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Table Tennis News

Official Journal of the English Table Tennis Association

EDITED BY GEORGE YATES

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A CHRISTMAS CAROLE



'Photo by courtesy of North Eastern Evening Gazette

This month's Star Features

MEETING OF UNITY AND FRIENDSHIP by *Li Pao-Hua*
THE SUNDAY TIMES SUPER LEAGUE by *The Editor*

TABLE TENNIS NEWS

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Breathing Space

Two wins from three engagements would appear to have secured our continued membership of the European League's premier division for yet another season the indications being that France will regain her lost status to the exclusion of Austria, the promotees.

Congratulations then to the players concerned and to Trainer/Coach Les Gresswell whose decks have so quickly been cleared allowing him sufficient breathing space in which to concentrate on the undoubted teenage talent currently abounding.

The future would indeed appear to be much brighter although one must have reservations on the distaff side in which sphere the depth of talent is considerably shallower.

Happily the form of Linda Howard, both in the Humber-side and Midland Counties 3-Star Opens, was a revelation and J.II Hammersley's winning of the women's singles title in the more recent Hungarian Open, and the fight put up by Karenza Mathews against Alicia Grofova in the quarters, are heart warming deeds.

All the more reason then to consider a similar competition to the Sunday Times Super League for our womenfolk, Karen Rogers, Elaine Tarten, Judith Walker and Carole Knight could most benefit.

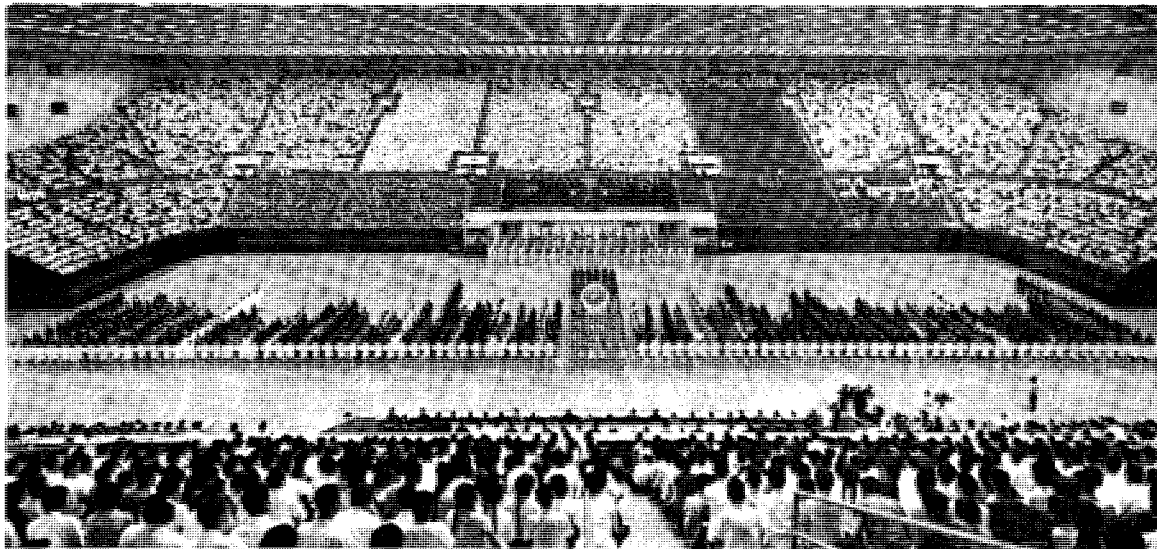
Ormesby supremo Alan Ransome is reported to be concentrating on this all-important aspect as he once did with a certain Miss Bashford. Let us hope that his new protege Miss Knight will not flatter to deceive but spearhead an Ormesby side equivalent to the all-conquering Gainsford club in the metropolis.

ENGLISH TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION

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Asian-African-Latin American Table Tennis Friendship Invitational Tournament

MEETING OF UNITY AND FRIENDSHIP



Opening ceremony of the Asian-African-Latin American Table Tennis Friendship Invitational Tournament.

by Li Pao-hua

Unprecedented in scale in the history of table tennis in the three continents, the Asian-African-Latin American Table Tennis Friendship Invitational Tournament held in 1973 in Peking was a happy get-together of more than 1,100 friends from table tennis circles in 86 countries and regions. The tournament made a positive contribution in enhancing friendship among the peoples and players in these countries and regions and in promoting the game of table tennis.

The grand opening ceremony took place on August 25. Attending the ceremony were Acting Chairman of the people's Republic of China Tung Pi-wu, Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress Chu Teh, Premier Chou En-Lai and other Chinese leaders including Wang Hung-wen, Yeh Chien-ying, Li Teh-sheung, Chang Chun-chiao and Chiang Ching.

Of the 86 participating countries and regions 31 are in Asia, 32 in Africa and 23 in Latin America.

Competition in the 9 events started on August 26 and concluded on September 6. Over 1,000 games were played by 80 men's and 64 women's teams in the 11-day tournament.

Table tennis experts agreed that the tri-Continental meeting of unity and friendship showed a rapid rise in table tennis skill of Asians, Africans and Latin Americans. Many up-and-coming young Asian players emerged in the tournament. The Africans played much better than they did in the 1971 Afro-Asian tournament. A number of strong teams from Latin America came to the fore.

In technique, the general trend was playing an attacking game. It was carried out effectively either by attack after service or the quick-smash service-return or a spinning stroke that set the ball for the following smash.

The competition was friendly but keen. Korea's 19-year-old Pak Yong Ok defeated the reigning world singles champion Hu Yu-lan of China in the semi-finals and another Chinese leading player Chang Li in the final to win the women's singles title. The Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, Cambodia, Nigeria and Trinidad and Tobago all achieved encouraging results in the tournament.

The competition resulted in the following champions in the other 8 events: China in both men's and women's teams; Yuujiro Imano of Japan in men's singles; Tokio Tasaka and Yuujiro Imano of Japan in men's doubles; Kim Chang Ae and Pak Yong Sun of Korea in women's doubles; Hsi En-ting and Chang Li of China in mixed doubles; Kim Chang Am of Korea in boys' singles; Ma Kyin Win of Burma in girls' singles.

A communique issued on September 6 by the meeting of the heads of the

table tennis delegations to the tournament declared that the next Asian-African-Latin American Table Tennis Friendship Invitational Tournament will be held in 1975 in Nigeria.

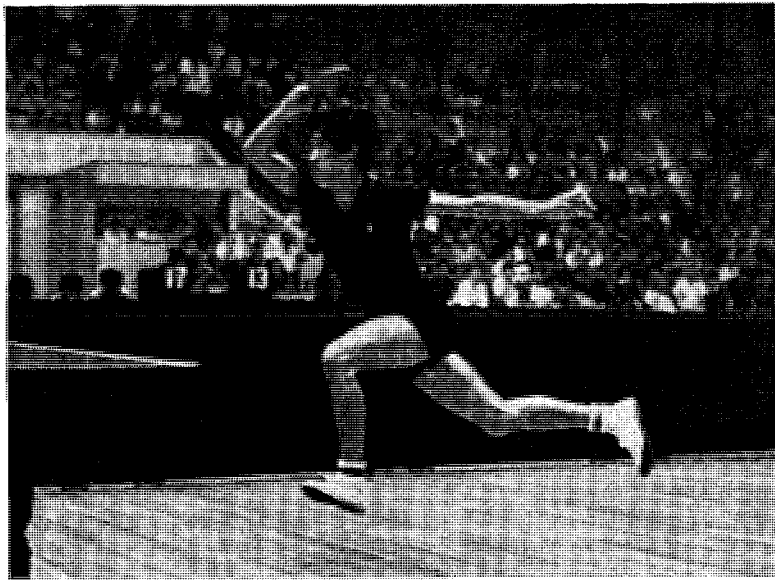
The tri-continental tournament was sponsored jointly by Chile, the Democratic Peoples's Republic of Korea, Ecuador, Egypt, Japan, Mauritius, Nepal, Nigeria, Tanzania and the People's Republic of China.

The invitation to the tournament found a warm response from the peoples and governments of various countries and regions in the three continents. The Republic of South Viet Nam, which had for years been engaged in war against aggression, sent her first men's and women's teams to participate in an international sports meet.

Mobutu Sese Seko, President of the Republic of Zaire showed a great interest in the AAA Tournament when he decided that his country should participate, and he assigned to the



Asian, African and Latin American sportsmen visiting the Great Wall.



Men's singles champion Yunjiro Imano of Japan.

Commission of Youth and Sports the task of selecting players. A 2-month-long selective tournament was held in Zaire's capital, Kinchasa, and Zaire's first national table tennis team was formed from among the more than 100 participating players.

Table tennis players among the Chinese compatriots from Taiwan Province of the People's Republic of China residing in Japan and the U.S. returned to the motherland and formed a table tennis delegation which participated in the tournament along with the table tennis delegation of the People's Republic of China.

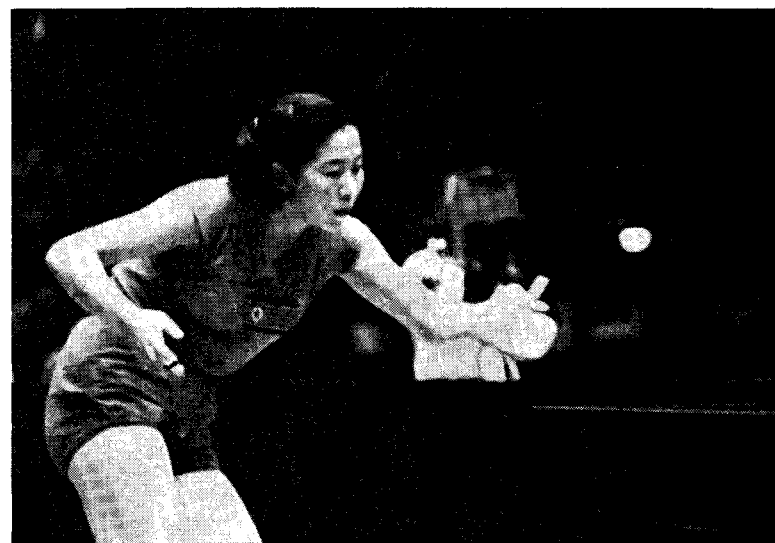
China as the host country set aside her two largest indoor stadiums for the tournament — the 18,000-seat Capital Indoor Stadium where the 1971 Afro-Asian Table Tennis Friendship Invitational Tournament and the 1972 Asian Table Tennis Championships were held, and the 15,000-seat Peking Worker's Indoor Stadium where the 26th World Table Tennis Championships were held in 1961.

China also made available 140 tables at 8 different venues in Peking for the players to practice before the competition. More than 200 referees and umpires and nearly a thousand interpreters, scorers, drivers, cooks and other personnel were gathered and

trained specially to meet the needs of the tournament.

The spirit of "friendship first, competition second" found its way ever deeper into the hearts of the players. Before the tournament, the players from different countries and regions practised together for common progress. Prior to a match the two opposing teams exchanged pennants and souvenirs in token of their friendship. During the match a brilliant stroke was acclaimed by all players of both competing teams watching along the ringside. Wrong winners were declared by the players themselves. The opposing teams exchanged experience after the match. This new-type sportsmanship was hailed by players as well as spectators.

Tequame Wolde Tsadik, leader of the Ethiopian Table Tennis Delegation, described the tournament as a milestone of friendship and said, "It brings together the representatives of the people of the three continents to be acquainted with each other, to understand each other and establish friendship through the game of table tennis. Such kind of friendship meeting will further strengthen the friendship contacts of the peoples of the third world and promote and develop table tennis in the three continents".



Women's singles champion Pak Yong Ok of Korea.

Alloy Lequay, President of the Trinidad and Tobago Table Tennis Association, said at the reception marking the conclusion of the tournament, "We must take the flame that we have lit in China to all the countries of the globe. We must consider ourselves the torch-bearers of understanding, unity and friendship and be prepared to preach these virtues to all peoples in all parts of the universe".

Cover Picture

Tomboy Carole smashes her way into England top ten

by PAUL DANIEL

Teenager *Carole Knight* became "hooked" on table tennis 18 months ago when she saw the young stars of Ormesby playing a match at her school.

Now 16-years-old Carole has joined the Middlesbrough club's galaxy of talent and is rated among the top ten girls in English table tennis.

Obviously Carole had some natural talent to start with, but she has acquired her biggest gift — dedication.

"Carole is an example of what can be done over a short period of time" explained Ormesby coach Alan Ransome. "She is the most dedicated player we have. Far more than, say, Denis Neale or Trevor Taylor. She just works and works."

The Ormesby protege started playing the game after that visit 18 months ago. And, after a couple of weeks playing at Joe Walton's Youth Club, Trevor Stephenson, an Ormesby coach, came down and asked her to go and join them.

That was just over a year ago now and she has left school to work as a junior clerk at Radio Taxis in Middlesbrough. And apart from her new job, table tennis occupies the rest of her day. "I suppose I train about five hours a night, but I really enjoy the work-out.

"I have to play against all the boys, but I can beat them so I don't really worry. Some nights I lose."

Carole's image in the club is the original tomboy. But she doesn't mind. "I don't like wearing dresses, so I suppose it is natural for them to tell me I'm a tomboy."

The game certainly dominates her life, but Carole doesn't mind at the moment. She wants to join Jill Hammersley and Karenza Mathews at the top of the sport.

It is going to be a tough ambition to achieve, but Ransome believes it is within her grasp. "Her potential is high and she has tremendous ability, considering she has only been playing seriously 18 months.

"Her training, although it might seem excessive, is just right. This is what it should be. I don't think it is too much."

Carole arrived on the Ormesby scene just as the club decided to try and build up the women's side of the game after dominating the English men's competitions for so long.

"We have now altered our priority from men to women. And Carole can be one of the forerunners of this deve-

lopment. The national title is our aim — in six years. That really would be something."

This is Ransome's ambition at the moment — and obviously Carole's. But how many other youngsters would love a chance to be at the top of this exciting sport.

"We get loads of applications. But our standards are so high county players are ten a penny to us now. We have nine out of the county 13. And any one of them could be number one in most other counties.

"We only want people whom we think have a chance of playing for England."

But Alan Ransome is always willing to open the Ormesby doors to any hopefuls. "If you have got any talent Ormesby will guarantee to bring it out — as long as you are prepared to work at it."

Carole Knight was prepared to work.

This article is reproduced by courtesy of the North Eastern Evening Gazette.

DEVON NOTES

Great attention has for some years now been placed on juniors in the County. The mood was set mainly by Brian Worts, who, after some notable successes, has resigned.

His joint successor as county coaching officer is the partnership of Paddy Shephard and Miss Barbara Pearson, the latter a member of Devon's senior team. And one of their first jobs has been to put the County's policy regarding selection of juniors for the junior Devon side beyond doubt.

Trials are held monthly, at which selected youngsters are ranked according to their results. The junior county side is then selected according to the ranking list (unless there are exceptional circumstances). "Each youngster then realises that his or her place in the team will depend on performance at the trial," they said.

The first such trial was held at Plymouth on October 13. Twelve boys and seven girls attended and the ranking list resulting from this trial was: **BOYS**—1. Keith James, 2. Steve Sample, 3. Roger Ireland, 4. Steve Murphy, 5. Terry Fairbanks, 6. John Ley, 7. Steve Morris, 8. Malcolm Birrell, 9. Phil Gedge, 10. Dave Clements, 11. Michael Shearman, 12. Dave Blackler, 13. Graham Worts. **GIRLS**—1. Elaine Lamb, 2. Mary Wakely, 3. Susan Tilley, 4. Kathryn Rowe, 5. Lorraine Hunt and Barbara Reeves, 7. Frankie Ormesby.

Find of the day was undoubtedly Terry Fairbanks, who fully deserved his No. 5 ranking. Only 14-years-old, Terry must be in line for a place in the junior side within the very near future.

Steve Murphy experienced difficulty in his group, finally edging Steve Morris and Dave Clements into second and third place respectively.

Steve Sample showed his ability in defeating Roger Ireland and taking the No. 2 spot in the County from him.

In the girls' competition, Elaine Lamb proved her worth against stiff opposition, while Mary Wakely and Susan Tilley showed good form.

From the Editor's Postbag

WHERE ARE THE WOMEN ?

One of the ideas behind the Sunday Times Super League according to the press hand-outs, is to develop and intensify competition between our leading players (male only) producing the champions of the future with particular relevance to the staging of the World Championships in this country in 1977.

Whilst I am wholly in favour of the League I do feel that the presentation of the matches and the composition of the teams is not quite right. Yes, the matches should be played as they are at present around the country at the various 3-star tournaments. No the teams should not consist entirely of male players.

Equally important for the development of our players en bloc, should be plans to progress the playing prowess of our women players. The teams at the moment basically consist of two leading seniors and one leading Junior playing nine sets per match on an all-play-all system. A change should be made for teams to consist of one top man, one top junior and one top woman player, with the matches being played European League style:— 4 MS, 1 WS, 1 MD and 1 XD. This, I know, reduces the match programme from nine to seven sets which I also feel raises another important objective, one of spectator appeal.

Nine set matches can be far too long for the public to digest. Repetition of one men's singles after another can become grueling in ones appreciation of the event. Introducing the women's singles and the two doubles into the programme would add that little something which would not only be of benefit to women's table tennis but would also add variety to the presentation of a Super League match.

Objectively, is it right that we should deny the women (in this day of Women's Lib.) the right to enjoy some of the lucrative cash returns that competing in a successful S.L. team can bring?

There is no doubt that playing for money does intensify competition between players and that the Super League is successful, but I'm sure it could be even more so with just these few changes.

RICHARD HABGOOD

74 Warren Hill Road,
Birmingham, B44 8EU.

WEIGHT TO ARGUMENT

I must comment on John Woodford's "Controversy" in the November issue. Far from lowering the guillotine on his outstretched neck, I wish to add weight to his argument.

The sooner a grading scheme for tournaments is adopted, the better. However, this would not be to the detriment of the junior tournaments. Think for once of the COMPETITORS.

The majority — the hopefuls who go to tournaments not caring who is

seeded (if they've ever heard of them) — these go with only one major thought in mind — win a game! If you can win through another round, great!

Hence, all the more incentive for a player who normally would be very much an also-ran to get to an advanced stage of the event.

As long as the number of entries don't dramatically decline, junior tournaments will remain alive and kicking.

BERNARD YARNOLD.

52 Bill Hill,
Baginton,
Coventry, CV8 3AG.

INFORMATION REQUIRED

I cannot remember seeing in your excellent magazine any articles dealing with the equipment of the game. Is there not scope here not only for reviews of new products as they become available (just as new types of cars or cameras are tested by the trade press) but also some pretty basic stuff as well?

When I first started to play a new bat cost seven-an-six or so, and there wasn't, to be frank, all that much difference between them. If you bought one that didn't suit you it was hardly a major disaster.

Today, however, there are enormous differences between one bat and another, and prices have risen so much that some models are probably out of the question for the rank-and-file player. If one does invest £10 or so in a secret weapon of this kind it may be only to find that one cannot play with it at all!

Could we not have some really informed comment on the differences between the various types of rubber available and the techniques applicable to them? For example, some of the Hungarians on their recent visit appeared to be using anti-loop rubber on one side and something else on the other. What were they using, and to what effect?

K. M. HUTCHINSON

31 Silver Lane,
Billingshurst,
Sussex. RH14 9RN.

I wonder if Ron Crayden, Chairman of the National Selection Committee and a member of the International Table Tennis Federation's Technical Committee, could find the time to make response to this appeal? Ed.

NATIONAL ANTHEM

"Through my business connections I see many of the overseas Tournaments and I must say how nice it was at the Hungarian International Championships in Budapest last week to hear the National Anthem played, the first occasion for some time at a major International Championship. Jill Hammersley won her first major singles title and not only was it the fact that she won, but the way in which she demolished all the opposition, the best players in Europe were there from 16 nations. Congratulations Jill and I am sure now you have the "taste" there will be other titles to follow in the near future. This should give a further boost to the English team's confidence, which has already started the season well

with two wins from three European League Matches".

M. H. THORNHILL,
SALES MANAGER—Export

Dunlop Sports Company Ltd.,
Allington House,
136-142 Victoria Street,
London, SW1E 5LD.

LANCASHIRE NOTES

by **GEORGE YATES**

On the Premier Division front things are beginning to look black for the County Palatine for, following a reshuffle of the pack for the Essex match, the points bag remains empty.

Fortunately the Juniors are fulfilling all expectations and with two teams in the field they make up a formidable force. Nigel Hallows (Bolton) and Ian Smith (Preston) are the spearheads of the up-and-coming brigade which also includes Adrian Hurst (Bolton), Peter Morris (Manchester) and Graham Hoy (Bury).

Swamping Sale, the promotees, 10-0 Stockport have taken the lead in Div. 1 of the Lancashire and Cheshire League on a slightly superior set average over Bolton who beat the other promoted league, Blackburn, 7-3.

In this latter engagement both Nigel Hallows and Colin Lang registered trebles over David Cottrell, Alan Grimshaw and Alan Whittle, the Bolton pair further combining to take the doubles. Sadly out of touch Bolton's No. 1 Philip Riley had nought to show for his labours.

Manchester, at home to Preston, were held to a 5-all draw with the visitors' Donald Parker winning all his three. Jim Clegg had a solo success over Tony Boasman as did Tony Rigby at the expense of Phil Bowen. Jeff Ingber had two wins for the Mancunians who also scored in the doubles through Boasman and Bowen.

Farnworth and Liverpool also shared the points in the other November encounter in which Bryn Farnworth had wins over Peter D'Arcy and Wally Allanson; Bob Kelly beat Allanson and John McNee, and Clive Heap completed a luckless night for Allanson.

In Div. 2 (North) Burnley, with three successive wins to their credit are the leaders on set average with Blackpool "A" who brought about the shock defeat of Liverpool "A", on equal points with the East Lancs. side.

Blackburn "B" and Macclesfield head Division 2 (South), both having won their first three matches, but also unbeaten are favourites Chester who have played a match less.

In the top junior sphere, Manchester are the pace setters with three wins to their credit. Bolton are the only other unbeaten team and recently brought about the defeat of last season's champions, Lancaster and Morecambe in which encounter Nigel Hallows disposed of Brian Towell in much more convincing style than in the county match when Towell represented Westmorland.

Forms in respect of the Lancashire 2-Star Open are now in the hands of Ken Mitchell at 3 Whinslee Court, Whinslee Drive, Heaton, Bolton.

'Phone: Bolton 46727. The championships are due to take place at HSD (Lostock) on Sat., Jan. 12/74 the closing date for entries being Friday, Dec. 28/73.

HALEX £3,000 SPONSORSHIP

This issue of the magazine carries an advertisement giving details of support which Halex Table Tennis Limited have agreed to give to the E.T.T.A. over a period of two years.

By far the most important part of the sponsorship agreement would appear to be the involvement of Halex in sponsoring the Proficiency Award Scheme which will now become the Halex Proficiency Award Scheme. Whilst the Coaching Committee have been reviewing the tests for assessment, Halex have had their designers working on new badges and certificates.

Although existing badges and certificates have been popular, it is certain that the new designs as shown on the Halex advertisement will prove to be really appealing to players determined to reach the necessary standards.

There is no doubt that English table tennis can benefit considerably from good promotion of this scheme which is extremely popular with young players at Table Tennis Centres and schools throughout the country. Schemes of this nature can encourage players to achieve world class capabilities at a time when England looks forward to being the venue for the World Championships in 1977.

Halex have seen the potential of the scheme and have in fact stated that if at the end of two years it proves to be successful, the Company would like to take an option to promote it for a further three years. It is now up to the Association, and the Coaching Scheme in particular, to make a success of the Halex Proficiency Award Scheme and thus ensure its continuation.

Many of our readers will already be aware of the fact that Halex have been involved in one of the Association's events, namely, the Halex Under-13 Championships. This is a popular event with our younger players and many juniors of note are amongst those who have competed successfully in this competition. The company will once again be sponsoring the Halex Under-13 Championships, in the current season.

If you have an E.T.T.A. tournament diary for 1973/74, you will know that Halex are associated with its production and it is hoped that the increase in space made available will make the diary more attractive to prospective purchasers.

A final aspect of this two year £3,000 agreement is a "one-off" sponsorship of the English Junior Open in 1974.

The Association is naturally pleased with this support which covers a wide range of activities within Table Tennis and there is no doubt that such sponsorship can help to stimulate healthy growth in a sport which, as yet, has not reached its full potential.

OPEN TOURNAMENT SURVEY

by Laurie Landry
& George Yates

The Younger Generation



No energy crisis portrayed here, nor lack of concentration, as captured by the camera of Cliff Darley at Warley. Top left—Lancashire's Donald Parker. Top right—Paul Day of Cams. Bottom left—Behind those flowing locks is the face of Ormesby's Robert Wiley. Bottom right—Mark Mitchell of Middlesex.

Alan Hydes, playing something like his old self, won his second successive men's singles title in the *Sussex Open* played at the White Rock Pavilion Hastings over the weekend of Oct 20/21. Jimmy Walker was the only player to take a game off the Yorkshire left-hander which he did in the semi after having a conclusive win (10, 16) over top seed Nicky Jarvis and then beating Robert Aldrich who won a special 'best performance' prize for his wins over Scotland's Richard Yule and Romain Schalley of Belgium.

Linda Howard's win over Lesley Radford was the only seeding upset in the women's singles but Jill Hammersley was too strong for everyone. In the women's doubles the real surprise, which also won them a special prize, was the victory of Betty Bird and Suzanne Kavallierou over English Closed champions Karenza Mathews and Miss Howard. It was a very successful tournament with the special prizes going down very well.

First of this season's 3-Star tournaments was the Halax Humberside played at Hull over the weekend of Oct 27/28 in which Jarvis and Linda Howard really came of age.

Jarvis was the winner of the men's singles £70 prize, with final victory over Denis Neale, and Linda Howard caused no less a stir by firstly accounting for Mrs. Mathews in the semi-final of the counterpart women's event and, leading Mrs. Hammersley 20-18 in the deciding game of the final, to almost bring off a sensational win.

In this latter event third-seeded Lesley Radford was replaced by Canada's Violette Nesukaitis who was beaten (13, -18, 16) by Diane Court. Seeded No. 4 Judy Williams lost to Shelagh Hession in an expedite marathon and Carole Knight. Ormesby's pride and joy was beaten by Sheila Hamilton (Middlesex) 15, -16, -20. Karen Rogers lost to Miss Williams and Anita Stevenson failed to make any impression on Miss Hession.

