

**Complete Assurance**

through

**PARKSIDE (WORLD WIDE)  
INSURANCE AGENCY**

we are as near as your telephone

Ring **BARRY MEISEL**  
on 01-857-8589

# Table Tennis News

Official Journal of the English Table Tennis Association

EDITED BY GEORGE YATES

No. 85

February, 1977

Price 25p

## CHINESE CONTENDER



*Photo by courtesy of Don Morley, Allsport Photographic, 55 Martin Way Morden, Surrey*

**buy British and Best by**

**Jaques**



Published each month, October to May inclusive. Postal subscriptions £2.75 for eight issues. Overseas airmail £4.50.

**Advertisements:** Miss Cynthia Scrivens English Table Tennis Association, 21 Claremont, Hastings, East Sussex, TN34 1HA. Phone: Hastings (0424) 433121.

**Subscriptions:** Mrs. Bessie Clark, English Table Tennis Association, 21 Claremont, Hastings, East Sussex, TN34 1HA. Phone: (0424) 433121.

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

**Editorial:** George R. Yates, 43 Knowsley Road, Smithills, Bolton, Lancs., BL1 6JH. Phone: Bolton 42223 (h); 061-228 2141, Ext 2698 (b).

## POINT AT ISSUE

One cannot help but sympathise with Nicky Jarvis on being left out of England's official team picked for next month's 34th World Championships, at Birmingham.

In many ways the perfect ambassador, being also immaculate of dress, Nicky has never let his country down either on or off the table.

But sadly a specialist report had to be taken into consideration by the National Selection Committee when they met to choose the team at Thornaby, on January 8.

It was this report, coupled with the breakdown of the Cleveland player both in the Yugoslav Open and the Norwich Union Invitation tournament, at Wigan, that weighed so heavily against him.

No substitutes are allowed for players having to be withdrawn in a Swaythling Cup match and this was the real point at issue, coupled with having the player's future interests at heart.

That Nicky, on the following day, qualified for one of the extra positions afforded the host country in the individual events, was very much a personal matter.

One can only hope that, in being called upon to play the best of five at Birmingham, Nicky will be fully aware of the risk the England selectors were not prepared to take.

### ENGLISH TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION

Patron: Her Majesty the Queen.

President: M. Goldstein.

Life Vice-President: Hon. Ivor Montagu.

Chairman: C. M. Wyles, O.B.E.

Deputy Chairman: G. R. Yates.

Hon. Treasurer: T. Blunn.

General Secretary: Albert W. Shipley.

Management Committee:

M. Goldstein, L. F. Landry, A. E. Upton and K. Watts.



# ON THE INTERNATIONAL FRONT

by THE EDITOR

### HOPES REKINDLED

England's prospects of remaining in the Super Division of the European League were rekindled at Horwich Leisure Centre, Bolton on January 19, when a 6-1 victory over Czechoslovakia confounded the pessimists.

After four successive defeats the victory, largely inspired by an undefeated Desmond Douglas, ably assisted by Linda Howard, has afforded England a slender lifeline which can be grasped more firmly in their next and penultimate encounter, at home to Hungary, on February 9, prior to the final fixture away to fellow promotees, Federal Germany, in Munster, on March 3.

Douglas was the player to send England towards victory at Bolton when, in the opening set, offensive tactics carried the Warwickshire left-hander to a win over Milan Orlowski, the Czech No. 1 and former European champion.

Jaroslav Kunz, the stocky Czech No. 2, then forsook his normal solid style by out-hitting Denis Neale to level the match, but Linda Howard, standing in for Jill Hammersley, then revelled in the inability of Hana Veithova (nee Riedlova) to counter a two-winged attack which took England back in front.

It was a lead they were never to lose as first Douglas and Neale combined to win the men's doubles, to be followed by an equally convincing win by Douglas and Miss Howard. It was in the second game of the mixed that the Czechs capitulated, although Kunz, in the penultimate set, won the first game but could not contain the rampant Douglas. In the final set, Neale, playing with reckless abandon, drove in the last nail that afforded England their deserved win but by the most unexpected of margins.

Individual scores:—

D. Douglas bt M. Orlowski 17, -16, 16.  
D. Neale lost to J. Kunz -13, -11.  
L. Howard bt H. Veithova 18, 15.  
Douglas/Neale bt Kunz/Orlowski 15, 17.  
Douglas/Howard bt Orlowski/Veithova 20, 10.  
Douglas bt Kunz -16, 11, 13.  
Neale bt Orlowski 19, 15.

Of significance, on the same night in Győr, Hungary "whitewashed" Federal Germany 7-0, only two of the seven sets going into a deciding game. These were the first involving Tibor Klampar and Hans-Joachim Nolten and the mixed contested by Gabor Gergely and Judit Magos and Peter Engel and Ursula Hirschmüller. Scores:—

T. Klampar bt H-J. Nolten -12, 8, 18.  
G. Gergely bt P. Engel 20, 21.  
J. Magos bt U. Hirschmüller 14, 13.  
Gergely/Klampar bt Engel/Nolten 16, 16.  
Gergely/Magos bt Engel/Hirschmüller 5, -13, 16.  
Klampar bt Engel 13, 13.  
Gergely bt Nolten 8, 18.

Yugoslavia, at home to the Soviet Union, in Pristina, were beaten 5-2 and, like England and Federal Germany, can still only boast one win. At home to France in their next match and away to Sweden for the last, it would be ironic should the defending title-holders be relegated, and yet it could happen. Only Milivoj Karakasevic, with a win over Anatoly Strokotov and Dragutin Surbek at the expense of the

same player, were successful in Pristina.

Scores:—

D. Surbek lost to S. Gomozkov -17, 16, -21.  
M. Karakasevic bt A. Strokotov 18, 15.  
D. Fabri lost to E. Antonian -8, -20.  
A. Stipanovic/Surbek lost to Gomozkov/Strokotov -11, -17.  
Stipanovic/G. Perkucin lost to S. Sarkhojan/Antonian -18, -19.  
Surbek bt Strokotov 20, 17.  
Karakasevic lost to Gomozkov -17, 19, -18.

The scheduled match between France and Sweden was postponed because of the tragic death of Hasse Alser. It is to be played late this month.

### SUPER DIVISION

	P	W	L	F	A	Pts
Hungary .....	5	5	0	24	11	5
Soviet Union ...	5	4	1	24	11	4
Sweden .....	4	3	1	20	8	3
France .....	4	2	2	18	10	2
Czechosl'kia ...	5	2	3	16	19	2
Yugoslavia ...	5	1	4	13	22	1
F. Germany ...	5	1	4	10	25	1
England .....	5	1	4	8	27	1

Remaining fixtures:—

Feb. 9—England v Hungary (Portsmouth)  
10—Yugoslavia v France  
10—Czechoslovakia v Federal Germany  
10—Soviet Union v Sweden  
Mar. 3—Sweden v Yugoslavia  
3—Hungary v Czechoslovakia  
3—Soviet Union v France  
3—F. Germany v England (Munster)

In Division I the Netherlands took another firm stride towards promotion when, in Craighavon, on January 19, they beat Ireland 5-2. It cannot be envisaged that either the Netherlands or Poland will lose another match, therefore sets analysis will decide who goes up. It was only after the Netherlands had taken a decisive 4-0 lead that Ireland met with success when first Jimmy Langan and Karen Senior took the mixed to be followed by a Langan victory over Nico van Slobbe. Scores:—

J. Langan lost to B. v.d. Helm -14, 15, -16.  
K. Keane lost to N. v Slobbe -13, -15.  
K. Senior lost to B. Vriesekoop -3, -16.  
Keane/Langan lost to v.d. Helm/v. Slobbe -9, 16, -13.  
Langan/Senior bt v.d. Helm/Vriesekoop -14, 16, 14.  
Langan bt v. Slobbe 17, 15.  
Keane lost to v.d. Helm -10, -12.

Eighteen days in the post was the fate of the scoresheet in respect of Netherlands' match versus Greece, played in Amersfoort, on December 15. The scores were:—

N. v Slobbe bt S. Voulgaris 18, 23.  
B. v.d. Helm bt D. Zikos 19, 9.  
M. v.d. Vliet bt F. Galanou -20, 12, 16.  
v.d. Helm/v. Slobbe bt Voulgaris/Zikos -17, 18, 17.  
v.d. Helm/S. Heltzel bt Voulgaris/Galanou 19, -16, 17.  
v. Slobbe bt Zikos 11, 19.  
v.d. Helm lost to Voulgaris 11, -17, -21.

More successful in Athens on January 19, Greece beat Italy 5-2, Zikos losing to both Roberto Giontella and Stefano Bosi.

Scores:—

C. Priftis bt S. Bosi 16, 21.  
D. Zikos lost to R. Giontella -16, 16, -16.  
L. Scivanou bt S. Milic 18, 19.  
Priftis/Zikos bt M. Constantini/Giontella 21, 16.

Zikos/Scrivanou bt Constantini/Milic 18, -26, 16.  
Priftis bt Giontella 16, -17, 17.  
Zikos lost to Bosi -12, -18.

Poland, away to Bulgaria, in Sofia, on the same night, won 5-2 to maintain their challenge and write finis to that of their hosts. Scores:—

D. Hasanov bt R. Czochanski -19, 12, 12.  
G. Damianov lost to S. Fraczyk -13, 17, -7.  
A. Rangelova bt J. Szatko 15, 19.  
Hasanov/P. Mitev lost to Grubba/Czochanski -17, 8, -15.  
Mitev/Neikova lost to Kucharski/Szatko -17, 10, -17.

Hasanov lost to Fraczyk 17, -17, -15.  
Damianov lost to Czchanski -10, -24.

At home to Belgium, in Drosendorf, Austria brought off their second win of the season in winning 6-1, their only loss being suffered by Dolores Fetter to Marie-France Germiot. Scores:—

E. Amplatz bt M. Lambiotte 11, 8.  
G. Müller bt N. v.d. Walle -18, 12, 15.  
D. Fetter lost to M-F. Germiot -17, -17.  
Amplatz/Müller bt Lambiotte/v.d. Walle 15, 13.  
Müller/Fetter bt v.d. Walle/Germiot 9, 17.  
Amplatz bt v.d. Walle 14, -9, 11.  
Müller bt Lambiotte 12, 18.

#### DIVISION 1

	P	W	L	F	A	Pts
Netherlands ...	5	4	1	25	10	4
Poland .....	5	4	1	22	13	4
Greece .....	5	3	2	18	17	3
Bulgaria .....	5	3	2	17	18	3
Belgium .....	5	2	3	15	20	2
Austria .....	5	2	3	14	21	2
Italy .....	5	1	4	15	20	1
Ireland .....	5	1	4	14	21	1

Remaining fixtures:—

Feb. 10—Poland v Greece  
10—Netherlands v Austria  
10—Italy v Bulgaria  
10—Belgium v Ireland  
Mar. 3—Poland v Italy  
3—Belgium v Netherlands  
3—Greece v Bulgaria  
3—Ireland v Austria

Promotion from Division 2 will hinge on the result of the match Scotland v Luxembourg, to be played on February 10, on which date Wales play hosts to Spain to decide the relegation issue.

Away to Switzerland, in Winznau, on January 19, Scotland kept their prospects alive when triumphant 4-3. Richard Yule won both his singles and John McNee recorded a very good win over the experienced Lazlo Foldy. The other win came in the mixed for Yule and Patrice Fleming over the Foldys. Scores:—

L. Foldy lost to J. McNee -14, -20.  
M. Frutschi lost to R. Yule -19, -15.  
T. Foldy bt P. Fleming 13, 9.  
T. Busin/Barcikowski bt McNee/Yule 13, -14, 17.  
Foldy/Foldy lost to Yule/Fleming -15, 15, -18.  
Foldy lost to Yule 15, -15, -18.  
Frutschi bt McNee 13, -17, 16.

On the same night, in Diekirch, Wales suffered a 6-1 defeat by Luxembourg, the only Welsh success coming in the last set when Graham Davies bt Camille Putz. Scores:—

A. Hartmann bt G. Davies 12, -19, 19.  
C. Putz bt A. Griffiths 18, -13, 18.  
J. Dom bt J. Ralphs 14, 8.  
Hartmann/Putz bt Davies/Griffiths -15, 17, 17.  
Putz/B. Krier bt Davies/Ralphs 10, 14.  
Hartmann bt Griffiths 8, -20, 13.  
Putz lost to Davies -7, -15.

#### DIVISION 2

	P	W	L	F	A	Pts
Luxembourg ...	3	3	0	19	2	3
Scotland .....	3	3	0	13	8	3
Switzerland ...	4	1	3	11	17	1
Spain .....	3	1	2	7	14	1
Wales .....	3	0	3	6	15	0

#### REVISED CLASSIFICATIONS

England's Desmond Douglas has gained a

place in both the World and European ranking lists. He comes in at =26, with Milivoj Karakasevic (Yugoslavia) and Wilfried Lieck (Federal Germany) in the I.T.T.F. classifications and at No. 16 in the E.T.T.U. list.

Also included in the E.T.T.U. classifications is Paul Day, at No. 17, with both Denis Neale and Nicky Jarvis omitted, having been previously ranked at Nos. 13 and 14. In the I.T.T.F. list Neale drops from =19 to =33 with Patrick Birocheau, of France.

Jill Hammersley is perhaps fortunate to retain her No. 1 ranking in the E.T.T.U. list and at No. 6 in the I.T.T.F. But in the World rankings Linda Howard is demoted from No. 24 to 35 and E.T.T.U.-wise drops from No. 12 to No. 17.

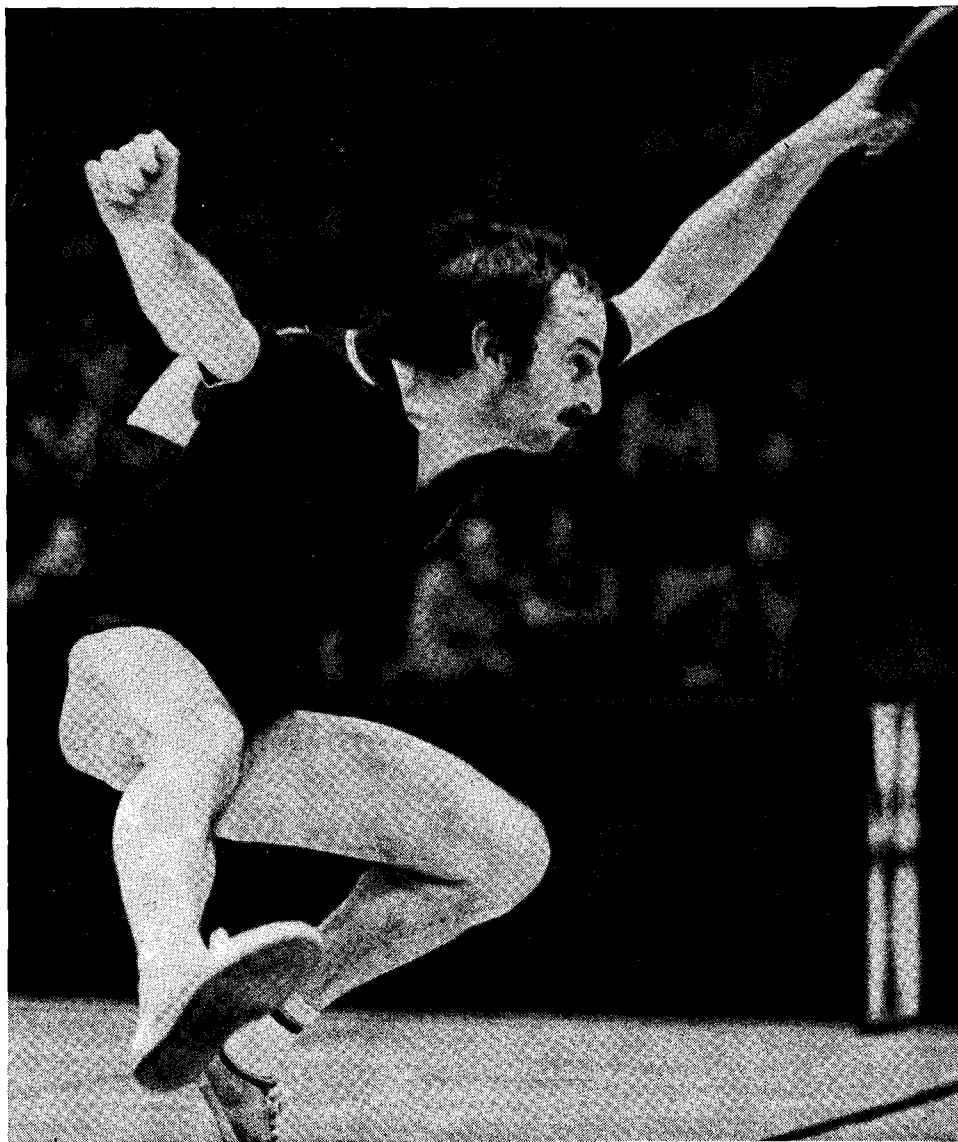
In the new I.T.T.F. list Hungary's Istvan Jonyer is restored to No. 1, as is the case with the E.T.T.U., but China's Liang Ko-liang drops from No. 1 to No. 3 behind his compatriot Kua Yao-hua, who is brought up from No. 8. The new lists are (previous positions in brackets):—

#### I.T.T.F.

##### Men

1. I. Jonyer (Hun) (—)
2. Kua Yao-hua (Chn) (8)
3. Liang Ko-liang (Chn) (1)
4. J. Secretin (Fra) (2)
5. D. Surbek (Yug) (3)
6. Li Cheng-shi (Chn) (9)

7. T. Klampar (Hun) (—)
8. K. Johansson (Swe) (4)
9. A. Stipanec (Yug) (7)
10. M. Kohno (Jap) (12)
11. N. Takashima (Jap) (10)
12. Huang Liang (Chn) (18)
13. S. Bengtsson (Swe) (5)
14. G. Gergely (Hun) (—)
15. M. Orlovski (Cze) (6)
16. U. Thorsell (Swe) (25)
17. Wang Wen-yung (Chn) (—)
18. J. Leiss (GFR) (15)
19. A. Strokotov (USS) (11)
20. S. Sarkhojan (USS) (14)
21. S. Inoue (Jap) (—)
22. K. Abe (Jap) (17)
23. Lu Chi-wei (Chn) (—)
24. S. Gomozkov (USS) (23)
25. J. Kunz (Cze) (15)
26. D. Douglas (Eng) (—)
27. M. Karakasevic (Yug) (19)
28. W. Lieck (GFR) (24)
29. C. Martin (Fra) (19)
30. Lu Yuan-sheng (Chn) (30)
31. Mehara (Jap) (—)
32. Chang Chi-tung (Chn) (—)
33. P. Birocheau (Fra) (27)
34. D. Neale (Eng) (19)
35. Huang Tu-seng (Chn) (—)
36. Yung Chul (KOD) (—)
37. A. Grönlund (Swe) (—)
38. Chul Yun (KOL) (—)
39. Kong Wae (KOD) (28)
40. D. Seemiller (USA) (—)



Jacques Secretin, of France, the European champion, who has lost his No. 1 E.T.T.U. ranking to defending world champion, Istvan Jonyer, of Hungary, and his No. 2 world ranking to Kua Yao-hua, of the People's Republic of China.

Photo by courtesy of Peter Fückert, Tamasu Butterfly Europa GmbH. Taken by Milan Richter, Bratislava.

## Women

1. Pak Yung Sun (KOD) (1)
2. Chang Li (Chn) (2)
3. Ke Hsian-ai (Chn) (3)
4. Chang Te-ying (Chn) (5)
5. Chung Hyan Sook (KOR) (4)
6. J. Hammersley (Eng) (6)
7. Chung Hsian-yun (Chn) (11)
8. J. Magos (Hun) (—)
9. B. Kishazi (Hun) (18)
10. A-C. Hellman (Swe) (7)
11. Lee Ailesa (KOR) (10)
12. Huang Shi-ping (Chn) (36)
13. I. Uhlíkova (Cze) (9)
14. Z. Rudnova (USS) (14)
15. M. Alexandru (Rum) (8)
16. Yang Ying (Chn) (—)
17. W. Hendriksen (GFR) (20)
18. C. Bergeret (Fra) (20)
19. S. Yokota (Jap) (26)
20. Shinpo (Jap) (—)
21. Lu Hsin-yen (Chn) (—)
22. E. Antonian (USS) (13)
23. E. Palatinus (Yug) (11)
24. T. Ohzeki (Jap) (22)
25. T. Edano (Jap) (21)
26. Yen Huei-li (Chn) (—)
27. G. Szabo (Hun) (—)
28. Kim Chang Ae (KOD) (16)
29. Pak Yong Ok (KOD) (17)
30. D. Fabri (Yug) (35)
31. B. Thiriet (Fra) (37)
32. B. Batinic (Yug) (19)
33. B. Silhanova (Cze) (30)
34. Chang Kang-mei (Chn) (23)
35. L. Howard (Eng) (24)
36. Sha Min (Chn) (28)

## E.T.T.U.

## Men

1. Jonyer (—)
2. Secretin (1)
3. Surbek (2)
4. Klampar (—)
5. Thorsell (17)
6. Bengtsson (4)
7. Orlovski (5)
8. Gergely (—)
9. Leiss (10)
10. Strokotov (7)
11. Sarkhojan (8)
12. Lieck (16)
13. Kunz (9)
14. Karakasevic (12)
15. Gomozkov (15)
16. Douglas (—)
17. P. Day (Eng) (—)
18. Birocheau (19)
19. Gronlund (—)
20. Martin (11)

## Women

1. Hammersley (1)
2. Magos (—)
3. Kishazi (9)
4. Hellman (2)
5. Uhlíkova (3)
6. Bergeret (11)
7. Rudnova (7)
8. Alexandru (4)
9. Silhanova (13)
10. Szabo (15)
11. Hendriksen (8)
12. Palatinus (5)
13. Fabri (16)
14. Batinic (10)
15. B. Olsson (Swe) (20)
16. Thiriet (17)
17. Howard (12)
18. E. Strömvall (Swe) (—)
19. M-F. Germinat (Bel) (—)
20. U. Hirschmüller (GFR) (—)

## SWEDISH MOURNING

Knowing that Hans Alser, Sweden's head Trainer/Coach, who lost his life in an air crash in Stockholm on January 15, had friends all over the world, the Swedish Table Tennis Association has established a fund, "Hans Alser minne", with the purpose of making possible the participation of Swedish Junior players in open international competitions. Contributions to the fund may be sent to:—

"Hans Alser minne",  
Svenska Bordtennisförbundet,  
Box 49007,  
S-100 28 Stockholm, Sweden.

The funeral of Hans Alser was scheduled to take place on Thursday, February 3, at Uppståndelsens kapell, S:t Sigfrids griftegård, Borås.

## FEDERAL GERMAN CHAMPIONSHIPS

Peter Stellwag (SSV Reutlingen) won the men's singles title in the Nationale Deutsche Meisterschaften, played in Berlin over the period January 14-16, his final victim being Klaus Schmittinger (Eintracht Frankfurt).

Ursula Hirschmüller (DSC Kaiserberg), with a final win over her clubmate, Agnes Simon, was the winner of the women's singles.

Men's doubles winners were Wilfried Lieck and Bernt Jansen over Stellwag and Schlüter. The women's doubles title went to Kirsten Krüger and Roswitha Schmitz and the mixed to Jochen Leiss and Monika Stumpe (nee Kneip).

## Results:

### Men's Singles—Quarter-finals

Stellwag bt Nolten 14, 21, 11.  
Horsch bt Schlüter -10, 18, 17.  
Lammers bt Lieck 21, -21, 17, -19, 18.  
Schmittinger bt Leiss -18, 19, -11, 19, 13.  
**Semi-finals**  
Stellwag bt Lammers 18, 17, -12, -18, 16.

Schmittinger bt Horsch -14, 19, -17, 16, 19.

## Final

STELLWAG bt Schmittinger 11, 10, 12.

### Women's Singles—Quarter-finals

Wetzel bt Wenzel 10, 9, 9.

Simon bt Lehr 15, -16, 14, 19.

Schnitz bt Hendriksen 19, 12, 13.

Hirschmüller bt Krüger 8, 18, 6.

### Semi-finals

Hirschmüller bt Wetzel 19, 21, 10.

Simon bt Schmitz 12, 9, 10.

## Final

HIRSCHMULLER bt Simon 14, 18, 14.

### Men's Doubles—Final

JANSEN/LIECK bt Schlüter/Stellwag 10, -14, -17, 15, 19.

### Women's Doubles—Final

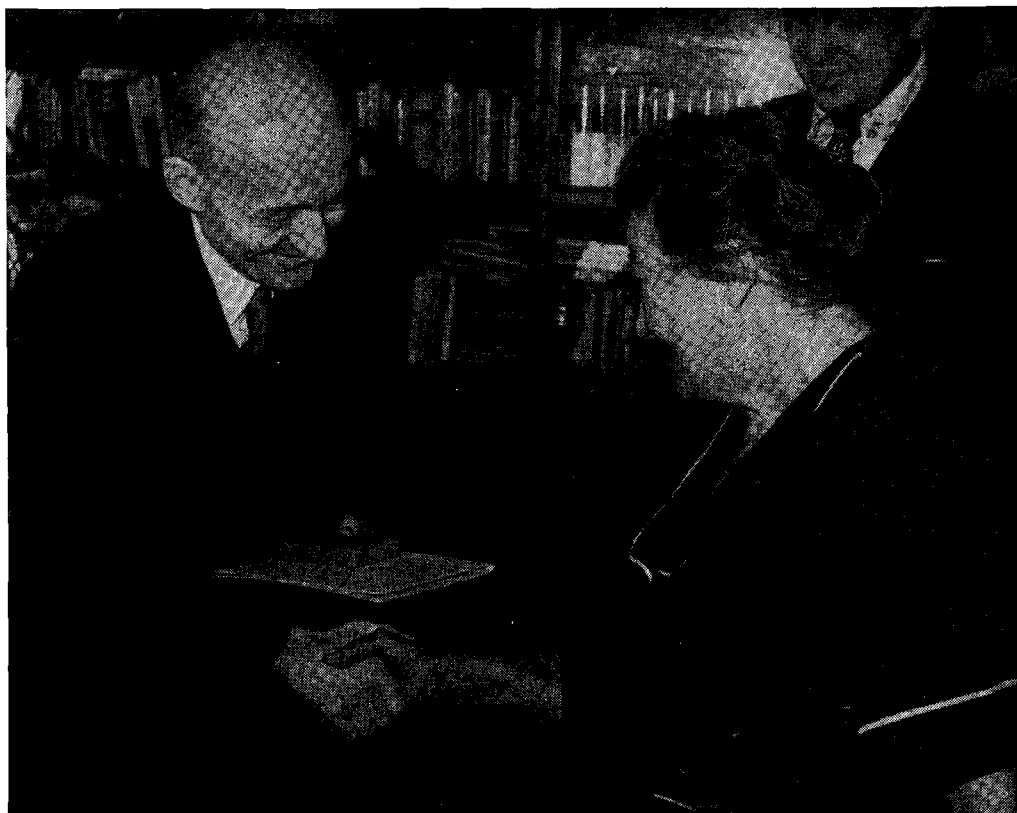
KRUGER/SCHMITZ bt Simon/Stork 13, 14, -14, 10.

### Mixed Doubles—Final

LEISS/KNEIP-STUMPE bt Schmittinger/Krüger 9, 18, 19.

## COVER PHOTOGRAPH

Ke Hsian-ai, of the People's Republic of China, world-ranked at No. 3 and a threat to European players in the Women's Singles event of the forthcoming 34 World Championships at Birmingham.



## HIGHEST SPORTING ORDER

On December 22 last, at her home in the mountains of Buda, Mrs. Maria Mednyanszky became the recipient of Hungary's highest sporting order—the Golden Order of the Hungarian People's Republic.

It was presented to her by the new President of the Hungarian Table Tennis Association, Dr. György Lakatos, in the presence of the Hungarian T.T.A. Secretary-General,

Mr. Tibor Horvath, the family of Mrs. Mednyanszky and newspapermen.

Mrs. Mednyanszky, now 75, was the winner of the women's singles in the first world championships played in London in 1926, and all told won this event no less than five times, also winning 13 titles in women's and mixed doubles. Behind Mrs. Mednyanszky in the photograph is her son, Laszko Klucsik.

## OLYMPUS SPORTS THE T.T. SPECIALISTS

For your special T.T. needs Ring 01-863 2455 or drop us a line.

Prompt service on bats and rubbers, and advice when required.

No postage charges. No lists.

OLYMPUS SPORTS

9-13 Headstone Drive, Wealdstone, Harrow, Middlesex

# Norwich Union International Championships

## Terrific Double for England

by ALAN RANSOME



A smile that would not wash off from Carole Knight, winner of the Women's Singles title.

Photo by Mathew Brawley, Cleveland.

