/Rogers 18, 21;
A. Cotton (Warwks)/Douglas bt D. Yallop/
P. Vickers (Derbys) 15, 15.
Final:
COTTON/DOUGLAS bt Hallows/Parker
19, -15, 21.
Girls' Doubles: Semi-finals:
Rogers/St. Ledger bt S. Dove (Middx)/
Sangster 7, 15;
J. Black (Lancs)/Williams bt C. Knight
(Yorks)/Skipp 7, 10.

Final:
ROGERS/ST. LEDGER bt Black/Williams
10, 18.
Mixed Doubles: Semi-finals:
Douglas/St. Ledger bt Wiley/Knight
-12, 14, 20;
Rogers/Rogers bt D. Boulter (Essex)/
Williams 13, -16, 17.
Final:
DOUGLAS/ST. LEDGER bt Rogers/
Rogers 17, 11.

U-15 EVENTS:
Boys' Singles: Quarter-finals:
Wiley bt D. Shropshire (Warwks) 18, 14;
Hallows bt M. Page (Essex) -18, 18, 13;
Rogers bt Sewell 6, -17, 7;
S. Souter (Yorks) bt G. Hall (Leics) -18,
16, 14.
Semi-finals:
Wiley bt Hallows -17, 15, 14;
Rogers bt Souter -18, 17, 11.
Final:
WILEY bt Rogers 12, 9
Girls' Singles: Quarter-finals:
Sangster bt Boulter 13, 14;
Black bt S. Tilley (Devon) 15, 10;
G. Round (Staffs) bt R. Hodgkiss (Staffs)
11, 17;

B. Chamberlain (Hunts) bt E. Lamb
(Warwks) 9, 15.
Semi-finals:
Black bt Sangster 19, 22;
Chamberlain bt Round 12, 16.
Final:
CHAMBERLAIN bt Black 18, 19.
U-13 EVENTS
Boys' Singles: Quarter-finals:
Rogers bt G. Alden (Northants) 17, 9;
A. Sankey (Warwks) bt P. Ellison (Ducham)
-18, 16, 18;
K. Hall bt L. Chapman (Cambs) 15, -20, 18;
M. Harrison (Yorks) bt R. Carwright
(Staffs) 17, 12.
Semi-finals:
Rogers bt Sankey 16, 14;
Harrison bt Hall 17, 19.
Final:
ROGERS bt Harrison 13, 15.
Girls' Singles: Quarter-finals:
Lamb bt Boulter 18, 19;
Chamberlain bt L. Holmes (Derby) 7, 11;
R. Newman (Cambs) bt V. Feakin (Leics)
16, 16;
J. Hinton (Staffs) bt S. Hemmings (Warwks)
13, 18.
Semi-finals:
Chamberlain bt Lamb -20, 13, 15;
Newman bt Hinton 14, -13, 15.
Final:
CHAMBERLAIN bt Newman 11, 17.

Midland League

by PHILIP REID

First—congratulations to Worcester, undisputed champions of Junior 2A Division. Worcester's proud record is 49 sets won out of 50 — not much doubt about their right to the league title! Congratulations to the talented trio of J. Lancaster, A. Oakley and S. Claxton.

In Division 2B, Derby 'B' lost a bit of ground when they lost 7-3 to Birmingham 'B'. It means now that a draw by Loughborough will give them the title when they play Derby. Peter Angrave tops the averages in this division, with Derby's Susan Holmes second.

A Birmingham side strengthened by the inclusion of Desmond Douglas broke Derby's 100% record and incidentally David Yallop's 100% record too. Both these teams have dropped two points and the only team who appear likely to challenge them are Leicester, who have matches in hand.

A 6-4 defeat by Bristol seems unlikely to spoil Birmingham's chances of regaining the Mens 1st Division title. They appear to be 'home and dry'. But what a contrast at the bottom of the chart! Worcester (1 point), Hinckley (3), Gloucester (4) and Leicester (4) are all in the relegation zone.

No division is being more fiercely contested than the Mens 2nd, Cheltenham and Oxford have each dropped two points and hold a marginal advantage, but with Wolverhampton and West Bromwich having each dropped only three, and Derby four, it looks very open indeed. West Brom's chances took a knock when they lost 6-4 at home to Oxford with C. Alcock beating Peter Eaton -20, 20, 17 in the final set.

The inclusion of Dennis Collins this season in the Nottingham 'B' team has produced a strong challenge for promotion from the North Midlands town and he alone is still 100% in the mens 3rd division. A good win by Wolverhampton over Derby in this division has made the Staffordshire town favourites for the championship.

I have already mentioned the Junior 1st Division but an astounding result in the Junior 1st Division must surely be worthy of mention. With both Derby and Nottingham fielding their regular sides I would have anticipated a close match but the scoreline reads:-

Derby 10, Nottingham 01 — Nottingham's first defeat of the season.

Perhaps the best individual performance in the Intermediates Section came from Walsall's E. Ellis who scored a maximum against Coventry. But there was no happy ending for Walsall lost 6-4, a result which virtually puts them out of the running for the championship.

Another division which is already settled is the Women's. West Bromwich have retained the trophy they so deservedly won last season. Shock against Nottingham was the two defeats by Kath Perry, her first of the season. However a maximum by Jenny Cornock made sure of two points for the champions.

No division is less conclusive than the Veterans 1st. Clearly the winners of the Coventry-Oxford match should become league champions (unless—as seems likely—the match is a draw!) At the other end of the chart Leicester occupy bottom spot with two points with Birmingham 'B' and Walsall 'B' (both with four points) other relegation candidates.

A fine maximum by B. Gilbert ('Worcester 'B') failed to dent the 100% points record of Oxford who now look certain champions unless Cheltenham can pull something out of the bag.



The Coca-Cola National Team Trophy Competitions

by Keith Ponting

As we reach the Zone Finals stage, we find all four holders still proudly retaining the trophies won so well in Birmingham last May.

It is difficult to see any team 'toppling North Yorkshire in the Wilcott Cup or, for that matter, Central London in the J.M. Rose Bowl.

Any side defeating either of these excellent teams would surely go down as the 'giant killers' of all time.

In the Junior events, however, I feel there could be some surprises. In the Carter Cup, North Yorkshire will be all out to make it three in a row but there are many good teams after their blood, notably North Middlesex who have impressed all season.

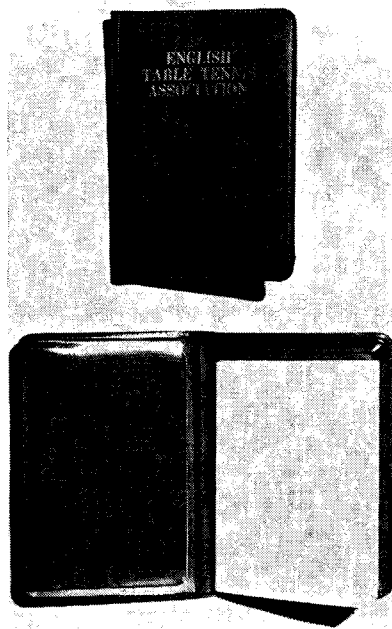
With Linda Howard being required by England for long spells, the Bromfield Trophy holders, Guildford, may find it tough to hold on without her. The Surrey side have some very good youngsters coming along but they are bound to miss such an outstanding player as Linda.

Results:—
WILMOTT CUP
Northumberland 0, North Yorkshire 6.
Cheshunt 5, Boston 3.
Huddersfield 5, Preston 3.
Stockport 1, Manchester 5.

Cheshunt 9, Watford 0.
Oxford 1, North Herts. 5.
Wilkesden 2, Central London 5.
Bristol 5, Plymouth 4.
Birmingham 9, Nottingham 0.
Ely 6, Great Yarmouth 3.
Newbury 2, Bournemouth 7.
Staines 5, Reading 3.
Southend 1, East London 8.
ROSE BOWL
Chesterfield 8, Sheffield 1.
Stockport 9, Barrow 0.
Hull 1, Spalding 5.
Leicester 3, West Bromwich 5.
North Herts. 5, Bedford 4.
North Middlesex 1, Wilkesden 5.
Central London 6, Medway Towns 0.
Portsmouth 8, Southampton 1.
Exeter 4, Taunton 5.
Peterborough 2, Stowmarket 6.
Basildon 1, Romford 5.
East London 8, Barking 0.
Guildford 6, Newbury 0.
Northumberland 4, North Yorkshire 5.
Worthing 5, Byfleet 4.
Reading 5, Cheshunt 1.

CARTER CUP
North Yorkshire 5, Stockton 0.
Hull 5, Boston 1.
Preston 5, Westmorland 4.
Stockport 7, Bury 2.
Great Yarmouth 1, Ipswich 8.
Leighton/Linsdale 4, North Herts. 5.
North Herts. 5, Thames Valley 4.
Crawley 9, Hastings 0.
Basingstoke 5, Reading 4.
Leicester 6, Nottingham 0.
Bristol 6, Exeter 3.
Barking 5, Dagenham 4.
BROMFIELD TROPHY
Chesterfield 1, Hull 5.
Leicester 6, Kettering 3.
North Herts. 3, Cheshunt 6.
Slough 6, Gravesend 3.
Thames Valley 5, Sittingbourne 1.
Basingstoke 0, Guildford 9.
Reading 5, Crawley 4.
Plymouth 3, Newbury 6.
Southampton 5, Bournemouth 4.
Barking 9, Luton 0.

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Decision Making in Table Tennis Part 2

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

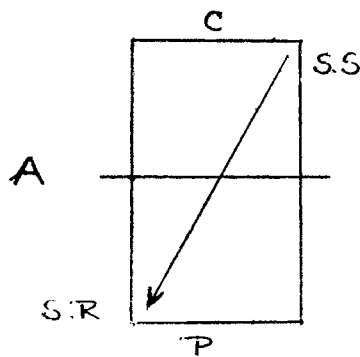
PRACTISE TRAINING BASED ON REACTION AND MOVEMENT TIME

MANY coaches and players are under the impression that PRACTISE MAKES PERFECT, but this is not true. In order that the player can carry out any skilled action, the coach should always ensure that the practise is set with a specific purpose in mind and both coach and player should know the end goal towards which they are aiming.

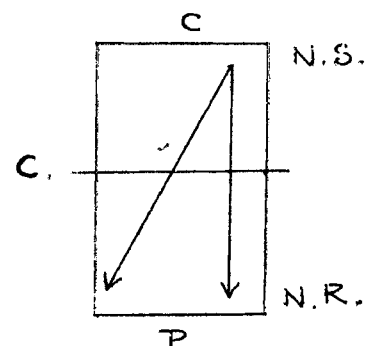
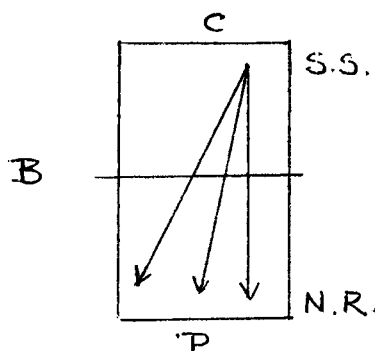
With the isolation of skills in a training programme, the important factor is to ensure that the player is able to read a situation and react accordingly — the player must not only practise the skill but also the skill of reading the situation.

There are three types of Reaction Time - SINGLE - NUMBER - CHOICE - and in a training situation Reaction Time is likely to vary depending upon the complexity of the stimuli given and/or the response.

1. SINGLE REACTION.



2. NUMBER REACTION



A. S.S.—SINGLE STIMULUS PATTERN.
S.R.—SINGLE RESPONSE.

B. S.S.—SINGLE STIMULUS PATTERN.
N.R. NUMBER OF RESPONSE SEQUENCES.

C. N.S. NUMBER OF STIMULUS PATTERNS.
N.R. NUMBER OF RESPONSE SEQUENCES.

A. S.S.—S.R.
Controller - S.S.—
Playing one type of ball and stroke.

Player - S.R.—
Reaction by playing one type of stroke.

This type of practise is useful for developing SKILL, CONTROL, CONSISTENCY and REFLEX PLAY.

B. S.S. - N.R.
Controller - S.S.—
Playing one type of ball to three points in predictable order.

Player - N.R.—
The Player is therefore required to make a number of Responses.

C. N.S. - N.R.
Controller - N.S.—
Playing two types of ball eg.: a top spin then a flat hit —to two points.

Player - N.R.—
The Player is therefore required to make a number of Responses.

This type of practise is useful for the developing of SKILL, CONTROL, CONSISTENCY, CONFIDENCE, RHYTHMIC MOVEMENT and BALANCE.

The danger with these practises is that the player knows beforehand what stimulus he will receive and during practise his reaction will become highly automatic and a player can become too CONDITIONED to that practise, thus discouraging adaptability. This is due to receiving the stimulus at regular intervals. From this the player will build up expectancy and his Reaction Time will become shorter during practise (this Reaction Time could be reduced to near zero), but when this training is transferred to a match situation the player's Reaction Time becomes much longer, due to the fact that during practise he has not learned to cope with the natural variation in an opponent's game.

When setting a practise the coach should be aware of the number of Information Processing Functions, as outlined in Part 1 of this Article, are operational.

Regarding the practises outlined above, the number of Processing Functions in operation are:—

A. SINGLE REACTION.
S.S. - S.R.

During this practise the only function in operation is No. 9 - i.e.: Playing the Stroke.

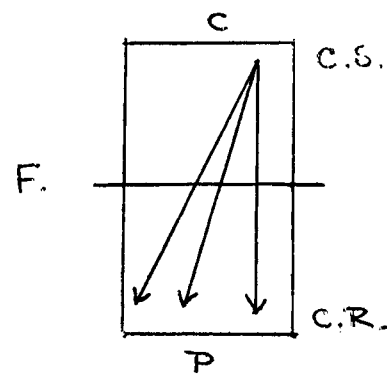
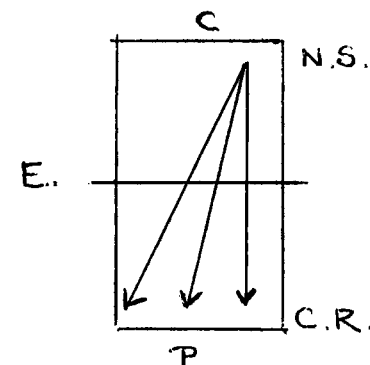
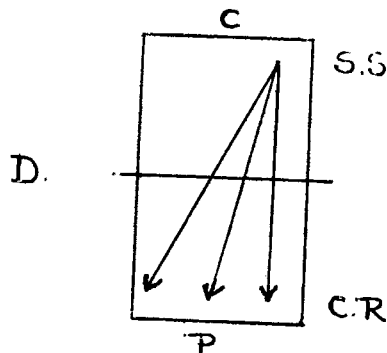
B. NUMBER REACTION.

S.S. - N.R. 5 and 9.

C. N.S. - N.R. 5, 6 and 9.

All these practises are useful, especially with beginners, but in order to encourage adaptability, other practises must supplement them, e.g.:—

3. CHOICE REACTION.



D. S.S. SINGLE STIMULUS PATTERN.
C.R.—CHOICE RESPONSE.

E. N.S.—NUMBER OF STIMULUS PATTERN.
C.R.—CHOICE RESPONSE

F. C.S.—CHOICE STIMULUS PATTERN
C.R.—CHOICE RESPONSE.

D. S.S.—C.R.

Controller - S.S. - Playing 1 type of ball to three points indiscriminately.
Player - C.R. - Returning unpredictable balls to one point.

E. N.S. - C.R.

Controller - N.S. - Playing a number of balls (3 different types of top spin) in a predictable sequence, to three points indiscriminately.

Player - C.R. - Returning unpredictable balls to one point.

F. C.S. - C.R.

Controller - C.S. - Playing a number of balls (3 different types of top spin) indiscriminately to three points indiscriminately.

Player - C.R. - The player is faced with a very unpredictable stimuli and is required to return the ball to one point.

This type of training is useful for SKILL, CONTROL, CONFIDENCE, RHYTHMIC MOVEMENT, BALANCE and ALERTNESS.

It is essential that whilst a player is developing and after he has developed his basic skills that he is introduced to Choice Reaction. This will enable the controller to provide the player with a challenge by attempting to out-wit him this will develop COMPETITIVENESS, MOTIVATION and ADAPTABILITY, and will help the player to read and react to a complex situation.

This type of practise is the nearest to a match situation that can be achieved through organised training, as all the elements of the INFORMATION PROCESSING SYSTEM will be functional, the only thing lacking will be MATCH STRESS, which no amount of training can produce.

WELSH SELECTIONS

The Table Tennis Association of Wales are to be represented by men only at the 32nd World Championships in Sarajevo. The team is:— Alan Griffiths, Graham Davies and Robert Bishop (all Cardiff) and John Mansfield (Abergavenny). Brian Everson is the n.p.c.

Griffiths, Davies and Sandra Pickering will represent Wales in the ETTU European Regional play-off in Norway.

PHOTOGRAPHS

Reg Billson, Hon. Secretary of the Loughborough and District League, has a supply of photographs taken at the English Junior Closed.

They feature both action shots and presentations involving some of England's leading juniors i.e. Desmond Douglas, Paul Day, Linda Howard, Judith Walker and Karen Rogers.

Reg can be contacted at 20, Gracelieu Road, Loughborough, Leicestershire.

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National Club Championships

by Keith Ponting

THE ORMESBY CUP FOR MEN

In the first round of this season's competition, the Ormesby Club of Teesside — both holders and donors of the men's team trophy — started out in convincing fashion with a 6-2 win over Leeds Regional Hospital Board, Harrogate. Both David Alderson and Alan Ransome had treble successes making up for the bad night suffered by Jimmy Walker who lost to Tony Marshall and Peter Campkin.

Other northern matches brought an exciting victory by Fairfield Boys' Club (Stockton) over Reyrolles (South Shields) and Millom Cricket Club, thanks to a fine maximum by Peter Broughton, just getting home against Vickers (Barrow).

S. O'Neil, D. Kirkpatrick and J. Moffat was too strong a hand for Spittal (Berwick) who went down 1-8 to St. James' (Carlisle). For the losers J. Lindores scored the only victory but the hospitality extended by the home team was really something.

Nigel Eckersley was outstanding for Gatley Y.M.C.A., against Worth Avenue (Blackburn), but had more than useful support from Angle-Scot Brian Kean. English Electric (Liver-

pool) have a strong trio in Tony Clayton, Wally Allanson and Peter D'Arcy as Levers (Ellesmere Pt.) found to their sorrow.

Against Levers (Wirral), visitors Shropshire Orthopaedic Hospital (Oswestry) led 2-0 and 4-3 yet lost the match which was really won by M. Tierney.

Chris Bensley had a treble for Iron Duke (Gt. Yarmouth) as did A. Murray, M. Hall and J. McCorry for Central Y.M.C.A., Birmingham.

Two wins each for M. Newman and C. Jacques gave visitors Barwell Liberal (Hinckley) a 4-1 lead over Shefford (Bedford) who fought back brilliantly to take the last 4 sets to clinch the match. R. Whiffin, M. Harper and D. Rawlinson were the players responsible.

Visitors Vauxhall (Dunstable) led Broomwade (High Wycombe) 4-0 but had to wait for the ninth set before clinching victory. St. Annes (Staines) have a strong team in Gordon Chapman, Paul Shirley and David Welsman.

Beaten finalist for the past two seasons, Fellows Cranleigh will again take some beating on the evidence of their win over Bromley United Services (Beckenham). Despite a treble from A. Caudy, Lloyds (Insurance Offices) lost to Hawker Siddeley (Welwyn).

Weston Y.M.C.A. (Bristol) have always been a consistent club side and in A. Kinsey, R. Morris and J. Hartry they have a trio intent on carrying

the West of England flag for some time yet. Certainly Cheltenham C.S. were no match for them.

Gossops Foresters (Crawley) were also in great form with K. Horton, G. Pugh and J. Millward invincible.