Jimmy Walker, seeded No. 11 in the men's singles knocked out seeds Peter Taylor (8) and Tony Clayton (4) and young David Tan after a good win over the veteran Derrick Marples next accounted for Brian Burn, seeded No. 5 and only just failed -20 in the third against Paul Day.

CONVINCING

Des Douglas had convincing wins over John Kitchener. Ian Robertson and Hydes before going down to Jarvis; the Canadian champion. Errol Caetano, losing to Mike Johns who fell to Ian Horsham. It really was a starstudded affair, as indeed was the junior boys' event won by Mark Mitchell who, in the senior event, lost to Jarvis.

Kitchener, winner of the U-17 B.S. title in the Newbury Junior, had rough treatment over this weekend and went down, desperately, in the quarters to Andy Barden who further distinguished himself by accounting for Day. In the absence of top-seeded David Alderson, Ormesby's Andrew Kilburn came through in the top half to oppose Mark Mitchell in the semi but his resistance can only be described as token.

The Misses, Stevenson and Rogers had matters all their own way in the girl's event with the former a comfortable winner having earlier disposed of the threat posed by Miss Knight. Judith Walker was surprisingly beaten by Mandy Mellor who took Karen Rogers to a third game in the semi.

All in all, this splendidly run tournament, was everything that a 3-Star open should be and one could not fault any aspect with a legion of willing helpers, ever ready to assist Tony Ross, the organiser. Referee Tony Chatwin is also to be congratulated on a job well done as was his further role of M.C. for the finals session.

It was unfortunate that England's European League match against Federal Germany should deprive the *Halax Midland Counties* 3-Star, played at Warley over the weekend of Nov. 10/11, of the entire English squad making the trip of Cologne.

Compensation was afforded by the entry of French champion Jacques Secretin and his teammates, Danny Dhondt and Vincent Purkart, of the Sportif et Athletique du Kremlin Bicetre - club champions of France - who, the previous evening, had gone down 4-5 to Ormesby in Round 2 of the Europe Club Cup competition on Teesside.

LIKE VEIN

Secretin won his three singles in that match, beating Neale, Jarvis and Walker, and carried on in like vein at Warley where he was the winner

of the £50 men's singles prize and with Purkart, won another £10 for victory in the men's doubles. Another fiver went into his 'poacher's pocket as the beaten finalist, with Carole Knight, in the mixed. No wonder the cry went up 'Vive le France'.

With no Jill Hammersley or Karenza Mathews in contention, Linda Howard overcame first game deficits to beat, firstly Shelagh Hession, then Susan Lisle, to reach the final. Prior to Miss Knight had also extended the Surrey girl as indeed did Lesley Radford in the final although the Essex player rather faded in the decider.

Making his first open tournament appearance of the season Trevor Taylor, seeded No. 2 behind Secretin, got the better of three game duels with Alan Ransome - who let go a winning lead in the third - and Derek Munt before bowing out to Alan Hydes.

Jimmy Walker blotted his copy book by losing to Peter Taylor and Brian Burn, after a good win over "Connie" Warren, fell to Donald Parker who had ousted Richard Yule, the Scottish victor over Dhondt. Purkart fell easily to Hydes, Canada's Caetano to Des Douglas, and the second Canadian, Peter Gonda, to Peter Taylor.

After a good win over Kent's Clive Morris, John Kitchener fell foul of Douglas, Mark Mitchell went down to Secretin and Andy Barden was stopped by Burn, as was Paul Day by Caetano.

This was yet another all-action open, well up to 3-Star standard, with Jim Sykes, as referee, and Maurice Goldstein fulfilling all expectations, the latter in his customary role as Organiser-in-Chief.

Newbury 2 Star Junior

U-17 Events
Boy's Singles: Semi-finals:
 I. Kitchener (Suffolk) bt C. Sewell (Gloucs) 13, 14;
 D. Dino-Smith (Kent) bt D. Iszatt (Essex) 20, 15;

Final:
KITCHENER bt Dino-Smith 14, 11.
Girl's Singles: Semi-finals:
 S. Tame (Surrey) bt A. Mitchell (Middx) 16, 15;
 C. Reeves (Berks) bt L. Wales (Hants) 14, 17.

Final:
TAME bt Reeves 15, 10
Boy's Doubles: Semi-finals:
 Kitchener/D. Newman (Essex) bt D. Bangerter(Surrey) /Dino-Smith 21, 15, 17;
 L. Eadie (Essex)/Iszatt bt A. Bawden (Essex)/S. Lyons (Surrey) 12, -20, 16.

Final:
EADIE/ISZATT bt Kitchener/Newman 22, -17, 18.
Girl's Doubles: Semi-finals:
 J. Campion (Middx)/Mitchell bt S. Dove/ M. Sangster (Middx) 8, 11;
 K. Greenhough (Surrey)/Tame bt J. Livesey (Essex)/Reeves 13, 10.

Final:
GREENHOUGH/TAME bt Campion/ Mitchell 20, 19.
Mixed Doubles: Semi-finals:
 A. Abbott/S. Sutton (Essex) bt Bawden/ Livesey 16, -17, 10;
 Lyons/Greenhough bt M. Shuttle (Surrey)/ R. Newman (Cambs) -13, 14, 16

Final:
LYONS/GREENHOUGH bt Abbott/Sutton 19, 12.
U-15 Events
Boy's Singles: Semi-finals:
 Newman bt J. Proffitt (Herts) 10, 11;
 Shuttle bt S. Douglas (Berks) 19, 19.

Final:
NEWMAN bt Shuttle 15, 23.
Girl's Singles: Semi-finals:
 Wales bt Campion 11, 10;
 J. New (Hants) bt Dove 17, -18, 17.
Final:
WALES bt New -19, 19, 21.
Boy's Doubles: Semi-finals:
 K. Caldor (Essex)/Newman bt P. Lewis (Gloucs)/Sewell 17, 12;

K. Richardson (Cambs)/Shuttle bt Douglas/ D. Reeves (Berks) 19, 13.

Final:
CALDON/NEWMAN bt Richardson/Shuttle 17, -19, 16.

Girl's Doubles: Semi-finals:
 J. Reading (Hants)/Wales bt Campion/ Mitchell 15, -10, 19;
 B. Chamlerlain (Hunts)/Dove bt S. Smith (Essex)/Sutton 18, 19.

Final:
CHAMBERLAIN/DOVE bt Reading/Wales 19, 16.

Mixed Doubles: Semi-finals:
 Newman/Mitchell bt Reeves/M. Smith (Berks) 19, 13;
 Sewell/Wales bt D. Cammiade (Sussex)/ S. Roebuck (Surrey) 16, 12.

Final:
SEWELL/WALES bt Newman/Mitchell -16, 16, 15.

U.13 EVENTS

Boy's Singles: Semi-finals:
 G. Booth (Herts) bt G. Inch (Durham) 15, -15, 11;
 A. Stonell (Essex) bt A. Proffitt (Herts) 14, 19.

Final:
STONELL bt Booth 13, 17.

Girl's Singles: Semi-finals:
 M. Smith bt A. Gordon (Berks) 13, 19;
 K. Witt (Berks) bt L. Holmes (Derbys) 7, 14.

Final:
WITT bt Smith 17, 12.

Boy's Doubles: Semi-finals:
 Proffitt/S. Yallop (Derbys) bt N. Dines (Berks)/S. Harmer (Herts) 19, 13;
 D. Bennett (Norfolk)/Stonell bt M. Davis/ R. Johnson (Berks) -16, 14, 17

Final:
BENNETT/STONELL bt Proffitt /Yallop -13, 14, 14.

Girl's Doubles: Semi-finals:
 G. Heath (Berks)/Smith bt A. Hall (Leics) /H. Robinson (Yorks) 6, 19;
 Gordon/J. Purslow (Berks) bt J. Douglas (Berks)/Witt -13, 8, 20.

Final:
GORDON/PURSLOW bt Heath/Smith 8, 14.

Mixed Doubles: Semi-finals:
 Harmer/Smith bt Dines/Gordon 15, 11;
 Davis/Witt bt Bennett/Heath 21 -16, 17.

Final:
HARMER/SMITH bt Davis/Witt 17, 17.

U-11 Events
Boys' Singles: Semi-finals:
 R. Bergemann (Hants) bt G. Worts (Devon) 5, 13;
 C. Wilson (Hants) bt B. Johnson (Berks) 13, 12.

Final:
BERGEMANN bt Wilson -20, 20, 23.

Girl's Singles: Semi-finals:
 Robinson bt M. Ringrose (Hunts) 13, 11;
 Gordon bt J. O'Brien (Sussex) 8, 10.

Final:
GORDON bt Robinson 16, 17.

Sussex 2 Star

Men's Singles: Quarter-finals:
 J. Walker (Yorks) bt R. Aldrich (Middx) 18, 15;
 A. Hydes (Yorks) bt B. Burn (Warwks) 18, 17;
 M. Johns (Ches) bt N. Van de Walle (Belgium) 18, 12;
 A. Clayton (Yorks) bt P. Taylor (Beds) 16, 10.
Semi-finals:
HYDES bt Walker 21, -16, 14.



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JOHNS bt Clayton 11, -12, 15.
Final:
 HYDES bt Johns 18 18

Women's Singles: Quarter-finals:
 J. Hammersley (Bucks) bt S. Henderson (Surrey) 9, 10;
 J. Williams (Sussex) bt S. Hession (Essex) -15, 24, 15;
 L. Howard (Surrey) bt L. Radford (Essex) -20, 18 7;
 K. Mathews (Middx) bt D. Court (Middx) 10, 11.

Semi-finals:
 HAMMERSLEY bt Williams 16, 17;
 MATHEWS bt Howard 15, 9.

Final:
 HAMMERSLEY bt Mathews 12 15.

Men's Doubles: Semi-finals:
 Burn/Hydes bt E. Caetano/P. Gonda (Canada) 14, -19, 13;
 Van de Walle/R. Schalley (Belgium) bt D. Bowles/P. Randall (Essex) 17, 16.

Final:
 BURN/HYDES bt Van de Walle/Schalley 19, 18.

Women's Doubles: Semi-finals:
 Hammersley/Henderson bt Court/Radford 13 17.
 Hession/Williams bt B. Bird (Kent)/S. Kavallierou (Sussex) 17, 19.

Final:
 HAMMERSLEY/HENDERSON bt Hession/Williams -12, 16, 17

Mixed Doubles: Semi-finals:
 N. Jarvis (Yorks)/Hammersley bt Van de Walle/Mathews 12, 18.
 Hydes/Howard bt Schalley/Hession 17, 17.

Final:
 HYDES/HOWARD bt Jarvis/Hammersley 16, -18, 14.

Veteran Singles: Semi-finals:
 G. Chapman (Surrey) bt K. Beamish (Essex) 12, 14.
 D. Whittaker (Kent) bt J. Barry (Sussex) 16, 19.

Final:
 CHAPMAN bt Whittaker 15 -18, 13.

Halex
Humberside 3 Star

Men's Singles: Quarter-finals:
 D. Neale (Yorks) bt P. Day (Cams) 13, 11;
 J. Walker (Yorks) bt A. Clayton (Yorks) 21 10;
 D. Douglas (Warwks) bt A. Hydes (Yorks) -18, 10, 12;
 N. Jarvis (Yorks) bt I. Horsham (Essex) 10, 17.

Semi-finals:
 NEALE bt Walker 17, 16;
 JARVIS bt Douglas 19 -14, 11

Final:
 JARVIS bt Neale 17, -14, 15.

Women's Singles: Quarter-finals:
 J. Hammersley (Bucks) bt S. Henderson (Surrey) 17, 15;
 S. Hession (Essex) bt J. Williams (Sussex) 20, -19 19;
 L. Howard (Surrey) bt D. Court (Middx) 15, 8;
 K. Mathews (Middx) bt S. Lisle (Ches) -18, 10, 12.

Semi-finals:
 HAMMERSLEY bt Hession 5 7;
 HOWARD bt Mathews 16, 7

Final:
 HAMMERSLEY bt Howard 13, -15, 21.

Men's Doubles: Quarter-finals:
 Jarvis/Neale bt P. Cickers/D. Yallop (Derbys) 15, 12.
 Douglas/D. Parker (Lancs) bt R. Aldrich (Middx)/Horsham 16 -21, 16;
 B. Burn (Warwks)/Hydes bt B. Johns/M. Johns (Ches) -17, 12, 18;
 Clayton/L. F. Landry (Middx) bt A. Barden (Middx)/Day 16, -17, 8.

Semi-finals:
 JARVIS/NEALE bt Douglas/Parker 15 17;
 BURN/HYDES bt Clayton/Landry -20, 11, 7.

Final:
 BURN/HYDES bt Jarvis/Neale -20, 14, 17.

Women's Doubles: Quarter-finals:
 Howard/Mathews bt B. Kearney (Nthld)/C. Knight (Yorks) 12 12;
 V. Nesukaitis (Canada)/A. Stevenson (Leics) bt J. Hellaby/E. Tarten (Essex) 12, 8;
 Hession/Williams bt M. Deakin (Derbys)/B. Voss (Notts) 5, 14;
 Hammersley/Henderson bt C. Grayson/J. Kinnertley (Yorks) 14, 15.

Semi-finals:
 NESUKAITIS/STEVENSON bt Howard/Mathews -15, 15 12;
 HAMMERSLEY/HENDERSON bt Hession/Williams -16, 15, 17.

Final:
 HAMMERSLEY/HENDERSON bt Nesukaitis/Stevenson 10, 14.

Mixed Doubles: Quarter-finals:
 Neale/Mathews w.o. P. Radford/L. Radford (Essex) scr.
 Clayton/Henderson bt A. Fletcher (Yorks)/Voss 11 16;
 Douglas/Howard bt E. Caetano (Canada)/Nesukaitis 19, -16, 9;
 Jarvis/Hammersley bt M. Mitchell/S. Hamilton (Middx) 16, 13.

Semi-finals:
 NEALE/MATHEWS bt Clayton/Henderson 20 -10 17;
 JARVIS/HAMMERSLEY bt Douglas/Howard 16, 13.

Final:
 JARVIS/HAMMERSLEY bt Neale/Mathews 16, -14, 19.

Boy's Singles: Quarter-finals:
 A. Kilburn (Yorks) bt S. Souter (Yorks) 19, -19, 19;
 Mitchell bt R. Wiley (Yorks) 17 6;
 Day bt C. Sewell (Gloucs) 19, -18, 17;
 Barden bt J. Kitchener (Suffolk) 21, -11, 20.

Semi-finals:
 MITCHELL bt Kilburn 9 12;
 BARDEN bt Day 13, 17.

Final:
 MITCHELL bt Barden 12, 18.

Girl's Singles: Quarter-finals:
 Stevenson bt Knight -19, 11, 16;
 Tarten bt M. Ludi (Yorks) 19 16;
 M. Mellor (Derbys) bt J. Walker (Yorks) 19, -20, 18;
 K. Rogers (Leics) bt S. Lister (Yorks) 18, -15, 14.

Semi-finals:
 STEVENSON bt Tarten 14 10;
 ROGERS bt Mellor -20, 16, 16.

Final:
 STEVENSON bt Rogers 17, 12.

Veteran Singles: Semi-finals:
 L. Browning (Yorks) bt D. Marples (Derbys) 19, 12;
 W. Devine (Yorks) bt A. Wilkinson (Yorks) -15, 15, 14.

Final:
 DEVINE bt Browning -24, 13, 18

Halex
Midland Counties 3 Star

Men's Singles: Quarter-finals:
 I. Secretin (France) bt P. Taylor (Beds) 12, 15;
 D. Douglas (Warwks) bt J. Kitchener (Suffolk) 9, 13;
 D. Parker (Lancs) bt B. Burn (Warwks) 16, 15;
 A. Hydes (Yorks) bt T. Taylor (Essex) 13, -12 20.

Semi-finals:
 SECRETIN bt Douglas 14, 17;
 HYDES bt Parker 17, -20, 16.

Final:
 SECRETIN bt Hydes 17 14.

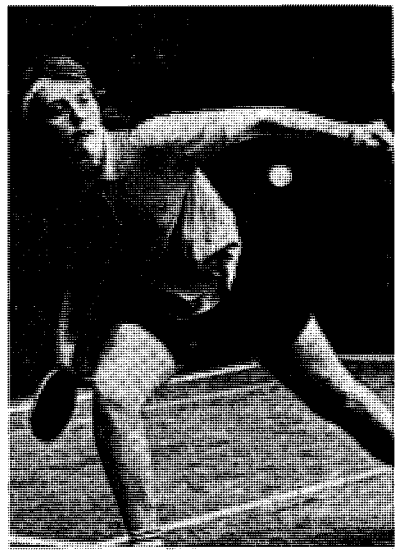
Women's Singles: Quarter-finals:
 L. Radford (Essex) bt J. Heaps (Ches) 12, 11;
 S. Henderson (Surrey) bt J. Walker (Yorks) 12, 8;
 L. Howard (Surrey) bt S. Hession (Essex) -19, 19, 12;
 S. Lisle (Ches) bt V. Nesukaitis (Canada) -14 19, 9;

Semi-finals:
 RADFORD bt Henderson 22, 17;
 HOWARD bt Lisle -21, 18, 15.

Final:
 HOWARD bt Radford 13, -17 12.

Men's Doubles: Quarter-finals:
 V. Purkart (France)/Secretin bt A. Griffiths (Wales)/A. Ransome (Yorks) 7, 18.
 Douglas/Parker bt Kitchener/D. Tan (Middx) 19, 9;
 Burn/Hydes bt A. Barden (Middx)/P. Day (Cams) 11, 17;
 A. Fletcher (Yorks)/I. Horsham (Essex) bt D. Johnson/P. Burwell (Warwks) 11, 10.

Semi-finals:
 PURKART/SECRETIN bt Douglas/Parker 13, 17;



Lancashire's former star Susan Lisle now playing in the colours of Cheshire.

BURNS/HYDES bt Fletcher/Horsham 12, 11.

Final:
 PURKART/SECRETIN bt Burn/Hydes -17, 19, 9.

Women's Doubles: Quarter-finals:
 Hession/J. Williams (Sussex) bt B. Green/A. Lloyd (Warwks) 14 9;
 Henderson/Howard bt B. Kearney (Nthld)/C. Knight (Yorks) 10, 12;
 Lisle/A. Stevenson (Leics) bt S. Kavallierou (Sussex)/J. Hellaby (Essex) -17, 14, 18;
 D. Court (Middx) /Radford bt Heaps/Walker 7, 7.

Semi-finals:
 HESSION/WILLIAMS bt Henderson/Howard 19 -19, 14;
 LISLE/STEVENSON bt Court/Radford 16, -14, 18.

Final:
 HESSION/WILLIAMS bt Lisle/Stevenson 13, -11, 13.

Mixed Doubles: Quarter-finals:
 Secretin/Knight bt E. Caetano (Canada)/Nesukaitis 16, 15;
 J. Walker (Yorks)/Lisle bt Ransome/Stevenson 14, 14;
 I. Robertson (Essex)/Hellaby bt Horsham/Henderson 17, 8;
 Douglas/Howard bt D. Aldrich (Middx)/Court 13, 11.

Semi-finals:
 SECRETIN/KNIGHT bt Walker/Lisle 17, -18 12;
 DOUGLAS/HOWARD bt Robertson/Hellaby 19 9.

Final:
 DOUGLAS/HOWARD bt Secretin/Knight 19, 15.

Veteran Singles: Group Winners:
 R. Morris (Somerset) bt D. Marples (Derbys) -11, 15, 14;
 bt J. Peakman (Warwks) 15, 13.
 D. Schofield (Ches) bt J. Pacitto (Bucks) 15 17;
 bt B. Everson (Wales) 18, 10.

Final:
 SCHOFIELD bt Morris 17, -20, 16.



Shelagh Hession (Essex) who makes her international match debut against Russia at Rainham, Kent.

Photo by Cliff Darley.

SELECTIONS AGAINST RUSSIA

The National Selection Committee have named six players for England's team opposed to the Soviet Union in the Premier Division European League match being played at Stoke Mandeville, Aylesbury on Wednesday, December 5th. Under the non-playing captaincy of Les Gresswell they are: Denis Neale (Yorks.), Nicky Jarvis (Yorks.), Desmond Douglas (Warwks.), Mrs. Jill Hammersley (Bucks.), Mrs. Karenza Mathews (Middx.), and Miss Linda Howard (Surrey).

On the following night at Cheltenham Town Hall, Nicky Jarvis and Jill Hammersley are stood down but both return to team up with Alan Hydes (Yorks.) and, making her international match debut, Shelagh Hession (Essex) for a third meeting between the two countries at Campus School, Derwent Way, Rainham, nr. Gillingham, Kent on Monday, December 10th, 1973.

WELSH NOTES

£600 SPONSORSHIP FOR CARDIFF
 by H. Roy Evans, O.B.E.

Stiga marches on! Their latest involvement in British table tennis is sponsorship of the Welsh Open Championships to be played at the National Sports Centre, Sophia Gardens, Cardiff on March 9/10, 1974. Aid to the value of £600 means that the Welsh will be able to continue their policy of giving good cash prizes, and the men's singles will carry the top award of £100.

Competition should be fierce, as the Czechs and Federal Germans will be battling out against top British opposition, with the possibility of a sprinkling of Commonwealth stars also in the fight.

The Welsh Association has continued its long association with Dunlop Sports Company by adopting the Barna Super Ball for all its events, and Barna tables for all tournaments except the Welsh Open and Closed.

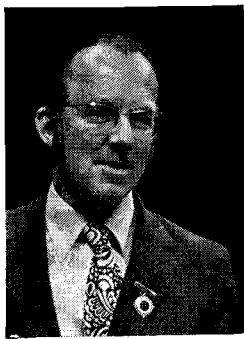
National Coach Moudry has been kept hard at work during his first month, running week-long courses for juniors in both South and North Wales, in addition to his weekly commitments at the Sports Centre in Cardiff.

The recent Glamorgan Closed, won by Alan Griffiths from Graham Davies, and Sandra Fickering from Janet Evans, produced a crop of junior entries better than for many years, and with Moudry concentrating on these products of the Association's grass roots schemes, prospects are better than for some time.

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ON THE INTERNATIONAL FRONT



by THE EDITOR

England Triumph in Julich

On Nov 12, before a partisan German crowd of some 900 people in Julich, a small township some 40 miles due west of Cologne, England made an incredible comeback to beat Federal Germany 4-3, after trailing 0-2, in the Premier Division of the European League.

Denis Neale opened for England and suffered an unexpected defeat when blasted off the table by Klaus Schmittinger. Next into the lion's den was Nicky Jarvis who put up a great fight against Wilfried Liek only to go down in the decider from being 19-all.

Jill Hammersley was next engaged in an expedite set with Wiebke Hendriksen which went very close before Jill, the better hitter, got home.

Turning point of the match was undoubtedly the men's doubles in which Neale and Tony Clayton found themselves a game and 14-19 down to Liek and Jochen Leiss. But in a tremendous fight back, especially on the part of Clayton, the English pair pulled it off and in doing so staved off certain match defeat.

Leiss and Kneip proved no match for Neale and Karenza Mathews in the mixed and the stage was set for Jarvis to clinch the issue which he did with a fine display of attacking topspins and good nerve to account for Schmittinger. We were home then 4-2 and the final set was 'cold' and of little interest although Neale could have won two straight. It was England's first victory over Federal Germany for three years. Scores, in match order, were:—

K. Schmittinger bt D. Neale 13, 17.
W. Liek bt N. Jarvis 15, -19, 19.
W. Hendriksen lost to J. Hammersley -20, -19.
J. Leiss/Liek lost to A. Clayton/Neale 15, -19, -15.
Leiss/M. Kneip lost to Neale/K. Mathews -18, 16, -13.
Schmittinger lost to Jarvis -19, -15.
Liek bt Neale -18, 18, 11.

On the same evening, in Mödling, promotees Austria were beaten 7-0 by last season's champions Russia who, on Dec 5, oppose England at Stoke Mandeville.

Josef Bauregger began the match well for the home team in winning the first game against the Soviet's Bagrat Burnazian, as did Eva Bogner in opposition to Asta Gedraitite, but

it was all in vain as the Russians powered themselves home in each of the deciders. It happened again in the men's doubles with Bauregger and Rudolf Weinmann taking the first against Burnazian and Anatoli Strokotov but to no avail. Individual scores:—

J. Bauregger lost to B. Burnazian 13, -16, -14.
R. Weinmann lost to A. Strokotov -9, -12.
E. Bogner lost to A. Gedraitite 14, -9, -16.
Bauregger/Weinmann lost to Burnazian/Strokotov 15, -16, -18.
Weinmann/Bogner lost to Strokotov/Gedraitite -23, -16.
Bauregger lost to Strokotov -12, -18.
Weinmann lost to Burnazian -18, -14.

Also on Nov 12, in Budapest, Sweden continued their winning ways with a 5-2 victory over Hungary, this after the home team had taken the first set when Istvan Jonyer beat Stellan Bengtsson in straight games!

Kjell Johansson equated the match score with an easy win over Gabor Gergely followed by a shock reversal for Europe's No. 1. Beatrix Kishazi, beaten by Lena Anderson (ranked No. 11)!

Apart from Bengtsson and Ann Christin Hellman losing to Jonyer and Judit Magos in the mixed, Sweden were caused no further trouble the last two men's singles being quickly polished off. Scores:—

I. Jonyer bt S. Bengtsson 13, 16.
G. Gergely lost to K. Johansson -16, -12.
B. Kishazi lost to L. Andersson 8, -18, -15.
Gergely/Jonyer lost to Bengtsson/Johansson 16, -16, -20.
Jonyer/J. Magos bt Bengtsson/A. Hellman 10, 16.
Jonyer lost to Johansson -15, -13.
Gergely lost to Bengtsson -14, -16.

Prior to, on Oct 30 - the same night England mastered Austria 6-1 in Traismauer — Hungary beat Federal Germany 5-2 in Miskolc.

Schmittinger started the Germans off on the right foot with a best-of-three win over Tibor Klampar but Liek proved no match for Gergely and Miss Hendriksen also went down in straight games to Magos.

The match score was equated when Leiss/Liek got home against Jonyer/Klampar but from then on it was the Hungarians who were in command with Gergely rounding off the proceedings. Scores:—

T. Klampar lost to Schmittinger -18, 16, -19.
Gergely bt Liek 8, 13.
Magos bt Hendriksen 17, 19.
Jonyer/Klampar lost to Leiss/Liek 13, -12, -17.
Jonyer/Magos bt Leiss/Hendriksen 13, -17, 8.
Klampar bt Liek -18, 16, 17.
Gergely bt Schmittinger 13, 14.

