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# Table Tennis News

Official Journal of the English Table Tennis Association

EDITED BY GEORGE YATES

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## EUROPEAN YOUTH CHAMPIONS



Photo by Tony Ross, Hesse

**Jaques**

— of course

## TABLE TENNIS NEWS

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## BREAKTHROUGH

Congratulations are in order to our young participants in the 19th European Youth Championships played over the period July 10-19 in Modling, near Vienna.

Paul Day, in particular, is deserving of special mention in reaching three finals, being just a little unfortunate to win just one title—the boys' doubles with Andrew Barden—losing out to Zoran Kalinic, of Yugoslavia, in the boys' singles.

Again it was Kalinic, partnered by Erzebet Palatinus, who spiked the English guns in the final of the mixed when narrowly beating Day and Melody Ludi.

But one Gold, two Silver and a Bronze—the latter claimed by Graham Sandley, a losing semi-finalist in the Cadet boys' singles—add up to the most successful individual results ever recorded by an English team in these annual championships.

The only cloud was that which cast doubts on the composition of the boys' team prior to departure, but such sunshine as was evident in Austria can be nurtured to last throughout an English winter with due application from those concerned.

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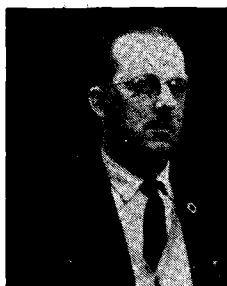
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# ON THE INTERNATIONAL FRONT

by THE EDITOR

### NEW EUROPEAN CLASSIFICATIONS

Following his triumph in the men's singles event of the European Championships, in Prague, French ace, Jacques Secretin takes over the No. 1 spot from Istvan Jonyer, of Hungary, in the new rankings issued by the Classification Committee of the European Table Tennis Union in June.

In the women's list, England's Jill Hammersley retains her No. 1 position by virtue of winning the women's singles title in the Czech capital, and it is good to note the inclusion of Linda Howard, at No. 12.

Again in the men's list England have two representatives in Denis Neale, at No. 13, and at No. 14 Nicky Jarvis, two up for Cleveland!

Yugoslavia's Dragutin Surbek is moved up to No. 2 from No. 6, while Anatoliy Strokotov, the beaten finalist in Prague, takes a leap from No. 13 to No. 7. Apart from Jarvis the newcomers in the men's list are Christian Martin, Wilfried Lieck and Patrick Birocheau.

Newcomers in the women's list are Branka Batinic, Gabriella Szabo, Dubravka Fabri, Brigitte Thiriet, Liana Mihut and Birgitta Olsson.

Out from the previous list go Alica Grofova (Czechoslovakia), Svetlana Federova (USSR), Asta Gedraitite-Stankene (USSR), Albertina Rangelova (Bulgaria) and Magalena Lesnay (Rumania).

Trevor Taylor, the former English international, now domiciled in Holland, and Ferec Timar, of Hungary, have been omitted from the previous men's list. The new classifications, with previous positions in brackets, are:—

#### Men

1. Jacques Secretin (France) (7)
2. Dragutin Surbek (Yugoslavia) (6)
3. Kjell Johansson (Sweden) (6)

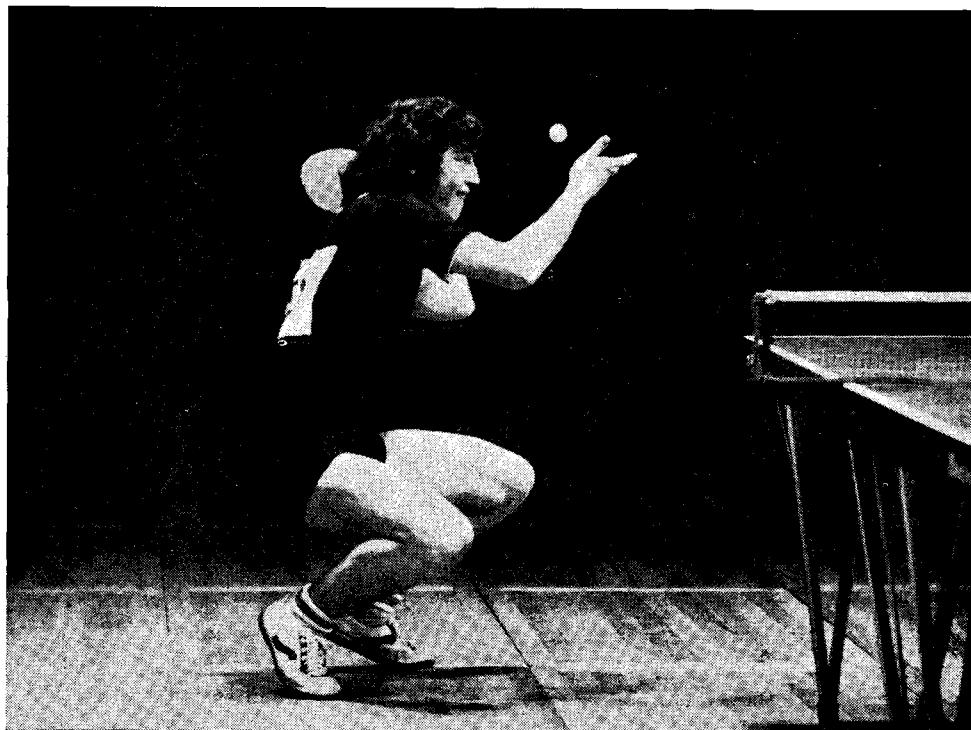
4. Stellan Bengtsson (Sweden) (4)
5. Milan Orlovski (Czechoslovakia) (2)
6. Anton Stipancic (Yugoslavia) (3)
7. Anatoliy Strokotov (USSR) (13)
8. Sarkis Sarkhojan (USSR) (10)
9. Jaroslav Kunz (Czechoslovakia) (8)
10. Jochen Leiss (Fed. Germany) (12)
11. Christian Martin (France) (—)
12. Miliwoje Karakasevic (Yugoslavia) (17)
13. Denis Neale (England) (14)
14. Nicky Jarvis (England) (—)
15. Stanislav Gomozkov (USSR) (11)
16. Wilfried Lieck (Fed. Germany) (—)
17. Ulf Thorsell (Sweden) (19)
18. Peter Stellwag (Fed. Germany) (16)
19. Patrick Birocheau (France) (—)
20. Janos Börzsei (Hungary) (15)

Jonyer and Gabor Gergely, both of Hungary, have not been classified owing to insufficient evidence, but if they enter any international Open championships Jonyer must be ranked at 2a (after No. 2) and Gergely at 8a (after No. 8).

Similarly, in the women's list, Judit Magos-Havas must be ranked at 8a (after No. 8) and Hana Reidlova at 10a (after No. 10).

#### Women

1. Jill Hammersley (England) (1)
2. Ann-Christin Hellman (Sweden) (4)
3. Ilona Uhlikova (Czechoslovakia) (8)
4. Maria Alexandru (Rumania) (3)
5. Erzebet Palatinus (Yugoslavia) (12)
6. Elmira Antonian (USSR) (5)
7. Zoya Rudnova (USSR) (9)
8. Wiebke Hendriksen (Fed. Germany) (6)
9. Beatrix Kishazi (Hungary) (16)
10. Branka Batinic (Yugoslavia) (—)
11. Claude Bergeret (France) (14)
12. Linda Howard (England) (—)
13. Blanka Silhanova (Czechoslovakia) (11)
14. Tatjana Ferdman (USSR) (7)
15. Gabriella Szabo (Hungary) (—)

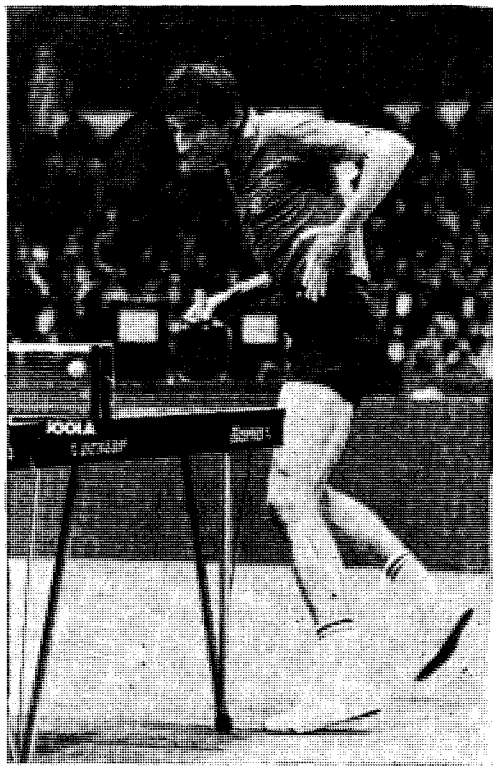


Christian Martin, the French defender, the newcomer at No. 11.

Photo by Tony Ross, Hessele.

16. Dubravka Fabri (Yugoslavia) (—)
17. Brigitte Thiriet (France) (—)
18. Henriette Lotaller (Hungary) (10)
19. Lina Mihut (Rumania) (—)
20. Birgitta Olsson (Sweden) (—)

A further Classification List will be issued at the end of December, taking into account International Open Championships, up to the Scandinavian Open, and European League matches.



Milivoje Karakasevic, the Yugoslavian penholder, up from No. 17 to No. 12.

Photo by Petr Barta, Ostrava, Czechoslovakia.

#### NEW METHOD

Henceforward there will be a new method of assessing results for Classification purposes. Points for success will be awarded as under, and total points will be taken into account when preparing the new Classification List in December.

One point will be awarded for every victory in the following events with a multiplication factor as shown.

Event	Multiplication Factor
European and World Championships	Times 5
European Top 12—Men	Times 4
—Women	Times 3
European and World Championships — Team Events	Times 3
European League matches	Times 3
International Open Championships	Times 3
International Open Team Events	Times 2

To qualify for the last two, there must be an entry of at least 8 Associations, or the draw must contain 8 ranked men and 8 ranked women.

#### EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS

The next European Championships, in 1978, will be organised by the D.T.T.B. and will be held in Duisburg. The organisers in 1980 will be the Hungarian Association, and either Switzerland or Yugoslavia will run the event in 1982.

#### EUROPE TOP 12

There was an error in the final Ranking List issued at the conclusion of last season's event in Lubeck. The correct placings in the women's event should have been:—1—Hellman, 2—Uhlíkova, 3—Palatinus, 4—Antonian, 5—Alexandru, 6—Rudnova, 7—Hendriksen, 8—Silhanova, 9—Bergeret, 10—Magos-Havas. Lotaller and Jill Hammersley were forced to withdraw owing to illness.

#### EUROPE CLUB CUP OF CHAMPIONS

The draw for this event was made by the Executive Committee at their meeting in Vienna during the period of the European Youth Championships. Entries are up by one

##### Men Round 1

CTT Rapid Geneve ..... CH)  
SV Raiffeisen Kuchl ..... AU)

7 a 9 Barcelona ..... ES)  
Palmeiras Lisboa ..... PO)

PTS Stiga Hyryla ..... FS)  
AZS Gliwice ..... PL)

Central Glasgow ..... SC)  
CTT Rouillon ..... BE)

##### Women Round 1

Olympiacos Piraeus ..... GR)  
GBC Bari ..... IT)

Row Bybnik ..... PL)  
Capip Dommeldange ..... LU)

Boulogne Billancourt ..... FR)  
31 Eptok Budapest ..... HU)

in both the Men's and Women's sections.

Attention is drawn to the fact that the quarter-finals, semi-finals and final in the Men's event, and the semi-finals and final of the Women's event are on scheduled dates.

##### Round 2

GSTK Vjesnik Zagreb ..... YU)  
.....)

DT Schifflange ..... LU)  
Falkenburgs BTK ..... SW)

Olympiacos Piraeus ..... GR)  
SV Reutlingen ..... FD)

Ormesby TTC ..... EN)

BP Spartacus ..... HU)

AS Messine ..... FR)  
Akademic Svichtov ..... BU)

Vitamirella S. Elpidic ..... IT)  
Tempo Team ..... NE)

TJ Sparta Praha ..... CS)

##### Round 2

Statisztika Budapest ..... HU)  
.....)

ATSV Graz ..... AU)  
Delta Lloyd Amsterdam ..... NE)

Palette Stave ..... BE)  
Club Barcino ..... ES)

Young Stars Zurich ..... CH)  
Spartak Vlasim Praha ..... CS)

Kaiserberg Duisburg ..... FD)  
.....)

Ormesby TTC ..... EN)  
Zero Copenhagen ..... DK)

STK Mladost Zagreb ..... YU)  
Akademic Sofia ..... BU)

Varbergs BTK ..... SW)

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Operative dates are:—

**MEN**

First Round by October 14  
2nd Round by November 14  
Quarter-finals on December 8  
Semi-finals on January 15  
Final on February 16

**WOMEN**

First Round by October 14  
2nd Round by November 14  
Quarter-finals by December 8  
Semi-finals on January 15  
Final on February 16

**EUROPEAN LEAGUE**

Opening matches in the European League are as follows:—

**Super Division**

September 30

Czechoslovakia v Soviet Union  
Sweden v Hungary  
France v England  
Federal Germany v Yugoslavia

October 14

Yugoslavia v England  
Sweden v Czechoslovakia  
France v Federal Germany  
Soviet Union v Hungary

November 3

England v Soviet Union (at Ipswich)

November 4

Czechoslovakia v Yugoslavia  
Federal Germany v Sweden  
Hungary v France

**Division 1**

September 30

Poland v Austria  
Italy v Belgium  
Greece v Ireland  
Bulgaria v Netherlands

October 14

Austria v Italy  
Belgium v Greece  
Ireland v Bulgaria  
Netherlands v Poland

November 4

Italy v Netherlands  
Greece v Austria  
Bulgaria v Belgium  
Poland v Ireland

**Division 2**

October 14

Spain v Scotland  
Luxembourg v Switzerland

November 4

Scotland v Wales

Switzerland v Spain

The Regional Group (Division 3) will be held in Cardiff on February 1-3, 1977, in conjunction with the Stiga Welsh International Championships on February 4-6.