FIRST ROUND RESULTS:

- Leeds Reg. Hospital Board (Harrogate) 2.
- Ormesby (Middlesbrough) 6.
- Reyrolle (South Shields) 3.
- Fairfield Boys Club (Stockton) 5.
- Spittal (Berwick) 1, St. James (Carlisle) 8.
- Vickers Sports (Barrow) 4, Millom C.C. (Millom) 5.
- Boston Penmaen (Boston) beat Wisbech Institute (Wisbech) by walk-over.
- Lads' Club (Norwich) 3, Iron Duke (Gt. Yarmouth) 6.
- Rosary (Ipswich) 5, Cambridge U.P. Club (Cambridge) 1.
- Needlingworth (Hunts Central) 5.
- Rothborough (Wellingborough) 1.
- Worth Avenue 1st (Blackburn) 4, Gatley Y.M.C.A. (Stockport) 5.
- Moor Alerton (Leeds) 8, Otis Elevator Social (Liverpool Bus. Houses) 1.
- English Electric (Liverpool) 9.
- Lever (Wirral) 5, Shropshire Orth. Hosp. (Oswestry) 4.
- Central Y.M.C.A. (Birmingham) 9.
- Shifnal (Telford) 0.
- Cambridge (Walsall) beat Cookhill (Redditch) by walk-over.
- Nottingham Y.M.C.A. (Nottingham) 0.
- Leicester Y.M.C.A. (Leicester) 9.
- Shefford (Medford) 5, Barwell Liberal (Hinckley) 4.
- M.G. Athletic (Didcot) 6, A.H.W. Club (Bletchley) 3.
- Broomwade (High Wycombe) 4, Dunstable Vauxhall (Dunstable) 5.
- Maidenhead & Bray (Maidenhead) 5.
- Centre Forwards (Slough) 4.
- St. Annes (Staines) 6, Byfleet L.T.C. (Byfleet) 0.
- Gunnersby Triangle (Acton) 0, John Keeble (Willesden) 5.
- West End (Pinner) (Wembley) 1.
- Metropolitan W.B. (Walthamstow) 8.
- Bromley United Services (Beckenham) 1.
- Fellows Cranleigh (Barking) 5.
- Ilford Ltd. (Ilford) beat East Grinstead Cricket Club (East Grinstead) by walk-over.

- Ponders End W.M.C. (Cheshunt) 5.
- Netteswell (Harlow) 1.
- Hawker Siddeley Aviation (Welwyn) 5.
- Lloyd's (Insurance Offices) 4.
- Maldon Wanderers (Burnham) 2.
- Rosebery (Chelmsford) 7.
- East Thurrock Comm. Ass. (Thurrock) 1.
- Dagenite (Romford) 8.
- Weston Y.M.C.A. (Bristol) 9.
- Cheltenham C. Serv. (Cheltenham) 0.
- Snows Sports (Southampton) 6.
- Merton (Bournemouth) 3.
- Aldershot Social (Aldershot) 2.
- Ash (Guildford) 5.
- Gossop Foresters (Crawley) 9.
- Fetcham (Leatherhead) 0.

EASTER COURSE FOR COACHES

This course has been arranged for Diploma Coaches, Club Coaches and Teacher Coaches to further their coaching experience, with particular emphasis on tactics, and factors effecting decision-making during match play.

Venue: The City of Leeds & Carnegie College, Beckett Park, Leeds 6.

Dates: Friday evening, Apl 27 to Sunday tea-time, Apl 29/73.

Staff: Peter Simpson (ETFA Staff Coach-North), Harry Dignan (3-Star Diploma Coach).

Fee: Full residents from Friday dinner to Sunday tea — £7.00. Non-residents, but with all meals (excluding breakfast) — £4.50.

Closing date for applications: Friday, Apl 6/73.

Application forms can be had from The Sports Council, 5, St. Paul's Street, Leeds, LS1 2NQ quoting Code No. Y/494.

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by **Brian Kean**

MAYMAN, FEB MAN

Once again the might of Manchester overcame near neighbours Stockport in the Coca-Cola Wilmott Cup competition but I feel the score line does not reflect an accurate picture of the match.

Manchester's Tony Boasman fought off two set points against Phil Mayman before finally clinching victory, a similar touch of the 'Houdini' act attaching to his victory over Nigel Eckersley. Although losing close in the third to Phil Bowen, Stockport's Brian Kean saved the 'whitewash' by accounting for Jeff Ingber.

On the CTC scene, there have been mixed fortunes although the Premier division have lost their last two matches. I feel, however, that they will still command top flight status next season.

The 2nd and 3rd senior teams are more than earning their keep and if we had a 'man of the month' award there would be little doubt as to who would inherit such a title for February—Phil Mayman. The Stockport left-hander has lately come into the Div. 2 (North) side and has a 100% record after wonderful displays against Northumberland and Lancashire.

So far, this season, 32 players have

contested 134 sets on behalf of Cheshire. Arrangements are going ahead for the Closed Champs and league secretaries requiring entry forms should contact Len Green (061-748 6164).

Trevor Gatley, from the club of the same name, reached the final of the Manchester and District Boys' Clubs U-14 championships on Feb. 18. Trevor, aged 12 and standing a mere 4ft. high was narrowly beaten -18, 18, -23 by Colin Howe of Manchester YMCA. It was a wonderful performance and I predict great honours for this youngster who has only been playing 6 months.

LONDON SCHOOLS' CHAMPIONSHIPS

ALAN LINDSAY, the former Middlesex international, has been appointed Organiser, by the Inner London Education Authority, to run the London Schools' Table Tennis Championships at Hurlingham School, Peterborough Road, Fulham, S.W.6 on Saturday, Mar. 6/73.

Eight events will make up the championships, the first two being men's and women's singles for teachers only. Events 3 and 4 are U-19 boys' and girls' singles and the finals of these four championships will be played at 3 p.m. approx.

The finals of the other four events, U-16 and U-14 boys' and girls singles, are scheduled to start at 7-30 p.m.

COUNTY DIARY

FIXTURES AND VENUES FOR MARCH, 1973

PREMIER

- Mar. 10 Kent v Middlesex, Bowaters Clubhouse, Avenue of Remembrance, Sittingbourne. (7.00 p.m.).
- Surrey v Warwickshire, Royal Philanthropic School, Philanthropic Road, Redhill. (7.00 p.m.).
- Sussex v Cheshire, Haysbridge School, Brickhouse Lane, South Godstone, Surrey. (7.00 p.m.).
- .. 18 Cheshire v Yorkshire, C.P.R.O., Grove Lane, Cheadle Hulme. (6.15 p.m.).
- .. 31 Middlesex v Sussex.
- Surrey v Kent.

2 SOUTH

- Mar. 10 Berkshire v Kent II.
- Buckinghamshire v Surrey II.
- Hampshire v Sussex II, Tanners Brook School, Elmes Drive, Millbrook, Southampton. (6.30 p.m.).

2 NORTH

- Mar. 10 Cheshire II v Durham, Y.M.C.A., Gatley. (6.30 p.m.).
- Northumberland v Lincolnshire.
- Yorkshire II v Lancashire, International Harvesters Sports Pavilion, Cantley Park, Cantley, Doncaster. (7.30 p.m.).

2 MIDLAND

- Mar. 10 Derbyshire v Worcestershire.
- Staffordshire v Gloucestershire, Main Canteen, Dorman Diesels, Tixall Road, Stafford. (7.15 p.m.).
- Warwickshire II v Nottinghamshire, Peak Engineering Co. Ltd., Mason Road, Stratford-on-Avon. (7.00 p.m.).
- .. 31 Gloucestershire v Worcestershire, Grosvenor Street Hall, Grosvenor Street, Cheltenham. (6.30 p.m.).
- Leicestershire v Derbyshire, Knighton Park T.T.C., 168, Avenue Road Extension, Leicester. (7.15 p.m.).
- Warwickshire II v Staffordshire, Vicarage Street Schools, Nuneaton. (7.00 p.m.).

2 EAST

- Mar. 10 Essex II v Middlesex II.
- Hertfordshire v Cambridgeshire, Cheshunt Boy's Club, High Street, Waltham Cross. (6.30 p.m.).
- Norfolk v Bedfordshire.

2 WEST

- Mar. 10 Devon v Cornwall, Devonport Guildhall, Ker Street, Plymouth. (7.15 p.m.).
- Glamorgan v Somerset.
- Wiltshire v Dorset.

SOUTHERN

- Mar. 10 Oxfordshire v Essex III.
- Hampshire II v Hertfordshire II, Weston Park School, The Grove, Sholing, Southampton. (6.00 p.m.).

NORTHERN

- Mar. 10 Cumberland v Lancashire II, Millom School, Millom. (2.00 p.m.).
- Durham II v Cheshire III.
- Northumberland II v Derbyshire II.

MIDLAND

- Mar. 10 Monmouthshire v Glamorgan II.
- .. 11 Worcestershire II v Shropshire, Cripplegate Pavilion, Tybridge Street, Worcester. (3.00 p.m.).

EASTERN

- Mar. 10 Huntingdonshire v Northamptonshire, St. Paul's Church Hall, Peterborough. (7.30 p.m.).

JUNIOR SOUTH

- Mar. 10 Berkshire v Kent, Berkshire College of Education, Bulmershe Court, Woodlands Avenue, Woodley, Reading. (2.30 p.m.).
- Sussex v Hampshire, Longlegs Sports Club, East Park, Crawley. (3.30 p.m.).
- .. 17 Hertfordshire II v Buckinghamshire, Brookside Boys' Club, Buckton Road, Borehamwood. (2.30 p.m.).
- .. 31 Hampshire v Berkshire.
- Oxfordshire v Hertfordshire II.
- Surrey II v Buckinghamshire.
- Sussex v Kent.

JUNIOR NORTH

- Mar. 10 Cheshire II v Durham, Y.M.C.A., Gatley. (3.00 p.m.).
- Cumberland v Yorkshire II, Millom School, Millom. (2.00 p.m.).
- Westmorland v Northumberland.

JUNIOR MIDLAND

- Mar. 10 Leicestershire v Northamptonshire, Knighton Park T.T.C., 168, Avenue Road Extension, Leicester. (2.30 p.m.).
- Lincolnshire v Staffordshire.
- Nottinghamshire v Derbyshire.
- .. 31 Lincolnshire v Nottinghamshire.
- Northamptonshire v Derbyshire, Sponne School, Brackley Road, Towcaster. (6.30 p.m.).
- Staffordshire v Warwickshire II.

JUNIOR EAST

- Mar. 10 Bedfordshire v Norfolk, Brooklands Residents Hall, Brooklands Drive, Leighton Buzzard. (2.30 p.m.).
- Essex II v Suffolk.
- Huntingdonshire v Hertfordshire.
- .. 31 Hertfordshire v Bedfordshire, Brookside Boys' Club, Buckton Road, Borehamwood. (2.30 p.m.).
- Norfolk v Huntingdonshire.
- Suffolk v Cambridgeshire, The Dome, 193, Defoe Road, Ipswich. (2.30 p.m.).

JUNIOR WEST

- Mar. 10 Somerset v Glamorgan.
- Worcestershire v Wiltshire.
- .. 11 Gloucestershire v Devon, Grosvenor Street Hall, Grosvenor Street, Cheltenham. (2.30 p.m.).
- .. 18 Devon v Monmouthshire, The Exmouth Leisure Centre, Imperial Street, Exmouth. (2.30 p.m.).
- .. 31 Gloucestershire v Wiltshire, Grosvenor Street Hall, Grosvenor Street, Cheltenham. (2.30 p.m.).
- Worcestershire v Somerset.

VETERAN SOUTH

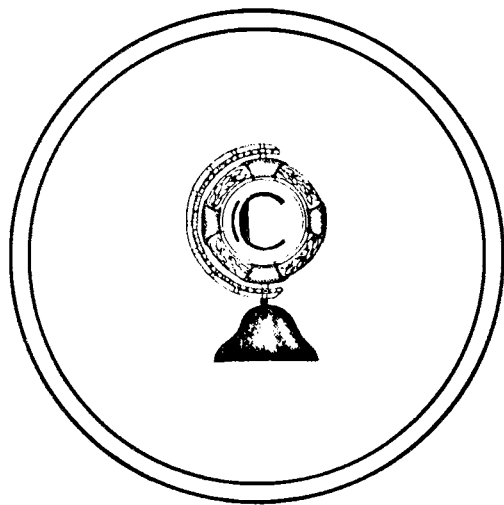
- Mar. 10 Kent v Huntingdonshire.
- Oxfordshire v Hertfordshire.
- .. 11 Northamptonshire v Essex, Compton Estate Club, Castle Abbey. (3.00 p.m.).
- .. 31 Hertfordshire v Northamptonshire, Brookside Boys' Club, Buckton Road, Borehamwood. (7.00 p.m.).
- Huntingdonshire v Essex.
- Oxfordshire v Hampshire.

VETERAN MIDLAND

- Mar. 10 Cheshire v Warwickshire, Willaston Working Men's Club, Wistaston Road, Willaston, Nantwich. (3.00 p.m.).
- Leicestershire v Worcestershire, Knighton Park, T.T.C., 168, Avenue Road Extension, Leicester. (7.15 p.m.).
- Staffordshire v Nottinghamshire, Chasetown Institute, Chasetown, Nr. Walsall. (5.30 p.m.).

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LINCOLNSHIRE NOTES

by Jim Flowers

HILL IN COMMAND

Brian Hill was in great form against Yorks. II at Lincoln on Feb. 17. He began with a comfortable win (12, 19) over John Kedge then paired with Mick East to beat David Alderson and Tony Martin (11, 17).

Against the Yorks. No. 1, Dave Alderson, Brian met such sterner opposition and we saw many long rallies with the Yorkshire player showing tremendous aggression and Hill defending brilliantly.

In the opening game, Alderson led all the way until caught at 19-all

when Brian went in front to win. In the second Alderson put the pressure on and built up a lead of 10-7. At this stage he looked completely in command but inexplicably appeared to run out of steam and lost -17.

With Lincolnshire trailing 3-5 we looked to our last two players to make a fight of it but an out-of-touch Cleve Judson was easily beaten by Kedge, and Mick East offered no serious challenge to Martin. So it was Lincs. 3 Yorks. II 7.

Our juniors, against Warwickshire, gave a great display and played with such confidence and ability as to cause nerves and indecision among the opposition.

John Smith (Lincoln), ranked No.

5 in the County, was the outstanding player accounting for K. Pilgrim and, paired with Colin Boyd (Scunthorpe) further 'progressed' against Pilgrim and A. Cotton with scores of 24, -20, 12.

After Lincs. had built up a lead of 5-1, we all thought this was going to be our first win but the opposition lifted their game to narrow the gap to 5-4. The final set was between Smith and D. Shropshire and what a cracker it was with Shropshire winning -13, 20, 21!

I am pleased to report that the appeal lodged by Northants. was not upheld and the 5-5 result stands. It was a thoroughly deserved draw. J. Brewster has now submitted a

letter of explanation regarding his absence from the Northants. match which the selectors have accepted and he will, of course, be considered for future selection.

Cleve Judson of Lincoln, who also plays in the Grimsby League won the men's singles in the Grimsby Closed. Defeated finalist was Peter Taylor, a greatly improved player who beat Matt Shearer in a thrilling semi.

*Connie Moran won the women's singles title, for the 16th time, beating Pauline Hale.

Halex E.T.T.A Under-13's Championships

NOTIFICATIONS will be sent out shortly to all entrants for this season's Under-13 Singles events. Details for some Regional venues have still to be finalised, but arrangements confirmed to date are:-

REGION 1:

Cumberland, Durham, Northumberland, Westmorland, Yorkshire - under negotiation.

REGION 2:

Cheshire, Derbyshire, Lancashire, Shropshire, Staffordshire Sunday, April 8th, at Forum Sports Hall, Wythenshawe Centre, Wythenshawe, Manchester 23.

REGION 3:

Leicestershire, Lincolnshire, Northamptonshire, Nottinghamshire, Rutland - Saturday, April 7th at Drill Hall, Grantham Technical College Annex, Sandon Road, Grantham.

REGION 4:

Gloucestershire, Herefordshire, Oxfordshire, Warwickshire, Worcestershire - Saturday, April 7th at Chosen Hill School, Brookfield Road, Churchdown, Gloucester.

REGION 5:

Cambridgeshire, Essex, Huntingdonshire, Norfolk, Suffolk - Saturday, April 7th, at Haverhill Sports Centre, The Pightle, Haverhill.

REGION 6:

Bedfordshire, Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, Hertfordshire, Middlesex - under negotiation.

REGION 7:

Hampshire, Kent, Surrey, Sussex - Sunday, April 8th, at Dennis Bros. Ltd. Staff Canteen, Middleton Road, Guildford.

REGION 8:

Cornwall, Devon, Dorset, Somerset, Wiltshire - Sunday, April 8th at Taunton Y.M.C.A., St. James Street, Taunton.

The National Finals will be played on Saturday, May 12th at The Abbey Sports Stadium, Birmingham Road, Redditch, Worcestershire. Play will commence at 12:30 p.m. (Finals only).

TREBLE CHANCE

Former Surrey international Mary Wright (nee Shannon), wife of England selector Brian, is expecting a third child on July 2. When asked what she would like this time, she replied, with typical candour - "I don't mind."

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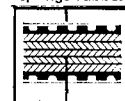
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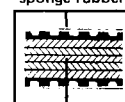
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Extremely fast - has excellent ball control with special qualities for loop drive and counter looping drive. Reverse 1.8mm sponge rubber base - red only - individually boxed.

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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

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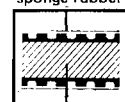
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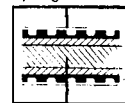
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SUGGESTED RETAIL - £9.00 EACH

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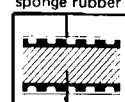
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Specially selected one ply 9m.m.



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County Notes Supplement

KENT NOTES

by Brian Jordan

'BETTER THAN EVER'

Following their custom of recent years, the Kent Selectors have issued mid-season ranking lists as follows:-

Men
1. A. Piddock, 2. C. Morris (Woolwich), 3. A. Mitchell (Bromley), 4. H. Buist (N.W. Kent), 5. D. Whittaker, 6. T. Farlie (Bromley), 7. R. Etheridge (Bromley), 8. K. Baker (Beckenham), 9. B. Meisel (Bromley), 10. R. Tilling.

Group A
T. Adams (Bromley), L. Cooper (Bromley), D. Corbett (Beckenham), D. Dino-Smith (Folkestone), G. French (Woolwich), and J. Lawson (Canterbury).

Women
1. J. Ellis (Medway), 2. B. Bird (Maidstone), 3. R. Buick (Bromley), 4. K. LeMilliere (Medway), 5. J. Reeves (Maidstone), 6. B. McGroarty (Sittingbourne).

Not surprisingly the leading places in the men's list go to the four players who have served Kent in this season's County Championships matches. But, next in line, is Dennis Whittaker, now a veteran, but playing better than ever.

Dennis has had a tremendous impact in the Canterbury League since his move to Herne Bay a few years ago. At the time of writing he is still unbeaten in Canterbury League matches this season and he continues to play a major role in keeping Canterbury in the First Division of the Kent League.

In the women's list, no mention is made of Linda Chesson who has been ill and out of the game for much of the season. She has now resumed playing and is showing much of her old form.

Little has happened in the last month to affect the positions at the top of the 10 divisions of the Kent League. Sittingbourne "A", however, have gained 4 points from their fixtures with Beckenham "B" and N.W. Kent "B" to relieve their fears of relegation. Their victims must now fear the worse and should they be demoted it would leave only Bromley with a double representation in the top flight. But there is still the possibility of Canterbury "B" gaining promotion.

In the women's section, Medway remain favourites for the title and things are beginning to take shape in Division 2. This division was ruined by the withdrawal of Woolwich and Folkestone "B" soon after the season's commencement leaving six teams to complete an unbalanced fixture list.

Beckenham are so far unbeaten with Gravesend their foremost challengers. In the Junior Section, Canterbury "B" now require only one point from their last two matches to win the Div. 2 title, this after wins over N.W. Kent "B" and Thanet "A". After trailing 3-4 in both matches, they triumphed 6-4.

The new girls' section has been something of a disappointment, with much too big a difference in the standards of play to provide enough competition. There must also be doubts regarding the wisdom of playing matches on set dates at set venues. Bromley's failure to appear at Canterbury presented their opponents with 10-0 walk-overs and Thanet themselves only had two players!

In East Kent, the Inter-Town Tournament organised by Canterbury for towns in that area, has reached its final stage with Canterbury, the holders, being due to play Herne Bay, winners in 1970 and 1971. What makes this competition different is that all players must reside in the town they represent. Teams are made up of 12 players — four tables are used — with representatives from all levels, thus giving even the lowly sixth division player something to aim for in the way of representative honours.