Meanwhile, in Bratislava, Sweden had the measure of Czechoslovakia by 5 sets to 2, Alica Grofova beating Miss Hellman and, with Milan Orlovski, winning the mixed against Bengtsson/Hellman. Both Bengtsson and Johansson ran riot in their singles encounters against Orlovski and Jaroslav Kunz. Scores:—

M. Orlovski lost to Bengtsson -10, -11

J. Kunz lost to Johansson -17, -15.
A. Grofova bt Hellman 18, 21.
Kunz/Orlovski lost to Bengtsson/Johansson 19, -13, -12.
Orlovski/Grofova bt Bengtsson/Hellman 23, -19, 19.
Orlovski lost to Johansson -8, 19, -15.
Kunz lost to Bengtsson -16, -17.

Current league table:—

| | P | W | L | F | A | Pts |
|--------------------|---|---|---|----|----|-----|
| Sweden | 3 | 3 | 0 | 17 | 4 | 3 |
| Hungary | 3 | 2 | 1 | 14 | 7 | 2 |
| England | 3 | 2 | 1 | 10 | 11 | 2 |
| U.S.S.R. | 2 | 1 | 1 | 10 | 4 | 1 |
| Czechoslovakia ... | 2 | 1 | 1 | 6 | 8 | 1 |
| Fed. Germany ... | 3 | 0 | 3 | 5 | 16 | 0 |
| Austria | 2 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 13 | 0 |

In Division 2, Group "A", Poland brought off their second successive win by overcoming Belgium 4-3 in Antwerp on Nov. 10, Denmark winning by a similar margin against Luxembourg in Copenhagen on Nov. 3. Scores:—

Denmark 5, Luxembourg 4
C. Pedersen lost to J. Krier 13, -19, -22.
N. Ramberg bt C. Putz 14, 14.
S. Poulsen lost to J. Dom -10, -17.
Pedersen/Ramberg bt Krier/Putz 14, 15.
Ramberg/Poulsen lost to Krier/Dom -8, 15, -19.
Pedersen bt Putz 11, 10.
Ramberg bt Krier -15, 18, 19.

Belgium 3, Poland 4
N. van de Walle bt W. Woznica -19, 14, 15.
R. Schalley lost to M. Skibinski -22, -19.
M. F. Germait bt C. Noworyta -15, 12, 9.
Schalley/Van de Walle lost to S. Fraczyk/Woznica -16, 19, -17.
Van de Walle/Germait lost to Woznica/D. Calinska -17, -23.
Van de Walle bt Skibinski 6, 14.
Schalley lost to Woznica 14, -14, -12.

First match to be played in Group "B" was that between Greece and Switzerland in Egaleo, Athens on Oct. 13 which resulted in a 4-3 home success when, in the final set Nicholas Kostopoulos beat Erwin Heri. On Oct. 24 in Ales, France, without calling on the services of Jacques Secretin, were runaway winners over Spain who failed to win a game and conceded the last set. Switzerland went down to their second defeat, in Chiasso on Nov. 9, when beaten 5-2 by Italy.

Scores:—

Greece 4, Switzerland 3
C. Christodoulatos bt E. Heri 22, 11.
N. Kostopoulos lost to L. Földy -10, 17, -14.
M. Louka bt C. Boppe -16, 9, 14.
E. Diakakis/Christodoulatos lost to Földy/Heri -19, -16.
C. Priftis/Louka bt Heri/Boppe -14, 18, 25.
Christodoulatos lost to Földy -19, -17.
Kostopoulos bt Heri -8, 13, 18.

France 7, Spain 0
C. Martin bt J. Feliu 10, 18.
P. Birocheau bt J. Lupon 16, 17.
Y. Lecler bt D. Uribes 9, 8.
Birocheau/R. Canor bt Feliu/Sana 13, 19.
Canor/Lecler bt Lupon/Uribes 10, 6.
Martin bt Lupon 20, 18.
Birocheau w.o. Feliu.

Switzerland 2, Italy 5
Heri lost to S. Bosi -14, -17.
T. Sadecky lost to R. Giontella 18, -12, -18.
V. Lehmann bt S. Milic 9, 15.
Heri/Sadecky lost to Bosi/Giontella -13, -14.
M. Frutschi/Lehmann bt S. Malesci/Milic 19, -14, 17.
Heri lost to Giontella 19, -7, -10.
Sadecky lost to Bosi -16, -14.

EUROPE CLUB CUP

England's Ormesby and Gainsford clubs took further strides last month in the Europe Club Cup competitions when Ormesby, in the men's section, reached the quarter-finals with a 5-4 win over French club champions Sportif et Athletique du Kremlin Bicetre and Gainsford TTC, by beating ASTK, Mladost of Zagreb, Yugoslavia 5-1, reached the semi-final stage.

On Teesside (Nov. 9) after Jacques Secretin, at the conclusion of his three sets—all won—had put the Frenchmen 4-3 in the lead, Ormesby came roaring back to take the last two sets for victory with Nicky Jarvis beating Vincent Purkart in the penultimate one and Jimmy Walker administering the coup-de-grace in opposition to Danny Dhondt. Results in match order were:—

J. Walker lost to V. Purkart -18, -8.
D. Neale bt D. Dhondt 12, 19.
N. Jarvis lost to J. Secretin -20, -14.
D. Neale bt Purkart 15, 14.
Walker lost to Secretin 19, -17, -9.
Jarvis bt Dhondt 10, 14.
Neale lost to Secretin 15, -7, -17.
Jarvis bt Purkart 17, -20, 16.
Walker bt Dhondt 10, 9.

At the Inns of Court Mission, Drury Lane, London, WC2 on Nov. 23, Adrian Howard's team of Jill Hammersley, Karenza Mathews and Shelagh Hession proved far too strong for ASTK Mladost of Yugoslavia whose national champion Mirjana Resler was their only winner, against Miss Hession. Mrs. Mathews really turned the scales in this encounter when, in the fourth set, she beat Miss Resler to write finis to the Zagreb trio. Scores:—

K. Mathews bt D. Duganic 16, 13.



Richard Yule who has taken over the lead role from the now retired Malcolm Sugden as Scotland's No. 1. Yule now resident in this country is currently playing for Surrey in the County Championships.

S. Hession lost to M. Resler -11, 11, -17.

J. Hammersley bt D. Fabri 14, 8.
Mathews bt Resler -18, 7, 17.
Hammersley bt Duganic 5, 12.
Hession bt Fabri 9, 18.

EUROPEAN FAIR CITIES CUP

Gatley YMCA, the beaten finalists in last season's ETTA National Club Championships—this season being sponsored by Stiga AB and UK distributors, Mitre Sports of Huddersfield—were pipped 5-4 by Olimpija, Ljubjana in Yugoslavia on Oct. 24, in their **European Fair Cities Cup** competition match.

The Stockport League side had double winners in Diane Johnson and Susan Lisle but neither could make the necessary impression on the home team's Eva Jeler whose maximum was supplemented by solo wins for Sonja Verstovsek and, in the final set, by Zina Martinec over a luckless Doreen Schofield, who went down -11 in the deciding game. Scores:—

Z. Martinec lost to D. Johnson -15, -20.

E. Jeler bt D. Schofield 19, 4.
S. Verstovsek lost to S. Lisle -14, -11.
Jeler bt Johnson 20, 19.

Martinec lost to Lisle -14, 18, -16.
Verstovsek bt Schofield 7, 9.

Jeler bt Lisle 22, 26.
Verstovsek lost to Johnson -7, -5.
Martinec bt Schofield -7, 9, 11.

SCOTTISH AFFAIRS

Ram Bhalla (West of Scotland), the No. 2 seed, was the winner of the men's singles title in the **North of Scotland Open**, played at Aberdeen on Oct. 20, beating top seed Bert Kerr (Edinburgh) in the final (**writes Helen Hamilton**).

Aberdeen had three players in the last four of the Jnr singles and in the final Michael Thomson won his second title of importance with a surprisingly easy win over Alan Mathew.

Another Aberdeen success came in the women's singles in which event Kathleen Angus won the title for the first time by beating former Scottish champion Lesley Barrie. Kathleen fought back from 14-18 in the third to win 21-19. Results:—

MS: semi-finals:

R. Kerr bt J. Wilson (W. of Scot.) 18, 17.

R. Bhalla bt J. Graham (W. of Scot.) 20, 15.

Final: Bhalla bt Kerr 19, -20, 10.

WS: K. Angus bt L. Barrie (W. of Scot.) 18, -20, 19.

JS: M. Thomson bt A. Matthew 9, 16.

In the **Scottish Confined Championships**, played at East Kilbride on Nov. 3, Glasgow's David Fraser played extremely well to take the men's singles title with final victory over fellow Glaswegian Archie McCulloch. Prior to Fraser had caused an upset in beating top seed Richard Yule while McCulloch, the No. 1 junior of last season, ousted third seed Bert Kerr.

Despite losing the first game of her semi-final clash with the improving Grace Mackay, Kathleen Angus won the next two and the final, against Patrice Fleming who, in her semi, accounted for Dundee's Mabel Neish.

A newcomer emerged in the boys' singles event in the person of A. Alexander from Hamilton (West of Scotland) who really put the cat

among the pigeons by reaching the final and giving Michael Thomson a rough time of it before the Aberdonian got home in the deciding game of three. By the use of a simple old fashioned fast forehand drive young Alexander nearly qualified for the title of "Great".

Elaine Craig, in her first season of competitive play, did well to reach the final of the junior girls' event, but was never in the hunt against Grace Mackay. Best final of the day was the youth singles in which David Fraser beat Alan Mathew, the 14-year-old who in the semis had ousted his elder brother Charlie, currently ranked No. 1 boy in Scotland. Alan really had Fraser 'on toast' and with just that little bit of luck could have

won. Results:—

MS: semi-finals:

D. Fraser bt R. Yule 19, -15, 17;
A. McCulloch bt J. Graham 16, -18, 18.

Final: Fraser bt McCulloch 15, 13.

WS: semi-finals:

P. Fleming bt M. Neish 17, 17;
K. Angus bt G. Mackay -9, 10, 13.
Final: Angus bt Fleming 11, 14.

BS: semi-finals:

M. Thomson bt C. Matthew -14, 13, 11;

A. Alexander bt J. Moir 19, 19.

Final: Thomson bt Alexander -17, 17, 16.

GS: G. Mackay bt E. Craig 8, 11.

YS (U-21): semi-finals:

A. Matthew bt C. Matthew 16, 17.
D. Fraser bt R. Thomson 13, 14.

Final: Fraser bt A. Matthew 24, 20.

MD: P. Forker/Yule bt B. Morgan/M. Singer 24, -18, 9.

WD: Fleming/Mackay bt Angus/Neish 15, -9, 10.

XD: E. Bruce/L. Barrie bt Fraser/Angus 20, 17.

Ormesby's Tony Martin caused the upsets in the **East of Scotland Open**, played at Meadowbank Stadium, Edinburgh on Nov. 11 when, in the men's singles, he put out Scottish-ranked Robert Kerr and David Fraser but found himself outclassed by Richard Yule in the final.

Due credit must be afforded Lesley Barrie who, despite not playing much over the past three years, beat young

(continued on next page)

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On the International Front continued

Grace Mackay to take the women's singles title.

Young players from Millom School, Cumberland impressed by their improvement over the past 12 months, Jennifer Pachul reaching the final of the girls' singles before losing to Grace Mackay. M. Barry and P. Polczynski also had a good run in the men's doubles being beaten in the semi-final by Cheshire's Nigel Eckersley and Peter D'Arcy of Liverpool.

Blossoming into the Scottish No. 1 boy, Michael Thomson again won the boys' singles with the Matthew boys definitely the Nos. 2 and 3. Aberdeen must be congratulated on the progress made by their young players, not to mention Robert Thomson (elder brother of Michael who reached his first semi-final in an open tournament. Results:—

MS: semi-finals:

A. Martin bt D. Fraser -18, 20, 17;
R. Yule bt R. Thomson 15, 16.
Final: Yule bt Martin 9, 17.

WS: semi-finals:

G. Mackay bt M. Brown 10, 13;
L. Barrie bt B. Murtagh 21, 16.
Final: Barrie bt Mackay 14, 20.

BS: M. Thomson bt C. Matthew 16, -18, 19.

GS: Mackay bt J. Pachul 13, 15.

MD: P. D'Arcy/N. Eckersley bt
J. Graham/I. Hay 12, 18.

WD: P. Fleming/Mackay bt Barrie/
E. Craig 15, 13.

XD: R. Kerr/Mackay bt Eckersley/
Barrie 17, -12, 16.

QUIZ TIME with John Pike

Last year my Christmas quiz was well received, and because of this, I thought I would test your knowledge again this year. This time, however, the questions are on general sport, and not as before, when I confined them just to table tennis. All entries to my home address please, 15 Glendale Drive, Wombourne, Staffs., to arrive not later than first post on January 1st, 1974. The three prize winners will be announced in the February issue of Table Tennis News.

QUESTIONS

1. Who did Floyd Patterson beat to become world heavyweight champion in 1956?
2. Who was the 1972 World speedway champion?
3. Name the four teams that play at the following football grounds: Fellows Park, Elm Park, Vetch Field, and Abbey Stadium.
4. Three men have won the Footballer of the Year Trophy twice. Name them.
5. Who won this season's Watney Cup?
6. Who are the Wallabies?
7. Fred Winter won the Grand National twice as a jockey. Name his two mounts.
8. Who was the last man to play for England at both cricket and football?
9. Name the Somerset cricket captain last season.
10. Who won the men's 100 metres at the Mexico Olympics?
11. One for golf lovers, Who won the British Open at Carnoustie in 1970?
12. Who won the 1972 Boat race?

The Norwich Union English Table Tennis Championships 1974



to be held at
CRYSTAL PALACE NATIONAL SPORTS CENTRE
NORWOOD, LONDON S.E.19

JANUARY 3rd to 5th, 1974

FINALS

SATURDAY, 5th JANUARY at 2-0 p.m.

Referee: G. A. OWEN (N.R.)

Assistant Referee: MISS K. J. WATERS (N.R.)

Organiser: J. P. HERITAGE

Assistant Organiser: G. M. DANIELS

PROVISIONAL TIMES OF PLAY

Thursday, January 3rd

6-00 p.m. Qualifying Competition.

Friday, January 4th

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

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

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

Women's Singles Quarter Final and Semi-Final Rounds.

Men's Doubles Quarter Final and Semi-Final Rounds.

Women's Doubles Semi-Finals.

Saturday, January 5th

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

Consolation Events.

2-00 a.m. Finals.

DIRECTIONS TO CRYSTAL PALACE N. S. C.

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

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

CAR PARK—Entrance in Ledington Road off Anerley Road.

TELEPHONE No.—01-778 0131.

Norwich Union Continue Support

A recent press announcement has confirmed that the Norwich Union Insurance Group are to continue their support of the two major events in the E.T.T.A. Calendar. The Company has agreed to sponsor the two Championships for the next three years—an agreement worth £12,000 to the E.T.T.A.

As in the 1972/73 season, the events now known as the Norwich Union English Championships and Norwich Union International Championships will be fully sponsored and the Association can look forward to first class support from the Company.

There is no doubt that table tennis can benefit greatly from this partnership which can only do good for our sport. More publicity must be given to our activities and certainly this can be done in connection with the Championships through Norwich Union and their consultants, West and Nally Ltd., whose Chairman is Peter West of television fame.

Obviously it is the intention of the Association to do all in its power to produce the best possible team for the World Championships to be held in

England in 1977, and judging by their interest last season Norwich Union will play an important part in this activity.

At the Norwich Union English Championships in January, the Company awarded a special prize for the most promising junior. The Press committee who acted as judges decided that this should be shared by Desmond Douglas and Paul Day. Since then, Desmond was runner-up in the Boys Singles in the European Youth Championships and he won the Mixed Doubles at the same Championships with Linda Howard. Paul Day has toured China with the England team and has recently won the Southend Open which had a good class entry.

At the Norwich Union International Championships at Brighton the Company agreed to present cheques of £100 each to the English man and woman adjudged to have given the best performance in the Championships. Desmond Douglas took the cheque for the men and within his triumphs was an impressive win over Kjell Johansson of Sweden who in April was runner-up in the Men's Singles at the World Championships. Jill Hammersley received the cheque for the ladies and has since won a Bronze Medal at the World Championships through reaching the semi-final of the Women's Doubles with Beatrix Kishazi of Hungary. Only last month Jill had a most encourag-

ing success when she won the Women's Singles at the Hungarian Open.

If Norwich Union can continue "picking winners" in this way, we might be forgiven for suggesting that the future of table tennis is assured for the next three years at least.

Entries are still being received for the Norwich Union English Championships to be held at Crystal Palace from 3rd to 5th January 1974. At the time of writing rumour has it that Chester Barnes will be entering. Although Chester has had little competitive play in recent months, there is no doubt that both he and Denis Neale will be out to break the barrier of four wins each in the Men's Singles and take with it a cheque for £100. The Men's Singles event could be wide open nevertheless, with a very definite atmosphere of experience versus enthusiasm. Trevor Taylor, the current holder of the Men's Singles, will doubtless be intent on bridging the gap between these two extremes.

Jill Hammersley will wish to retain her title which she won for the first time last season, but once again there will be a number of players including Linda Howard of Surrey and the first and second ranked Juniors from Leicestershire, Anita Stevenson and Karen Rogers, who will be determined to see that Jill does not have an easy path. Karenza Mathews who has won the title twice previously, will also be concentrating on a repeat of earlier successes.

John McDonnell, of Norwich Union, said "Although the entries have not yet closed, we can anticipate very exciting Championships and many followers will be eagerly awaiting the outcome of the draw on December 12th at Norwich Union's City Office. The Norwich Union is delighted to be supporting the Championships again and we are sure that the keen competition will produce tremendous entertainment for the spectators. Our first year's involvement was most encouraging."

INTERNATIONAL T.T. CLUB

by Laurie Landry

Forms are now available for the 3rd International Club Hard Rubber Bat Open to be played at Barnet Table Tennis Centre, Barnet Lane, Barnet, Herts., on Sunday, Jan. 6/74 commencing at 9-30 a.m. Closing date is Dec. 17/73 and forms can be accepted at the Middlesex 3-Star Open.

The eleventh AGM of the Club will be held at 2 p.m. on the day of the Rubber Bat Open and it is hoped for a good attendance. The Club was formed on Jan. 8/64 the first AGM being held on that date. We are, therefore, 10-years-old and have some 140 members.

For the first time the Club will be awarding the Geoff Harrower International Club Trophy. This will be presented by Suzie Barna on Jan. 6/74, along with the other awards at the Barnet Centre.

The Club Committee will decide the recipient of the Geoff Harrower Trophy following nominations from members. It will be awarded to someone who 'has made a significant contribution to Table Tennis in England' and nominations need not be limited to players, or indeed members of the International Club.



Who said the Hon. Treasurer couldn't raise a smile? Here's a picture to disprove such a theory taken by Cliff Darley at Birmingham. From l. to r. Mrs. Doreen Yates, Tom Blunn, Mrs. Ivy Evans, Mrs. Edna Blunn and Mrs. Betty Shipley.

The Dinner held at the Lambert Court Hotel, Birmingham on Nov 10/73 marked the end of Gordon Steggall's reign as Chairman and the completion of seven years in the life of the 100 Club. For the next twelve months the Club will be led by a new Chairman, Mr. Fred Inch of Co. Durham, and we look forward to hearing his Geordie accent at Club functions.

In the twenty-one draws for prizes no person has managed to win the £100 prize money on more than one occasion and another new name was added to the lists this time one of our early members, Alec Brook.

The £50 prize will have to be held in abeyance until Brighton as the name drawn out was that of a former member whose membership had ended since the last Draw. Normally, the names of members going into the Draw are checked against the financial records but on this occasion the records were still with the Auditors. Rest assured that nobody was missed out, in fact this happened to be an extra ticket. The £10 prize was won by a member present at the Dinner, Phil Reid of Leicester.

Our next two Dinners are already arranged, one at the Royal Albion Hotel during the Norwich Union International Championships at Brighton on 1st/2nd March 1974, and one at the Regents Park Zoo in London on Saturday, July 13th 1974, following the Association's A.G.M. Please make a note of both these dates when you receive your 1974 Diary.

Our luck on the Premium Bonds seems to have run out and no prizes have come our way recently, but let us hope that this is just the lull before the storm.

Many of you will have read in 'Table Tennis News' of the fatal accident to one of our members, Aubrey Hill, whilst acting as a marshal for a cycle race. Aubrey was a real table tennis enthusiast and his passing will leave a gap in the ranks of true supporters of the game.

Our membership list remains full with replacements being drawn from our waiting list but for complete



And the story teller . . . the newly elected chairman of the ETTA's "100 Club", Fred J. Inch, the National Councillor for Durham County.

peace of mind I would like to have one or two more names in the pipeline so if you have any friends who wish to join us, please let me know.

INTERNATIONAL SQUAD

The National Selection Committee have announced several changes in the International Squad, chosen at the beginning of the season. The formation is now: *Men* — Denis Neale (Yorks.), Nicky Jarvis (Yorks.), Desmond Douglas (Warwks.), Jimmy Walker (Yorks.) and Donald Parker (Lancs.). *Women* — Jill Hammersley (Bucks.), Karenza Mathews (Middx.), Linda Howard (Surrey) and Anita Stevenson (Leics.).

In the men's section Walker has replaced Tony Clayton of Yorkshire. With Susan Lisle (Ches.) and Susan Henderson (Surrey) being omitted and only Anita Stevenson coming in, the women's section has been reduced in number to four.

The selectors, with an eye to the future have obviously been pleased and impressed with the recent form shown by Walker and Miss Stevenson.

Gifts for Christmas

BOOKS

- Z 1.—'Modern Table Tennis Tactics' by Chester Barnes—£2.00 plus 15p postage.
- Z 2.—'Table Tennis for the 70's', by Johnny Leach—£1.85 plus 15p postage.
- Z 3.—'Progressive Table Tennis', by Jack Carrington—£1.20 plus 15p postage.
- Z 4.—'Your Book of Table Tennis', by Victor Barna—80p plus 15p postage.
- Z 5.—'Better Table Tennis', by Johnny Leach—50p no postage.
- Z 7.—I.T.T.F. Handbook for Umpires—15p plus 3p postage.
- Z 8.—I.T.T.F. Handbook for Referees and Comp. Organisers—15p plus 3p postage.
- S 9.—Tournament Diaries—22p plus 4p postage.

BADGES

- S 10.—E.T.T.A. (Members)—60p plus 3p postage.
- S 11.—E.T.T.A. (Stickpin)—16p plus 3p postage.
- S 12.—E.T.T.A. Car (Metal)—£1.10 no postage.
- S 13.—E.T.T.A. Car (Self adhesive)—11p plus 3p postage.
- S 14.—Cuff Links (E.T.T.A. Symbol)—£1.10 plus 10p postage.

TIES

- S 15.—Blue (All over motif)—£1.00 plus 10p postage.
- S 16.—Green (All over motif)—£1.00 plus 10p postage.
- S 17.—Wine (All over motif)—£1.00 plus 10p postage.
- S 18.—Blue (Single motif)—£1.05 plus 10p postage.
- S 19.—Tournament Scorepads—15p plus 3p postage.
- S 20.—PENS (E.T.T.A.)—3p each no postage on 6 or more.
- S 21.—Wallets (E.T.T.A.)—5p each plus 3p postage.
- S 22.—Note Pads for Wallets—2½p each plus 3p postage.

UMPIRES ONLY

- S 23.—Ties (Grey all over motif)—90p plus 10p postage.
- S 24.—Badge (National—Dark blue Leopards)—60p plus 3p postage.
- S 25.—Badge (County—Light blue Leopards)—60p plus 3p postage.
- S 26.—Badge (County—Original design)—60p plus 3p postage.

OFFICIALS ONLY

- S 27.—Badge (Green Leopards)—60p plus 3p postage.
- Z—Zero rated goods. S—Standard rated goods.

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Table Tennis Player/Coaches Wanted

The New South Wales (Australia) Table Tennis Association seeks applications from Table Tennis Player/Coaches for official positions with our State Association.

Several positions are available to playing coaches who are able to coach at all levels from Juniors to International standards.

These positions can either be full-time Table Tennis coaching and playing or, if desired, part-time Table Tennis with part-time business positions and employment can be guaranteed in any area. Terms can be negotiated but must be for a minimum of two seasons in Australia.

Salary will also be negotiable and will depend on experience and ability as a Player/Coach and/or Player. Return fares to and from Australia will be paid and accommodation provided.

This is an outstanding opportunity for the right people very interested in the sport of Table Tennis and can either be a short term project or a future for life if so desired.

Applicants should apply in writing to the address below giving full details of their previous playing and/or coaching experience.

Keith Bowler,
Special Projects — Coaching,
New South Wales Table Tennis Association,
P.O. Box 2865, Sydney,
Australia.

COUNTY NOTES SUPPLEMENT

CHESHIRE NOTES

by BRIAN KEAN

Gateley YMCA women's first ever journey onto European soil almost produced a fairytale ending to a most entertaining trip. Forget the fact that Stockport's threesome of Sue Lisle, Di Johnson and Doreen Schofield were on the wrong end of 5-4 result which takes the Yugoslav Olympia Ljubljana team into the third round of the European Club Cup Championships.

This was a victory of goodwill and international relations at the grass roots of table tennis - where it begins - at club level. Captained by Terry Donlon whose enthusiasm made it all possible, Gateley's ambassadors took with them letters from Cheadle and Gateley Council expressing their best wishes to the people of Ljubljana. Such was the impression made on the Yugoslavs that an invitation to return next year was hospitably tendered and accepted.

County matches played on Nov 3 were mainly successful. The only reverse fell to the first team who crumbled 7-2 at the hands of Surrey. Reports from this encounter accentuate the complete failure of Nigel Eckersley and Brian Johns. So the big question remains - will they ever attain the standard set by Derek Schofield, Roger Hampson and Mike Johns? With respect, I doubt it! Certain attitudes and approaches to the game need changing first. The 2nd, 3rd and Junior teams all accounted for their respected North-umbrian opponents with comparative ease, while "ALL OUR YESTER-DAYS" squad took care of Notts.

The Aberdare Open proved successful for our juniors as they stamped their authority in no uncertain manner. John Evans turned the form book upside down by winning the boys' singles for en route he collected the scalps of county colleagues, Hook and Burrows. The girls' crown was won by Pat Allen who contested the final with her teammate Annie Hepple.