**INTERNATIONAL CALENDAR  
1976-77 — EUROPE**

1976

Oct. 8/10—Spanish Open (Seville)  
18/22—Swedish Invitation Tournament  
22/24—Polish Open (Cracow)

Oct. 30—

Nov. 1—Belgian Open (Charleroi)  
Nov. 12/14—Italian Open (Milan)  
Nov. 18/20—Yugoslav Open (Novi Sad)  
25/28—Scandinavian Open (Kristianstad)

Dec. 3/5—French Open (Paris)

1977

Jan. 6/8—Norwich Union International Championships (Thornaby)

28/30—Czechoslovak Open (Bratislava)

Feb. 4/6—Stiga Welsh Open (Cardiff)

17/19—Irish Open (Dublin)

25/27—Europe Top 12 (Yugoslavia)

Mar. 11/13—Scottish Open (Edinburgh)

Apr. 9/10—Federal German Youth Championships

June 9/12—Austrian Youth Championships

July 21/31—European Youth Championships (Vichy, France)

Aug. 27/31—Turkish Junior Open

**OBITUARY**

The Hungarian Association regrets to announce the death of Mr. Jozsef Juhos, at the age of 60. After being a player he joined the board of the Association and was Deputy General Secretary from 1948-50. He was coach to the Hungarian National Team from 1952 to 1966, coach of Central Sport School 1966-1972, National Director of Coaching 1972-76, and non-playing captain of Hungarian teams in 6 World and 4 European Championships. Gabor Gergely and Judit Magos received their first coaching from him.

**GUATEMALA**

Mr. Juan Jose Rivadeneira, President of the Guatemalan Association, has written a letter

to Roy Evans, President of the I.T.T.F., describing the efforts which were being made to revive table tennis activity following the appalling earthquake tragedy there. It (writes Roy Evans) was good to hear that some I.T.T.F. member associations, the U.S.T.T.A. in particular, had already sent generous help. Nevertheless, help is still needed, and any associations who can send bats, balls or nets to Guatemala will be rendering a real service in helping to rebuild the sport there at all levels. The address is:—Federacion Nacional Tenis de Mesa de Guatemala, Palacio de Los Deportes, Ciudad Olimpica, Guatemala City, Guatemala, Centroamerica.

**AUSTRALIAN CHAMPIONSHIPS**

At the Australian Table Tennis Championships, held in Sydney, the former Northumberland player, Barbara Kearney, became the first New South Wales player since 1956 to win the Australian Women's Singles title.

Barbara, who received acupuncture treatment for a bad back injury prior to the final, overcame the Victorian, Vikki Woodward, to win -3, 19, -19, 18, 19 in a mammoth 5-game battle. Barbara played tentatively then gained confidence, using a variety of slow loops then coming in with some magnificent drives that had the partisan crowd applauding.

This was champagne table tennis and few people were aware of the handicap that Barbara was playing under. N.S.W. has been lucky with the acquisition of Pat Hopkin and now this exciting young player.

Neil Ward, who toured with the Australian Schoolboys last December and played in the Cleveland Open, won the Australian Junior Boys' title, beating the outstanding N.S.W. player, Philip Gebauer. Kerry Woodward won the Junior Girls' from Debbie Anderson and the worst result from N.S.W.'s view, Steve Knapp (Victoria) beat Paul Pinkewich in the Men's Singles. Finally, the N.S.W. pair, Pinkewich/Tuckett won the Men's Doubles from R. Lee/McCabe.

Richard Lee, the New Zealand international, is now a resident of Victoria and has been included in the latest Australian Rankings which are:—

Men—1, S. Knapp; 2, P. Pinkewich; 3, R. Tuckett; 4, R. Javor; 5, G. Munday; 6, R. Lee; 7, L. Skeete; 8, A. Savige; 9, N. Ward; 10, G. Warmesley.

Women—1, V. Woodward; 2, K. Thompson; 3, M. LeGassick; 4, H. Morrow; 5, A. Middleton; 6, J. Tregea; 7, R. Chambers; 8, K. Chigwidden; 9, L. McKeogh; 10, A. Pannewig.

Boys—1, N. Ward; 2, P. Gebauer; 3, W. Vickery; 4, G. Tepper; 5, W. Heginbotham; 6, D. McClintock; 7, G. R. Munday; 8, J. Pierce; 9, G. Thomas; 10, J. Evans.

Girls—1, K. Woodward; 2, D. Anderson; 3, P. Whitehouse; 4, N. Buckley; 5, A. McDonald; 6, S. Horne; 7, R. Smith; 8, N. Oke; 9, M. Cannon; 10, V. Sikora.

Australia's team to play in the Commonwealth and World Championships is:—

Men: R. Javor, S. Knapp, P. Pinkewich and R. Tuckett.

Women: A. Middleton, K. Thompson and V. Woodward.

Officials: E. Coster (Coach), K. Javor (Men's Manager), S. Javor (Women's Manager), D. Stewart (Assistant Manager) and Mrs. Warmby (Chaperone).

**SOUTH AFRICAN CHAMPS**

The 14th South African T.T. Board Inter-Provincial and Open Championships were successfully staged at Cape Town from July 5-10. Results:—

Men's I-P: Western Province.

Women's I-P: Western Province.

Junior I-P: Southern Natal.

Men's Singles: Y. G. H. Randeree (S. Natal) bt B. Lewis (WP) 21, 19, 11.

Women's Singles: M. Luckay (Transvaal) bt C. Levendal (WP) 13, 19, -13, -17, 12.

Junior Singles: R. Haribhai (S. Natal) bt E. Steya (Transvaal) 16, 19.

M.D.: H. Naidoo/W. Thomas (WP) bt D. Naran/Randeree.

W.D.: Luckay/C. Mohammed (T) bt S. Jithoo/M. Volkwyn (SN/T).

X.D.: A. Lyners (T)/Luckay (T) bt Randeree/Jithoo.

Margaret Luckay was voted "the most improved player" and rankings are:— Men—1, Y. G. H. Randeree; 2, B. Lewis; 3, A. Lyners; 4, W. Thomas; 5, C. Y. Dawjee; 6, D. J. Naran; 7, P. Batchelor; 8, S. Bhagwan. Women—1, M. Luckay; 2, C. Levendal; 3, T. Finnan; 4, A. Africa. Juniors—1, R. Haribhai; 2, E. Steyn; 3, K. Manjee; 4, F. Francis.

**NATIONAL CLUB AND LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP FINALS**

by Keith Ponting

Saturday and Sunday, June 5-6, was "Cup Final" Weekend for those teams involved in the National Club and Leagues Competitions.

In the Club Championships, due to unfortunate circumstances, the Men's final for the Ormesby Cup did not take place. However, there was some fine play in the Women's final for the Gainsford Cup between Ormesby and the Omega club, from Bracknell.

Angela Tierney gave Ormesby a solid start with a two-straight win over Jill Purslow, but then Karen Witt brought the house down with a superb win over Carole Knight. The tall Berkshire No. 1 fully deserved her win and is, without doubt, an outstanding prospect. This win certainly lifted Omega and they took the lead when Caroline Reeves played really well to get the better of June Williams. Miss Knight again struggled against Miss Purslow but did just enough to level the scores after three close games. Miss Tierney put the Cleveland club back into the lead by just overcoming Miss Reeves in another close set. After her fine win previously, Miss Witt was expected to beat June Williams but the tenacious red-head from Ormesby would have none of it and fought hard all the way to get home 19 in the final game. Miss Knight put the result beyond doubt when, playing more like her normal self against Miss Reeves, won comfortably.

This was a most interesting match and



The only trophy to elude Ormesby at the National Club and League Championships final at Coventry, was the Carter Cup, for the boys' team competition, won by Leeds. The Cup is held by coach and n.p.c. Colin Morath, and the players (from left) are: Stephen Hazelwood, Andrew Metcalfe and Robert Hazelwood.

Photo by Tony Ross, Hessele.

## NATIONAL CLUB AND LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP FINALS

worthy of the final. Whilst always acknowledging the all-round strength of the Ormesby Club, the Bracknell club did very well to reach the final and under the able guidance of their coach, Peter Charters, will certainly be a force to be reckoned with in this competition for a considerable time.

The Sunday programme was devoted to the League Championships Finals and the two Junior events started the proceedings. In the **Bromfield Trophy** it was again a case of Berkshire against Cleveland in the form of Reading and Ormesby. A brilliant maximum from Angela Tierney was too much for the Reading girls to counter and Ormesby ran out winners by 5-2. Ironically Miss Witt beat Miss Williams in their encounter in this match and notched up the two wins for Reading.

I make no apology in describing the **Carter Cup** final between Thames Valley and Leeds as the best final seen for many years. Those present saw a real classic and the play of all six boys was outstanding and it would be quite wrong to single out any individual. The boys concerned, Gary Stewart, Martin Shuttle and Stephen Boxall, of Thames Valley, and Andrew Metcalfe, Robert and Stephen Hazelwood, for Leeds, showed tremendous fighting spirit and were totally committed to winning. The most impressive thing was their outstanding sportsmanship during some very close games and they were a great credit to themselves, their leagues, and, most important of all, their families. It was a great pity that one of the teams had to end up the loser, as in my book, both teams were winners, but the honour went to Leeds 5-4.

The climax to the season came in the afternoon when the two Senior Finals were played, and, once again, the Ormesby League proved to be too strong for their opponents. In the **Rose Bowl** they won 5-1 against Bournemouth, thanks to two wins each by Angela Tierney and Carole Knight plus one from June Williams. Joyce Coop was the lone winner for Bournemouth, who did very well to reach the final. When one considers that they also had their two Junior teams in the Semi-Finals, it is a great tribute to Alan Wettstein and his coaching staff for all the hard work they have put in over the years.

In the **Wilmott Cup** Ormesby again met their old rivals from East London and again ran out winners by 5-1. Denis Neale and Nicky Jarvis were again in top form and won two each and Stephen Souter, in his first Wilmott Cup final, won one. David Brown was again the mainstay for the Londoners and played really well, but it was Bob Potton who won their single set.

The finals were staged at the Morris Motors Canteen, in Coventry, and full marks to the Coventry League who, under the enthusiastic leadership of their Chairman, Kerry Moran, made a first-class job of the organisation. The Referee was Geoff Taylor and congratulations to him and his team of Umpires who did sterling work all weekend.

The presentations on Saturday were made by Mrs. Moran, assisted by Mr. Maurice Goldstein, President of the E.T.T.A., who presented the awards on Sunday.

Results:—

### GAINSFORD CUP

Ormesby TTC 5, Omega TTC 2  
A. Tierney bt J. Purslow 11, 20.  
C. Knight lost to K. Witt -15, 16, -18.  
J. Williams lost to C. Reeves 19, -19, -9.  
Knight bt Purslow -17, 18, 11.  
Tierney bt Reeves -17, 18, 11.  
Williams bt Witt -21, 18, 19.  
Knight bt Reeves 18, 11.

### WILMOTT CUP

Ormesby 5, East London 1  
D. Neale bt D. Brown 21, -15, 11.  
S. Souter lost to R. Potton -19, -12.  
N. Jarvis bt D. Randell 17, 16.  
Neale bt Potton 12, 13.  
Jarvis bt Brown 11, -15, 15.  
Souter bt Randell 15, 18.

### ROSE BOWL

Ormesby 5, Bournemouth 1

Tierney bt J. Reading 15, 13.  
Knight bt I. New 10, 16.  
Williams lost to J. Coop 15, -20, -16.  
Knight bt Reading -19, 18, 14.  
Tierney bt Coop 16, 11.  
Williams bt New 19, -20, 18.

### CARTER CUP

Leeds 5, Thames Valley 4  
A. Metcalfe lost to G. Stewart -20, -12.  
R. Hazelwood lost to M. Shuttle -22, -17.  
S. Hazelwood bt S. Boxall 20, 15.  
A. Metcalfe bt Shuttle 16, -19, 20.  
S. Hazelwood bt Stewart 16, 15.  
R. Hazelwood lost to Boxall -15, -14.  
S. Hazelwood lost to Shuttle -20, -19.  
Metcalfe bt Boxall 20, -17, 22.  
R. Hazelwood bt Stewart 12, 17.

### BROMFIELD TROPHY

Ormesby 5, Reading 2  
Williams bt A. Gordon -20, 12, 20.  
Tierney bt Purslow 8, 17.  
H. Robinson lost to Witt 20, -15, -16.  
Tierney bt Gordon 9, -17, 8.  
Williams lost to Witt -7, -9.  
Robinson bt Purslow 23, 22.  
Tierney bt Witt 13, 18.

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### APPROVED BALLS

The following brands and grades of ball are the only ones which are licensed for the 1976-1977 season:

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Members are reminded that only a brand and grade of ball licensed by the E.T.T.A. may be used in play within, between or organised by any organisations which are affiliated or in Good Standing.

This is the last season of the current licensing agreements and for the 1977-78 season and onwards the National Council have agreed an open policy which could result in more brands of balls being licensed for play in this country.

### TABLE HIRE SCHEME

We are pleased to say that this scheme continues to operate whereby affiliated Clubs can obtain a top-class Jaques or Dunlop table by paying four annual instalments of £25 (plus V.A.T. at the current rate) and a "peppercorn" rent of 5p per annum thereafter. The present waiting list should take about two months to clear but tables will be available throughout the current season. Full details and application forms can be obtained from the E.T.T.A. office at 21 Claremont, Hastings, East Sussex, TN34 1HA.

### B.R. RAIL CONCESSION

May we remind all organisers of Open Tournaments, junior County matches, area Coaching Panels, etc., that the E.T.T.A. are able to provide Certificates of Identity which will allow members who are between 14 and 18 years of age to obtain fares at the Child (Under-14) rate when travelling to events arranged under the auspices of the E.T.T.A. We need to know the name of the traveller, the departure and arrival station, and dates of travel. The certificate must then be signed by the traveller and handed to the booking clerk at the time of purchase. All enquiries to the E.T.T.A. office please.

### TOURNAMENT DIARY

These diaries contain dates of Open Tournaments, European League and other international matches, and are available from the E.T.T.A. office, price 50p plus 9p for postage/packing. For orders of 12 or more, the price is £5 per dozen, and for multiple orders a contribution towards postage would be appreciated. For anyone who has a cover from last season, the printed insert only will cost 30p each plus postage, or £3 per dozen.

### INTERNATIONAL MATCHES

England's home matches in the European League (Super Division) are against the U.S.S.R. on November 3, Czechoslovakia on January 19, 1977, and Hungary on February 9.