CAMBRIDGESHIRE NOTES

by Leslie Constable

STATUS SECURE

AFTER their 8-2 win over Norfolk at Haverhill in Div. 2 East of the County Championships, Cambs. are almost certain of their status for another season, having obtained 3 points from 3 matches. Against Norfolk the match was more even than the score suggests and at one time it was level pegging at 2-all, but from then on Cambs. just had the edge.

Michael Harper and Tony Littlechild were unbeaten for Cambridgeshire, Ken Muhr losing to Musson, at -19 in the third, after defeating John Fuller. Sally Hirst had a fine win over Betty Cassell. The Norfolk pair of Betty Cassell and Edna Fletcher were successful in the W.D., after Sally Hirst and Deborah Clarke had won the first at 12.

In the Eastern Division, the same two counties drew 5—all. Brian Jones won both his singles beating Skedge and Honor. Paul Chisnall and Stephen Andrews each won a singles, and Ruth Ashman had a good win over Mrs. Ross. Although all the doubles were keenly contested, Cambs lost the lot and so had to be content with a draw, which keeps them above Norfolk at the foot of the table.

In the Junior East Division Cambridgeshire II lost their fourth consecutive match when they went down 1-9 to Bedfordshire at Leighton Buzzard. Their sole success came in the fourth set when Susan Ellis and Ruth Newman won the Girls' Doubles. The current complement of juniors in Cambs. is at a fairly low ebb, but the work that is being put in by Ken Muhr and Gerald Coteman must bear fruit in the near future.

In the S.E.M. League, Cambridge City have been successful in the Men's Section, with victories over Bedford and St. Neots, to keep them in the running for the title. The team of David Jarvis, Paul Chisnall, David Tiplady, Mick Byrd and John Thurston, has done extremely well and I have been impressed by the form of Tiplady, who is developing into a fine attacking player. Our women were also successful against Bedford and St. Neots, enabling them to set their sights on the champion-

ship. With the current form of Valerie Scripps, Deborah Clarke and Sally Hirst, they are quite capable of gaining their first title.

After defeat at St. Neots, the Juniors came back to beat Bedford 7-3. The Veterans have had the set-back of defeats, against Northampton and St. Neots. But they are now coming up against players who have just entered the Veteran category and who are now helping their various teams to long-awaited successes.

Cambridge are still unbeaten in the East Anglian League and a recent 8-2 victory over Wymondham keeps them on top. A "feature" of this match was the defeat of Veteran Thurston in both his singles.

In the Chelmsford Open, Michael Harper reached Round 4 of the M.S. before losing to 'Les' Haslam -16, -16. Not bad for his first open of the season!

Paul Day was not at his best losing to Sammy Ogundipe, but Paul Chisnall reached round 4 before losing to Desmond Douglas. Sally Hirst lost to Anita Stevenson in round 3 of the W.S.

In the Lancashire Open, Day was narrowly beaten by Ireland's top senior Jimmy Langan (-17, -21) in round 3 of the M.S.

Ruth Newman and Ludovic Chapman reach their first Open final in the Middlesex Junior. Ruth partnered by J. Reynolds of Essex, lost in the U-13 G.D. final to top seeds, Belinda Chamberlain of Hunts, and Angela Mitchell of Middlesex. Chapman reached the final of the U-13 B.D. when partnered by M. Harrison of Yorkshire, losing to M. Harlow and S. Harmer of Beds. In the quarters they ousted top seeds D. Newman and A. Stonell of Essex. Karen Garner, partnered by Marilyn Sangster of Middlesex, reached the semi-finals of both the Girls' U-17 and U-15 Doubles.

Two Cambridgeshire Girls' schools did exceptionally well in the area finals of the E.S.T.T.A. National Team Championships. As a result, Sawston Village College and Perse School, go forward to the regional finals in London. For Sawston, the twins Carol and Susan Ellis were outstanding. Greatest interest in the area finals was centred around the Boys' U-19 event in which Paul Day was involved. He helped his team (Kings School, Ely) to a 5-3 win over Great Yarmouth Grammar by beating John Fuller.

There has been renewed interest in the Cambs League following Y.M.C.A. I forcing a draw with Soham I, who were clear favourites for the First Division title. In this encounter, Peter Taylor of England won all his three singles for Y.M.C.A., including a 3-game victory over Day, who, in turn, beat Harper in two, the second 27-25! Harpers other victories were over Brian Jones and Mick Palmer. Soham had a good win in the Doubles when Day and Palmer beat Taylor and Harper, 17 in the third, to save the match for Soham. In the same Division, University I beat Soham II 6-4, but the latter were without Keith Richardson, who had sustained an injury to his finger.

The Second Division continues to be evenly contested, with drawn matches predominant. St. George's, who lead,

were held to a draw by Cambridge Evening News. In second place are Fire Brigade, followed closely by New Chesterton Institute II.

BOUQUETS: I feel that bouquets should be handed out to the following Cambs officials, who have worked tirelessly for the betterment of table tennis in Cambridgeshire.

Margaret Cornwell — for tireless work, for many years, as Hon. Secretary and Treasurer, and Tournament Secretary of the Cambs. Association.

Tony Brotchie — for his unceasing work as League Secretary and Treasurer.

Geoff Waters — for his never-failing energy in being Match Secretary and especially his work with the Juniors.

John Cornwell — for his coaching activities and as a National Councillor.

Bill Rogerson — for his duties as Chairman and willingness to help and advise wherever he can.

Peter Silk — for his work as Umpire Secretary and Chairman of the Association.

Other names that come to mind are:-

Frank Pettit, Jack Baughan, John Thurston, David Jarvis, Gerald Coteman (who is running the Cambs Junior Open this year), Ken Muhr, Geoff Newman and Colin Cushin.

HAMPSHIRE NOTES

by David Cosway

CHAOTIC AFFAIR

Once again a nail-biting finish to a Hampshire first team match with a draw the result, this time against Kent II. Keith Summerfield was undoubtedly the "star" with two singles wins and the M.D., with Chris Shelter. Chris Piekard cannot produce his best form for the County this season and his two defeats, in solo combat, was far from a Hant's No. 1 performance.

The junior team kept alive their championship hopes with a 10-0 win over Oxfords and no doubt the clash in Sussex will determine the winners of this division.

What a sad end to the much built-up veterans' match against Kent. The match can only be described as chaotic producing a result which could give Hants the championship.

The bare facts are as John Wright described them last month. Kent arrived at 7.50 p.m. for a 6.30 p.m. start and by the time the arguments on the action to be taken had subsided and the match started, over two hours late, neither the teams nor the spectators were particularly interested in the play that ensued.

Again the bare bones reveal that Hants claimed 3 sets, not 5 to which the rules entitled them, and Kent won 4 of the 6 sets played, to produce a 5-4 result in favour of Hampshire. But really, in a vets match, you surely expect someone experienced enough in County affairs to have the courtesy of letting their opponents know if a starting time cannot be met.

A simple 'phone call would have enabled the match to be started at a

Hampshire Notes

later time and the teams and officials would not have been sat, waiting patiently (at first), for their opposition to arrive.

In the Inter-Town League, the mixed first division fixture wind-up brought Basingstoke "A" to oppose Portsmouth "A" with the visitors seeking no more than a draw for their first championship success. But Portsmouth, needing a win, achieved their objective 7-5 to give them their first title in 10 years.

Ray Lush won both his singles and combined with Cliff Jacobs and Daphne Gray for two doubles successes. Six of the 12 sets went to a deciding game and it is a pity that such exciting matches are now so rare.

In the Junior Division, Gosport's efforts to win their first title appear to have 'blown up' following their defeat by Southampton "B". Despite having lost to Gosport, Southampton "A" are now poised to retain their title.

The Southampton Closed no longer has the major significance of a few years ago when, with Bournemouth and Portsmouth players competing, it was virtually a county affair.

Happily the standard has not dropped and this season's final night produced the finest men's singles display in recent years. The seeding went to form with the top four contesting the semis.

In these, Keith Summerfield (Four T's) had a fine 10, 16 win over Bill Moulding (Snows) and Chris Shetler beat his Snows clubmate, Terry Bruce, 12, 18. In the final Shetler, the holder, showed once again his powers of recovery to pull back from 12-18 to win the first game 25-23, lost the second 12, then won the third, at 18, after trailing 12-17.

Christine Davies (Four T's) beat Sue Harding (Esso) 19, 17 in the W.S. final. Young Sue, still with junior years ahead of her, accounted for County No. 1 Junior, Lesley King (Alpha) in the semis, while Chris beat Julie Hudson (Four T's) who had earlier ousted the defending champion, Celia Hutchings (Four T's).

Ian Cooper (Esso) beat his clubmate Adrian Noke 17, 19 in a surprise junior singles final. Ian, just promoted to No. 3 in the City team and Adrian, only just selected for the City's "B" team, accounted for all their higher rated rivals from the Alpha club to contest a fine final which showed that juniors can play with their heads as well as their bats.

Other results:-
M.D.: Bruce/Moulding bt Shetler/Summerfield 19, 19.
W.D.: Davis/Gilbert bt Harding/King 18, 12, 15.
X.D.: Moulding/Hutchings bt Gilbert/Gilbert 19, 19, 13.
V.S.: Saunders bt Harding 9, 19.
Handicap: Elkins bt Brown 12, 19, 22.

Having just returned—frozen—from the Basingstoke Open I will close on the subject. It is good to see another successful Open establishing itself in the County. Both the organisation and the entry was a credit to this small Association who are attempting something the major towns in Hampshire fight shy of.

As someone interested in the publicity of table tennis, this tournament typifies the difficulties one experiences in attempting to 'drum-up' spectator interest. For two successive years this tournament has found itself minus its top seeds.

Last year it was Denis Neale, this year Alan Hydes failed to put in an appearance. The absence of 'named' players, added to the temperature in the hall and the low spectator appeal of play in the staged finals, will unfortunately mean that many who sampled 'top' table tennis at this tournament will not come forward for a second dose. It is a pity if this is the case for the Basingstoke Association and their sponsors deserve better.

The Hants Closed is to be held at Wimbledon Park Sports Centre, Portsmouth on Sunday, April 8. Entry forms, to be returned by Mar. 31, can be obtained from Mr. R. Duthie, 11, Wootton Road, Lee-on-Solent.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE NOTES

by Dave Foulser

NO RESPONSE YET

Ever since the days of Ian Harrison and Bryan Merrett, Gloucestershire table tennis has been comparatively in the doldrums and it is only now that the County is beginning to adopt a progressive policy.

I have recently been appointed Publicity Officer for the County Association and was promised that I would receive all help from the associations within the County, i.e. Bristol, Gloucester, Stroud and my own town Cheltenham.

For me to write a monthly report I must have the necessary information and as yet I have received none from these other three towns so this report is liable to be rather biased towards Cheltenham.

The Gloucestershire "Closed" is to be held on Mar 24 at Chosen Hill School, Churchdown, near Gloucester and is being run by Cheltenham this year. There will be 8 tables in use and the events will be MS, MD, WS, WD, XD, Int.S, U-17 BS, U-15 BS, U-17 GS, U-15 GS, U-13 S, and VS. Entry forms should be in by Mar 24.

Our County senior team did quite well to take four sets off Nottinghamshire recently considering the patched-up team we were forced to field. Normally the team would have been Roy Morley, Dave Harvey, Chris Sewell, Jean Golding and Margaret Minnock but Morley was unavailable and Sewell was playing for the juniors against Somerset. Reserve Colin Feltham was also unavailable so Bristol's Paul Drew made a comeback after a two-year absence and Alan Giles, also from Bristol, made his debut. Harvey and Drew won one each and we also managed success in the mixed doubles. If Morley had played we would have almost certainly won our first match this season.

Division 3 champions of the Midland League last season, thanks mainly to Dave Harvey being unbeaten, the Cheltenham Men's team expected to have to struggle to avoid going straight back down. However, Bob Thornton moved here from Berkshire during the summer and was

persuaded to play for us (unfortunately he still plays for Berkshire) and the team has fared well being unbeaten after five matches.

They beat Chesterfield "B" 6-4 and Nuneaton 7-3, both away, and drew at home with West Bromwich with Bob Thornton unbeaten. Then came a home match with Wolverhampton which we won 8-2. This was quite eventful with two records going.

First was that of Steve Dunning's, who lost to Harvey 18 and 17, and then to Thornton 12, 13, 10. Then, in the last singles set of the evening, Thornton lost his unbeaten record too, mainly due to tiredness I thought. J. Robbins beat him 18, 21, 15. In this match Junior Malcolm Green made his first senior appearance this season and did well to beat Robbins 20 and 17, and Fellows 20, 13, 15. Dunning was too much for him, however, and he went down 8 and 10.

We followed up this 8-2 victory with a disappointing draw against Leicester "B" with Harvey and Thornton getting two each and the doubles. Nevertheless we still have a great chance of promotion if we do well against Oxford, Derby, Coventry and Walsall in our remaining fixtures.

NORFOLK NOTES

by J. S. Penny

REIGN EXTENDED

In the King's Lynn Open Championships held at Lynn Y.M.C.A., Mrs. Betty Cassell continued her dominance of the women's events and added her name to the Women's Singles trophy for the 23rd consecutive time! For the past three seasons Betty's victim in the final has been Miss Penny Melton. This time the score was 21-11, 21-14. Then Betty teamed up with Penny to comfortably dispose of Mrs. Davey and Mrs. Rogers in the Women's Doubles, and, with Ken Burton, Betty completed her treble by putting paid to Miss Melton and Nick Rains in the Mixed.

The Men's Singles title returned to Lynn after an absence of ten years when John Moorhouse (St. Mary's) beat Steve Barrett (Y.M.C.A.) 20, 14, 11, and, in the Men's Doubles, Barry Wilson (Wisbech) and Rains (Y.M.C.A.) beat Randall Bell and Ian Marshall 13, 18, 15.

In the Youths' final, K. Brown (Terrington Y.C.) beat N. Hudson (Y.M.C.A.) 7, 12, and, in the Veterans', Les Sleight (Wisbech) won 18, 19 against Ken Mitchell (St. Mary's). Divisional Singles winners were: I, John Nichols; III, Peter Scott; IV, D. Baker; V, I. Christie and VI, J. Bubeer.

In the Great Yarmouth League Junior Championships, Paul Durrant had a double success. In the U-17 he beat A. Giles 16, 16 and in the U-15 he vanquished M. Archer 9, 15.

Cambridge are favourites to win the East Anglian League of Leagues. Positions are as follows, with points:-

Division I: Cambridge 8, Norwich 6, Dereham 6, Yarmouth 4, Beccles 4, King's Lynn 2, Lowestoft 2, Ipswich 2, Wisbech 0;

Division II: Norwich 7, Dereham 5, Lowestoft 4, Wymondham 2, Yarmouth 2, Fakenham 2, Beccles 2;

Junior Section: Ipswich 6, Yarmouth "A" 4, Norwich 4, Beccles 4, Lowestoft 2, Stowmarket 0, Yarmouth "B" 0, Dereham 0.

Harry Levine, reports good progress, and gives news of a plan for an inter-town match against Birmingham.

Mr. Penny, the Norfolk scribe, was due to go into West Norwich Hospital on Feb 21 for an operation on both eyes for glaucoma. We trust the operation will be wholly successful.
Ed.

CUMBERLAND NOTES

by Ron Rigg

RAINBOW'S END

I ask you this month to spare a thought for the writer of this column who, in approximately ten years of travelling with both Cumberland Senior and Junior teams, to all parts of the North of England, has not had one solitary victory (or even a draw, for that matter) to cheer him on his weary way homewards.

However, all that has now been altered, for on Saturday, Feb. 17/73 the Cumberland Junior side travelled to Gatley and beat Cheshire II by 7-3, and happily, I was there to witness this extraordinary happening. Moreover, this means that this young side, all of whom are still under the age limit for next season, has now won two matches out of three during the current campaign, such dizzy heights of success!

Star of the latest win was Millom's Martin Barry, who came into the team at the last minute through the withdrawal of Stewart O'Neil, and was successful in both his singles and in the Mixed in partnership with Jeanette Bullock. Peter Polczynski, Ian Smith and Jennifer Pachul all played their parts splendidly in a result which cost me five suppers at Forton on the way home.

There is much speculation in the North West as to whether Cumberland will eventually combine with Westmorland and the Furness area of Lancashire under the banner of Cumbria, for table tennis purposes. Both Cumberland and Westmorland are known to favour such an amalgamation. The attitude of the Barrow League is not known at the present time, but there would seem to be little doubt that the formation of Cumbria would be of benefit to all three areas. Incidentally, it is worth recalling that some 25 years ago, the Furness area was looked on as part of Cumberland and their players played for the County side and also took part in the Cumberland Closed Tournaments.

This season's Cumberland Closed will be held at the new Sports Centre at Moorclose, Workington, on April 14. The centre already has four top-class tables and expects to have another four by early April. Additions to the normal events are Veterans and U-15 Singles.

The Cumberland Schools' Championships will be held at Overend School, Whitehaven, on Saturday, May 5. Entry forms are available from the County Education offices, Carlisle or from Mr. R. Rigg, 4 Tower Hill, Whitehaven.

STAFFORDSHIRE NOTES

by John Pike

MAJOR UPSET

Gone are the days when Staffordshire could take on all comers and still come out on top. In their latest county matches, the "A" team, veterans and juniors all finished on the losing side, and yet the "B" team caused one of the major upsets of the season by beating Glamorgan.

The Stafford League have gone out of their way to set the right scene for this month's "A" team match with Gloucestershire at Dormans. With the mayor attending, Ken Weston and his committee have really tried to sell this match to the public.

Something somewhere has gone wrong this season on the tournament front. The County, Walsall, and West Bromwich have all got their annual championships on the 11th of this month and this must make life very difficult for the players to know just where their loyalties lie.

Not for many years have the County been so well off for umpires and it is good to report that coaches Ron Harvey and Peter Hancocks have now joined the ranks.

Things are really hotting up now at the top of the Staffs County League with all divisions set for a close finish. Darlston are having their problems this season in sending a full team to some away matches.

As expected West Bromwich reached the zone final of the Rose Bowl by beating Leicester 5-3.

Over at Walsall, I understand things are going well for the Joseph Leckie Junior tournament in May and again I would remind all players that entries for this event should go to Sid Parker, 3, Moreton Close, Gospel Oak, Tipton, Staffs.

Wolverhampton's highlight last month was their annual championships at the Woodfield club. After a fair number of surprises the final results were, M.S.: K. Fellows bt A. Hiscock 11, 15. W.S.: S. Warner bt J. Carr -17, 21, 16. M.D.: M. Lloyd/P. Hill bt Fellows/R. Bradley 13, -16, 18. W.D.: M. Bowyer/B. Hall bt Warner/G. Round 18, -18, 16. X.D.: Fellows/Warner bt R. Dixon/Carr 13, 13. Savoy singles: P. Chester bt P. Toft 13, -13, 20. V.S.: Hiscock bt L. Dawes 16, -18, 18. G.S.: Round bt Carr -13, 14, 15. B.S.: J. Russell bt M. Hick 16, -16, 15.

Wolverhampton's annual dance and prize presentation will be held on Friday, May 4.

OBITUARY

It is on a sad note that I end this month's column by reporting the death of Ken Hodgkiss, and I think it is fitting that the last word should come from his closest friend, Staffordshire coach, Jim Hayward "On Saturday, February 3 the Highfield School centre lost a true friend in Ken Hodgkiss. A coach who never caught the limelight but was always helping young children with their game. He was coaching a total of 48 Boys and Girls two nights a week and with the more advanced juniors he escorted them to league matches and tournaments. The highest point in his table tennis career was not at coaching,

although this was his first love, but as a tournament referee and the notice informing him of his success, came just two days after his death. Ken was highly respected by coaches, teachers, and children alike and will be sadly missed. He was a man who liked people, and if he could make people happy, then he was happy himself."

HERTFORDSHIRE NOTES

by R. Bridges

STRONG ENTRY

THE Hertfordshire Club Championships got under way during the Christmas/New Year break with no real surprises in a very strong field.

Last season's winners included Mick Harper and Peter Taylor in their team, but they have since gone their separate ways — and both lost interest following the first round. Taylor playing for G. W. Kings—travelled to Waltham Cross where his three wins were the only resistance to the home side's 6-3 success.