HONOURABLE MENTION SPOT



TERRY DONLAN

I often wonder what we know about the colleagues we have associated with during our table tennis activity. I believe there are many unwritten tales behind some of the characters in our game. One such person is Stockport's Terry Donlon who has quite a remarkable history of events to chronicle. Ill health would provide a generous contribution in an auto-

biography of the Gateley 'chopper'. Apart from the usual run of child ailments life took a sudden change for Terry at the age of 14 when he contracted EMPHYSEMA which, in simple terms, means fluid of the lungs.

Dangerous as it was, complications arose when a lung collapsed exerting pressure on the heart which forced it over the righthand side of the body. The seriousness of the situation was fully realised when doctors only gave him a 50/50 chance of survival. However, survive he did, and after eighteen months in hospital he was returned home.

Recovery was gradual and his acceptance into the R.A.F., at the age of 18, made it complete. Life in the Forces introduced Terry to sport and it was in the boxing ring where Terry made his name.

Northern Welter Weight Champion was his claim to fame, a title won with footwork which would have warmed the hearts of a Covent Garden audience, allied to punches with the speed and power of my forehead kill!!

All this and still no Table Tennis? It was not in fact, until Terry reached the age of 27 that he was introduced to the game his thoughts, meanwhile, having been only for girls.

In seventeen years he has come from the depths of Stockport's fourth division to the County's veteran side. In between he has given nine years of service to the Stockport League and Cheshire County committees, won numerous open veteran titles and, in more local pastures, the Manchester Closed wherein he was responsible for ending the reign of 'all time great' Benny Casofsky.

I would describe Terry as a 'behind the scenes worker' the man who would erect the lighting at a tournament before the rest of the organisation arrived, carry in 12 tables on his back and arrange them evenly around the hall. The 'administrative abilities' were possibly left behind in the boxing ring to be replaced by brawn and enthusiasm which have for long been a contributory factor in the success of the Gateley YMCA TT Club.

But, as so often in the case of Table Tennis being the winner, there is always a loser. As usual it is a wife and family who are called upon to take second place but, fortunately, their patience and understanding has provided the springboard for Terry's contribution to the sport's cause.

He never lets me forget the time he gave me a thrashing in the 1964 Manchester Closed. However, he's suffered a few Bannockburns since!

WARWICKSHIRE NOTES

by BERNARD YARNOLD

Warwickshire first team have made a dramatic start to their campaign in the Premier Division of the County Championships. In both the opening matches, played at home, the team pulled its way back from 2-4 down to 5-4 victories.

Having beaten Essex for the first time in the 27-year history of county table tennis, the team looked booked for a shock defeat against a Middlesex side which, on paper, lacked experience.

Junior Andy Barden and Mark

Mitchell soon knocked the complacency out of Warwickshire! The former hammered a bemused Brian Burn to defeat in the first set of the evening, and then Mitchell was a trifle unfortunate not to take a lethal Douglass in losing 19 in the 3rd. But, having lost the women's events, as expected, Warwick's male threesome showed their true class and saved face with aggressive match-play to take victory.

The Junior 'B' team have excelled themselves in recording 9-1 and 10-0 wins against Notts, and Staffs, respectively. A little research into records must be done to find the last time this team won two matches in succession. Normally finishing near the foot of the Junior Midland Division, the squad of David Shropshire, Mick Horne, Peter Griffiths, Beverley Green and Christine Vines are showing that they intend to reverse the trend.

Nor are the Veterans side losing any prestige to their younger colleagues. Playing in the Midland division, the team first plundered the points from Worcestershire (7-2), and then followed this with a cracker of a fight at Leicester. With the match score at 4-4, Graham Elsdon (Birmingham) sent his former Leicester colleagues to defeat by winning the last singles set of the evening. Most remarkable, though, is the splendid form of Doreen Griffiths, who came back to play County table tennis after a series of big operations. Commencing competitive league play again last season, Doreen has been the backbone of the Veterans team so far this season, winning all her singles and doubles sets.

The Birmingham Schools' TTA boast a membership of 37 senior schools this season, and 12 junior schools. Birmingham will be entering four area teams in the Warwickshire Schools' League, to accompany the two teams from the Coventry area and one from Mid-Warwickshire. A new ruling has been brought in by Warwickshire which states that only boy and girl players who do not represent the County, or play for the Birmingham or Coventry Midland League teams, are eligible for the Schools' League. It is hoped that the ruling will give more children the chance to play at representative level, and more even competition will result.

An 11-year-old from Hall Green Bi-lateral School has made herself the talking-point of the season at schools level, Susan Henning, who plays for Moor Green (Birmingham) in senior competition, took up the sport two years ago, and in her first full season in the Birmingham Women's League, gained a championship medal. In doing so, she has emerged as a prospect for representative honours, and many people will be thankful because of the recent shortage of top girl players in the County. Now, the situation is somewhat brighter. Karen Groves is already established, but pushing her are Jane Loaden, Beverley Green and Christine Vines, as well as young Susan.

The Warwickshire Closed Championships will take place on Sunday, December 11, at the University of Warwick, near Coventry. Warwickshire officials are pleased to have found such an excellent venue at the most opportune time of the season. The last Closed was held in April, a

time at which many people are taking up summer activities, and this was manifest in a poor entry. Also, we are hoping for sponsorship to dash any fears of having to dig into County funds to keep the event financially solvent.

Nuneaton play host to the first set of Junior Premier Division matches on Saturday, December 29th. Venue - Friary Street Youth Centre, Abbey Street, Nuneaton, Cambridgeshire, Leicestershire, Warwickshire and Yorkshire engage each other in three sessions commencing at 10.00, 14.00 and 18.00 hours.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE NOTES

By JOHN COOPER

The only way I can get my name in the Magazine is by writing these notes so here goes.

For many years there has been a shortage of suitable girls and now all the Leagues in the County are trying to remedy this. Bristol have their Girls' League where Mick Lewis takes over as Coaching Secretary after many years of good service from Dennis Rowe.

Cheltenham ventured into a Summer League in which Christian Iacopi got in some useful practice before leaving the junior ranks.

Gloucester arranged its first school girls' competition on Nov. 9 when Jane Dovey (Winnifred Cullis) beat Vanessa Cruwys (Chosen Hill).

Stroud has its girls training on Monday evenings and the results of all this attention to juniors showed in the large junior entry for the Gloucestershire closed on Nov. 18.

The County Coaching Officer has been playing his part by organising a girls' assessment. 17 girls took part in this on Sunday, Oct. 28 at Winterbourne.

We have a long way to go, but we have started!

MIDDLESEX NOTES

by LAURIE LANDRY

NEW LOOK SIDE

The new-look Middlesex Premier side only just failed against Warwickshire - what a strong side they have - to lose 4-5. We have confidence in our young team of Andrew Barden, Mark Mitchell, Robert Aldrich and Karenza Mathews with young David Ian ready to step in.

The Regional Squads have now been made up and Andrew, Mark, Angela Mitchell and Jill Campion are in the 'A' Squad for the four counties concerned (Beds., Essex, Herts, and Middlesex) whilst Michael O'Mahoney, Robert Huson, Marilyn Sangster and Susan Dove are in the 'B' Squad.

This season's Middlesex 3-Star Open promises to be a success at the Pickett's Lock Sports Centre over the weekend of Dec. 15/16, whilst the closing date for the Middlesex Junior Open, to be played at Walford School Sports Hall and Gymnasium, Bengarth Road, off Church Road, Northolt over the weekend of Jan. 12/13, 1974, is Friday, Dec. 21/73.

Currys are again sponsoring the Junior Open with gift vouchers to the total of £140.

NORTHANTS NOTES

by DENNIS MILLMAN

EARLY RETIREMENT

At County level the season has begun in a most disappointing fashion. The theft of the County Committee's minutes, the reluctance of senior and junior players to take part in County trials, some dispirited performances in County matches, and now the premature departure from the game of John Maloney, have cast an air of gloom on the county scene.

At first sight it appears that Wellingborough has been hardest hit. Coach Ken Marchant had produced many fine players of outstanding ability—the Crawley brothers, Andy Wallis and John Maloney spring immediately to mind, but now only Ken's son Roderick, retains both the ability and the wish to perform regularly at representative level. Nevertheless, Wellingborough has been able to acquire the services of many of Rothborough's fine youngsters, who have dual league qualifications, and so ultimately it is the Kettering League who feel the loss created by the lack of dedication of young players, who feel no obligation to those who spend so much time working on their behalf.

Of course there are, and we hope there will continue to be, exceptions to the rule. Kevin Alden has matured this year, and is developing into a fine player, while Nicky Swingler and Stephen West continue to carry all before them in South-East Midlands matches. If these and other young local players continue to prosper, all is not yet lost, but it will take much hard work and enthusiasm, if the season is to be remembered for its successes, rather than its failures.

The present misfortunes even extend to Daventry, for the County Championships due to take place there on April 6th, have been transferred to the Recreation Centre at Kettering, as some misguided authority decided to paint all the walls of the Daventry Sports Centre—white.

In South East Midlands fixtures Northampton, Kettering and Wellingborough have had their moments, but at the time of writing, Kettering's Junior side takes the major honours, for with remarkable consistency all four matches have been won by an eight two margin. Kettering's Veterans were also promising big things, until meeting a strong Cambridge side, possessing an unbeatable combination of superb ability, flavoured with an element of luck, a sudden end was put to Kettering's winning ways.

The League situation is now beginning to develop, particularly in Wellingborough's First Division, where Compton Nomads, with a strong side of Northampton based players, are emerging as serious contenders to last season's leading trio, whose matches against each other have once again produced some close finishes. Finedon Allen Road drawing against Rothborough and Kettering Town, and the only definite result coming when Kettering Town got the better of Rothborough by six games to four, despite a maximum from Kevin Alden.

At Kettering the Kettering Town side continue to lead the Premier Division by a narrow margin from

Queensbury "A". The latter's strong side, containing two county players, received quite a shock recently when the opposition from Burton Latimer were able to include Mike Johns, England's current Number 9, making his debut in the Kettering League. Needless to say he won all his singles in fine style, and if Northamptonshire could produce some players of his undoubted ability, all their worries would soon be over.

LEICESTERSHIRE NOTES

by PHILLIP REID

GREAT START

Leicestershire have got off to a great start in the 2nd Division (Midland) with an 8-2 win over Nottinghamshire. It was a team victory, everybody making a big contribution. Special mention, though, must be made of 13-year-old Chris Rogers. Chris was brought into the team at No. 2 and played like he had been in the team for years! A 14-19 deficit in his very first game—against Notts. No. 1 Alan Croome—meant nothing to Rogers—he simply blasted his way to victory by collecting the next seven points, winning two straight, a feat he also performed against Bryan Mayfield. Paul Randall, receiving greater support than he has normally been afforded, won both his also in straight games. Maurice Newman—fighting for every point—won against Alf Saunders and partnered Karen Rogers to victory in the mixed. Other wins were obtained in the W.S. (where Anita Stevenson gave perhaps her best county display to date against Pat Hammond) and the W.D. Two other points are worthy of mention—the inspired captaincy of Colin Truman and the enthusiasm of the selection committee, all five of whom made the trip to Nottingham.

The Junior 2nd team went down 9-1 to Lancashire II. If the result was predictable then the size of it was not but clearly Lancashire have strength in depth. Gillian Sinkinson gained the hunting shire's sole victory but the team are far from despondent. This team was entered for experience and to build a future Premier Division side. With Stephen Penny happily almost 100%, after a broken ankle, and regular Sunday morning practice sessions being held, this team have plenty to look forward to.

The Veterans narrowly lost to Warwickshire but they have unexpected good news for their next match, with Cheshire—Charlie Jacques has come out of retirement for this match and whilst there is no guarantee he will be playing regularly, the signs are hopeful. Obviously with Jacques available regularly this team could do very well indeed.

In the Wilmott Cup Leicester recovered from a 0-2 deficit to beat Hinckley 6-2. Maurice Newman beat Chris Rogers whilst Chris Brewer was able to penetrate Graham Hughes' defence but nobody made much impression on Paul Randall.

Back on the representative scene is Steven White, now playing almost up to his peak of about four years ago. White, left-handed, aggressive and powerful is now playing with a new consistency and was good value for his two wins against Chesterfield. 'When I can play against anti-loop

properly I should be all right' he told me.

Leicester Juniors have not made a particularly good start, losing to Loughborough and Nottingham, but on neither occasion did Chris Rogers, Grahame Hall or Stephen Penny play. Rogers in the first team, Grahame Hall in the second and Penny out injured it was left to Kevin Hall to spearhead the team. In fact he played quite brilliantly to win all his six sets well though Steven Day and Steven Kenny played, they obviously lack match experience at this level.

The Veterans team are on the crest of a wave—and unbeaten. Clearly they intend to make a prompt return to the 1st Division of the Midland League!

Knighton Park are already clear favourites to top the Leicester League 1st Division. In Colin Truman, Grahame Hall and Chris Rogers they have experience and youth on their side and—not least of all—ability. Even the advent of Mike Johns in the YMCA 2nd team failed to halt their run—Mike won his three easily enough but only Steven White (against Grahame Hall) could add to the tally.

In the first half matches of the Leicestershire Towns League, Leicester and Hinckley emerged unbeaten. Leicester's team was Steven White, Tony Branson and Bob Phillips—not the strongest the League could muster—but clearly too strong for any of the opposition they had to encounter. Hinckley—with John Iliffe, Maurice Newman and Chris Brewer in the side—will be a different proposition in the second half!

Loughborough and Hinckley have been busy selling prize draw tickets in connection with the World Championships Fund. It is expected that the remaining leagues in the county will also participate in the near future.

On Feb. 8/74 the County will be holding a Dance at Barwell Liberal Club. The energetic Mike Holt has been the guiding light behind the idea and it is hoped a reasonable profit will result. Tickets, 40p each are available from me!

Good news for local juniors is that the English Junior Closed will be held in Leicester—at the Boulevard Gymnasium—on April 20/21. Reg Billson is the organiser and it will be a busy time for Reg—it follows the Junior Premier County Championships at Loughborough the preceding week!

Peter Simpson is to visit Leicester early in the New Year as a prelude to two coaching weekends next Autumn. The Leicester League have been able to get sponsorship for this, the guiding lights behind the idea being Barry Hobson and Barry Bartholemew.

All in all a time of plenty of activity—with more to come.

WILTSHIRE NOTES

By KAY WATERS

Much hard work by Councillor A. J. Bown and Mr. and Mrs. R. Hazell of Swindon had its reward on Saturday, 3 November when the Thameside Table Tennis Coaching Centre was opened at the Gillespie Hall, Swindon.

At the opening ceremony Mr. Hazell

introduced Councillor Bown, President of the Wiltshire and Swindon Table Tennis Associations who has always been a great support and help to local and County Table Tennis. Alderman Bown in introducing Mr. W. Gillespie, Principal of the College of Further Education after whom the Hall is named said he was sure everyone would agree this was a great day for Table Tennis in the area. Mr. Gillespie then welcomed the Table Tennis Association to his College and wished it every success before declaring the Coaching Centre open.

Bryan Merrett, National Staff Coach, then spoke and stated that the ETTA were interested in the project, especially as there were no other Coaching Centres near, and would give all the help and encouragement they could. As a start they were providing three new tables for the centre.

Mrs. Gwen Hazell thanked the ETTA for this and also the clubs who at the moment had loaned her tables.

Bryan Merrett then conducted a coaching session for Wiltshire and Swindon Juniors on the six tables at present available.

After this refreshments, provided by Gwen Hazell and her Polaris Club, were enjoyed by all.

It is planned to hold coaching sessions for Swindon players, the Wiltshire Junior County Squad and an under-14 County Squad over the next few weeks followed by a course for coaches.

It was gratifying to find that Coaches who had not been too active outside their own clubs of late were prompted by this new venture to come forward and offer their help to Mrs. Hazell, the Coaching Officer, who has been working hard over the last few seasons, practically single handed.

LINCOLNSHIRE NOTES

by ALAN C. NORMAN

For the fourth successive year there was a record entry for the Lincolnshire Junior Closed with 83 entrants for the championships played on Oct. 21.

Biggest increase was in the Under-13 events but with 9 entries for the U-11 singles the County need not be despondent of the future. Results:—

U-17 Events

BS: Colin Boyd (Scunthorpe) bt Chris Brown (Boston) 9, 16.

GS: Jane Burbage (Grantham) bt Suzanne Hunt (Grantham) 20, -16, 17.

BD: Boyd/Brown bt K. Eldred/N. Neal (Grantham) 10, 17.

GD: Marie Featherstone (Grantham)/ Hunt bt Lyn Harker/Karen Lobley (Grantham) 9, 16.

XD: Neal/Hunt bt Brown/Carol King (Boston) 8, 17.

U-15 Events

BS: Keith Eldred bt Mark Newbould (Grimsby) -17, 22, 20.

GS: Suzanne Hunt bt Carol King 7, 8.

U-13 Events

BS: Steve Smith (Caistor) bt Simon Lilley (Grantham) 17, 10.

GS: Susan Radley (Lincoln) 4 wins in Group. Runner-up: Lesley Lobley (Grantham) 3 wins.

U-11 Event

XS: Mark Blackbourne (Louth) 4 wins in Group. Runner-up: Neil Musson (Grantham) 3 wins.

CAMBRIDGESHIRE NOTES

by LESLIE CONSTABLE

Cambridge have again entered the four national k.o. competitions, with two teams initially at home and two away. In the Wilmott Cup, the Men's Team play hosts to Chelmsford in a repeat of a match two years ago when Alan Ponder, John Thurston and John Corral steered Cambridge to a 5-1 win. It is many years since Cambridge progressed in the Rose Bowl, but the Women's Team of Sally Hirst, Valerie Scripps and Janet Rodgers are unbeaten in the South East Midlands League and their experience should see them through their tie at Norwich.

The Junior Boys have been the most successful in these competitions over the last three seasons, having reached the quarter-finals twice and the semi-final once in the Carter Cup. However, those days may have ended as Paul Day and Keith Richardson, who represented Cambridge last season, are now playing for Ely in this competition together with Brian Richardson. Ludovic Chapman will probably lead Cambridge for their visit to Kettering. The Junior Girls have a bye in the first round of the Bromfield Trophy, the probable team being Carol and Ruth Ellis and Ruth Newman.

Although beaten 7-3 by Beds, I, at Duxford, Cambs, Junior II gave a spirited performance that promises well for the future. Of last season's team, Ruth Newman and Susan Ellis continue to improve and now form a winning combination in the Girls' Doubles, while Chapman needs only a little more consistency to vastly improve his game. There were two new players in the team, Derek Kiddie and Anthony Holmes, both of Wisbech, and although they failed in the singles, they won the doubles. With an average age of under 14 years, and all the players available for two or more seasons, the County's reserve strength is now beginning to look extremely good.

In their first match of the season Cambs. I had a well-earned 6-4 victory over Norfolk. In this match Linda Woodcock made her debut, and beat the Norfolk star of many years, Betty Cassell, in the W.S. In the Junior Eastern, Cambs. II lost 8-2 to Essex II, although the match was much closer than the score suggests, with a 4-6 result being more appropriate. This was a spirited performance by the Cambs. second team, who are gaining valuable experience in each match they play.

Cambs. II were well-beaten by Norfolk II (Eastern Division), in a match which showed that Norfolk have considerable reserve strength and that Cambs. will have to play a lot better to escape from the bottom half of the League.

In the South East Midlands League, Cambridge men have made a good start and are so far unbeaten with victories over St. Neots and Kettering. Tony Littlechild, Mick Williams and Mick Byrd played well against Kettering, who were beaten 9-1. After a good start, Cambridge Juniors lost their first match in three when beaten by Kettering 8-2, although it must be stated that Cambridge were represented by three girls, who performed creditably in the circumstances. Ket-

tering easily head the Junior Division, with 24 points from 3 matches.

Cambridge Women, too, have won all their matches and head the Division with a comfortable lead. The Veterans' Section also has Cambridge in the lead with 22 points from 3 matches. I must state that Sally Hirst, Valerie Scripps and Janet Rodgers look like lifting the title this season and the Veterans' team, consisting of John Thurston, John Baird and Ron Nunn also have an excellent chance.

In the Cambs. League, University Press head the first division having won their first five matches, although they are hotly pursued by last season's champions Soham I, who dropped a vital point against Guildhall earlier in the season. Littlechild is yet to be beaten for Press, who look fairly strong at this stage. Soham had a 9-1 victory over Fire Brigade, which brought to an end Mick Williams' unbeaten run for the firemen. Following their 6-4 defeat by Guildhall, New Chesterton Institute dropped another point when University held them to a draw, Chris Boothby winning all his singles for the Varsity, Y.M.C.A. I, with a weakened team could only draw with lowly Telephones, despite the good work of Mick Harper, who won all his singles for the Y.M. to keep his unbeaten record. Bob Pettitt and Martin Murden countered with 2 wins each for the 'Phones.

WORCESTERSHIRE NOTES

by IAN R. CRICKMER

HALESOWEN RECORD

If ultimately the new County boundaries following local government re-organisation in April next are adopted by the E.T.T.A., two Worcestershire Leagues to be affected will be Dudley Temperance and Halesowen. Dudley transferred allegiance from Staffordshire in 1969, and both they and Halesowen are particularly anxious not to be swallowed up as small insignificant units in the powerful West Midlands conurbation.

Halesowen report a record 39 teams in membership this season. Twenty-six sides constitute the senior divisions, whilst the Youth Division faces a heavy programme with thirteen teams in membership. In Division I, the champions Blue Bird "A" (re-named from Vincents "A") already lead the way, and it will take a major surprise to topple the formidable trio of Bryan Belcher, Melvyn Wood and Eric Edwards. Summing up the possibilities, County Committee delegate Peter Bird tells me he expects Wollaston Methodists, Trinity and Somers "C" to be contending for second spot. Newcomers Stourbridge Institute could well create problems for the longer established Division II sides, amongst whom Lye Youth Club "B" will be hoping it is at last their season for promotion to the top flight. In the third division, a team to be watched with interest will be Richmond High School for Boys, the nucleus of the side being youngsters who have been coached by Andy Jones and local stalwart Jack Burgess. Jack is expected, when he himself actually plays in the team, still to be too good for the majority of his opponents in this Division.

The Youth Section, which has

grown from the former Stourbridge District League operated by the local education authority, looks very open. The teams of the Halesowen Parish Church Y.C. may benefit from their senior play of last season, and Brierley Hill Youth Club, despite changes of personnel, will be keen to retain the title they captured last season.

It is unfortunate to learn of early season disaffection with County team rankings and selections. The first team know they face much tougher fights than in the opening encounter with Cornwall, who, minus John Bassett, were never in the reckoning. By all accounts the second team's match at Oswestry was very closely contested before a sizeable appreciative crowd, and it is pleasing to note Shropshire's progress since the counties first met in 1970. Nick Bottomley and Mervyn Wood—the latter on a most impressive debut—contributed four singles to their side's 6-4 win, and it seems early days for suggestions that junior players should be integrated into the second senior ranks. The juniors themselves, after opening with their win over Glamorgan, came back to reality when losing 3-7 to Gloucestershire at Bristol, I was sorry to learn of a post-match comment that the girls let down the boys: the boys themselves lost five events, and the answer to any disparity of standards is surely that those who have brought players like Simon Claxton, John Lancaster and Andrew Oakley to the fore might now devote the same diligence to raising the girls' level.

The entry figures for the County Team Knock-Out competitions remain fairly static, though the composition shows considerable changes. Sadly, there is little support from Worcester, and none at all from Malvern, in the 34 Handicap entries and eleven contenders for the Non-Handicap title. Saint Bede's, Redditch (formerly Cookhill) are seeded to meet Village Farm Dodgers of Hereford in the latter final, this remaining a two-counties venture. In the Handicap event Saint Bede's face the stiffest possible task, having in Round 1 to owe 300 points, in a maximum range of 378, to the "back markers" Waseley Hills School of Bromsgrove.

I should like, in closing, to add to Philip Reid's tribute in the November issue to Charlie Jacques. All the Worcestershire players of the past twenty years, adopting the criteria of perseverance, doggedness and tenacity, would assure you Charlie was an opponent to command the utmost respect.

Though long eliminated from the tournament, all the Worcester entrants remained at the 1970 Midland Closed at Derby to see whether he could upset all the pundits by capturing the men's singles title—and he duly did! Not only Leicestershire, but all the Midlands, will be the poorer for his decision to call a halt to an illustrious playing career.

NORFOLK NOTES

by J. S. PENNY

In Norfolk, the last month has seen the first County Championship matches, the start of the East Anglian League programme, and intense local league activity.

Norfolk II (Stan Honor, Bob Mit-

cham, Ron Butler, Pat Betts and Nan Ford) started the ball rolling with an excellent fight against Suffolk, who included John Kitchener, England's No. 2 junior, and the redoubtable Youngs twins, before succumbing 4-6. On the same day, Norfolk Juniors (Doggie Bennett, Paul Durrant, Mike Archer, Glynis Houseago and Paula Ribbans) shared the points with Buckinghamshire at High Wycombe.

On November 3, Norfolk's first team (Chris Bensley, John Fuller, Mick Broughton, Betty Cassell and Edna Fletcher) entertained a Cambridgeshire side which contained Paul Day, England's No. 4 Junior, and Linda Woodcock, who beat Betty Cassell, thus giving the visitors the victory by 6-4. But, at March, in the Eastern Division, Norfolk II vanquished the same county by 8 sets to 2. It is sad to have to add that, on that afternoon, Norfolk Juniors were "whitewashed" 10-0 by Hertfordshire at Norwich.

The East Anglian League programme opened with Yarmouth convincingly beating King's Lynn. Other results include:—Lowestoft 7, Dereham 3; Yarmouth 7, Wymondham 3; Norwich 8, Wisbech 2; Dereham 6, Beccles 4; and in Division II: Norwich "B" 1, Yarmouth "B" 8; Wymondham 2, Norwich "B" 8.

Norwich League's Amenity Fund, to provide them with a permanent playing headquarters, is in its fourth year. Its total is now £2,650.

We regret to record the passing of Mr. W. O. Copeman, C.B.E., J.P., President of Norwich League from 1952 to 1958, and donor of the Copeman Handicap Cup, by which he will be remembered.

SOUTH-EAST MIDLANDS LEAGUE

by LESLIE CONSTABLE

GREAT START

At this early stage of the season Ely, last season's champions, have made a great start by beating Wellingborough and Wisbech very comfortably, and look set for another title. Cambridge have also started well by beating St. Neots and Kettering in their first two matches and, at present, are equal with Ely on points.