## WINSTON CHURCHILL MEMORIAL TRUST

A leaflet describing the opportunities for persons to apply for one of the Travelling Fellowships may be obtained from the E.T.T.A. office. One of the categories covers sport and completed application forms must reach the Trust Office by November 1.

### MASTER POINTS SCHEME

This scheme is still operating and it is urged that leagues who seem to have lost interest to reconsider participating, as many enquiries are still being received from individuals. Full details can be supplied on request.

### LINCOLN LOTTERY

This fund-raising exercise will again be organised this season and leagues will be receiving details in the next few weeks. The essential fact to remember is that your league can raise money without any risk whatsoever, as by selling tickets you earn a 50% rebate, whether your sales amount to £1 or £100.

### INTERNATIONAL SQUAD EXHIBITIONS

Many leagues are looking towards celebrating their 50th or 25th anniversary and one of the functions which could provide an interesting evening is a demonstration of their skill by members of England's international squad. Details of costs and availability can be obtained from the International Squad Manager, Ken Mathews, of 4 Haycroft Close, Old Coulsdon, Surrey. (Phone: 01-353 8060 (office), 073-75 56344 (home).

## Whats on - this month & next

1976

- Oct. 9—County Championships (1)  
10—Merton 1-Star (Bournemouth)  
14—Yugoslavia v England (European League)  
16—National Council Meeting (London)  
16/17—Sussex 2-Star Open (Hastings)  
22—International Squad (Burnley)  
23—North of Scotland Open (Aberdeen)  
23/24—Dunlop Humberside 3-Star Open (Hull)  
24—Aberdare Open  
30/31—North Middlesex 2-Star (Wood Green, London)  
Nov. 3—England v U.S.S.R. (European League) (Ipswich)  
3/4—Leinster Open (Dublin)  
6—County Championships (2)  
6—Swansea Open (Aberavon) (Junior events)  
7—Middlesex Junior Authorised (South Ruislip)  
7—Swansea Open (Aberavon) (Senior events)  
12—Nissen Invitation Tournament (Sale Leisure Centre)  
13—Durham 1-Star (Consett)  
13/14—Southend 2-Star (Rayleigh)  
13/14—Woodfield 1-Star (Wolverhampton)  
20—County Championships (3)  
21—Midland Counties 2-Star (Walsall)  
21—Hastings Tigers 1-Star (Bexhill)  
21—East of Scotland Open (Edinburgh)  
27/28—Kent Junior 2-Star (Folkestone)  
28—Glasgow Open 2-Star

### OPEN TOURNAMENTS

Paul Day was the winner of the M.S. title in the Wilson's Brewery-sponsored North of England 2-Star Open on September 25, with the W.S. title going to Carole Knight, who also took the title in the Cumbria 2-Star Open on October 2. Nicky Jarvis was the M.S. winner at Carlisle. Reports and detailed results will appear in the November issue.

### NORTHANTS NOTES

by Dennis Millman

### NEW CHAIRMAN

The new season dawns with a new Chairman at the head of the County's table tennis scene. Phil Rivett, who had held the Association together since the departure of Don Perkins, and at a time when officials at all levels were hard to find, finally said farewell at the close season A.G.M. Although he himself was reluctant to admit it, he had played his part admirably, as the County moved with the times, particularly on the playing side, and his resignation will leave a considerable gap, all the more so as he was frequently the only Northampton League spokesman present at County Committee meetings.

His successor is Peter Edwards, who has spent much of his table tennis life in a similar capacity with the Southend League. Although Peter lives at Oadby, one feels that as long as he retains control, we will have a thriving organisation, for there can be no greater table tennis devotee.



## Welsh Corner

H. Roy Evans

Involvement in the new Second Division of the European League has added a new dimension to Welsh table tennis, and although there are only four fixtures in the season, there is already considerable speculation as to our fortune.

We start off with an away match against Scotland on November 4, and with every game of vital importance this is one we must strive to win to inspire confidence. Switzerland have agreed to play us at the Abercynon Sports Centre on December 13, after having played in the Cardiff Open on the Saturday before.

We go to Luxembourg on January 19, whilst our last match, against Spain, is to be played at Bridgend on Monday, February 7. This Spanish visit will enable them to play in the Welsh Open on February 4-6.

The Stiga Welsh Open itself looks like maintaining its international prestige. The Hungarians, due to play England in a European League match on Wednesday, February 9, at Portsmouth, will come first to play in the Welsh Open, then it is hoped to play them in an exhibition match in North Wales on the Monday. The Federal Germans are already definite entrants, whilst the Czechs have the event in their international programme commitment.

Although we are not now in the European League Regional Group, we have agreed to stage this once again just before and in conjunction with the Stiga Welsh Open. Finland will this time definitely be coming, Turkey hope to, and with the usual Guernsey, Jersey and Norway, this will be quite a strong little group.

In the search for suitable talent, two Assessment Weekends have already been held, one at the National Sports Centre, Cardiff, and the other at Lilleshall, where the best of South and North Wales potential have had a gruelling two days of round robin play. Senior and Junior Squads have been selected to participate in the comprehensive weekly and weekend training sessions, and although it cannot be said that anyone new has forced his or her way into recognition for senior international honours, there are indications that the big gap we have been so worried about is slowly closing.

Some of our juniors are at last beginning to produce a more mature game, and this can certainly be said of some of our North Wales youngsters, whose progress has been most encouraging.

We shall undoubtedly have a problem in Alan Griffiths's entry into Teesside Polytechnic for two years. His own game should certainly benefit to our mutual advantage, but unless he is able to make frequent journeys we may not always see him in County matches or tournaments. Naturally, every effort will be made to ensure his availability at all times, but the problems cannot be ignored.

The Glamorgan Closed, on October 10, opens our Tournament Season, and this is quickly followed by the Aberdare Open on October 24. The Swansea Open is on Saturday, November 6 for Juniors, and Sunday, November 7 for the Seniors. The Cardiff Open is on December 11, and the Glamorgan Open on January 22. The Welsh Closed Championships and Club Championship Finals are on March 12-13.

## ANY OFFERS ?

Pakistan's top two men and top two boys are desirous of visiting England for a 2-3 months period following their participation in the Afro-Asian Latin-American Tournament in Mexico during October and prior to the World Championships in Birmingham.

They would be sponsored for travel by Pakistan International Airlines Corporation but because of the heavy financial burden in foreign exchange, would require board and lodgings being provided.

Should any club, league or association be desirous of playing hosts to these four young men would they please contact Lt.-Col. Shujaudin Butt, Manager Sports, Pakistan International Airlines Corporation (PIA), Head Office, Pia Buildings, Karachi Airport, Pakistan.

The players concerned are:—

1. Sohail Hayat—Men's National Champion and ranked Pakistan No. 1 (aged 19).
2. Javed Hayat—Ranked No. 2 Pakistan man (aged 21).
3. Arif Khan—National Junior Champion (aged 16).
4. Munsarim Saif—Ranked No. 2 Junior (aged 16).

All four players have regularly been participating in international tournaments. In fact, Javed Hayat and Sohail Hayat, the Nos. 1 and 2, have dominated the Pakistan table tennis scene ever since 1971, when Javed became the National Champion at 15.

As the players still have a lot of table tennis potential keeping their age in mind, it is felt that if they are provided the right quality of competition at a higher competitive level, the standard of the players and of the game in Pakistan will improve.

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# Letters to the Editor



## NO CONTRADICTION

Tom Blunn's notes in your May/June issue in no way contradict my own earlier letter on declining spectator interest in our sport.

My statistics regarding the forthcoming World Championships were based on an earlier article by Michael Lawless, and those regarding pre-war events were based mainly on Sol Schiff's "Table Tennis Comes of Age", which is one of the best books ever written about our sport, and Mr. Schiff (a former World Doubles Champion) mentions gates of 16,000 in respect of single sessions. The 1954 World Championships quoted by Mr. Blunn saw the earlier stages of the sponge bat era, and the rot had then begun to set in. Mr. Blunn quotes a gate of 5,000 at an international match in France, which proves that interest still exists in our sport if it is played in an attractive way, i.e., a battle between Defence and Attack.

Secretin is the world's greatest exponent of the balloon defence and at any international multi-table event it is well known that spectators flock to the table at which he is playing. Birocheau, as a great exhibition player, knows how attractive table tennis should be played, and Martin, in another era, would have been a world-class player. Any match in which he participates is always a good one but today the odds are heavily stacked against defenders, even great ones. By and large, the French have not enjoyed the success of others in the European League, but they have still received great and loyal support, because they play attractive table tennis.

It is precisely where attractive table tennis is not played, either here or abroad, that our sport is in rapid decline. This will not be halted until the rules are framed in such a way as to give craft an equal chance with power, and long-range defence an equal chance against brute force. Others may have better suggestions, but in my view this will not be achieved until we revert to the old net height.

Some rule changes were made in the hard bat era. Legislators had no way of knowing that within a few years bats would be invented and permitted which would provide infinitely greater lift with power than the old hard bats ever did and it was from that moment that the pendulum swung against defenders.

The alternative would appear to be some limitation on the sandwich rubber permitted, and powerful commercial interests would oppose this.

The fact remains that unless and until the game becomes an equal and more prolonged contest between Attack and Defence, it will not attract spectators, money will remain short, and players will be lost to the game in large numbers and at an early age. Many do not find the game, as it is played now, satisfying either to play or to watch.

Mr. Blunn asks "Why should top influential Associations support us?" Someone has to make a start. None of the problems I mentioned in my last two letters are confined to this country. Most Western Associations are short of spectators and therefore money. The rule changes I propose are not radical and cover no new ground. There have been modifications in permitted bat rubber before. Just as the net was once lowered, so it can now be raised.

Forty years ago international legislators banned the finger-spin service. It was a controversial and, in a sense, unfair step, since it deprived top players of something they had

practised for many years to perfect. Sol Schiff was probably the greatest exponent of the finger-spin service and it helped to defeat Victor Barna, then the greatest player in the world. Nevertheless, the finger-spin service made a mockery of the game as a spectator sport. To see world-class players put four service returns out of five off the table became in time, as boring as the three-ball attacks and 50-50 shots on which the modern game is based.

However, the finger-spin service was banned, whilst the three-ball attack and brute force generally remain an indispensable part of world-class players' winning methods. In short, the very things that are successful in winning matches help to drive away the crowds.

Does not something need to be done to make our sport more interesting? Do the rules not need to be changed?

JOHN PREAN.

12 Marlborough Road,  
Ryde,  
Isle of Wight, PO33 1AA.

## SERVICE LAW

It was good to read John Prean's perceptive letter in the April issue. He suggests that we look critically at the reasons why table tennis no longer attracts a mass audience, and I agree fully with his diagnosis that the laws currently encourage attacking play to the detriment of spectacle.

A major cause of this is the use of the service as a point-winning gambit. A service which is not returned is never exciting to watch. Exciting table tennis requires spectacular rallies and the laws should be designed to encourage them.

There is another strong argument for a reform of the present service law. Simplicity. John R. Moorhouse discusses the problem of umpires in interpreting the potentially contentious law and it is true that complicated rules are usually difficult to enforce and thus unsatisfactory. The lawn tennis footfault rule used to ban swinging the free foot over the line and a most unnatural style became obligatory to the net rusher, and the law lost nothing and gained a lot from simplification.

I would suggest that the following alternative to our service law is worth an experiment:

If a good return is not made from the first service, the server shall serve a second service. If a good return is not made from the second service, the server wins the point.

This diminishes by half the advantage of a fiendish service and thus encourages rallies.

The possible disadvantages deserve to be explored. Would it encourage gamesmanship by deliberately not returning the first service? I think not. This could only aid the server and would be like a server in lawn tennis deliberately serving a fault. This does not happen. Would it encourage the receiver to make a death or glory hit on his first return? Perhaps, but if his return is off he is at a disadvantage in facing the second service.

I would suggest that experiments be conducted at both senior and grass roots levels to assess the effect of the change.

KEITH MARTIN.

148 Friern Park,  
London, N12 9LU.

## PENFRIEND REQUIRED

I already subscribe to your excellent magazine and would like to commend you on your excellent tournament coverages. I am writing to you as I would like to get a penfriend through your magazine.

I am 15 and my interest is Table Tennis, naturally. I would like a penfriend (girl or boy, any nationality) between 12 and 16. Wishing your magazine much success.

GLENN STANAWAY.

51 David Street,  
Alderley, 4051,  
Brisbane,  
Queensland, Australia.

## TINSEL AND GLITTER

In reply to Alan Ransome's appeal for a professional approach to England's top players, the following points spring to mind.

I agree that it is desirable "to make the playing of table tennis in this country for the top players financially worthwhile" but the sources of finance seem to me to be limited.

Unlike other professional team sports the greater interest is in participation, not speculating, which provides substantial funds to back the expenses of professionalism. Table tennis will never be able to have such fee-paying supporters to any great extent.

Other countries are able to adopt professionalism, either blatant or covert, by the grace of their governments. I think it will be some time before this country pumps great resources into the game.

Perhaps a general increase in Association levies would not be unanimously welcomed but I would have thought this was a viable option, if only to finance National Squad expenses.

Sponsorship is, I feel, the great hope to so many. But sponsors generally want to appeal to a wider public than afficiandos of table tennis. Another much-discussed disadvantage of sponsorship is over-sponsorship. Another word for Squad is Circus—I wouldn't like to see too much tinsel and glitter, or table tennis selling its integrity. Still, that's a long way off.

The World Championships have a bearing on each of the foregoing. Increased spectatorship; the already raised fees; revitalised sponsorship and possibly governmental encouragement. Perhaps Mr. Ransome won't be so despondent afterwards. Incidentally, am I right in thinking that for the tens of thousands of pounds of financial support given by the Sports Council to sports such as the in-vogue squash, mere hundreds go to table tennis. If this is so, can some lobbying be done?

P. M. NEEP.

25 Castlesteads Drive,  
Carlisle, CA2 7XE.

## CONTRACT

Middlesex International, Andrew Barden, signed an equipment contract with the German manufacturers Joola in the closed season. Barden joins a number of German stars who play with Joola equipment including Jochen Leiss, Peter Stellweg and coach Christer Johansson.

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# COUNTY NOTES SUPPLEMENT

## ESSEX NOTES

by Geoff Newman



Cathy Mowbray (nee Stonell) Romford's attractive women's singles champion.