Favourites Hertford defeated I.C.L. (Letchworth) 5-4 for a place in the last eight. Alan Lamprell (three wins) and Michael Penney (2) gave Hertford their victory.

Other teams in the last eight are Acorn (St. Albans), who gained a 7-2 victory over Hawker Siddeley Dynamics (North Herts.); Letchworth I.T.C.; Hyde Association (WGC/Hatfield) (both with walk-overs in the first round); Cheshunt — scoring a 5-4 success over Polycell (WGC/Hat); and two teams from Ponders End WMC.

In the Intermediate Section I.C.L. (Letchworth) easily disposed of Polycell III by 8-1, while Polycell II were given a walk-over over Chauldon. Ten-years-old Adam Proffitt and Brian Vaughan were unbeaten in Ponders End's 8-1 win over Letchworth LTC.

In the women's section, Letchworth Settlement II gained a useful 3-2 win over Hitchin Trades.

HERTS INTER-LEAGUE LATEST RESULTS:

DIVISION 1
North Herts 7, St. Albans 3.
Cheshunt II 8, St. Albans 2.
North Herts 5, Watford 5.
Bishops Stortford 7, WGC/Hatfield 3.

DIVISION 2
Watford II 4, North Herts II 6.
Cheshunt III 8, Watford II 2.
St. Albans II 2, North Herts II 8.
North Herts II 9, WGC/Hatfield II 1.

JUNIOR DIVISION
Bishops Stortford 2, Cheshunt 8.
North Herts II 6, St. Albans 4.
Cheshunt II 3, North Herts 7.

LATEST TOP PLACINGS

DIVISION	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
North Herts	3	2	1	0	19	11	5
Cheshunt II	3	2	0	1	20	10	4
Cheshunt	3	2	0	1	18	12	4
Watford	2	1	1	0	11	9	3
DIVISION 2							
North Herts II	4	3	1	0	28	12	7
Cheshunt III	3	2	1	0	22	8	5
Hertford	2	2	0	0	15	5	4
JUNIOR DIVISION							
Cheshunt	3	3	0	0	26	4	6
North Herts	3	3	0	0	25	5	6
Cheshunt II	4	2	0	2	18	22	4

NORTHANTS NOTES

by Gwyn Powell

PROMOTION?

A good 8-2 win over Cambs. II last month has put the County Senior team in its strongest-ever position in the Eastern Division since Northants first entered the County Championships and promotion, with only one match left to play—against Hunts.—now looks very much on the cards.

Two of the County's leagues have held their closed tournaments in recent months, Kettering having a very successful one, with the fifteen finals all being staged on the Saturday evening following the main part of the tournament. John Palmer won the M.S. title in a close and exciting battle with Terry Sutton in which the usually defensive Palmer surprised everyone with his adventurous play to win by -19, 9 and 21. It was Dennis Millman, however, who hit the headlines with a fine hat-trick of wins in the M.D. with Dick Cole, the Mixed with young Anne Wallis and the Veterans' Singles by beating Norman Lenton in three games.

Results:—
M.S.: J. Palmer bt T. Sutton -19, 9, 21.
M.D.: D. Millman/R. Cole bt Palmer/Sutton 16, -13, 13.
W.S.: Tina Coleman bt Pat Rixon -15, 20, 11.
W.D.: Anne Lenton/Pat Rixon bt Anne Wallis/Kath Roberts 12, 11.
X.D.: Millman/Miss Wallis bt Sutton/Miss Rixon 20, 19.
V.S.: Millman bt N. Lenton 18, -19, 13.
J.S.: N. Swingleter bt Anne Wallis 12, -13, 12.
J.D.: Swingleter/S. West bt Anne and Mandy Wallis 14, 15.
Sports and Rubber Trophy: Martin Cooper bt Anthony Ingram.
U-13 Singles: Mark Palmer bt Howard Roberts.
Handicap Singles: Premier Division: J. Palmer bt Phil Slade 18, 16.
Division 1: Anne Wallis bt David Eastwood -13, 16, 17.
Division 2: Tony Evans bt David Ingram 15, -20, 12.
Division 3: Barry Davies bt Ken Elliott 17, -16, 15.
Division 4: Anthony Ingram bt Martin Cooper -16, 16, 19.

In sharp contrast the Northampton Closed Tournament had a disappointingly low entry. County champion, David Hogg, retained his Northampton title by beating Colin Hogg in a repeat of last year's final, this time by 18 and 20, his last three sets in the Men's Singles all going to expedite. Connie Bane won the Women's Singles title fairly comfortably, beating Emily Twisleton in the final for the second year running, and once again recorded a hat-trick of wins but with different partners in the Women's and Mixed Doubles. With Judith Wooding she collected the former title by beating Eileen Tye and Jean Yuill and then joined Steve Lyon in beating Mick Collier and Doris Rivett to take the Mixed.

Results:—
M.S.: D. Hogg bt C. S. Hogg 18, 20.
M.D.: S. Lyon/R. Ingle bt D. Hogg and J. Moloney 16, -19, 16.
W.S.: Mrs. C. Bane bt Mrs. E. Twisleton 11, 17.
W.D.: Mrs. C. Bane/Mrs. J. Wooding bt Mrs. E. Tye/Mrs. J. Yuill 12, 20.
X.D.: S. Lyon/Mrs. C. Bane bt M. Collier/Mrs. D. Rivett 3, 18.
B.S.: G. Hamilton bt J. Horne.
B.D.: P. West/P. Snelling bt G. Hamilton/J. Horne.
G.S.: A. Wallis r/u L. Ekins.
V.S.: R. Ingle bt D. Gwillim 13, 17.

In the Northampton Premier Division another close tussle has been taking place this season between

Y.M.C.A. 'A' and United Tennis Club 'A', the top two clubs in the Town and County for many years. This has hotted up considerably since the half-way stage when Compton Wanderers withdrew from the league and at the moment of writing the teams were dead level with only about four matches left to play.

It was with deep regret that we heard of the death of Phil Southam of Newnham, who did a lot for the cause of table tennis in the Daventry area and was one of the founder members of our own County Association, serving on the committee until last season. We extend our sympathy to his wife and family in their sad loss.

WESTERN LEAGUE NOTES

by Grove Motlow

NECK AND NECK

There is certainly a stern struggle for the Men's division title this season as can be seen from the League tables.

Both Salisbury and Plymouth are undefeated and have the same number of points and sets average. When they meet each other, at Salisbury, a match par excellence should ensue.

Plymouth head the Women's division and now seem reasonably certain of winning the title following their narrow success over their nearest rivals Exeter 5-4.

After being 1-2 down Plymouth men beat Newbury 6-3. They recovered to take the next 5. Bob Parkins, Keith James and David James each won two while, for Newbury, Richard Kozlowski did well to beat Parkins and Keith James. Duncan Campbell accounted for David James.

Bournemouth had a comfortable 9-0 home win against weakened Weymouth who were without Cliff Diffeys who recently underwent an operation for appendicitis. We all wish Cliff a speedy recovery.

It is pleasing to see the return of Bunny Ellis to town matches after an absence of 8 years. He, along with Cyril Bush and Trevor Smith had each 2-straight wins.

Bournemouth encountered sterner opposition at home to Plymouth who won 5-4. Considering that they were without Bush and Ellis and included a 15-year-old, Steven Wilson, playing in his first Western League match, the home team did well to hold Plymouth to such a narrow win.

Bournemouth's 'star' was Trevor Smith who beat Parkins, Keith and David James but with the score at 4-all Parkins clinched victory for Plymouth when he beat Brian Pickard 17 and 18. Well done young Steven on a very commendable debut especially in your close games with Parkins and David James.

Bristol had a good home win over Exeter 7-2. A rare occasion for Mike Rattue, the Exeter No. 1, to lose two, going down to Tony Dinambro and Colin Feltham. Both these Bristol players secured excellent maximums.

Newbury had an easy home win against Weston, 9-0, but some of the scores were close. Andrew Schooler and Arthur Chilvers were taken to 3-games by Ray Philpott, while

NOTES : COUNTY NOTES : COUNTY NOTES : COUNTY NOTE

Western League Notes

Campbell had a similar experience with Paul Drew as did Schooler with Joe Garland.

Plymouth women just managed to retain their unbeaten record when they visited Exeter and won 5-4.

Once again Pam Mortimer proved her No. 1 position for Devon when she beat Nancy Hollywood, Barbara Pearson and Mavis Scott but she certainly had to fight all the way against Nancy and Barbara who took her to a deciding game.

The point that mattered was won by Mavis Scott, against Val Addicott who she beat 24-22 in the third! Mavis was leading 19-13 but Val pulled back to 20-all.

Away to Bristol, Pam Mortimer carried the day for Exeter who won 5-4.

Back in the Men's division, Salisbury had a very good win over Bristol by 7-2. The visitors quickly went into a 5-0 lead then young Chris Sewell beat Chris Shetler and Richard Arney. Terry Bruce had a treble for Salisbury.

Newport women sprang a surprise at home to Bristol by winning 5-4 thanks to a maximum by Betty Jones who beat Joan Collier, Pat Rowe and Janet Achurch.

Leading positions:—

MEN

	P	W	L	F	A	Pts.
Plymouth	5	5	0	31	14	10
Salisbury	5	5	0	31	14	10
Newbury	6	4	2	37	17	8
Bristol	5	3	2	25	20	6
Bournemouth	5	2	3	25	20	4

WOMEN

Plymouth	5	5	0	35	10	10
Exeter	4	3	1	20	16	6
Newbury	3	2	1	17	10	4
Newport	4	2	2	14	22	4
Bristol	3	1	2	15	12	2

DERBYSHIRE NOTES

by Walter Reeves

ANOTHER YOUNG HOPEFUL

Yet another young Derbyshire girl doing well in tournaments is Susan Holmes (Derby) who reached the final of the U-17 GS event in the West Midlands 2-Star Junior Open beating the No. 2 seed, Karen Rogers (Leicester), on the way.

Although losing in the final she took her England-ranked opponent, Brenda Williams (Liverpool) to a third game decider. She also reached the quarters of the mixed event in partnership with Warwickshire's Eddie Lascak.

In the same tournament David Yallop and Paul Vickers continued their successful doubles partnership in reaching the semi-final stage.

Derbyshire teams are doing well in the Midland League with Chesterfield in second place to Birmingham in Div. 1. Derby "A" are unbeaten in Div. 2 and Derby "B" have only incurred one loss in Div. 3.

Both Derby's junior teams are well placed in their respective divisions with the "A" team heading Div. 1 and the second team in the runners-up position to Loughborough in Div. 2B.

Derby's women recently held

second-placed Worcester to a draw when the experienced Joyce Lloyd just managed the vital ninth set, 22-20 in the third, against Susan Holmes.

Marilyn Deakin, Derby's No. 1, made no mistake in the final set. But Derby are missing the services of Carol Downer, at present out of action looking after her husband, Arthur, now out of hospital. It could be a blessing in disguise if her nursing brings Arthur back into the game quicker than expected.

Venue trouble is causing some concern over the Midland Closed due to be staged by Chesterfield this season. No suitable Hall can be found to house 10 tables and so it seems that the Midland authorities will have to take the event elsewhere. Redditch is a possibility.

Fortunately there is no concern over the Derbyshire Closed which is now definitely fixed for Saturday, April 7 at the BREL Canteen. Ten Stiga tables will be in use and the Norwich International Championships Assistant Referee, Tony Chatwin, will be in charge.

The continued decline in interest for County League fixtures has prompted the committee to circularise member leagues seeking their views on how to stimulate matters.

County Challenge Cup entries are also down this season and there has been a spot of bother which has not helped this usually well organised competition.

This has concerned the scratching of a St. Andrews (Derby) team which, I feel, could have been avoided with a little more co-operation from both parties, before the closing date was reached.

Strange how much energy is spent on an 'inquest' when, with a little effort beforehand, the patient need not have 'died'.

NORTHUMBERLAND NOTES

by Pauline Jackson

PETER HOYLES THE HERO

At last Northumberland's first team win their first point! In a hard-fought match against Cheshire II at North Shields Y.M.C.A., Peter Hoyles was the home side's hero in winning both his singles against Brian Kean and Nigel Eckersley. Terry Hart also beat Eckersley, while Barbara Kearney and Lucille Clark won the women's doubles, and Terry and Lucille took the mixed doubles to make the match score 5-5. Northumberland might well have taken both points, as Alan Jones narrowly lost both his singles against Kean and Phil Mayman, while Barbara lost 19 in the third against Janice Green in the women's singles.

Northumberland's second team, however, never seemed to get going against Cheshire III after a long and tiring journey to Gatley Y.M.C.A. in arctic conditions, and were well beaten 8-2. Bill Arkle and Malcolm McMaster both beating Ian Walmsley. I can vouch for the fact that the return journey was even worse, as we did not arrive in Newcastle until 3.30 a.m. — which speaks for itself.

The Juniors, meanwhile, had entertained Cheshire II earlier in the day also at North Shields Y.M.C.A.,

and won by 7-3, which should keep them in second place in the junior North Division. Andrew Clark won both his singles, and Peter Clark and Glenn McCardle one each, this being Glenn's first singles win. Barbara Kearney won her girls' singles match, and together with Lucille Clarke, the girls' doubles, Glenn and Lucille also rounded off a good day by taking the mixed doubles.

A strong North Yorkshire team comprising Trevor Taylor, Nicky Jarvis and David Alderson was much too good for Northumberland in the third round of the Wilmott Cup, and were winners by 6-0. Peter Hoyles, Alan Jones and David Armstrong represented Northumberland.

Congratulations to Barbara Kearney on a great win in the girls' singles event of the Yorkshire Junior Open. This was no mean feat, as on her way there she beat Derbyshire's Mandy Mellor, No. 9 junior girl in England, in the quarters; Yorkshire junior Melody Ludi in the semis; and in the final was successful against Di St. Ledger, ranked No. 2 in the Warwickshire senior rankings, as well as being their top junior girl. Both Barbara and Lucille Clark have been selected to attend the Northern Region Squad Training Sessions at Teesside, while Andrew Clark is reserve for the boys.

Entries for the Northumberland One Star Open to be held in the Canteen of the Dept. of Health and Social Security, Newcastle upon Tyne on 24th March from 10 a.m. onwards should now be coming in to the County Secretary, Alan Morpeth, 59, Preston Avenue, North Shields, Northumberland, and we are hoping for a bumper entry.

WORCESTERSHIRE NOTES

by Ian R. Crickmer

COUNTY CLOSED

In what became a test of endurance for players, officials and spectators alike, fourteen consecutive hours' play was necessary to decide the eleven titles at stake in the Worcestershire Closed championships at Redditch.

The results were:—

M.S. s-f:
R. Brown bt N. Bottomley -20, 17, 15;

B. Belcher bt J. Heathcote 18, 18.

Final: Brown bt Belcher 13, 19.

W.S. s-f:

J. Hunt bt A. Jones 17, 8;

J. Lloyd bt D. Moss 11, 13;

Final: Lloyd bt Hunt 21, 14.

B.S. s-f:

P. Knights bt J. Lancaster 12, 20;

S. Claxton bt A. Oakley 15, 14.

Final: Claxton bt Knights -21, 19, 19.

G.S. (played as a group of 5):

1st P. Woodward, 2nd J. Watie,

3rd D. Morton.

Results between first three:—

Woodward bt Watie -12, 12, 19;

Watie bt Morton 16, 19; Woodward

bt Morton 12, 8.

M.V.S. s-f:

D. Reynolds bt W. Logan 10, -13, 12;

B. Gilbert bt G. Warby 12, 18.

Final: Gilbert bt Reynolds -17, 20, 19.

W.V.S. (played as two groups):

Final: V. Royal bt B. Shammon 16,

23.

M.D. s-f:

Heathcote/Jarvis bt D. Flack/T.

Round 16, 19;

Brown/C. Hammond bt M. Lockley/T. Washington 10, 17.

Final: Brown/Hammond bt

Heathcote/Jarvis -12, 14, 11.

W.D. s-f:

Hunt/Lloyd bt M. Hough/Shammon

17, 13;

Jones/Moss bt A. Lawrence/M.

Newcombe 11, 14.

Final: Hunt/Lloyd bt Jones/Moss

-19, 13, 17.

X.D. s-f:

Brown/Jones bt Belcher/Moss 12, 16;

Heathcote/Hunt bt K. Firkins/Lloyd

5, 11.

Final: Brown/Jones bt Heathcote/

Hunt 16, -11, 13.

J.D. s-f:

Lancaster/N. Mytton bt C. Cox/C.

Kelmere 12, 14;

Claxton/Oakley bt I. Lindsay/Miss

Watte 9, 7.

Final: Claxton/Oakley bt Lancaster/

Mytton 12, 17.

V.D. s-f:

R. Kings/Warby bt J. Cukierman/

J. Meredith 11, 14;

B. Gilbert/I. Mawdsley bt F.

Heritage/J. Mytton -20, 11, 15.

Final: Kings/Warby bt Gilbert/

Mawdsley 18, 17.

HUNTINGDON & PETERBORO' NOTES

by David Obee

WELL DONE BELINDA!

Belinda Chamberlain, one of the most promising players ever to emerge from the County, achieved a remarkable double success in the West Midlands Junior Open when she took the U-13 and U-15 girls' singles titles. In the face of stiff opposition from the Northern and Midlands areas this was surely the biggest achievement by a Hunts player to date.

Greg Baker, too, has been in the headlines again, this time at the Burford Junior Open where he went down in the U-11 final and reached the last 16 of the U-13's. Unfortunately Greg failed to snatch his chance of a first open win which is proving so elusive, but he has certainly played consistently well this season.

On the County Championships scene the seniors were outplayed by a young Suffolk side at Ipswich, going down 9-1. Only Alan Albon notched a win, and indeed lost only at 'deuce' in the decider in his other singles.

The juniors fared better in the encounter with Cambs II running out 7-3 winners. Although the form of the girls was disappointing Paul Brooker, making his debut for the County in place of injured Peter Berna played really well, taking both singles and sharing a mixed with Jean Allinson.

On the SEML front the one real chance of a title from anyone of the three member leagues from within the County lies with St. Neots. Their veterans are unbeaten and following an 8-2 win over Cambridge the trio of Gordon Cockram, Stan Roberts and Henry Fox look good for the top position.

The last team in any of the national knock-out competitions, Peterborough women, slipped out of the Rose Bowl 2-6 against a Stowmarket side who proved a little too strong all round.

'DOUBLE HAPPINESS'

by Alan Hydes



China's former world champion Chuang Tse-tung poses in the sun with Barnsley's international voyager Alan Hydes in Peking.

HOW many people get the chance to go to China even once in their lifetime? Very, very few! But my luck was to go a *second* time when, in September of last year, I took a further part of Winston Churchill Fellowship Award (the first part having been to Japan twelve months earlier).

Visits to China, in pursuit of table tennis, usually take the form of competitive play. Mine was the fortune to have had the experience of a tour simply to allow me to learn the subtleties and complexities of a system of training that has produced so many world champions in the past.

In spite of having played international table tennis for six years, I found that during my visit to China I was able to learn something new and exciting each day.

This was possible without the stresses of match play and I could get down to learning what my coaches Chuang Tse-tung — three times winner of the World men's singles title — Hu Hsu - hsien and players of the calibre of Hsu Shao-fa, Liang Koliang and the current Chinese team captain, Li Fu-jung, had to say.

With the help of my interpreter I was able to probe into their vast experience and seek their opinions of players and tactics. They were very frank, and prepared to advise how best to overcome the many and varied techniques of the foremost Asiatic and European players.

TRAINING STRUCTURE

So how is it done? At the risk of over-simplifying the training structure of Chinese table tennis, it goes like this—!

Throughout each province there is organised training for the eight to eleven-year-olds. Those that show promise are then invited to a Physical Culture institute in Peking. By this time they have already been introduced to the rudimentary techniques.

In Peking, from 11 to 15 years of age, these being the vitally important

formative years, the young players are trained in groups of not more than six by coaches who have a sound knowledge of world class table tennis.

It is from these groups that the future Chinese Swaythling Cup players will emerge. Those who do not appear likely to make the top national team will return to their home province and pass on the knowledge they have gained in Peking.