The Norwich Union International Championships began at Thornaby, on January 6, with the Team events, which brought a terrific double for England. England's first Women's Team of Jill Hammersley and Linda Howard did extremely well to end a 12-year gap and take the title, for the second time, but the biggest credit must go to the Men's Team who, against the odds, beat the Soviet Union 3-0 in a very entertaining final.

The Men's final began, much to the delight of the home crowd, with Denis Neale beating Anatoli Strokotov in the opening set. This encounter saw some of Neale's best table tennis and his victory put England in the "driving seat" from where Desmond Douglas wasted no time in beating the youthful Bagrat Burnazian to put the home country 2 up.

England's top doubles combination, Douglas and Neale, turned in another good performance to beat Gomozkov, brought in specially for the doubles, with Strokotov. This again was in straight games. A tremendous performance!

Earlier in the day England had topped Group 'B' so getting them through to the final, but not without incident. They started off by beating Hungary 3-0, a result which was as convincing as the score suggests. The first drama came when they played Scotland and Neale lost the opening set to Richard Yule. Douglas came to the rescue with a comfortable victory over John McNee, combined with Neale to win the

doubles and then defeated Yule to take the English pair through.

Their third match against Denmark was a cliff-hanger. Douglas began by beating Claus Pedersen at deuce in the third, and then Neale put England 2 up by beating Bjerne Grimstrup by the same score. But, having lost two sets by the narrowest of possible margins, the Danes crumbled in the doubles.

In Group 'A' Russia won through without any real difficulty, beating Wales, Canada and the England II (Jimmy Walker and Paul Day) by 3-0 margins.

Perhaps the most interesting match was the clash between Canada and England II, which England won 3-1 with only the loss of the doubles. Both Walker and Day did well to beat world-ranked Errol Caetano in this match.

The Women's Team final, in which England beat the Soviet Union 3-1, was a comparatively easy result for the home team. Jill Hammersley opened the account by beating Tatjana Ferdman 11 and 8 in a set which was as easy as the score suggests. Linda Howard played her part by beating the youthful Valentina Popova, 15 in the decider, but the English pair, so successful in international events in the past, surprisingly lost the doubles. One felt that had England been in an even position with the doubles to play, the home pair could well have won. However, Jill wasted no time in clinching victory for England by taking the young Popova without difficulty.

In the qualifying groups England I won Group 'A', but, like the men, not without incident. In their first match against Belgium, Linda dropped the opening set to Catine Verachtert -18 in the decider. However, Jill Hammersley came quickly to the rescue, winning both her singles and combined with Linda to take the doubles. The English pair did well to dismiss the youthful Canadian combination without the loss of a set, but again surprisingly, the doubles slipped away to Hungary in the third match of the morning, which England won 3-1. Linda excelled in this match to beat Gabriella Ivasko in the opening set.

In Group 'B' Russia went through by beating England II (3-1), Belgium I (3-1) and Scotland (3-0). In their opening match against England, Carole Knight and Karen Witt did well to win the doubles, 19 in the decider. Both Karen and Carole took Tatjana Ferdman to a third game which, in itself, was a good performance. Against Belgium, a surprising loss for the Russians, Popova losing to Veronique Germiot, the older of the two sisters. The English pair showed their inconsistency in the doubles, in the same group, when they beat Scotland 3-1. Karen and Carole won their singles but fell in the doubles to Patrice Fleming and Grace McKay. They beat Belgium I by the same score with Carole winning both her singles and England taking the doubles against the Germiot sisters. The only loss for England in this match was Karen against Marie-France Germiot, which was not unexpected.

### INDIVIDUAL EVENTS

The Soviet Union came back into their own in the individual events, taking three titles against England's two. The highlights of the Saturday afternoon finals, watched by 700 spectators, were the two excellent singles finals both televised on B.B.C. "Grandstand" and providing top-class viewing.

In the Men's Singles, Douglas put up a brave showing against the experienced Stanislav Gomozkov, going down in 4 games, whilst in the Women's Singles, an all-English affair, Carole beat Jill over 5 thrilling games.

The Men's Singles commenced on Friday afternoon with a number of upsets in the opening round. The biggest was the win by Alan Griffiths, 19 in the fifth, over Neale. The Welshman played above his normal standard and the match was touch-and-go throughout and could easily have gone either way.

Other surprises in the opening round were Dave Constance beating Doggie Johnson, 11 in the decider, whilst John Hilton produced some wonderful play to beat Burnazian 14 in the fifth. Two excellent results from a Cheshire viewpoint.

The second round went more to form, with the exception of England's leading junior, Martin Shuttle beating Hungary's Zoltan Horvath, in another close affair, 19 in the decider. Shuttle, too, took the limelight in the third round when he ousted Nicky Jarvis 3-1. Jarvis had been suffering with a back injury prior to the Championships and quite clearly Shuttle took full advantage of Jarvis's immobility.

Walker defeated the second Hungarian, Janos Molnar 3-1 and Hilton put up another good display to beat Donald Parker 3-1. Constance went out to top seed Strokotov.

The Quarter-finals went much to form with Strokotov beating Day, Douglas having little difficulty with Shuttle, Gomozkov getting the better of Walker and Hilton putting on another good display to beat Yule in the fifth!

(Continued on Page 8)

Probably the highlight of the event was the semi-final victory for Douglas over Strokotov. Douglas was a convincing winner in the first game but played exceptionally to take the second and third with Strokotov in good form. In the other semi Hilton put up a good display against Gomozkov, at one stage leading by 2 games to 1, then going down -18, -16.

In the finals against Gomozkov, the player reputed to have the hardest backhand in the world, Douglas put up a creditable display and of the four games three were decided by only 2 points. This was the margin which divided the two players.

The early rounds of the Women's Singles, played on Friday morning, produced a number of good matches, especially in the opening round. The eventual champion, Carole Knight, opened her campaign with probably the toughest first round for a seed against Valentina Popova, who had beaten her a day earlier in the Team event. This time Carole made no mistake.

Two of England's young girls put in very creditable performances against foreign opposition in the opening round. Both lost narrowly. Karen Witt led by 2 games to 1 against Ivasko, but went out -18 in the fifth, whilst Melody Lüdi led by the same score against third-seeded Ferdman and lost by an even narrower margin, -19 in the fifth. This was an extremely creditable performance by the Yorkshire girl.

**SURPRISE**

The surprise of the second round was the victory of Stephanie Jones over Angela Tierney, 19 in the fourth, Miss Jones having beaten another Cleveland girl, Jane Skipp, in the opening round. Carole Knight again had the most difficult draw, beating ex-Indian international, Rupa Banerjee, now playing for Canada.

In the quarter-finals Anita Stevenson was beaten by Jill Hammersley, Tatjana Ferdman played an interesting five games with Ivasko getting home 10 and 13 in the last two. Carole Knight had little difficulty with Stephanie Jones, but Linda Howard surprisingly went out to the Hungarian Marta Csik -17 in the decider.

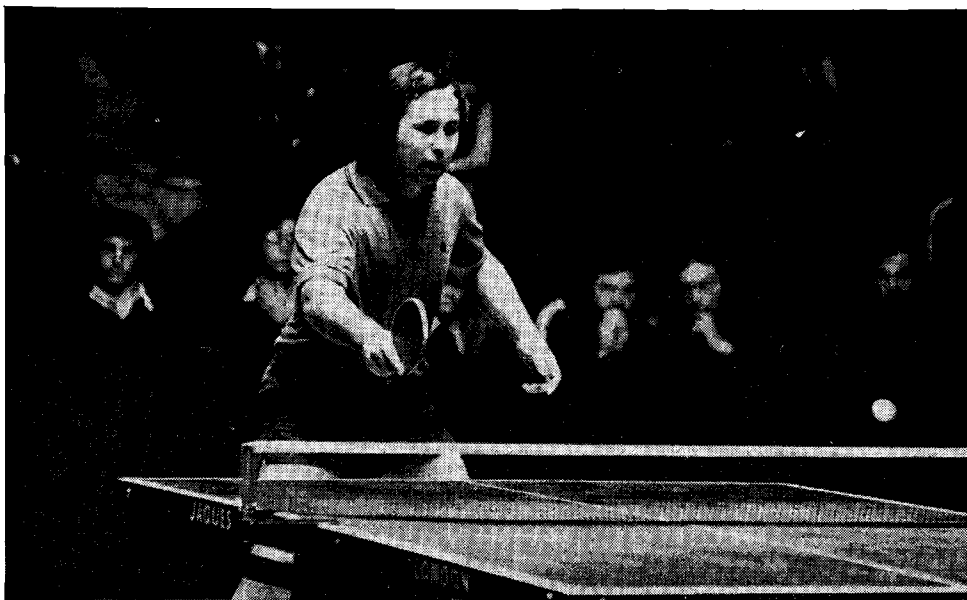
The semi-finals saw two three-straight victories for the English girls with Jill "carving up" Ferdman, whilst Carole did an equally convincing job on Csik.

The final was a classic. Carole, with an excellent style for beating Jill, proved her capabilities in the first game, winning 21-15. The European Champion fought back in the second taking it narrowly at 22-20 and then went ahead, taking the third at 21-15. Not to be outdone, the home girl bounced back in the fourth and won 21-11 and continued her good run in the fifth, leading convincingly at the change and going into a 20-14 lead. Jill, like a true champion, fought back, saved 4 match points, then made an error and Carole took the title.

The Russians, famous for their doubles play, took both the Men's and Mixed against English pairs. Douglas, in fact, was a beaten finalist in all three individual events. In the Men's Doubles, Gomozkov and Strokotov gained their revenge over Douglas and Neale from the team event 2 days prior. The final was a very close affair, with the Russians winning narrowly in the fifth. The Mixed was again a triumph for the Russians with Burnazian and Tatjana Ferdman winning over 4 games against our leading pair, Douglas and Linda Howard. In the Women's Doubles it was the turn of the English combination to gain revenge from the Team Championships. This time Jill and Linda made no mistake against Ferdman and Popova, winning in straight games.

**WORLD QUALIFYING TOURNAMENT**

Sponsored again by the Norwich Union Insurance Group, the qualifying tournament for the extra places afforded England in the World Championships, was played at



Stanislav Gomozkov, of the Soviet Union, victor over Desmond Douglas in the Men's Singles final.

Photo by Geoff Newman, Maldon.

Thornaby Pavilion the following day. In the Men's event the first player to qualify was Jarvis, who had been left out of the chosen squad due to his back injury. Still with the injury, Jarvis came through against Philip Bowen, Shuttle—gaining his revenge from the 2 days previous—David Reeves and finally Tony Clayton. In the second quarter Nigel Eckersley was the successful candidate with wins over Michael Laird, David Tan and Constance. The surprise in this section was the defeat of Hilton, who had played so well in the International. He fell to his Cheshire team-mate, Constance, -18 in the decider.

More upsets occurred in the third section where the seed, Ian Horsham, went out in the second round to John Kitchener in straight games. Kitchener fell in the third to David Brown, who had earlier beaten Alan Fletcher. Brown went on to qualify, beating Robert Wiley in straight games. Wiley had come through from an unseeded position having beaten David Iszatt and Chris Sewell.

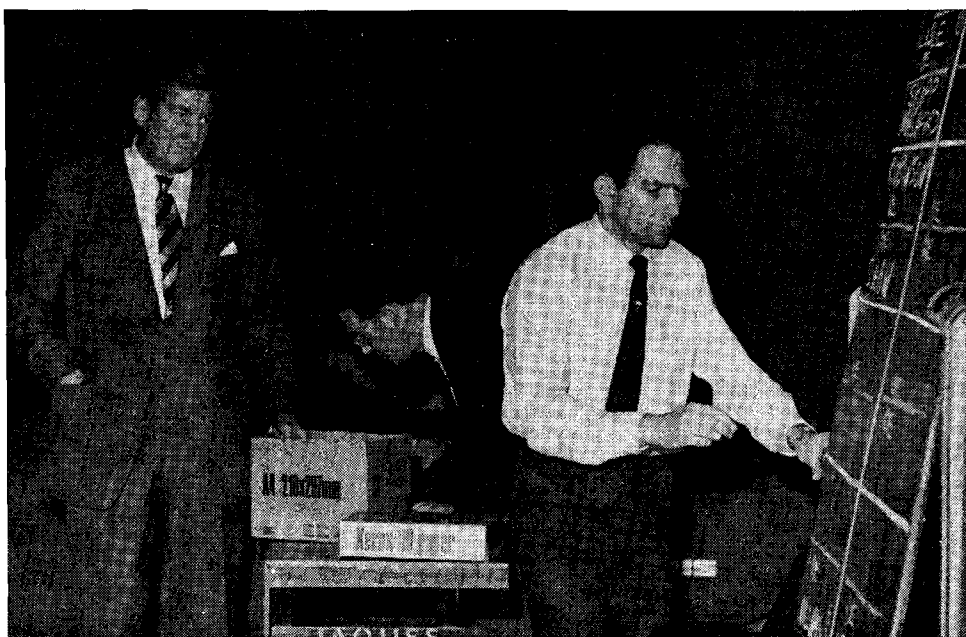
In the last quarter Douggie Johnson made

sure that two players from Birmingham would be competing in the World Championships. He started with a victory over Malcolm Corcking, went on to beat Ian Robertson and then Peter McQueen to qualify. Surprise result was the defeat of Donald Parker in the opening round by Maxwell Crimmins, who went on to beat Keith Paxton before losing to McQueen.

The players who were runners-up in each section played off for 5th to 8th position, so qualifying in order for reserves. The winner was Wiley, who beat McQueen in the semi-final and Clayton in the final.

In the Women's qualifying tournament there were only 4 seeds as opposed to 8 in the Men's. Susan Lisle was the seed in the top quarter and she won through without the loss of a game, beating local players Jane Skipp and Helen Robinson to win through. In the second quarter, where June Williams was the seed, Karen Rogers was the eventual winner, beating the Cleveland girl 16 in the final fourth game. Karen Witt came

(Continued on Page 10)



John McDonnell (Norwich Union) makes the draw for the World Championships qualifying competition after the N.U.I.C. finals, at Thornaby Pavilion. Referee John Wright records the draw on a blackboard. Assistant Referee Bob Edon is in the background.

Photo by Tony Ross, Hessle.



(Continued from Page 8)

through in a mainly junior third section. She beat her Berkshire colleague, Mandy Smith, and then Lincolnshire's Suzanne Hunt to qualify, whilst in the last section, probably the strongest of the four, the seed, Shelagh Hession, qualified without the loss of a game. She opened her campaign with a victory over Stephanie Jones, went on to beat Anita Stevenson, who had earlier defeated Angela Tierney over 5 games.

In the tournament for places 5 to 8, Anita Stevenson came out top with June Williams in second place.

**POSTSCRIPT**

Despite the low quality of world-ranked players, other than the home-bred squad and those from Russia, the Norwich Union International Championships, in Cleveland, could be considered most successful. The Championships themselves received a great deal of exposure through the media, television, radio and through the press, and good crowds attended all the main sessions.

Thornaby Pavilion, probably the leading venue in the country for this type of event, lent itself nicely to the Norwich Union International and it is hoped that the event, with a full-scale entry, will be played again at Thornaby in the not too distant future.

**TEAM EVENTS**

**Men**  
**Group A—Winners: U.S.S.R.**  
**U.S.S.R. 3, Wales 0**  
 S. Gomozkov bt A. Griffiths 18, -16, 13.  
 B. Burnazian bt G. Davies 12, 12.  
 Gomozkov/Strokatov bt Davies/Griffiths 16, 16.  
**U.S.S.R. 3, Canada 0**  
 Strokatov bt A. Polisois 16, 18.  
 Burnazian bt E. Caetano 16, 14.  
 Gomozkov/Strokatov bt Caetano/Polisois 18, 13.  
**U.S.S.R. 3, England II 0**  
 Strokatov bt J. Walker 11, 15.  
 Burnazian bt P. Day 14, 15.  
 Gomozkov/Strokatov bt Day/Walker 18, -16, 11.  
**England II 3, Canada 1**  
 Day bt Polisois 18, 15.  
 Walker bt Caetano 19, -16, 19.  
 Day/Walker lost to Caetano/Polisois -22, 18, -18.  
 Day bt Caetano 18, 12.  
**England II 3, Wales 0**  
 Walker bt Griffiths 21, 19.  
 Day bt Davies 11, 14.  
 Day/Walker bt Davies/Griffiths -11, 5, 16.

**Canada 3, Wales 1**  
 Caetano bt Griffiths 18, -13, 20.  
 Polisois lost to Davies -17, -16.  
 Caetano/Polisois bt Davies/Griffiths 12, -14, 6.  
 Caetano bt Davies -17, 15, 15.

**Group B—Winners: ENGLAND I**  
**England I 3, Hungary 0**  
 D. Neale bt J. Molnar 12, 11.  
 D. Douglas bt Z. Horvath 15, 13.  
 Douglas/Neale bt Horvath/Molnar 15, 18.  
**England I 3, Scotland 1**  
 Neale lost to R. Yule -20, -18.  
 Douglas bt J. McNee 8, 16.  
 Douglas/Neale bt McNee/Yule 16, -20, 13.  
 Douglas bt Yule 14, 20.

**England I 3, Denmark 0**  
 Douglas bt C. Pedersen 9, -17, 22.  
 Neale bt B. Grimstrup -14, 11, 20.  
 Douglas/Neale bt Grimstrup/Pedersen 17, 12.  
**Denmark 3, Scotland 2**  
 Grimstrup lost to Yule -7, 17, -23.  
 Pedersen bt McNee 12, 18.  
 Grimstrup/Pedersen lost to McNee/Yule -18, 12, -13.  
 Pedersen bt Yule -17, 20, 10.  
 Grimstrup bt McNee 14, 6.

**Denmark 3, Hungary 0**  
 Grimstrup bt Horvath -18, 11, 20.  
 Pedersen bt Molnar 20, 15.  
 Grimstrup/Pedersen bt Horvath/Molnar 13, 21.  
**Hungary 3, Scotland 1**  
 Molnar bt McNee 15, 13.  
 Horvath lost to Yule 18, -21, -12.  
 Horvath/Molnar bt McNee/Yule 6, 9.  
 Molnar bt Yule 18, 8.

**Final**  
**ENGLAND I 3, U.S.S.R. 0**  
 Neale bt Strokatov 19, 20.  
 Douglas bt Burnazian 18, 13.  
 Douglas/Neale bt Gomozkov/Strokatov 16, 18.

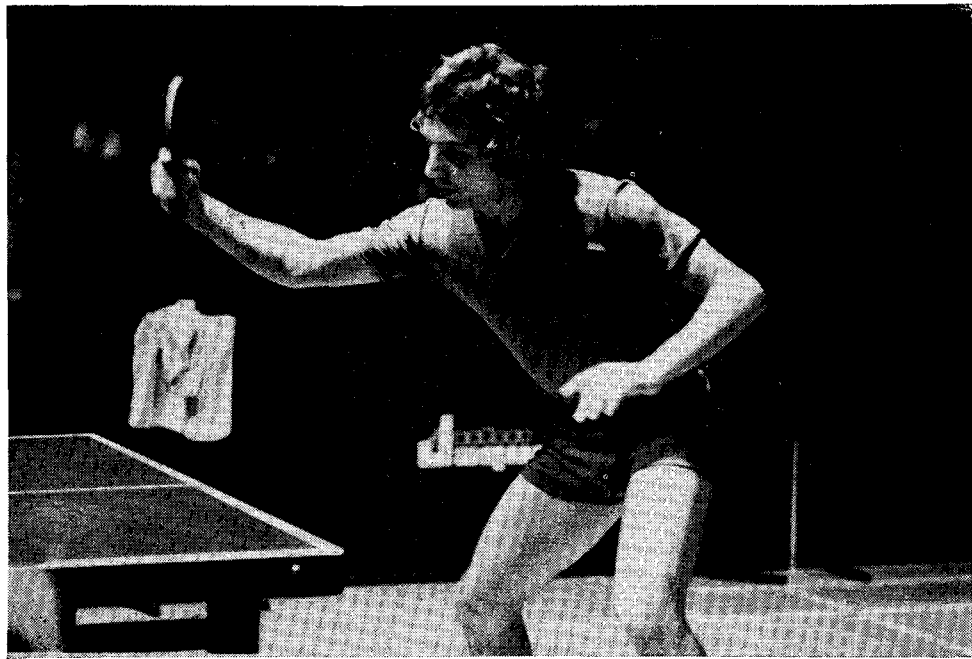
**Women**  
**Group A—Winners: ENGLAND I**  
**England I 3, Belgium II 1**  
 L. Howard lost to C. Verachttert 11, -18, -18.  
 Hammersley bt C. D'Hondt 9, 7.  
 Hammersley/Howard bt D'Hondt/Verachttert 18, 12.  
 Hammersley bt Verachttert 7, 12.  
**England I 3, Canada 0**  
 Hammersley bt R. Banerjee 20, 11.  
 Howard bt M. Domonkos 10, 18.  
 Hammersley/Howard bt Banerjee/Domonkos 12, 13.  
**England I 3, Hungary 1**  
 Howard bt G. Ivasko 26, 18.  
 Hammersley bt M. Csik 16, 13.  
 Hammersley/Howard lost to Csik/Ivasko 16, -13, -18.  
 Hammersley bt Ivasko 14, 19.  
**Hungary 3, Canada 0**  
 Csik bt Banerjee 15, 16.  
 Ivasko bt Domonkos 10, 16.  
 Csik/Ivasko bt Banerjee/Domonkos 25, -18, 11.

**Hungary 3, Belgium II 0**  
 Ivasko bt D'Hondt 19, 15.  
 Csik bt Verachttert 15, 9.  
 Csik/Ivasko bt D'Hondt/Verachttert 16, 14.  
**Belgium II 3, Canada 1**  
 Verachttert bt Domonkos 13, 18.  
 D'Hondt lost to Banerjee -16, -18.  
 D'Hondt/Verachttert bt Banerjee/Domonkos 17, 16.  
 Verachttert bt Banerjee 18, 18.  
**Group B—Winners: U.S.S.R.**  
**U.S.S.R. 3, England II 1**  
 V. Popova bt C. Knight 18, 19.  
 T. Ferdman bt K. Witt 11, -18, 12.  
 Ferdman/Popova lost to Knight/Witt 19, -14, -19.  
 Ferdman bt Knight 15, -8, 14.  
**U.S.S.R. 3, Belgium I 1**  
 Ferdman bt M-F. Germinat 9, 22.  
 Popova lost to V. Germinat -17, -17.  
 Ferdman/Popova bt Germinat/Germinat 15, 19.  
 Popova bt M-F. Germinat 17, 10.  
**U.S.S.R. 3, Scotland 0**  
 Popova bt P. Fleming 9, 15.  
 Ferdman bt G. McKay 19, 17.  
 Ferdman/Popova bt Fleming/McKay 10, 13.  
**England II 3, Scotland 1**  
 Witt bt Fleming 11, -10, 10.  
 Knight bt McKay 15, 12.  
 Knight/Witt lost to Fleming/McKay 10, -16, -18.  
 Knight bt Fleming 7, -16, 13.  
**England II 3, Belgium I 1**  
 Knight bt V. Germinat 17, 16.  
 Witt lost to M-F. Germinat -18, -8.  
 Knight/Witt bt Germinat/Germinat 10, 9.  
 Knight bt M-F. Germinat 7, -18, 19.  
**Belgium I 3, Scotland 0**  
 V. Germinat bt Fleming 16, 15.  
 M-F. Germinat bt McKay 9, 21.  
 Germinat/Germinat bt Fleming/McKay 12, 13.  
**Final**  
**England I 3, U.S.S.R. 0**  
 Hammersley bt Ferdman 11, 8.  
 Howard bt Popova 11, -18, 15.  
 Hammersley/Howard lost to Ferdman/Popova 14, -14, -16.  
 Hammersley bt Popova 8, 12.

**INDIVIDUAL EVENTS**

**Men's Singles—Round 3**  
 A. Strokatov (USS) bt D. Constance (Ch) 16, 4, 3.  
 P. Day (ENG) bt G. Davies (Wal) -18, 17, 18, 16.  
 D. Douglas (ENG) bt A. Polisois (CAN) 9, 13, 12.  
 M. Shuttle (Sy) bt N. Jarvis (Cv) 10, 14, -11, 15.  
 S. Gomozkov (USS) bt C. Pedersen (DEN) -16, 14, 15, -19, 10.  
 J. Walker (ENG) bt J. Molnar (HUN) 19, 14, -15, 13.  
 J. Hilton (Ch) bt L. Parker (La) -18, 9, 16, 9.  
 R. Yule (SCO) bt A. Griffiths (Wal) 13, -18, 19, -17, 19  
**Quarter-finals**  
 Strokatov bt Day 19, 11, -15, 16  
 Douglas bt Shuttle 18, 14, 11.  
 Gomozkov bt Walker 18, 6, -21, 18.  
 Hilton bt Yule -8, -18, 14, 11, 17.  
**Semi-finals**  
 Douglas bt Strokaov 10, 22, 21.

Gomozkov bt Hilton 18, -17, -10, 18, 16.  
**Final**  
 GOMOZKOV bt Douglas 19, -19, 11, 24.  
**Women's Singles—Round 2**  
 J. Hammersley (ENG) bt J. Williams (Cv) 8, 8, 10.  
 A. Stevenson (La) bt P. Clark (Nd) 6, 11, 5.  
 G. Ivasko (HUN) bt M-F. Germinat (BEL) 15, -19, 14, 16.  
 T. Ferdman (USS) bt M. Domonkos (CAN) 18, 12, 19.  
 C. Knight (ENG) bt R. Banerjee (CAN) 17, -12, 8, 12.  
 S. Jones (St) bt A. Tierney (Cv) 15, -15, 19, 19.  
 M. Csik (HUN) bt C. Verachttert (BEL) 8, 10, 12.  
 L. Howard (ENG) bt A. Mitchell (Mi) 18, 10, 10.  
**Quarter-finals**  
 Hammersley bt Stevenson 13, 16, 18.  
 Ferdman bt Ivasko -20, 18, -17, 10, 13.  
 Knight bt Jones 15, 13, 13.  
 Csik bt Howard -17, 23, -16, 13, 17.  
**Semi-finals**  
 Hammersley bt Ferdman 16, 13, 16.  
 Knight bt Csik 17, 20, 10.  
**Final**  
 KNIGHT bt Hammersley 15, -20, -15, 11, 18.  
**Men's Doubles—Quarter-finals**  
 Gomozkov/Strokatov bt P. Bowen (La)/Hilton 12, 12, 13.  
 A. Barden (ENG)/Day bt E. Caetano (CAN)/Polisois 12, -13, 15, 18.  
 B. Burnazian (USS)/Parker bt Z. Horvath (HUN)/Molnar 11, -19, 14, 17.  
 Douglas/D. Neale (ENG) bt Davies/Griffiths 16, 9, 13.  
**Semi-finals**  
 Gomozkov/Strokatov bt Barden/Day 17, 17, 17.  
 Douglas/Neale bt Burnazian/Parker 15, 10, 12.  
**Final**  
 GOMOZKOV/STROKATOV bt Douglas/Neale 13, -19, 17, -13, 17.  
**Women's Doubles—Quarter-finals**  
 Hammersley/Howard bt C. D'Hondt (BEL)/Verachttert 12, 16, 10.  
 Csik/Ivasko bt Banerjee/Domonkos 20, 14, 19.  
 Knight/K. Rogers (ENG) bt Germinat/V. Germinat (BEL) -13, 11, 16, -8, 13.  
 Ferdman/V. Popova (USS) bt C. Forgo/C. Johnson (CAN) 9, 11, 11.  
**Semi-finals**  
 Hammersley/Howard bt Csik/Ivasko 19, -19, 8, -18, 18.  
 Ferdman/Popova bt Knight/Rogers 16, 13, 12.  
**Final**  
 HAMMERSLEY/HOWARD bt Ferdman/Popova 15, 16, 18.  
**Mixed Doubles—Quarter-finals**  
 Strokatov/Popova bt Caetano/Domonkos 21, 8, -16, 18.  
 Douglas/Howard bt Day/M. Ludi (Y) 18, 10, 20.  
 Burnazian/Ferdman bt Molnar/Ivasko 12, 18, -11, 19.  
 Neale/Hammersley bt Gomozkov/Knight -9, 15, -5, 11, 8.  
**Semi-finals**  
 Douglas/Howard bt Strokatov/Popova 14, 16, -14, -18, 19.  
 Burnazian/Ferdman bt Neale/Hammersley 17, 10, -19, 24.  
**Final**  
 BURNAZIAN/FERDMAN bt Douglas/Howard 13, -17, 19, 18.  
**Veteran Singles—Semi-finals**  
 B. Meisel (K) bt E. Emec (Sy) 17, -17, 6.  
 D. Schofield (Ch) bt G. Brook (Y) 9, 12.  
**Final**  
 SCHOFIELD bt Meisel 17, 13.