Photo by Geoff Newman

### ALL BUSTLE

It's all bustle on the Essex front with the Junior Open in the first weekend of September while our tournament of champions being due on Sept. 25 at the Park Sports Centre, Rayleigh staged by the Southend League. Added to these events we had the Junior trials on the 11th with the seniors on the 18th. Quite a hectic opening for our hard working officials.

This season we say goodbye to two of our prominent officials in recent years, Ron Locke has retired as Tournament secretary as has David Lush as Competitions secretary. Both have given Essex sterling service over the years and our thanks go to both of them. New faces this season on the executive committee are Clacton's George Meakin who takes over as Comps, secretary and Basildon's Ron Mackenzie who is the new Senior Match secretary while Mrs. Gillian Squier has been co-opted to the executive as Admin. secretary. Welcome to the mad house! Other movements on the committee sees Gordon Lightfoot taking over as Tournaments secretary with Pat Dukes combining as vice-chairman and treasurer.

Reports from around the county suggest that the season is likely to be a very busy one with nearly all leagues on the increase. This season the Southend League, one of the founder members of the E.T.T.A. celebrate their 50th Anniversary and I understand that they intend to celebrate in style in Sept., '77.

Our County teams are preparing themselves for an onslaught on the County Championships and

our Junior Squad has been meeting weekly all the summer under the watchful eyes of the county coaching officer Ron Gore and Junior supremo Alan Shepherd. Five of them, Dave Newman, Kenny Jackson, Helen Gore, Janet Boulter and Yvette Brown were invited to the Final National Trials.

Our own magazine the Scimitar is now into Volume 3 and increasing in popularity. If any "foreigner" would like a copy, priced 15p, give me a ring 0621-52099.

## SUSSEX NOTES

by John Woodford

### INSTANT ACCEPTION

Sleep wasn't easy for some Sussex administrators on the night of Saturday, July 17th—the county had lost their secretary John Wilkes and there were no takers ready to step into the breach at the next day's annual general meeting.

But fortunately, help was on its way, the cavalry were advancing over the skyline in the morning mist! In fact, the rescue operation got under way the previous evening when a final edition story appeared in the "Evening Argus" describing the Sussex T.T.A.'s plight.

Among the readers was Mr. John Goss, a former table tennis official from the Bristol area and an international umpire. Since arriving in the Brighton area some time ago Mr. Goss had not been invited to step into the limelight. Within hours the situation had changed—one volunteer proved to be worth the proverbial ten shanghaied men. A series of telephone calls by the officials led to Mr. Goss's name going forward to the meeting and it was instantly accepted—although the rescuer himself was unable to be at the meeting as he was umpiring a cricket match!

Since then, Mr. Goss has met both chairman Keith Watts and deputy chairman Bert Fretwell, both of whom are confident that the meeting was right to elect Mr. Goss before they had even met him.

The rest of the Sussex A.G.M. went like clockwork with no other changes in the faces at the top table. But the need for cosy, friendly venues for inter-town matches is going from bad to worse. Players in neighbouring counties will recall that one such place was the Hailsham Table Tennis Club. This is now being turned into a plush disco-diner with soft lights and soft carpets, thus ruling out table tennis completely. Fortunately, the always-powerful Hailsham club has found another home at the King's Country Club, Eastbourne, but the search for Rose Bowl venues for example, is narrowed down to the impersonal atmosphere of new sports centres.

I suppose that in one way, we should be grateful for the continuing growth of these centres. In Sussex, more and more table tennis matches at all levels are becoming "guests for the evening" at a centre, surrounded by squash courts, badminton and all the other paraphernalia associated with multi-sports complexes. The days of county and town matches in the back-room of a pub or in the village hall, surrounded by friendly people interested mainly in table tennis seem to be almost over.

Sussex junior selectors have always been firm believers in trying to run the rule over their talent for the forthcoming season in good time, even in the heat of a scorching summer. The first junior assessment session was held at Littlehampton late in August and provided food for thought. Graham Gillett (Bexhill) was nominated as the new No. 1 with Malcolm Francis (Uckfield) as No. 2 and Stephen Moore (Bexhill) taking the No. 3 berth. [The new top three Sussex girls are all from Crawley—Hazel O'Brien, Diana Phur and Marion Williams in that order.

The question must then be asked, what has happened to the reigning Sussex junior champion Danny Cammiade of Littlehampton? To be fair to Danny, in his last year as a junior he faces mighty tough opposition from his much younger rivals, especially the three just named at the top of the Sussex rankings. However, without going into details the selectors were not happy with

Cammiade's performances in these trials. As a result of which he has been omitted from the rankings and from the opening match against Devon in early October.

It's not easy for a big lad of 17, to find himself under the sort of pressure that means racing all over the back of the court to retrieve classic drives produced by lads half your size and three years younger. It's O.K. if you end up on the winning side as Cammiade did at the end of last season when he just held out to win the Sussex boys crown from young Gillett.

When you are at the top the pressure is always hotter, especially on a sweltering day in mid-summer. Perhaps when the heat is all gone, Danny will regain his cool and give sterling service to Sussex in his final campaign before senior status is reached.

## CLEVELAND VIEW

by Alan Ransome

### STRONGER THAN EVER

With two successful seasons behind us everyone in Cleveland is looking forward eagerly to the new season which promises to be our best so far.

With the County Championships Premier Division trophy firmly set on the mantelpiece the County's First Team squad of Denis Neale, Nicky Jarvis, Jimmy Walker and Carole Knight are looking stronger than ever with the backing of Tony Martin, Robert Wiley and Stephen Souter who have been practising hard and improving their game throughout the closed season. In addition, stalwart Malcolm Corking will again be a hard man to beat when the County trials are played shortly and this year ex Durham No. 1 Peter McQueen is joining Cleveland and is looking for a second team place which all adds up to an exciting day at the trials.

Our Junior girls excelled at the recent England assessment camps with Jane Skipp finished on top, Angela Tierney third and June Williams fourth. They are joined this year in the senior ranking list by Ireland's No. 1 Karen Senior who is at present in Germany but likely to represent Cleveland upon her return.

Our Junior Boys on the face of it are comparatively weak, but the Under-15 players have been practising hard all summer and have made tremendous strides with the ambition of following in the footsteps of our First Team trio.

The tournament fixture list within Teesside is the most exciting in the area's history. This year's highlight will be the Norwich Union International Championships which are being played in the County for the first time at Thornaby Pavilion from Jan. 6-8, 1977.

In addition, our Junior tournament has been given 'Select' status and we were pleased to welcome the Swedish National Team to play an international against England on the Friday evening, Sept. 17. The Cleveland 3-Star, because of the Norwich Union, has moved to a February date and here too we are hoping for an international entry.

Our Closed Tournaments continue to develop. The Langbaugh was first to be played at Guisborough Sports Centre on Sept. 11 with the total prize fund upped from £100 to £250. This will be followed by the Hartlepool Championships at the turn of the year, the Middlesbrough in April whilst the County Closed sponsor, Doyen, has this year promised to increase their prize fund from £500 to £750.

Our publicity links have been developed and strengthened during the closed season so that from September we will have several articles each week in the three local and regional papers with three or four radio spots including live reports from tournaments broadcast regularly over both local radio stations.

With the World Championships being held in England in 1977 we are planning on taking every advantage in the anticipated upsurge in interest created by the extensive television coverage and we are appointing one person in each area of the County for the task of development work in connection with the World's boom.



## HUNTINGDONSHIRE NOTES

by David Deller

### POLISHED PERFORMANCES

To begin the new season I first have to finalise the two County Championship events which were played right at the end of last season. The senior championships saw youth flying the flag in the two singles events, 18-years-old Jean Allinson from Peterborough and Tim Speller of St. Ives winning the main singles titles with polished performances to overcome experienced opposition.

Speller became the first St. Ives winner in the MS for 13 years when he defeated County captain Alan Lamprell in straight games each by 2 pts. Jean Allinson was in great form and gave Diane Bushby (St. Neots) little chance winning 10 and 9. Mark Fisher (St. Ives) and Belinda Chamberlain (St. Neots) won their respective junior events whilst Gordon Cockram retained his Vets title at the expense of County vice-chairman Ken Green.

Other winners were:— MD—Cockram and S. Roberts (St. Neots), WD—D. Bushby/B. Pace (St. Neots), XD—A. Lamprell (St. Neots)/J. Allinson, Paul Charlton Memorial Trophy (U-21)—A. Smith (St. Ives).

The ever popular Junior championships held at St. Neots brought a profitable day for the St. Ives club who took all seven titles at stake. Top performance came from 12-years-old Melanie Ringrose who not only retained her U-14 title but added the U-17 and U-21 titles as well, both at the expense of our No. 1 player Miss Chamberlain.

Other winners were Richard Ballard in the U-11's, Paul Roberts took the Cadet boys', Mark Fisher the U-17 boys' while Speller retained his youth title.

The summer months locally have seen quite a bit of activity with the highlight coming in the first week of June with the British heat of the European Superstars competition being staged at St. Ivo Recreation Centre. Table tennis provided one of the sports for this event which besides being shown on T.V. in a number of European countries will be shown in Britain next month.

John Conteh and Peter Shilton were among the competitors although Sweden's Thomas Magnusson reigned supreme throughout the table tennis competition gaining considerable advantage with heavy side spin services to which none of his opponents seemed to have the answer.

Obviously the new purpose built facilities at St. Neots are gaining a great deal of rightful attention. The building should be in full use by the time this issue of the magazine comes out. The hard working St. Neots T.T.C. committee are to be congratulated on producing this much needed facility.

Belinda Chamberlain was selected to attend the Final Junior trials at Loughborough. The Buckden girl finished 16th in the final placings, Melanie Ringrose finished 10th in the national U-13 championships and still has a season left in this age group.

## NORTHUMBERLAND NOTES

by Pauline Jackson

### CLOSE SEASON ACTIVITIES

Before taking a look at what the new season has in store for Northumberland, I would like to turn back the clock to inform readers what has been happening during the close season.

The County Association's Annual Dinner Dance and Presentation of League and Cup Trophies was again held at the 'Highlight Suite' of J. T. Parrish Ltd., Newcastle-upon-Tyne, on May 7, and was attended by 175 members and friends. Our thanks once again go to Bill and Lily McMaster for taking the trouble to organise what has now become a very popular event.

Interest in League play during the summer has increased enormously this year, with six Divisions, each comprising eight teams, operating in the Tyneside Summer League. Matches were played on a home and away basis during the period May 3

to August 8, and a Knock-Out Cup Competition, run on a handicap basis, was also organised. This was won by Allen Bradley Electronics of Div. 3A.

This interest extended to the North Tyneside Festival Tournament, which was held at Norham High School, North Shields during the weekend July 17/18 as part of the local Festival of Sport, and attracted an incredible entry for the time of year. Entries totalled 64 in the Men's singles, 42 in the Div. 3/4 singles, 36 in the U-18 boys' singles, and 32 in the U-15 singles—the last two totals must show a heartening future for table tennis at junior level within the area. Our thanks go to Aubrey Drapkin and the various Committee members who have spent a busy summer organising the League and the Tournament.

### RESULTS:

#### Men's Singles (best of 5 games):

A. Clark bt M. McMaster 11, 16, -16, 8.

#### Women's Singles:

Miss B. Murtaugh bt Miss P. Jackson 15, 14.

#### Men's Doubles:

R. Dodds/J. Scope bt Clark/S. Robinson 13, 16.

#### Women's Doubles:

Miss K. Cheung/Miss V. Smith bt Miss Murtaugh/Mrs. E. Harrison -20, 10, 18.

#### Mixed Doubles:

P. Stewart/Miss Smith bt C. Robertson/Mrs. J. Harland 14, 15.

#### U-18 Boys' Singles:

Clark bt P. Ellison 21, 14.

#### U-18 Girls' Singles:

Miss Smith bt Miss Cheung -21, 13, 17.

#### U-15 Singles:

J. Anderson bt D. Robson 16, -16, 16.

#### U-12 Singles:

N. Herrington bt M. Schapira (scores not available).

#### Div. 3/4 Singles:

S. Hills bt S. Dickinson 15, -12, 10.

Moving on now to the new season—and while the long-term prospects appear to be brighter than for some time, the short-term position at senior County level must be very worrying. Both our top players from last season, Ian Robertson and Barbara Kearney, will be missing from the scene this time—Ian has returned to Essex and Barbara has emigrated to Australia. This will seriously weaken the first team, and a lot of responsibility will rest on the young shoulders of Andrew Clark in his first season out of junior play.

The second team will also be correspondingly weakened, and the junior team will be largely experimental, as Glenn McCordle and Valerie Smith are also over age. However, it is hoped that Eddie Thomas, who missed half of last season with a hand injury, will be fit to resume in time for the first match.

County trials have not at the time of writing been held, but it is hoped to arrange these for late September or early October.

## NEW GLOUCESTER GEN

by John Cooper

### THE CLIMB BACK

The 'new' but reduced Gloucestershire is continuing its endeavours to return to its former greatness on the playing side and in this will be greatly helped by those who have, by their efforts, contributed during the past year to improving the financial position of the County. This gives us a better base on which to stand and enables us to be more adventurous.

On the playing side, a Coaching Sub-Committee has been set up and summer sessions were run with the best Junior players of both sexes from the three leagues. Our thanks are due to Peter Cruwys for spear-heading this and to Bryan Merrett when he can 'look in'.

Bryan and Peter organised a coaching course for student coaches and the following are now accepted by the E.T.T.A. as qualified to do so: Sylvia and Alan Giles, Jean Golding, Trevor Golding, Dave Foulser, Bryn Hughes, Ray Westbury, Alan Williams and Les Smith.

It is good news that the 'Burford' is to continue

under the new name of Cotswold Open and Gloucestershire and Oxfordshire are to combine again as promoters. This is of course a Junior event and its regular date of the last weekend in Jan. continues to apply. Venue: Chosen Hill School, Brookfield Road, Churchdown (between Cheltenham and Gloucester).

For the sad news Peter Cruwys resigns his Chairmanship of Panel 6 but his successor is wished well.

Cheltenham under-15's enjoyed a visit during the summer to the stiff Reading competition. Cheltenham, in the heat, managed to complete its summer league commitments, and has six divs. for the winter; Sun Alliance wishing to play there as well as Gloucester. In Gloucester, St. Marks now get Div. 1 status.