In the Junior Section, Kettering have begun well by beating Hunts. Central and Bedford, 8-2 in each case, and then recording another 8-2 victory over Cambridge, who were previously unbeaten but had to play a Girls' team in this fixture. In the Women's Section Cambridge, who were runners-up to North Herts. last season, have made a great start by winning their first three matches for a total of 23 points, and at this stage their championship hopes are very bright. North Herts., Bedford and Northampton are the only really serious challengers. In the Veterans Section Cambridge are top with 22 points from 3 games and recently defeated their nearest rivals Kettering by 9 sets to 1, although an injury to one of the Kettering players was unfortunate for his team, who looked a good combination. North Herts. although having only played one game in the division, won this 8-2 against Hunts. Central.

DERBYSHIRE NOTES

by WALTER REEVES

TIME FOR CHANGE

Praise indeed for Susan Holmes (Derby) for as reported in the Tournament Report on the Teesside, Susan beat Carole Knight a performance reputed to put her among the best in the Country. Susan was finally included in the Junior Ranking at No. 11, the beating of Carole Knight clinching the decision.

The County 1st team drew their opening game with Staffordshire, a performance that must be a set-back to any promotion hopes that Derbyshire have. Never a threat in the County Championships, Derbyshire have earned respect by workmanlike performances. Time has come to see changes in the side, Eric Hall (County Champion) and Doug Foulds (Runner-up) earned their places from the last County Championships and I have no complaint here. Some thought should be given to the No. 3 position, for we have David Yallop, Ivor Warner, Phil Vickers and Neil Marples, players eager to play in the top County team.

On the distaff side changes have already been made. Some two years ago Joan Walker retired after 21 years service to the County and Marilyn Deakin was brought into the team. Now Sandra Walters (Pegg) does not appear to be available and Mandy Mellor has been given a chance in the No. 1 position. Derbyshire are indeed fortunate to have two junior ranked players, Mandy Mellor and Susan Holmes plus Wendy Brown, Marilyn Deakin, Carol Downer (Randall) and Mary Corkin. I cannot remember a time when Derbyshire had such an array of talent.

The Junior County team have won both their matches so far and with Leicestershire 1st promoted to the Premier Division, must be in with a great chance of making the play-off stage. However, problems if we do make the Premier Division, for David Yallop, Phil Vickers, Mandy Mellor and Susan Holmes are all over age next season. The next batch of youngsters, although not yet experienced, are already in training led by Mark Jenkins, Stephen Yallop and Linda Holmes to name only three. Whilst we appear to be strong on the boys' side there would appear to be problems with fewer girls about.

County Challenge Cup entries total only 44 and early rounds are due before Christmas. This competition, on a handicap system, gives teams a chance to meet other players outside their normal league boundary. Over the years entries have been falling and here again the County Committee will need to give some thought if the competition is to survive.

The County League was due to start on Nov. 29 and hard working Secretary, Malcolm Allsop, is in charge of this side of affairs.

As well as his County duties Malcolm is on the Derby and District Committee and is also Editor of the Newsletter that goes out each month of the playing season. Most Officials will be aware what this means, for Malcolm types the articles onto stencils, most of which he has to write himself, runs them off and then distributes the copies. It is always being said but I think it needs saying again,

that without such people as Malcolm Allsop prepared to give so freely of their time Table Tennis would not survive.

YORKSHIRE NOTES

by TONY ROSS

FIFTY YEARS ON

At the end of the current season, a milestone in the history of the Yorkshire Table Tennis Association will be reached—its fiftieth anniversary. Plans are being laid at the moment to mark the occasion in style at the next annual dinner-dance, when it is hoped that a number of Yorkshire personalities from other sports will be there to share our celebrations. We are hoping, too, that the event will be capped by a repeat of last season's feat of championship wins by all four county teams. Make a note of the date now—Friday, 10th May, 1974, at the Cairn, Harrogate, from 8 p.m. to 2 a.m., tickets price £2.50 per head. This price, let it be said, involves a subsidy from the Association, an Executive Committee decision justifiable by the uniqueness of the occasion and a wish that as many players and supporters of the game in Yorkshire as possible will be able to attend it. Further details can be obtained from county Social Secretary Alan Cram, 8 Heath Drive, Boston Spa, Yorkshire.

The three county teams in action so far have all got away to good starts, and we are all hoping that David Alderson's recurring leg injury will be cleared up in time for the first matches of the Junior Premier Division at the end of December to make sure that there are no slip-ups in this division.

John Turner is the reigning York men's singles champion and represents that league in the Yorkshire League. However, he also plays in Bradford, Harrogate, Leeds and Halifax and has even considered sampling play in Hull. If this is not remarkable enough in a county where 200-mile treks there and back for an inter-league match are necessary, then undoubtedly his bat is, or at least the way it is used is. It has Yasaka Mark V on one side—the other side is plain wood. To the consternation of opponents, he actually uses the plain wood side! Turner is a former Norwich champion, a title which his York inter-league team-mate Neville Gräver has also held, and it is his work on a national gas pipeline which has brought him temporarily to Yorkshire. His colleagues in his Bradford Hermits "B" team, Dave Weatherhead and Graham Carr, the county's Competition Secretary, have also Harrogate affiliations.

Although now resident in Littlehampton, Sussex, England international Alan Hydes is still retaining some interest in Yorkshire local league affairs. He has played a few times for the Saints club, but in the Sheffield League, not in his native Barnsley.

In Hull, where a mammoth 14 divisions of 14 teams each has resulted from a change from 4 to 3-a-side, inter-league player Don Mein hopes this season to chalk up a century of Yorkshire League appearances for Hull, to join other Hull centurians Dave Bartlett, Geoff Wilkinson and Eddie Beedle, the latter now well on his way to his third half-century.

Young 13-year-old Doncaster junior Alan Summerscales is making a name for himself in the Pontefract League

where in early November he was still unbeaten in the top division.

Bradford City A.F.C.'s newly elected chairman is Bob Martin, President of the Bradford & District T.T.A.

The county's congratulations go to Denis Neale on his re-appearance at the top of the English men's ranking list.

HERALDING HEREFORDSHIRE

by IAN R. CRICKMER

Saturday, November 3rd, saw an ambition achieved when for the first time the red shirts of Herefordshire lined up for a County Championships fixture. Though the Staffordshire II team proved too strong and emerged 9-1 winners, the conclusion appeared to be that the result was not of absolute paramount importance, but that a vital step had been taken towards the future of the game in the area. The ladies' doubles provided the only Herefordshire success, but the home-sters can point to a series of third game decisions in the middle of the match, any one of which could have been reversed to increase their tally. With their intention of fostering junior talent, the Herefordshire officials will have been duly impressed by the performances of the two Staffordshire debutantes, Rosamund Hodgkiss and Heather Johnson, who more than upheld Wolverhampton's tradition arising from the Highfields Centre. The venue at the Avenue Lads' Club provide ideal for County play, and will be an admirable standby for future activities if the Club authorities feel amenable to advertising and spectator encouragement.

In previous consideration of players who played for Worcestershire by virtue of their Hereford membership, I omitted two who have now moved on to pastures new. John Pugh played in both the Worcestershire senior teams in 1967 and 1968, and is now back in the top flight of his native Staffordshire: Derek Bell, previously with Nottinghamshire, made two second team appearances in 1967 whilst resident in Hereford.

The Hereford League reports 62 teams in membership in seven divisions, and early results in the top two divisions indicate some titanic struggles for honours. In October no match finished with a wider margin than 6-4: in Division Two no less than five sides were deadlocked with identical records. The most significant result in the first division was the draw between A.E.I. Sapphires and Ledbury, following which only Mike Prosser could boast a 100% singles record after four matches. In Division Three, by contrast, newcomers Rank Xerox from the Forest of Dean have emerged as strong front runners. Over at Leominster, fourteen teams have been entered in the two divisions, and I hope to have more news of their activities shortly, as also of schools' play at Ross-on-Wye, centering on the Grammar School where the Deputy Head, Mr. Prime, is seeking to develop the sport.

The Hereford juniors continue to gain valuable match experience from their Midland League programme, though as yet without any success in the shape of match points. Following a 0-10 defeat at the hands of a powerful Gloucester side, in which

the visiting youngsters fought valiantly for every point, another Herefordshire-Staffordshire confrontation saw Stone emerge 7-3 victors at Village Farm. Seven of the sets demanded a deciding game, and of these five were captured by the visitors.

Two of the Hereford wins were contributed by Mark Owen, with the third coming from Jeremy Bower, and these youngsters' first success should not be too far away.

STAFFORDSHIRE NOTES

by JOHN PIKE

November was a busy month for the County, but all events in Staffordshire were overshadowed by the continued poor health of our chairman, Malcolm Scott. At the time of writing these notes he had been admitted to hospital, and one only hopes, they will do everything possible to get him well again.

The two senior teams both did well in their opening matches with the "A" team drawing 5-5 with Derbyshire at Stone, and this after trailing 1-4 and then 3-5. Tony Isaac started in fine form, but the main feature of this match, was the fine win by Gail Round over Mandy Mellor. The "B" team went to newcomers Hereford and came away with a 9-1 win, while the juniors crashed 10-0 in their game with Warwickshire.

It is interesting to note that no fewer than six girls from the Highfield school, Wolverhampton, were involved in the three county matches. Gail Round and Janet Carr for the "A", R. Hodgkiss and H. Johnson for the "B", and in the junior clash, S. Jones and S. Hunt.

The Woodfield club again attracted a very good entry for their annual tournament, full report next month. and in the junior events it was a record entry with as many as 80 boys playing in the singles. The men's singles topped the 100 mark so a local charity should again do well from this tournament.

Squad training for the top Midland juniors has again started at the Highfield Centre, but I understand this venue could be changed when the new centre is opened at Coventry. Still with juniors and we could see some of the top names in the county playing at Stone following talks between Bryan Merrett and Jim Hayward.

At the other end of the scale, Chester Barnes and Trevor Taylor were due to appear last month in Wolverhampton for an exhibition match at the Wolves Social Club. The way Wolves are playing this season perhaps they should have taken their boots instead of their bats.

A number of local teams will be involved in this season's National Team competitions and in the first round of the Wilmott Cup West Bromwich get a home tie with Birmingham. In the first round of the Rose Bowl West Brom got a bye and as a result will now go to Derby. Their youngsters go to Kidderminster in the Carter Cup, while in the Bromfield Trophy, Wolverhampton girls are at home to Derby.

Finally, may I appeal to those leagues who never get a mention in the T.T. News. Drop me a line now so that you can be included in next month's issue.

THE SUNDAY TIMES SUPER LEAGUE

Opening par Excellence at Hull

by THE EDITOR

Never in his wildest dreams could Organiser Louis Hoffman have visualised such an unqualified success as his Super League brainchild turned out to be when, under the flamboyant banner of the Sunday Times, the 5-match series got under way on Oct 27 at Ferens Recreation Centre, Hull in conjunction with the Halex Humberside 3-Star Open.

The teams - one pair led into the 3-court arena by Louis himself, the others by Joan Robinson (Hon. Secretary) and Doreen Stannard (Hon. Treasurer) - made a splendid sight attired as they were in strips of navy, wine, brown, red, royal blue and black. This indeed was presentation, accompanied by amplified martial music with the Master of Ceremonies, Albert Shipley, loquacious in his identification of the players to the packed spectator galleries.

No less splendidly attired in uniforms of green blazers and grey slacks/skirts the officials contributed to a slickness of ceremony seldom seen outside a world or European Championships opening.

Having thus created a most favourable impression the players themselves then took over to bring affairs to a magnificent climax when all three matches, having been vigorously contested from the word go, stood at 4-all equality with one set remaining. Could Louis have organised this too? He could not have engineered it better if he had!

THE MATCHES

Court 1 compelled local interest as it featured a clash between the teams of Denis Neale and local boy Luigi Anthony Clayton. Setting the right example Clayton opened the proceedings with a contemptuous dismissal of junior John Kitchener. a



DONALD PARKER

success that was immediately countered by Neale with an equally convincing win over Clayton's red-shirted junior Paul Day.

Next into battle, for Neale, was Cornelius J. Warren, the noblest 'Roman' of them all, opposed by 'Thunderbolt' himself Jimmy Walker, but it was Cornelius J. who got home in the third and deciding game.

Stretching the lead to 3-1 Neale had much the better of exchanges between the rival captains but Walker then hammered the second nail into Kitchener's box and Soham's pride and joy, Day, then brought off the shock win of the contest when he flabbergasted Warren to bring about a state of equality.

With his last throw of the dice Neale put his team in front for the final time, against Walker, but it was a lead that failed to stand up as Clayton next despatched Warren and, in the final set, Day got the better of a luckless Kitchener even though a third and deciding game was required.

Never more than one set separated the teams of Nicky Jarvis and Brian Burn on Court 2 in an encounter which saw Ian Robertson (substituting for David Brown) bring off the shock defeat of Mike Johns in the opening set.

This was an unexpected blow for Burn's team whose junior, of last season, Donald Parker, redressed the balance with the tightest of wins, 25-23 in the third, over the tongue-tied Robert Wiley.

In the battle of the rival captains, Jarvis put his team ahead with victory over Burn only for Wiley to fail a second time being all-at-sea in opposition to Johns.

Back came Burn to just make it over his one-time Northumberland colleague, Robertson, only for the match score to be equated a third time when Jarvis overcame a tenacious Parker in a best-of-three encounter.

Going down to his third and final defeat of the afternoon, Wiley afforded Burn his second and final win to be followed by Jarvis keeping his slate clean in accounting for Johns. Robertson fully justified his selection from the reserve bench in beating Parker in the final set which gave the Jarvis team 5-4 victory.

Court 3 had teams of Desmond Douglas and Alan Hydes in contention with the latter playing his part in the opening set when coasting home against junior Andrew Barden. Opposition junior Mark Mitchell next succumbed to Douglas, the Middlesex player having been brought in for the absent David Alderson.

Set three brought Ian Horsham into conflict with Peter Taylor, and the Douglas man obliged his captain with a win to establish a lead which was stretched to 3-1 when Douglas himself beat his opposite number Hydes.

The beginnings of a fight back began with Taylor's nail-biting win over Barden, 27-25 in the third, on which Mitchell capitalised to equate the match score with a fine win over Horsham.



MARK MITCHELL

Douglas next completed his unbeaten run with victory over Taylor but Hydes countered by beating Horsham and Mitchell sealed match success for his Yorkshire captain in beating Barden in the final set. Individual scores:—

NEALE 4 CLAYTON 5

D. Neale bt P. Day 11, 12;
bt A. Clayton 9, -14, 9;
bt J. Walker -17, 18, 19.
C. Warren bt Walker 19, -17, 14;
lost to Day -20, -16;
lost to Clayton 19, -15, -18.
J. Kitchener lost to Clayton -11, -14;
lost to Walker -18, -19;
lost to Day -17, 19, -16.

JARVIS 5 BURN 4

N. Jarvis bt B. Burn -18, 17, 9;
bt D. Parker -17, -14, 13;
bt M. Johns 12, -22, 18.
I. Robertson bt Johns 19, 15;
bt Parker 18, 16;
lost to Burn -17, 17, -19.
R. Wiley lost to Parker 19, -15, -23;
lost to Johns -14, -11;
lost to Burn -15, -20.

DOUGLAS 4 HYDES 5

D. Douglas bt M. Mitchell 12, 13;
bt A. Hydes 17, 17;
bt P. Taylor 10, 20.
I. Horsham bt Taylor 16, -17, 11;
lost to Mitchell 21, -16, -18;
lost to Hydes 17, -21, -17.
A. Barden lost to Hydes -5, -8;
lost to Taylor 17, -18, -25;
lost to Mitchell -21, -12.

Next port of call for the 'three-ringed circus' was Warley, scene also of the Midland Counties 3-Star Open over the weekend of Nov 10/11.

Consternation in the camp was early in evidence when Denis Neale had not put in an appearance by the appointed hour and had to be substituted, by Richard Yule. A later phone call from Neale established his whereabouts as Ripley, Derbyshire with an immobilised car suffering from carburettor trouble, the England No. 1 being en route from Teesside.

A Trade Show in London took Mike Johns out of Burn's team, the substitute here being the local lad Derek Munt, and young Mark Mitchell deputised a second time for Alderson still bothered by a troublesome leg injury.

Again on Court 1, Clayton led his side of Day and Walker to a 6-3 win over Burn's reconstituted trio whose three sets were equally shared. In the final set, between captain Clayton and Munt, the score after 15 minutes play in the first game, stood at 0-0 when a halt was called to the miserable proceedings and expedite introduced. This calculated interlude of sheer boredom did positively nothing to enhance the prestige of the League and one would hope there is not going to be a repeat for this type of play, in the initial stages, spells doom to any enterprise.

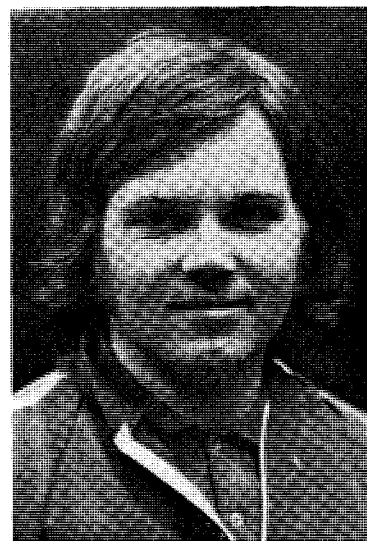
A similar result was obtained on Court 2 with the Jarvis team in command over that of Hydes. As at Hull, captain Jarvis obtained a maximum with David Brown contributing two and Wiley one, the latter at the expense of Peter Taylor.

Matters were more evenly contested on Court 3 with the crowd very much behind Des Douglas and his team of Horsham and Barden. Douglas started the ball rolling with a comfortable win over Kitchener but Warren countered, at length, in disposing of Horsham. Newcomer Yule, Scotland's No. 1 now playing for Surrey in the County Championships made his presence felt in thrashing Barden but was back to even Stephen when Douglas next accounted for Warren. And the Midlander's team went in front again when Barden lowered Kitchener's colours.

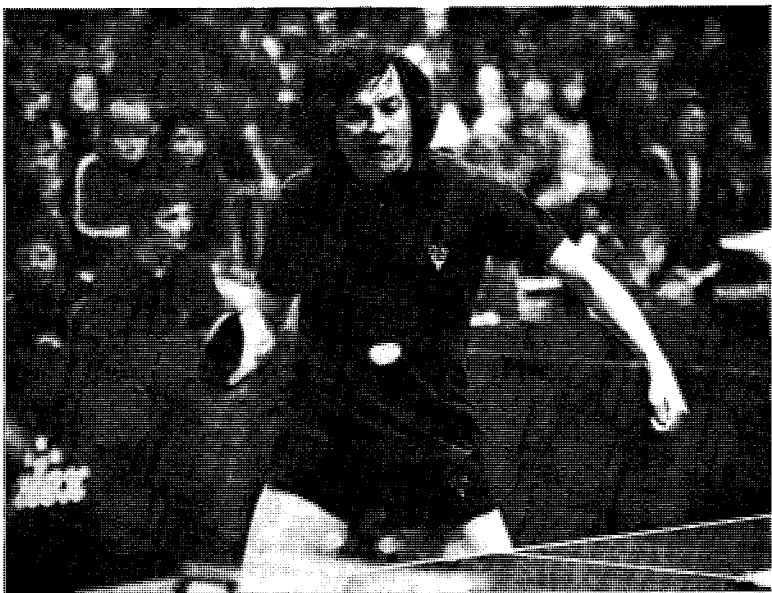
But it was all-square for the third time when, in the sixth set, Yule surviving a second game 25-27 win for Horsham, came up trumps in the decider. In the absence of captain Neale, still tinkering in the Derbyshire Dales, Warren assumed command in disposing of Barden but it was then the turn of Yule to experience defeat at the hands of 'Demon' Des and the stage was set for the match clincher in the ninth.

It brought onto court Suffolk's Kitchener, without a win in five previous sets, and Horsham the Winston Churchill Travelling Fellowship Award winner.

First game went to Horsham, at 19, the second to Kitchener, at 18, and



JIMMY WALKER



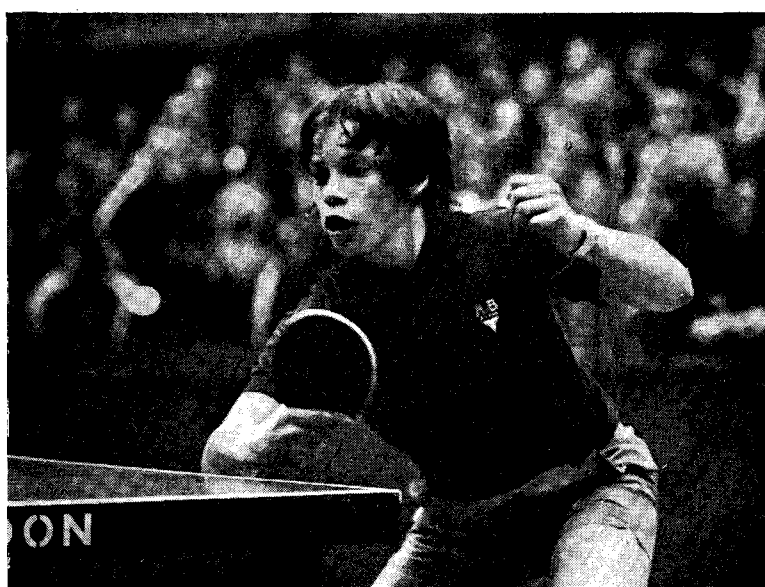
DENIS NEALE



PETER TAYLOR



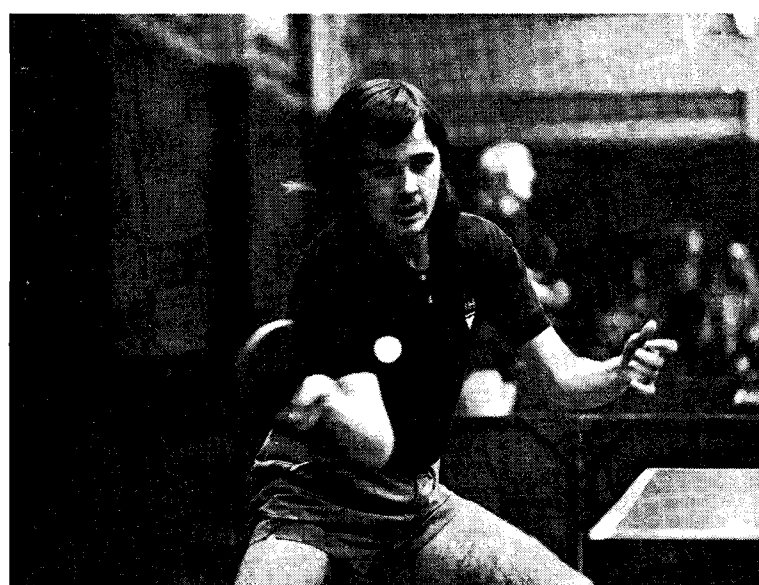
TONY CLAYTON



ANDREW BARDEN



ALAN HYDES



IAN HORSHAM

to go-all in the decider did the pendulum swing before Horsham, to the delight of Douglas, his captain, won the next two points for match victory.

Detailed Scores:—

BURN 3 CLAYTON 6

Burn lost to Clayton -19, -17;
bt Day 14, 18;
lost to Walker -20, -18.
D. Munt lost to Walker -14, -19;
bt Day -14, 15, 16;
lost to Clayton 15, -22, -10.
Parker lost to Clayton -18, 15, -17;
lost to Day 7, -19, -16;
bt Walker 18, 19.

HYDES 3 JARVIS 6

Hydes lost to Jarvis 6, -15, -17;
bt Wiley 13, 12;
bt D. Brown 16, 17.
Taylor lost to Wiley -17, -17;
lost to Jarvis -12, -9;
lost to Brown -11, 19, -13.
Mitchell lost to Jarvis -13, -13;
bt Wiley 14, 11;
lost to Brown 18, -11, -17.

NEALE 4 DOUGLAS 5

Warren bt Horsham 10, -16, 16; lost to Douglas -23, -13; bt Barden -9, 18, 11.
R. Yule bt Barden 15, 11; bt Horsham 18, -25, 13; lost to Douglas -14, -18.
Kitchener lost to Douglas -7, -16; lost to Barden -14, -11; lost to Horsham -19, 18, 20.

LEAGUE TABLE

| | P | W | L | F | A | Pts |
|---------|---|---|---|----|----|-----|
| Clayton | 2 | 2 | 0 | 11 | 7 | 11 |
| Jarvis | 2 | 2 | 0 | 11 | 7 | 11 |
| Douglas | 2 | 1 | 1 | 9 | 9 | 9 |
| Hydes | 2 | 1 | 1 | 8 | 10 | 8 |
| Neale | 2 | 0 | 2 | 8 | 10 | 8 |
| Burn | 2 | 0 | 2 | 7 | 11 | 7 |

The next series of matches will take place on Feb. 2/74 in conjunction with the Basingstoke 3-Star Open and thereafter at Tilbury in conjunction with the Essex 2-Star Open (this series having been switched from Crystal Palace and the Norwich Union English Championships) and finally in conjunction with the Teesside 3-Star Open, the last two dates being Feb. 9 and 16th/1974.

**A Christmas Present
Seventy Years Ago**

By Ian R. Crickmer

Listed amongst the books under "Ping Pong" in the British Museum Catalogue of Printed Books is an entry — "Ping Pong. As seen by Louis Wain, told by Clifton Bingham, 1873 b 9."

Although many of the instructional books on the game issued during the "Ping Pong Era" of the early 1900s were unfortunately destroyed in the 1940 bombing of London, this volume has survived in the Reading Room of the British Museum. However, this book, published in London by Ernest Nister on 5th September, 1903, transpires to be a story for children by the American writer G. Clifton Bingham. Writing in the late Victorian and Edwardian periods, he frequently parodied the actions of adults in tales of which the main characters were animals. In thirty-eight verses, each of four lines, "Ping Pong" recounts how Mrs. Tom left home at Pusstown to visit Mewville, found all her relations playing

the game, caught the fever, and, on introducing ping pong to Pusstown, soon found all the cats playing continuously to the detriment of all other feline activities! Now long forgotten, one wonders how many stockings were found by eager hands to contain a copy of Bingham's "Ping Pong" on Christmas morning, 1903.

**NEALE BACK AT
No. 1**

Yorkshire's Denis Neale is leapt-frogged back into the No. 1 position over Trevor Taylor in the new ranking list, for open tournament seeding purposes, issued by the National Selection Committee following their meeting in Birmingham on Saturday, Nov 10/73.