Cheshire's John Hilton, surprise packet at Thornaby Pavilion.  
 Photo by Tony Ross, Hessle.

**CLOTH CLUB BADGES**  
 made to your own design — Low prices — Quick Delivery  
**S. A. CORY and COMPANY LIMITED**  
 GLENGARRIFF, CO. CORK, EIRE.

# COUNTY NOTES SUPPLEMENT

## HUNTINGDONSHIRE NOTES

by David Deller

### SPECIAL OCCASION

The first Sunday of 1977 brought together 39 Cadet players from five counties to the new purpose-built St. Neots T.T. Centre, the special occasion being Panel 3 Cadet Assessment under the direction of National Trainer-Coach, Peter Simpson. Peter was assisted by Regional National Coach, Peter Hirst, Regional Coaching Adviser, Ken Marchant, and Panel Chairman, Len Saywell. Twelve coaches covering this area were also in attendance.

The top 6 boys and 2 girls from the counties of Cambs, Hunts, Norfolk, Northants and Suffolk had been invited and assessment of these youngsters will go to forming a regional squad. Twelve tables were kept in constant use with a varied programme, the day proving a great success and a profitable one for these young players.

With no County Championships fixtures most of the three member leagues' representative players have been in action in the S.E.M. League. Peterborough found it tough at Cambridge, losing in both the men's and veterans' sections. Dave Obee overhauled Ron Nunn for the men's lone win, whilst the veterans fared no better as a lone gain from Colin Dale, at the expense of Albert Jackson was their sum total of success.

The "Posh" do have one highly-placed side as their Juniors continue to progress well in Div. 2. After a series of wins they finally came unstuck against the good Kettering team, going under 3-7 despite two wins from Stuart Smith.

Another Junior side playing well are Hunts Central's youngsters in Div. 1. They knocked over Wisbech 9-1 and followed up by defeating Bedford by the same score. The Fisher twins were unbeaten in both matches with Mike Bradford (against Wisbech) and Michael Ringrose (v Bedford), taking 2 singles each.

Central's second string men have also recorded good results, starting the New Year on song with a 7-3 win over North Herts 'B'. The Fishers were again to the fore, with two good wins by Derek Smith, and Eddy Beeches weighing in with a solo. Central and N. Herts also contested a Div. 3 Junior encounter, with both teams engaging their second teams. The St. Ives-based team put up a good fight before losing 4-6, Melanie Ringrose and Paul Roberts sharing the four singles successes, whilst Richard Wells went down "dence" in the third.

The domestic league programmes have been as full as ever with no great surprises among the forerunners. At the head of Peterborough's Premier Division, City 'A' lead. Phorpres recently took over second place with a 9-1 drubbing of City 'B'. Whittlesey, who now have the services of Peter Berna, a former City Club player, are also well placed.

In St. Neots, Achilles have most of the top players registered and it is not surprising that they have built up a healthy lead. They recently accounted for Little Paxton, 8-2, the team which surprisingly ended the long-time Achilles supremacy last season by taking the title. St. Neots Aces and unbeaten St. Ives 'A' are the next two sides in the table.

The Premier Division of the Hunts' Central League has N.C.I. still ploughing

the points with a recent hammering of Telephones 'A' 9-1. St. Ives 'A', runners-up last time, may have to be content with a similar position again as good 10-0 wins over St. Neots and Little Paxton has again found them one from the top. It will be a surprise if they are able to turn the tables on the N.C.I. outfit.

Revised Junior rankings:—

#### Boys

1. Mark Fisher (I)
2. Steven Fisher (I)
3. Stuart Smith (P)
4. Michael Ringrose (I)
5. Chris Randall (P)
6. Gregg Baker (P)
7. Andrew Herbert (N)

#### Cadet Boys

1. Graham Dale (P)
2. David Thorogood (I)
3. Richard Wells (I)
4. David Brown (P)
5. Richard Ballard (I)
6. Neil Saywell (N)
7. Andrew Cavan (I)

#### Girls

1. Belinda Chamberlain (N)
2. Melanie Ringrose (I)
3. Julie Cundell (I)
4. Margaret Brewer (P)
5. Janet Daft (P)
6. Carol Brock (I)
7. Debbie Roberts (N)

#### Cadet Girls

1. Melanie Ringrose (I)
2. Julie Cundell (I)
3. Carol Brock (I)
4. Debbie Roberts (N)

Key: N — St. Neots; I — St. Ives; P — Peterborough.

The St. Neots Centre now engages in a full programme of local and regional tournaments with a number of weekends booked during the next couple of months. All the S.E.M. events will be staged there, as will the County Closed.

## DERBYSHIRE NOTES

by Anne Fearnhaugh

### WELL ESTABLISHED

Following our last report regarding the burning of Derby Headquarters, I can confirm that we are now well established in Tobruk Hall. Work is feverishly being done to upgrade the building in readiness for our Championships on February 19-20. We are hoping that the East Midlands Sports Council will provide some grant aid towards the playing equipment necessary. Indications are that we shall be lucky in this respect.

A Junior training session was held in the Hall in December, on 8 tables, supervised by Keith Smart, our very conscientious Coaching Officer, and Junior Team Captain. This was a very worthwhile and successful event, although the numbers will have to be reduced for future sessions. A very encouraging point worth noting, was that several Senior first team players took part and Colin Deaton made a welcome return to the County scene. His experience and help with the Juniors will be a great asset.

Ivor Warner will start as favourite in the Derby Championships, no doubt pressed and energetically contested by David Yallop, Doug Foulds and Philip Vickers.

The County Championships are this year, for the first time, being organised by the Alfreton League at their new Sports Centre, on Sunday, February 6. The efficient and busy Neil Chapple, Dennis Lemon and many others appear to have matters well in hand with printed posters advertising the event for the first time in many years. I'm sure that their efforts will produce a very successful and well-supported tournament.

Ivor Warner must again start as favourite, although there is likely to be a very strong entry from Chesterfield, where Maurice Billington, Eric Hall, John

Wallhead and Neil Marples will add to Ivor's difficulties in disposing of the Derby entry as well. In the Women's event, Jackie Billington and Mandy Mellor are likely to contest the final and I would have great difficulty in predicting the result.

In the National team competitions, Derby had mixed fortunes. The girls lost 4-5 to Lincoln with Linda Holmes winning 2, Anne Fearnough and Karen Smart one each. In the corresponding boys' event, Stephen Yallop, John Hibbert and Robert Albutt beat Grimsby 8-1 and go on to play Leicester.

Sheepbridge 'A', from Chesterfield, played St. Andrew's, of Derby, in the National Club competition. Sheepbridge (Alan Croome, Neil Marples, John Wallhead) in recent years have done well in this competition, but this year, in front of a partisan Derby crowd, at Headquarters, they went down 4-5 to the Saints. For the Saints, David Yallop and Philip Vickers won 2 each, Stephen Yallop won 1, giving Croome the fright of his life, just losing -18 in the third. Odd man out, Wallhead, lost all three, but not for lack of trying.

Keith Smart took a batch of youngsters to the Lincoln Junior. Whilst all played commendably, the day, from Derby's point of view, belonged to Linda Holmes, who reached the girls' U-17 final. On the way she beat England-ranked Alison Gordon and Helen Gore. In the final she lost to Mandy Reeves, of Middlesex.

In the Midland League, Derby men's 1st team lost to Chesterfield 4-6 and drew with Leicester. This team will have to fight very hard to avoid relegation with only 1 point being earned in 5 matches.

The three Junior teams are having mixed fortunes, but competing well. Our veterans, as usual, are trying hard but still without success. (Never mind, it's the enjoyment and competing that matters).

There is a new air of hope and optimism in the County with the addition of Eastwood and Buxton Leagues, and enquiries from Ashbourne. The Management Committee, although stronger this year, just needs that little extra effort and push in the direction of the schools and non-member towns, and we could see a welcome expansion of local Table Tennis, particularly apt in World Championship year.

## NORTHUMBERLAND NOTES

by Pauline Jackson

### NEW RANKINGS

New senior ranking lists were recently issued by the County Executive Committee, and these are shown below, with previous ranking in brackets.

#### Men

1. Andrew Clark (1); 2. Chris Shepherd (3); 3. Fred Short (4); 4. Malcolm McMaster (5); 5. Tony McQueen (6); 6. Glen McCardle (11); 7. Peter Gorman (12); 8. Eddie Thomas (7); 9. Arnold Warents (—); 10. Ray Neal (—); 11. Peter Whiteman (9); 12. Walter Rossiter (8).

Omitted from the list are Alan Jones (2), George Cole (10), Dave Donalson (13), Tom Peel (14), Steve Whittaker (15) and Stephen Robinson (16).

#### Women

1. Phil Clark (1); 2. Kit Cheung (6); 3. Valerie Smith (5); 4. Pauline Jackson (3); 5. Lucille Deeming (nee Clark) (13); 6. Christine Joyce (4); 7. Lily Aust (—); 8. Julie Hobson (8); 9. Joan Harland (—); 10. Daphne Russell (10).

Omitted from the list are Pat Small (2), Joan Leslie (7), Ann Henderson (9), Margaret Hobson (11), and Vicky Frankland (12).

The junior boys' and girls' ranking lists both remain unchanged, with Eddie Thomas and Julie Hobson retaining top positions.

Things have been fairly quiet on the



County front recently, the only fixture being on January 15 when the junior team met Derbyshire, at Byker Community Centre. Unfortunately the match resulted in a 0-10 defeat, but several of the sets went very close, especially "the one that got away" in the boys' doubles when Eddie Thomas and Bernard Clark lost 21-23 in the third after being a game and 13-4 up against Stephen Yallop and Robert Allen. This was disappointing for Northumberland, but all credit must go to Derbyshire for a great fight-back. All three County teams will next be in action on January 29, when the first team are at home to Lincolnshire, the second team at home to Derbyshire II, and the junior team away to Lancashire Juniors.

The Northumberland League representative teams were all involved in the National Team Competitions, but unfortunately, all have now made their exits at the hands of stronger opposition. On January 3, Byker Community Centre staged both the third round Wilmott Cup and Rose Bowl matches against Ormesby, but although the holiday attracted a large crowd, both teams (Andrew Clark, Chris Shepherd and Peter Hoyles v Nicky Jarvis, Jimmy Walker and Robert Wiley; Kit Cheung, Valerie Smith and Pauline Jackson v Carole Knight, June Williams and Angela Tierney) were beaten as expected by the winning margin of 0-6. The Carter Cup team of Eddie Thomas, Roger Bambrough and Mark Kimberley were drawn away to Millom, and returned with a 1-6 defeat, but not before Eddie Thomas had sensationally given Northumberland a 1-0 lead by defeating Chris Reed, No. 12 England-ranked junior, in two deuce games. Unfortunately, it was too good to last, but no doubt this game will be remembered for a long time to come.

The current Northumberland League tables as at the 14th week of the League season, show the leaders as follows:—

**Premier:** B.E.C. House 'B'; **Division 1:** Prudhoe Y.A.; **Division 2A:** Electrics 'B'; **Division 2B:** Delaval C.C. 'A'; **Division 3A:** Woodlands Park C.C. 'B'; **Division 3B:** St. Wilfrid's 'B'; **Division 3C:** Sevcon 'A'; **Division 4A:** Tyne Gas Welfare. **Division 4B:** B.S.R.A.

A party of players and officials representing the Association, left for Bergen on January 17, and will return during following weekend. The trip will include a tournament plus the Annual North Sea Cup Competition between Newcastle and Bergen representative teams, and there will also be several opportunities for shopping and sightseeing. The experience should certainly prove beneficial for the younger players who are attending for the first time.

## THE CAMBRIDGESHIRE SCENE

by Leslie Constable

### BETTER AVERAGE

The only County match involving Cambs. since before Christmas was in Junior Div. 2 Midland against Leicestershire, which was most crucial in that they could draw away from bottom-placed Suffolk, who like Cambs., were without a victory. Although they made a fight of it, Cambs. went down 3-7, despite a good win by Andy Withers, who now has a 50% record in this division. Should Cambs. be successful against Suffolk they could avoid relegation. Even a draw would probably be sufficient as they have a better sets average. There is a dearth of Junior talent in Cambs. and it remains to be seen whether next season will produce better results with experience gained by the present set of youngsters.

Cambridge are doing well in the Men's Section of the South East Midlands League (Div. 2) and top the division, being almost certain for promotion. But a return to Div. 1 is going to pose problems, as the present team comprises Veteran players like Ron

Nunn, Albert Jackson and John Thurston who, whilst playing well will certainly find Div. 1 more competitive and the policy of the selectors must be to find more youthful talent who can maintain top status for many seasons to come.

Cambridge Vets. are also doing well in their section and although their position at the top is not secure, I feel that they will again be successful. Nunn, Jackson, Thurston and Ken Green are the mainstay of the team which performs extremely well.

The Juniors are not faring so well but are maintaining a reasonable position in Div 2 and next season may see an even better effort by the youngsters.

In the Cambs. League, a crucial match between last season's champions, Soham I, and New Chesterton Institute, resulted in a 6-4 win for the former to maintain their 100% record. Thurston and Steve Andrews did well for N.C.I., winning two singles each, but neither could overcome County Champion, Keith Richardson, who was unbeaten for the winners. University Press and N.C.I. II closely follow N.C.I. I, who stand at level points with Soham at the top of the division. Fisons are at the bottom, without a point, and look like making a speedy return to Div. 2. Three teams are at the head of Div. 2, namely: Y.M.C.A. II, Torchbearers I and Soham IV, all with 14 points, with Soham III at the bottom.

There are still eight unbeaten players in the Cambs. League at the time of going to press and they are: Keith Richardson (Soham I), John Ashman (Soham IV), J. Firth and J. Jarvis (both University II), A. Spackman (Telephones III), G. Whiffin (Spicers), J. Puddick (N.C.I. III) and D. Pluck (Ely Fire Service).

Leading the averages in the top divisions are:—

Division 1	
K. Richardson .....	100%
J. Thurston .....	91%
A. Littlechild .....	88%
M. Palmer .....	85%
S. Andrews .....	83%
Division 2	
J. Ashman .....	100%
A. Thomas .....	95%
T. Gawthrope .....	90%
Mrs. V. Scripps .....	80%

Ralph Rust, the popular Torchbearers Secretary, has been playing the game since 1928 when he first played for College Servants in the old Federation League prior to the Cambs. League being founded. Despite his 65 years he is still a very capable player and recently had a big hand in Torchbearers II victory over their second team in the Handicap Knockout Trophy, when he won his three. I remember Ralph in those days and we had many a tussle for Federation League honours! General Accident gave a good performance when they beat 3rd Div. St. George's II, Chris Adams being the star, winning his three, while Phil Oakey was only beaten by County Umpire Mike Jackson, Wesley III, after their victory over Eastern Electricity, have now to meet Soham I and it will be remembered that Wesley II only lost 4-5 to Soham in the last season's final—a change of fortune?

It was a hat-trick of successes for the 4th Div. when N.C.I. III beat C.I.B.A. 7-2 but the losers had the man of the match in Dye, who gave the experienced Mike Sherry and Roy Bunting eight points and still beat them.

Wisbech are still without a win in the S.E.M. League but managed to draw again against Northampton, Geoff Davies and Chris Brewer both getting maximums including the doubles. On the same day the Junior team lost 1-9 and the Reserve team 4-6—both to Northampton. Wisbech have one fixture left in Div. 2 of the East Anglian League and a victory over Stowmarket would mean a 100% record. A 6-4 victory was gained away at Thetford when Diane Tooke and Anthea Rudd gained "maxi-

mums" and the three men each obtained a victory. The North Norfolk squad remain unbeaten after five matches, their last win, away to King's Lynn, by a 9-1 margin. Chris, Gay, Howard Lupton and Charlie Waling won all their sets.

The Wisbech League would like to thank Ian Marshall for all the excellent work he did for them during his 5 years' stay in the town. He revolutionised affairs and mainly by his efforts, many fine players have been produced, both Junior and Senior, which has put Wisbech on the table tennis map. The loss of a very good coach is very sad but good luck Ian in your new teaching job in Shropshire!

Paul Day has stated that although he had always been hopeful of selection for the England team for the World Championships at Birmingham, he was delighted and relieved to be named in the squad. Good luck, Paul, in this severe test, and may you have great success and uphold the flag for Cambridge and England.

Haverhill have produced some good players in the last few years and Andy Withers is a very good prospect, by far the best for Cambs. Carry on Andy and may we have some other bright young stars from this part of the world!

Umpires are still urgently required for County matches and it would be a nice gesture if there could be forthcoming a nucleus from each league so that they could stage a match completely. This also applies to coaches who are badly needed to help up-and-coming youngsters who, in time, will form a creditable County team.

## SUSSEX NOTES

by John Woodford

### MAJOR PROBLEMS

The singles seedings for the forthcoming Sussex championships for the men's crown were decided early as:—1, Roger Chandler; 2, Gerald Pugh; 3, John Clarke and 4, Sam Ogundipe. But the task of choosing the women's seeds for the tournament at Brighton Corn Exchange provides major problems and was delayed.

Tradition at Brighton is that the defending champion is No. 1. But who will get the other three places is anyone's guess. Some say Linda Budd and some go for Julie Reading. Others in mid-Sussex go for Carol Randall, open tournament winner at Bournemouth and Southampton and holder at Crawley, Haywards Heath and Lewes.

The dark horses are Christine Randall (Uckfield), Anita Gedge (Hastings) and last year's finalist, Angela Mock. All seven fillies will provide a contest of exceptional interest.

In an effort to avoid a midnight finish, the Brighton League organisers have axed the group play, all contests being straight knockout.

Bexhill remains the hot-bed of talent for 1977. A group of seven, led by Graham Gillett and the brothers Stephen and Adrian Moore, continue to grab the headlines in the local and regional press. These three, plus Nicky Standen, are creating havoc as Bexhillians in the Hastings League where they lead the Division 1 table.

East Grinstead are the surprise Sussex team in the Wilmott Cup. Led by the steadily progressing Phil Smith, they overcame Dorking to meet Brighton in the zone final. There seems no way past Brighton's line-up of Chandler, Clarke and Ogundipe. The Brighton men will need England-ranked players to stop them reaching the semi-finals.

Hastings boys, led by Graham Gillett, are still in the Carter Cup, bidding for the quarter-finals, and so is Eastbourne women's team, who this term are assisted by Julie Reading, formerly with Hampshire.

# CONTROVERSY

## TRAIN OF THOUGHT

by John Woodford

As I returned South from the England triumph in the European League, at Bolton, my thoughts centred on unprecedented new hopes that England may soon have (at least) two European singles champions, Jill Hammersley and Desmond Douglas.

After four disappointing defeats for England, journalists covering the series had almost forgotten how to write about an England victory. What more can be said about Desmond's brilliance? Who said Stiga tables are slow?

His speed was breathtaking. Caught close to the table with no time to do anything more positive than a half-volley, his opponents were still caught out of position time after time.

In my view, the best shot of the entire match against the Czechs came from Desmond in the mixed doubles, when he was so ably partnered by Linda Howard—she also played a tremendous role by winning her singles to put England 2-1 ahead—a half-volley crosscourt by Douglas left the opposition six feet away from any attempt to retrieve.

Where's the controversy?—with another win over Orlowski, Desmond has now virally taken apart the top men in Europe.

Table Tennis must be the only world sport and England must be the only country where a young man of such potential has to roll under buses to earn a living! Some-

thing will have to be done soon so that he can be released full-time for training trips to the Orient with the 1978 European Championships and the 1979 World Championships as the target.

Delighted as I am when this column produces controversial letters on important matters such as the World Championships tables debate. I am also surprised when a gentleman of Mr. Alan Shepherd's eloquence gets his facts wrong.

His most important point on the balance of trade situation in relation to the tables is completely wrecked by Tom Blunn's answer—the tables are free with this handsome cash bonus! Partly as a result of this deal every affiliated player in the country stands an excellent chance of having their guarantee-fund money returned.

So, unless Mr. Shepherd returns to all the players he claims to have quizzed and represents the correct version, I suggest he carries the responsibility of these players remaining unaware of the true position.

Coming to his attack on this column, one has to be thick-skinned on this sort of labour-of-love assignment. Otherwise no one would bother to become a target by writing thought-provoking material month after month without trampling on people's toes too often.

As I have said before, I resent correspondents who cannot make their points without personally attacking in this case, four people (two leading administrators and two journalists) and then still to express doubts on what happened in detail at the negotiations between E.T.T.A., Stiga and Jaques.

If a body appoints a person or persons to do a job, it either has confidence in those appointments or not. The National Council backed the deal and I believe the E.T.T.A. has no obligation to go further.

Regarding Mr. Shepherd's taunt about my limited travel, this season I have already covered most of England from Thornaby to Bolton and many points East, West and South; I only remember seeing Mr. Shepherd once and then he looked the other way!

Finally, I notice another belated supporter for Mr. Buckle, Keith Good, also from the Middlesex area. I reject the suggestion that I have questioned Mr. Buckle's character. It is his underlying motives, apart from the patriotic overlay that readers wanted to hear about, but I suspect that they are now past caring.

Writing to many Government Departments, and the Prime Minister could, I feel, be labelled "putting the boot in" on the E.T.T.A., I assume, in the hope that they would be keel-hauled by the Government.

## INTERNATIONAL CLUB

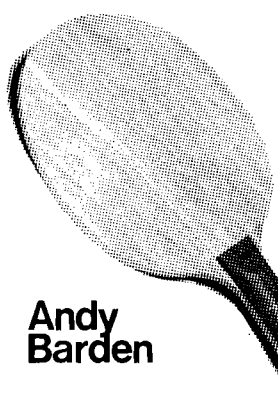
### SPECIAL MATCHES

by Laurie Landry

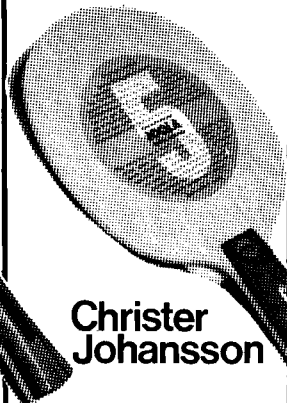
The International Club will play two special matches in the near future. On February 25, at St. Athan Boys' Club, Walthamstow, a very young Club side (Andrew Barden, Martin Shuttle and Mark Mitchell) will play a select young Essex side in a match, the proceeds of which will go to charity. Later, on April 30, a team will go down to Cornwall to play a return match when Tony Clayton and Laurie Landry will have with them Robert Aldrich, who will be playing for the Club for the first time.

# Blades & Rubbers

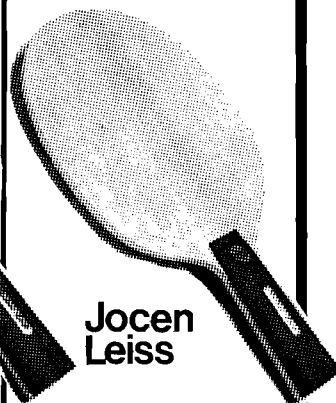
## from JOOLA!



Andy Barden



Christer Johansson



Jocen Leiss

For a choice of four attractive handles and two thicknesses, 5 ply and 7 ply, try Joola blades.

Add to these the first caoutchouc rubber, Turbo Super as used by Andrew Barden and most of Germany's leading players, you have the perfect combination.

Joola Anti-Topspin

Super Turbo

Joola Glue



# JOOLA

table tennis

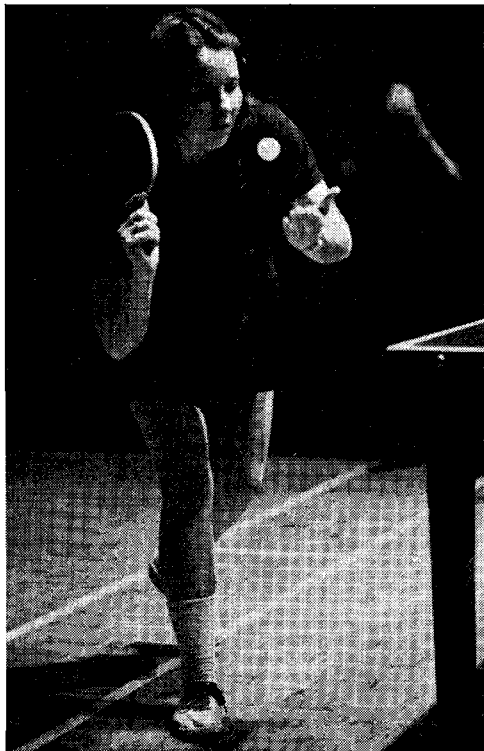


# YORKSHIRE NOTES

by Tony Ross

## MELODY MAKES HISTORY

Melody Ludi will be the first Bradford player to take part in the World Championships and will be the first Yorkshire girl to make the England Corbillon Cup squad since Kathleen Best (as she then was) in 1959. At 17, Melody is the youngest member of the England team, but already table tennis has taken her on eight overseas trips. She began playing in the Bradford League at the age of 11 and currently plays in Division 1 for Clayton Heights. Melody is a computer operator at the National Westminster Bank, an employer she also shares with England team-mate Linda Howard.



**MELODY LUDI**

Photo by Tony Ross, Hessele.

Another much-travelled player, but on a purely local scale, is the County's Competition Secretary, Graham Carr, from Knaresborough. Graham reckons he travels around 200 miles a week to play in five different leagues. He plays for Hermits in the Bradford League; Villa T.T.C., of which he is the secretary, in the Harrogate League; Moor Allerton in the Leeds League; Rawdon Cricket Club in the Wharfedale & Airedale League; and Bootham Conservatives in the York League, which he also represents in the Yorkshire League. In addition to table tennis, he plays in goal for Rawdon Old Boys A.F.C. reserves, in the West Riding County Amateur League, and in summer plays cricket for Rawdon C.C. No doubt I will be told if there are others who can match or even surpass this dedication to sport!

Mention of the Wharfedale & Airedale League reminds me that they are marginally the County's smallest affiliated league, with only 20 teams in two divisions. Having had to withdraw their two Yorkshire League Div. 5 teams last season because of lack of interest, the League has bounced back with two teams again this season. In this World Championships season Match Secretary Barry Pennett tells me that they are making a big effort to promote the sport in this picturesque part of Yorkshire.

In Div. 1 of the Yorkshire League, the main contenders for the title appear to be

Halifax, led by County No. 1 junior, Kevin Beadsley, and Doncaster, who field Notts No. 1 Alan Croome and County No. 5 junior Alan Summerscales. On January 9, Doncaster met Sheffield, who have provided one or two upsets this season, but on this occasion were without David Rayner. The home team won 7-3, the visitors' successes all being gained at the expense of the unfortunate Peter Spencer. Summerscales defeated his regular tournaments doubles partner, Steve Mills, the County No. 3 junior, 23-21 in the 3rd. The Doncaster-Halifax clash has yet to be played and should bring into opposition Summerscales and Beadsley, who are also team-mates in Bradford League Div. 1 leaders, Unity 'A'.

Kevin's Halifax club, Wellesley Park, lost 4-5 at home to Savoy Club, Blackpool, victors over Leeds Y.M.C.A. the previous round, in the zone final of the National Club Competition. Donald Parker won three for the Blackpool club, and although Beadsley led him 13-2 and 16-7 in the first, the Lancashire player got home 20 and 12 in the second, thus avoiding the nerve-racking tension occasioned when the players last met, in the Lancs. v Yorks. Second Division North match in December. On that occasion Beadsley led Parker 20-16 in the third before capitulating 25-27.

In the Yorkshire Club Championships, Kevin's allegiance is to Unity, and in the final of the junior competition, the J. Railston Cup, won last year by Leeds Y.M.C.A., fate has decreed that Unity will play none other than Wellesley Park! Halifax and Wellesley Park Secretary, Geoff Barnes, has mixed feelings about that! Unity are also in the final of the women's competition, where they will face Hull Y.P.I., in a repeat of last season's final. The draw for the quarter-finals of the men's competition is:-

- Hull Y.P.I. v Sedbergh (Bradford)
- Brooks T.T.C. (Huddersfield) v Wadsley Bridge (Sheffield)
- Hermits (Bradford) v Leeds Y.M.C.A.
- Wellesley Park v York Railway Institute

Leading positions in the Yorkshire League are as follows:-

### YORKSHIRE LEAGUE

Leading positions as at 23/1/77

DIVISION 1	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Bradford I .....	6	2	3	1	36	24	7
Halifax I .....	4	3	0	1	27	13	6
Harrogate I .....	5	2	1	2	24	26	5
Sheffield I .....	5	1	3	1	24	26	5
Doncaster I .....	3	2	1	0	20	10	5

DIVISION 2	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Doncaster II .....	6	5	0	1	44	16	10
York I .....	6	4	1	1	38	22	9
Bradford III .....	5	4	1	0	32	18	9

DIVISION 3	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
York II .....	6	4	1	1	39	21	9
Harrogate II .....	6	3	1	2	31	29	7
Leeds III .....	3	3	0	0	19	11	6

DIVISION 4	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Dewsbury II .....	5	3	0	2	32	18	6
Halifax III .....	5	2	2	1	27	23	6
Bradford IV .....	3	3	0	0	23	7	6

DIVISION 5	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Wharfedale & A. ...	6	6	0	0	51	9	12
Harrogate V .....	7	5	1	1	52	18	11

WOMEN'S DIVISION	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Hull I .....	7	6	0	1	57	13	12
Bradford .....	5	5	0	0	44	6	10

JUNIOR DIVISION 1	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Bradford I .....	7	5	0	2	41	22	10
Sheffield I .....	7	5	0	2	37	26	10
Halifax .....	6	3	0	3	28	26	6
Hull II .....	6	3	0	3	28	26	6
Leeds I .....	5	3	0	2	31	14	6
Hull I .....	3	2	0	1	27	9	6

JUNIOR DIVISION 2	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Wakefield I .....	6	6	0	0	39	15	12
Barnsley II .....	4	3	0	1	20	16	6

VETERANS' DIVISION	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Barnsley I .....	4	4	0	0	34	6	8
Leeds .....	3	3	0	0	26	4	6

A date for the diaries of Yorkshire table tennis supporters, players and officials—the annual County dinner-dance will be held at Bradford Cricket Club, on Friday, May 13. Yorkshire folk aren't superstitious!