For Gloucester Festival, all the six district councils arranged for entries to a multi-sport occasion during August, including t.t. The matches had to be played to a strict timetable and give a team ranking order result. We therefore played teams of one senior one junior, for 10 minutes only, the totals of the differences in the scores being taken to give a total team points and placings. Cheltenham (S. Moreman and G. Greening) were tops, The Forest would have been second but they had to 'scratch' because the only team they could raise was the table tennis one, so Gloucester (S. and D. Griffin) took second place.

Gloucester Men return to the Midlands League, starting with new blood in Div. IV.

Frank Newell has been made a vice-president of the E.T.T.A. and a presentation for his local efforts was made to him at the Cheltenham exhibition starring Chester Barnes, Denis Neale, Nicky Jarvis and Paul Day. Another Cheltenham success.

Cheltenham's Dave Harvey has been doing some useful and sterling work at Butlin's holiday camp. Filly before returning on health grounds, which problem he now hopes he has solved. Well done Dave, we wish you well.

Dave Foulser has now volunteered to take over this job so I have submitted my resignation. I thank all for their support in supplying news for this column.

## THE SUFFOLK SCENE

by R. C. Langridge

### JUNIOR RANKINGS

More than thirty of Suffolk's top junior table tennis players recently attended the Dome Ipswich, for the County Junior Trials. As a result of these trials and past playing records, the following initial ranking lists for 1976-77 have been compiled:—

Boys — 1. Stuart Palmer, 2. Steve Hender, 3. Gary Douglas, 4. Michael Shorten, 5. Julian Hall, 6. Nigel Douglas, 7. Colin Bennett, 8. Nigel Hodder, 9. Geoff Somerfield, 10. Peter Holland, 11. Graham Crown, 12. Andrew Bentinck.

Girls — 1. Louise Harris, 2. Debra Hubble, 3. Julie Duncombe, 4. Janet Matthews, 5. Jane Wilgoss, 6. Joanne Rivett, 7. Carolyn Francis, 8. Maureen Thomas, 9. Annette Ginn.

At the trials, it was good to see players from some of the County's smaller leagues competing well with the more experienced and established players; although Stuart Palmer was certainly in a class of his own.

All these juniors will have the chance to confirm or improve their present ranking when the Suffolk Junior Open takes place in Ipswich on Nov. 27. (The ambition of every ranked player should now be to gain a place in one or more of the seven County matches which Suffolk will play in Div. 2 (Midland) of the County Championships.

The juniors start off with an away fixture against Leicestershire but their home fixture against Warwickshire on Nov. 6 will be staged at Bury St. Edmunds. The seniors will have their trials on Oct. 10 but have to wait until Nov. 20 for their first county fixture.

Feb. 19/77 is, at present, the date fixed for the Suffolk Senior Open.



#### NEW SPONSORSHIP

Mileta Sports, the new main distributors for Butterfly table tennis equipment in the U.K., have signed under contract two Ormesby internationals, Jimmy Walker and Carole Knight. A new range of carefully selected bats are being marketed by Mileta under the name of "J.C." (Jimmy/Carole). In addition Mileta are sponsoring the country's top club, Ormesby, who will now use Butterfly tables and surrounds for all their home matches. The photograph shows Carole Knight with Mr. Brian Ward, of Mileta Sports.

A circus of 14 Butterfly tables is available for hire for tournaments and special events and details can be obtained from Alan Ransome, 8 Baker Street, Middlesbrough. Telephone: Middlesbrough 242914.

## 4th Commonwealth : Table Tennis Championships :

**GUERNSEY, 16-22 MARCH, 1977**

The Channel Island of Guernsey lies in the Bay of St. Malo, just 30 miles from the coast of France and 80 miles from the south east coast of England. Guernsey, together with its smaller dependencies of Alderney, Sark, Herm and Jethou, form a group of the Channel Islands known as the "Bailiwick of Guernsey". The archipelago is completed by the Island of Jersey.

The Bailiwick of Guernsey is part of the British Isles, but unlike Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland, is not part of the United Kingdom. Guernsey has its own Government, its ties with Britain lying in a chosen loyalty to the English Crown dating back to the days of William the Conqueror.

While the island and the islanders are British, the Norman-French background is still in evidence—with street names in French as well as English and the ancient Guernsey-French "patois" still spoken by older islanders.

With a land area of only 24 square miles and a population of 52,000, Guernsey is a small and sometimes bustling island. The majority of islanders earn their living from the thriving horticultural industry and from tourism. Visitors are attracted by the mild climate (average March temperature is 11.8C), the clean beaches and clear waters, the magnificent coastal scenery the wide range of shops selling "tax free" goods, and the unique atmosphere of the island.

#### MESSAGE

Guernsey for the Commonwealth, then Birmingham for the World! That is the message of this, our first Bulletin in preparations for the Fourth Commonwealth Table Tennis Cham-

pionships. So, on behalf of the Association, I most cordially invite you to participate in these Championships (writes Horace Mallet, President of the Guernsey Table Tennis Association).

Beau Sejour Leisure Centre will be the venue. Its a brand new sports, entertainment and conference complex, situated in fine parkland overlooking the main town, St. Peter Port. Guernsey is always called "the Charming Channel Isle", not only for its scenery, its shops, and its cuisine, but also because of the warmth and the sincerity of its people. Come to the Championships and find out for yourself. Your visit would be memorable!

The Championships will take place from the 16th to 22nd March, having been deliberately scheduled to take place immediately before the World Championships. This gives you a wonderful opportunity to participate in both tournaments. We expect a record entry. So make it Guernsey for the Commonwealth, then Birmingham for the World!

#### ACCOMMODATION

Accommodation has been booked in a number of good standard hotels. Players, officials and supporters can share the same hotel or different ones as requested. Bed and breakfast will be provided at the hotels, lunch and dinner will be served at Beau Sejour. Supporters should apply through their national Association. All welcome.

#### TRAVEL

Guernsey has regular air and sea links with the United Kingdom and France. Frequent scheduled air flights connect the island with Britain's main airports, including both London Heathrow and London Gatwick. The flight time

from London is one hour and the present cost is about £35 return, but by buying all-inclusive travel tickets this may be considerably reduced. The Association is liaising with the 1977 World Championships organisers to ensure the smoothest travel arrangements between Guernsey and Birmingham. It is hoped that Wayfarers Travel Agency Ltd.—the official agency for the World Championships—will be able to offer a complete travel "package" covering travel to both Championships. Details will be forwarded as soon as possible.

#### COSTS TO GUERNSEY

A "package" is being organised for visitors who will not be catered for free under Rule 17. The "package" will cover hotel accommodation (bed and breakfast), lunch and dinner at Beau Sejour, transport between airport, hotel and Beau Sejour, a sight-seeing tour on the free day, and participation in the farewell "party", plus, of course, admission to all table tennis sessions, including the finals. It is reckoned that the "package" will cost about £65. A firm cost will be quoted in the next Bulletin.

#### EQUIPMENT

Stiga table tennis tables will be used and the balls will be Nittaku 3-Star.

#### VENUE

Beau Sejour is a brand-new Leisure complex situated in beautiful parkland with breathtaking views of the Channel Isles' seascapes, yet within a few minutes walk from the centre of St. Peter Port. Besides the primary sports hall, Beau Sejour has a swimming pool, squash courts, a gymnasium, a theatre, a top-class restaurant, shops and various subsidiary sports halls.

#### UMPIRES

The Guernsey Table Tennis Association will be supplying some umpires but umpires from other Associations will be needed. Umpires invited to Guernsey will receive hospitality on the same basis as eligible players and officials.

#### COMMUNICATIONS

All communications should be addressed to: Mr. Horace Mallet, Brackenhurst, Les Hubits, St. Martin, Guernsey, Channel Islands. Phone: Guernsey 38972; Cables: Tentab, Guernsey; Telex: Chacom, Guernsey 41445.

## 2nd WORLD UNIVERSITIES CHAMPIONSHIPS

**FOUR MEDALS FOR GREAT BRITAIN**

**By Derek Oldman**

From the experiences gained at the 1st championships, held in Hanover three years ago, there was an apprehensive feeling when the British party flew out to Israel to compete in this year's tournament. On the former occasion both the Russians and the Czechs turned out international squads; the British teams finished well down with only a consolation singles win to show for their efforts.

No details of individuals were available prior to this trip but it was known that neither the Russians nor the Czechs were playing but that Yugoslavia and Federal Germany had entered. The initial feeling was that we could certainly achieve more this time, particularly in the Women's events with Susan Lisle and Karen Rogers spearheading the team. The Men's squad was led by Donald Parker, supported by Alan Fletcher, John Fuller and Peter Edon. Janet Carr was the third member of the Women's team.

Any fears held were soon proved well-founded. On arrival we met the West German No. 1, Jochen Leiss, with the No. 7, Klaus Schmittinger. Also in the German party was their leading lady, Wiebke Hendriksen, ranked No. 8 in Europe, whilst with the exception of

Jean Krier, the Luxembourg national team was intact. The Austrian contingent looked formidable with Heinz Schlüter, Rudolf Weinmann and closed champion, Herbert Suda. Very little was known about the Yugoslav men except that their top player, Bela Mesaros, was ranked No. 7. Amongst their women were Eva Jeler and Erzebet Korpa, ranked 2 and 5 respectively.

These countries were obviously going to provide the stiffest opposition whilst we had to wait and see what the likes of Brazil, U.S.A., Greece and Thailand had to offer.

#### Men's Team

The seedings were based on results in Hanover and as much water has passed under the bridge since then, the gradings were not necessarily going to be accurate. The four groups were headed by Federal Germany, Austria, Great Britain and Yugoslavia. As it turned out Luxembourg were the unlucky team, being drawn with the Germans. All the seeded teams won their groups but Luxembourg slipped up badly against Brazil after an umpiring error obviously upset them. This resulted in their finishing third in the group and only able to compete for a place between 9 and 12.

Great Britain's first match was against U.S.A. which apart from uncertainty at the beginning, we won easily. With Edon replacing Fuller for the Finland match we quickly sped to 5-0 and qualified for at least fourth place.

On the second day the real problems began. The first match was against Federal Germany and Edon was retained. Apart from Parker's victory over No. 3 Schindler we had little to show for some fine play. Against Yugoslavia hopes were higher as the Austrians had already taken them apart. At one stage we led 3-2 and it could have been 4-1 when Fletcher went down -18 in the third to Mesaros. Matters rather went against us later and the final score was 3-5. Meanwhile, Austria continued to dominate and beat the Germans by a similar score, all the German sets being won by Leiss. To finish higher than fourth we now had to beat the Austrians, which wasn't very probable. Our only consolation was that Edon took a game off Weinmann and Parker took both Schlüter and Suda to three. After leading 3-2 West Germany were surprisingly beaten 5-3 by Yugoslavia, thus surrendering second place. The turning point came in the seventh set when Leiss failed to come to terms with the defensive Mesaros.

Although we were favourably drawn the team played well enough to take full advantage of this and, realistically, we couldn't justify a higher placing.

#### Women's Team

There were only eight entries and the last-minute withdrawal of Mexico didn't improve matters. Here again Great Britain avoided Federal Germany and Yugoslavia, being drawn with Brazil, Greece and U.S.A.

Apart from the sudden shock of seeing Susan hit off by a very good American, Alice Sonne, we encountered few problems. Greece and Brazil were both beaten 3-0 and Janet was given a game in the doubles against the Greeks. In the American match Karen quickly found that a defensive chop deep to the backhand was more than Sonne could cope with.

In the other group Yugoslavia surprisingly beat the Germans, although by the end of the week they had proved to everyone that it wasn't a fluke and indeed well-merited. Hendriksen beat Jeler on this occasion but this turned out to be one of her few successes against the Yugoslavs. The stage was now set for the play-off for first and second places. Having studied the Yugoslavs, we reckoned that it wasn't an impossible task. In the opening set Karen took the first game off Korpa but was unable to maintain the impetus and lost rather easily in the end. Susan restored the balance with a fine victory over Jeler. The doubles was obviously going to be of paramount importance but although our girls battled all the way we were eventually worn down and lost in the third. Jeler then made the match safe by defeating Karen.

In the end we had to settle for a silver medal

but no one could begrudge the Yugoslavs their moment of glory. Jeler and Korpa are fine players, Korpa in particular. Still, it was no mean achievement to finish runners-up and this success provided the incentive for the forthcoming individual events.

#### GREAT BRITAIN'S RESULTS

##### Men—Round 1

- v U.S.A. — won 5-2.
- v Finland — won 5-0.

##### Round 2

- v Federal Germany — lost 1-5.
- v Yugoslavia — lost 3-5.
- v Austria — lost 0-5.

##### Final Placings

- |                    |               |
|--------------------|---------------|
| 1. Austria         | 8. Belgium    |
| 2. Yugoslavia      | 9. Luxembourg |
| 3. Federal Germany | 10. Israel    |
| 4. Great Britain   | 11. Finland   |
| 5. Brazil          | 12. Greece    |
| 6. Netherlands     | 13. Thailand  |
| 7. U.S.A.          |               |

##### Women—Round 1

- v U.S.A. — won 3-1.
- v Greece — won 3-0.
- v Brazil — won 3-0.

##### Final

- v Yugoslavia — lost 1-3.

##### Final Placings

- |                    |           |
|--------------------|-----------|
| 1. Yugoslavia      | 5. U.S.A. |
| 2. Great Britain   | 6. Israel |
| 3. Federal Germany | 7. Greece |
| 4. Brazil          |           |

##### Men's Singles

With such a strong entry any success for Britain was going to be very hard to come by. Parker was seeded at No. 8 but after beating Ogasawari (a strange name for a Brazilian), he came up against one of the Germans, Fillbrun, and after a long, hard battle, he could consider himself rather unfortunate to go down -18 in the 5th. Fletcher, Fuller and Edon all fell at the first hurdle.

Both semis went the full distance. The favourite, Leiss, beat the No. 2 seed, Schlüter, whilst Mesaros, seeded 4, finally wore down Schmittinger after giving him two games start.

The build-up to the final was tremendous, live television coverage and a packed gallery.

Unfortunately the match did not live up to expectations, Leiss being far too experienced for the unfortunate Yugoslav, whose predictable defence was never tight enough. In no time at all it was all over and we were left wondering just how Mesaros had beaten Leiss in the team event.