Most startling rise in the men's list is the elevation of Jimmy Walker, from No. 14 to No. 7 while "Connie" Warren takes four forward paces from No. 12 to No. 8. Due to insufficient evidence Yorkshire's David Alderson was not considered, having previously been listed at No. 11 and O. B. "Les" Haslam, formerly at No. 10, has retired from competitive play.

Jill Hammersley retains her No. 1 position in the women's list in which Shelagh Hession now figures at No. 3 and Linda Howard comes up from No. 7 to No. 4. Karen Rogers, of Leicestershire, is the sole newcomer to the list, at No. 11, to the exclusion of Cheshire's Judith Heaps, the former No. 10.

The new rankings (former positions as at May 5/73 in brackets) are:—

- Men**
1. Denis Neale (Yorks) (2)
 2. Trevor Taylor (Essex) (1)
 3. Nicky Jarvis (Yorks) (3)
 4. Desmond Douglas (Warwks) (4)
 5. Alan Hydes (Yorks) (7)
 6. Tony Clayton (Yorks) (5)
 7. Jimmy Walker (Yorks) (14)
 8. "Connie" Warren (Surrey) (12)
 9. Mike Johns (Ches) (8)
 10. Brian Burn (Warwks) (6)
 11. Peter Taylor (Beds) (9)
 12. Donald Parker (Lancs) (16)
 13. Derek Munt (Warwks) (13)
 14. Paul Day (Cambs) (15)

- Women**
1. Jill Hammersley (Bucks) (1)
 2. Karenza Mathews (Middx) (2)
 3. Shelagh Hession (Essex) (5)
 4. Linda Howard (Surrey) (7)
 5. Lesley Radford (Essex) (3)
 6. Judy Williams (Sussex) (4)
 7. Diane Court (Middx) (9)
 8. Susan Lisle (Ches) (8)
 9. Susan Henderson (Surrey) (6)
 10. Anita Stevenson (Leics) (11)
 11. Karen Rogers (Leics) (-)
 12. Elaine Tarten (Essex) (12)

**National Team
Competitions**

by Keith Ponting

Despite the loss of sponsorship for our competitions it is pleasing to report that the number of leagues participating this season exceed last year's by two, although it must be said that overall entries have dropped by seven.

In the Wilmott Cup we are one league up but in the counterpart

women's Rose Bowl entries are two down. No change in the numbers entered for the Carter Cup but, disappointingly, there has been a decrease of five leagues in respect of the girls' L. M. Bromfield Trophy.

It was fully expected that all last season's winning leagues would re-enter and this has proved the case. Even at this early stage it is difficult to envisage any combination capable of knocking North Yorkshire and Central London off their senior perches. More difficult to forecast I am of the opinion that North Middlesex (Carter) and Guildford (Bromfield) will still be hard nuts to crack both sides being determined to retain the trophies won so well at Harlow last May.

Once again a reminder to all match secretaries to make a note of any interesting points concerning the matches on the score sheets. This is a big help when compiling reports for the magazine.

Facts and figures relative to the current season are:—

| | |
|------------------|----------|
| Leagues entered | 138 (+2) |
| Wilmott Cup | 116 (+1) |
| Rose Bowl | 84 (-2) |
| Carter Cup | 96 (=) |
| Bromfield Trophy | 45 (-5) |

ADMISSION CHARGES

Prices of admission into Crystal Palace National Sports Centre for the Norwich Union English Championships being played from Jan. 3-5, 1974 will be as follows:—

Friday, Jan. 4 (from 13-30) and Saturday, Jan. 5 (from 14-00—Finals) 50p for adults and 25p for children.

Admission will be free for the Thursday evening, Friday and Saturday morning sessions.

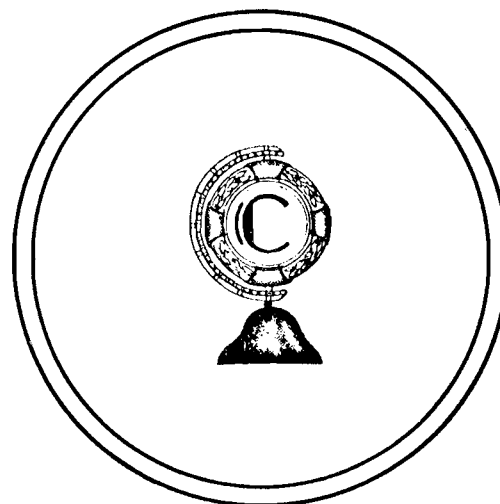
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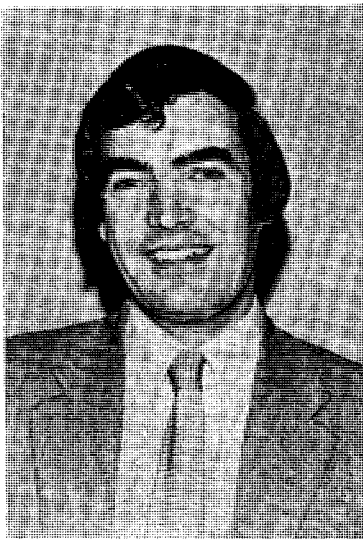
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CLIFF DARLEY



TONY ROSS

Photographers come and photographers go but two who have remained constant to the cause of providing pictorial content for *Table Tennis News* are the above two avid Yorkists, Cliff Darley of 13 The Booth, Pontefract and Tony M. Ross, of 70 Davenport Avenue, Hessle, East Yorkshire, HU13 0RW.

Bound up as they are with local and county administration, not to mention further involvement with open tournaments, they can be said to be totally immersed in the furtherance of table tennis. The Editor acknowledges, with gratitude, their unstinting efforts and long may they be sustained.

Swansea Open

TIT-FOR-TAT

Welshman Graham Davies was the winner of the men's singles event in the Swansea Open, played at Afan Lido, Aberavon on November 18th, the defeated finalist being Cheshire's wandering boy, John Hilton.

The pattern was reversed in the women's singles when Jill Mannion,

of Cheshire, got the better of Sandra Pickering. Results:

MS: Semi-finals:
J. Hilton bt A. Griffiths -13, 9, 12;
G. Davies bt M. Owen 17, 9.
Final: *Davies* bt Hilton -13, 16, 20.
WS: Semi-finals:
Sandra Pickering bt Kim Johnson 15, 19;
Jill Mannion bt Barbara Roden 13, 15.
Final: *Mannion* bt Pickering 17, 15.
MD:
Davies/Griffiths bt Hilton/J. Mason 19, 14.
WD:
Betty Gray/Pickering bt Jean Beer/Audrey Jones 16, 12.
XD:
A. Fletcher/Jones bt Owen/Gray 19, -13, 17.
BS:
Trevor Burrows (Ches.) bt John Hook (Ches.) 21, -16, 5.
GS:
Pat Allen (Ches.) bt Helen Garrett (Ches.) 12, -19, 9.

In the Coaching Field

with JOHN O'SULLIVAN

In previous notes I have drawn attention to refresher courses for coaches, one of which was scheduled to take place at Lilleshall from July 13 - 20. I have now been informed of a change of date, and the course will now run from *June 29 - July 6*. Might I make an appeal to both coaches and student coaches, who have yet to attend one of these courses, to try and make the effort during the coming year.

On enquiring the reasons of some coaches as to why they have not attended such courses in the past, I am told they don't see what they can possibly learn that they don't already know. Having passed their qualification it appears that there is nothing more to be gleaned.

For those who are of this frame of mind, why not just write for the programme and have a look at the subjects covered. You never know, you just might then want to go. One of the complaints from the Staff Coaches who conduct the courses is that, even though courses can be well attended, there are never enough new faces and the same people are encountered as on previous courses. It has always been a case of preaching to the converted.

Another point to be taken into account. Because of the shortage of coaches who are willing to coach young children on a regular basis, I expect that many juniors are fortunate to receive any coaching at all! But even so, the coaching they do receive could be out of date thus giving them a disadvantage when meeting similar aged juniors in matches and tournaments. For the juniors sake, could the coaches not have a duty to keep up to date?

It was not long ago that the National Coaching Scheme inaugurated the ten Area Panels, each run by its own committee made up from representatives from the various counties, together with a chairman appointed by the National Committee, and the appropriate Staff Coach acting as secretary.

Over the past few months I have

received programmes of activities from a number of these Panels and it is obvious from the contents that an enormous amount of work has been put in by the organisers.

Juniors from county squads are invited to join the Panel Squad from where they have the opportunity to train with some of the best coaches in the country, as well as mix with other top juniors from neighbouring counties. It further enables them to be considered for inclusion in higher squads, and may be, the Assessment Camps from which next year's junior trialists will be selected.

The strength of the Panel Squads can be estimated when it is noted that in Panels 2 and 3, there are six junior boys all currently nationally ranked.

Panel 1 has arranged three experimental week-end training sessions. But when arranging weekend sessions, there is always the difficulty of finding a suitable venue which caters for juniors to sleep on the premises.

The Panel's first session, which was arranged for the weekend of Oct 27/28, got over the difficulty by using one venue for playing and another for eating and sleeping. I see that on the Sunday morning the programme included the use of Stiga Robot(s).

It's the s (in brackets) that fascinates me. If I come across a venue with one Robot. I think I am fortunate ... but in the plural! But, when the time arrived to change venues, transport was laid on to show how difficulties can be overcome by willing organisers.

From the information I have, one of the most active Areas must be Panel 10, where during the summer they held a series of five training camps at Billingham, the cost to juniors attending the camps amounting to a total of £25. But letters were sent out to Local Education Authorities seeking grant aid.

It is sufficient at this point to say that most juniors received some assistance and in one case I have been told about, this amounted to a 100% grant!

The money problem is always with us but help can often be obtained if someone is willing to make the necessary enquiries and acquire the required forms for the children to complete. Congratulations to Panel 10 on the vast programme they have undertaken, and the troubles they have surmounted to help the juniors. I hope to have more information on the question of grant aid in the next issue.

The National Sports Council can always help with advice to those interested and I know that Yorkshire have had a good deal of assistance from their local representative.

Much space has been taken up with Panel activities but there are still a number that I have had no information from at all. I do not mean by this that nothing is taking place, but hearing of your future plans I will endeavour to publicise same.

At a recent meeting of the National Coaching and Schools Committee we had the attendance of Ron Crayden, Chairman of the National Selection Committee. It was the first time I had seen such a personage attend a coaching meeting but the advantage was immediately apparent, for questions could be answered as they arose.

It was also refreshing to hear other views on problems concerning coach-

ing and the way in which the same problems affect the Selection Committee. It has further been arranged that Gordon Steggall, Chairman of Coaching and Schools Committee, will attend subsequent meetings of the Selection Committee which will complete the interchange.

HUNTS. AND PETERBORO. NOTES

by DAVID OBEЕ

The County junior team turned in its best performance to date with a fine 6-4 win against Northants in a recent Eastern division match. Following quickly on their 7-3 defeat at the hands of Herts, this time the boys in the side each scored a vital singles win, Peterborough's Peter Berna going on table to clinch the match in the set.

As had happened against Herts, the girls, Belinda Chamberlain (St. Neots) and Jean Allinson (Peterborough) made a clean sweep, Belinda winning the singles and teaming up with Jean to take the girls doubles. Tim Speller and Jean won the mixed. Paul Brooker was the other member of the side which County officials hope will emerge as strong contenders for the championship.

Still with the juniors Len Saywell is this season in charge of the Eastern area 'B' Squad which has as its base Longsands School, St. Neots.

Next Issue

Denis Neale returned to winning ways at Liverpool on November 24th when he took the men's singles title with final victory over Nicky Jarvis 19 and 23, in the Merseyside 2-Star Open.

Paul Day (Cambs.) was the surprise winner of the MS in the South-end Open, over the weekend of November 17/18, Mike Johns being the defeated finalist. WS winner was Lesley Radford who triumphed over Miss Nesukaitis.

Full details of both tournaments, together with the results, will appear in the January issue.

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WRITE TODAY FOR CATALOGUE



9th Hungarian Open

Budapest Triumph for Jill

by the Editor

Following in the footsteps of Eva Koczian, Maria Alexandru, Svetlana Federova (nee Grinberg), Agnes Simon and Diane Schöler (nee Rowe) — all past winners — England's *Jill Hammersley* bridged a gap of seven years when, in Budapest on November 16, she won the Hungarian Open women's singles title.

It was back on October 16th, 1966 that England last had a winner of a major singles title in a European Open, Chester Barnes being our champion at that occasion when he beat Karl Johan Bernhardt of Sweden to win the men's singles title in the Netherlands Open in Utrecht.

Jill completely dominated this star-studded event in which the top four ranked women in Europe — Beatrix Kishazi (Hungary), Alica Grofova (Czechoslovakia), Zoya Rudnova (USSR) and Judit Magos (Hungary) were all seeded above her.

It was the Soviet Union's Rudnova who gave Jill her hardest task, in the quarters, for thereto the Bucks international had polished off Hungary's Magyar, Zacher and Anna Molnar, all in straight games. It took Jill five to surmount the Russian barrier, but it was back to the 3-straight sequence for the disposal of Hungary's Hernadi (semi) and, in the final, Elmira Antonian of the Soviet Union who had defeated Jill in the team events.

Not to be totally outshone, Karenza Mathews also gave a more than useful account of herself by, firstly, beating Barna (Hungary) and then Angela Papp, also of the host country. Czechoslovakia's defeated world singles finalist, Alica Grofova, provided the next obstacle and a formidable one it was. But characteristic fight took the Middlesex player into a 2-0 lead and a desperate 21-23 reverse in the third which gave the Czech girl the necessary impetus to take the next two for the set. Top-seeded Kishazi fell to her compatriot Hernadi in the quarters whilst Hungary's No. 4 European-ranked Judit

Magos took her leave, after five games, by the little known Federal German Ursula Hirschmuller of Stuttgart.

In the counterpart men's event won by Kjell Johansson for the third time over his fellow Swede, Stellan Bengtsson, England's Denis Neale had wins over Hungary's Pignitsky and Juhos before falling to Johansson -17, -12, -11. Nicky Jarvis took the count at the first time of asking losing in the first round to Marosffy (Hungary) -15, 20, -21, 15, -17. Our third member Tony Clayton failed to break through the qualifying competition when losing to Molodtsoff of France.

Jill and her Hungarian partner Kishazi reached the final of the women's doubles but went down to the host nation's Magos and Henriette Lotaller. Prior to the Anglo-Hungarian combine had beaten Dobos/Farkas (Hungary), Hirschmuller/Kneip (Fed. Germany), Johus/Kuchav (Hungary) and Grofova/Cikova (Czechoslovakia).

Karenza playing with Angela Papp lost in Round 2 to Poland's Danuta Calinska and Czeslawa Noworyta. In the men's doubles Neale and Jarvis lost over five games to East Germany's Drescher and Raue in Rd. 2 and Clayton, paired with Molodtsoff, again failed to qualify when beaten by Canadian champion Errol Caetano partnered by Fahazi of Hungary.

All our players reached the third round of the mixed doubles Neale/Mathews losing out to Gergely/Lotaller (Hungary); Jarvis/Hammersley to Milan Orlovski/Grofova (Czechoslovakia) and Clayton, paired with Brilla (Hungary) to Kocsis/Benke (Hungary). Best win was that accomplished by Neale and Karenza in beating Jochen Leiss and Monica Kneip of Federal Germany 23, 11, 13 in Rd. 2.

In the team events Jill and Karenza carried England to third position, behind Russia and Hungary, after defeat by the Soviet Union.

Scores: —
Hammersley lost to Antonian 17, -17, -19;
Mathews lost to Rudnova -13, 19, -16;
Hammersley/Mathews lost to Antonian/Rudnova -15, -14.

Our men finished down the field in their event losing in Rd. 2 to Czechoslovakia. Scores: —

Neale bt J. Kunz -15, 19, 19;
Jarvis lost to M. Orlovski -14, -19.
Clayton/Neale lost to Kunz/Orlovski -13, -7.
Neale lost to Orlovski -15, -17.

Results: —
Men's Singles: Quarter-finals:

S. Bengtsson (Swe) bt M. Orlovski (Cz) 10, 10, 17;
A. Strokotov (USSR) bt R. Rozsas (Hu) -22, 17, 15, 18;
I. Jonyer (Hu) bt A. Stipanovic (Yu) 19, -18, -17, 10, 16;
K. Johansson (Swe) bt G. Gergely (Hu) 19, -18, -17, 10, 16.

Semi-finals:
Bengtsson bt Strokotov 15, 11, 13;
Johansson bt Jonyer 18, -17, 10, 19.
Final:
JOHANSSON bt Bengtsson 19, -22, -17, 13, 10.

Women's Singles: Quarter-finals:
Hernadi (Hu) bt B. Kishazi (Hu) 22, 19, -21, 10;
J. Hammersley (Eng) bt Z. Rudnova (USSR) 23, -14, 4, -13, 14;

E. Antonian (USSR) bt U. Hirschmuller (FG) 13, 20, 13;
A. Grofova (Cz) bt H. Lotaller (Hu) -14, -10, 20, 18, 15.

Semi-finals:
Hammersley bt Hernadi 11, 13, 13;
Antonian bt Grofova 13, -14, -17, 14, 16.

Final:
HAMMERSLEY bt Antonian 12, 11, 12.

Men's Doubles:
Bengtsson/Johansson bt Juhos/Kovacs (Hu) 11, 8, 12.

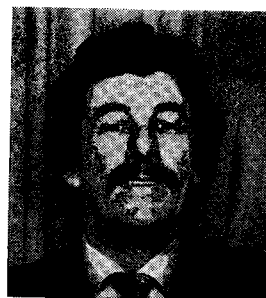
Women's Doubles:
J. Magos (Hu)/Lotaller bt Hammersley/Kishazi 18, 16, 14.

Mixed Doubles:
Gergely/Lotaller bt J. Börzsai (Hu)/Kishazi 19, 16, 15.

Men's Team Final:
Sweden 3 Hungary 0
Bengtsson bt Gergely 17, 14; Johansson bt Jonyer 16, 15; Bengtsson/Johansson bt Gergely/Jonyer 19, 22.

Women's Team Final:
USSR 3 Hungary 0
Antonian bt Magos 14, -18, 21; Rudnova bt Kishazi 19, -17, 21; Antonian/Rudnova bt Lotaller/Magos 13, 14.

CONTROVERSY



JOHN WOODFORD

comments on two spiky problems

Recent moves at National Council to allow all school children to enter Junior Opens is to me extraordinary and certainly highly controversial. Perhaps someone can enlighten me on what lies behind this move—is it the thin end of a wedge?

The whole thing seems covered with dangerous possibilities. One view of mine is that schoolchildren and open tournaments seem poles apart. I cannot really envisage the possibility of a tournament being swamped by hordes of youngsters, unless mind you, it was deliberately organised as a protest or a boycott in reverse.

Discipline seems to be the most vital issue at stake. I can see clearly the possibility of large groups or even small groups of children who are naturally boisterous creating immense difficulties for organisers. One has only got to hear the noise and see the chaos that can be created almost anywhere on a school outing, even when it is properly chaperoned. I'm not having a go at the overworked and underpaid teaching profession by the way, it's just natural instinct when children are together away from school that they are noisy.

I am also alarmed by the fact that the new proposal goes even further

than before in that it seeks to allow entry to children who are not members of any organised table tennis body.

It just doesn't seem to make sense. If a boy or girl is keen on the game at an early age, surely it is possible for them to progress through all the normal channels, youth clubs, coaching schemes, local or area closed tournaments? One would think that the E.S.T.T.A. regard the E.T.T.A. as 'some sort of closed shop'. In the vast majority of cases entry into affiliated circles for a keen youngster is no problem.

We pay our affiliation fees for a number of reasons—one of them is so that law and order can prevail in clubrooms and tournament halls. So that troublemakers can be actively discouraged or even thrown out. That way a sport gains respect. Strangers to the game are often amazed when they see a well-organised tournament in full swing. If this new revolutionary proposal gets through I foresee the possibility of further amazement in the other direction—viewing a tournament scene best described with one word—**chaos!**

Very many leagues legislate to prevent strong players appearing far below their class by local grading systems. One league I have heard about recently has a problem concerning a former town player, well below veteran age with a consistently high first division record suddenly appearing after a break of a season or two in Division 4. This league also has a potent, newish weapon—a rule which gives its council (all clubs) power to refuse or cancel a player's registration. The main purpose of the rule, seldom used of course, is for persistent unacceptable behaviour, but it **could** be used if a majority of clubs felt that this sort of thing should not be permitted.

Readers with constructive views on this subject and who may have been faced with this identical problem are invited to communicate with me as, I have no doubt, the Editor would be pleased to publish their thoughts in later issues of "Table Tennis News".

IRISH OPEN

Highlight of the Irish Open this season will be the first visit of a Russian team to Ireland. They will arrive in Ireland following a European League match in England.

Qualifying rounds of the championships are due to take place in the Oblate Gymnasium, Inchicore on Thursday and Friday, Dec. 6/7. The finals are due to be played on Saturday, Dec. 8.

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS MOTIF

Fancy yourself as a designer? The English Table Tennis Association is seeking a motif for the 34th World Championships, due to be played in this country in 1977, and would welcome your ideas and/or drawings. These should be sent to the ETTA at 21 Claremont, Hastings, Sussex, TN34 1HA.

RETIREMENT

News from Di Schöler (nee Rowe), in Federal Germany, is that she and her husband Ebby are retiring from international play. Two very fine innings!

Selectors and their Policies 1973-74



by **RON CRAYDEN**
Chairman of Nat. Selection Comm.

To face the problems that the 1973/74 season will assuredly bring, the Selectors are poised on their precarious perches full of good intent and optimism. The significant change in the Committee from that of last season is the increase in its size. Those members with powers of selection now number five and nominally are, Les Gresswell, Laurie Landry, Bryan Merrett, Derek Schofield and myself. The increase in numbers was made by the National Council in the belief that pooled ideas and knowledge could only help everyone's perspective. Albert Shipley is responsible for the Secretarial duties of the Committee and the newly appointed Squad Manager, Ken Mathews, will be co-opted to assist and advise on matters appertaining to the Squad.

PRIORITIES

It is, of course, vitally important for players to be rewarded for outstanding results but we must look forward to the future, particularly to 1977 when the World Championships are to be held in this Country. It is a case of getting our priorities right. At the moment in top World competition we hold the position of also rans and there we will stay unless we train and develop our young players to face the realities of World standards. This season we have the European Championships in Novi-Sad and then in 1975 the World Championships are to be held in Delhi. The teams we select for these major events will give an excellent account of themselves and will, I feel sure, begin to make inroads into the big-time, but it is essential that we set our sights on 1977. If we fail before our own supporters the game in this Country will take another step backwards.

JUNIOR POLICY

The programme that faces our top Juniors is becoming increasingly demanding and their withdrawal from certain Junior tournaments is therefore understandable. . . . It is not a dictate of the Selection Committee. In the November issue of the Magazine I laid down the policy of the Committee relating to Juniors for 1973/74. Briefly it was as follows.

(1) The Selection Committee recognizes the contribution made by Junior Tournaments in the development of table tennis and expects players to enter a number of these tournaments. Competition is a vital stimulant.

(2) Those wishing to reach top international standards will gain considerable benefit by competing in Senior events, particularly in 3-star tournaments.

(3) To help improve standards of play, squad training, Round Robin tournaments, Assessment and Training Camps will be held throughout the season.

A system of grading players and tournaments has been mentioned in the pages of the Magazine, a system that can have obvious advantages. The Selection Committee has already minuted a recommendation that 3-star Junior tournaments be staged which would be obligatory for the top Juniors to attend.

SQUAD SYSTEM

It is the intention of the Selectors to work in close co-operation with the Coaching Committee and to further promote the existing Squad system. These Squads will operate within the ten regions of the Country under the control of the Staff Coaches and Panel Chairmen. Specially selected players from the Squads will be invited to play in a Round Robin tournament so as to come under the eyes of the Selectors.

JUNIOR INTERNATIONAL SQUAD

A Junior International Squad has been formed and the members of this Squad will attend special Training Camps to develop their games and to build-up for the European Youth Championships.

SENIOR INTERNATIONAL SQUAD

The Selectors endeavour to have a flexible approach to the intake of players to the Squad although they are in accord that the number should be small and manageable. The membership of the Squad is constantly under review and it is planned to keep one place available for a promising youngster, to build for the future. Under normal circumstances it is still obligatory for Squad members to play in the 3-star tournaments.

SQUAD MANAGER

To ease the burden of the National Team Trainer (Les Gresswell) especially on the administrative side, the talents of Ken Mathews have been harnessed to the Selection Committee and he will act as a link between players and officials.

ASSESSMENT CAMPS

The success of the recent Dunlop Junior Assessment Camps based on a three tier system—preliminary, intermediate and final—has prompted us to continue with them in 1974. The Final Camp has been brought forward by one week in an endeavour to keep within the school holidays.

ROUND ROBIN TOURNAMENTS

The congested programme that faces us annually, makes it difficult to fit in ranking or round robin tournaments. This year we have managed to plan for three which will be used for selected Juniors to show their paces before the Selectors.

TRAINING CAMPS

In addition to the Dunlop Assessment Camps, regular Training Camps will be held throughout the year to improve the stamina and skills of players. The programming of these Camps has been arranged so as to build-up for the big events. With regard to Junior players they will get match play practise against specially invited senior players. Whenever possible, stars from visiting Countries will be invited to train and play with our Squads. Last season we had the benefit of the South

Koreans at a Camp and already, this season we have had the top Canadians. A Squad of our 'Cadet' boys and girls will be off to France on Boxing Day to train and play with their French counterparts.

RANKING LISTS

For the guidance of Tournament organisers we intend to publish three Ranking (or Seeding) Lists during the course of the season. The next senior list will be made immediately following the Norwich Union English Championships. The ranking of Juniors will be made at least three times during the season, but not necessarily at the same time as that of the seniors. The results in Tournament play and County Championships will be analysed and for the first time we will be studying the results of the Super League matches.

CONCLUSION

Our policies are directed towards improving the performances of our National teams and the development of young players. We shall be working closely with the Coaching Committee so as to enrich the game at all levels and to improve the standing of the Association throughout the World.

Some of our plans are contained by lack of finance, especially that of having our own Centre, but this will not deter us in our endeavours. Our Juniors proved in Athens recently that they cannot be dismissed lightly,

by 1977 they could be fighting for World titles. We intend to give them every encouragement towards achieving this goal.