## LEICESTERSHIRE NOTES

by Phil Reid

The month of January will not be highly regarded by Leicestershire this season. The 1st team played two matches which made certain they would return to the 2nd Division after only one season in the Premier. A 7-2 victory by Cleveland at the start of the month was followed by one of 6-3 by Yorkshire at the end of it.

In the two matches only one player could manage a singles win for the men. That player was Chris Rogers, who beat Robert Wiley at Ormesby and Alan Fletcher at the Village Hall of Barkby (Leics.). Other wins were the Men's Doubles (Rogers/Hall), at Ormesby, and the Women's Singles (Karen Rogers) and the Mixed (Randell/Miss Rogers) in the home fixture. Paul Randell—on whom Leicestershire rely so much—was well below his best form against Yorkshire as Alan Hydes played quite magnificently. Quite the best performance against Leicestershire this season, many people thought.

The 2nd team, without three of the players who had served them so well this season—Grahame Hall, Maurice Newman and Karen Rogers—were unable to hold Glamorgan II, who look certain to take the title. Still, there were compensations. Philip Smith had another good win and Eileen Shaler kept up her remarkable spell of Women's Singles wins.

Although the Juniors lost 4-6 to Northamptonshire, there was a quite sparkling display from David Gannon, who won both his singles, including a fine two-straight win over Gary Alden. This, however, was not the limit of Gannon's success. The following day Leicester Juniors played Derby in the Carter Cup. It resulted in a 7-2 win for Leicester with Rogers and Gannon both winning three. Victories over Steve Yallop, John Hibbert and Bob Albutt show how much Gannon has improved.

In the Leicester League, Knighton Park appear to have the 1st Division nicely tied up, with Barwell Libs. well placed for second spot. In Div. 2, John Iliffe is now playing for Barwell Libs. to back up Keith Brown and Barry Randell. It looks a pretty useful side to me!

Snipe, after their record-breaking season in the 2nd Division of the Loughborough League last term, now look likely to annex the first division title at the first time of asking.

The Rose Johnson Bowl is now reaching the closing stages, with holders Jones & Shipman still in contention for the title.

The voice of Mike Holt will keep "Radio Leicester" listeners up to date on the "World Championships", for he will be travelling to Birmingham Exhibition Centre every day. Mike has done a lot to get more publicity for table tennis on the local radio station and his efforts have been much appreciated.

## CLUB BADGES

\* Attractive Cloth Badges, made to your own design, in any quantity from 10 upwards.

\* Suitable for Blazers, Sweaters, etc.

\* LOW PRICES AND QUICK DELIVERY

**S. A. CORY & CO. LTD.**

GLENGARRIFF, CO. CORK, EIRE.

# JUNIOR RANKINGS

The National Selection Committee announced a new Junior Ranking List on January 26, which reflects the rapid changes in form of young players.

Martin Shuttle (Surrey) retains his No. 1 spot but the finalists in the Wayfarers Junior English Championships both show improvement. Winner David Reeves (Berks) moves up one to second place, while runner-up Kevin Beadsley (Yorks) jumps six places to No. 3. Mike Harrison (Yorks) and David Wells (Middlesex) both show considerable advances.

On the girls' list, Angela Mitchell (Middlesex) and Karen Witt (Berks) continue their Douglas/Neale-type battle whereby Angela takes over the No. 1 spot. Janet New (Dorset), the new English Junior champion, is rewarded with No. 3 position, and her opponent in the final, Mandy Smith (Berks) follows at No. 4.

Complete lists, with previous positions in parenthesis, are:—

## Boys

1. Martin Shuttle (Sy) (1)
2. David Reeves (Bk) (3)
3. Kevin Beadsley (Y) (9)
4. Chris Rogers (Le) (8)
5. Mike Harrison (Y) (A)
6. Keith Paxton (Du) (2)
7. David Wells (Mi) (16)
8. Joe Kennedy (K) (4)
9. David Newman (E) (5)
10. Graham Sandley (Mi) (11)
11. Richard Jermy (He) (10)
12. Ian Kenyon (K) (7)
13. Chris Reed (Cu) (12)
14. Steven Mills (Y) (13)
15. Kenneth Jackson (E) (20)
16. Bryn Tyler (Mi) (A)
17. Stephen Boxall (Sy) (15)
18. Joe Naser (Y) (17)

## Girls

1. Angela Mitchell (Mi) (2)
2. Karen Witt (Bk) (1)
3. Janet New (Do) (7)
4. Mandy Smith (Bk) (9)
5. Linda Hryszko (Y) (6)
6. Angela Tierney (Cv) (3)
7. Suzanne Hunt (Li) (8)
8. Jane Skipp (Cv) (4)
9. June Williams (Cv) (5)
10. Mandy Reeves (Mi) (A)
11. Stephanie Jones (St) (13)
12. Alison Gordon (Bk) (A)
13. Sally Midgeley (Y) (17)
14. Elaine Lamb (Dv) (10)
15. Helen Gore (E) (15)
16. Belinda Chamberlain (Hu) (19)

## GROUP A

## Boys

- G. Alden (Np)
- A. Bottomley (Y)
- D. Cammiade (Sx)
- S. Cowley (La)
- K. Edwards (Wi)
- G. Gillett (Sx)
- M. Green (Sp)
- R. Johnson (Bk)
- S. Kimm (E)
- M. Owen (Hr)
- I. Plummer (Cv)
- A. Proffitt (Mi)
- L. Smith (E)
- N. Smith (Cu)
- A. Summerscales (Y)
- D. Ward (Wa)
- E. Wilkes (St)
- C. Wilson (Ha)

N.B.—Tony O'Connor (Lancs.) not ranked —insufficient evidence.

## Girls

- E. Bolton (K)
- J. Boulter (E)
- Y. Brown (E)
- C. Buttery (Li)
- S. Cain (St)
- S. Colegate (K)
- S. Dickerson (Y)
- J. Dowsett (E)
- G. Galloway (Li)
- L. Garbet (Sy)
- L. Holmes (Dy)
- C. Maisey (Wi)
- H. O'Brien (Sx)
- W. Parker (Wi)
- N. Pine (Dv)
- J. Purslow (Bk)
- H. Robinson (Cv)
- S. Roebuck (Sy)
- E. Sayer (E)
- M. Wallis (Np)
- H. Williams (Mi)

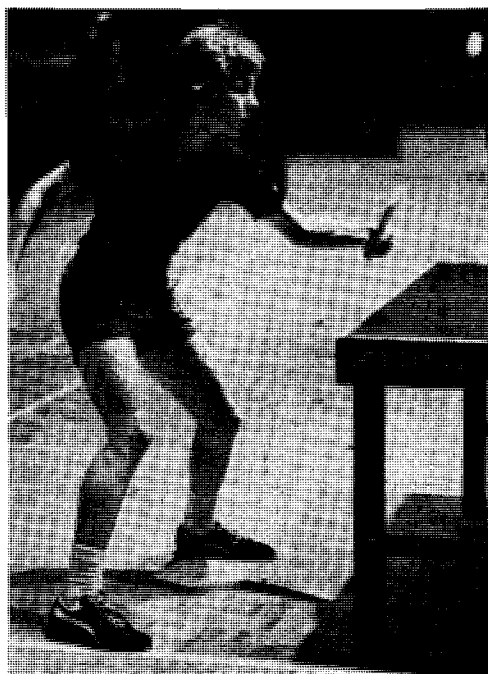
## CADETS (U-14's)

## Boys

1. Graham Sandley (Mi) (2)
2. Colin Wilson (Ha) (1)
3. Paul Whiting (Dv) (9)
4. Keith Nicholl (Np) (—)
5. Mark Oakley (Sy) (4)
6. John Souter (Mi) (3)
7. Martin Les (Mi) (—)
8. Kevin Satchell (Wi) (11)
9. Paul Stratton (Mi)
10. Michael Owens (Hr) (10)
11. Richard Bergemann (Ha) (6)
12. Bryon Johnson (Bk)
13. Steven Young (Dy) (5)
14. Steven Moore (Sx) (12)
15. Paul Rainford (La) (8)
16. Graham Russell (Sy) (—)

## Girls

1. Mandy Reeves (Mi) (2)
2. Alison Gordon (Bk) (1)
3. Helen Robinson (Cv) (3)
4. Elaine Bolton (K) (4)
5. Helen Williams (Mi) (5)
6. Julie Dowsett (E) (6)
7. Gillian Galloway (Li) (—)
8. Lorraine Garbet (Sy) (9)
9. Janet Deakin (Ch) (—)
10. Carol Butler (Dv) (8)
11. Shirley Cain (St) (10)
12. Sarah Cresswell (Sy) (—)



David Wells, of Middlesex, up from No. 16 to No. 7.

## NORTHANTS NOTES

by Dennis Millman

When John Palmer, Terry Sutton and Dennis Millman were all eliminated in the quarter-finals of the Kettering Men's Singles, a new era in the League was brought considerably closer. This trio, playing as Kettering Town 'A', have dominated the local scene for many years, and although Town 'A' will again take the Premier Division title, the present influx of young players should shortly ensure new names on the honours board.

However, Sutton and Palmer had little difficulty in reaching the final of the Men's Doubles, where they met the Millman-Dick Cole combination, which had earlier figured in the longest semi-final on record. Hard-pressed by the impressive Steve West-Ken Nicoll pairing, the previous holders of the title held on to win 27-29, 21-18, 34-32. Play was most capably conducted by Tournament Organiser, Jim Chatburn and Ian Nicoll.

Despite the inclusion of many new faces, to add to the more familiar ones, Finals Night was not to recapture such heights and lacked the flair and excitement of previous years, with the highlight coming as early as the first event, when Christine Price, partnered by Glennis Hooper, not only lost the Women's Doubles Final, but also parted company with her skirt in the process!

As anticipated, Anne and Mandy Wallis were the victors, before Anne narrowly retained her Singles title, beating Mandy. But the most successful competitor was the youthful Keith Nicoll, who won all four events in which he was involved, Keith, as his No. 4 National Ranking suggests, has many more tournament successes ahead.

Results:—

### Men's Singles—Semi-finals

D. PIPE bt D. SIMMONS 14, 11.  
KEITH NICOLL bt S. WEST 6, 8.

### Final

NICOLL bt PIPE 7, 18.

### Women's Singles—Final

A. WALLIS bt M. WALLIS 13, 25.

### Men's Doubles—Final

T. SUTTON/J. PALMER bt D. MILLMAN/R. COLE 12, -9, 20.

### Women's Doubles—Final

ANN/MANDY WALLIS bt GLENNIS HOOPER/CHRISTINE PRICE 18, 14.

### Mixed Doubles—Final

ANNE LENTON/KEITH NICOLL bt M. WALLIS/COLE 15, 18.

### Veteran Singles—Final

PIPE bt SUTTON 18, 18.

### Junior Singles—Final

KEITH NICOLL bt MANDY WALLIS 12, 8.

### Junior Doubles—Final

KEITH/KEN NICOLL bt STUART ROLLINGS/HOWARD ROBERTS 5, 11.

In the Under-15 Singles, Russell Mills beat Adam Parker and in the U-13 Singles Robin Pipe got the better of Terry Cardwell in an absorbing struggle, while the remaining handicap events were won by Chris Handshaw, Selby Chew and Jane Nicoll.

The Kettering League is well to the fore at the moment, for with a decisive 9-2 win over Daventry, the current holders of the County League title, took a major step towards its retention. As usual, Anne Wallis and Keith Nicoll were unbeaten, with doubles from Sutton and Millman, and a singles from Palmer completing the tally, as only John Bishop offered real resistance in gaining Daventry's points. Wellingborough gained a first win when represented by Dave and Dorothy Marsh, Brian Dangerfield, Graham Feakin and Mark Raven, they accounted for Towcester 10-1, with Alan Shouler gaining the lone victory.

County Championship sides continue to prosper and we presently have the rewarding, if unusual situation, of our Firsts heading the Div. 2 East and our Juniors on top in the Div. 2 Midland.



**BUCKINGHAMSHIRE NOTES**

by Christopher Hillan

**SMALL CONTINGENT**

In what has been a comparatively quiet period, the only major event involving Bucks. participants has been the Lincolnshire Junior Open, to which we sent a small contingent of cadets and juniors.

No trophies came our way, but the main honours within our squad went to Simon Skeet and Jonathan Bradbury, who reached the semi-finals in the Cadet and Under-11 Boys' respectively. Simon's eventual conqueror was Paul Stratton in a set in which Simon held leads in both games only to lose on lack of experience, -17 and -12. But he had once again demonstrated his potential.

Jonathan was a "just for fun" entry in the Under-11 Boys and confidently expected to be "murdered" in the first round. But his confidence gradually increased as he discovered the opposition to be just as raw as himself and he went down fighting in the semi -17, -8 to S. Worrell, a local lad. Of our other two entrants in this event, John Wilson lost to Worrell in the first round, and Ian Doughty, in his first tournament with the County squad, fell foul of his own nerves with a below-par performance, also in Round 1.

Whilst on the subject, one thing that has struck me this season is the comparatively low standard of play in Under-11 events. It seems that many youngsters are not being blooded into tournaments until the age of 10, and whilst this does not necessarily hinder future progress, it certainly does not help. I will be slightly disappointed if one of our own Under-11's does not carry off some silverware in this age group before the season is out.

To return to the Lincolnshire Junior Open, our second main hope in the Cadet Boys, Philip Bradbury, was also a victim of Stratton in Round 3, letting his opponent's heavy spin dominate. Both Simon and Philip were slightly disappointing in the Under-17 Boys, each making an exit in their first sets. They were victims of their own gross over-confidence in the second round of the Boys' Doubles, losing tamely to a Bedfordshire pair in a performance which I hope, for their sakes, will not be repeated. Our girls drew a blank except for a first round doubles win. But they then had to face the top seeds and made the inevitable exit.

A recent Selection Committee meeting nominated teams for the next round of County Championship matches, which show no big surprises. Our thanks go to the Aylesbury League for staging our home matches against Cambridgeshire. Our senior first team is, at time of writing, still searching for its first win of the season, whilst we seem to have hit on a winning formula with our junior firsts, who look set for promotion with the boys—touch wood—having kept a completely clean sheet. It has been pleasing to see Ian Haines being every bit as impressive as his more renowned team-mates, Chris Leslie and Sam Harmer, in the junior team, and a recent win over Richard Jermyn in the South East Midlands League, must have been a further psychological breakthrough for him.

Revised ranking lists were issued after the Selection Committee meeting, and it is good to see both Leslie and Haines making a big impact on the senior rankings, Chris leaping from 8 to 4, and Ian coming straight in at No. 9. The revised rankings are:—

**MEN:** 1, L. Wooding; 2, T. Clark; 3, A. Watson; 4, C. Leslie; 5, J. Leith; 6, J. Cooper; 7, R. Harman; 8, S. Brindle; 9, I. Haines; 10, B. Busbridge; 11, P. Leckie; 12, J. Davey.

**WOMEN:** 1, B. Stevens; 2, J. Williams; 3,

S. Lines; 4, S. James; 5, C. Darcey; 6, 1. Cooper; 7, J. Thomas.

**BOYS:** 1, C. Leslie; 2, S. Harmer; 3, I. Haines; 4, S. Brown; 5, C. Duffin; 6, S. Haines; 7, P. Bradbury; 8., S. Skeet; 9, A. Pratt; 10, S. Lines; 11, D. Owen; 12, C. Noakes; 13, A. Slater.

**GIRLS:** 1, C. Bahryj; 2, D. Risby; 3, S. Harvey; 4, J. Catchpole; 5, N. Hamilton; 6, A. Long; 7, S. Tick; 8, K. Purcell.

Mick Willett has announced that he will not be standing for election next season for his present posts as Senior First Team Match Secretary and Chairman of the Selection Committee. He feels that he cannot meet the high standards he sets himself in these jobs, due to personal circumstances, and I hope that if anyone in Bucks., preferably with past experience of table tennis administration, is reading this and is interested in taking over these "reins of power", will contact either Mick or another senior member of the Management Council. This could well save the unsatisfactory process of "press-ganging" someone into office at the next A.G.M. Although it is a far from easy job which ideally calls for some administrative experience, the main criterion for Mick's successor is that he, like Mick, is a constructive thinker with a genuine interest in the job. It is to be hoped that Mick's considerable ability and experience will not be entirely lost to the County in a less demanding role, and I understand there is a possibility of his continuing to help out in a minor capacity. The whole of Bucks is indebted to him for the job he has done in the past two seasons.

**CLWYD REPORT**

By Roy Williams

**RHYL'S TITLES**

Rhyl clinched three of the four Welsh League (North) titles at the Coventry Co-op Holiday Camp, Kinmel Bay. In the final series they won the men's, veteran and junior championships, but East Flint denied them the women's crown in the final match.

Malcolm Hook, the competition organiser, managed to complete the programme much earlier than usual, but due to one reason or another, a few matches were left unplayed, which took some of the shine off.

John Hook only lost one set in the senior division and Eddie Griffiths and Roy Williams had 100% records in the veteran section. In the Junior division Alun Williams and Mark Thomas, of Rhyl, were unbeaten. Julie Ralphs and Nalda Holden kept a clean sheet for East Flint in the women's league. Final tables (leading positions):—

Men							
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Rhyl .....	4	4	0	0	32	8	8
East Flint ...	4	3	0	1	32	8	6
Llandudno ...	4	2	0	2	22	18	4
Women							
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
East Flint ...	4	4	0	0	39	1	8
Rhyl .....	4	3	0	1	31	9	6
Wrexham .....	4	0	2	2	10	30	2
Juniors							
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Rhyl .....	4	4	0	0	33	7	8
East Flint ...	4	3	0	1	31	9	6
Llandudno ...	4	2	0	2	23	17	4
Veterans							
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Rhyl .....	4	4	0	0	33	7	8
East Flint ...	4	3	0	1	28	12	6
Anglesey .....	4	1	1	2	14	26	3

County results are poor in all three grades but we hope for improvement with the influx of new players into the area. The domestic scene is much as before. Holyhead and Wylfa are favourites to finish at the top of the Anglesey League. At Rhyl, Oriol House and Clwyd followed by Rhyl Labour Club, still dominate while Lansdowne and

Colwyn Bay Cricket Club and Doera are in the running at Llandudno.

Caergwrle and Connahs Quay lead the East Flint League, while at Wrexham it seems Div. 1 is wide open for any team to win.

Draw for the North Wales Club Championships (G. S. Radcliffe Cup):—

- Plas Madoc 'B' v Colwyn Bay C.C.
- Doera 'A' v Malpas
- Courtauld's Flint v Lansdowne 'B'
- Rhyl Labour v S.O.H. Oswestry
- Lansdowne 'A' v Oriol 'A', St. Asaph
- Prestatyn Tennis 'A' v Caergwrle B.B.
- Plas Madoc 'A' v Caergwrle B.B. 'A'
- Bye: Connahs Quay P.S.

**WORCESTERSHIRE NEWS**

by Doug Moss

**ALL CHANGE**

The Worcester County Closed Junior Championships were held at Lea & Perrins, Worcester, on January 9. All titles changed hands. There was a unique situation with a brother and sister winning the Boys' and Girls' Singles. Jeremy Duffield (Kidderminster) just 12 years old, dominated the Boys' event and did not drop a single game. Lesley Duffield, his 16-years-old sister, reversed the result of last season's final when she defeated Mandy Mytton (Evesham). Lesley was the steadier player and took advantage of spin services to gain a number of points. Mandy did not really settle down and was rather too impatient to move round to play her strong forehand drive. Jeremy teamed up with Nigel Gethins whom he had beaten in the singles final, to win the doubles event. Nicky Mytton (Evesham) and Nicky Oakley (Worcester) were runners-up for the second successive year.

Results:—  
**Boys' Singles—Final**  
 J. Duffield bt N. Gethins 16, 18.  
**Girls' Singles—Final**  
 L. Duffield bt M. Mytton 12, 19.  
**Doubles—Final**  
 Duffield/Gethins bt N. Mytton/N. Oakley 16, 17.

Entries are now being received for the Senior Championships which are to be played at the Abbey Sports Stadium, Redditch, on February 22.

The first rounds of the County Knockout Tournaments have been completed. In the Handicap event all the results were very close, teams winning by as few as 5 and 9 points over 18 events. In the Scratch competition, the second round will see Village Farm, Hereford, in competition against Bewdley Wanderers 'A'. The Bewdley team has recently been strengthened by the signing of Cliff Benson, the County No. 3.

The County League Div. 1 has been progressing well, and there is keen competition. In a vital match between Worcester and Kidderminster the Worcester team won 8-2, but many of the games were very close and the final result hardly did justice to Kidderminster. This match seemed to highlight Simon Claxton's position as County No. 1 when he beat his County team colleague, Benson, 8, 9.

The County first team visited Bristol to play Avon without unfit Bob Brown. His place was taken by Brian Belcher, who has been playing for the second team. Joyce Lloyd and Janet Hunt were unbeaten on this occasion and gained three events for Worcester. Each of the men won one singles to achieve a 6-4 win. Claxton put up a good performance against Chris Sewell before losing 14-21 in the third.

The County has been well pleased with the progress of Claxton through the Junior team, a few games for the senior seconds, to No. 1 for the first and County Champion. He has also won Junior Open titles and represented English Schools in International matches. To improve his standard he



has regularly played in the Birmingham Premier Division and represented Birmingham in the Midland League. With Simon out of the junior age group it is most encouraging that the new County Junior Champion (Jeremy Duffield) is only 12 years of age and shows such promise. This season he entered the Wayfarers English Junior Closed and other events throughout the country. By the end of the season he is likely to have taken part in about nine open tournaments and spent a few days at Lilleshall. His progress will obviously be watched with keen interest.

## STAFFORDSHIRE NOTES

by Jack Chalkley

### FORMIDABLE COMBINATION

Most of the news this month comes from the North of the County. Ken Johnson, the Potteries Results Secretary, reports that their teams in the Midland League are doing well, the 'A' side achieving successes against Derby, Bristol and Chesterfield, the only defeat coming from Birmingham in a match savaged by County commitments. In their first season in Div. 3, the 'B' side have won all their matches so far, Litchfield, Shrewsbury, Nottingham and Leamington being their victims. Particularly pleasing is the progress of Eddie Wilkes and Mark Evans with this team. Both are County-ranked juniors, and with help and guidance from Phil Anderson, they make a formidable combination, as the results prove.

The strong Potteries side of Tony Isaac, Steve Rowe and Trevor Burrows are set for a good run in the Wilmott Cup. They have already accounted for Nottingham and Wyberton, and they now have a home tie in the fourth round against Leicester or Chesterfield.

In Div. 1 of the Potteries League, Norton are heading for their third championship in a row, being unbeaten and three points ahead of the next team. James Birks 'A' with Norton 'B' in third place. Bradwell have slipped in recent weeks, but Trinity 'A' are improving and should be in a good position by the end of the season. Norton will be representing the Potteries in the new Beattie Trophy, and with Isaac, Rowe and Anderson in the side they must start favourites to beat Woodfield (Wolverhampton) in the first round, and should go on to win the competition.

Isaac captured the Bloore Cup for the fifth time with a fine win over his club colleague Rowe in a final which demonstrated Isaac's speed and remarkable retrieving ability. The result was a reversal of last year's County Closed final. The Burton Shield went to last year's runner-up, Adrian Higgs, who beat Joe Deakin in the final. Joe's brother, Stan, was the man who beat Higgs a year ago.

Staffs. junior 'A' side had a comfortable win away against Norfolk. Paul Draisey, Eddie Wilkes and Andrew Rich were unbeaten in their singles but Susanne Watton and Shirley Cain were less successful, although Shirley ran out the winner of a marathon singles 34-32, 22-20, to give Staffs. the match 7-3. Stephanie Jones is continuing a very successful season with wins over England-ranked Nos. 3 and 4 juniors, at Thornaby, losing only to Carole Knight, the eventual winner, and to complete a week of 850 miles travelling for the junior girls, she accompanied Susanne and Shirley to Dagenham to represent Wolverhampton in the Bromfield Trophy. Result—a 5-0 win.

Junior coaching continues at the main centre—Alleyne's, Stone. Joseph Leckie School, Walsall and Highfields, Wolverhampton. In addition to Alleyne's, Ron Harvey, our coaching secretary, is running a Saturday session at Riverside, Stafford, where it is hoped that help will soon be forthcoming from the Stafford League.

West Bromwich teams in the Midland League are doing well. The Vets. in Div. 2

are unbeaten with four convincing wins to their credit and the trio of Bill Horton, George Hutton and Les Williams should end up on top, whilst the women are joint leaders of their division with Derby. In the National trophies, however, they have yet to play. They had to scratch from the Rose Bowl but the men have reached Round 3 of the Wilmott Cup without opposition, again due to teams scratching.

## GLOUCESTERSHIRE GALLERY

by Dave Foulser

### LITTLE ACTIVITY

Gloucester entertained Cheltenham in a County Junior League match and ran out 6-4 winners against an understrength team who were 1-4 down at one stage and only lost the final set to lose the match. Ross Greening made his debut for Cheltenham but found the opposition rather too strong.

Gloucester Veterans travelled to Oxford and crashed 0-10 with only three sets going the distance. This was the Veterans' worst defeat since 1973 when they were "whitewashed" by Coventry. The Veterans followed this with a 2-8 defeat to Leamington and with only three matches remaining, look forward to relegation after gaining promotion only last season. Brian Greaves and Les Allen each won a set for Gloucester, whilst Jock Hawkins lost all three.

Gloucester Seniors "whitewashed" Nun-eaton to chalk up their 4th successive victory. Bill Dawe, Mike Prosser and Richard Peppard all won their sets two-straight, as did Dawe and Prosser in the doubles.

Next, travelling to Stroud for a friendly, they came away with a 9-1 victory, with A. Hogarth and Martin Lane unbeaten. Roger Webb scored the home side's only success when he defeated Alan Goode 18 and 11.

Cheltenham's Women travelled to Leamington expecting to lose and surprised themselves by winning 11-9. With Julie Bearcroft unavailable, reserve Diane Marsh was called on and won three of her four singles, whilst her team-mates all won only two. All four Cheltenham players disposed of the two Leamington Juniors who were both making their debuts, but Diane also overcame the current Leamington Women's Champion, Rachell Mackrell, who is the reigning Warwickshire No. 1 Junior girl and also No. 5 in the Senior rankings. Diane won 19, -7, 19 to tip the match in favour of Cheltenham. Cathy Robb and Jan Foulser each took the first game against Rachell but could not sustain the required form.

Stroud men played Leicester 'C' in the Midland League but the greater all-round strength of the young Leicester side gave them an 8-2 victory. John Heathcote and E. Watts each won a set for Stroud, but young Andrew Golding lost his three.

Around the leagues, Gordon League 'A' still top Div. 1 in Gloucester, closely followed by Taynton 'A'. Martin Lane, in his first season in the top sphere, won his team's two sets against Taynton, getting the better of Mike Prosser and Steve Moreman. Taynton 'B' are walking away with Div. 2, thanks to the continuing presence of Graham Bonser.

In Cheltenham, Innsworth also seem assured of the Div. 1 title, being able to boast the services of Steve Moreman, Adrian Vale, Don Sweeney, Bernie Clements and Ray Dilton.

Would all readers please note that there is a Stiga Robot for sale in the County. The Robot, which is only three months old, will hold approximately 300 balls and would be of tremendous benefit to anyone able to use it regularly. Complete with transformer, balls and net in which to catch the balls, the owner is asking £650.00 or the nearest offer. Would anyone interested please write to me at 17 Morend Road, Leckhampton,

Cheltenham, or telephone Cheltenham 21391, Ext. 219, during office hours.