Now we come to the highest level of play and the responsibility it attracts. Firstly, the utmost emphasis is placed upon the delivery of a service which is accurately placed and could combine maximum sidespin with underspin, or has little or no spin, in any event the service would be cleverly disguised.

VARIATIONS

These variations of service enable the server to seize the initiative and once in this position he or she is trained to take full advantage of it.

It follows with such an approach that the receiving of service is of equal importance. I believe the Chinese are unsurpassed in both serving and receiving as many world championship matches have shown.

We in England are fundamentally weak in this area of the game and, as a result of this inadequacy, we rarely find ourselves in a position to win the point outright with our first stroke after service, when playing against world class opposition.

Whilst I am aware of the many methods they use to improve every facet of their game, it is the development of positive thinking from an early age which enables such controlled point-winning aggression to be produced at any stage, particularly at times of extreme pressure.

Finally it must be pointed out that the Chinese are rich in facilities, organisation, knowledge, spirit and, not



Thrice a defeated men's singles finalist in the World Championships — on each occasion by Chuang Tse-tung — a demonstration of his grip is here given by Li Fu-jung.

least, in stimulating the necessary leadership required to bring out a supreme effort from their players in the international arenas,



And again the grip is all important when applied by the master himself— Chuang Tse-tung.

LEICESTERSHIRE NOTES

by Phil Reid

ENCOURAGING NEWS

Leicestershire still in the running for two play-offs. That's the encouraging news from the hunting shire. Disappointing, however, was the drawn game with Warwickshire II in a vital 2nd Division (Midland) encounter.

Paul Randell—who gave perhaps his greatest-ever display for the County—won both his singles easily and Anita Stevenson and Karen Rogers won all three sets in which they were involved. But apart from that—nothing. It is quite clear that, Randell apart, we have at the moment no men, anywhere near good enough, for Premier Division play but that Chris Rogers could well be challenging for a place in this team in the near future.

A different story in the Junior (Midland) Division. Even without Karen Rogers, the team still won 9-1 at Wolverhampton against Staffordshire. Gillian Sinkinson and Julie Revill were brought into the team for this match and performed excellently to come perilously near to taking the Girls' Doubles. Notts. and Northants. are the obstacles now remaining between the County going to the promotion Challenge and whilst there are high hopes there is certainly no feeling of a 'fait accompli'.

On the other hand, the Veterans have still to collect a point. They have had some good games but the loss of John Bryant has clearly been felt this term.

The YMCA Invitation Tournament brought the usual result in the Men's Singles—a victory for Paul Randell. Randell has now won the last five major tournaments in Leicestershire and at the moment looks likely to win the next five too! Consistent rather than spectacular Randell is certainly one of the best, if not THE best player Leicestershire has ever produced.

The Leicestershire Towns League trophy was retained by Leicester in

convincing fashion. Hinckley, the runners-up, lost 5-2 to Leicester. Unbeaten throughout the tournament was Randell with thirteen wins.

The Leicestershire Championships will be held at Loughborough on March 17-18. In recent years there has been a drop in entries at local tournaments but whether this trend will be halted at Loughborough remains to be seen. Certainly there is no lack of enthusiasm at league level.

Finally—well done Colin Truman, the first player to beat both Thornton and David Harvey in the same match in the Midland League this season.

Nth. Bournemouth 1 Star

by C. B. CASHELL

Title Capture for Jenny

ARTHUR CHILVERS was a worthy winner of the men's singles title, at Winton YMCA on Feb 4, and Jenny Vass showed good form to take the women's singles title from the holder Joyce Coop.

This popular one-day event attracted an excellent entry, none more so than for the boys' title won by Steve Lyons of Surrey. Results:—

M.S.: Semi-finals:
A. Chilvers (Berks) bt A. R. Thornton (Berks) 15, 18;
K. Summerfield (Hants) bt D. Holman (Surrey) 14, -13, 19.
Final:
CHILVERS bt Summerfield 19, -18, 8.
W.S.: Semi-finals:
J. Vass (Surrey) bt L. Wales (Sussex) 19, 15;
J. Coop (Dorset) bt P. Wales (Sussex) 20, 16.
Final:
VASS bt Coop 17, 10.
M.D.: Final:
C. SHETTLER (Hants)/SUMMERFIELD bt M. Briggs/R. Tilling (Kent) 16, 19.
W.D.: Final:
COOP/VASS bt S. Harding/L. King (Hants) 17, 12.
X.D.: Final:
T. SMITH (Hants)/COOP bt Shetler/C. Hutchings (Hants) 16, -16, 19.
B.S.: Final:
S. LYONS (Surrey) bt S. Wilson (Hants) 18, 19.
G.S.: Final:
KING bt Harding (no scores).

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TOURNAMENT DIARY

Date	Title and venue	Additional to normal events	Organising Secretary
Apr. 8	Bedford 1-Star, The Badminton Hall, Bradgate Road, Bedford.		P. H. Smith, 72 Spruce Walk, Kempston, Beds. Closing date: 24.3.73.
14/15	Essex 2-Star.	IBS, IGS.	R. Locke, 10 Corporation Street, West Ham, London E.15. Closing date: 27.3.73.
28/29	Slough 2-Star Junior	U-15 BS, GS, BD, GD, XD. U-13 BS, GS. U-11 BS, GS.	J. A. Pacitto, 73 Bexley Street, Windsor, Berks. Closing date: 26.3.73.
May 5/6	Leckie 1-Star Junior, Joseph Leckie School, Walsall, Staffs.	U-15 BS, GS, BD, GD. U-13 BS, GS, BD, GD. U-11 BS, GS.	S. H. Parker, 3 Moreton Close, Gospel Oak, Tipton, Staffs. Closing date: 19.4.73.
12/13	Dagenham 2-Star, Redbridge Sports Centre, Forest Road, Barkingside, Ilford, Essex.	BS, GS, VS.	Miss M. E. Harden, 173 Alma Avenue, Hornchurch, Essex. RM12 6BL. Closing date: 20.4.73.

IRELAND

Apr. 21	Ulster Junior Open (Kilrea).		C. A. Moore, 78 Orby Drive, Belfast. BT5 6AG.
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SCOTLAND

Mar. 10/11	SCOTTISH OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS, Meadowbank Sports Centre, London Road, Edinburgh.		Mrs. H. Hamilton, 6 Grove Street, Edinburgh.
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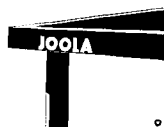
WALES

Mar. 17	Gwent Open, Standard Telephones and Cables, Canteen, Corporation Road, Newport, Mon.	BS, GS.	G. E. Motlow, 29 Carisbrooke Road, Newport, Mon. NP1 8NX.
Mar. 26/Apr. 1	2nd COMMONWEALTH CHAMPIONSHIPS, National Sports Centre for Wales, Cardiff.		H. Roy Evans, O.B.E., 198 Cyncoed Road, Cardiff, CF2 6BQ.

INTERNATIONAL

Apr. 5/15	32nd WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS, Skenderija Sports Centre, Sarajevo, Yugoslavia.		Swaythling Cup Corbillon Cup Jubilee Cup
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HASTINGS HONoured



Hastings was honoured on Jan. 24/73 with a visit from Mr. Sung Chung, President of the People's Republic of China Table Tennis Association and Secretary of the All China Sports Federation.

While in London on his way back to Peking from Nigeria where the all Africa Games were being held, Mr. Sung Chung decided that he would like to come to Hastings to look over the offices of the I.T.T.F. in Havelock Road and the E.T.T.A. in Claremont.

With him were Chiu Chung-Hui, world women's champion in 1961 and who was last in Hastings in 1963, Mr. Ho Chen-Liang and Mr. Tu Ming-Teh, members of the Sports Federation in China and Mr. and Mrs. Hu Ting-Yi from the Chinese Embassy.

Mr. H. Roy Evans, O.B.E., President of the International Table Tennis Federation, travelled up from Cardiff to meet Mr. Sung Chung in London.

Hospitality in Hastings was extended to the Chinese visitors by Mr. A. K. "Bill" Vint, O.B.E. (E.T.T.A. President and I.T.T.F. Secretary), Mr. Charles M. Wyles (E.T.T.A. Chairman) and Mr. Derek Tremayne (E.T.T.A. Secretary).

During the course of the day, the Chinese visitors were fascinated by the activity at the Indoor Bowls Centre, Falaise Road, and amazed at the excellence of the outdoor greens at the White Rock Gardens.

Picture (by George E. Gregory of St. Leonards-on-Sea) shows Mr. Sung Chung with Mr. Wyles (left) and Mr. Vint.

Feature by courtesy of Hastings and St. Leonards Observer, Ed.

MILTON KEYNES 1-STAR

The Bletchley and District TTL regret to announce that they will be unable to run the Milton Keynes 1-Star Open scheduled for Apr 7.

Reason for the cancellation is that the Bletchley Leisure Centre was behind on its building schedule and did not open until Feb. 10 instead of the original proposed date in Dec '72.

This did not allow enough time for the Committee to make their expected first rate job of organisation. It is hoped that it will run next year and that the conditions will render it eligible to be classed as a 3-Star Open.

COCA-COLA AWARDS 72-73

Due to the recent ill-health of Scheme Administrator, Laurie Landry—happily now making good his recovery—it has not been possible to produce an up-to-date points table for this issue of the magazine.

Latest positions, inclusive of points won in the Norwich Union International Championships, will appear in the April edition.

JUNIOR INTERNATIONAL SQUAD

THE National Selection Committee have selected a junior squad of players to operate on similar lines as the senior squad. The main target for these players will be selection for the team to participate in the European Youth Championships in Greece during early August. Squad:—

BOYS:

Desmond Douglas (Warwickshire)
David Alderson (Yorkshire)
Simon Heaps (Cheshire)
Paul Day (Cambridgeshire)
Donald Parker (Lancashire)
John Kitchener (Suffolk)
Andrew Barden (Middlesex)

GIRLS:

Linda Howard (Surrey)
Anita Stevenson (Leicestershire)
Elaine Tarten (Essex)
Gillian Taylor (Essex)
Judith Walker (Yorkshire)

Ian samples Life in Japan

Leaving China on Nov 13/72, Ian D. Horsham, the former Essex junior international and Winston Churchill Fellowship Award winner, is now in residence at Chukyo University, Nagoya — scene of the 1971 world championships.

He has been registered as a student and is taking a course in the Japanese language. Although the students are older than him (average age 19-23 years) he says he has been accepted as one of them. He is staying in a good apartment with an English speaking Japanese student.

He thought the training in China hard but is now finding it much harder although gratefully he is able to cope. Every day contains a 5-mile run plus the usual training and table tennis practice and often finishes up with a session of playing from 8 p.m. to midnight.

The discipline is very strict indeed. Before commencing playing they have to wash the floor and set up their own tables. It is very vocal in the hall as players are always shouting "Fight, Fight, Fight" and make the noise 'ooosh' as they play their strokes.

He has to bow to older and important people and being the youngest there he has to do his fair share. At

the Japanese Championships he was warned that if he did not get through the second round he would have to get his hair cut! This gives you some idea of the strict discipline.

Losing in the last 64 to a player ranked 16th in Japan, who he wasn't expected to beat, resulted in a visit to the barber.

Ian feels his game is improving but it is difficult to gauge until he returns home and meets some English players. Of one thing, he is certain. His game has been changed. They have taught him services designed to get the ball up and to go for the quick kill.

IN TOKYO

As a break, Ian visited Tokyo and stayed with Mr. Micky Harada who is the President of the Armstrong Trading Corporation, suppliers of sponge rubber to bat manufacturers in this country.

Although in Tokyo for only a week, arrangements were made for Ian to play table tennis every day but he began to look forward to returning to Nagoya and being with his many friends.

Ian's reflections on the high standard of play he saw during the Japanese Championships was that he still had a long way to go and would have to redouble his efforts on his return to the University.

He has now been given a place in the University team and was due to play in his first league match shortly.

The training since the New Year has



Ian Horsham playing in the English Junior Open at Thornaby, May, 1972.

Photo by Dennis A. Reed, Middlesbrough.

been increased and become much harder. Training runs are getting longer and one day it was a 15-mile stint!

A typical day's schedule goes something like this: 10.30 a.m. to 12 noon Circuit Training; 1.30 to 4 p.m. Footwork and Stability; 4 p.m. Running followed by weight training. In a race over 12 kilometers, Ian finished 11th in 43 minutes.

The stability training is quite something. One is expected to do 1,000 forehand strokes without a miss, another 1,000 differently angled and 2 by 500 strokes down either wing of the table. You can take Ian's word for it, you really have to concentrate very hard.

Ian has been very impressed by the spirit shown by his fellow students who train extremely hard for practically no rewards and yet all pull together as a team.

PREPARATIONS

The Japanese National Team have already begun their preparations for the World Championships in Sarajevo. It consists of four training camps of 7-10 days duration with 7 days intervals to allow the players to return home.

Further 7-day camps will be held in Sweden and Federal Germany before arriving in Yugoslavia 24 days before the championships begin!

Ian has been selected as a trainer and has already attended one camp and was due to leave Nagoya on Feb 3 for the second. The word "trainer" in this context means he is being used in table tennis practice possibly because of his European style.

Doubtless it is something of an honour to be given the opportunity to practice with players of world class such as Hasegawa, Takashuma, Imano, Kohno and Tasaka.

On the camp they arise at 6.30 a.m. and start running usually 18 laps of the track, practice table tennis all day and have discussions in the evening. Ian was due to play in a 'big' tournament on Feb 10/11 and was hopeful of getting some good results.

It looks as if Ian will be allowed to stay in Japan for longer than was first

intended and could possibly be away until the end of August.

The Editor is further indebted to Mr. Horsham, Ian's father, for this further information extracted from letters home.

SUSSEX NOTES

by ROBIN PIERCE

RED-FACED IDIOTS?

The Sussex Premier side remain anchored at the foot of the section following the 2-7 thrashings handed out by Surrey and Yorkshire.

The only bright spot in the tie against Surrey was the great three game win by Peter Williams over Roger Chandler. Both players put up a great performance and it was almost a pity that there had to be a winner.

Yorkshire showed that no-one can prevent their landslide victory in the County Championships. They outthit and outclassed the home side throughout the evening. In such circumstances Sam Ogundipe must be given full credit for his straight games win over Tony Clayton, the England No. 3.

The juniors disappointed when going down 4-6 to Surrey. Gerald Pugh could only take one singles and the chances of reaching the play-offs looks rather dim.

Pugh, on his home ground, dominated the Sussex Junior 'Closed' at Crawley. Gerald won the U-17 singles and doubles as well as triumphing in their U-15 counterparts.

Crawley supporters were not too pleased to learn that their best junior girl, Alison Terry, had been demoted to the No. 2 spot in the new junior rankings only a short while before her final against Anita Gedge, the latest Hastings hope.

The County's No. 1, Brighton's Christine Randell had just been swept off the table by Anita's do-or-die attack!

To ram the point home Alison outplayed Anita to win the championship. I would remind the critics that it could be the selectors are not such red-faced idiots as Alison's supporters would like to think.

They must have good reasons for sticking their necks out. But why on earth did the selectors have to announce a new ranking list before the finals were underway? It looks as if they should employ a good P.R.O. man as soon as possible.

The senior selection committee have issued a new ranking list as well. This list does not include Roger Chandler (Surrey), Linda Wales, who wishes to qualify for Hants., and Diane Gard, the Eastbourne lass who no longer wishes to wear a Sussex shirt.

Men:

1. Peter Williams (Eastbourne), 2. Sam Ogundipe (Brighton), 3. John Clarke (Crawley), 4. Emile Emecz (Haywards Heath), 5. Keith Horton (Crawley), 6. Robin Stace (Worthing), 7. Steve Marley (S.W. Sussex), 8. Mike McLaren (Worthing), 9. Gerald Pugh (Crawley), 10. Andy Meads (Crawley).

Women:

1. Judy Williams (Eastbourne), 2. Suzanna Kavallierou (Worthing), 3. Linda Woodcock (Eastbourne), 4. Angela Mock (Eastbourne), 5. Cathy Howe (Worthing), 6. Christine Randall (Brighton), 7. Pat Pearce (Crawley), 8. Alison Terry (Crawley).

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TABLE TENNIS POSTAL CANCELLATIONS

by Ian R. Crickmer

It has been announced by the I.T.T.A.W. that a special hand-stamp cancellation is to be applied to all mail posted at the Welsh National Sports Centre on Sunday, 31st March, the penultimate day of the Second Commonwealth Championships in Cardiff. A special cover has been produced for the occasion, and there is also a possibility that an advertising slogan cancellation die may be used in one of the Cardiff canceller machines, during March.

The hand-stamp will be the fourth used for a table tennis event in Britain, the previous three having all been commissioned by the E.T.T.A. The first, for the 21st World Championships at the Empire Pool, Wembley, was used from April 5th (the day preceding the opening) to April 14th, 1954: this was well before the present vogue for collecting such cancellations achieved popularity, and only 3,128 items were serviced according to G.P.O. records over these ten days — with the number of items sent overseas, and others destroyed by the recipients, taken into account, it follows that this is a comparatively rare example, often missing from Great Britain specialists' collections.

The design for the hand-stamp used at the Fifth European Championships, also at Wembley Empire Pool, from April 13 to April 20, 1966, incorporated the motif designed by the E.T.T.A. for this event—subsequently this symbol was adopted by the European Union as its official emblem

for use in all connections — not solely for championships.

Another European event provided the third of these cancellations — this time for the Thirteenth Youth Championships played at Thornaby Pavilion, Teesside, from August 4th to 9th, 1970. Unlike the previous two, which had been of the traditional circular type, the 1970 cancellation was rectangular, this by now being permissible under Post Office regulations.

The cover designed for the I.T.T.A.W. is printed in three colours, with the red Welsh dragon proudly heralding this top event — enquiries about the servicing arrangements should be directed to Mr. and Mrs. H. Roy Evans, 108, Cyncoed Road, Cardiff CF2 6BQ.

SURREY NOTES

by Geoff Ryan

SEVENTEEN EVENTS

This season's "Closed" was held on Jan. 13/14 at the superb Surrey University Sports Centre where a total of 17 events were staged during the weekend.

The finals, held on Sunday evening, were on the whole undistinguished but the men's singles final proved to be a 'cracker'. 16-years-old Gerry Walsh stormed through his half of the draw to oppose the holder, Paul Bishop, who was unseeded, being a late entry (this caused some controversy).

Walsh, after a nervous start, produced some fine backhand play to take the first at 18. Bishop was putting his title chances in jeopardy by poor service returns and Walsh stood poised at 20-16, so everyone thought! However, a missed smash and loop, a service fault plus a Bishop smash saw

the score level. The next 12 points were breathtaking with the holder producing a supreme effort to clinch the game at 27-25.

Poor Walsh seemed disconsolate in the decider and tamely succumbed -10. "The long and short of it" was the story of the men's doubles where Gerry Pugh (15) teamed up with six footer Keith Horton to beat Barry Hill and Terry Kirby 20, -15, 19.

With Sue Howard being absent through illness, sister Linda had little difficulty in taking the women's title 14 and 12 over Jenny Vass. Teaming up with Pam Law for a scratch doubles pair, the England international tasted defeat at the hands of the County's top juniors, Nicolette Leslie and Sue Tame -20, -19.

Teaming with Barry Hill, Linda was successful in the mixed final beating Mike Barrett and Jenny Vass. Terry Kirby won the veterans' event beating Paul Brook. They partnered each other for a doubles win over Keith Hurlock and Zenon Schramm.

Boys' U-17 singles winner was Steve Lyons who beat Max Crimmins. Doubles winners were Crimmins and Dave Bangerter over Pugh and Chris Wells. Sue Tame beat Nicky Leslie in the girls' U-17 singles and they teamed up to beat Stephanie Clarke and Kay Greenough in the doubles.

Keith Seager beat Steve Vine to win the U-14 BS and Seager teamed up with Colin Keith to beat Vine and S. Woodgate in the BD. U-14 GS winner was J. Mitchell over S. Roebuck, the pair winning the GD against A. Temple and S. Boxall.

U-11 singles was won by S. Woodgate over R. J. Taylor, the former pairing with T. Vine for a doubles success over K. Kelly and M. Hanley-Brown.