##### Women's Singles

With a comparative small entry this event was probably the easiest to predict. Hendriksen was an obvious top seed, followed by Jeler and Korpa, with Susan at No. 4. All justified this ranking, Hendriksen meeting Korpa and Susan having to meet Jeler in the semis. Karen was a Hendriksen victim in the quarter-final whilst Janet also fell early to another German. The all-round strength of Korpa proved too much for the top seed and the 3-0 margin in no way flattered her. The other semi was a much longer affair and at one stage, when leading 2-1, it looked as if Susan would make the final. However, it was not to be, but -16 in the fifth emphasised just how near she came to winning. Korpa continued her winning way by beating Jeler, although again it took five games to achieve it.

##### Men's Doubles

This was expected to be a tussle between the No. 1 pairs of Germany, Austria and Yugoslavia, although Parker and Fletcher scraped into the seedings. All three pairs reached the semis along with the Austrian No. 2 pair, Suda and Rottenberg. The British pair survived the first round but went out to Mesaros and Rak, the Yugoslavs. The match was not decided until the fifth game and considering that the Britons lost two games after leading 20-19, we could easily have gone further. After two decisive 3-0 wins in the semis, Leiss and Schmittinger and Schlüter and Weinmann reached the final. This match was probably the best of the week and after holding a 2-0 lead the Austrians just failed and eventually lost -16 in the fifth.

##### Women's Doubles

Our best hopes of a medal centred on the partnership of Susan and Karen, although tough opposition was expected from Hendriksen and Zippis, and, of course, Korpa and Jeler. These three couples, along with the No. 2 Germans, reached the semis where the British



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pair were fortunate to avoid the top pairs. Both matches ended 3-0, the Yugoslavs beating Hendriksen and Zipps with comparative ease, as did Susan and Karen against Potocnik and Sudmann. Alas, we had to be content with a silver medal, going down 1-3 after looking in the early stages as if a gold was a real possibility.

### Mixed Doubles

As was to be expected, the same countries dominated this event as in others, although the Austrians hadn't entered a women's team. Donald and Susan were No. 3 seeds and reached the semis after beating Brazilian and German pairs. However, Leiss and Hendriksen proved a little too good although with a little more aggression the scores could have been much closer—the final margin being 3-1. Alan and Karen reached the quarter-finals, losing to the beaten finalists, Lucic and Korpa, over five games. Leiss and Hendriksen were in no mood for charity in the final, Leiss taking his third title in very quick time.

### Conclusion

The British team can certainly feel satisfied with its performance over the eight days, winning medals in four of the seven events. The obvious star was Susan Lisle, participating in all four of these awards, but Donald Parker also merits a mention with 10 singles wins out of 15. All seven players played their part in one way or another, were an excellent squad to manage and a credit to the student body in Britain.

There was adequate time for social functions and the organisation of these was superb, although a trip to Jerusalem was tempered by the tension in the city. The Israelis still have a few things to learn about promoting major events and the occasional umpiring decision was rather dubious, but at least they acknowledged this weakness and were always willing to listen to more experienced voices. Such was the spirit of these championships that very few complaints were registered anyway.

The University of Haifa was an excellent venue, the playing conditions and other facilities being first class. The players lived in a guest house on a typical Israeli kibbutz and any spare time available was usually spent in or near the swimming pool. Every country was allotted a guide/interpreter, which made life very much easier.

The final impressions of Israel are rather blurred, brought about by lack of sleep after a last night party and having to arise at 5 a.m. in order to catch a taxi to the airport.

### RESULTS

#### Men's Singles—Semi-finals

B. Mesaros (Yu) bt K. Schmittinger (NSR) -19, -17, 16, 10, 16.

J. Leiss (NSR) bt H. Schlüter (Au) -16, 12, 15, -11, 13.

#### Final

LEISS bt Mesaros 11, 21, 12.

#### Women's Singles—Semi-finals

E. Korpa (Yu) bt W. Hendriksen (NSR) 19, 19, 15.

E. Jeler (Yu) bt S. Lisle (GB) -20, 16, -14, 5, 16.

#### Final

KORPA bt Jeler 18, -17, 12, -20, 16.

#### Men's Doubles—Semi-finals

Leiss/Schmittinger bt J. Rottenberg/H. Suda (Au) 23, 13, 19.

Schlüter/R. Weinmann (Au) bt L. Kurtes/V. Lucic (Yu) 17, 16, 16.

#### Final

LEISS/SCHMITTINGER bt Schlüter/Weinmann -18, -19, 13, 16, 16.

#### Women's Doubles—Semi-finals

Lisle/K. Rogers (GB) bt G. Potocnik/I. Sudmann (NSR) 12, 10, 14.

Jeler/Korpa bt Hendriksen/B. Zipps (NSR) 17, 16, 13.

#### Final

JELER/KORPA bt Lisle/Rogers 16, -16, 11, 16.

#### Mixed Doubles—Semi-finals

Lucic/Korpa bt Kurtes/D. Dardic (Yu) 19, 14, 16.

Leiss/Hendriksen bt D. Parker (G.B)/Lisle 16, -17, 11, 14.

#### Final

LEISS/HENDRIKSEN bt Lucic/Korpa 19, 19, -21, 13.

# 19th European Youth Championships

## Medals galore in Modling

by George R. Yates

One Gold, two Silver and a Bronze was England's medal take at the 19th European Youth Championships played over the period July 10-19 in Modling, situated near the Austrian capital of Vienna.

Although unsuccessful in their quest for medals in the team events, the championships provided England with their best-ever return in the individual competitions.

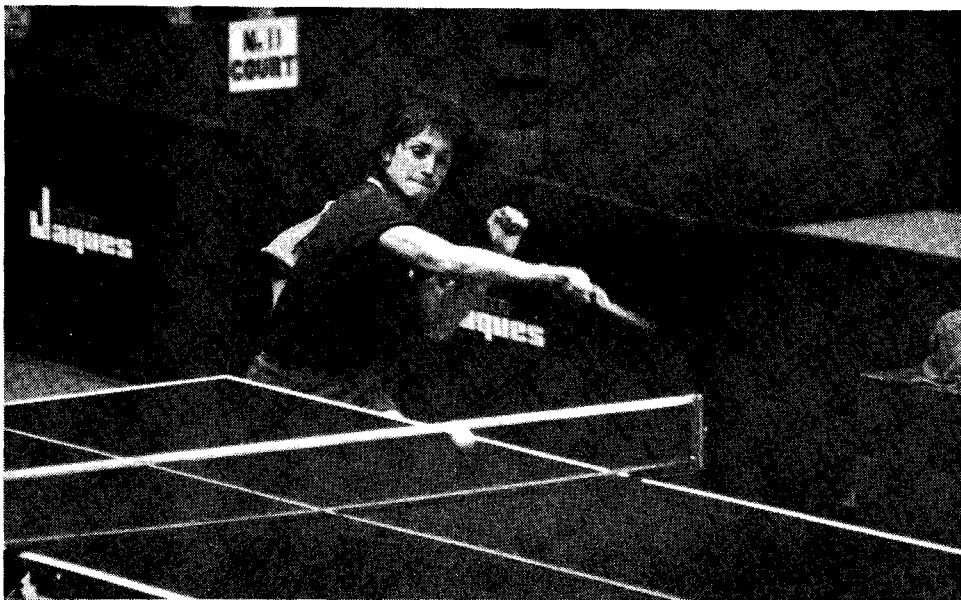
Paul Day reached no less than three finals, losing to Zoran Kalinic, of Yugoslavia, in the boys' singles but sharing triumph with Andrew Barden in the boys' doubles, with final victory over Russia's Vareli Schevchenkov and Wassili Putsilovsky.

Partnered by Melody Lüdi, the Cambs/Yorks combine prospered to the final of the mixed, losing narrowly, 23-25 in the deciding game, to Yugoslav's Kalinic and Erzebet Palatinus, having held three match points.

Graham Sandley became the recipient of a bronze medal as a losing semi-finalist in the Cadet boys' singles when beaten by Jirgi Ezer, of Czechoslovakia.

### BOYS

P. Day	A. Barden	M. Shuttle	C. Sewell	D. Johnson	F	A	Opponents
2-0	1-0	—	—	2-0	5	0	Greece
2-0	2-0	—	1-1	—	5	1	Turkey
3-0	1-2	1-1	—	—	5	3	Fed. Germany
2-1	1-2	—	0-2	—	3	5	Hungary
1-2	2-1	0-2	—	—	3	5	U.S.S.R.
3-0	1-1	—	—	1-1	5	2	Bulgaria
2-0	1-1	2-0	—	—	5	1	Yugoslavia
15-3	9-7	3-3	1-3	3-1	31	17	



Federal Germany's Hans Joachim Nolten, the second seed, behind Ivan Kavka (Czech), who was surprisingly defeated 17 and 19 by Stefan Stefanov, of Bulgaria, in the third round.

Photo by Geoff Newman.

There was disappointment in the English camp (writes Brian Burn) after the team event because in no match did all players play well. England only lost two matches, to Russia and Hungary, both 3-5. These two countries finished first and second respectively yet England only finished 5th.

This situation occurred because of the group system, which is very unfair because the standards of teams vary greatly from year to year in junior play. It is interesting to note that the group England was in consisted of

Russian met Russian in the final of the girls' singles with victory going to Tatjana Romanchina over Valentina Popova and Yugoslavia's Dubravka Fabri and Erzebet Palatinus triumphed in the girls' doubles beating Eva Strömvall (Sweden) and Liana Mihut (Rumania).

In the Cadet events Anders Thunström, of Sweden, took the boys' title and Gordana Perkucin, of Yugoslavia, the girls'.

England had another winner in the girls' consolation singles with Angela Mitchell finally accounting for Anneli Hernvall, of Sweden, but in the counterpart boys' event Sweden's Anders Bylund redressed the balance with a final victory over Schevchenkov, of the Soviet Union.

Russia made a clean sweep of the four team titles, an achievement underlining their strength in depth and a measure of their prospects for the future.

Fifth place was the highest achieved by an English team—the boys—both the girls' and cadet boys' having to content themselves with one place lower. We were not represented in the cadet girls' competitions.

England's individual records in the team events were:—

teams that finished 1st, 2nd, 5th and 6th, and the other group teams finished 3rd, 4th, 7th and 8th. These results show that the first two teams easily beat the best two teams in the other group and the 3rd and 4th teams easily beat the 3rd and 4th teams in the other group. i.e., England beat Bulgaria (5-2) and Yugoslavia (5-1).

The matches against Greece and Turkey were won very convincingly but the match against Federal Germany was very close. Andrew Barden was not playing well and it

was fortunate that Martin Shuttle managed to beat Nolten even though he lost to Horsch. Against Hungary, Barden was still playing badly and this was one of the main reasons for not qualifying for the final four places. However, in the match against Russia, Andrew did play well and it was Day who could only win one set.

In the playoffs for positions 5 to 8, England had a reasonably easy win over Bulgaria, but this was assisted by the withdrawal of Hasanov in the set against Day. In the match against Yugoslavia, the opposition seemed deflated and Kalinic, the eventual singles winner, seemed disinterested.

Final scores:—

**U.S.S.R. 5, Hungary 4**  
 Solopov bt Potari 12, 15.  
 Schevchenko bt Pekar 12, 18.  
 Putsilovsky lost to Molner 19, -10, -22.  
 Schevchenko lost to Potari -9, -20.  
 Solopov lost to Molnar -21, -10.  
 Putsilovsky bt Pekar 24, 18.  
 Schevchenko bt Molnar 20, -15, 14.  
 Putsilovsky lost to Potari -17, -16.  
 Solopov bt Pekar 14, 11.

Both preliminary matches were won reasonably comfortably (writes Bryan Merrett) although it must be remembered that the Dutch did not have their strongest team, preferring that Vrieskoop, the English Junior champion, played in the **Cadets**.

In the defeat by Russia, Melody Lüdi played well to beat Romanchina, who later won the **GIRLS**

girls' singles. Karen Witt led Popova 18-16 in the 3rd. Against Hungary we were never really in it, although the doubles kept the match alive.

By winning the important doubles, against Belgium, the result was not in doubt. The inability of our girls to play against the defensive Marie-France Germiot was a disturbing feature, but by finishing 3rd in the group the girls qualified to play off for positions 5-8.

Against the set-back of losing the opening set against France, the girls played well, especially Melody, who won both singles, but the ensuing loss to Belgium was caused by defeat in the doubles. But there seems to me that there is something wrong with the system when having played a team, you have to play them again. Karen played superbly, topspinning against Germiot for 15 minutes to get expedite.

Final scores:—

**U.S.S.R. 3, Yugoslavia 1**  
 Romanchina bt Palatinus 15, 18.  
 Popova bt Fabri -19, 16, 10.  
 Popova/Romanchina lost to Fabri/Palatinus

17, -14, -17.  
 Popova bt Palatinus 13, -17, 17.

Both of our cadet boys (writes Brian Burn) gave creditable performances throughout the championships. If England had beaten the U.S.S.R., the eventual winners, instead of losing 2-3, they would have managed a silver medal. Their group was very strong and it was only on games average that they did not obtain a bronze medal.

Colin Wilson played very nervously at the beginning of the team event but by the end he was playing better than Graham Sandley. They were the only team in the competition that had both players eligible next year and I am sure that the good sixth position can be improved on next time.

Final scores:—

**U.S.S.R. 3, Czechoslovakia 1**  
 Asarchenko bt Ezr 11, 11.  
 Ovcharov bt Jenista 13, 13.  
 Asarchenko/Ovcharov lost to Ezr/Jenista -15, -18.  
 Asarchenko bt Jenista 13, 11.

**CADET BOYS**

G. Sandley	C. Wilson	Sandley/Wilson	F	A	Opponents
2-0	0-1	1-0	3	1	Poland
1-1	1-1	1-0	3	2	France
1-1	2-0	0-1	3	2	Sweden
1-1	0-1	0-1	1	3	Yugoslavia
0-2	1-1	1-0	2	3	U.S.S.R.
1-1	2-0	0-1	3	2	Austria
0-1	1-1	0-1	1	3	Sweden
6-7	7-5	3-4	16	16	

**19TH EUROPEAN YOUTH CHAMPIONSHIPS  
 INDIVIDUAL RESULTS**

**Boys' Singles—Round 4**  
 I. Kavka (CS) bt I. Solopov (SU) 14, 19.  
 L. Kucharski (PL) bt B. Andersson (SV) 9, 15.  
 Z. Kalinic (YU) bt A. Barden (EN) 19, 21.  
 H. J. Peters (FD) bt G. Bisi (IT) 18, 21.  
 D. Day (EN) bt J. Pansky (CS) -14, 19, 12.  
 D. Johnson (EN) bt K. Tegner (SV) 14, 20.  
 C. Romanescu (RU) bt T. Danielsson (SV) 10, 19.  
 J. Zlamal (CS) bt S. Stefanov (BU) 16, 17.