## LINCOLNSHIRE NOTES

by Joan Robinson

### FIRST DEFEAT

The County Junior 1st team suffered their first defeat of the season, losing 4-6 away to Nottinghamshire in a 3rd Division North match. Suzanne Hunt (Grantham) and Cheryl Buttery (Lincoln) continued their 100% record in Girls' Singles and Doubles with wins over K. Lindley and P. Cameron. Only Martin Norman (Louth) managed to save the boys from a clean sweep with a win over T. Bramford.

We hope that the 200 Juniors who entered the first-ever Lincolnshire Junior Open at the start of the year enjoyed the Tournament, for following the success of this year's event, it is almost certain to be held next season.

In the latest series of Inter-town matches, Wyberton (M. East, G. King, G. Stredder) continued their success in the High Cup with a 10-0 win over Grantham (N. Neal, K. Eldred, R. Brown). Louth (M. Sheader, B. Allison, M. Green) were held to a 5-5 draw with Lincoln (J. Wilkinson, R. Oglesby, D. Johnson) and Boston (J. Brewster, C. Brown, D. Armstrong) had their second win of the season beating Scunthorpe (C. Burlinson, S. Cuthbertson, S. Barnes) 9-1. Stephen Cuthbertson beat David Armstrong 9, 15 to save Scunthorpe from a blank scoresheet.

In the Butlin Cup Spalding (J. White, M. Burgess, Monica Green) still head the table following an easy 9-1 win over Grimsby (D. Sinclair, M. Connell, J. Hackford). Unfortunately Grimsby, who for many years have been the main rivals of Spalding, were without Mrs. Connie Moran, and only Janet Hackford could salvage a set against Mary Burgess. Louth (Marie Green, K. Fisher, D. Brown) made their third consecutive draw of the season playing at home to Lincoln (A. Gunthorpe, R. Nelson, P. Fowler). Marie Green again unbeaten, with Kath Fisher (1) and pairing together to win the doubles.

Holdings of the Butcher Cup, Grantham (S. Hunt, K. Philipson, I. Bird) had an easy 10-0 win over bottom of the table Wyberton (A. Dixon, M. Fordham, D. Traves), whilst Louth (M. and P. Emmerson, P. Eyles) who were without the services of their regular team-mate, County Junior Player, Martin Norman, went down 2-8 to Lincoln (Miss G. Galloway, J. Chesworth, J. Malone), with Paul Emmerson beating both Gillian and John Chesworth. Scunthorpe (D. and B. Skerratt, N. Parkin) also beat Boston (G. Lacey, S. Hill, K. Popple) by the same score with Stephen Hill having a 19, -13, 19 win over N. Parkin and Popple beating Brian Skerratt in three.

Congratulations to Gillian Galloway (Lincoln) for being ranked at No. 7 in the new Cadet List.

## NORFOLK NOTES

by J. S. Penny

### THIRD SUCCESS

The East Anglian League Championships were held at Thurlston School, Ipswich, on Sunday, January 8. Bob Thornton, of Norwich won the men's title for the third successive season, and took the Mixed with Wendy Hogg, who also had a rewarding day by winning four events. Douglas Bennett, one of the seeds, was unable to play, due (I am told) to a Table Tennis elbow.

M.S.: R. Thornton (N) bt D. Hardy (D) 13, 9.  
W.S.: W. Hogg (N) bt J. Faiers (nee List) (B) 20, 19.  
M.D.: C. Bensley (N)/M. Broughton (L) bt G. Davies/G. Brewer (W) 18, 22.  
W.D.: D. Wootton (I)/S. Welham (I) bt Faiers/M. List (B) -20, 17, 17.



X.D.: Thornton/Hogg bt M. Palmer (B)/  
Faiers 11, 18.  
B.S.—U-17: Stuart Palmer (B) bt Martin  
Ecclestone (Y) 9, 17.  
B.S.—U-15: Palmer bt R. Swift (M) 15, 14.  
G.S.—U-17: Wendy Hogg bt Joanne Palmer  
(B) -22, 11, 14.  
G.S.—U-15: Ruth Harrowven (N) bt Debbie  
Hubble (L) 16, 20.  
B.D.: M. Archer (Y)/Ecclestone bt David  
Smith (N)/ Robert Harrowven (N) 20, -19,  
15.  
G.D.: Hogg/Paula Ribbans (Y) bt Harrow-  
ven/Heather Pearce (Beccles) 9, 17.  
J.X.D.: Palmer/Palmer (B) bt Archer/  
Pearce 20, 13.

Key: B—Bury; D—Dereham; I—Ipswich;  
L—Lowestoft; M—March; W—Wisbech;  
N—Norwich and Y—Yarmouth.

The King's Lynn and District League's  
Championships have been held at Lynn  
Y.M.C.A. In these, the promising Geoff  
Davies (Wisbech T.T.C.), seeded No. 1,  
defeated his clubmate, Chris Brewer,  
seeded No. 2, to take the men's title. The  
Graham Eastwood Trophy for the most  
outstanding performance went, however, to  
14-year-old Jane Hunter, of the Islington  
Club, who beat Anthea Rudd (Wisbech 'A'),  
the No. 1 seed, to become Women's Cham-  
pion, and, with her mother, Mrs. Joyce  
Hunter, won the Women's Doubles. She was  
also a losing finalist in the Mixed.

M.S.: Davies bt Brewer 19, 18.  
M.D.: John Moorhouse (P.O. Sports)/Peter  
Gaskin (Roydon) bt Chuck Hewitt/Jim  
Defty 15, 22.

W.S.: Hunter bt Rudd.  
W.D.: Hunter/Hunter bt Rudd/Di Tooke.  
X.D.: Barry Wilson (Tydd)/Rudd bt Brewer/  
Hunter.

J.S.: David Brammer (Wisb. Inst.) bt  
Andrew Hunter (Downham Market).  
V.S.: Pete Saunders bt Gordon Wood.

Divisional Winners: 2. I. Barber (Elec-  
tricity), 3. Ken Sutton (Phoenix), 4. Gary  
Porter (Southery); 5. Derek Ridgewell  
(Nalgo) and 6. Selwyn Watts (Phoenix  
'A').

In the only County match since my last  
notes, Norfolk Juniors (without Bennett)  
lost 3-7 to Staffs at Norwich.

## MIDDLESEX NOTES

by Don Kenny

### CONCRETE PROOF

However mythical the County of Middle-  
sex now is, it is getting ready for the annual  
"Open", which will take place, once again,  
at the very concrete Pickett's Lock Sports  
Centre, Edmonton, on February 26-27, with  
the finals at 7-00 p.m. on the Sunday. No  
forecasts can be made, as yet, as to the entry  
since, with the "World's" so near, there may  
well be a few ambitious people over here  
early to get acclimatised.

Last season's strong entry in the Inter-  
League competitions has been followed by  
a sort-out to cut down on fixtures. That has  
not, however, cut down on the competitive  
spirit which is prevailing nicely throughout.  
North Middlesex 1st appear to be the team  
to beat in the Victor Barna (Premier) com-  
petition, although Staines look to have  
made a brave start. Div. 2 sees North Acton  
going well with London Civil Service also  
flexing their muscles.

The Norman Pegg (Premier) again indi-  
cates N. Middlesex 1st as front runners,  
with Wembley having had a couple of good  
wins. In Div. 2. Barnets and Uxbridge both  
appear to have started well and could finish  
the same way.

The Juniors fight for the D.W. Birming-  
ham Trophy with a right good will and yet  
again N. Middlesex 1st are already looking  
to retain their place at the top. Results are  
a trifle confused at present with Acton's  
results perhaps looking promising. The  
Veterans, who play for the Ted Connell  
Trophy, are well at it with again N. Middle-

sex 1st setting the pace. Central, who held  
them to a 4-5, may well be the chief opposi-  
tion at the close.

Recent ranking lists shows Andy Barden  
as No. 1 and Mark Mitchell No. 2. David Tan  
is third and Paul Guttormsen, again back  
from his native Norway, gets the No. 4 spot,  
which could well keep the top three well on  
their toes.

Angela Mitchell heads the women's list  
with Sheila Hamilton, now back in town, as  
No. 2. Beryl Clayton is at 3 and Marilyn  
Sangster at 4.

Angela Mitchell is also the No. 1 Junior  
Girl, with Mandy Reeves at 2, Helen Wil-  
liams at 3 and Lesley Tyler (the fourth  
member of the family playing) at 4.

Junior Boys are headed by David Wells  
with Graham Sandley next, Bryn Tyler and  
Adrian Leigh are 3 and 4 with Adam Prof-  
fitt at 5.

Male Veterans are headed by Don Smith  
with David Hope at 2, Terry Kirby at 3 and  
Michael Close at 4. Women of similar  
vintage are led by Ms. Symes, followed  
closely by Ms. Seilly, Cherry and Prowen.  
Next comes one Doreen Stannard at 5, if  
only to prove that she can actually find  
time to play in addition to all her other  
work for the game.

## SURREY NOTES

By Ted Simpkin

### DOUBLY ENJOYABLE

The annual Guildford Handicap Pairs and  
Singles tournament took place over the  
weekend of January 8-9 in the Sports Hall  
of Surrey University. This lighthearted  
event attracted 158 entries and was played  
on a group basis of four in the singles, play-  
ing to 26-up, with group winners going  
forward to a straight knockout, and in the  
doubles by each pair playing two singles  
and one doubles of two sets each. The  
handicaps given are based on league status  
and this year's record and the results this  
time proved to be a complete justification  
for the handicapper. Although the competi-  
tion was a success from the entertainment  
point of view, it was doubly enjoyable  
because of the very close and exciting finals  
in both events.

In the singles the Allison Award went to  
Robin Atkins, of the Aftermath Club, who  
broke the 6-point advantage given to Keith  
Sutton to win by 26-21 in the third. In the  
Pairs the Pegasus couple of Glen Baker and  
Mark Buttle made inroads on the handicap  
of 126 to leave them to stop Clive Freeman  
and Anthony Dawkins, of Bramley, getting  
a total of 18 in the last set of the tourna-  
ment. They took the first at 21-5 and ran  
away to what appeared to be a safe position,  
but "blew it" when the crunch came and  
lost by 4 points.

At County level Norman Hooper is well  
advanced with arrangements for the Junior  
Closed, which is scheduled for the weekend  
of March 6-7, at a new venue of Elmbridge  
Leisure Centre, Walton-on-Thames, where  
there are excellent facilities for play, spec-  
tators and refreshments. Fortune has  
smiled here, for Halex Sports have been  
generous enough to loan tables, nets, sur-  
rounds and balls. Play will be on 16 tables,  
which will mean a speedy progress through  
the tournaments and a large size headache  
for the organiser.

Woking Leisure Centre, venue for the  
Norwich Union English Championships this  
season, was opened officially on November  
26 last, and should prove to be a magnifi-  
cent host in World Championship Year.  
Although 12 tables are to be used by us in  
February, there is provision for 18 tables  
in this superb new building and room for  
1,000 spectators. The Centre was commis-  
ioned in 1971, work commenced on the  
site in 1974, in a central position in Woking  
Park, and the final cost is estimated at £1.6

million pounds. Surrey will be represented  
at the Championships on the administrative  
side by the Guildford League, who have been  
invited to provide ushers and programme  
sellers.

This is a Guildford's issue, partly because  
I have easy access to its news, and because,  
apart from Leatherhead and Epsom, no  
other League appears to want a spotlight.

## SHROPSHIRE NOTES

By Alan Cavell

### JUNIOR SUCCESSES

The general standard of play of the  
Juniors in Shropshire continues to rise and  
three Juniors occupy first, fourth and sixth  
places in the men's ranking list and, a Cadet  
is in third place in the women's list.

The top players in the current ranking  
lists are:—

MEN—1, M. Green; 2, C. Roberts; 3, C.  
Neal; 4, N. Thomas; 5, M. Jones; 6, M. Pugh.

WOMEN—1, H. Flint; 2, G. Gee; 3, T.  
Powell; 4, C. Ashley; 5, M. King; 6, M.  
Robinshaw.

JUNIOR BOYS—1, M. Green; 2, N.  
Thomas; 3, M. Pugh! 4, H. Dalton; 5, I.  
Johnston; 6, N. Mortimer.

JUNIOR GIRLS—1, T. Powell; 2, L. Wil-  
liams; 3, L. Lewis; 4, V. Bale; 5, J. Siddle;  
6, C. Jones.

CADET BOYS—1, P. Morgan; 2, A. Gwil-  
liam; 3, T. Cheetham; 4, R. Jones; 5, P.  
Dalton; 6, G. Morgan.

CADET GIRLS—1, T. Powell; 2, L. Degg;  
3, J. Cheetham; 4, A. Lowe; 5, G. Goldingay;  
6, J. Hartley.

Shropshire schools have reached the  
regional stages of the E.S.T.T.A.'s team com-  
petitions for the first time. Meole Brace  
Modern School (Shrewsbury) were repre-  
sented by M. Green, N. Thomas, M. Pugh  
and G. Edwards in the Boys' Under-16, and  
the successful team from Orleton Park  
School (Telford) in the Girls' Under-13  
event consisted of J. Wakeley, A. Lowe, G.  
Hartley and D. Jones.

## WESTERN LEAGUE NOTES

by Grove Motlow

### WEAKENED VISITORS

In the only match report to hand Weston,  
at home to Newport, faced a weakened side  
lacking the services of Gwent County No. 3,  
Michael Nocivelli, in whose stead former  
County junior, Alan Young, played.

Weston began well when Graham Green  
beat Tony Watkins (20, 16) and John  
Hartry accounted for the less experienced  
Young (6, 11). Newport pulled one back  
when their No. 1, John Bloomer, beat Jimmy  
Andrews (12, 20).

Hartry next played Watkins, winning the  
first 18, losing the second -17 but limiting  
the Welshman to 8 points in the decider.  
Bloomer next lost to Green (-13, -17) and  
Young went down (-14, -12) to Andrews.  
Score 5-1 to Weston.

Surprisingly Hartry was easily beaten by  
Bloomer (-10, -11) but then Andrews next  
"saw off" Watkins (15, 16) and Young,  
although playing better, was defeated by  
Green (16, 17) for a 7-2 home win.

This match was played back on December  
18 and there are still two results awaited  
for matches played in November. I hope  
every league will make every effort to pull  
up their fixtures—and their entry fees, by  
January 31, please. Meantime, Happy New  
Year to one and all.

Entry forms for the Gwent Open, to be  
played at Cwmbran Sports Stadium, on  
April 26, are now available from me at 29  
Carisbrooks Road, Newport, Gwent (Phone:  
Newport 71964). Entries close on April 2  
and applications for forms should be accom-  
panied by a s.a.e. to cut down on costs.



## CUMBRIA COMMENT

by John Taylor

### DOUBLE BILL

The County senior side lost their second match in three when they were hosts to Lancs. II last month. The first three sets could have gone either way but the visitors won each one with David Kirkpatrick, Brian Towell and John Willis all losing in the decider.

From this point Lancashire seemed to run away with the match and Gail Smith provided the only real resistance between the third and ninth sets with a 2-straight win over Ann Sweeney. The final two sets saw Willis lose his second close set -19, 18, -19 against Ian Smith and Kirkpatrick then made the final score more respectable by winning the last set 18, -17, 14 against Alan Whittle.

The Junior first team were also at home to Lancs. and with Chris Reed and Neil Smith both winning two singles and Ian Reed another, in a 5-5 draw, there was a definite chance of inflicting defeat on the visitors which would have been their first of the season.



Neil Smith, of Millom.

Ian Reed got the match off to an exciting start (as usual) and only just lost 23, -10, -24 to Tony O'Connor. Chris and Neil then took their first wins over Stephen Cowley and Paul Rainford respectively, Chris winning 2-straight and Neil at 12 in the third.

The visitors then took the next three sets with wins in both doubles and defeat for Miranda Gray in her singles. Chris then pulled one back with a 3-game win over O'Connor, but defeat in the next for Gail Smith left us trailing 3-5. Unlike the last match against Derbyshire, Neil and Ian played well with their backs to the wall and took the last two to square the match, a result that still leaves affairs pretty close at the top of the division.

The Junior second team travelled to Cheshire and although all the sets involving Diccon Gray and Andrew Pachul went to the decider, the top team in the division restricted Cumbria to one win for Diccon over the home No. 2, John Weatherby. Diccon again showed his consistency throughout the match and Andrew had tough luck in both his singles, losing 19, -18, -19 to Mark Hankey and -20, 19, -17 to Ross McFarlane.

Steven Sharp, Elaine Mathie and Mary McPortland found the opposition a little too good on the day.

The Barrow Carter Cup team of Chris and Ian Reed and Neil Smith have progressed to the quarter-finals without too much trouble and defeated Northumberland 8-1 in the last round. The one reversal came with a surprise win for North's Eddie

Thomas over Chris Reed. Ormesby provide the team's next obstacle and are sure to field a strong opposition. Barrow will have home advantage.

Carlisle and Whitehaven remain the only two unbeaten sides in the Inter-League competition and following their 8-4 win over Millom, the Carlisle team which comprises County players Kirkpatrick, Willis and Stewart O'Neil, are firm favourites to take the title. Kirkpatrick was on top form against Millom and just got the better of Neil Smith after a tremendous tussle 18, -19, 21. Neil and Gail Smith took Millom's four wins between them with two singles for Neil, a singles for Gail and the mixed.

Whitehaven scored their second successive win by defeating Barrow 7-5. Barrow had the "man of the match" in Eddie O'Hara, but his three singles and two from Bill Robinson were not enough to gain a point.

Most of the 12 new club coaches in the Barrow/Millom area have started things moving with respect to the coaching and organisation of youngsters. Keith Edwards, Keith Allen and Neil McKinnon have put in a lot of good work at Thorncliffe School, Barrow. Ted Rockley has begun to set up a coaching situation at Barrow Technical College and in association with Barrow F.E. has, so far, got the use of four tables.

Mike Yardley has begun alternate Sunday night sessions at Vickers Sports Club, Barrow. Jim Geldart is also making efforts at Dalton C.C. and David Bell, Colin and John Taylor are assisting in running the Millom School set-up which now caters for players who have left school. The school now has 13 tables in operation.

## AVON AND SOMERSET LEAGUE

by Dennis Pope

### FIRST WIN FOR PAGE

In the Premier Division of the Avon and Somerset League, Page Club registered their first victory of the season with a narrow 6-4 home win over Bridgwater 'B', the latter recovering well from 1-4 down to 4-5, but Page won the vital last set. Paul Eatherington, partnered by Richard Hoare, took the men's doubles from John Crabtree and Ray Thornton 11, 15. Somerset County player, Jill Wilson, won both her singles two-straight for Bridgwater.

In the same division, Bridgwater 'A' had a convincing 10-0 victory over Bath 'B'. Don Morris put up a brave show for Bath, losing 19 in the third to Graham Green, and taking Somerset's John Hartry to 14 in the third. Bath 'A' maintained their 100% record with an 8-2 win over Bridgwater 'B'. Mike Baker, who had made his Avon County debut the night before, and Bob Murphy, won two singles each for the winners.

Weston 'B' maintained their 100% record in Div. 1, with a 6-4 win over Bedminster. For Weston, Ray Philpott won both his singles and men's doubles partnered with Norman Baker, whilst the Weston Girls, Julie Jenkins and Sue Jones, were also undefeated. David Brown won two singles for Bedminster.

Gillian Harris, Tim Marris and John Ley were the stars for Southmead in their 8-2 victory over Taunton 'A'.

In Div. 2, Bridgwater 'C' are still undefeated, their latest victory being over Mendip 8-2 when they raced to a 5-1 lead and Ernie Sutton made sure of both points with a 16, 20 decision over Avon County Junior, Doug Gerrish.

The first win of the season in the Junior Division for Fromeside, who beat Bridgwater 'A' 7-3. Robert Wolfe, Phil Riley and Steve Wilkins won two singles each and Wolfe and Riley took the doubles. In their following match Fromeside lost by the same score to Mendip. There were many close games, Doug Gerrish beating Wolfe 26-24 in the third, Phil Riley 19 in the third, and Wolfe

also lost to Dave Perrett at 19 in the third.

Results:—

Premier Division — Page Club 6, Bridgwater 'B' 4; Bridgwater 'A' 10, Bath 'B' 0; Bath 'A' 8, Bridgwater 'B' 2.

## IN THE COACHING FIELD

by JOHN O'SULLIVAN

Since Peter Simpson was appointed to the position of national Trainer/Coach, his activities as National Staff Coach (North) have been anything but predictable.

It is seldom, therefore, that Peter is able to organise refresher courses for coaches as would otherwise be the case. Also, with inflation making residential courses more expensive than would be wished, it is becoming more difficult to obtain suitable venues.

One such was obtained for the weekend of January 21-23 at Lea Green, near Matlock. Staffing on that particular course were Harry Dignan, Alan Hydes and Bob Wiley as well as Peter himself which, you will admit, is an impressive line-up. Other courses available this year will be at Crystal Palace (July 24-29), Exeter (July 24-31) and Lilleshall (August 27-September 3).

These courses are for coaches and personal performance, further details being available from Jack Carrington, at 71 Maplin Way, Thorpe Bay, Essex.

At a recent meeting of the National Coaching and Schools' Committee, it was decided that courses arranged for student coaches, involving eight study sessions would, ideally, be conducted by one assessor. This will prevent duplication of instruction and confusion of programme.

Many coaches have reported to me of their delight with the new Coaching Manual. It is important to note that any coach listed in the current register who wishes to purchase a copy, can only do so by making application to Jack Carrington, the Coaching Scheme Administrator.

If at the time of application, coaches quote their registration number they become eligible to purchase a copy of the Manual at the special price of £1.25.

The number of awards for the Halex Proficiency Scheme continues to grow, proving once again, the popularity of the scheme. It is also a great help in introducing beginners to table tennis, and a Bronze Award usually acts as motivation for their continued progress.

## SPORTS COACHING COURSES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

The age of the sporting international becomes younger every year and therefore young people need early training in their particular sport if they are to progress.

In view of this the Sports Coaching courses for young people under the age of 18 (on the last day of the course) have again been organised by the Sports Council (Yorkshire and Humberside), at Scarborough.

Two-week courses, the first commencing on 23 July, and the second on 30 July, will cater for selected young people interested in Badminton, Cricket and Table Tennis. Applications will be accepted for all activities but final selection or recommendations will be made by the governing body of sport concerned.

Attendance at the courses can be either on a day basis or resident at Scarborough College, Filey Road, Scarborough. The full residential fee is £30 and that chargeable to day students £15 including meals.

For further information and application forms, please contact The Sports Council (Yorkshire and Humberside), 5 St. Paul's Street, Leeds, LS1 2NQ. Telephone No.: Leeds 36443.



**BETTING ALLOWED**

In this Golden Year for English Table Tennis, readers of "T.T. News" may be interested in a report published in "The Weekly Sporting Review Annual Edition, 1950".

It is interesting to note Johnny Leach's account of his World Singles title, and it appears that betting was allowed on the Championships, Vana being the 3-1 on favourite. Also of interest is the report on "chiselling"—there must have been many on-court flare-ups when a referee had to tell players to change tactics in order to complete a game within 20 minutes—

Under the heading "Peggy gave us the lead in Table Tennis" the report reads:—

"A former Ilford shop assistant, 25-year-old Johnny Leach, won the singles title for England in the World's Table Tennis Championships, at Stockholm, in 1949.

Leach, considered at the beginning to have only an outside chance, stepped into the breach caused by the defeat of the reigning champion, Richard Bergmann, a naturalised Briton. He put out Richard Miles, the American No. 1, and then he defeated Franz Soos, Hungarian star, who had beaten Bergmann. But these accomplishments were overshadowed by his form against Bohumil Vana, Czechoslovakian ace.

Vana was a 3-1 on favourite to win. 'I

knew I just had to play on to win', said Leach, 'because Vana was as nervous as I was'. Leach played on and became the first English-born holder of the title since Fred Perry won it in 1928.

Johnny Leach and Miss Peggy Franks, the bright star of Kent, put up a good fight in the mixed doubles and made the path of the Hungarian couple considerably easier by beating the holders, Richard Miles and Thelma Thall (U.S.A.) in a stern five-set first round struggle.

In the Corbillon Cup, Peggy Franks played magnificently to give England the lead by defeating the American No. 1, Mildred Shannon, but Miss McLean, the U.S. champion, levelled matters, and then, after the Americans had won the doubles, Miss McLean settled the issue by winning from Miss Franks. But in reaching the final for the third year in succession, England owed a lot to Peggy Franks.

One outcome of the Championships is likely to be that the rule dealing with 'chiselling', as stone-wall tactics are called, will be changed. At present, with each game limited to 20 minutes, this practice leads to unfairness.

In America, when a referee decides that two players are 'chiselling', he first warns them and then puts a special rule into operation, under which the service changes after each point".

IAIN NEWTON.

35 Leander Drive,  
Gravesend, Kent.

**DID YOU MISS THIS ?****BRITAIN'S FIRST TABLE TENNIS STAMP**

Issued on January 12, 1977

THE E.T.T.A./E.S.T.T.A.  
SOUVENIR FIRST DAY COVER  
is still available, with either  
Hastings or Birmingham First Day  
of Issue cancellation  
25p each, plus return postage

Orders to—

MR. I. R. CRICKMER,  
12 CYPRESS STREET  
BARBOURNE, WORCESTER  
WR3 8AU

Orders must state which cancellation is desired. Remittances must be payable to English Schools' Table Tennis Association.

**FORTHCOMING MARRIAGE**

The engagement is announced between John M. Wright, of 124 Rusthall Avenue, Bedford Park, London, W4 1BS, and Cynthia Scrivens, of 49 Albany Court, Hastings, East Sussex, TN34 1JH.

**Special Commemorative Medal****THE WORLD TABLE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS  
ENGLAND, 1977**

***We have the privilege of supplying all the winners' medals for the forthcoming Championships.***

These Olympic style medals will be treasured by the recipients for many years, but as with the Olympics, we want table tennis players and enthusiasts to have an opportunity of also possessing a really superlative Commemorative Medal.

Just over 200,000 were struck for the Olympics and were all taken up before the Games were completed. We are only making a limited edition of 500; each will be in a presentation box and will be coveted as a collector's piece. 150 have to be reserved for foreign officials and players, so unfortunately it is a question of first come, first served.

***Despatch commences March 1st and the cost including postage/packing and V.A.T. will be £10.95 each.***



**ALEC BROOK**

**A.D.B. (LONDON) LTD.**

**31 EBURY STREET, LONDON, SW1W 0NZ**

**Telephone : 01-730-0394**

**Telex No. 21120**



# 77 34th WORLD'S

## We do Insurance as well!

by John McDonnell  
(Public Relations Manager, Norwich Union Insurance)

Sportsmen have to use motorised transport to get to their fixtures, and table tennis players are no exception—mainly they rely on private motor cycles or cars, so most of them need motor insurance.

None of us likes parting with good money to pay motor premiums, but the following may be of use to you in deciding what cover you need, and how to get value for money.

The Road Traffic Acts stipulate the minimum insurance you must have before taking a vehicle on the road, but policies are very seldom issued giving just that. The legal minimum covers you against causing death or injury to other people—"third parties" as they are known in insurance jargon—but not against damaging their vehicles and other property.

None of us is a perfect driver, so cover against this risk is practically essential. Therefore one of the basic policies issued by insurance companies is Third Party, often with the addition of Fire and Theft, which most people also want to be protected against.

Notice that Third Party does not cover damage you do to your own car, nor does it cover accidents which are nobody's fault; for example if a tree falls on your car during a gale. And perhaps someone might alter the geometry of your vehicle without leaving a visiting card—in such a case you would not be able to claim against the offending driver, nor under your own policy.

The type of policy which does pay out in these circumstances is known as a Comprehensive, and naturally it costs extra—twice or more the premium for Third Party, Fire and Theft. A Comprehensive policy also covers certain other possibilities—for example, windscreen breakages.

Which of the two types of cover should you choose? Obviously, if your car isn't worth much, there's no point in insuring it Comprehensive. On the other hand a new car represents a sizeable investment and should be Comprehensively insured if you can possibly afford it. In between the two extremes the decision is more difficult. Probably the best thing to do is to calculate how big a loss you could take if for example, you hit a patch of black ice and badly damaged your car. A repair for severe damage can easily amount to £500 these days. If you can fork out for a bill of this size without flinching, well and good. If not, you'd better take Comprehensive and try to build up the maximum no-claim discount.

Norwich Union, in common with most insurance companies, gives no-claim discount according to the following scale: one year's claim-free driving—25 per cent off your premium; two consecutive years—40 per cent; three years—50 per cent, and four years or more—60 per cent. If you have a claim you go back two steps on this scale; for example, someone with maximum discount would go back from 60 to 40 per cent. But if he had another claim during the same year he'd be back to the full premium. Obviously, anyone with a reasonable dis-

count would be silly to make a claim for a small amount.