Latest senior rankings are:—

Men:

1. C. J. Warren, 2. R. Chandler, 3. G. Chapman, 4. P. Bishop, 5. D. Welsman, 6. G. Walsh, 7. B. Hill, 8. C. Thorns, 9. D. Holman, 10. C. Strathearn, 11. S. Lyons, 12. T. Adams.

Women:

1. L. Howard, 2. S. Howard, 3. J. Warren, 4. J. Vass, 5. N. Leslie, 6. S. Tame, 7. A. Tyrrell, 8. S. Clarke, 9. K. Greenough, 10. J. Ingarfield.

Latest Inter-league results:—

P.J. Group 1: Dulwich 1, Wandsworth "A" 8.

Group 2: Byfleet 3, Wandsworth "B" 6; Reigate 5, Croydon B.H. 4; Wandsworth "B" 5, Reigate 4.

A.W. Rose Bowl: Leatherhead 1, Byfleet 8; Guildford 3, Thames Valley 6.

Harding Cup: Byfleet 6, Leatherhead 2; Thames Valley 8, Guildford 0; Byfleet 7, Guildford 1.

Sutton Trophy: Thames Valley "B" 0, Thames Valley "A" 8; Thames Valley "A" 7, Leatherhead 1.

JUNIORS IN SCOTLAND

The National Selection Committee have announced the following team to represent England in a Junior International match against Scotland at Barmulloch Community Centre, Glasgow on Mar. 9/73:—

David Alderson (Yorks.), John Kitchener (Yorks.), Andrew Barden (Middx.), Elaine Tarten (Essex), Gillian Taylor (Essex) and Judith Walker (Yorks.). Captain: Peter Simpson.

The team will subsequently participate in the Scottish Open at Meadowbank Stadium, Edinburgh on Mar. 10/11.

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TABLE-TENNIS STAR SIGNS CONTRACT WITH DUNLOP

Alan Hydes, the English International player, recently signed a contract with Dunlop Sports Company to join the Company's promotional team for table-tennis.

In the course of his career, Alan, who is twenty-three years old and comes from Barnsley, has played 21 times for England as a junior, making his debut in 1964. He joined the senior ranks in 1967 and has since competed all over the world for his country.

Picture shows the contract signing with (left) Bill Evans, Dunlop's table-tennis specialist, and (right) Michael Thornhill, export sales manager. (a former English International).

Photo by Roy Keirby, East Sheen, S.W.14.
By courtesy of Dunlop Ltd.

From the Editor's Postbag

CONSTERNATION

I read with great interest both John Woodford's "Controversy" column and also Geoff Ryan's Surrey notes, the first of which referred to the quandy referees find themselves in when confronted with late tournament entries, and the second being more specific in dealing with the case of Linda Howard being allowed to compete in the English Junior Closed when no entry form had been received.

In this connection I forwarded four entries for the Junior Closed to the E.T.T.A. on behalf of four of our Junior County players. These were posted on Dec 7 by first class mail to arrive by the closing date of Dec 9. It was only after several frantic 'phone calls that I managed to discover on the DAY BEFORE we were hoping to

travel to Loughborough, that our entries had been rejected "Received Dec 11 — Not accepted — TOO LATE".

I rang Mr. Sykes to find out at that late stage whether it would be at all possible to be included in the draw but received a negative reply. Imagine our consternation therefore when learning that not only Linda Howard but "about six other 'unknowns' were placed in the GD, BD and XD events" (Mr. Sykes' words in his later explanation to me).

John Woodford's comments miss the point completely. The closing date for entries was Dec 9 and although extremely disappointed we were prepared to accept this but the Junior Closed was open to *all* juniors and not to an exclusive elite and therefore there should not have been, and should never be a dual standard applied.

If the referee had been satisfied that Miss Howard's entry had been forwarded when no form was received, surely they should have been that much more satisfied with our explana-

tion that our letter was posted on Dec 7.

Surely, at National level, when an entry is closed then closed it must remain so proving contrary to John Woodford's assumption that the game is in fact more important than any one individual player.

JOHN REED

Moor View,
The Hill,
Millom, Cumberland.

BEATEN BY THE RULE BOOK

To All Fair Minded Sportsmen —

No doubt the record books will show that on the evening of Jan 20, Hampshire beat Kent 5-4 in the Veteran Division South.

As neither team had been beaten, up to this date, it probably meant that this match would decide the championship. But in all fairness to my team, I feel impelled to put pen to paper.

Although this match was due to start at 6.30 p.m., through unforeseen delays we were late. After thirteen minutes of trying to locate the 'phone number, through the operator, I was able to contact the Venue at 6.50 p.m. to explain the situation. At this time we were only 10 miles from Portsmouth!

Already Hampshire had contacted the CTTC Secretary in London to learn their legal position. Naturally his hands are tied by the rule book, which he had to quote. How their hearts must have leapt for joy!

Eventually we arrived at 7.50 p.m., to be greeted with the words, "What's your excuse? If it's not good enough, we are claiming five sets". (out of a possible nine this gave us a lot of chance).

The fact that the wife of our No. 1, D. Whittaker, was in hospital, critically ill, and he wanted to visit her before leaving, or that we encountered innumerable road works on the way, or that we were half an hour in Portsmouth, trying to find the venue, or that we had driven 140 miles, in the dark and rain, were not considered good enough reasons.

Perhaps if we'd had a head-on collision with a ten ton truck, this would be considered acceptable. One wonders on such occasions, who decides what constitutes a reasonable excuse, surely not the home County?

After an hours "discussion", of this all important time, Hampshire decided they would only claim three sets. I suppose they could have asked us to amputate our bat hands, just to make things a little easier for them. During the discussion, it was suggested by one of their more humorous members that perhaps a "friendly" could be played instead. Without too much imagination, one can imagine, how "friendly" an atmosphere prevailed.

I realise, that we were absolutely in the wrong by being late. But no-one intentionally wants to be unpunctual, and lose a match by such methods.

Being "Veterans", I thought we were supposed to be more tolerant and understanding. Not like those irresponsible youngsters of to-day that we are supposed to be teaching the real values in life. It appears that our game is getting as sick as soccer, with a win at any price the only important thing. Let's face it, we are not profes-

sionals getting paid for playing, but sportsmen who play for the love of the game.

I have been playing this game for twenty-five years, and never, never, would I dream of treating an opponent in this way. We might curse and tell them to hurry, but to confiscate a match by such means is despicable. Surely a less severe punishment can be devised? In all my years of playing, all over the country, and at all levels, this has never happened to me before.

I wonder how many matches would ever get started or completed, if the rules were always carried out to the letter? As it was, we could have been officious towards our opponents, but it does seem rather paltry to complain that:—

1. They were not all wearing official shirts.
2. The rain came in through the roof, and one of our players slipped and hurt himself.
3. Some people were playing T.T. on a nearby table.
4. One of their players, wore a couple of bandages across his chest, which stood out like headlights.

Hardly worth complaining about, really!

Oh, yes, you might be interested in the match itself.

After conceding 3 sets to our hosts, they won only the women's singles, and the mixed which confirmed what I had suspected, that their lady, was the only "man" amongst them.

The result 5-4 speaks for itself. A shallow victory indeed. I wonder if they would have been quite so officious if they had been playing a lesser team?

To my team, I apologise for all the hours of travelling, effort, and anxiety they endured, to be defeated in such a manner.

After this fiasco I shall fulfil my obligation to Kent, see the season through, and then resign my Captancy. In conclusion let me state, that in no way are Kent responsible for this letter. Whatever the outcome, I take full responsibility. A disenchanted, but wiser man.

VIC ATTERANO

Kent Vet's. Captain.

3, Hillview Drive,
Welling, Kent.

TANG OF SALT!

Dear Sir,

It John Woodford finds it necessary to make stupid statements in his "Controversy" column in order to promote discussion on matters of the moment, then I suggest the feature be discontinued and the valuable space be allocated to more useful purposes.

In considering some point of dispute, Mr. Woodford, a tournament referee or his committee decides on the basis of the facts available and in the context of the rules of the tournament and the I.T.T.F. or E.T.T.A. tournament regulations. The possibility that some person or persons might consider the referee's decision "wrong" has no influence whatsoever for any referee worth his salt. Mr. Woodford's comment on playing tournaments without young stars is farcical itself—does he suggest one rule for the top players and another for lesser lights? Whether the referee or organiser of an important tournament should enquire why a top

player has not entered is something else -- perhaps the Selection Committee could assist as far as national tournaments are concerned.

Is Mr. Woodford president of the Chester Barnes fan club? Considering Essex's previous statements on the matter, surprise rather than relief would be the reaction of most people to his re-instatement. As far as the national pressmen are concerned, Chester Barnes' most useful talent has been that of providing controversial copy for them and good publicity for Chester Barnes. Are Denis Neale and Trevor Taylor to be criticized because they have not adopted the same policy? Chester's playing ability is beyond question, but his overall performances for England, particularly abroad, are hardly legendary.

Mr. Woodford wishes to be excused if he has missed any seemingly important events in his report on the Norwich Union English Championships. Well, Mr. Woodford, you missed one or two things some might consider important, last year as well as this year, but why accept the assignment if you can't give it the attention it deserves? As an E.T.T.A. Regional Press Officer, Mr. Woodford should do better than this. But then perhaps it's consistent with the lack of appreciation of circumstances appertaining at the time of more than one of the E.T.T.A.'s own official press releases this season. Do we need a national press and public relations officer, unencumbered by other official duties and with access to all facts and figures behind the news?

TONY ROSS

70, Davenport Avenue, Hessle,
Yorkshire HU13 0RW.

UMPIRING BACKWATER

Without necessarily agreeing with the whole of Alan Shepherd's article in February's issue, I would certainly endorse his remark that qualified umpires should have been provided for all the Junior Premier matches in Loughborough.

Although not qualified myself, I umpired 13 sets on the Sunday in order to help the organisers. Presuming that the absence of County Umpires was due to a shortage in Leicestershire, rather than to any failure to turn up, I wrote the following day to the County Umpires Secretary of Leicestershire UFA, who incidentally was not present himself on the Sunday, expressing an interest in qualifying.

I have not received any reply, and if this is indicative of the interest in the County Umpire scheme in Leicestershire I feel Alan Shepherd's next visit to this county will find no more satisfactory situation.

On a lighter note, I would point out that there were 16 matches and as these were of 10 and *not* 9 sets each there were 160 sets to be umpired, *not* 144. I hope that Essex's lack of success was not due to Alan Shepherd's misplacing a set in each of their matches!

IAN E. McKELVEY

28, Kimberley Road,
Leicester, LE2 1LF.

NEW TECHNIQUE DEMANDED

The recent course at Lea Green was a successful demonstration of how a group of intelligent senior coaches can organise a thought-provoking session for their colleagues.

Peter Simpson and Harry Dignan produced a stimulating weekend's table tennis activity. They and the other speakers pointed out that if a thoughtful approach to the coaching of the game is used, then a new way to produce players of world class just may be found.

They maintained that to restrict oneself to the narrow view, the only important factor was a body holding a bat and hitting a ball across a table. Limited to say the least. A much wider view was needed and other areas of activity demanded exploration.

A look at the psychological and personality aspect of players may produce a clue to success, together with a study of other sports, for they may hold a secret appropriate to the advancement of table tennis.

The point was well made that followers of a method rarely ever lead the field. It is those who find a new or different technique who stand the best chance of progression. Perhaps these new areas of investigation may result in the discovery of new roads to success.

PETER CHARTERS

11, Calliton Drive,
Twyford, Berks.

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS— SARAJEVO

The Yugoslav Tourist Board have only recently released information on accommodation available in Sarajevo and as a result of passing this information to a travel agent we have

obtained the following quotations, per person.

Travel—London to Sarajevo on 9th April, returning on 16th April. Full board, including admission to the Championships and local transport.

Grade A Hotel—£98.

Grade B Hotel—£85

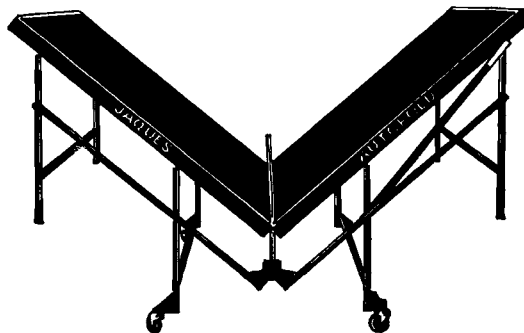
Grade C Hotel—£75

(This is likely to be in private accommodation).

In view of the short notice, applications must be sent to Hunting Lambert Sports Services Ltd., 47 Sloane Street, London, S.W.1., enclosing a deposit of £5 per person by MONDAY, 12th MARCH, 1973.

Any queries direct to Mr. E. Sturup on 01-235 2911.

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Czechoslovakian Open

Second title for Jill, Bengtsson back on beam

Collated by The Editor

England's Jill Hammersley, in partnership with Beatrix Kishazi of Hungary, won their second major women's doubles title when they added the Czech Open to that won at Anderlecht in the Belgian Open last October.

Sweden's Stellan Bengtsson and Alicia Grofova (Czecho.) took the two singles titles, the latter's compatriots, Milan Orlowski and Ilona Vostova, winning the mixed.

Winners of the men's doubles were Stanislav Gomozkov (USSR) and Dragutin Surbek (Yugoslavia).

Delayed by adverse flying conditions, Bengtsson and Kjell Johansson failed to reach Vlasim for the start of the championships, on Jan. 27, and were thus debarred from defending their men's team title won by Istvan Jonyer and Tibor Klampar of Hungary.

Prior to beating Czechoslovakia's "A" team of Orlowski and Jiri Turai 3-1 in the final, the Magyars had disposed of Rumania (Dubosi and Gheorge), Czecho "B" (Kunz, Dvorak and Dvoracek) and, in the semis, Federal Germany (Leiss and Schmittinger) all by 3-0 margins.

Trevor Taylor and Nicky Jarvis opened England's account by despatching Wachter, Bar and Rottenberg (Austria) 3-0 only to be ousted, in the quarters, by the beaten finalists.

But by no means did the Czech first string have matters all their own way in this encounter as Taylor, striking his best form, recorded wins over Turai (8, 14) and Orlowski (12, 18)!

Unfortunately, Jarvis was not at his best and was easily beaten by Turai in the deciding set (10, 9), after Orlowski had laid him low (12, 15) in the second. The Doubles went to the Czech pair 20 and 15.

Czechoslovakia "A" won the counterpart women's event with a final 3-0 result for Vostova and Miloslava Polackova over Kishazi and Judit Magos.

Prior to, the Czech pair had whistled their way past Austria (Sandpeck and Strauss) and Yugoslavia (Resler and Palatinus), both 3-0 but, not so easily by 3-2 over Federal Germany's Di Schöler and Wibke Hendriksen, the latter winning both her singles!

SUBMERGED

England's Jill Hammersley, Karenza Mathews and Linda Howard tested the temperature at the shallow end and succeeded in 'drowning' Denmark's Susanne Poulsen and Britta Andersen 3-0.

Thereafter, in the deeper waters of the quarter-finals, Kishazi and Magos totally submerged any further hopes of dolphin-like activity.

Magos beat Jill, 15, -18, 15; Kishazi accounted for Karenza 14, 14; and a 16, 19 doubles success brought matters to a speedy conclusion.

Intent on making up for his lack of match play in the team event, Bengtsson crashed his way to the

quarters of the men's singles with straight-game wins over Guttierrez (Cuba), Costache (Czecho) and Yugoslavia's all-action man, Karakasevic.

Klampar was next to go, beaten 3-1, after winning the first game, to be followed by Gomozkov the Soviet star who, far from yielding as a lamb to the slaughter, equated the set score at 2-all after being 0-2 down.

Bengtsson had no difficulty in the decider and again showed his fighting qualities in the final against Orlowski who, at one stage, led the reigning world champion 2-1.

Taylor was disappointingly beaten by Poland's Witold Woznica in the first round but Jarvis had good wins over Serban Dubosi (Rumania) and Jaroslav Stanek (Czecho) to reach the last 16 and to have his run terminated by Gomozkov.

Ebby Schöler was another first round faller when stumbling against the Czech, Benda.

But the major shock occurred in Round 2 when the holder, Johansson, was treated to similar dismissal by Rotislav Stepanek, yet another glory-seeking Czechoslovak.

Seventh seed Grofova was the surprise winner of the women's singles, her 15, 8, 9 semi-final win over top seed Zoya Rudnova being quite astounding.

So too was the dismissal of Magos, the holder, by the defensive Hendriksen. In the lower half of the draw Kishazi, seeded No. 2, fell to Birgitta Radberg, of Sweden, playing much more assuredly than when beaten by Jill in the European League match at Guildford.

GREAT WIN

Jill, seeded No. 8, had a great win over the Czech, Polackova (10, 14, 16) and reached her quarter-final place with a comfortable win over Ann Christin Hellman of Sweden (11, 12, 14).

She should have beaten Rudnova too, after taking the Russian penholder to five hard-fought games.

Karenza began by beating the Cuban No. 1, Valasquez, (8, 13, 11) but failed to penetrate the stubborn defence of Di Schöler who won 9, 8, -18, 12.

Linda led the Czech, Jana Pauknerova, 20-13 in the 5th yet failed to take advantage!

The unlikely combination of Gomozkov/Surbek really clicked in the men's doubles event for their path to the rostrum was far from primrose strewn.

Belgium's Van de Walle/Schalley were followed by Persson/Vikström of Sweden, and Gergely/Kunz (Czecho) to the changing rooms. And this still left a spare peg for Jonyer/Klampar to hang their sweat-soaked shirts on.

In the final it was the supreme defensive wall, so painstakingly erected by Janos Börzsei and Schöler, that cracked under the onslaught of forehand and backhand hammer blows.

PLAYED BADLY

Taylor/Jarvis played badly in this event and were quickly despatched by Gergely/Kunz on their first excursion to the table.

On then to the women's doubles which, glory be, finished up with Jill and Beatrix Kishazi being the crowned heads of Vlasim.

Only four wins were called for, initially hard against Crisan/Vlaicov (Rumania), then easy over Hendriksen/Schöler and the Poles, Calinska/Noworyta.

1-2 down in the final, to Grofova/Silhanova, the Anglo-Hungarian duo then clicked into gear to take the next two games for victory.

Karenza and Linda were beaten by Rudnova/Antonian (USSR) 10, 16, 15 in their first set.

Top-seeded Jonyer/Magos lost in the mixed quarters to Surbek/Resler who subsequently fell to Gomozkov/Rudnova.

Jill had Jaroslav Stanek as her partner in this event but, after beating the Austrians, Bar/Sandpeck, they lost to Surbek/Resler.

Jarvis and Karenza, after beating the Czech combine of Franczyk/Minarikova, managed to take the 3rd game from Jonyer/Magos but no other.

Taylor and Linda lost in their first attempt to the Russians Lindmjae/Antonian.

Results:—

Men's Team Event: Semi-finals:
Czechoslovakia A 3, Yugoslavia 1.
M. Orlowski lost to M. Karakasevic -18, -13;
bt D. Surbek 16, 16.
J. Turai bt Surbek 17, 17.
Orlowski/Turai bt I. Korpa/Surbek 18, 10.
Hungary 3, Federal Germany 0.
T. Klampar bt K. Schmittinger 17, 17.
J. Jonyer bt J. Leiss 11, 9.
Jonyer/Klampar bt Leiss/Schmittinger 15, -15, 17.
Final:
HUNGARY 3, Czechoslovakia A 1.
Klampar lost to Orlowski -20, -16.
Jonyer bt Turai 6, 18;
bt Orlowski 11, 18.
Jonyer/Klampar bt Orlowski/Turai 19, -15, 18.

Women's Team Event: Semi-finals:
Hungary 3, Czechoslovakia B 1.
J. Magos bt A. Grofova 13, 19.
B. Kishazi bt Silhanova 13, 14;
bt Grofova 19, 14.
Magos/Szendy lost to Grofova/Silhanova 17, -16, -18.
Czechoslovakia A 3, Federal Germany 2.
I. Vostova lost to W. Hendriksen -15, -15;
bt D. Schöler -9, 14, 12.
M. Polackova bt Schöler 13, 11;
lost to Hendriksen 17, -17, -12.
Polackova/Vostova bt Hendriksen/Schöler 15, 8.
Final:
CZECHOSLOVAKIA A 3, Hungary 0
Vostova bt Magos -14, 14, 17.
Polackova bt Kishazi 10, 19.
Polackova/Vostova bt Magos/Szendy 14, 17.