JUNIOR SQUAD

Earlier in the season the National Selection Committee formed a Junior English Squad comprising David Alderson (Yorkshire), John Kitchener (Suffolk), Paul Day (Camps.), David Bangerter (Surrey), Anita Stevenson, Karen Rogers (both Leics.) and Carole Knight (Yorks.). More recently Mark Mitchell (Middx.) has been added to this elite group.

SCANDINAVIAN OPEN

The National Selection Committee have chosen Denis Neale, Desmond Douglas, Jill Hammersley and Karenza Mathews to take part in the Scandinavian Open Championships, sponsored by Scandinavian Airlines, in Malmo, Sweden from Nov. 30—Dec. 2/73. Last year's tournament attracted an entry of the very highest standard and Mrs. Hammersley, paired with Beatrix Kishazi of Hungary, did well to reach the semi-final stage of the women's doubles. Another English entrant could well be Nicky Jarvis, under the auspices of the Stiga Company of Sweden.

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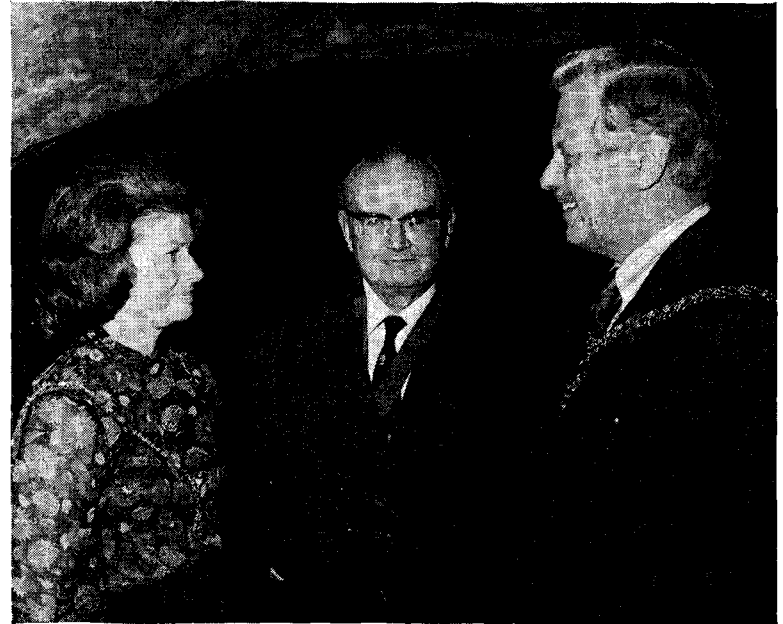
Telephone: Newbury 3488.

TOURNAMENT DIARY

Order of 1066

| Date | Title and Venue | Details from Organiser |
|-----------------|--|---|
| January 3/5 | NORWICH UNION ENGLISH CHAMPIONSHIPS, Crystal Palace National Sports Centre, Norwood, London, S.E.19. *Phone Ashford 26873 (h) 25133 (o). | J. P. Heritage, 26 Cradle Bridge Drive, Willesborough, *Ashford, Kent TN24 0RH. Closing Date: 6.12.73. |
| 5/6 | Yorkshire Junior 2-Star, Y.P.I. Ferens Recreation Centre, Chanterlands Avenue North, Hull, Yorks. | Rea Balmford, 30 Glebe Road, Wawne, East Yorks. HU7 5XR. 'Phone: Hull 821279. |
| 12 | Lancashire 2-Star Open, Hawker Siddeley Dynamics, Lostock, Bolton, Lancs. | Kenneth Mitchell, 3 Whinslee Court, Whinslee Drive, Heaton, Bolton, Lancs. 'Phone: Bolton 46727. Closing Date: 28.12.73. |
| 12/13 | Middlesex Junior 2-Star, Walford School Sports Hall and Gymnasium, Bengarth Road, off Church Road. Northolt, Middlesex. | John M. Wright, 124 Rusthall Avenue, Bedford Park, London W4 1BS. 'Phone: 01-994 7485. Closing Date: 21.12.73. |
| 26 | Pontefract 1-Star Open, Assembly Rooms, Pontefract, Yorkshire. | Gordon L. Johnson, 17 Rhodes Crescent, Pontefract, Yorks. |
| 26/27 | Kent 2-Star Open, Marine Pavilion, Folkestone, Kent. | J. P. Heritage, (Details as per Norwich Union English Champs.). |
| 26/27 | Burford Junior 2-Star, Burford School, Burford, Oxon. | M. J. Chalk, Old Grammar School, Burford, Oxon. OX8 4RN. 'Phone: Burford 2003. |
| February 2/3 | Basingstoke 3-Star Open, Sports Centre, Basingstoke, Hampshire. | Mrs. A. Waters, "Dellfield", Fox Lane, Newfound, Basingstoke, Hants. 'Phone: Basingstoke 780510. |
| 9 | South Yorkshire 1-Star, Middlewood Hospital, Middlewood Road, Sheffield 6. | J. M. Broomhead, 18 Willis Road, Sheffield, S6 4FJ. 'Phone Sheffield 24066 Ext 20 (business). |
| 9/10 | Essex 2-Star Open, St. Chad's School, St. Chad's Road, Tilbury, Essex. | R. E. Locke, 10 Corporation Street, Newham, London. E15 3HD. 'Phone: 01-555 0981. |
| 10 | North Bournemouth 1-Star, Winton YMCA, Jameson Road, Winton, Bournemouth, Hants. | C. B. Cashell, 16 Victoria Avenue, Winton, Bournemouth BH9 2RN. 'Phone: Bournemouth 59910. |
| IRELAND | | |
| January 26 | Kildare Open | C. A. Moore, 78 Orby Drive, Belfast BT5 6AG. 'Phone: Belfast 59923. |
| SCOTLAND | | |
| January 13 | Edinburgh Open | Mrs. J. McKenzie, 19 Roull Road, Edinburgh. 'Phone: 031-334 1373. |
| 26 | West of Scotland | R. F. Cummings, 131 Templeland Road, Glasgow. |
| February 3 | Edinburgh Junior Open | Mrs. J. McKenzie Details as above. |
| WALES | | |
| January 26 | Glamorgan Open | Mrs. S. Sturgess, 52 Llanedeyrn Road, Cardiff, Glamorgan. |

Tournament Organisers are asked to notify the Editor of closing dates and intending competitors should make allowance for same being some 14-21 days before the event.



There was a strong French contingent present—from the Souvenir Normand and the borough's twin town in France of Bethune—at the ceremony in the Caves on Saturday, Oct. 13, to present the latest award of the Order of 1066. This goes to an outstanding citizen of Hastings for past services and the recipient was A. K. "Bill" Vint, O.B.E. (past President of the E.T.T.A. and Hon. Gen. Sec. of the I.T.T.F.) who did so much during his years of office for the town's publicity and public relations.

In this picture taken by Roger Porter our former president is flanked by the Mayor and Mayoress of Hastings, Councillor W. H. Darker and Mrs. Darker.

Feature by courtesy of the Hastings and St. Leonards Observer.

COUNTY DIARY

Fixtures for December, 1973

PREMIER

Dec. 7 Yorkshire v Cheshire, Y.M.C.A., St. Paul's Street, Huddersfield (7.15 p.m.)
.. 14 Middlesex v Yorkshire, Barnet Table Tennis Centre, Barnet Lane, Barnet, Herts. (7.30 p.m.)

MIDLAND

Dec. 8 Worcestershire II v Staffordshire II, Cripplegate Pavilion, Tybridge Street, Worcester (3 p.m.)

EASTERN

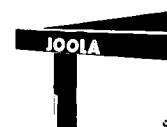
Dec. 8 Hertfordshire II v Cambridgeshire II, Cuffley Youth Centre, Cuffley Hill, Cuffley (6.30 p.m.)

JUNIOR PREMIER

Dec. 29 Cambridgeshire v Yorkshire at 10.30 a.m.
Warwickshire v Leicestershire at 10.30 a.m.
Cambridgeshire v Leicestershire at 2 p.m.
Yorkshire v Warwickshire at 2 p.m.
Leicestershire v Yorkshire at 5.30 p.m.
Warwickshire v Cambridgeshire at 5.30 p.m.
Venue: The Friary Youth Centre, Abbey Street, Nuneaton, Warwickshire.

Dec. 29 Middlesex v Suffolk at 10 a.m.
Surrey v Essex at 10 a.m.
Essex v Middlesex at 1.45 p.m.
Suffolk v Surrey at 1.45 p.m.
Middlesex v Surrey at 5.30 p.m.
Suffolk v Essex at 5.30 p.m.
Venue: Brays Grove School, Traces Road, Harlow, Essex.

top players are JOOLA—fans



top players are JOOLA—fans

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS 1977

FUND RAISING



by Lou Hoffman
(Poet)

Half a league, half a league, half a league onwards, into the valley of death rode the 600. Were the men afraid—nay. Were the men afraid—nay. ETIA, ETIA, ETIA Onwards?? into the World Championships 1977 slouched the 334. Were the men afraid—yea. Need I say more—nay. But I will.

With letters sent to every league secretary in the ETIA plus appeals in the last two issues of the Table Tennis News; national councillors of every county given the task of chasing lagging leagues; each and every one expressing the urgency of the occasion; we still, after 3 months of the playing season, have only had replies from one third of the affiliated leagues. Has the apathy of the league secretaries reached such a 'low' that they have not even put the idea of the raffle to their committees. Have they used that old excuse. 'Haven't received a form'. Do they want to be wet-nursed? I would like a reply from every league, yea or nay. I have had two nays, but on each occasion these leagues have asked how much

did I expect per annum from their allocation of raffle tickets and this amount they would raise in their own way. I concede to their objections to running a raffle and accept their offer of money in lieu.

In the last issue of the magazine I said I would name names. I have been talked out of this for one more month. However. I am certainly going to name the leagues who have rallied round and not only taken up their allotted allocation. but have, like a certain Oliver Twist ———.

Allocation Ex 1a Books

| | | | | |
|-------------------|-------|----------|-------|------|
| N. Middlesex | | 250 plus | 1750= | 2000 |
| Guildford | | 210 plus | 755= | 965 |
| Basingstoke | | 170 plus | 230= | 400 |
| Stockton | | 135 plus | 100= | 235 |
| Willesden | | 190 plus | 70= | 260 |
| Loughborough | . | 110 plus | 50= | 160 |
| Matlock | | 60 plus | 60= | 120 |
| Burnham-on-Crouch | | 60 plus | 50= | 110 |

I must also state that out of the 37 counties in the ETIA, 32 have at least one league representing them. Five are still virgins. Gloucestershire have pride of place four leagues all participating. Other counties please note.

To bring readers up to date. we now have 100 leagues with 18,500 books out. My target is 40,000 books. so I am almost up to the half way mark. Please league secretaries, don't be afraid, your league can sell raffle books. 10p a ticket is within reach of everyone. Get your finger out and get into the valley.

I should like all Fund Raisers to start sending me back their sold counterfoils. These have to be cross-checked and I would not like the whole 40,000 to come back just prior to the draw. My appeal for individual donations still holds good. If anyone has some spare cash lying around don't be shy, we will take it. No amount too small. I asked you last month 'Are you getting enough?' I received quite a number of letters back enclosing small donations and asking me for names and addresses. To these people I say I'm terribly sorry. I didn't mean that!!! Never mind the money will go to a good cause.

See you all at the Worlds!

WESTERN LEAGUE BULLETIN

by GROVE MOTLOW

In the Men's Division, Bournemouth opened their campaign with a home match against Newport who were without two of their best players and, in consequence, were easily defeated 9-0. In the Bournemouth side was Doug Shipton the old Bristol and Weston player of 20 some odd years ago and it is pleasing to record that he is still a hard player to beat. Along with Doug were Cyril Bush and Trevor Smith, dependable as ever for their town team.

Young Alan Harrison, making his Western League debut, certainly created a favourable impression for Newport although losing. Bristol, at home to a strong Plymouth side, were beaten 6-3. But considering they were fielding a young side of 15-year-olds, the defeat was as expected, but Chris Sewell, their star of 14-years-old did succeed in beating David James, Keith James and Bob Parkins in an excellent performance. Dick Svendsen and Alan Hussey lost all three.

Exeter, at home to Weston, won 5-4 thanks to Mike Rattue winning all 3, against Joe Garland, Ray Philpott and John Hartry. The other two wins for Exeter came when Roger Davis and Paul Stone beat Hartry and Philpott respectively. It is so pleasing to note that Ray Philpott, the secretary of Weston, is still playing as well as ever. He is the last of the old stalwarts of just before the war, 1938/39, when he then played for Bristol and since 1945/46 has played regularly for Weston. A wonderful record.

Weston, at home to a much improved Newport team, narrowly won 5-4 the result depending on the last set when Philpott clinched the issue by beating Harrison 28-26, 21-19! For Newport, John Bloomer played brilliantly for a maximum while young Harrison beat Garland in a great set-to.

In the Women's Division, Newport at home to the strong Bournemouth side of Julie Hudson, Jean Smith and Joyce Coop, were no match for the visitors who won 8-1.

Exeter, at home to Devizes, won 7-2 thanks to a maximum, as per usual, from Pam Mortimer and 2 wins each for Maureen Spray and Val Addicott, both losing to County player Alison Boyce. The steadiness of the Exeter trio prevailed and they were fully deserving of their win.

Plymouth, at home to Newbury, were beaten 5-4 the result being in doubt right up to the last set in which Caroline Reeves beat Mavis Scott 21-11, 22-20 to clinch victory for the Berkshire side. At one stage Newbury were leading 3-0 with wins by Janet Goodwin, Caroline Reeves and Cheryl Houghton over Mavis Scott, Nancy Hollywood and Barbara Pearson. In the fight-back to 4-all, Barbara beat Mrs. Goodwin and Cheryl Houghton, Mavis accounted for Cheryl, and Nancy beat Mrs. Goodwin.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Miss Anita Stevenson, England and Leicestershire's No. 1 girl has recently changed her residence to 19 Springfield Close, Loughborough, Leics. 'Phone: Loughborough 63084 (home).

SUSSEX NOTES

by ROBIN PIERCE

DECADE GAP

Congratulations to Worthing's girls who have just retained the Sussex Inter-League championships. They upended highly rated Eastbourne 5-2 in the final.

This tournament was held at the Holy Family Convent, Littlehampton, where Suzanna Kavallierou, playing in front of her home crowd, was unbeaten. Sue's tie against Eastbourne's Diane Gard was a real cracker. Rather a pity that Linda Wales, the only other player to go through the day unbeaten, did not get a chance to show her paces against Diane.

Worthing's Pat Metters is another player from that association to make the news. By being selected — following an outstanding performance at the Senior Trials — for Sussex II in the match against Hants II on November 17, Pat became the first Worthing man to represent the county since Peter Wales had an outing ten years ago.

It's not all happy news on the county front, however. The juniors failed to follow up their first success of the season when they went down to Surrey 6-4. Bernard Rowley must be searching high and low to plug that gap at No. 3.

Hants, were worth more than two sets when they came to Littlehampton for the 2nd Division South clash. No fewer than six sets went to the full three games.

Sam Ogundipe and Judy Williams brought all their Premier Division experience into play to give the home side a real boost. But the exciting performance came from Chichester's 20-year-old Stephen Marley who grafted well in beating Keith Summerfield and Trevor Smith.

Steve has put four or five points onto his game since last season. He has a most consistent loop and a fighting heart. If he can acquire a stinging loop he should have the brightest of futures.

Little news in from the leagues. Perhaps their publicity secretaries have an overtime ban going just now! The Brighton Premier is looking quite interesting as Shoreham "A" battle it out against Spartan.

WAYFARERS ENGLISH JUNIOR CLOSED CHAMPIONSHIPS

The E.T.T.A. was pleased to announce on Nov 10/73 that Wayfarers Travel Agency will sponsor the English Junior Championships for the next three years. The sponsorship will consist of an annual cash payment and the provision of plaques or medals for the winners. Additionally, the company will provide a permanent trophy, the Wayfarers Cup, for the boys' doubles championship.

Wayfarers are travel agents for the English Table Tennis Association and through their subsidiary company Wayfarersport act as agents for other sports bodies.



First Prize in the ETIA's National Raffle is this Morris Marina 1800 TC Saloon donated by Stewart and Arden, part of the Henley Organisation.

SWAYTHLING CLUB NEWS

by **BILL EVANS**, Hon. Sec.

In our last bulletin we wrote of the ex-English International and Swaythling Club member *Stan Proffitt* who at an age when most sportsmen would have long retired, taking up a new sport . . . long distance running, and that in pursuit of his new interest would be going to the U.S.A. to compete in various events. Stan has now been and returned and has sent us an account of his activities in America. They are remarkable.

He travelled to New York, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Santa Barbara, Mexico, all in preparation for the grand finale, the A.A.V. Masters Field and Track events in San Diego. Stan's party did well and gained a good percentage of the major prizes. Stan's personal effort earned him 3rd prizes in the 10,000 metres! and the completion of the Marathon in 3 hrs. 58 minutes, which considering it was his first serious attempt at long distance competitive running was surely highly meritorious to say the least.

One other event he took part in was the DIPSEA run in San Francisco. In this the competitors start by running a mile, then ascend 671 steps continuing at the top to run over rough mountainous terrain to an altitude of 2,500 feet and on the run down completing seven miles overall. This is indeed an achievement of which Stan must be very proud and we offer him our congratulations on behalf of the Swaythling Club.

We are very happy to inform members that *Vilim Harangozo* who did so much for Swaythling Club guests at Sarajevo, though he himself was seriously ill has now recovered and we understand is quite well and active. Vilim, together with Fransik Tokar of Czechoslovakia were the invited members to attend the Hungarian Championships in Budapest, Nov. 14/16.

From *Zdenko Uzorinac* in Yugoslavia comes news of a veterans tournament held in Bjelovar. It is known as the "Gustav Perl Benda Memorial". More than 60 players took part with J. Licul beating I. Mitreic to win the Men's Over 50 event and Zdenko Uzorinac capturing the over-40's title with final victory over J. Vogrinc. Winner of the women's event was D. Nikolic who beat V. Bonnot in the final.

As anyone who knows *Hugo Urchetti* will well imagine, the Swiss Club is an active and lively one. Their AGM was preceded by a tournament of members. Not surprisingly this was won by Laszlo Foldy with Hugo second and Werner Schnyder sharing third place.

Mrs. *Leah Neuberger* is now confirmed as Representative for the U.S.A. Her address is: 35 West 92nd Street, Apt. 6F, New York, N.Y. 10025. Leah is devoted to the game and is to be seen at every World Championships. Her predecessor was Jimmy McClure who had to give up through pressure of business.

New members are: Paul Bertrand and Mrs. Mary Detourney-Stevens (Belgium), Christen Hjorth (Den-

mark), Borse Anderson (Sweden), Lajos Antal and Jean-Claude Duvoisin (Switzerland) and Mrs. Sally (Green) Prouty and Dick Miles (U.S.A.).

President, *Joe Veselsky*, Vice-President's *Zarko Dolinar* and *Ichiro Ogimura*, and members of the committee send to all members very best wishes for Christmas and the New Year.

DORSET NOTES

by **BARRY WELLER**

Dorset table tennis has had its biggest boost for many seasons by the juniors magnificent 6-4 away win

against Glamorgan. It was their first-ever match and although Glamorgan are much changed from the side that won the Div. 2 (West) title for the past two seasons, it was nevertheless an amazing performance by Dorset.

It was a win gained purely on team work, every player picking up valuable points and it confirms what top coach John Luther has been saying in the past year that 'Dorset will have a strong senior side in a few years time'. The result was about right, for Dorset could have won any of the four sets lost, and the boys and mixed doubles were just won in the last game. Graham Hill, Richard Trim, John Robinson, Janef New and Jane Harvey can take a lot of credit

and it is obvious that Dorset will finish higher than they expected.

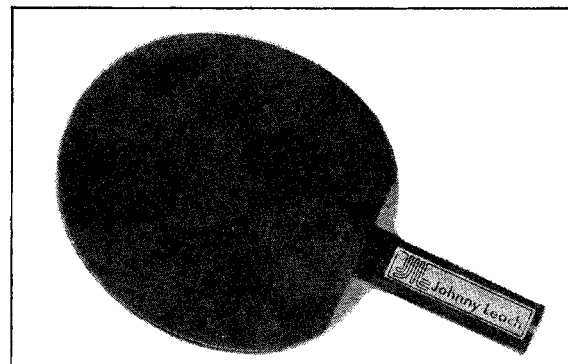
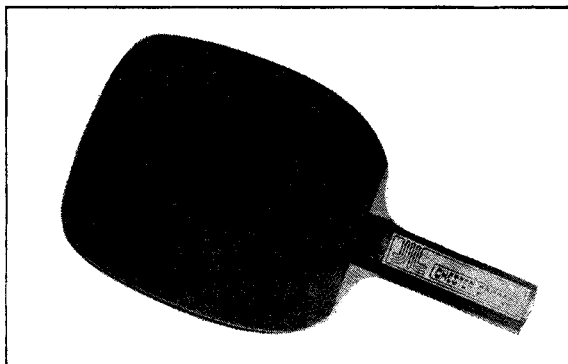
But the Seniors are finding it hard going. They lost 8-2 to Somerset and 10-0 to Glamorgan. One encouraging point was the performance in both matches of newcomer Beverley Davis, who will be a good addition to the side. Rosalind Symes did well to beat the Somerset girl Jill Wilson for her first ever singles win, but was unable to play against Glamorgan, because she got married to fellow Weymouth player Mike Page. The county offers both players congratulations. Micky Doyle did well to take a game off Glamorgan's No. 1 Alan Griffiths, but it looks as if the County's away match against Cornwall on Mar. 30 will decide the bottom position.

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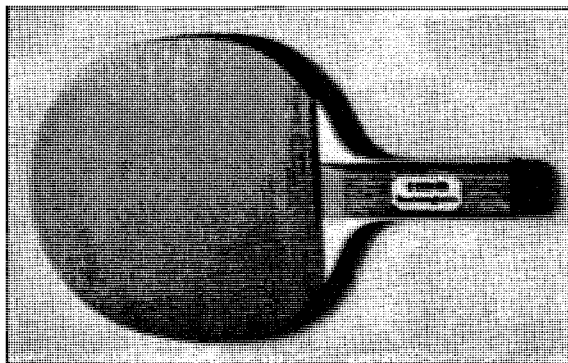
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The NEW Chester Barnes The NEW Johnny Leach



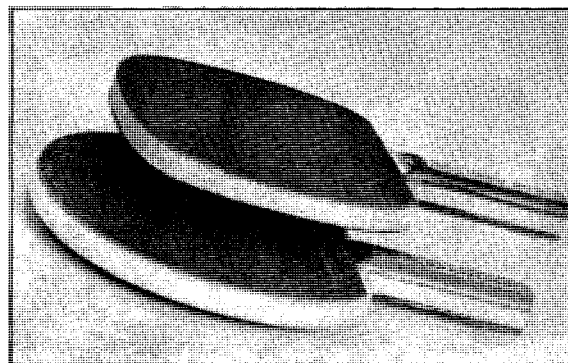
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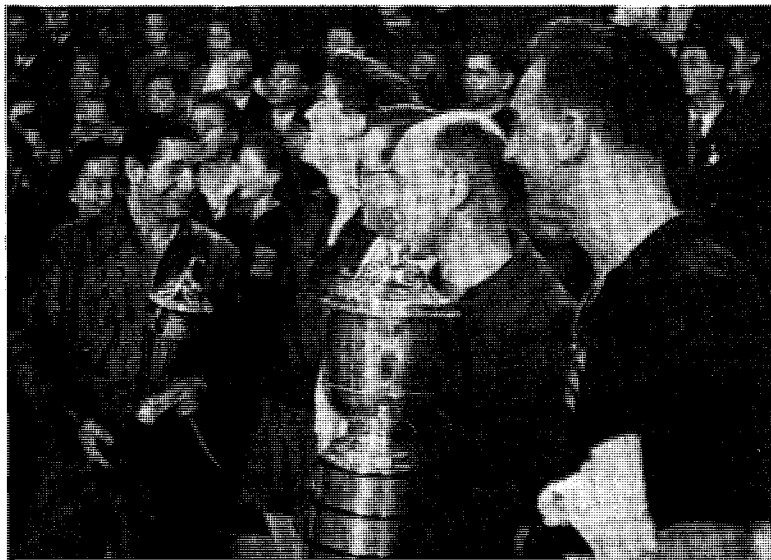


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From the Hon. Ivor Montagu comes this happy photograph of the English Table Tennis team after winning the Swaythling Cup on the sole and only occasion, in Bucharest, 1953. The late Adrian Haydon, as non-playing captain, is holding the cup. From l. to r.:— Kathleen Best, Ros Rowe, Richard Bergmann, Di Rowe, Brian Kennedy, Aubrey Simons, A. A. Haydon and Johnny Leach.

In last month's tribute to the late Adrian Haydon, where Ivor Montagu wrote of Adrian's style and an attacking player doubling his effectiveness by adding a stroke that was stated as "DEEP" it should of course be "DROP". Ed.

UMPIRES' CORNER

1973 LAW AND REGULATION CHANGES

by Colin Clemett
Hon. Sec. N.U.R.C.

There seems to be an unwritten rule that every ITTF Congress has to deal with proposed amendments to the service law and the racket law, and this year was no exception. The ETTA's lone proposal for simplifying the first of these did not, unfortunately, attract sufficient support and was withdrawn, but several of the changes that were approved refer in various ways to the racket, both directly and indirectly.

The direct changes include a re-arrangement of the wording to remove some possible mis-interpretations and the removal of the former requirement for the two sides of the racket to be of similar colours if they happened to be covered. Several people had pointed out that an uncovered racket needed only to be dark-coloured on each side and for consistency, it was suggested that the same restriction, or lack of it, should apply in both cases. After consideration it was agreed to eliminate the requirement for similarity.

This has the advantage that there is now no need to decide how similar two colours are, a problem which has led to considerable arguments over the past few years, with the introduction of special types of rubber of particular shades. Another direct change is the experimental use of materials other than wood for the blade of the racket, which most Associations, including the ETTA, have adopted. The object is to make available for the next BGM in 1975 evidence, based on playing experience,

of the benefits or disadvantages of materials such as plastics or even metal, to see whether the present specification is unduly restrictive.

An indirect change, which has unfortunate connotations, is the requirement in international competitions for players to bring a spare racket to the table with them. If they break the racket with which they start they must continue without delay, using the spare racket, and must in no circumstances leave the playing area to fetch a replacement. This change originated from the fear that players in important competitions might use such an excuse to leave the court for what might euphemistically be termed "special medical treatment", although I do not know of any evidence that this has happened.