K. Witt	M. Lüdi	Lüdi/Witt	Lüdi/Mitchell	F	A	Opponents
1-0	1-0	1-0	—	3	0	Netherlands
1-0	1-0	—	1-0	3	0	Fed. Germany
0-1	1-1	0-1	—	1	3	U.S.S.R.
0-1	0-2	1-0	—	1	3	Hungary
1-1	1-1	1-0	—	3	2	Belgium
0-1	2-0	1-0	—	3	1	France
0-1	1-1	0-1	—	1	3	Belgium
3-5	7-5	4-2	1-0	15	12	



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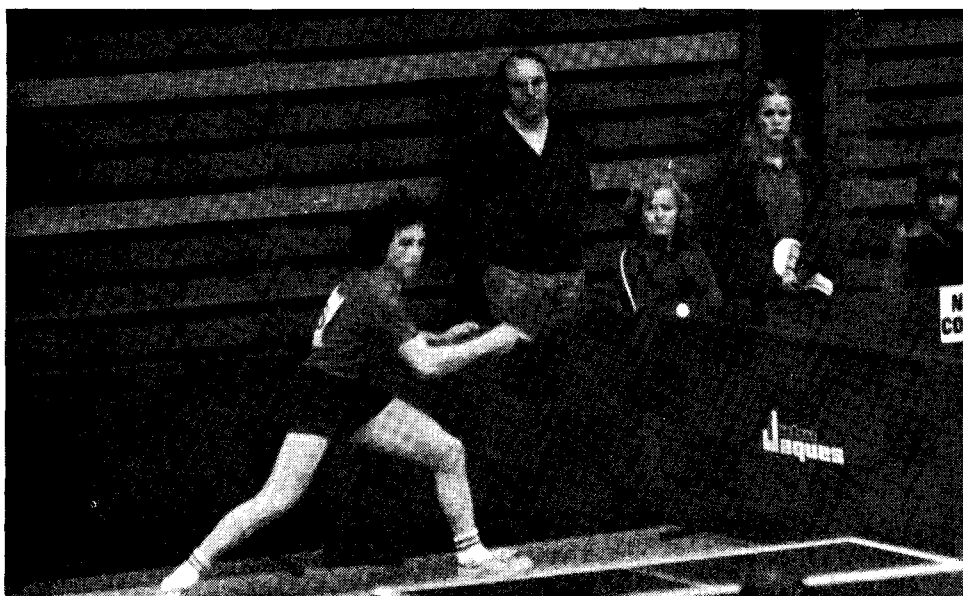
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Duggie Johnson, Warwickshire's surprise package at Mödling.

Photo by Geoff Newman.

**Quarter-finals**

Kavka bt Kucharski 13, 16.  
Kalinic bt Peters 16, 16.  
Day bt Johnson 18, 18.  
Zlamal bt Romanescu 16, 14.

**Semi-finals**

Kalinic bt Kavka 16, 16.  
Day bt Zlamal 16, 12.

**Final**

KALINIC bt Day -20, 17, 14.

**Girls' Singles—Round 4**

E. Palatinus (YU) bt D. Hermanova (CS) 14, 10.  
T. Romachina (SU) bt Z. Ruzsenszki (HU) 18, 17.  
P. Germain (FR) bt M. Ludi (EN) -12, 17, 17.  
G. Szabo (HU) bt B. Lehr (FD) 18, 14.  
Z. Olah (HU) bt L. Zelmet (LU) 16, 17.  
K. Witt (EN) bt I. Balogh (HU) 11, 12.  
K. Bogoy (HU) bt M. Lindblad (SV) -20, 14, 20.  
V. Popova (SU) bt M.-F. Germiot (BE) -12, 13, 29.

**Quarter-finals**

Romachina bt Palatinus 17, 18.  
Szabo bt Germain 11, 10.  
Olah bt Witt -19, 18, 16.  
Popova bt Bogoy -15, 18, 5.

**Semi-finals**

Romachina bt Szabo -14, 9, 12.  
Popova bt Olah 11, 9.

**Final**

ROMACHINA bt Olah 11, 9.

**Boys' Doubles—Quarter-finals**

Barden/Day bt R. Horsch (FD)/Peters -16, 13, 11.  
D. Hassanov (BU)/Romanescu bt L. Franklin (SV)/Tegner 9, 14.  
W. Putilovsky/V. Schevchenko (SU) bt Johnson/I. Kenyon (EN) -16, 18, 13.  
Kalinic/Z. Tot-Horgosi (YU) bt H. J. Nolten/J. Schirrmester (FD) 12, -14, 13.

**Semi-finals**

Barden/Day bt Hassanov/Romanescu -19, 14, 12.  
Putilovsky/Shevchenko bt Kalinic/Tot-Horgosi 25, -13, 9.

**Final**

BARDEN/DAY bt Putilovsky/Shevchenko 16, 16.

**Girls' Doubles—Quarter-finals**

L. Mihut (RU)/E. Stromvall (SV) bt Germiot/V. Germiot (BE) 20, 10.  
Bogoy/Szabo bt N. Antonian/L. Baschutova (SU) 19, 21.  
Popova/Romachina bt Olah/Ruzsenszki 14, 7.

D. Fabri (YU)/Palatinus bt S. Cimfiova (SC)/Heranova 19, 16.

**Semi-finals**

Mihut/Stromvall bt Bogoy/Szabo -16, 20, 19.  
Fabri/Palatinus bt Popova/Romachina 19, 20.

**Final**

FABRI/PALATINUS mt Mihut/Stromvall -14, 17, 15.

**Mixed Doubles—Quarter-finals**

Romanescu/Mihut bt M. Potari (HU)/Olah 10, -5, 20.  
Day/Ludi bt Pansky/Hermanova 19, 21.  
Kucharski/J. Szatko (PL) bt Schevchenko/Popova 22, 17.  
Kalinic/Palatinus bt G. Pekar (HU)/Bogoy 10, 14.

**Semi-finals**

Day/Ludi bt Romanescu/Mihut 16, 17.  
Kalinic/Palatinus bt Kucharski/Szatko 20, 9.

**Final**

KALINIC/PALATINUS bt Day/Ludi 19, -19, 23.

**Cadet Boys—Quarter-finals**

N. Asarchenko (SU) bt L. Jenista (CS) 15, -19, 21.  
A. Thunstrom (SV) bt Szoghy (HU) 15, 6.  
J. Ezr (CS) bt M. Fischer (FD) 17, 16.  
G. Sandley (EN) bt B. Veren (YU) 17, -19, 10.

**Semi-finals**

Thunstrom bt Asarchenko 19, 11.  
Ezr bt Sandley 16, 19.

**Final**

THUNSTROM bt Ezr -18, 15, 19.

**Cadet Girls—Quarter-finals**

G. Perkuchin (YU) bt Antonian 16, 13.  
C. Sava (RU) bt G. Fogelberg (SV) -16, 16, 13.  
E. Ferencz (RU) bt B. Vrieskoop (NL) 17, 17.  
Baschutova bt H. Lindvall (SV) 9, 17.

**Semi-finals**

Perkuchin bt Sava 10, 17.  
Baschutova bt Ferencz 16, 14.

**Final**

PERKUCHIN bt Baschutova 14, 13.

**Boys' Consolation—Quarter-finals**

Horsch bt G. Edberg (SV) 12, 9.  
A. Bylund (SV) bt Pekar 18, 18.  
Schevchenko bt D. Kumru (TR) w.o.  
Schirrmester bt E. Amplatz (AU) 13, 19.

**Semi-finals**

Bylund bt Horsch 12, 8.  
Schevchenko bt Schirrmester -15, 11, 13.

**Final**

BYLUND bt Schevchenko -13, 22, 19.

**Girls' Consolation—Quarter-finals**

S. Huskova (CS) bt I. Willems (NL) 29, 24.  
A. Hernvall (SV) bt Szatko 16, 19.  
W. Sikora (PL) bt Vujadinovic (YU) 12, 13.  
A. Mitchell (EN) bt C. Verachtart (BE) 17, 16.

**Semi-finals**

Hernvall bt Huskova -19, 7, 11.  
Mitchell bt Sikora 10, 16.

**Final**

MITCHELL bt Hernvall 13, -16, 18.

**FINAL TEAM PLACINGS**

(Previous position in brackets)

**Boys**

1. U.S.S.R. (1)
2. Hungary (8)
3. Czechoslovakia (2)
4. Sweden (7)
5. England (4)
6. Yugoslavia (3)
7. Federal Germany (5)
8. Bulgaria (6)
9. Poland (9)
10. Rumania (—)
11. France (10)
12. Spain (16)
13. Austria (12)
14. Finland (15)
15. Turkey (13)
16. Netherlands (—)
17. Denmark (14)
18. Italy (11)
19. Scotland (23)
20. Belgium (22)
21. Luxembourg (19)
22. Norway (18)
23. Switzerland (17)
24. Greece (21)
25. Wales (24)
26. Jersey (25)

**Girls**

1. U.S.S.R. (2)
2. Yugoslavia (1)
3. Hungary (3)
4. Czechoslovakia (4)
5. Belgium (6)
6. England (7)
7. Rumania (5)
8. France (8)
9. Sweden (9)
10. Poland (12)
11. Netherlands (—)
12. Austria (14)
13. Luxembourg (13)
14. Turkey (17)
15. Spain (15)
16. Denmark (16)
17. Federal Germany (11)
18. Switzerland (18)
19. Italy (19)
20. Finland (22)
21. Greece (23)
22. Wales (21)
23. Norway (—)

**Cadet Boys**

1. U.S.S.R. (—)
2. Czechoslovakia (3)
3. Yugoslavia (4)
4. Netherlands (11)
5. Sweden (1)
6. England (10)
7. Austria (7)
8. Hungary (2)
9. Spain (17)
10. Denmark (13)
11. Belgium (18)
12. Turkey (—)
13. France (9)
14. Italy (—)
15. Finland (12)
16. Wales (20)
17. Federal Germany (6)
18. Poland (—)
19. Luxembourg (8)
20. Scotland (19)

**Cadet Girls**

1. U.S.S.R. (1)
2. Netherlands (7)
3. Rumania (2)
4. Czechoslovakia (5)
5. Federal Germany (8)
6. Hungary (4)
7. Yugoslavia (3)
8. Sweden (6)
9. Finland (—)
10. France (9)
11. Austria (—)
12. Italy (—)
13. Turkey (16)
14. Spain (—)
15. Scotland (15)

**ENGLISH INDIVIDUAL RESULTS**

**BOYS' SINGLES**

P. Day  
Round 1—Bye.  
Round 2—bt Schevchenko (SU) 19, 22.  
Round 3—bt Krottmair (AU) 15, 10.  
Round 4—bt Pansky (CS) -14, 19, 12.

Q.F.—bt Johnson (EN) 18, 18.  
S.F.—bt Zlamal (CS) 15, 12.  
Final—lost to Kalinic (YU) 20, -17, -14.

**A. Barden**

Round 1—Bye.  
Round 2—bt Renverse (Fr) 14 13.  
Round 3—bt Iharos (HU) 8, 12.  
Round 4—lost to Kalinic (YU) -19, -21.

**M. Shuttle**

Round 1—bt Majid (SC) 10, 9.  
Round 2—lost to Kavka (CS) -20, -13.

**D. Johnson**

Round 1—bt Jongmans (NL) 10, 15.  
Round 2—bt Lonardi (IT) -15, 9, 20.  
Round 3—bt Hanonge (FR) -17, 19, 11.  
Round 4—bt Tegner (SV) 14, 20.  
Q.F.—lost to Day -18, -18.

**C. Sewell**

Round 1—bt Van Spanje (NL) 15, -11, 17.  
Round 2—lost to Zlamal (CS) 13, -13, -17.

**I. Kenyon**

Round 1—lost to Huber (CH) 15, -16, -20.

**GIRLS' SINGLES**

**A. Mitchell**

Round 1—bt Backman (SF) 12, 12.  
Round 2—lost to Palatinus (YU) 10, -8, -11.

**M. Ludi**

Round 1—bt Paun (RU) 13, -13 19.  
Round 2—bt Risch (LU) 14, 9.  
Round 3—lost to M.-F. Germiot (BE) 17, -17, -17.

**K. Witt**

Round 1—bt Bohm (AU) 12, 11.  
Round 2—bt Mihut (HU) -12, 11, 20.  
Round 3—bt Balogh (HU) 11, 12.  
Q.F.—lost to Olah (HU) 19, -18, -16.

**CADET BOYS' SINGLES**

**C. Wilson**

Round 1—lost to Testiera (It) -18, -18.

**G. Sandley**

Round 1—bt Thomas (WA) 8, 8.  
Round 2—bt Farkas (HU) 10, 17.  
Round 3—bt van Gasteren (NL) 19, 10.  
Q.F.—bt Veren (YU) 17, -19, 18.  
S.F.—lost to Ezr (CS) -16, -19.

## National Trainer/Coach

Following the resignation of Brian Burn at the end of August, Peter Simpson has been seconded as National Trainer/Coach of the E.T.T.A.

Peter's previous duties were those of National Coach for the North of England and his new appointment will last until the end of the World Championships next April.

The main task of the National Trainer/Coach will be the preparation of England's international squad players for the 1977 World Championships in Birmingham.

Writing in the "London Evening Standard" Don Simpson reports: "Brian Burn, who has resigned after two years as E.T.T.A. National Coach, leaves in September to take up a coaching and lecturing post in Saudi Arabia.

"Durham-born Burn, 28, who quit the E.T.T.A. job because he felt there was insufficient finance available to carry out the programme he wanted, will be on a 2-year contract at the University of Petroleum and Minerals in Dhahran.

"I'm looking forward to the challenge," he says. "I shall be in complete charge of table tennis coaching and will be left to do things the way I want to do them. They have the biggest sports complex in the Middle East and I shall have 10 tables going all the time—in fact just the set-up I would have liked here in England.