Building up no-claim discount is the best way of getting your premium down, but you can also make savings by agreeing to bear say the first £25 of any claim. This "excess" as it is known, reduces the premium by 10 per cent normally, and many drivers consider it worthwhile.

A point to notice here is that if you claim for a broken windscreen under a comprehensive policy, your no-claim discount will not be affected, and the claim will be paid without deduction of any "excess". However, do make sure that your windscreen cover is sufficient. Usually there is a limit of £25, which is enough for the average car but inadequate for laminated screens or larger vehicles. For a nominal extra premium your policy can be extended to give the extra cover.

By agreeing that you will be the only person to drive your car, you can make a further small saving, but be sure if you take this option not to be tempted to lend it to anyone, as he won't be covered under your policy.

Apart from the tips mentioned above, the only real way to keep premiums down is to get a smaller car—and with petrol steadily creeping up to the £1 a gallon level, this might not be a bad thing.

One final point—if you claim for an accident, your insurance company can often get your car repaired quickly and competently by a garage they know will do a good job. Norwich Union have a nationwide staff of experienced engineers who inspect over 50,000 damaged vehicles every year. They assess exactly what repairs need to be carried out and agree the cost with the garage; and there's a 6-month guarantee on the repair. This is one of our ways of keeping premiums down by dealing with claims efficiently.

## Record Entry

The 34th World Table Tennis Championships at Birmingham next month, sponsored by Norwich Union Insurance, will be the biggest sporting event staged in Britain.

More countries will be taking part than have ever before contested a major sporting event in these islands.

The record for the Championships has already been reached with 60 confirmed entries for the National Exhibition Centre, Birmingham, from March 26th to April 5th. The previous best was 52 at Sarajevo, Yugoslavia, four years ago.

Neither the Olympic Games, in London, in 1948, nor the World Cup, in England, in 1966, can match these figures. It is expected that the number of competing countries will top 60 by the time the draw for the two team events—the Swaythling Cup for men and the Corbillon Cup for women—and the five individual championships is made at the International Press Centre, London, on February 16th.

The People's Democratic Republic of China, tipped to win most of the titles, the Soviet Union, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, New Zealand, Israel and a host of Arab and African countries are among the contestants. The formidable European entry includes Istvan Jonyer, of Hungary, ranked No. 1 in the world, who will be defending the men's singles title.

The Championships will cost over half a million pounds to stage, but financial success is assured. Apart from sponsorship and extensive world wide coverage, over £100,000 worth of tickets have already been sold. All season tickets have gone, the individual finals day, on April 5th, is a sell-out and there are only limited numbers of tickets still available in the 7,000-seat main area.

Countries to have entered the Championships are:—Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, China People's Republic, Curacao, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Egypt, England,

Finland, France, Germany Federal Republic, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guernsey, Hong Kong, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jersey, Kenya, Korea, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Malta, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Palestine, Poland, Rumania, Saudi Arabia, Scotland, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, United States of America, U.S.S.R., Wales and Yugoslavia.

## 50 Years Ago

The E.T.T.A. are anxious to ascertain the existence or whereabouts of players who participated in the first-ever World Championships, staged at the Memorial Hall, in London, during December, 1926. This particularly applies to members of the official team on that occasion and the two players of whom we have lost all trace are C. W. Allwright and F. J. Burles.

The I.T.T.F. are giving a Founders' Luncheon on the 4th April, 1977, in Birmingham, during the World Championships and it is hoped that England can be represented at the Luncheon by some survivors from the 1926 Championships.

The names of the following persons are shown in the 1926 programme and any information on them would be much appreciated by the General Secretary, E.T.T.A., 21 Claremont, Hastings, TN34 1HA.

C. W. Alpess, C. J. Axe (Bristol), Miss K. Beaufoy (Birmingham), H. A. Bennett (Herga), Miss K. M. Berry (St. Bride's), R. H. Berry, L. Farris (St. Bride's), Miss G. Gleeson (St. Bride's), Miss A. S. Hall (Nottingham), Miss J. Hansor (Eastbourne), T. P. Harris, W. Hewitt (Bradford), Miss J. Ingram (Herga), R. M. Kahn, C. A. Kirby, Miss W. H. Land (Herga), Mrs. G. McCosh (St. Bride's), C. G. Mase (London), Mrs. Mead (Reading), H. L. Morgan, E. G. Nye (St. Bride's), E. C. Peters (Hove), P. Ranger (London), J. F. Restall, J. C. Rogers (Herga), Mrs. Spiring (Herga), Miss A. Stevens, V. R. Sutton (Sutton), J. K. Werner (N. Staffs), Mrs. D. E. Wynter (Eastbourne).

The first Worlds, in fact, started off as the "European Championships" but at a Conference during the Championships it was decided to change the name from "European" to "World", presumably because of the advent of a team from India, consisting of Indians temporarily resident in London.

The Hon. Ivor Montagu was the Referee (besides playing!). His committee consisted of W. J. Pope, P. E. Warden representatives of visiting National Associations.

There were teams from seven countries present and these were the names:—

**Austria**  
Paul Flussman (Captain), Robert Thum, Eduard Freudenheim, Hans Lowy, M. Pillinger.

**Czechoslovakia**  
Jan Gerke (non-playing Captain), Zdenek Heydusek, Antonin Malacek, Jaroslav Kajek, Hodac, Jaroslav Kautsky.

**England**  
Percival Bromfield (Captain), C. W. Allwright, James Thompson, Bernard Bernstein, F. J. Burles.

**Germany**  
F. Zinn (non-playing Captain), H. G. Lindenstaedt, F. L. Hoppe, Dr. Karl Behmer, H. Gerstmann, Daniel Prenn.

**Hungary**  
Bela von Kehrting (Captain), Zoltan Mechlowits, Dr. Roland Jacobi, Dr. Dani Peci, Laszlo Bellak.

**India**  
A. M. Peermahomed, S. Suppiah, A. A. Fyzee, B. C. Singh, Dr. A. H. Fyzee.

**Wales**  
C. H. Hallett (non-playing Captain), S. Stone, C. Mossford, H. Penny, F. Williams, H. G. Geen.

In addition the champion of Sweden, Henrik Ander, and the champion of Denmark, Elinar Wium, were entered in the singles.



# ENGLISH SCHOOLS T.T. ASSOCIATION

by David Lomas

A record entry of almost 250 teams from 47 County Associations was received for this season's National Schools' Team Championships—organised by the English Schools' Table Tennis Association and sponsored by Stiga AB.

The 4-a-side teams—each team being County champions in events ranging from Under-11 to Under-19—took part in 12 Area Finals staged in early January with the winners going forward to three Regional Finals which were held on Sunday, January 23.

The 21 finalists, in a competition which Competitions Secretary Eddie Mitchell estimates drew 2,000 teams, were due to compete in the National Finals, which were scheduled for February 12, at Lea Green, Matlock, Derbyshire.

## REGIONAL FINALS NORTH

West Yorkshire teams did well at the North Regional Finals, held at Moor Grange High School, Leeds, but Moor Grange themselves went out to a strong Millom side in the Boys' U-19 event. In the Girls' U-19 event, holders Henry Fanshawe, Dronfield, narrowly failed to qualify, losing 3-5 to Roundhay, Leeds. Another Leeds team, Allerton Grange, qualified easily in the Boys' Under-16 category, whilst in the counterpart girls' event, Millom also had 8-0, 8-0 and 7-1 victories. Organiser was Rea Balmford, from Hull, and it was quite a busy day, because before the Regional events started, some outstanding matches from the Area 1 Final, which had not been completed a week previously (due to adverse weather conditions in the far North) were played.

## MIDLANDS & WEST

The Oasis Pleasure Dome, Swindon, was the venue for the Midlands & West Regional Finals.

Four West Midland teams qualified. Washwood Heath (Boys' U-19) were easy winners but although Highfields won through (Girls' U-19) they managed only a 5-3 verdict over Gosford Hill and then drew 4-4 with Bournemouth. Stephanie Jones, of Highfields—newly ranked on the England Senior list—lost to Janet New.

## SOUTH & EAST

England-ranked Junior, Stephen Boxall, was unbeaten for Beverley, who looked well set to retain their national title. Kingston-on-Thames neighbours, Tolworth, playing the same team that so narrowly lost the national final last year, were comfortable winners in the Girls' U-19 event.

Another England-ranked Junior, Adam Proffitt, was unbeaten for Queen Elizabeth's, Barnet, who had easy 6-2 wins over Bedford and Wisbech but could only draw with Esher—but they qualified.

Shenfield Sports Hall was the venue. Organiser was Ron Gore.

RESULTS (Winners compete at Matlock. All teams were Area winners).

## NORTH

- Boys' Under-19**
1. MILLOM (Cumbria)
  2. Moor Grange, Leeds (West Yorkshire)
  3. Burnley Grammar (Lancashire)
  4. Forest Fields College (Nottingham)

- Girls' Under-19**
1. ROUNDHAY, LEEDS (West Yorkshire)
  2. Henry Fanshawe, Dronfield (Derbyshire)
  3. King James (Durham)
  4. Fleetwood Grammar (Lancashire)

- Boys' Under-16**
1. ALLERTON GRANGE, LEEDS (West Yorkshire)
  2. John Port (Derbyshire)
  3. Stretford Boys' Grammar (Greater Manchester)
  4. Millom (Cumbria)

- Girls' Under-16**
1. MILLOM (Cumbria)
  2. St. Michael's, Billingham (Cleveland)

3. Kesteven & Grantham Girls' (Lincolnshire)
4. St. Catherine's, Blackpool (Lancashire)

- Boys' Under-13**
1. KING'S, GRANTHAM (Lincolnshire)
  2. Millom (Cumbria)
  3. Wibsey Middle, Bradford (West Yorkshire)
  4. Culcheth High, Warrington (Cheshire)

- Girls' Under-13**
1. WIBSEY MIDDLE, BRADFORD (West Yorkshire)
  2. Walton Girls', Grantham (Lincolnshire)
  3. St. Catherine's, Blackpool (Lancashire)
  4. Pennywell (Tyne & Wear)

- Under-11**
1. DANEPARK JUNIOR HIGH (Humberside)
  2. Holmgate County Primary (Derbyshire)
  3. Newcastle Royal Grammar (Tyne & Wear)

## MIDLANDS & WEST

- Boys' Under-19**
1. WASHWOOD HEATH, BIRMINGHAM (West Midlands)
  2. Ifield, Crawley (West Sussex)
  3. Ridings High, Winterbourne (Avon)
  4. Campion High, Leamington Spa (Warwickshire)

- Girls' Under-19**
1. HIGHFIELDS, WOLVERHAMPTON (West Midlands)
  2. Gosford Hill, Kidlington (Oxfordshire)
  3. Bournemouth School for Girls (Dorset)

- Boys' Under-16**
1. MEOLE BRACE, SHREWSBURY (Shropshire)
  2. Northampton School for Boys (Northants)
  3. Plymouth Public Secondary (Devon)
  4. Clarendon (Wiltshire)

- Girls' Under-16**
1. HIGHFIELDS, WOLVERHAMPTON (West Midlands)
  2. Leamington Girls' College (Warwickshire)
  3. Bournemouth School for Girls (Dorset)
  4. Callington (Cornwall)

- Boys' Under-13**
1. ASTON MANOR, BIRMINGHAM (West Midlands)
  2. Ifield, Crawley (West Sussex)
  3. Callington (Cornwall)
  4. Goldings Middle (Northants)

- Girls' Under-13**
1. CALLINGTON (Cornwall)
  2. Orelton Park (Shropshire)
  3. Lillington Middle (Warwickshire)
  4. Talbot Heath (Dorset)

- Under-11**
1. LITTLEHAM JUNIOR (Devon)
  2. St. Bartholomew's Junior, Wolverhampton (West Midlands)
  3. Basset Green Middle (Hampshire)
  4. Lillington Middle (Warwickshire)

## SOUTH & EAST

- Boys' Under-19**
1. BEVERLEY BOYS', NEW MALDEN (Surrey Metropolitan)
  2. Trinity, Newham (Essex Metropolitan)
  3. Maiden Erlegh, Reading (Berkshire)
  4. Burnt Mill, Harlow (Essex County)

- Girls' Under-19**
1. TOLWORTH GIRLS' (Surrey Metropolitan)
  2. Plashet, Newham (Essex Metropolitan)
  3. Kennet, Thatcham (Berkshire)
  4. St. Bernard's Convent, Westcliffe (Essex County)

- Boys' Under-16**
1. QUEEN ELIZABETH'S, BARNET (Middlesex)
  2. Bedford Modern (Bedfordshire)
  3. Esher College (Surrey County)
  4. Wisbech Grammar (Cambridgeshire)

- Girls' Under-16**
1. BRAMPTON MANOR, NEWHAM (Essex Metropolitan)
  2. Coombe Girls, New Malden (Surrey Metropolitan)
  3. Maiden Erlegh, Reading (Berkshire)
  4. Brentwood County High (Essex Metropolitan)

- Boys' Under-13**
1. LISTER COMPREHENSIVE, NEWHAM (Essex Metropolitan)
  2. St. Felix Middle, Newmarket (Suffolk)
  3. Desborough, Maidenhead (Berkshire)
  4. St. John's High, Sittingbourne (Kent County)

- Girls' Under-13**
1. BRAMPTON MANOR, NEWHAM (Essex Metropolitan)
  2. Maiden Erlegh, Reading (Berkshire)
  3. Swanscombe (Kent County)
  4. St. Felix Middle, Newmarket (Suffolk)

- Under-11**
1. ST. FELIX MIDDLE, NEWMARKET (Suffolk)
  2. Bedford Modern (Bedfordshire)
  3. Hill House (Inner London)
  4. St. George's College, Weybridge (Surrey County)

## Europe Club Cup

Just one of those matches—that sums up Ormesby's 5-2 semi-final defeat by Falkenburg, in Sweden, on January 15 (writes Alan Ransome).

Nick Jarvis, Ormesby's No. 2 and a vital link in the team, was declared unfit, so the club travelled out seriously under strength. Flight delays in England, Denmark and Sweden meant that the team did not arrive in Falkenburg until 2 hours before the match, instead of the planned arrival early Friday evening.

Often in these matches, the side that wins the close sets takes the match and this proved to be the case as Falkenburg took both "cliff-hangers".

The match began with Jimmy Walker beating Ulf Carlsson over three to put Ormesby one up, but former World Champion, Stellan Bengtsson, levelled the score with a straight-games victory over Robert Wiley, who replaced Jarvis. Then came the first vital set as Tommy Andersson narrowly beat Denis Neale 18 in the third. The

Swedes went further ahead as Bengtsson beat Walker, but Neale pulled Ormesby back with a victory over Carlsson. Wiley got little change out of Andersson and with the Swedes leading 4-2, Bengtsson clinched the victory with a tremendous win over Neale, who had 4 match points before Bengtsson clinched the decider 27-25!

So Ormesby's Europe Club Cup hopes are ended for another season. However, they did reach the semi-final which, provided they retain the English title, virtually guarantees their position as Europe's No. 3 seeded club when the list is issued at the beginning of next season. For the record, in the past 8 years that they have represented England in this competition, they have won it once, in 1972, and reached the semi-final on no less than 5 occasions.

## Dutch Contact

The Hilversumse Tafeltennisvereniging "Victoria" T.T.C. wish to bring a large party of juniors to play a club side in London during the period June 4-6, 1977. The party will consist of about 30 persons, the majority of whom will be junior players. Any club interested in setting up matches against our Dutch friends should contact Mrs. T. Raadman, of Adm. de Ruyterlaan 164, Hilversum, Holland.

## Obituary

### John Hudson — a stalwart of High Wycombe Table Tennis

John Hudson, President of the High Wycombe & District Table Tennis League and a Vice-President of the Buckinghamshire County Table Tennis Association, died on Friday, 14th January, aged 65, just two months after his retirement from an active and successful business life, despite undergoing major heart surgery three times.

In High Wycombe John was indeed a much-respected and wonderful person, quiet and unassuming, yet an inspiration to his colleagues in every aspect. He became Vice-Chairman in 1959 and was appointed Chairman the following year, a position he held until 1966 when he was nominated as President of the League, which he then held continually until his death. He rarely missed a function, attending the A.G.M.'s and annual Finals Nights regularly. Whatever the occasion he always went out of his way to speak to everybody and make them feel welcome.

In 1965 John became the organiser of the Furniture Trade Benevolent Association Individual Handicap Tournament, retiring from this last year when an entry of 180 competitors made the tournament the largest individual competition in the Home Counties.

John had many other commitments in both business and social organisations and the respect that he rightfully earned was evident by the large congregation at the funeral, at Hazlemere Parish Church, the church at which he worshipped, on Thursday, 20th January. Table Tennis representation included H.W.T.T.L. Life Vice-Presidents Jean Hawes, Don Norton and Roly Sewell, Committee Members Roy Hawes and Don Selwood, and League Chairman Brian Webb, who, as National Councillor and County Treasurer, also represented the County Association.

There is no doubt that everyone who knew him personally feel a very real sense of sorrow at the loss of a truly gracious gentleman.

B.R.J.W.

(with acknowledgment to D.E.N.)

**ESSEX NOTES**

by Geoff Newman

**PROBLEMS GALORE**

Our early January County Championships matches suffered severely from the atrocious weather and travelling conditions and only our Junior second team match survived, thus giving our Match Secretary plenty of problems.

In what appears to be a very overloaded season, these postponements will cause us no end of headaches. Our Senior Premier team are now two fixtures behind while the Senior seconds and Junior Premier teams both have a match to catch up. The Junior second team had a comfortable 9-1 win over Suffolk, who put up some very spirited opposition, Stuart Palmer scoring a shock win over our Stuart Kim and making Stephen Low go all the way. Stephen had a good match and is settling down nicely after a not too auspicious start. Desmond Charlery continues to improve in this team while our girls Yvette Brown and Janet Boulter made short work of their opposition.

Following the tragic death of Ted Pritchard, the Management Committee have confirmed Pat Dukes as Chairman and Alan Shepherd as Vice-Chairman for the remainder of the season. Both these gentlemen are well known for their endeavours and it goes without saying that we all wish them well with their additional duties.

Although no Essex player has been selected for the England team for the Worlds, we are delighted to have David Brown and Shelagh Hession qualifying for the additional places in these championships in Birmingham. Our party at Cleveland for the qualifying competition showed plenty of spirit and it was gratifying to see all the Essex contingent shouting for each other. Well done David and Shelagh—a very well-deserved achievement and honour.

Our Essex Inter-League competition is



**DAVE BROWN**

Essex skipper, on the ball at Cleveland in the World's Qualifying Competition.

Photo by Geoff Newman.

well under way and the results to date show that most divisions will be hotly contested. Although I am biased, our inter-league competition is second to none both in organisation and standard for the strength in depth in our County is well known. In recent years our representation at national level has been a little disappointing and yet we appear to have no end of very good players who just do not seem to make or get the chances for that final breakthrough.

Everything is in hand for our Closed Championships, which will be held at the Industrial Canteen of Ilford Ltd., Christopher Road, Basildon, over the weekend of May 5-6. Seniors play on the Saturday, the Juniors on Sunday, with the finals at 7 p.m., or thereabout, on both days. Gordon Lightfoot (NR) is the organiser and Alan Shepherd (TR) is the referee.

In the National Inter-League competition (Wilmott Cup and Rose Bowl) Dagenham and Chelmsford have reached the zone final in both competitions and it is perhaps unfortunate that they have to meet each other in the Wilmott. Chelmsford, semi-finalists last season (D. Newman, D. Bowles and S. Whiteley) will have their work cut out this term, for Dagenham (D. Randall, K. Caldron and B. Robertson) had the win in their recent Essex League's match in what by all accounts was a particularly fine match. In the Rose Bowl, Dagenham entertain Birmingham, while Chelmsford will visit Eastbourne.

The Essex selectors have announced their first ranking list of 1977 and it is:—

**SENIORS**

**Men**

1. Ian Horsham
2. Bob Potton
3. David Brown
4. David Newman
5. David Iszatt
6. Kevin Caldron
7. Stuart Gibbs
8. Graham Blomfield
9. David Randall
10. Ian Robertson
11. Kenny Jackson
12. Steven Whiteley
13. Brian Malley
14. Jeff Drew
15. Brian Parish
16. Leon Smith
17. Neil Brierly
18. John Poysdon
19. Faisal Mauthoor
20. Stuart Kimm

**Women**

1. Lesley Radford
2. Shelagh Hession
3. Linda Barrow
4. Elaine Foulds
5. Linda Budd
6. Jane Livesey
7. Janet Robertson
8. Gill Donaldson
9. Helen Gore
10. Elaine Sayer
11. Tina Pickard
12. Marilyn Nash
13. Janet Boulter

**JUNIORS**

**Boys**

1. Newman
2. Jackson
3. Smith
4. Kimm
5. Stephen Low
6. Desmond Charlery
7. Garry Lewsey
8. Tony Penny
9. Skylet Andrew
10. Richard Veale
11. Terry Dowsett
12. Kevin Howard
13. Peter Iszatt
14. Gary Turner
15. George Reeves

**Girls**

1. Gore
2. Sayer
3. Boulter

4. Yvette Brown
5. Julie Dowsett
6. Kay Tillyer
7. Lynn Chamberlain
8. Susan Adeane
9. Julia Reynolds
10. Debbie Taylor

**Cadet Boys**

1. Turner
2. Kevin Gard
3. Stephen Edwards
4. Ian Attridge
5. Wayne Campbell
6. Chris Avis
7. Terry Pascal
8. Harmindar Attall
9. Chris Knight
10. Stephen Eaton

**Cadet Girls**

1. Dowsett
2. Taylor
3. Ruth Addleman
4. Gillian Travers
5. Janice Clark
6. Karen Buckledge
7. Debbie Colkett
8. Julie Askem
9. Jayne Gore

**LINCOLNSHIRE JUNIOR OPEN**

by Joan Robinson

**WIN FOR TOP SEED**

The first-ever Lincolnshire Junior Open was held on January 2, at North Kesteven Sports Centre, North Hykham, Lincoln, and was a great success. Over 200 Juniors played in the eight events.

Top seed in the U-17 Boys' Singles was Yorkshire's Steven Mills, who won all his sets 2-straight to take the title. Other seeds, Tony Bottomley and Alan Summerscales, lost to Terry Dowsett in Round 1 and Andrew Billingham in Round 4 respectively. This left the way clear for Mark Hankey to reach the final, with good wins over Neil Stratton and Andrew Billingham.

Partnered by Summerscales, Mills went on to take his second title in the Boys' Doubles, although the final, against Bottomley and Martin Norman, was a close affair. M. Pearson/S. Inkley (Notts) played well in this event beating S. Young/S. Yallop (Derbys) and P. and N. Stratton and only losing in three to the eventual winners in the semi-final.

Both seeds in the U-17 Girls' Singles, Helen Gore and Cheryl Buttery, went out before the final, Helen in the semis to Linda Holmes, who had also beaten Alison Gordon and Helen Williams. Cheryl just lost -16, 19, -19 to Julie Dowsett in Round 4. Mandy Reeves who beat Julie in the semis, took the title with a good win over Linda.

Mandy reached two more finals, losing both, the Girls' Cadet event going to No. 1, Alison Gordon, and these two girls played together in the Doubles, just losing a tight final to Gore/Buttery. In the U-14 Girls' Singles, an event which had the most ranked players, local girl, Gillian Galloway, beat the No. 6 cadet, Julie Dowsett, 18, 14 in the third round.

With only one ranked Cadet entering the U-14 Boys' Singles, namely Steven Young, he was expected to win this event but having reached the final, he came unstuck against Paul Stratton.

The U-11 events, which attracted entries of 17 Boys and 8 Girls, were won by B. Collingwood (Hammersmith) and Miss L. Bellinger (Dunstable) respectively.

Over 350 sets were played in 11 hours on 10 tables, thanks to the co-operation of both players and officials.



Results:—  
**U-17 Boys' Singles—Semi-finals**  
 S. Mills (Y) bt T. Dowsett (E) 17, 17.  
 M. V. Hankey (Ch) bt A. Billingham (St) 19, 13.  
**Final**  
 MILLS bt Hankey 18, 14.  
**U-17 Girls' Singles—Semi-finals**  
 M. Reeves (Mi) bt J. Dowsett (E) 14, 12.  
 L. Holmes (Dy) bt H. Gore (E) 11, 15.  
**Final**  
 REEVES bt Holmes 15, 20.  
**U-14 Boys' Singles—Semi-finals**  
 S. Young (Dy) bt K. Grundy (Wa) 19, -16, 17.  
 P. Stratton (Mi) beat S. Skeet (Bu) 17, 12.  
**Final**  
 STRATTON bt Young 17, 13.  
**U-14 Girls' Singles—Semi-finals**  
 A. Gordon (Bk) bt H. Williams (Mi) 15, 8.  
 Reeves bt G. Galloway (Li) 18, 17.  
**Final**  
 GORDON bt Reeves 15, 17.  
**U-11 Boys' Singles—Semi-finals**  
 B. Collingwood (Mi) bt R. Sandham (Li) 8, 14.  
 S. Worrell (Li) bt J. Bradbury (Bu) 11, 8.  
**Final**  
 COLLINGWOOD bt Worrell 11, 11.  
**U-11 Girls' Singles—Semi-finals**  
 L. Bellinger (Bd) bt S. Hadley (St) 17, -11, 12.  
 M. Bryan (Li) bt D. Kennedy (Li) 14, 12.  
**Final**  
 BELLINGER bt Bryan 10, 1.  
**Girls' Doubles—Semi-finals**  
 Gore/Buttery (Li) bt S. Cain/S. Watton (St) 13, 20.  
 Gordon/Reeves bt J. Wallis (Hp)/J. Deakin (Ch) 16, 13.  
**Final**  
 GORE/BUTTERY bt Gordon/Reeves -12, 16, 18.  
**Boys' Doubles—Semi-finals**  
 Mills/Summerscales bt M. Pearson/S. Inkley (Ng) -13, 12, 10.  
 A. Bottomley (Y)/M. Norman (Li) bt Grundy/H.Chilton (Wa) 15, 11.  
**Final**  
 MILLS/SUMMERSCALES bt Bottomley/Norman 22, 19.

## Middlesex U-15 & U-13 Open

HIGH STANDARD AT PICKETT'S LOCK  
by John Wright

Entries were, as usual, high for this popular tournament, the organisers again having to "close" several days early. Unpleasant road conditions deterred a number of competitors from making the journey, but those who did attend found play of a high standard.

In the Boys' U-15 Singles, Martin Les (Middlesex) caused an early upset when he removed Adam Proffitt in a 3rd round match, and then narrowly got the better of Stephen Moore in Round 5 before going out in the quarters to Skylett Andrew. The second semi-final place was filled by Costas Papantoniou, who overcame Stephen Woodgate in 3 games. There were fewer surprises in the bottom half, where Graham Gillett and Colin Wilson both duly reached their allocated positions.

Both Papantoniou and Wilson needed 3 games to reach the final, but once there Wilson looked, on this occasion, a cut above his rival and won with some comfort.

Scratch pairing of Andrew Coulthard and Keith Nicoll had a splendid run in the Boys' U-15 Doubles and 3rd seeded Gillett and Moore (who had a fine semi win -19, 13, 18 over Papantoniou/Wilson) were extended in the final but just managed to hang on.

Elaine Bolton collected two titles in the Girls' U-15. Partnered by County colleague Carol Colegate, the doubles (after a shaky start) fell to this experienced pair, but

Elaine must have been surprised by the capitulation of Mandy Reeves in the singles final, which was never a contest. With Mandy having beaten Carol in one semi, and Elaine winning against Alison Gordon in the other, a better final was anticipated.

Unseeded Stephen Edwards and No. 3 Stuart Palmer, came through to contest the Boys' U-13 singles title, where Palmer recovered after losing the first game to win in three. Edwards, with Ian Attridge, looked like causing a big upset in the doubles when they took the first against John Souter and Mark Oakley, but the more experienced pair won in the end.

The Girls' U-13 singles ran much to form, with Helen Williams too good for Lorraine Garbet in the final, but that pair had to work hard to take the doubles in a final win over singles semi-finalists Melanie Ringrose and Sarah Cresswell. Prize vouchers were again provided by Curry's.