Men's Singles: Round 3:
S. Bengtsson (Sweden) bt Karakasevic 13, 14, 22;
Klampar bt Turai 21, 11, -14, 20;
G. Gergely (Hungary) bt J. Kunz (Czecho) -16, 11, 11, 12;
S. Gomozkov (USSR) bt N. Jarvis (England) 11, 11, -17, 18;
A. Stipanec (Yugo) bt J. Börzsei (Hungary) 17, -20, 17, 10;
Orlowski bt Korpa -18, 14, 7, -16, 17;
Surbek bt S. Kollarovits (Czecho) 7, 13, 13;
Jonyer bt Schmittinger -15, -18, 16, 10, 17.
Quarter-finals:
Bengtsson bt Klampar -12, 14, 17, 18;
Gomozkov bt Gergely -19, 20, 21, 15;
Orlowski bt Stipanec -19, 12, 11, 14;
Surbek bt Jonyer 16, -14, -19, 16, 17.
Semi-finals:
BENGTSSON bt Gomozkov 20, 8, -14, -14, 15;
ORLOWSKI bt Surbek 16, 18, 12.
Final:
BENGTSSON bt Orlowski -16, 10, -21, 14, 12.

Women's Singles: Round 3:
Z. Rudnova (USSR) bt K. Szendy 20, 13, 13;
J. Hammersley (England) bt A. C. Hellman (Sweden) 11, 12, 14;
Grofova bt D. Calinska (Poland) 14, 14, -10, 19;
Hendriksen bt Magos -16, 12, 17, 19;
Vostova bt E. Vlaicov (Rumania) 14, 17, 11;
Riedlova (Czecho) bt Schöler 14, 12, -15, 17;
B. Radberg (Sweden) bt Smidlova (Czecho) 16, -19, -14, 12, 13;
Kishazi bt E. Antonian (USSR) 23, 10, 9.

Quarter-finals:
Rudnova bt Hammersley 19, 21, -15, -14, 17;
Grofova bt Hendriksen -14, -13, 13, 16, 24;
Vostova bt Riedlova 18, -18, -18, 22, 16;
Radberg bt Kishazi -12, 16, 16, 20.
Semi-finals:
GROFOVA bt Rudnova 15, 8, 9;
VOSTOVA bt Radberg 18, -11, 12, -11, 9.
Final:
GROFOVA bt Vostova 17, 12, 17.

Men's Doubles: Quarter-finals:
Jonyer/Klampar bt Leiss/Schmittinger 14, 18, 13;
Gomozkov/Surbek bt Gergely/Kunz 19, 17, 16;
Börzsei/Schöler bt Orlowski/Turai 12, 12, 8;
Bengtsson/K. Johansson (Sweden) bt S. Dubosi/T. Gheorghe (Rumania) 14, 10, 13.
Semi-finals:
GOMOZKOV/SURBEK bt Jonyer/Klampar 17, 17, -16, 14;
BORSZEI/SCHÖLER bt Bengtsson/Johansson 19, -16, 19, 13.

Final:
GOMOZKOV/SURBEK bt Börzsei/Schöler 21, 22, 13.
Women's Doubles: Quarter-finals:
Hammersley/Kishazi bt Hendriksen/Schöler 14, 9, 10;
Calinska/C. Noworyta (Poland) bt Antonian/Rudnova 15, 14, 10;
Grofova/Silhanova bt Magos/Szendy 20, 15, 20.

Polackova/Vostova bt Hellman/Radberg 15, -19, 7, 11.
Semi-finals:
HAMMERSLEY/KISHAZI bt Calinska/Noworyta 9, 21, 8;
GROFOVA/SILHANOVA bt Polackova/Vostova 12, 13, 18.

Final:
HAMMERSLEY/KISHAZI bt Grofova/Silhanova -17, 17, -12, 15, 17.
Mixed Doubles: Quarter-finals:
Surbek/M. Resler (Yugo) bt Jonyer/Magos 11, 18, -13, 16;
Gomozkov/Rudnova bt Schöler/Schöler 16, 13, 16;

Dvoracek (Czecho)/Grofova bt Borzsei/Kishazi 10, -11, -18, 22, 15.
Orlowski/Vostova bt Leiss/Hendriksen 16, 9, -19, 11.
Semi-finals:
GOMOZKOV/RUDNOVA bt Surbek/Resler -16, 16, 10, 18;
ORLOWSKI/VOSTOVA bt Dvoracek/Grofova 17, 15, 17.
Final:
ORLOWSKI/VOSTOVA bt Gomozkov/Rudnova 13, -12, 12, -13, 13.

MIDLAND SQUAD TRAINING

by John Pike

Having attended the first session of this new Midland squad training at the Highfield Centre, Wolverhampton, one can only be full of praise for the players and coaches taking part.

To see these top youngsters from Staffordshire, Warwickshire, Leicestershire, and Shropshire in action, with their coaches, was an experience.

This will be the scene now on the last Saturday of each month as well as every other Wednesday.

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2nd Commonwealth Championships

ALL ROADS LEAD TO CARDIFF

Firm entries have been received from seventeen countries for the 2nd Commonwealth Championships to be held at the National Sports Centre for Wales, in Cardiff, from Mar. 26 to Apr. 1/73.

Participating countries are:—Australia, Canada, England, Ghana, Guernsey, Hong Kong, India, Kenya, Northern Ireland, Jersey, Malaysia, New Zealand, Nigeria, Scotland, Singapore, Trinidad and Tobago and Wales.

Team events will occupy the first three days with the finals in the evening of Wednesday, Mar. 28.

The Opening Ceremony in the evening of Monday, Mar. 26 will be performed by the Rt. Hon. Peter Thomas, Q.C., M.P., Secretary of State for Wales.

Congress will occupy the morning of Thursday, Mar. 29, at the National Sports Centre. This will be followed by a Civic Lunch, given by the Lord Mayor and Council of the City of Cardiff, to all players, officials, and delegates of visiting Associations. There will be no play on this day and afternoon excursions will be arranged.

Finals of the Individual events will take place in the afternoon of Sunday, Apr. 1 to be followed by a Banquet in the evening.

MIDDLESEX NOTES

by Laurie Landry

Andrew Barden, 14-years-old Middlesex and England Junior, became the youngest ever Middlesex champion when he beat Mark Mitchell, himself only 15, in an excellent men's singles final in the County Closed at Barnet.

Mitchell had done the damage by beating the holder, Alan Lindsay, in straight games. With Anne Painter, aged 18, winning the women's singles, the older generation only had a real look-in for the men's and mixed doubles titles. Final results:—

M.S.: A. Barden (N. Middx.) bt M. Mitchell (N. Middx.) -16, 18, 18.

W.S.: A. Painter (N. Middx.) bt J. Hartwell (Barnets) 19, 15.

M.D.: L. Landry (Willesden)/A. Lindsay (Central) bt W. Mascarenhas (Acton)/R. Philips (Wembley) 18, -18, 16.

W.D.: B. Clayton (Wembley)/M. Walker (Willesden) bt Painter/S. Tylor (N. Middx.) 18, -18, 13.

X.D.: Landry/J. Redfearn (S.W. Middx.) bt R. Aldrich (N. Middx.)/Painter 16, -22, 17.

B.S.: Barden bt D. Tan (N. Middx.) 6, 12.

G.D.: Hartwell bt A. Mitchell (N. Middx.) 20, 20.

ESSEX NOTES

by Alan Shepherd

BLAZE OF GLORY

There are happier faces in table tennis circles in Essex now that dismal start to the season seems but a

nasty dream, and with four consecutive wins the County Seniors are going out in a blaze of glory. Chester Barnes made his seasonal home debut against Cheshire, and a large crowd were delighted by his display in an 8—1 win.

Here was the Chester of old (although a bit more portly) going through his complete repertoire of brilliant play and funny asides. It inspired David Brown to turn in his best display of the season; he beat Brian Burn in a fine match, then "murdered" Des Douglas. Stuart Gibbs and Lesley Radford gave solid support.

Possibly an even greater display by our team followed against Middlesex who were beaten 5—4 despite facing an Essex team without Barnes, who was unable to play, having committed himself to an exhibition match in the North whilst still suspended.

The revitalised Essex shrugged off his absence and Brown reached new heights in beating the redoubtable "Les" Haslam. But what can one say about skipper Bobby Stevens, who keeps on producing great displays at an age when most County players are looking back on their representative days nostalgically?

He was equal to beating Haslam, but how could he possibly beat the old fox Alan Lindsay, who **always** wins against Bobby? Well I can only describe their match as incredible. It was a meeting between two of the greatest sportsmen and characters I have ever had the privilege to watch play. "A game between two gentlemen" as Alan put it, and that sums it up. The crowd loved every moment of it and at the end gave both players

a tremendous ovation. For the record Bobby won 21/19 in the third after Alan had led 19/17!

WARWICKSHIRE NOTES

by Ron Anson

FURTHER "EDUCATION"

With victories over Kent and Cheshire behind them, Warwickshire travelled to Essex confident of completing the hat-trick but a Barnes-inspired home side handed out a sound 8—1 thrashing. The mere presence of the reinstated Chester lifted the rest of his team and brought inspired performances from David Brown, in particular, and Stuart Gibbs plus the usual competent performance from Lesley Radford.

Desmond Douglas defending a 100% premier record was swamped by a rampaging Brown but did record the solitary set with his win over Gibbs. Somewhat deflated, Warwickshire welcomed bottom-of-the-table Sussex to Coventry, no doubt hoping for easy pickings but a sporting Sussex team fought to the last, only going down in the final set. Sam Ogundipe, after defeating Brian Burn, furthered Desmond's "education" and came out on top 19, 19. With Derek Munt giving one of his best performances in difficult conditions the County squeezed home. Incidentally, if anyone of ample proportions has any spare kit Ralph Gunnion would be pleased to hear from him!

Good news on the Birmingham front is that Mike Johns is resident in the area and available for the "Wilmott Cup".

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IN THE COACHING FIELD

with John O'Sullivan

Coaching associations backed by other local or County leagues, appear to be becoming more popular, and I have just heard of one such association from Bournemouth.

Started in November 1971, with the intention of improving the standard of play of juniors and increasing the number of coaches in the area, it is run today under the leadership of John Lulker, a two star diploma coach. They have kept in close contact with Poole in Dorset, using an exchange of players to improve the standard of play.

The juniors showed great enthusiasm after visits from Jack Carrington and Bryan Merrett (Staff Coach) to the Arundale Centre and also Bryan's further visits to the Winton Centres.

Although mainly for juniors, who are encouraged to play in the league, all comers are made welcome. Local leagues have co-operated by accepting juniors as members. Three U-13 juniors have been entering tournaments, and at a recent tournament in Exeter, Janet New won the U-13 girls' championship.

These associations take a little time to get off the ground, but their value is shown in the results.

Student coaches have always had study sessions within reasonable distance of their homes. Not only were sessions difficult to find, but chances where, that having travelled to a training course it could turn out to be a repeat of a previous session.

I think that the danger now is that not only student coaches, but qualified coaches will have to rethink the whole concept of coaching. The last two courses I have attended, have not only shown a difference in approach, but have had a continuation from one course to the next.

The first course, which has already been dealt with in a previous issue, was mainly on "movement and balance".

The second course, went much deeper, and although the title was

simply "Course on Abilities" coaches had to think of old ideas in a new light and new ideas relevant to modern table tennis.

The course held at Lea Green in Derbyshire from Feb 2-4 was organized by Staff Coach Peter Simpson. Included among the speakers was John Myers the English Medico.

The information was new to all the students, but this did not mean that new ideas and long names were just put in front of the coaches for them to draw their own conclusions. The information had been gathered from the findings of highly qualified people in their own fields. Titles of books, authors and references were given, for coaches who wished to continue further studies at home.

On Saturday morning, after the introduction of the speakers and a programme outline, the first lecture was given by Peter Simpson.

There were 30 coaches present and they were split into four groups, each under a chairman. The idea being, that during the weekend they would divide up to discuss what they had heard during the lectures. On the Sunday afternoon the chairman had to report to the meeting the views of his group.

After the first lecture, one hour was allowed for group discussion, and in my group, views were readily put forward, especially on interpretation of the terminology used during the talk.

Hand-eye Co-ordination, Multi Limb Co-ordination, Dynamic Visual Acuity, Visual Motor Co-ordination.

These were not all the subjects dealt with, but I think that it is essential that the reader has an idea of the sort of terminology that was used and why frequent discussion was necessary to avoid confusion.

A leaflet was given to each coach on arrival, with all the headings followed by the correct definitions to give an understanding when listening to the lecturers.



Intensive is the right word for E.T.T.A. Northern Staff Coach, Peter Simpson, here seen delivering a lecture at Lea Green, Derbyshire.

Both photos by John O'Sullivan.

Although an hour was allowed for discussion, most of us were late for lunch, such was the interest generated by the first lecture.

Lunch over we gathered in the gym for a further lecture by John Myers under the heading of "Co-ordination". Confronting us in the gym was a large diagram of the human body, showing muscles and nerve centres.

Then we were introduced to more new ideas, at least, as far as table tennis was concerned, with such things as, perception, effects of mental and physical fatigue on co-ordination, and co-ordination and flexibility.

This session was down on the programme to last for two hours, but I think it could have lasted for two weeks.

We all took part in exercises to prove co-ordination, or lack of it, and break down because of fatigue.

At this point Mr. and Mrs. George Yates arrived, and when a coaching course attracts a visit from the Deputy Chairman of the E.T.T.A. then it can be said to have made the big time. I did notice that neither George nor Mrs. George joined in the exercises, but I am sure there was plenty of Dynamic Visual Acuity taking place.

After dinner, the day ended with films taken at a high speed, to allow the study of stroke production and contact with the ball. It is of interest to note that no one went near a table all Saturday.

Sunday began with theory and practical sessions on Building a Practice, and this was followed by Kathy Foulds explaining the merits of movement to music. This made a big impact on the coaches who had not been introduced to this method of exercise before.

We ended the course with a two hour discussion on the entire proceedings plus the reports from the chairman on their group discussions.

A most interesting weekend, which will no doubt stimulate plenty of controversial discussion and a demand for more weekends like it,

YORKSHIRE NOTES

by Tony Ross

A haul of four county championship titles is definitely on the cards for Yorkshire this season. A 9-1 win over much-improved Westmorland in the Junior Division North, with only Cumberland to play, makes the white rose county almost certain favourites to retain their title in this division, whilst the junior first team have already, of course, won the Junior Premier Division title.

In the senior Premier Division, the 8-1 destruction of Surrey's hopes and 7-2 defeats of Sussex and Kent has the first team looking good, with Cheshire and Essex to play. A feature this season has been Denis Neale's superb form for Yorkshire and the improvement shown by 16-year-old Judith Walker. Denis's last defeat in the Premier Division was in fact to 'Les' Haslam in the match against Middlesex at Southall in February, 1970.

In the Second Division North, all now depends on the clash with Lancashire at Doncaster on 10th March, but the England selectors have forced one team change on Yorkshire by choosing regular second-teamer David Alderson to represent England Juniors in Scotland on that weekend. Also selected is Judith Walker, who will be making her first full junior international appearance.

The result of the McLean family father/daughter clash mentioned in the Notes last month was a win for daughter Julie over father and coach Brian in the third game, with dad conceding (or was it being forced to give up?) the advantage of a good lead in the third.

Yorkshire Secretary and National Councillor Frank Briggs became a grandad for the second time when daughter Pam Dawson, one of Bradford's leading women players, gave birth to a girl, Paula Leanne, on 28th January last,



Bound for the 32nd World Championships in Sarajevo as England's physiotherapist is John Myers, here seen conversing with track-suited Harry Dignan, E.T.T.A. Northern Regional Coaching Advisor.

V.A.T. and TABLE TENNIS



by Tom Blunn
Hon. Treasurer E.T.T.A.

With the approach of V. Day on Apr 1, it is necessary that Clubs and Counties should know the position of how V.A.T. will effect the game of table tennis.

Clubs — It is not expected that any club will have to register. The requirement is a turnover of £5,000 per annum and clubs that are run for table tennis only are not likely to reach that. Where table tennis is only one section of a large club however, the position may be different but the problem will be dealt with by the main administration and it could

mean V.A.T. will have to be paid on the members' annual subscription.

Clubs will pay V.A.T. on some of their requirements such as stationery, telephones and of course on equipment but the latter will be offset by elimination of existing purchase tax.

Leagues — The minimum turnover of £5,000 per annum will exclude most leagues but there may be the isolated case where the league will have to register. Turnover consists of all income from whatever source and includes sale of raffle tickets, sponsorship and gross gate receipts.

Leagues will pay V.A.T. on their requirements just like the clubs but if they have had to register then they will recover what they have paid by deducting it from what they receive. If a league has to register then it will have to charge V.A.T. on its annual subscriptions from its member clubs (or stand the charge by a nominal reduction in subscriptions).

Counties — Here again it is only the counties with an annual turnover in excess of £5,000 that will be required to register. It is not expected that any counties will be affected but the position must be watched very carefully. Counties will pay V.A.T. on their requirements just the same as will leagues and clubs but there will be some relief due to the withdrawal of purchase tax.

E.T.T.A. — The E.T.T.A. has had to register as the income is well in excess of £5,000 per annum. There are no exemptions for sport. This means that V.A.T. will have to be paid on annual affiliation fees from the leagues and other members. The annual cost of the magazine Table Tennis News will not be affected.

A possible 10% increase on affiliation fees next season following the increase of 60% during the current season is particularly hard on leagues and the National Council is prepared to suggest to the A.G.M. in July that, for the first year at least, this additional burden created by V.A.T. should be borne by the E.T.T.A.

The amount involved is between £1,200 and £1,500 according to how the county rebate is treated. There will be some adjustment to the E.T.T.A. sales items but these will not be material. Those clubs that have Jaques tables on hire will be required to pay V.A.T. on the annual payment of £15. The charges made to members through the E.T.T.A. coaching scheme will also be subject to V.A.T. as also will the charges made for assessment or training camps.

The E.T.T.A. has asked the Sports Council to take up the question of V.A.T. being charged on sponsorship money and on television fees but it is doubtful if any concession will be made. The sponsors of course will be able to recover the element of V.A.T. from what they have collected on the sales of their own products but there will be some difficulty with sponsorship from Insurance Companies and Banks who are exempt traders and cannot recover.

There will be other problems for the E.T.T.A. but these will be dealt with as they arise and will not affect the members directly.

General — It is in order for any club, league or county to register even though the annual turnover is less than £5,000 and this should be considered if the V.A.T. being paid on purchases and supplies is sufficient to

warrant the additional administrative work involved. The regional V.A.T. office will always advise but it is doubtful if such a step will really be worthwhile.

If any club, league or county has a problem then write to the office and the matter will be considered by me and dealt with individually or collectively according to the circumstances.

TEESSIDE OPEN

Denis Neale, with final victory over Nicky Jarvis, was the winner of £100 and the men's singles title in the Teesside 3-Star Open, played at Thornaby Pavilion over the weekend Feb. 24/25.

Top seed Trevor Taylor was beaten by Jarvis in the quarters, as was Alan Ransome by Paul Day, the 14-years-old Cambs. boy having ousted No. 4 seed Peter Taylor.

Karenza Mathews was the winner of the counterpart women's event, beating Susan Howard. No. 1 seed, Jill Hammersley, was a non-starter because she was suffering from blurred vision brought on by rubbing her eyes—forgetful that she was wearing contact lenses!

A full report of the Championships will appear in the April magazine.

NORTH HERTS CANCELLED

THE North Herts Table Tennis Association regret that they are unable to stage the North Herts 2-Star Open scheduled to have been played at RAF Henlow Gymnasium over the weekend of May 5/6, 1973.

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Continued from page 28

troubled in MS or MD in this top-of-the-table clash. Poor Janice Green had a black day with two-straight game defeats in this match and subsequently two more in the 2nd North match—in only one WS game did she reach double figures! Nice win for John McNee 17, -13, 21 over Wally Allanson.

Derbyshire II 8, Cumberland 2

Northumberland II 4, Durham II 6
Ron Kettlewell (first match this season) and Malcolm McMaster came to life only in MD to beat Colin Eltringham and John Alsop who were unbeaten in singles! The last two singles both went to Durham for a deserved win.