However, the other changes this year include a new regulation covering the administering of drugs and stimulants and it is to be hoped that the ITTF's action in introducing the rule before serious problems have arisen will enable table tennis to avoid some of the abuse of which other sports are often accused. The only other regulation referring to this topic is one which prohibits players from leaving the vicinity of the playing area at any time during the match, whereas up to now they have been permitted to leave during the rest period or other authorised interval. It is interesting to speculate whether this restriction, in conjunction with other natural processes, will do more to shorten matches than the Expedite Rule!

An innovation which affects all play, as it is a change to the Laws, is that any player may claim an interval of up to one minute after each game of a match other than the third, after which he is entitled to a five minute rest as at present. A supplementary change, which is of more significance in international competitions, is that players may now receive advice only in these intervals, and not during "natural breaks" in play or at the change of ends in the last possible game of a match. During games, play must be continuous and the task of the umpire should be simplified in that he no longer has to decide when consultations are unduly disturbing the continuity of the match.

Umpires should remember, however, that it is now not only the duration of each game but the duration of the intervals that must be timed. A further simplification for officials is that the regulations concerning advice have been modified so that a player can now receive advice from whom he chooses during any of the authorised intervals, as he could previously in the five minute rest period. This means that there is no need for advisers to be nominated in advance, and that the player may consult a different person or persons after every game; the umpire's only responsibility is to see that the length of the intervals is not exceeded and that no advice is sought or given during play.

Finally, the wording of the clothing

regulation was amended. This was intended primarily as a tidying-up of the wording and I should not have considered it worth mentioning here if it were not for the fact that the brief summary of changes published in the October issue seems to have given the wrong impression to some people. Far from wishing to encourage the use of light-coloured edging to the sleeves and collars of playing garments, the ITTF remains of the opinion that clothing should be uniformly dark-coloured. Recognising, however, that many people favour the appearance of such trimmings Congress approved a form of wording which, while accepting that a contrasting colour may be used on edges and hems, made it clear that the width of the border must be limited and that the acceptability of the garment is still a matter for the Referee to decide.

HASTINGS TIGERS 1 STAR

TITLE RETAINED

This was the 15th year of the tournament and there had been 14 different winners of the men's singles title until Wembley's R. Philps retained his title, thus becoming the first player to win this event twice.

Played at Bexhill Youth Centre, on Nov. 18, the results were:—

MS: Semi-finals:

R. Philps bt D. Funnell (Hastings) 19, -16, 21;

R. Stace (Brighton) bt K. Horton (Crawley) -10, 14, 13.

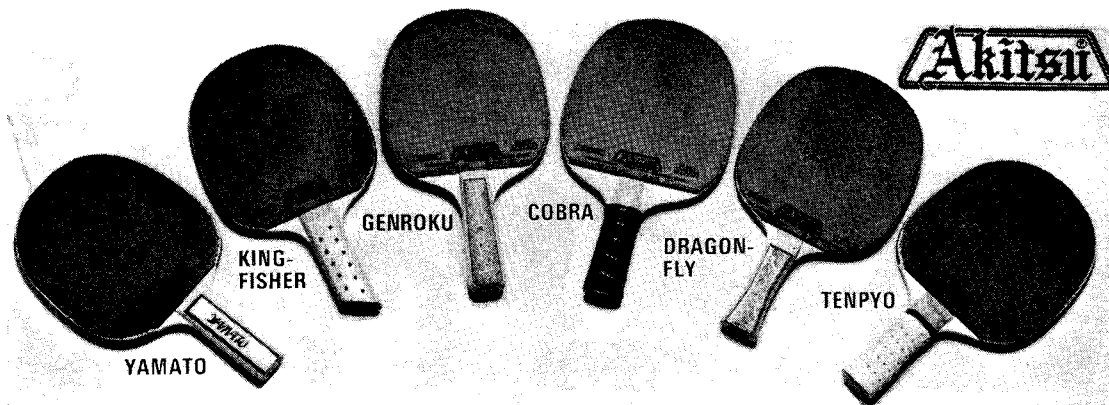
Final: Philps bt Stace -19, 13, 12.

WS: Miss D. Gard (Eastbourne) bt Miss L. Wales (Portsmouth) 20, 15.

MD: Horton/G. Taylor (Crawley) bt A. Meads (Crawley)/Stace -12, 19, 18.

WD: Gard/Miss A. Mock (Eastbourne) bt Mrs. P. Wales (Portsmouth)/Wales 13, 23.

XD: Stace/L. Wales bt C. Monson (Eastbourne)/Gard 17, 18.



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TABLES TO 17th NOVEMBER, 1973

| Premier | P | W | D | L | F | A | Pts |
|-----------|---|---|---|---|----|----|-----|
| Yorks. | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 12 | 6 | 4 |
| Warwks. | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 10 | 8 | 4 |
| Middlesex | 2 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 12 | 6 | 2 |
| Essex | 2 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 11 | 7 | 2 |
| Surrey | 2 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 10 | 8 | 2 |
| Cheshire | 2 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 7 | 11 | 2 |
| Bucks. | 2 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 7 | 11 | 0 |
| Lancs. | 2 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 3 | 15 | 0 |

| 2 West | P | W | D | L | F | A | Pts |
|-----------|---|---|---|---|----|----|-----|
| Glamorgan | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 17 | 3 | 4 |
| Somerset | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 14 | 6 | 4 |
| Worcs. | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 10 | 0 | 2 |
| Devon | 2 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 13 | 7 | 2 |
| Wilts. | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 3 | 7 | 0 |
| Dorset | 2 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 18 | 0 |
| Cornwall | 2 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 19 | 0 |

| Eastern | P | W | D | L | F | A | Pts |
|------------|---|---|---|---|----|----|-----|
| Essex III | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 19 | 1 | 4 |
| Herts. II | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 17 | 3 | 4 |
| Suffolk | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 13 | 7 | 4 |
| Norfolk | 3 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 13 | 17 | 2 |
| Camb. II | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 8 | 0 |
| Hunts. | 2 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 3 | 17 | 0 |
| Northants. | 2 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 3 | 17 | 0 |

| Junior South | P | W | D | L | F | A | Pts |
|--------------|---|---|---|---|----|----|-----|
| Hants. | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 16 | 4 | 4 |
| Surrey II | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 13 | 7 | 4 |
| Sussex | 2 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 12 | 8 | 2 |
| Herts. II | 2 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 12 | 8 | 2 |
| Essex III | 2 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 11 | 9 | 2 |
| Kent | 2 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 9 | 11 | 2 |
| Berks. II | 2 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 6 | 14 | 0 |
| Oxfords. | 2 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 19 | 0 |

| Junior North | P | W | D | L | F | A | Pts |
|--------------|---|---|---|---|----|----|-----|
| Lancs. | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 17 | 3 | 4 |
| Yorks. II | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 9 | 1 | 2 |
| Durham | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 7 | 3 | 2 |
| Cheshire | 2 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 9 | 11 | 2 |
| Cumb. | 2 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 9 | 11 | 2 |
| Westmorland | 2 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 6 | 14 | 0 |
| Northmbrland | 2 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 3 | 17 | 0 |

| Junior Midland | P | W | D | L | F | A | Pts |
|----------------|---|---|---|---|----|----|-----|
| Derbys. | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 18 | 2 | 4 |
| Warwks. II | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 17 | 3 | 4 |
| Lancs. II | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 9 | 1 | 2 |
| Lincs. | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 5 | 5 | 1 |
| Leics. II | 2 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 6 | 14 | 1 |
| Notts. | 2 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 5 | 15 | 0 |
| Staffs. | 2 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 20 | 0 |

| Junior East | P | W | D | L | F | A | Pts |
|-------------|---|---|---|---|----|----|-----|
| Essex II | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 18 | 2 | 4 |
| Herts. | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 17 | 3 | 4 |
| Beds. | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 13 | 7 | 4 |
| Hunts. | 2 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 9 | 11 | 2 |
| Bucks. | 2 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 9 | 11 | 1 |
| Norfolk | 2 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 5 | 15 | 1 |
| Camb. II | 2 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 5 | 15 | 0 |

| Junior West | P | W | D | L | F | A | Pts |
|-------------|---|---|---|---|----|----|-----|
| Berks. | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 16 | 4 | 4 |
| Dorset | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 16 | 4 | 4 |
| Gloucs. | 2 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 12 | 8 | 3 |
| Worcs. | 2 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 10 | 10 | 2 |
| Devon | 2 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 9 | 11 | 1 |
| Somerset | 2 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 5 | 15 | 1 |
| Wilts. | 2 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 5 | 15 | 1 |
| Glamorgan | 2 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 7 | 13 | 0 |

| Veteran South | P | W | D | L | F | A | Pts |
|---------------|---|---|---|---|----|----|-----|
| Essex | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 12 | 6 | 4 |
| Hants. | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 6 | 3 | 2 |
| Hunts. | 2 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 11 | 7 | 2 |
| Kent | 2 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 10 | 8 | 2 |
| Herts. | 2 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 7 | 11 | 2 |
| Oxfords. | 2 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 6 | 12 | 0 |
| Wilts. | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 7 | 0 |

| Veteran Midland | P | W | D | L | F | A | Pts |
|-----------------|---|---|---|---|----|----|-----|
| Warwks. | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 12 | 6 | 4 |
| Cheshire | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 10 | 8 | 4 |
| Notts. | 2 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 11 | 7 | 2 |
| Staffs. | 2 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 10 | 8 | 2 |
| Leics. | 2 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 6 | 12 | 0 |
| Worcs. | 2 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 5 | 13 | 0 |

(continued from page 28)

off in the afternoon with two more BS wins in straight games.

JUNIOR MIDLAND

Derbyshire 8, Nottinghamshire 2

The Notts. team although with talent found the experience of Susan Holmes, David Yallop and Philip Vickers too great. Susan strengthened her claim to a senior team place with her form here.

Lancashire II 9, Leicestershire II 1

All the host team on debut, with success. Good hard-hitting performance by Ian Smith who conceded 31 points in 2 x BS sets.

Warwickshire II 10, Staffordshire 0

JUNIOR EAST

Hertfordshire 7, Huntingdonshire 3

Bedfordshire 6, Buckinghamshire 4

The first ever maximum for Bedfordshire, girls Janette Goble and Julie Walton, and as well they managed this as the home boys did not come up to expectations.

Essex II 8, Cambridgeshire II 2

Huntingdonshire 6, Northamptonshire 4

Belinda Chamberlain and Jean Allinson retained their 100% record for Hunts., and a sparkling win 15, -18, 11 by Peter Berna over Nicholas Swinger in the last set gave the hosts both points. Gary Hamilton did well to win both singles and Gary Alden gave a good attacking performance.

Norfolk 0, Hertfordshire 10

JUNIOR WEST

Dorset 10, Somerset 0

The non-arrival of the visitors (later found to have broken down) a big disappointment to Dorset for whom this was to be their first ever Junior match.

Devon 4, Berkshire 6

Fine maximum from Keith James (16, -18, 23 v Paul Trott was tight!) but Berkshire's overall strength decisive. Very sporting match, with both teams a credit to their Associations. Elaine Lamb nervous in first v. Caroline Reeves but improved greatly in second—she and Mary Wakely showed plenty of promise.

Glamorgan 4, Dorset 6

This result a real boost to Dorset, but Welsh junior T.T. seems below par this season.

Gloucestershire 7, Worcestershire 3

Improved performance by home girls with 12-year-old Vanessa Cruwys on debut. Chris Sewell and William Dawe impressed, but Alan Hussey has a long way to go to reach their standard.

Wiltshire 5, Somerset 5

VETERAN SOUTH

Hampshire 6, Oxfordshire 3

An encouraging start for Hants. who won exactly the same events as last season.

Huntingdonshire 4, Hertfordshire 5

Kent 3, Essex 6

Reg Williams and Judy Brenchley formed a fine hard-hitting XD pair and ended the run of Percy Curtis and Marie Know who had previously won all their 6 sets in combination. Vic Ireland a valuable addition to the Essex side and did well to overcome the terrific hitting of Williams by 17, -18, 18.

VETERAN MIDLAND

Cheshire 5, Nottinghamshire 4

Thrice Notts. led by a single set only for Cheshire to level: then Brian Baldwin scored his 2nd MS to give Cheshire the lead only to see Ron Bolton equate the scores at 4-all. Mike Tew made no mistake in the final set and Cheshire grateful to Mary Leigh, the only unbeaten player.

Staffordshire 6, Worcestershire 3

Leicestershire 4, Warwickshire 5

MIDLAND LEAGUE NOTES

by RICHARD HABGOOD

Nottingham, one of the five founder members of the League way back in 1935/6, brought off a magnificent first ever victory over Birmingham in the Men's 1st Division, with Messrs. Croome, Mayfield and Saunders each winning two singles in their 6-4 success. Beforehand however, Nottingham did not have things all their own way dropping a point to Leicester who relied very heavily on Paul Randell for their point.

West Bromwich back in the first division this season are finding the going tough having lost their opening fixtures 4-6 to Chesterfield and Oxford respectively.

What a fine start to the season Chesterfield have had. Their three teams competing in the Men's 1st and 2nd Divisions and Junior Division 1, have recorded five victories in their opening matches which must indeed be a healthy state of affairs. Their local rivals Derby "A" have also started well in their bid for honours in the Men's 2nd Div., winning 9-1 and 8-2 against Derby "B" and Notts. "B" respectively.

In the Women's Division, Derby might well prove to be the dark horses having already defeated Leicester 6-4 and Birmingham "B" 8-2. Leicester must be disappointed by their start to the season, when, after their defeat at Derby, only managed a draw with Wolverhampton. West Brom however, leave no doubts as to their intentions this season having recorded two 10-0 victories against Wolverhampton and Nottingham. Jenny Cornock, Dot Deeley, Ann Baker and Rita Beebe must be highly satisfied.

The Junior 1st Division has begun quite slowly with Birmingham, Chesterfield, Derby and Loughborough all recording victories. Loughborough's victory over neighbours Leicester, must, I should imagine, have caused quite a stir in their county circles. Birmingham "B" and Derby "B" are also having impressive results in the 2nd Division (Junior) where Cheltenham managed an excellent 6-4 victory over Coventry "B".

In the Junior 3rd Division Gloucester, Nuneaton and Stratford still maintain their 100% records after their opening fixtures. Full credit to Hereford, new to the league this year, for fielding such a young side in Mark Owen, Mike Owen and Jeremy Bower aged 13, 11 and 13-years-old respectively. If Hereford can keep this side together and judging by the individual results achieved so far, then I'm sure that in the not too distant future these lads will be a force to be reckoned with.

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE

NOTES

by MIKE RICHARDS

CROWD ON EDGE

Hoping for a good start on their return to the top flight the County are finding life tough but all credit must go to the team for their effort.

The opening match away to Cheshire resulted in a narrow 5-4 defeat. Though disappointed at not achieving the desired win it was a case of grit your teeth and fight when Yorkshire came to Aylesbury.

What a fright the champions received. In the second game Paul Shirley won the first leg from Nicky Jarvis, then Alec Watson beat Tony Clayton in straight games. Paul Shirley and Jill Hammersley joined forces to take the mixed doubles, 2-2. The men's doubles went the wrong way from two deuce games, however Jill comfortably beat Judith Walker, 3-3.

The crowd were on the edge of their seats when Shirley took the first game from Denis Neale in the next set. At that point, however, the steam ran out and, but for Les Wooding losing narrowly to Clayton in the last set, Yorkshire then coasted home.

If the team can continue fighting for every point the breaks will come and so will the results required to stay in the Premier Division. I am sure they are capable of holding their own at this level.

To help maintain the effort regular players meetings are being held throughout the season. The second of these sessions was held at Aylesbury on Sunday, Oct. 21 resulting in some adjustment to the Men's ranking list. Don Berry comes in at No. 4.

Don was left out of the original list because his qualification was in doubt. This has now been sorted out and cleared by the CTC. Don's ratification has meant that John Leith and Pete Sears move down one position. The remainder of the list now reads:— 7. M. Dean, 8. J. Davey, 9. B. Savage, 10. A. Clarke, 11. P. Leckie, 12. J. Cooper, 13. E. Durdey.

The previous day saw a very successful junior session at the same venue with fourteen of the County's most promising youngsters participating. A further session was due to take place at Bletchley Leisure Centre on Sunday, Nov. 25.

Players are asked to note that the Bucks. Closed Championships are to be held at the Slough Community Centre on Sunday, Feb. 17/74 at 10 a.m.

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County Championships Round-up

by JOHN WRIGHT

STIGA INVOLVEMENT IN COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS

The County Table Tennis Championships is delighted to announce an agreement with Mitre Sports concerning the adoption of Stiga equipment for the Junior Premier Division this season. Tables, surrounds, and net sets will be supplied for all three sessions, which will be staged on Dec. 29/73 (at Harlow and Nun-eaton) and Apr. 13-14/74 (at Loughborough).

PREMIER

Buckinghamshire 3, Yorkshire 6

P. Shirley lost to D. Neale 18, -15, -7; lost to N. Jarvis 16, -16, -13. L. Wooding lost to Neale -10, -12; lost to A. Clayton 10, -15, -18. A. Watson lost to Jarvis -9, -17; bt Clayton 10, 15. Watson/Wooding lost to Clayton/Neale -20, -22. Mrs. J. Hammersley bt Miss J. Walker 17, 10. Shirley/Hammersley bt Jarvis/Walker 15, 17.

Yorkshire relieved to take points from their first visit to Bucks. The visitors lost a 2-0 lead and only some fine play from Denis Neale gave them a win from MD against excellent retrieving by Alec Watson and Leslie Wooding. Jill Hammersley put Bucks. on terms again only for Neale to overcome Paul Shirley in 3 games (all of Shirley's singles to date have required a deciding game). Nicky Jarvis wrapped it up v. Watson although flattered by the first game score (7-2 lead became 8-all) and Wooding might not have hit so much v. Tony Clayton had the match score been 4-all.

Essex 7, Lancashire 2

D. Brown lost to D. Parker -17, -15; bt A. Rigby 11, 13. I. Robertson lost to Parker -8, -12; bt W. Allanson 15, 14. S. Gibbs bt Rigby 13, 15; bt Allanson 15, -23, 17. Brown/Gibbs bt Parker/Rigby -17, 16, 15. Mrs. L. Radford bt Mrs. D. Johnson 7, 9. Robertson/Radford bt Allanson/Johnson -21, 9, 14.

Surrey 7, Cheshire 2

C. Warren bt M. Johns 8, 12; bt B. Johns 10, 13. R. Chandler lost to M. Johns -16, -16; bt N. Eckersley 12, 17. C. Strathearn bt B. Johns 19, -14, 18; bt Eckersley 13, -14, 15. Chandler/Warren lost to Johns/Johns -17, 17, -19. Miss L. Howard bt Miss S. Lisle 17, 16. Strathearn/Howard bt Eckersley/Lisle -15, 15, 11.

Chris Strathearn making Premier

debut vice Richard Yule, emerged unbeaten in good Surrey win. "Connie" Warren very sharp and had no trouble with Mike or Brian Johns although the brothers took MD. Linda Howard too quick for Susan Lisle.

Warwickshire 5, Middlesex 4

D. Douglas bt A. Barden 10, 14; bt M. Mitchell -13, 24, 19; B. Burn lost to Barden 16, -21, -13; bt R. Aldrich 8, -19, 9. D. Munt bt Mitchell 6, -9, 7; lost to Aldrich -15, 12, -12. Burn/Douglas bt Aldrich/Mitchell 13, -17, 7. Miss D. St. Ledger lost to Mrs. K. Mathews -12, -17. R. Gunnion/St. Ledger lost to Barden/Mathews -15, -15.

From Warwick, the advice to those of nervous disposition is not to watch Warwickshire this season. For the second time a match pulled out of the fire from 2-4, and a marvellous match too! Andy Barden gave Middlesex an early lead, and when Mark Mitchell led Des Douglas 18-12 in 3rd it looked good for the visitors. Douglas pulled that one back, however, but Bob Aldrich rose to the occasion v. Derek Munt. Karenza Mathews again showed her worth (twice) and despite the (customary?) loss of MD, Middlesex led 4-2. Then the recovery—and just look at the scores of Munt and Mitchell!!!

2nd SOUTH

Kent 8, Berkshire 2

Middlesex II 4, Surrey II 6

Surrey just worth their victory in this tight match—they won all 4 of the sets which needed a deciding game. Credit to Gerald Walsh, who trailed Melvin Waldman 16-20 in 3rd with match score at 4-all, and who then took next 6 points from long rallies; also to David Welsman, impressive in singles although not liking David Tan's occasional "wood-surface" backhand. Angela Mitchell made her senior debut at 13, and beat Susan Tame as comfortably and calmly as 10, 12 suggests.

Sussex 8, Hampshire 2

7 sets needed a decider, but although the first 4 were shared Sussex took the last 3 for a deserved victory. Best set between Stephen Marley and Trevor Smith, with Marley's loop saving the day for Sussex. A good start to the host's campaign to regain their Premier place.

2nd NORTH

Cheshire II 8, Northumberland 2

Full marks to John Hilton whose opening set win over Peter Hoyles set the tone of the match. This was Hilton's first County outing since returning from Australia. Barbara Kearney found Doreen Schofield too

experienced and went down 14, -18, -8, but more will be heard of this young lady with the Ormesby style. Nice double for Phil Mayman.

Durham 3, Lancashire II 7

F. Short, on first team debut, put Durham 2-1 in the lead but Lancs. reeled off the next 5 sets before he had (and took) an opportunity to score another success. Lancs. worthy victors in a keenly fought match.

Yorkshire II 7, Lincolnshire 3

The best Lincs. performance v. Yorkshire for years, but not the closest result! Brian Hill an inspiring leader—fine 20, -23, 16 win over England-ranked Jimmy Walker. But Hill lost to John Kedge who was in great form and unbeaten. The home girls disappointed.

2nd MIDLAND

Gloucestershire 2, Warwickshire II 8

After a good start Gloucs. fell away badly and were well beaten. A pity all their players did not fight to the end as did Chris Sewell and Jean Golding—Jean only went down -21, -20 to Andrea Jones.

Nottinghamshire 2, Leicestershire 8

Staffordshire 5, Derbyshire 5

2nd EAST

Hertfordshire 6, Bedfordshire 4

With Beds. strengthened by Firoz Nilam (ex-Middlesex and Surrey) and David Rawlinson (ex-Herts.), this was a splendid performance by Herts.—a pity captain Barry White did not stay to see the end! Herts. had both Jack Bender (ex-Middlesex) and Chris Pickard (ex-Hants.) for the first time and Pickard mainly responsible for starting the Herts. recovery from 1-3 when he and White took MD from Peter Taylor and Nilam by 23, 20. Barbara Peters then reversed last season's defeat by Barbara Hammond for 3-all; Taylor crushed White, but Beds. could do no more.

Norfolk 4, Cambridgeshire 6

Northamptonshire 0, Essex II 10

2nd WEST

Dorset 0, Glamorgan 10

Devon 4, Somerset 6

A low-key match with one highlight—a superb WS victory by Jill Wilson over Pam Mortimer 24, -17, 18 which was richly deserved. This was only Pam's 3rd defeat in 23 outings for Devon in this division.

Worcestershire 10, Cornwall 0

Probably kinder not to say much: John Bassett sorely missed by the visitors who were unable even to take a game.

SOUTHERN

Berkshire II 2, Kent II 8

The home women gave the match score some respectability, but the visiting men were a good deal more experienced and time and again won long rallies when the hosts unable to conclude.

Oxfordshire 1, Buckinghamshire II 9

NORTHERN

Durham II 7, Cumberland 3

The introduction of younger players by Durham a success. Peter Edon played exceptionally well, C. Neath

also picked up 2 x MS, and R. Clarkson won his first then fell to George Lapping whose chop was too good. Jennifer Pachul and Yvonne Brockbank each featured in a win for the visitors, the former beating Mrs. Maureen Minto, the latter taking XD with Lapping.

Northumberland II 1, Cheshire III 9

MIDLAND

Herefordshire 1, Staffordshire II 9

No 'dream' start for Herefords., but closer than the result suggests—they could have got all the 4 sets which went the distance to add to WD success of Audrey Lawrence and Margaret Newcombe which was in straight games. Russell Preece produced some of his best form, but so too did Brian Keates for Staffs.

Glamorgan II 6, Monmouthshire 4

Shropshire 4, Worcestershire II 6

EASTERN

Cambridgeshire II 2, Norfolk II 8

Sets 3-8 inclusive went the distance and Brian Jones successfully involved in two of these for Cambs., beating Stan Honor and taking MD with Keith Richardson. Richardson unlucky to go down 20, -21, -21 to R. Butler, but the best player on view was visiting Bob Mitcham who was rarely in trouble.

Essex III 9, Huntingdonshire 1

Suffolk 7, Northamptonshire II 3

The reserve Suffolk girls had a good day and were unbeaten.

Hertfordshire II 9, Norfolk II 1

JUNIOR SOUTH

Hertfordshire II 10, Oxfordshire 0

Keith Heasman dropped a mere 19 points in his two BS sets!

Berkshire II 3, Hampshire 7

If they can continue to produce this sort of form, the experiment of a second junior team will prove successful. Alan Hicks picked up BS v. Kevin McQuade and XD with Mary Johnson, and Garry Roberts also won a singles. Steve Wilson and Linda Wales impressed for the visitors and both were unbeaten.

Kent 8, Essex III 2

Surrey II 6, Sussex 4

Keith Seager the star with an unbeaten record. Nicolette Leslie lost concentration in GS v. Hazel O'Brien, and with it the 2nd game, but recovered to win 10, -18, 12; Nicolette also took GD with Jayne Mitchell. Steve Boxall the other home winner but Martin Shuttle dropped both BS (for 1st time in 8 matches) losing -15, -18 to Gerald Pugh, -9, 17, -11 to Michael Douglas.

JUNIOR NORTH

Cheshire 8, Northumberland 2

Successful debut for Roger Idowu, and Cheshire too good for their guests.

DURHAM 7, CUMBERLAND 3

Cumberland's more experienced girls (they are in senior side too) won GS and GD but Durham had the better boys and avenged last season's defeat. Promising starts by Peter Masters and Linda Moore, and both Peter Edon and Stephen Hosking unbeaten.

Lancashire 8, Westmorland 2

Desperately tight win for Nigel Hallows over Brian Towell 20, -19, 23, with Brian the pick of the visitors. Ian Smith carried on where he left

(continued on page 27)

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