Results:—  
**U-15 EVENTS**  
**Boys' Singles—Quarter-finals**  
 S. Andrew (E) bt M. Les (Mi) 16, 16.  
 C. Papantoniou (Mi) bt S. Woodgate (Sy) 15, -11, 11.  
 G. Gillett (Sx) bt D. Barr (Bk) 16, 19.  
 C. Wilson (Ha) bt J. Souter (Mi) 14, 14.  
**Semi-finals**  
 Papantoniou bt Andrew 14, -18, 12.  
 Wilson bt Gillett -11, 13, 17.  
**Final**  
 WILSON bt Papantoniou 12, 16.  
**Girls' Singles—Quarter-finals**  
 C. Colegate (K) bt J. Deakin (Ch) 16, 14.  
 M. Reeves (Mi) bt S. Cain (St) 9, 8.  
 E. Bolton (K) bt H. Williams (Mi) -18, 19, 13.  
 A. Gordon (Bk) bt J. Dowsett (E) 9, 17.  
**Semi-finals**  
 Reeves bt Colegate 21, 15.  
 Bolton bt Gordon 19, 14.  
**Final**  
 BOLTON bt Reeves 11, 14.  
**Boys' Doubles—Semi-finals**  
 A. Coulthard (Wal)/K. Nicoll (Np) bt M. McCarthy/A. Proffitt (Mi) 17, -16, 16.  
 Gillett/S. Moore (Sx) bt Papantoniou/Wilson -19, 13, 18.  
**Final**  
 GILLETT/MOORE bt Coulthard/Nicoll 15, -17, 17.  
**Girls' Doubles—Semi-finals**  
 Bolton/Colegate bt D. Devine/L. Tyler (Mi) 18, 15.  
 L. Garbet (Sy)/Gordon bt Reeves/Williams 12, 9.  
**Final**  
 BOLTON/COLEGATE bt Garbet/Gordon 19, -12, 13.

**U-13 EVENTS**  
**Boys' Singles—Semi-finals**  
 S. Edwards (E) bt J. Duffield (Wo) -14, 19, 20.  
 S. Palmer (Sk) bt M. Oakley (Sy) -15, 17, 11.  
**Final**  
 PALMER bt Edwards 17, 14.  
**Girls' Singles—Semi-finals**  
 Williams bt S. Cresswell (Sy) 17, 17.  
 Garbet bt M. Ringrose (Hu) 11, 12.  
**Final**  
 WILLIAMS bt Garbet 13, 18.  
**Boys' Doubles—Final**  
 OAKLEY/SOUTER bt I. Attridge (E)/Edwards -18, 10, 16.  
**Girls' Doubles—Final**  
 GARBET/WILLIAMS bt Cresswell/Ringrose -13, 21, 15.

years ago, Gold and Silver winners have been Plymouth 52.17%, Exmouth 19.13%, Exeter 13.04%, Torbay 7% and Tavistock 6%.  
 Over 90% of the results of this season's championships were in accordance with the American-type rating system used by the D.S.T.T.A. The day's surprise was a "20 Point Upset" by Sean Gwynne when he eliminated Paul Whiting from the Boys' Under-16 event.  
 The quality group events in which boys and girls meet (girls receive 5 start), again produced early surprise victories for the girls. Ninety players took part in the Primary Singles. Eight-years-old Valda Lake, daughter of ex-English International Pam Mortimer, reached Round 3. Plymouth's Christine Moore won herself a Bronze Medal. Five of the last 16 players were girls, including 10-years-old Sarah O'Leary, who was presented with a £5 voucher from a local company for her effort.  
 Elaine Lamb, with no competition in the Under-19 Girls' event, played devastating stuff in the Advanced Singles and beat Mike Shearman, Paul Bathard, Jerry Hodges and in the final, Paul Whiting.  
 There were 146 competitors, with a maximum of two events per player. With extra matches from late entrants, 295 sets were played from 9-30 a.m. until the last final at 7-45 p.m. 6/7 tables were in use.  
 When it came to the "Rating" homework it was discovered that Plymouth's Mike Hodges had made the greatest progress from 924 to 980, winning the Gold in the Intermediate event and a Bronze in the Under-16 Boys.  
 Medal winners:—

## Devon Schools' Individual Championships

By BRIAN T. WORTS, T.R.

Twenty-eight medals were won by Plymouth players, 7 by Exmouth, 2 by Exeter, and 3 by Torbay, during the annual Championships, held at Newton Abbot, on December 5.

Since the championships began seven

	Gold	Silver
Advanced—	Elaine Lamb, Paul Whiting	
Intermediate—	Mike Hodges, Sean Gwynne	
Primary—	John Mitchell, Paul Giles	
B.S. U-19—	Paul Bathard, Kevin Carder	
B.S. U-16—	Mike Shearman, Jerry Hodges	
G.S. U-16—	Nicola Pine, Julie Pritchard	
B.S. U-13—	Lloyd Cooper, Mark Lambert	
G.S. U-13—	Carol Butler, Gina Pritchard	
B.S. U-11—	Gary Lambert, Mark Ellett	
G.S. U-11—	Caroline Trainer, Michelle Marshall	

**How the Ratings work**  
 Example: Sean Gwynne (932) bt Paul Whiting (1128). This was a "20 point upset" result and at that time took Gwynne to 952 and Whiting to 1108. If Whiting had won he would have gained only 2 points and Gwynne would have lost 2 points. The result would have been "Normal".

Rating Difference	Normal Result	Upset Result
0-24	8	8
25-49	7	10
50-74	6	11
75-99	5	12
100-124	4	13
125-149	3	15
150-199	2	20
200-249	1	26
250 Upwards	0	32

- Leading ratings as at December 31 were:—
1. Terry Fairbanks ..... 1188
  2. Paul Whiting ..... 1114
  3. Mike Shearman ..... 1107
  4. Elaine Lamb ..... 1101
  5. Graham Craig ..... 1050
  6. Jerry Hodges ..... 1022
  7. John Coker ..... 1002
  9. Nicola Pine ..... 1000

The ratings cover the Devon Schools' T.T.A. Individual, Devon County Junior Closed and can be extended to include any future Area Schools events,

# WHICH BAT, WHICH RUBBER ?

By BRIAN JONES (Olympus Sports)

A table tennis player, when purchasing a new bat, is faced with a bewildering choice of bats and rubbers, his only guide being the claims made by the various manufacturers with regard to their own products, and advice from friends, which is often confusing.

This is an attempt to draw information together to assist the player with his choice. If anyone disagrees with these points, I would welcome any reasoned argument against them which would assist our total knowledge.

A new bat does not make a better player, it is a tool which, if chosen properly, will assist his game in its strongest or weakest part, as it must be remembered that speed of stroke, angle of bat, and use of the wrist, arm and body will have the greatest effect on the performance of the bat and without correct body action, the best bat in the world will be of little help.

**THE BLADE**—This is made of various thicknesses and types of ply laminated together, and there are obviously an infinite variety of woods and thicknesses used which will, to some degree, affect the performance of the bat. It would appear that a simple division would be, a blade with five or more equal laminations will be heavier, stronger, and give more control or "feel", and a blade with one single core of thick, soft ply, with thin outer layers of harder ply, will be lighter, weaker, and faster in play.

The handle should fit the hand, and feel easy; remember the bat must become an extension of the hand, so that the whole of the player's attention can centre on the game, and not whether he has the bat the right way round.

**THE SPONGE**—This is the layer between the blade and the rubber, and it gives most of the resilience or speed to the bat, the more pure the sponge, the more catapult effect it will have, and the thicker the sponge, the faster will be the bat, therefore no sponge equals good control but slow speed, thick sponge poor control and very fast, so the player must choose the sponge thickness to suit his game.

No sponge—All out chopper.

1 mm.—Very defensive player.

1.5 mm.—All-round player, who still feels that defence is the best weapon.

2 mm.—All-round attacking player who likes to loop and smash.

2.5 mm.—All-out attacker with few defensive strokes.

**THE RUBBER**—The main points here are resilience, or catapult effect, giving speed and frictional coefficient, or the amount of grip the rubber has on the ball, which imparts spin to the ball, the greater the refinement of the rubber, the greater these effects will be. As rubber is a natural product these effects die as the rubber is in use, and the player must do everything he can to preserve them by keeping the rubber clean and free from grease and dirt picked up by the ball from the table and the floor, and transferred to the bat. He should also avoid wiping the rubber with his hand; a clean, fine cloth wrung out in warm water and wiped across the blade is the best way of keeping it clean.

As the rubber dies it will very slightly change its character, so a fast rubber will lose speed and spin, and gain control.

It follows that the faster the bat, the less

time the ball will stay on the rubber, and there will be less time for the rubber to grip the ball and impart spin, which is why most rubbers in use are reversed as the smooth surface enables a greater part of the ball to be in contact with the rubber.

If you can imagine a scale with speed at one end and control at the other, with spin as the scale in between, you will see that you cannot have maximum speed with maximum control, only maximum spin, and as the speed and spin decrease down the scale, so greater control is gained at their expense.

This is where most players get confused, for it should be remembered that manufacturers' star or spot markings only refer to

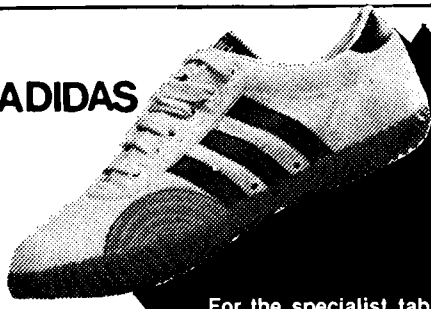
that area of the scale within which their own rubber lies, and not the full length of the scale which covers all rubbers.

There are specialist rubbers which are designed to kill spin, which have low frictional coefficient ratings which enable the spin on the ball to be dissipated by the rubber and sponge, giving the player greater control of the ball. Players using this rubber will have to build their game round the bat, as the angle of the bat will have to be altered on some strokes, and the lack of spin and ability to kill will have to be adjusted to. Effective use of this rubber can be obtained if it is put on one side of the bat only, but the player must remember not to turn the bat round in his hand without realising it.

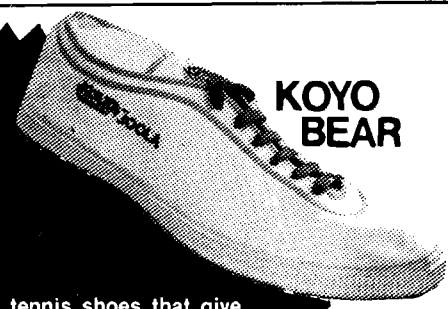
**SUPERB TABLE TENNIS**

# SHOES


**From TEES SPORT!**



**ADIDAS**



**KOYO BEAR**



**BUTTERFLY**

For the specialist table tennis shoes that give you strong grip, lasting comfort and lightness for ease of movement, try Tees Sport first. Butterfly, Joola Koyo Bear, and Adidas all available from stock.

# TEES SPORT

Specialists in Table Tennis

8 Baker Street Middlesbrough Cleveland County TS1 2LH Tel (0642) 249000



# THE WAYFARERS ENGLISH JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS

by Alan Dines

The Wayfarers English Junior Championships were played on December 11-12, in Reading. The venue was Meadow Sports Centre, now a familiar venue to the majority of the players. The Championships produced some shock results, as in previous years. The main ones concerned the No. 1 seeds in the four singles events.

In the Under-17 Boys' Singles, Kevin Beadsley (No. 9 seed) from Yorkshire, and David Reeves (No. 3) from Berkshire, caused the main upsets by reaching the final. Kevin Beadsley disposed of Joe Kennedy (No. 4), Richard Jermyn (No. 10), who had beaten David Newman (No. 5), and in the semi-final the No. 1 seed, Martin Shuttle. David Reeves carved his way to the final with wins over Ian Kenyon (No. 7), Stephen Boxall (No. 15) and Michael Harrison. The latter being unseeded, and having beaten Chris Rogers (No. 8) 19 in the third and Graham Sandley (No. 11) 21 in the third, just failed to make it three in a row when he went down 19 in the third to Reeves. The final produced some very exciting table tennis and Reeves powered his way to a two-straight win to become English Champion.

This win delighted the local crowd, who had earlier witnessed the elimination of the local No. 1 seeds in the Girls' Under-17 and Under-14 Singles. In the Under-17 event the No. 1 seed, Karen Witt, could not produce her top form. In the semi-final she met Dorset's Janet New (No. 7), who was in devastating form and who won 16, 21 in a thrilling match. On her way to the semi-final Janet beat Helen Gore (No. 15) and Jane Skipp (No. 4). Shocks in the other half were produced by two local girls. Unseeded Alison Gordon beat June Williams (No. 5) and Shirley Cain, also unseeded, who had beaten Sue Roebuck (No. 11). Mandy Smith, the No. 9 seed, was in top form and eliminated Angela Tierney (No. 3), Suzanne Hunt (No. 8) and Angela Mitchell (No. 2) to reach the final. In the final Janet New was overpowered in the first game but came back strongly to take the next two and a well-deserved title.

Seeds tumbled in quick succession in the Under-14 Boys' Singles where unseeded players had a field day, and two reached the semi-finals. Michael Owens beat Bryon Johnson (No. 6), Graham Russell beat Paul Rainford (No. 7), Kevin Satchell beat John Souter (No. 3) and was then beaten by Keith Nicoll, who next beat Graham Russell. Martin Les beat Mark Oakley (No. 4) and Paul Whiting (No. 8). The final was, as expected, between the No. 1 seed, Colin Wilson, from Hampshire, and Graham Sandley, the No. 2 seed, from Middlesex, and after a close finish the No. 2 seed was the winner.

The Under-14 Girls' Singles produced a few more surprises. Janet Deakin beat Helen Williams (No. 5 seed), Gillian Gallo-way beat Pauline Townsend (No. 7) and Lorraine Garbet beat Carol Butler (No. 8). In the semi-finals Helen Robinson (No. 3) had a tough battle with Alison Gordon and finally won -13, 20, 19. Mandy Reeves (No. 2) representing Middlesex, was the other finalist and after dropping the first game to Helen, took the next two convincingly.

Championships officials were: E.T.T.A. Championships Committee Chairman—Geoff Daniels, Referee—John Freeman, Organiser—Alan Dines, Umpiring—Doreen Stannard, Assistant Referee—Gordon Lightfoot, and Assistant Organiser—Brian Holliday. The Championships were sponsored by the Wayfarers Travel Agency and organised

by the E.T.T.A. in conjunction with I.M.P.A.C.T.

**Junior Boys' Singles U-17—Quarter-finals**  
M. Shuttle (Sy) bt A. Proffitt (Mi) 12, 15.  
K. Beadsley (Y) bt R. Jermyn (He) 18, 18.  
D. Reeves (B) M. Harrison (Y) -15, 20, 19.  
I. Kenyon (K) bt K. Paxton (Du) 17, 20.

**Semi-finals**  
Beadsley bt Shuttle 17, -12, 14.  
Reeves bt Kenyon 18, 19.

**Final**  
REEVES bt Beadsley 16, 16.

**Junior Girls' Singles U-17—Quarter-finals**  
K. Witt (Bk) bt L. Hryszko (Y) 15, 18.  
J. New (Do) bt J. Skipp (Cu) 18, 20.  
M. Smith (Bk) bt S. Hunt (Li) 13, 17.  
A. Mitchell (Mi) bt A. Gordon (Bk) 9, 18.

**Semi-finals**  
New bt Witt 16, 21.  
Smith bt Mitchell 21, 14.

**Final**  
NEW bt Smith -15, 11, 13.

**Junior Boys' Doubles—Semi-finals**  
Paxton/Reed bt Newman/Reeves 16, 16.  
Rogers/Shuttle bt Kenney/Kenyon 12, 19.

**Final**  
ROGERS/SHUTTLE bt Paxton/Reed 11, 13.

**Junior Girls' Doubles—Semi-finals**  
Jones/New bt Mitchell/Witt 15, -13, 15.  
Lamb/Roebuck bt Tierney/Williams 20, 18.

**Final**  
JONES/NEW bt Lamb/Roebuck 19, -20, 18.

**Junior Mixed Doubles—Semi-finals**  
Beadsley/Hryszko bt Rogers/Hunt -15, 19, 14.  
Sandley/Gordon bt Tyler/Smith -14, 18, 12.

**Final**  
SANDLEY/GORDON bt Beadsley/Hryszko 17, 12.

**Cadet Boys' Singles U-14—Semi-finals**  
Wilson bt Nicholl 10, 12.

Sandley bt Les 17, 8.

**Final**  
SANDLEY bt Wilson 12, 19.

**Cadet Girls' Singles U-14—Semi-finals**  
Robinson bt Gordon -13, 20, 19.

Reeves bt Bolton -21, 15, 20.

**Final**  
REEVES bt Robinson -16, 14, 10.

pletely on table tennis for a living, is likely to be very much less well off than the average industrial worker or a father with a large family on social security. This is the reward of a man at the very top of his sport—a sport that is very widely played. It is an injustice of quite shattering magnitude, repeated in few other countries.

There are two answers. In the long term players will have to serve up a brand of table tennis that brings crowds back to watch. As table tennis is played at this time it will attract spectators and therefore money on very rare occasions. I have dealt with this subject in three previous letters and little can be added. In the short term, the money will have to be found to pay our top players better. Unless they play and practice full-time, they cannot match the best in other countries where this is the case. Under present circumstances they deserve our applause that they, who are at best, part-timers, should so often match the best of other countries' full-time professionals.

JOHN PREAN.

12 Marlborough Road,  
Ryde, Isle of Wight.

## WHY US?

With reference to Alan Shepherd's, to use the word loosely, "letter" in the January edition, may I, as one of the table tennis players of whose existence he is unaware, ask him why we have been singled out for such unprovoked, offensive remarks. I do not think the fact that John Woodford lives here is sufficient cause.

Since, as far as I am aware, we have done nothing to provoke such abuse, it will be interesting to see whether he will unreservedly withdraw his ill-mannered remarks.

Incidentally, I hardly think a sports magazine is the place to air one's political views.

RON VINE.

37 Den Hill,  
Eastbourne,  
East Sussex,  
BN20 8SZ.

## WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP SWEAT-SHIRTS AND TEE-SHIRTS

Available in navy-blue, red and light-blue. Screen printed with the Championship crest.

Sweat-shirts £3.95 each, including postage and V.A.T., in sizes small, medium and large.

Tee-shirts £1.99 each, including postage and V.A.T. Available in sizes 30", 32", small medium and large.

Please allow up to 28 days for delivery.

ALEC BROOK  
A.D.B. (LONDON) LTD.,  
31 EBURY STREET,  
LONDON, SW1W 0NZ.

Telephone — 01-730 0394



## Letters to the Editor

### RECURRING THEME

In your October issue, John Pike opened his entertaining and penetrative profile series with a short interview with Desmond Douglas, who touched on a recurring theme, i.e., the lack of financial incentives for our top players. He concluded as follows: "... if things continue as they are only the Paul Days of this world will be able to represent their country". Unfortunately, what is a very reasonable point, and one shared by most top players and dealt with in depth by Alan Ransome in previous issues, has been taken in completely the wrong way by a Mr. Patrick J. O'Bryne, who has launched a rather heavy-handed attack on one of our leading players.

"Ungentlemanly . . . offensive . . . unsporting . . . his exalted position seems to have brought out the worst in him . . ." are a few of the dubious platitudes from a reply about thirty times as long as Douglas' brief comment. Mr. O'Bryne signs himself as "Cams. Umpires' Secretary" and as such should be less ready to jump to the wrong conclusions. I know neither Douglas or Day, but I wish they would be allowed to prepare quietly for what may prove the most important few days of their table tennis careers.

Nobody has anything but the greatest admiration for the parents of Paul Day and the way they have supported him throughout his career. Why should not Desmond Douglas say, if this is how he feels, that he has not had the same support on his way to the top and indeed, that players like him would not be able to play for England if they had the obligations of a married man. Perhaps it is best to drop the wrong end of the stick as presented by Mr. O'Bryne and grasp the right end, which is that our top players are grossly underpaid.

To reach their present position they have to be as skilled in their way and they have almost certainly worked as hard as top golfers or tennis players, some of whom may be millionaires by the time they are 30. Yet the top table tennis player, if he relies com-



## Welsh Corner

H. Roy Evans

Saturday, January 22, marked the end of a pretty depressing week for Wales. On Wednesday another European League match which should have been won, was lost when we went down 1-6 to Luxembourg, who were without John Krier, their best man.

Ours is a pretty simple formula for success—Alan Griffiths has to win two, Graham Davies one, and they have to win the doubles. Success in the women's singles or the mixed would be a bonus.

And this should be well within our ability against all sides in Division 2. But the irony is that Alan Griffiths, who won the Cardiff Open in brilliant style, played poorly against Spain on the next day, and after an equally brilliant English Open in which he disposed of Denis Neale and only lost -19 in the fifth against "bogey-man" Richard Yule, he performed equally poorly against Luxembourg. Admittedly the scores were close in several games, but they should never have been close.

This bitter pill was then washed down by an equally bitter draught of Glamorgan Open results. Only two titles stayed in Wales, the men's doubles, won by the experienced veterans George Evans and Ken Bull, and the cadet boys' in which Mark Thomas and Brian Jeanes both played with high

promise before victory went 23-21 in the third to Mark.

For the rest it was an unhappy day. Graham Davies, No. 1 seed, has only himself to blame for not being able to challenge Chris Sewell in the Final. He seemed in command against Birmingham's Alan Fletcher and won the first game with some conviction. But he trailed 0-11 in the second, played well to catch up at 12-13, then collapsed again to lose that, and gave only token resistance in the third. With due respect to Fletcher, it was not so much his excellence as Graham's complete loss of control that brought a Fletcher win. In the other half, Evans had Tony Isaac completely non-plussed by his chop, but never looked like worrying Sewell in the semi-final. Chris won the final from Alan without very much trouble.

Ken Bull and George Evans did well to take the doubles, but one would hardly have expected such a rout of Angie Evans and Mike Nocivelli, who had some good wins.

It was a change to see the Midlands not taking as many of the women's titles as normal, and it was the South and West Country which did well in this tournament. Devon's isolation doesn't seem to prevent their producing a lot of young talent, and Essex and Wilts. obviously have a significant reservoir of champions of the future.

Scores:—

### Men's Singles—Semi-finals

Alan Fletcher (Y) bt Graham Davies (Wal) -17, 16, 14.

Chris Sewell (Av) bt George Evans (Glam) 16, 10.

### Final

SEWELL bt Fletcher 15, 17.

### Women's Singles—Semi-finals

Helen Gore (E) bt Sandra Pickering (Wal) 10, 14.

Wendy Parker (Wilts) bt Glenys Thomas (Wal) 14, 13.

### Final

GORE bt Parker 13, 15.

### Men's Doubles—Final

GEORGE EVANS/KEN BULL bt Andrew Evans/Michael Nocivelli 9, 10.

### Women's Doubles—Final

WENDY PARKER/MANDY SMITH bt Diane St. Ledger/Karen Groves 12, -15, 18.

### Mixed, Doubles—Final

SEWELL/HELEN GORE bt James/Karen Rowe 9, -16, 10.

### Junior Boys' Singles—Final

E. WILKES (S) bt Brian Jeanes (Gwent) 9, 19.

### Junior Girls' Singles—Final

HELEN GORE bt Wendy Parker 9, 15.

### Cadet Boys'—Final

MARK THOMAS (Clwyd) bt Brian Jeanes (Gwent) -19, 14, 21.

### Cadet Girls'—Final

PAULINE TOWNSEND(Wi) bt T. Watkins (Wi) 18, 17.

## HALEX KENT 2-STAR OPEN

### SURPRISE RESULTS

by Cyril Burden

Once again this popular tournament attracted an excellent entry, there being 159 in the men's singles and 32 in the women's singles, with consequent increased numbers in the doubles events. On top of this 64 entries were received for the Under-20 boys' singles and 21 in the Under-20 girls' singles.

As it turned out, it was also a tournament with quite a number of surprising results. The men's singles was won by Max Crimmins, who on his way to the final accounted for Ian Horsham, the holder, Kevin Caldon and, in an excellent semi-final, Ian Kenyon.

The final itself, against David Brown, was rather a let-down, as both cancelled out each other's moves, but well played Max.

As in other years, the best final was the U-20 boys' singles, in which Mark Mitchell proved too strong for the holder, David Iszatt, and although it was a two-straight victory, the rallies were excellent. Keeping it in the family, sister Angela won the U-20 girls' when she beat the up-and-coming New Zealand No. 1 Junior, Angela Brackenridge. However, she did not continue in her winning way in the women's singles, as she met a very determined holder, Elaine Foulds, who fought for every point even when trailing by quite a margin, eventually holding on to her title by winning 19 in the final game.

The tournament itself ran on time and was certainly helped by the excellent band of umpires who worked tremendously hard over the weekend.

Results:—

### Men's Singles—Semi-finals

M. Crimmins (Sy) bt I. Kenyon (K) 18, -17, 15.

D. Brown (E) bt M. Mitchell (Mi) 16, 17.

### Final

CRIMMINS bt Brown -11, 16, 12.

### Women's Singles—Semi-finals

A. Mitchell (Mi) bt L. Barrow (E) -18, 11, 8.

E. Foulds (E) bt J. Robertson (E) -14, 19, 20.

### Final

FOULDS bt Mitchell -21, 15, 19.

### Men's Doubles—Final

BROWN/I. HORSHAM (E) bt Mitchell/R. Potton (E) 20, 15.

### Women's Doubles—Final

FOULDS/ROBERTSON bt G. Ballard/M. Heffernan 19, 11.

### Mixed Doubles—Final

POTTON/MITCHELL bt D. Newman (E)/Barrow 16, 15.

### U-20 Boys' Singles—Final

MITCHELL bt D. Iszatt (E) 12, 18.

### U-20 Girls' Singles—Final

MITCHELL bt A. Brackenridge (NZ) 11, 10.

### Veteran Singles—Final

G. CHAPMAN (Sy) bt L. Fountain (E) 14, -18, 9.

## A FILM TO AID THE HARD-PRESSED COACH!

# TABLE TENNIS

A FOUR-PART FILM PRODUCED IN COLLABORATION WITH  
THE ENGLISH TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION

Script and Technical Adviser  
**LES GRESSWELL**

*"I am of the opinion that these films can only  
do good wherever they are used."*  
John O'Sullivan, Table Tennis News

Each film is 13 minutes in duration \* in Eastmancolour  
16mm with optical soundtrack \* 8mm with magnetic soundtrack  
delivered with teaching notes

All these films are for sale OR hire. For full details write or phone  
**GERARD HOLDSWORTH PRODUCTIONS LIMITED**  
31 Palace Street, London, SW1E 5HW 01-828 1671



# New Zealand Table Tennis Assoc.

## Applications are invited for the position of National Coach.

### Duties:

To be responsible to the NZTTA Directorate of Coaching and to implement its programme. The duties will be primarily to conduct clinics for provincial association coaches but will also include coaching of leading juniors and seniors.

### Qualifications:

A good knowledge of table tennis with an ability to organise and communicate. The applicant will be required to teach the modern close-to-the-table game with its variation of loop and spin. The emphasis of coaching should be on the shake-hand grip style of holding the racket. The successful applicant must be able to communicate with ease in English, both spoken and written.

### Conditions and Salary:

Return air fares to and from New Zealand will be paid. A salary according to qualifications and experience may be negotiated in addition to the payment of internal accommodation and travel expenses while involved with coaching in New Zealand. Six weeks holiday per year to coincide with the summer school holidays. Employment subject to approval by the Immigration Division, Labour Department. The initial term would be for three years. The terms are negotiable for a single person only.

### Security:

Applications are strictly confidential and should state age, qualifications and experience and be supported by references from Table Tennis Associations.

### Inquiries:

If necessary, the position may be discussed with the Secretary, Mr. K. C. Wilkinson during the Commonwealth Championships in Guernsey or at the World Championships at Birmingham.

### Applications:

All applications should be forwarded to the  
 Hon. Secretary  
 New Zealand Table Tennis Association  
 Mr. K. C. Wilkinson, B.E.M.  
 59 Garden Road,  
 Avalon — Lower Hutt  
 NEW ZEALAND.

### Closing Date:

2nd May, 1977.



Nicky Jarvis, one of the best ambassadors for England amongst the top players in recent years, may be forced to give up international table tennis due to a serious back injury.

Nicky's displaced vertebra became troublesome during 1976, so restricting his movement and causing excessive pain and stiffness. If Nicky keeps playing table tennis without treatment, the injury will only deteriorate. If he is to play top-class table tennis again, he must have an operation which will put him out of competitive play for at least a year and is not certain of being successful.

Before this injury became troublesome, Nicky was making nice progress through the England rankings up into the World and European lists. Aged 23, he was steadily approaching his peak and clearly had several years of top international table tennis to look forward to. Nicky was one of the few players who seriously trained hard and dedicated himself to table tennis. He left school at 17 and turned professional immediately, giving up any opportunities he had to follow another career with the intention of putting all his efforts into table tennis.

No country can afford to lose players of his abilities and he will certainly be sadly missed from the England side in the World Championships in Birmingham. All that can be hoped is that if Nicky decides to have the operation and that it is a complete success, once more he can take up his rightful place in the national team.

### THE SUFFOLK SCENE

by R. C. Langridge

#### TOUGH FOR JUNIORS

With the extended Christmas break, only one County Championships match has taken place during the past month. This match involved the Suffolk Juniors in a very tough away fixture against Essex II Juniors, at Maldon.