MIDLAND

Monmouthshire 9, Shropshire 1

A most convincing win for Monmouths. — welcome back Haydn Thomas!

EASTERN

Northamptonshire 8,

Cambridgeshire II 2

Rod Marchant again impressive in maintaining 100% MS record, and team-mate David Hogg defended resolutely to take both his MS. David Tiplady had nice win for Cambs. beating John Goodall 16, -19, 26 and took XD with Ruth Puddick. A draw with Hunts, sufficient now to promote Northants.

Suffolk 7, Norfolk II 3

Two MS wins for Mick Broughton, who nearly took out a "Choice" qualification for the hosts, kept the margin down.

JUNIOR SOUTH

Berkshire 6, Sussex 4

A defeat for Sussex which probably ends their promotion hopes, but not worth a Berks. comment?

Buckinghamshire 7, Oxfordshire 3

Mary Belcher and Amanda Rose did well to win GD for Oxfor. -22, 20, 15 after trailing 3—10 in 3rd.

Hertfordshire II 0, Surrey II 10

Two players on debut for the hosts and one for Surrey. Even the home regulars could not really extend a strong Surrey team.

Kent 3, Hampshire 7

The same result as on the last meeting; then, Kent took all the girls sets—this time they lost them all. The boys more even with the best set the clash of the No. 1's. Robin Brooks trailed Kevin McQuade by a game and 11—18, then took the next 10 points. He trailed 4—11 in 3rd, led 20—19 only to lose -15, 18, -21. XD also tight with Hants. home 11, -23, 23.

JUNIOR NORTH

Cheshire II 3, Cumberland 7

Cheshire led 3—1, but did not pick up another game!

Durham 3, Northumberland 7

Another disappointing result for Durham, but P. McQueen and N. Hunt showed promise with a BS win each.

Yorkshire II 9, Westmorland 1

Yorkshire never eased up in a splendid match. Stephen Souter gave them a good start by beating the opposing No. 1 Brian Towell -19, 19, 11, but Towell did even better by defeating Andrew Kilburn 19, 17. Promising debuts for three home players.

JUNIOR MIDLAND

Lincolnshire 5, Northamptonshire 5

Later alterations to the Lincs. team

brought a Northants. protest, not upheld by the C.T.T.C. Referee. These have, however, caused Lincs. to take the wise precaution of insisting that reserves attend matches.

Warwickshire 5, Lincolnshire 5

Warwicks. started badly and trailed 1—5. Their hero was David Shropshire, who followed his opening BS win with XD (with Menna Williams) and then just scraped home -13, 20, 21 v. J. Smith in the final set.

Derbyshire 10, Staffordshire 0

Maxwell Mallin grabbed a game from David Yallop and for a time Robert Legge threatened to do the same v. Sukdeve Singh, but this was all that Staffs. could manage.

Leicestershire 8, Nottinghamshire 2

Surely Leics. must qualify for the Challenge this time? Chris Rogers their best boy, and Roger Dawkins picked up 2 BS for Notts.

JUNIOR EAST

Bedfordshire 9, Cambridgeshire II 1

Clever variation of play from Martin Walters and Michael Charter never let the visiting boys settle down and the only home defeat was GD where Susan Ellis and Ruth Newman showed themselves to be a well-matched pair when winning 13, 12.

Cambridgeshire II 6,

Huntingdonshire 4

Improved performance by Cambs. with the girls in particular showing up well. Fine -16, 20, 16 GS win for Ruth Newman, and another GD success. Hunts. raced away from 3—all to 7—3 then found they had to forfeit 3 sets as unbeaten Paul Brooker not registered. Tim Spellar also undefeated.

Norfolk 5, Essex II 5

All the home successes came in BS, with wins by Peter Maybury -17, 10, 20 over Robert Potton, and -20, 22, 22 over Alex Abbott. David Newman played only in BD and XD and excelled.

Suffolk 7, Hertfordshire 3

Richard Jermyn gave Herts. a good start, and later got two seventeens from John Kitchener. Suffolk generally too good though.

JUNIOR WEST

Somerset 1, Devon 9

Wiltshire 7, Monmouthshire 3

The first Junior points for Wiltshire in 10 matches.

Glamorgan 8, Gloucestershire 2

VETERAN SOUTH

Essex 6, Oxfordshire 3

Essex 7, Hertfordshire 2

Huntingdonshire 4, Hampshire 5

Hants. wondered what had hit them. G. Cockram, S. Roberts and Colin Dale picked up a MS each, and the first two took MD as well: it was left to Cyril Bush to steer Hants. home after Daphne Gray had acquired her usual maximum.

Kent 8, Northamptonshire 1

VETERAN MIDLAND

Nottinghamshire 5, Warwickshire 4

Worcestershire 0, Staffordshire 9

An extremely disappointing result for Worcs., who had hoped to improve on earlier performances. Staffs. simply dominated play and no set needed a decider.

Leicestershire 3, Cheshire 6

Enjoyable, and Leics. 4th consecutive 3—6 defeat. M. Tew far too sharp for any of the home team.

PREMIER

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Yorkshire	5	5	0	0	37	8	10
Surrey	5	4	0	1	26	19	8
Essex	6	4	0	2	31	23	8
Warwks.	6	4	0	2	23	31	8
Cheshire	5	2	0	3	22	23	4
Middlesex	5	1	0	4	20	25	2
Kent	5	1	0	4	17	28	2
Sussex	5	0	0	5	13	32	0

2nd SOUTH

Surrey II	4	3	1	0	26	14	7
Bucks.	4	2	1	1	24	16	5
Sussex II	4	1	2	1	20	20	4
Kent II	4	0	3	1	19	21	3
Hampshire	3	0	2	1	13	17	2
Berkshire	3	0	1	2	8	22	1

2nd NORTH

Lancashire	4	4	0	0	32	8	8
Yorks. II	4	4	0	0	30	10	8
Cheshire II	4	1	1	2	19	21	3
Northblnd	4	1	1	2	14	26	3
Lincs.	4	0	1	3	15	25	1
Durham	4	0	1	3	10	30	1

2nd MIDLAND

Warwks. II	4	3	1	0	31	9	7
Notts.	5	3	1	1	25	25	7
Leics.	4	2	2	0	26	14	6
Derbys.	4	2	0	2	19	21	4
Staffs.	4	1	1	2	17	23	3
Worcs.	4	0	1	3	15	25	1
Gloucs.	3	0	0	3	7	23	0

2nd EAST

Essex II	4	3	1	0	30	10	7
Middlesex II	4	3	0	1	29	11	6
Bedfordshire	4	2	1	0	23	17	6
Cambs.	4	1	1	2	17	23	3
Herts.	4	1	0	3	15	25	2
Norfolk	4	0	0	4	6	34	0

2nd WEST

Glamorgan	4	4	0	0	29	11	8
Somerset	4	3	0	1	29	11	6
Devon	4	2	1	1	22	18	5
Wiltshire	4	1	1	2	19	21	3
Dorset	4	1	0	3	10	30	2
Cornwall	4	0	0	4	11	29	0

SOUTHERN

Essex III	3	2	1	0	23	7	5
Herts. II	3	1	2	0	20	10	4
Berks. II	4	1	2	1	18	22	4
Hants. II	3	0	2	1	11	19	2
Oxfor.	3	0	1	2	8	22	1

NORTHERN

Lancs. II	4	4	0	0	32	8	8
Cheshire III	4	3	0	1	25	15	6
Durham II	4	2	0	2	21	19	4
Derbys. II	4	2	0	2	19	21	4
Northblnd II	4	1	0	3	16	24	2
Cumberland	4	0	0	4	7	33	0

MIDLAND

Monmouths.	3	2	1	0	21	9	5
Glamorgan II	3	2	0	1	19	11	4
Staffs. II	3	2	0	1	22	8	4
Worcs. II	2	0	1	1	7	13	1
Shropshire	3	0	0	3	1	29	0

EASTERN

Northants.	3	3	0	0	23	7	6
Suffolk	3	2	0	1	19	11	4
Hunts.	3	1	1	1	12	18	3
Cambs. II	3	0	2	1	12	18	2
Norfolk II	4	0	1	3	14	26	1

JUNIOR SOUTH

Hampshire	5	5	0	0	41	9	10
Surrey II	5	4	0	1	36	14	8
Berkshire	5	4	0	1	32	18	8
Sussex	5	3	0	2	37	13	6
Kent	5	2	0	3	26	24	4
Bucks.	5	2	0	3	15	35	4
Herts. II	5	0	0	5	8	42	0
Oxfor.	5	0	0	5	5	45	0

JUNIOR NORTH

Yorks. II	4	4	0	0	36	4	8
Northblnd.	4	3	0	1	22	18	6
Cumberland	3	2	0	1	16	14	4
Westmorland	3	0	2	1	11	19	2
Durham	4	0	1	3	13	27	1
Cheshire II	4	0	1	3	12	28	1

JUNIOR MIDLAND

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Leics.	5	5	0	0	41	9	10
Derbys.	4	3	0	1	31	9	6
Northants.	4	1	2	1	22	18	4
Notts.	3	2	0	1	16	14	4
Lincs.	4	0	2	2	11	29	2
Warwks. II	4	0	1	3	10	30	1
Staffs.	4	0	1	3	9	31	1

JUNIOR EAST

Essex II	5	4	1	0	38	12	9
Suffolk	4	4	0	0	33	7	8
Herts.	4	2	0	2	23	17	4
Norfolk	4	1	1	2	17	23	3
Hunts.	4	1	0	3	16	24	2
Beds.	4	1	0	3	15	25	2
Cambs. II	5	1	0	4	8	42	2

JUNIOR WEST

Glamorgan	5	5	0	0	45	5	10
Gloucs.	4	3	0	1	26	14	6
Devon	4	3	0	1	25	15	6
Somerset	4	2	0	2	24	16	4
Worcs.	4	1	0	3	17	23	2
Wiltshire	4	1	0	3	9	31	2
Monmouths.	5	0	0	5	4	46	0

VETERAN SOUTH

Hampshire	5	5	0	0	33	12	10
Kent	5	4	0	1	34	11	8
Essex	4	2	0	2	18	18	4
Oxfor.	4	2	0	2	17	19	4
Hunts.	4	1	0				

County Championships Round-up

by JOHN WRIGHT

PICTURE EMERGING

At long last a fair picture is emerging in all divisions. Yorkshire seem uncatchable in the Premier, and could well clinch the title when they play Cheshire at Cheadle Hulme. A large crowd is likely here as Cheshire do well with attendances for home matches. This could really be a great season for Yorkshire, whose 2nd team is sharing top place with Lancs. in 2nd North, their Junior team has walked off with the Junior Premier title, and a single set from Cumberland in their Junior North match will give them that title as well.

Surrey are also riding high and should achieve 2nd place in the Premier to match their Junior Premier position. I hope their 2nds do not lose 4-6 to Bucks., as this would place these two Counties level on points and sets at the top of 2nd South and need a game-count—Sussex II are hoping for a Surrey win to give them a chance of passing Bucks. and a place in the Challenge should their Premier team (as seems likely) need salvation.

Somerset need to beat Glamorgan to qualify in 2nd West, while 2nd Midland should be either Notts. or Leics. with the latter my choice. Bedfordshire have a fine chance of coming through from the new 2nd East as they must expect to finish with 8 points.

Hampshire continue well in Junior South although two tough matches are ahead of them and Surrey II have two comparatively easy ones. Northumberland fancy their chances of finishing 2nd to Yorks. II in Junior North and would probably challenge for Junior Premier only if the "two weekend" system continues. Leics. can hardly be caught in Junior Midland, nor can Glamorgan in the West and Suffolk look good in East.

Warwickshire must beat Cheshire by at least 7-2 to win Veteran Midland, a task which seems beyond them, and although frightened by Hunts, it seems that Hampshire should qualify for the Challenge from the South.

PREMIER

Essex 8, Warwickshire 1

C. Barnes bt B. Burn 16, -18, 11; bt D. Munt 8, 11.
D. Brown bt Burn 18, 18; bt D. Douglas 11, 13.
S. Gibbs bt Munt -18, 19, 15; lost to Douglas -13, -16.
Brown/Gibbs bt Burn/Douglas -16, 13, 18.
Mrs. L. Radford bt Miss J. Cornock 21, 16.
Barnes/Radford bt P. Judd/Cornock 13, 15.

A large crowd well-entertained. Chester Barnes near his best, David Brown devastating v. Des Douglas, and a good performance by Jenny Cornock against Lesley Radford.

Sussex 2, Yorkshire 7

P. Williams lost to D. Neale -12, -23; lost to N. Jarvis -18, 19, -7.

S. Ogundipe lost to Neale -15, -13; bt L. Clayton 16, 13.

J. Clarke lost to Jarvis -13, -18; lost to Clayton -15, -10.

Clarke/Williams lost to Clayton/Neale -10, -9.

Miss J. Williams bt Miss J. Walker 7, 12.

Ogundipe/Williams lost to Jarvis/Walker -20, -11.

Yorkshire stronger in all departments than Sussex with exception of WS where Judy Walker was quite overwhelmed by the more experienced (and better!) Judy Williams. Sussex had hoped for XD, and Yorks well pleased with their win there, but the only other success for the hosts was Sammy Ogundipe's not unexpected victory over Tony Clayton. (When last did an England No. 3 occupy the same spot for his County?). Lots of effort from Peter Williams and John Clarke.

Surrey 1, Yorkshire 8

C. Warren lost to D. Neale -11, -16; lost to N. Jarvis -14, -12.

R. Chandler lost to Neale 18, -11, -15; bt L. Clayton -17, 18, 15.

G. Chapman lost to Jarvis -9, -5; lost to Clayton -9, -17.

Chandler/Warren lost to Clayton/Neale -16, 18, -14.

Miss L. Howard lost to Miss J. Walker 18, -17, -15.

B. Hill/Howard lost to Jarvis/Walker -13, -14.

Surrey apparently so shattered by this result that they could not comment. I must draw attention to what appears to be a fine win for Judy Walker and Roger Chandler played some good stuff.

Cheshire 4, Surrey 5

M. Johns bt C. Warren -17, 19, 20; bt R. Chandler 15, 16.

S. Heaps lost to Warren -12, -8; bt G. Chapman 14, 17.

D. Schofield lost to Chandler -14, -12; bt Chapman 17, 13.

Johns/B. Johns lost to Chandler/Warren -12, -18.

Miss J. Heaps lost to Miss L. Howard -12, -21.

B. Johns/Heaps lost to B. Hill/Howard -15, 19, -18.

The top-men clash a real nail-biter and the highlight of a well-staged match. XD decided matters and could have gone either way.

Middlesex 4, Essex 5

O. Haslam lost to D. Brown -21, -18; lost to R. Stevens -19, -21.

M. Sugden bt Brown 21, 18; bt S. Gibbs 13, -23, 17.

A. Lindsay lost to Stevens -18, 19, -19; lost to Gibbs -9, -16.

Haslam/Lindsay lost to Brown/Gibbs -12, -12.

Mrs. K. Mathews bt Mrs. L. Radford 19, 22.

Sugden/Mathews bt Stevens/Radford -17, 18, 21.

The pattern of this fine match set in the first game when Malcolm Sugden recovered from 15-20 in 1st to beat David Brown. "Les" Haslam a disappointment to the home crowd, just falling to both Bobby Stevens and Brown—the big power game not

quite working. Both XD and WS far too close for comfort, with Karenza Mathews having to come back from 17-20 in 2nd v. Lesley Radford. Match score 3-4 and enter two gladiators—Alan Lindsay (who had been made to look ordinary by Stuart Gibbs) and Stevens. 1st game to Essex, then Lindsay led in 2nd 13-7, 13-12, 16-13, 20-15, 20-19 before clinching with a service ace. The 3rd game saw Stevens race into an 8-2 lead, then 11-3, 11-9, 13-14, 17-16, 17-19 and finally taking the last 4 points with deceptively "easy" services. A great set. "Well", said Lindsay afterwards, "at least I tried". You did Alan, you certainly did!

Warwickshire 5, Sussex 4

B. Burn bt P. Williams 13, 9; lost to S. Ogundipe -10, -19.

D. Munt bt Williams -17, 16, 14; bt J. Clarke 8, 15.

D. Douglas lost to Ogundipe -19, -16; bt Clarke -15, 15, 12.

Burn/Douglas bt Clarke/Williams 16, 11.

Miss J. Cornock lost to Miss J. Williams -7, -15.

Munt/Cornock lost to Ogundipe/Williams -10, -15.

A close contest with Derek Munt wrapping up the points v. John Clarke in the final set. Both Munt and Sammy Ogundipe showed how to play a defensive game against the respective attacks of Peter Williams and Des Douglas.

Yorkshire 7, Kent 2

D. Neale bt A. Piddock 7, 9; bt C. Morris 14, 8.

N. Jarvis lost to Piddock 20, -18, -19; bt A. Mitchell 19, 15.

J. Walker lost to Morris -21, -18; bt Mitchell -19, 13, 8.

Neale/Walker bt Mitchell/Morris 16, -19, 11.

Miss J. Walker bt Mrs. J. Ellis -17, 9, 12.

Jarvis/Walker bt Piddock/Ellis 20, 15.

Kent's play belied their lowly position: a fine standard which brought tremendous applause from a packed house. Both Tony Piddock and Clive Morris played intelligently to record wins for Kent, Judy Walker maintained her improvement, and Denis Neale continued at his best.

2nd SOUTH

Surrey II 5, Kent II 5

Sussex II 6, Buckinghamshire 4

Excellent result for Sussex who desperately need a high placing in this division. Emil Emezc had colours lowered for first time: 12 and 13 the scores in favour of Paul Shirley.

2nd NORTH

Durham 4, Northumberland 6

Peter Hoyles outstanding for the

visitors. Stephen Haughney, in second 'first team' match showed up well, and a welcome return by Paul Freeman.

Lancashire 6, Cheshire II 4

Donald Parker struggled in first game v. Nigel Eckersley but then really got going: his 7, 10 defeat of Brian Kean most impressive. Brian Mitchell fought off effects of heavy cold to give Lancs. their vital 6th set v. Eckersley 15, -13, 19.

Lincolnshire 3, Yorkshire II 7

Brian Hill showed his class here. A win over John Kedge 12, 19 was followed by MD (with Mick East) success over David Alderson and Tony Martin 11, 17. Hill trailed Alderson all the way in 1st but just got there—trailed 7-10 in 2nd and capitalised when Alderson ran out of steam.

2nd MIDLAND

Worcestershire 2, Warwickshire II 8

Nottinghamshire 6, Derbyshire 4

Derbyshire 6, Staffordshire 4

2nd EAST

Cambridgeshire 1, Middlesex II 9

Minister of Sport Eldon Griffiths M.P. and E.T.T.A. Chairman Charles Wyles in a 100 plus crowd which saw the Middlesex boys on top form. Even Paul Day came home empty-handed, the only home win coming from Michael Harper over Mark Mitchell -20, 19, 17 in the 10th set. Much closer than the score suggests, and a splendid match.

Norfolk 1, Essex II 9

Essex too fast and too accurate. Only Betty Cassell could get a win, 22, 15 over Janet Hellaby.

Bedfordshire 7, Hertfordshire 3

A possible play-off place depended on this match and Paul Harmer's -16, 19, 19 win over Barry White in a bitterly contested first set gave the start they needed. Barbara Hammond and Anita Copperwheat combined well in WD, Barbara took WS from Barbara Peters, and Anita helped Harmer to a tense 16, -19, 23 XD win. Two from Peter Taylor gave the match win.

2nd WEST

Cornwall 3, Glamorgan 7

Somerset 6, Wiltshire 4

Devon 3, Glamorgan 7

The Glamorgan men streets ahead of Devon and little troubled. Pam Mortimer, however, can still pull it out when needed: she and Barbara Pearson featured in all home wins.

SOUTHERN

Berkshire II 5, Hampshire II 5

Berkshire slipped up badly here playing No. 2 ranked Derek Basden. His three successes forfeited to produce a drawn match.

Hertfordshire II 10, Oxfordshire 0

A very comfortable win for Herts. against a weakened Oxfordshire team.

NORTHERN

Cheshire III 2, Lancashire II 8

Bob Kelly and Clive Heap never

Continued on page 27

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