Only Stuart Palmer and Julian Hall put up a real challenge against this well-coached Essex team. In this 1-9 defeat, Palmer was the only victor when he overcame the Essex No. 1, Stuart Kim, 13 in the third. Hall, always a great fighter, was beaten in the third game by both his opponents, Desmond Charlery and Stephen Low.

Unfortunately our girls, Debra Hubble and Julie Duncombe, were dominated by their Essex counterparts. Michael Shorten, whilst gaining valuable experience, is not quite getting the results that he should. Both doubles combinations must continue to work very much harder at this particular aspect of their game.

# NEW RANKINGS . . .

## DOUGLAS BACK ON TOP

The recent form of English champion, **Desmond Douglas**, has enabled him to regain the No. 1 position in the new senior ranking lists issued on January 11, 1977. During the last few months Douglas has beaten world champion Istvan Jonyer, of Hungary, and other world-ranked players in Stellan Bengtsson, Jacques Secretin, Dragutin Surbek and Anatoli Strokotov. More recently, in the European League match against Czechoslovakia, he also had wins over Milan Orlovski and Jaroslav Kunz.

John Hilton continues to climb the list, this time moving from 8th to 4th place, while Nicky Jarvis, who has been among the top four for a few years, drops to No. 6. Jarvis has had back trouble recently and is not included in the England team for the Norwich Union-sponsored 34th World Championships in Birmingham.

With the exception of Denis Neale, who goes from No. 1 to No. 2, the remainder of the Butlin-sponsored England team for the World Championships keep their places as before. These are: Paul Day (3), Jimmy Walker (5) and Andrew Barden (7). Two new names appear in the list, one of whom, David Constance, comes in at No. 12.

European champion, **Jill Hammersley**, continues to reign over the women and her conqueror in the finals of the Norwich Union International Championships, at Thornaby, Carole Knight, stays at No. 2.

Karen Rogers and Karen Witt make big advances to Nos. 4 and 5 respectively, above Melody Lüdi, who is included in the World Championships team. The new lists, with previous positions in brackets, read:—

## Men

- 1 \*D. Douglas (Wa) (2)
- 2 \*D. Neale (Cv) (1)
- 3 \*P. Day (Ca) (3)
- 4\*\*J. Hilton (h) (8)
- 5 \*J. Walker (Cv) (5)
- 6 †N. Jarvis (Cv) (4)
- 7 \*A. Barden (Mi) (7)
- 8 D. Parker (La) (6)
- 9 M. Shuttle (Sy) (17)
- 10 I. Horsham (E) (9)
- 11 R. Potton (E) (14)
- 12 D. Constance (Ch) (—)
- 13 †D. Johnson (Wa) (10)
- 14 †D. Brown (E) (18)
- 15 D. Munt (Wa) (—)
- 16 C. Sewell (Av) (13)
- 17 A. Clayton (Y) (11)
- 18 †N. Eckersley (Ch) (12)
- 19 J. Kitchener (Sk) (15)
- 20 M. Mitchell (Mi) (16)

## Women

- 1\*Jill Hammersley (Bu) (1)
- 2 \*C. Knight (Cv) (2)
- 3 \*L. Howard (Sy) (3)
- 4 †K. Rogers (Le) (9)\*\*
- 5 †K. Witt (Bk) (8)
- 6 \*M. Lüdi (Y) (7)
- 7 †S. Hession (E) (5)
- 8 †S. Lisle (Ch) (4)
- 9 A. Stevenson (Le) (10)
- 10 J. Williams (Cv) (6)
- 11 A. Mitchell (Mi) (11)
- 12 A. Tierney (Cv) (12)
- 13 S. Hunt (Li) (13)
- 14 S. Jones (St) (—)

\* World Championships Team

\*\* World Championships Team reserve

† World Championships qualifiers

# 6th RUBBER BAT OPEN

## CRAMP ENDS LANDRY'S TITLE HOPES

by David Luddy

Severe cramp in both legs ended any chance Laurie Landry had of retaining his men's singles title at the 6th International Club Rubber Bat tournament at Barnet, on January 2.

Landry scored five 2-straight wins before he was beaten by former Swaythling Cup player, Jeff Ingber, of Manchester, in the final. Aggressive hitting against Ingber's strong defence had taken Landry to within four points of the title.

But the cramp became worse and he was able to win only three of the last 29 points. Ingber, seizing his chance, produced a series of counter-hits to coast to victory.

Landry earned some consolation by retaining the men's doubles title for the fourth successive year, this time with a different partner in Terry Densham. And with Marjorie Walker, returning to competitive play after breaking her ankle at the end of September, he took the mixed against Jack Bender and Beryl Clayton. But Miss Walker lost her singles title.

She was beaten by Acton's Karen Mashford in the second round. However, Miss Walker, besides earning success in the mixed, also won the women's doubles with Margaret Cherry. They overcame Jill Armstrong and Marilyn Sangster. Last year Miss Walker took the contest with Mrs. Clayton.

Gillian Donaldson won the women's title, defeating Miss Mashford in the final. One major surprise was a useful win by Ron Laderman. He beat England's No. 7, Andy Barden 9, -20, 18 to reach the last 16 before losing to Stuart Gibbs.

Cliff Carder reached the quarters but lost to Ingber, while Bender took the consolation singles, beating Joe Brandez.

Results:—

### Men's Singles—Quarter-finals (66 entries)

L. Landry (Mi) bt R. Gunnion (Wa) 13, 19.  
L. Adams (Mi) bt T. Densham (He) 10, 12.  
S. Gibbs (E) bt V. Adams (So) -17, 10, 15.  
J. Ingber (La) bt C. Carder (Mi) 9, 11.

### Semi-finals

Landry bt Adams 15, 10.  
Ingber bt Gibbs -16, 11, 17.

### Final

INGBER bt Landry -16, 18, 2.

### Women's Singles—Semi-finals (14 entries)

G. Donaldson (Locke) (E) bt M. Elliman (K) -17, 12, 10.  
K. Mashford (Mi) bt P. Challis (E) -19, 19, 16.

### Final

DONALDSON bt Mashford -14, 16, 13.

### Men's Doubles—Semi-finals

Densham/Landry bt V. Adams/D. Tan (Mi) 11, -19, 13.

M. Mitchell (Mi)/Gibbs bt R. Crayden (Sy)/L. Adams 13, 20.

### Final

DENSHAM/LANDRY bt Gibbs/Mitchell.

### Women's Doubles—Final

M. CHERRY/M. WALKER (Mi) bt J. Armstrong/M. Sangster (Mi) 14, -15, 15.

### Mixed Doubles—Final

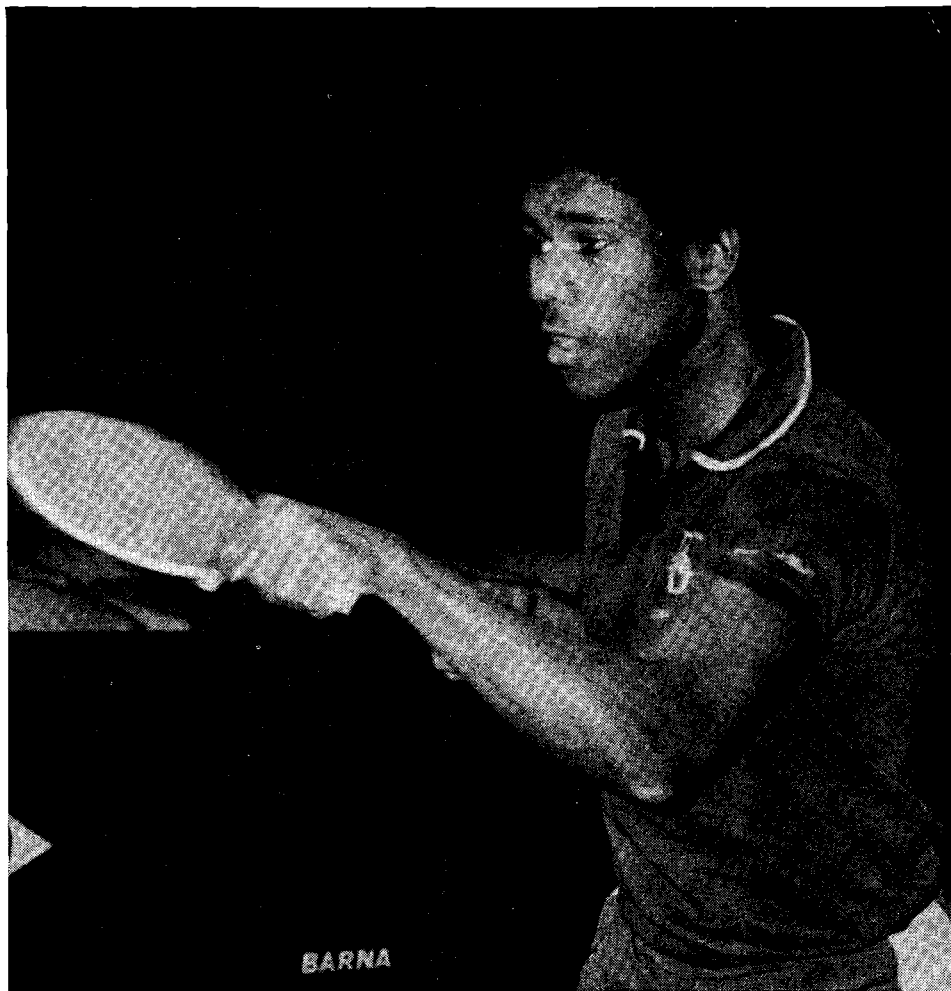
LANDRY/WALKER bt J. Bender (He)/B. Clayton (Mi) 17, -18, 19.

### Men's Consolation

BENDER bt J. Brandez (E) -12, 21, 12.

### Women's Consolation

CLAYTON bt Armstrong 17, 13.

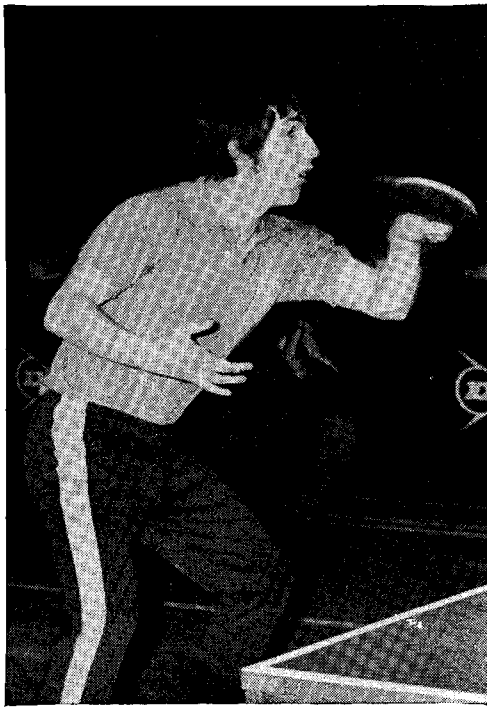


A new picture of Desmond Douglas taken by Frank Davies, of Bolton, at Horwich Leisure Centre.

**EXHIBITIONS  
OF WORLD CLASS TABLE TENNIS  
STAGED BY  
THE ENGLISH INTERNATIONAL  
SQUAD  
DETAILS FROM SQUAD MANAGER  
KEN MATHEWS, c/o E.T.T.A. OFFICE**



# PROFILE



**PAUL DAY**

Few players at the age of 18 have enjoyed the success of this month's Profile guest. After reaching three finals in the European Youth Championship, in Austria, he made an international debut against the Russians, and now his academic qualifications will take him to Cambridge University later this year. The player, England's No. 3, Paul Day, the interviewer—JOHN PIKE.

Birthplace: Newmarket.

Birthdate 20th October, 1958.

Which school did you attend?: I won a free place to attend The King's School, Ely.

Hobbies: Recently I have taken up Modern Dancing and, funnily enough, find it most enjoyable.

Favourite T.V. programme: Any sport programmes are always at the top of my list, and "Kojak" is my favourite detective.

Favourite food: Mixed grill or "T" bone steak.

Favourite drink: Coffee.

Favourite colour: Yellow.

Favourite singer: Rod Stewart.

Favourite sport outside table tennis: Squash.

What is your pet like?: Shooting alone on my fathers farm with my dog.

What is your pet dislike?: Cigarette smoke.

Biggest influence on your career?: My father, in the field of table tennis, and my mother in seeing that my school work never suffered.

Ambition: I have no particular ambition in mind but I always aim to do well in whatever I do.

Which person in the world would you most like to meet?: Mohammed Ali, the boxer.

Greatest moment in table tennis: To reach all three Finals in the European Youth Championships in Austria last year.

Most difficult opponent: Jacques Secretin.

Representative honours: England Junior and Senior International.

Favourite holiday resort: Nowhere in particular.

Favourite car: Mercedes Sports.

Your thoughts on the World Championships and the future of English table tennis: I am confident that the World Championships will be organised efficiently. Many people are putting hours of work into the organisation and I hope their efforts will be justly rewarded. T.V. coverage is very encouraging to our sport, as this will create a greater interest to the game. Our players are desperately keen to do well but one must realise that at the moment, with the exception of Denis Neale, all our players are young.

The future of English Table Tennis relies mainly upon financial aid, enabling more top players to become professionals. At present, with only a very few players in this category, it is difficult to obtain enough practice in the daytime to warrant full-time table tennis. However, if more players were professionals this problem would reduce and enable more to attend all training camps provided for by the E.T.T.A.

Next month the Profile spotlight will fall on Cleveland's Carole Knight.

## Continued from page 35

Kent will have to overcome Essex II and then await the outcome of Surrey II v Sussex clash. Lancashire look almost certain to Challenge from 2nd North with Glamorgan, who have to overcome Warwickshire II for the championship of 2nd Midland.

Northamptonshire become the third different leaders in 2nd East and it will be a close finish between them and Norfolk, but I guess Northants will make it. Only a catastrophe will stop Berkshire from competing in the Senior Promotion Challenge from 2nd West.

## COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP TABLES

After matches on January 16th, 1977

### PREMIER DIVISION

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Cleveland .....	5	5	0	0	37	8	10
Middlesex .....	6	4	0	2	33	21	8
Essex .....	4	3	0	1	16	20	6
Warwickshire ...	5	2	0	3	24	21	4
Yorkshire .....	3	2	0	1	13	14	4
Surrey .....	5	2	0	3	20	25	4
Cheshire .....	5	1	0	4	15	30	2
Leicestershire ...	5	0	0	5	13	32	0

### 2nd WEST

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Berkshire .....	4	4	0	0	30	10	8
Wiltshire .....	5	4	0	1	33	17	8
Somerset .....	4	2	1	1	20	20	5
Worcestershire ..	4	2	0	2	22	18	4
Devon .....	4	2	0	2	19	21	4
Gwent .....	5	0	1	4	11	39	1
Avon .....	4	0	0	4	15	25	0

### 3rd NORTH

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Lancashire II ...	4	4	0	0	32	8	8
Northumb'd II ..	3	2	0	1	13	17	4
Derbyshire II ...	2	1	0	1	10	10	2
Cumbria .....	3	1	0	2	13	17	2
Notts .....	3	1	0	2	12	18	2
Cleveland III ...	3	0	0	3	10	20	0

### 3rd EAST

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Norfolk II .....	3	2	1	0	19	11	5
Hertf'dshire II ..	4	1	2	1	21	19	4
Suffolk .....	2	1	1	0	11	9	3
Hunt'gd'shire ...	3	0	1	2	12	18	1
Cambridge II ...	2	0	1	1	7	13	1

### 3rd WEST

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Cornwall .....	3	3	0	0	21	9	6
Worcs'shire II ...	4	3	0	1	25	15	6
Dorset .....	3	2	1	0	17	13	5
Heref'dshire ...	3	0	1	2	9	21	1
Gloucs'shire ...	3	0	0	3	11	19	0
Avon II .....	2	0	0	2	7	13	0

### JUNIOR PREMIER

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Middlesex .....	5	4	0	1	35	15	8
Essex .....	4	3	0	1	28	12	6
Berkshire .....	5	3	0	2	22	28	6
Cleveland .....	4	2	1	1	23	17	5
Yorkshire .....	3	2	0	1	18	12	4
Kent .....	4	1	1	2	18	22	3
Surrey .....	5	1	0	4	18	32	2
Hertfordshire ...	4	0	0	4	8	32	0

### JUNIOR 2nd SOUTH

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Devon .....	5	5	0	0	40	10	10
Sussex .....	5	4	0	1	35	15	8
Middlesex II ...	5	3	0	2	27	23	6
Surrey II .....	5	2	0	3	23	27	4
Berkshire II ...	5	2	0	3	22	28	4
Dorset .....	5	1	0	4	21	29	2
Hampshire .....	4	1	0	3	11	19	2
Kent II .....	4	1	0	3	11	19	2

### JUNIOR 2nd NORTH

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Yorkshire II ...	5	4	0	1	42	8	8
Lancashire .....	5	3	2	0	36	14	8
Cumbria .....	5	3	1	1	33	17	7
Derbyshire .....	5	3	1	1	28	22	7
Cleveland II .....	4	2	0	2	20	20	4
Clwyd .....	3	1	0	2	8	22	2
Durham .....	4	0	0	4	6	34	0
N'thumber'd ...	5	0	0	5	7	43	0

### JUNIOR 2nd MIDLAND

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
N'thampt'shire .	5	4	0	1	34	16	8
Staffordshire ...	4	3	1	0	30	10	7
Warwickshire ...	5	3	1	1	34	16	7
Essex II .....	5	3	1	1	31	19	7
Norfolk .....	5	2	1	2	27	23	5
Leicestershire ...	5	2	0	3	23	27	4
Camb'dgeshire ..	5	0	0	5	8	42	0
Suffolk .....	4	0	0	4	3	37	0

### JUNIOR 3rd NORTH

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Cheshire .....	4	4	0	0	35	5	8
Lincolnshire ...	4	3	0	1	28	12	6
Notts .....	4	3	0	1	23	17	6
Cumbria II .....	3	0	0	3	7	23	0
Cleveland III ...	3	0	0	3	6	24	0
Clwyd II .....	2	0	0	2	1	19	0

### JUNIOR 2nd WEST

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Glamorgan .....	4	3	1	0	34	6	7
Wiltshire .....	4	3	1	0	33	7	7
Gwent .....	4	2	1	1	23	17	5
Avon .....	4	1	1	2	19	21	3
Cornwall .....	4	0	2	2	11	29	2
Somerset .....	4	0	0	4	0	40	0

### VETERAN MIDLAND

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Notts .....	4	4	0	0	30	6	8
Cheshire .....	4	3	0	1	26	10	6
Clwyd .....	4	2	0	2	17	19	4
Leicestershire ...	4	2	0	2	17	19	4
Warwickshire ...	4	1	0	3	14	22	2
Clwyd II .....	4	0	0	4	4	32	0

### VETERAN WEST

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Hampshire .....	3	3	0	0	20	7	6
Oxfordshire ...	3	2	0	1	17	10	4
Wiltshire .....	3	2	0	1	17	10	4
Dorset .....	3	0	0	3	6	21	0
Worcest'shire ...	2	0	0	2	3	15	0

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

### APOLOGY

I would like to apologise to Jack Carrington for stating in my letter published in the January issue of "T.T.N.", that his book, "Progressive Table Tennis" is virtually a reprint of his original book. I have since been loaned a copy and find there is a wealth of new information and for any aspiring player is a must for his/her bookshelf.

**DON COOPER.**

62 Heydon Road,  
Great Chishill,  
Nr. Royston, Herts.

# County Championships Round-up

by BOB BRIDGES

## STILL CRUCIAL

The competition is running into the final section, but with two matches to go in most divisions, some crucial matches have still yet to be contested. Even if Middlesex repeat their surprise result gained last season in the Premier by beating Cleveland (as a prelude to the Norwich Union English Championships) on February 16, at the Staines Sports Centre, it is doubtful whether Cleveland will be deposed from their lofty position by the end of the Premier season. At the other end of the Premier table, Cheshire look the most likely companions to go down with Leicestershire, after Surrey had accounted for a visiting Cheshire 7-2. Martin Shuttle was back in the Surrey side and tipping the balance against Cheshire was the absence of Nigel Eckersley.

Middlesex are back on top of the Junior Premier after sending Berkshire reeling the wrong end of an 8-2 scoreline (fine win by Angela Mitchell over Karen Witt) while Surrey made their first real effort to avoid relegation by winning 7-3 over Kent. Again Shuttle made towards some of the County's improved performance, but the visiting boys might have gained better results.

With two teams going into the Junior Promotion challenge from each of the three second divisions (but a team must finish in the top three of the division) competition will not be fiercer than in the Northern and Midland sections.

Yorkshire II look odds-on to take the division (sorry, Yorkshire, but most of my predictions are wrong) but will not Challenge so Lancashire, Cumbria and Derbyshire have to fight to the end, and it's a similar story in 2nd Midland where Northants Staffs and Warwickshire are in contention.

Devon are sure of a place in the play-offs and are definitely Challenging, and Sussex look sure to join them.

Overall veteran champions will be decided from three sections for the first time, which may cause an administrative headache in getting it arranged. However, Nottinghamshire look set to represent the Midland section again, while Essex have Middlesex to contend with for the Eastern section; Hampshire are ready to win the new Veteran West Division.

## PREMIER DIVISION

### Cleveland 7, Leicestershire 2

D. Neale bt P. Randell 15, -11, 16; bt C. Rogers 19, 15.

J. Walker bt Randell 10, 16, bt G. Hall 7, 7.

R. Wiley lost to Rogers 19, -20, -18; bt Hall 16, 21.

Walker/Wiley lost to Hall/Rogers -13, -19. Carole Knight bt Anita Stevenson 11, 15. Neale/Miss Knight bt Randell/Miss Stevenson 9, 16.

The result of this match was never in doubt and the best game was Chris Rogers' win over Robert Wiley. Carole Knight was superb against Anita Stevenson.

### Middlesex 5, Warwickshire 4

A. Barden lost to D. Douglas -19, -8; bt D. Johnson 21, -16, 15.

M. Mitchell lost to Douglas -8, -16; lost to D. Munt -16, -15.

P. Guttormsen bt Johnson 14, 12; bt Munt -18, 19, 14.

Guttormsen/L. Landry lost to Johnson/Munt 9, -13, -16.

Angela Mitchell beat Karen Groves 15, 11. Barden/Miss Mitchell bt Douglas/Miss Groves 14, 15.

Dougie Johnson's run of success (seven wins out of eight singles outings this season) came to an abrupt stop at Staines,

the scales tipping towards the home side, despite Derek Munt's success over Mark Mitchell where expedite was called at 11-14 in the first game of the final set.

### Surrey 7, Cheshire 2

M. Shuttle lost to J. Hilton -13, -14; bt J. McNee 10, 20.

M. Crimmins lost to Hilton 26, -8, -15; beat D. Constance 12, 12.

D. Welsman bt McNee 13, 18; bt Constance 18, -12, 19.

Crimmins/Shuttle bt Constance/McNee -17, 12, 18.

Linda Howard bt Sue Lisle 19, 12.

S. Lyons/Miss Howard bt Hilton/Miss Lisle -17, 14, 17.

Some of Surrey's relegation fears transferred to Cheshire after this fine performance by a buoyant Surrey side. Max Crimmins set the mood by taking John Hilton all the way in the opening set. A good team performance by the home side.

## 2nd WEST

### Gwent 5, Somerset 5

### Worcestershire 3, Wiltshire 7

### Berkshire 6, Avon 4

Considering the gap between the two teams in the divisional table, the home side might have been surprised to go 0-3 down, but Berks got it together and only allowed Avon the remaining Chris Sewell game.

## 3rd NORTH

### Cumbria 2, Lancashire II 8

Lancashire ran away with the match after the first three sets proved very close but went to the visitors. Result could have been closer than 2-8, but Lancashire are looking for the divisional title.

## 3rd EAST

### Hertfordshire II 4, Norfolk II 6

Visiting men won six out of their seven, home women too strong for their opposing (junior) players. Some close sets, but that's been Herts' fortune this season.

## 3rd WEST

### Hertfordshire 2, Worcestershire II 8

## JUNIOR PREMIER

### Middlesex 8, Berkshire 2

D. Wells bt D. Reeves 13, -12, 13; bt D. Barr 16, 17.

G. Sandley lost to Reeves -21, 19, -19; bt R. Johnson -18, 8, 11.

B. Tyler bt Barr 15, 14; bt Johnson 8, 19.

Sandley/Wells bt Barr/Reeves -17, 13, 13.

Angela Mitchell bt Karen Witt 19, -10, 18.

Mandy Reeves lost to Mandy Smith -20, -12.

Miss Mitchell/Miss Reeves bt Miss Smith/Miss Witt 14, 18.

### Surrey 7, Kent 3

M. Shuttle bt I. Kenyon 10, 19; bt J. Kennedy 9, -20, 7.

S. Boxall bt Kenyon 26, -19, 12; bt P. Ptak 17, 14.

D. Hannah bt Kennedy 17, -12, 20; lost to Ptak -13, -15.

Boxall/Shuttle bt Kennedy/Kenyon 17, 19. Suzanne Roebuck lost to Carole Colgate 17, -17, -15.

Nicola Hayward bt Elaine Bolton 17, 17.

Miss Hayward/Miss Roebuck lost to Miss Bolton/Miss Colgate -17, -11.

For a match which promised so much, the table tennis was disappointing and the only set which got off the ground was David Hannah-Joe Kennedy. Kennedy seemingly decided he could not win from 12-20 down in the third and proceeded to stage an exhibition of skill away from the table, fought back to 20-all and then lost!

## JUNIOR 2nd SOUTH

### Berkshire II 3, Sussex 7

### Devon 7, Surrey II 3

Home side runaway winners of this match

in a similar fashion to the way they are taking the division. Terry Haley starred for Surrey with two of their wins.

### Dorset 4, Kent II 6

Kent surprisingly took 3-0 lead, but with the help of their girls Dorset pulled it back to 4-all. Kent then squeezed the remaining sets (both 16 in the third) to take the match.

### Hampshire 6, Middlesex II 4

## JUNIOR 2nd NORTH

### Cumbria 5, Lancashire 5

Lancashire were there to be beaten but Cumbria's supremacy in B.S. proved ineffective in an important doubles.

### Northumberland 0, Derbyshire 10

A fine sporting win for the visitors who were too experienced for the hosts. The possible consolation B.D. went to Derbys 23-21 in the decider.

### Yorkshire II 10, Durham 0

## JUNIOR 2nd MIDLAND

### Norfolk 3, Staffordshire 7

Tennis elbow knocked out Douglas Bennet for Norfolk and Staffordshire's unbeaten run continues. Ruth Harrowven and Shirley Cain contested one of the closest games this season—32, -20!

### Essex II 9, Suffolk 1

Good effort by cadet player Stuart Palmer to topple highly-rated Stuart Kimm and Essex officials also impressed by Suffolk's other fine cadet, Julian Hall, who was defeated by the narrowest of margins by both opponents. Desmond Charlery and hard-working Stephen Low took honours for Essex.

### Leicestershire 7, Cambridgeshire 3

### Northamptonshire 6, Warwickshire 4

A fine win by Northants that throws the "play-off" places wide open. Home girls and Gary Alden unbeaten, but a brave effort by Rachel Mackriel, 10-20 down in the 2nd to Mandy Willis, and winning 24-22, however, unable to maintain the pressure and lost in the third. An interesting and entertaining encounter with Warwickshire playing their part to make the top of the table tussle worthy of the occasion.

## JUNIOR 3rd NORTH

### Cheshire 9, Cumbria II 1

### Nottinghamshire 6, Lincolnshire 4

## JUNIOR 3rd WEST

### Cornwall 0, Wiltshire 10

### Glamorgan 10, Avon 0

### Somerset 0, Gwent 10

## VETERAN MIDLAND

### Leicestershire 6, Clwyd 3

### Nottinghamshire 6, Cheshire 3

### Warwickshire 8, Clwyd II 1

## VETERAN WEST

### Dorset 2, Oxfordshire 7

### Wiltshire 7, Worcestershire 2

Ranking mix-up by Worcs. cost them a set when M. Crane and B. White played out of order.

## POSTSCRIPT

### RELEGATION BATTLE HOTS UP

Cheshire's 5-4 win over Yorkshire, on January 30, slightly improved their chances of avoiding the drop into the Second Division, and a Cheshire win over Essex on March 12 could be their salvation at the expense of Surrey, who must beat Yorkshire, also on March 12, if they wish to compete at this level next season.

### Premier Division Matches

Mar. 12—Essex v Cheshire — Braysgrove School, Harlow, 7-00 p.m.

12—Yorkshire v Surrey—Huddersfield Y.M.C.A., 7-00 p.m.

12—Warwickshire v Leicestershire.

The 2nd South is still between Sussex and Kent, and in the final round of matches

Continued on page 34