"With the World Championships in Birmingham coming up next March the E.T.T.A. are planning to spend more on the England squad's preparation than ever before, but the ambitious Burn felt frustrated.

"I reckoned I'd got so far with the players in terms of results—up to European standard. To get to the top in world class we needed a lot more money.

"Our top players need to be full-timers. I would like to see a squad of about nine given a guarantee of, say, £5,000 a year each, and all living in the same area. Then you could really go places.

"In the eight-month run-up to next year's World Championships I wanted 120 days with the national squad. But this figure kept getting chopped down until in the end I could visualise us having to make do with about half that amount.

"Burn's wife, Linda, also has a job lined up in Dhahran—teaching at the American Academy there, for children of the university tutors and oil company staff, etc".

**STAFFORDSHIRE NOTES**

By Jack Chalkley

**ANNIVERSARY TIME**

One hundred officials, members and guests of the County Association spent an enjoyable evening celebrating the 25th Anniversary at a Dinner and Dance at the Mount Hotel, Wolverhampton. Guest of Honour was Mr. Maurice Goldstein, who recalled that he had attended the foundation meeting of the Staffordshire Association back in 1951, when he was E.T.T.A. Midland Representative. Mr. Goldstein took the opportunity of mentioning next year's World Championships, in Birmingham, and the need for local volunteers from the Midlands to fill various staff jobs and assist generally. Over 300 would be required, and he hoped Staffordshire would contribute.

County President, Mr. A. T. Finney, referred to Maurice Goldstein as "Mr. Table Tennis", and expressed the pleasure his appointment as E.T.T.A. President gave to Staffordshire. He went on to say that sponsorship and spectator support was now almost a necessity for any sport to survive, and it seemed to him that we might take a look at the laws of table tennis. Cricket laws had been changed to make the game more entertaining in the one-day match, and he thought we could learn from the popularity of tennis as a spectator sport, with its succession of "crisis" points which maintained excitement and tension. One could not imagine tennis having the same entertainment value with a "21-up" scoring system, and table tennis might profit from a change and provide the increased spectator interest which the game surely had in it to give.

The success of the evening was largely due to the efforts of Mrs. Marion Colclough, the splendid arrangements including a sherry reception before the dinner, at which ladies were presented with flower buttonholes.

Final positions in the County League were:—

**Division 1**

	P	W	L	F	A	Pts
West Bromwich	6	6	0	37	17	12
Wolverhampton 'A'	6	5	1	40	14	10
Potteries 'A'	6	4	2	39	15	8
Potteries 'B'	6	3	3	24	30	6
Walsall 'A'	6	2	4	20	34	4
Stone 'A'	6	1	5	17	37	2
Stafford 'A'	6	0	6	12	42	0

**Division 2**

	P	W	L	F	A	Pts
Wolverhampton 'B'	5	5	0	33	12	10
Wolverhampton 'C'	5	4	1	33	12	8
Potteries 'C'	5	3	2	24	21	6
Cannock 'A'	5	2	3	24	21	4
Walsall 'B'	5	1	4	15	30	2
Stone 'B'	5	0	5	6	39	0

**CLWYD REPORT**

By Roy Williams

**100% COUNTY TEAM INCREASE**

Clwyd County start the new season with a new determination to raise the standard of table tennis in North Wales. First step has been to double the number of County teams at senior, junior and veteran level in a bold effort to increase the enthusiasm of all players. Regular coaching and training sessions are to be held and all players are to be encouraged to play in more open tournaments.

Last season our senior team finished their County programme as runners-up, the junior side won their division and the veterans did fairly well but Clwyd have a long road to travel before real success can come.

Keith Fitzsimmons is in charge of both senior teams with Dave Murray looking after the junior teams with the assistance of Stuart Conway. Yours truly is in the driving seat for the two veterans' teams.

The cost of running the teams as well as

the intensive coaching and training programmes that are planned are a major headache for the officials concerned. The main source of income being the County Team Supporters' Club, which was formed last season. The full membership is £5 and to be an associate member the charge is only £1. At least £500 is hoped to be raised by the club.

The five leagues in the County all have full programmes and most teams in the North will be involved with Welsh National competitions. Rhyl's John Hook, with Flint's Charlie Potts, Richard Lloyd, Keith Fitzsimmons, Ivor Jones and Wrexham's Phil and Mike Jones, will be hard pushed to keep their senior rankings with the influx of younger players who have shown a marked improvement in their play during summer training.

It is with regret that we in North Wales have accepted the resignation of Len Elias as the captain and coach to our junior squad. Lennie, a young and keen coach, has, for personal reasons, decided to leave us and we can only wish him luck in his new post and say thank you for all his efforts.

Four Rhyl boys represented Wales at the European Youth Championship held in Austria recently. Greg Powell and Gary Jones played in the junior team whilst Alun Williams and Mark Thomas were in the cadet team. May I congratulate them on making the team.

**SHROPSHIRE NOTES**

By Alan Cavell

**QUIET SATISFACTION**

The mood of members at the County A.G.M. was of satisfaction that County activities are prospering at all levels. Over the last year the accounts showed a profit, the strength of the County teams improved, more players qualified as umpires and coaching activities increased. Indications are that the top players in the County are now having too many alternative commitments at weekends and delegates from leagues were asked to consider whether County team players should be excluded from County League matches. It was agreed to alter the County rules to make them comply with all the recommendations of the E.T.T.A. Rules Committee and to reorganise the County club tournament in accordance with the County Management Committee's recommendation. All officers and officials were re-elected, as follows:

President, A. J. Cavell; Chairman, W. E. G. Harris; Vice-Chairman, T. Felton; Secretary, P. K. Parkhurst; Treasurer, Mrs. G. Gee; Inter-League Secretary, M. C. F. Jones; County Competition Secretary, J. A. Burke; Coaching Secretary, P. Jackson; Umpire Secretary, W. E. G. Harris.

The summer coaching programme, arranged by Paddy Jackson, has been enlarged this year—the twelve most promising girls in the County have been formed into a squad and will receive regular coaching at the New College, Telford. Coaching sessions for boys and girls under 12, under 14, under 17 and for senior players will be held at the Sundorne Games Hall, Shrewsbury.

**S.E. MIDLANDS LEAGUE CHATTER**

by Leslie Constable

**NOTABLE OMISSION**

Fourteen teams have entered the Men's Division of the League, with a new team in the shape of Towcester, who will operate in the second division. A similar number have also entered the Junior Divisions and this season should see some excellent play in the League as a whole. One notable omission from the Women's Division is that of Cambridge, who are finding it hard to produce a team that can compete, although they won the title two years ago.

The A.G.M. of the League for season 1977-78, will be held at St. Neots, as will the Annual Tournament on a date to be fixed later.

The 15th A.G.M. of the League was held at

St. Neots, on June 1st, 1976, with Bedford, Daventry, Dunstable, Ely, Hunts Central, Northampton, North Herts, St. Neots and Wellingborough being represented.

Mr. Webb, in his Chairman's report, gave an account of table tennis in Australia, where he had spent six months on holiday. He was now well and fit after a serious operation just prior to his departure.

Mr. Fox reported that North Herts won the Men's Div. 1, Wisbech—Men's Div. 2, North Herts—Junior Div. 1 and Div. 2. Cambridge won the Veteran Division and Daventry the Reserve Division. Fifty-seven teams from 16 leagues took part in the competition during the season.

Owing to high costs and lower entries, a loss was incurred on tournaments.

Mrs. Cornwell had decided to retire from the office of Tournament Secretary, having devoted a tremendous amount of time and work for the League since its formation in 1961. It was hoped her retirement would be only temporary. A vote of thanks was passed to Mrs. Cornwell.

Election of Officers resulted: Chairman—M. H. Webb; Vice-Chairman—R. R. Ingle; Hon. Secretary/Treasurer—H. Fox; Hon. Tournament Secretary—D. Rawlinson; Hon. Press Officer—L. R. J. Constable; Hon. Scorecard Secretary—D. Rawlinson.

The Tournament Committee were re-elected: Chairman, Secretary, Tournament Secretary, Messrs. L. Saywell, R. Harper, J. Jeffs and R. Whiffin.

**TOURNAMENT CHAMPIONS 1976**

- M.S.: G. Davies (Wisbech)
- W.S.: A. Wallis (Wellingborough)
- J.S.: R. Jermyn (North Herts)
- V.S.: G. Cockram (St. Neots)
- M.S. Div. 2—A. Lamprell (St. Neots)
- J.S. Div. 2—T. Pleasance (North Herts)
- M.D.: M. Palmer/B. Jones (Ely)
- W.D.: A. Wallis/M. Wallis (Wellingborough)
- J.D.: Jermyn/G. Harding (North Herts)
- V.D.: Cockram/S. Roberts (St. Neots)
- X.D.: Jermyn/K. Morton (North Herts)
- G.S.: M. Wallis (Wellingborough)
- G.D.: M. Wallis/L. Booth (North Herts)
- J.X.D.: B. Chamberlain (St. Neots/S. Fisher (Hunts Central))

Team Event: Wellingborough.

**SURREY NOTES**

By Ted Simpkin

**CALCULATED GAMBLE**

As foreshadowed in the last contribution of the 1975-76 season, the game in Surrey was due to kick off with the County Closed Championships, in the Sports Hall of Surrey University, and organised largely by the Guildford League. This is somewhat of a gamble, as by the weekend of September 25-26 some local leagues would not even have held their A.G.M's, let alone dusted off their bats, but we are always hopeful in this part of the country!

Arrangements are also in hand to resurrect one of the Inter-League competitions and to introduce a new County Club Invitation Tournament to be run on a knockout basis later in the season.

Bob Pearson, from the Leatherhead and Epsom League, sends cheerful news of a re-birth of interest in his area; not only will the league be larger with five divisions, but, with recent entrants, Graham Spicer T.T.C., and new arrivals, Rosehill, the standard is rising, too. News that Peter Corner has come forward to run the junior team is most encouraging.

Guildford, where the season started on September 20, will field 11 divisions of 12 teams each, and one with 13, the latter necessitating a key of its own in the Association's handbook. The County Management Committee, still chaired by Ron Crayden, is now showing more life, and with encouraging interest from the Redhill League, the administrative outlook appears good.

# ESSEX JUNIOR OPEN 1976

## SPARKLE LACKING

by Geoff Newman

This season's Essex Junior Open attracted a large and varied entry but the overall impression was that the play lacked that little sparkle that has been apparent for the past few years. Top seeds Martin Shuttle and Angela Mitchell duly won the respective U-17 singles events but Shuttle in particular was hard pressed by Keith Paxton before the Durham boy cracked in the run-in. Angela was a comfortable winner in the girls' event but Essex girl Helen Gore did well to take her to a third game in the semis.

In the boys' singles home supporters were bitterly disappointed by the elimination of fancied Dave Newman to Chris Reed, who has often proved a thorn in the side of the Essex player. Home hopes were raised, however, by two fine wins by Stuart Kimm over Richard Jermyn and by Leon Smith over Ian Kenyon. Leon, probably unknown outside Essex, dashed Kenyon's hopes with his big hitting and gave Paxton plenty to think about in the semis. This popular coloured hitter from Silvertown could well knock a few over this season.

Another boy to take the eye was Kent's Joe Kennedy, who has made vast strides during the summer and is probably the most improved of all the juniors. In the Cadet events a thoughtful display by Colin Wilson saw him home well against old adversary Graham Sandley. John Souter also had a good run in this event.

Alison Gordon annexed the Cadet girls' title when she proved a little too experienced for Essex starlet Julie Dowsett. Julie had had a very good tournament with wins over both Mandy Reeves and Helen Williams, a good omen. The U-12 events went to Alan Moore and Sarah Cresswell, with the Surrey girl in particular looking a very mature player for one so young. Clacton's Janice Clark also looks another useful prospect. Results:—

**Boys' Singles—Quarter-finals**  
M. Shuttle (Sy) bt S. Boxall (Sy) 20, 16.



Susan Clark, from Clacton, who, apart from playing, is one of Essex's youngest County Umpires.

Photo by Geoff Newman.

J. Kennedy (Kt) bt C. Reed (Cu) 13, 15.  
K. Paxton (Du) bt S. Kimm (Ex) 16, 15.  
L. Smith (Ex) bt S. Yallop (Dy) 19, 11.

**Semi-finals**  
Shuttle bt Kennedy 11, -16, 12.  
Paxton bt Smith 19, 19.

**Final**  
SHUTTLE bt Paxton 19, -18, 17.

**Girls' Singles—Quarter-finals**  
A. Mitchell (Mx) bt H. Williams (Mx) 11, 16.  
H. Gore (Ex) bt E. Bolton (Kt) 12, 17.  
J. Purslow (Bk) bt S. Jones (St) 19, 16.  
J. New (Do) bt W. Parker (Wi) 13, 8.

**Semi-finals**  
Mitchell bt Gore -24, 10, 11.  
New bt Purslow 21, 16.

**Final**  
MITCHELL bt New 8, 15.

**Boys' Doubles: Semi-finals**  
T. Dowsett/D. Newman (Ex) bt K. Edwards (Wi)/R. Jermyn (He) 17, -16, 15.  
Boxall/Shuttle bt S. Harmer (Bd)/C. Leslie (Bu) 17, -17, 16.

**Final**  
BOXALL/SHUTTLE bt Dowsett/Newman 12, 17.

**Girls Doubles—Semi-finals**  
Parker/M. Smith (Bk) bt J. Douglas (Bk)/ Mitchell 14, 15.

Jones/New bt Gore/M. Wallis (Np) -17, 11, 12.  
**Final**  
JONES/NEW bt Parker/Smith 19, 16.

**Mixed Doubles—Semi-finals**  
I. Kenyon (Kt)/Mitchell bt B. Tyler (Mx)/ Smith 17, 12.

J. Souter/M. Reeves (Mx) bt Newman/Douglas 22, -16, 21.

**Final**  
KENYON/MITCHELL bt Souter/Reeves -18, 14, 20.

### CADET (U-14) EVENTS

**Boys' Singles—Semi-finals**  
C. Wilson (Ha) bt M. Oakley (Sy) 16, 11.  
G. Sandley (Mx) bt Souter -18, 18, 9.

**Final**  
WILSON bt Sandley 14, 11.

**Girls' Singles—Semi-finals**  
A. Gordon (Bk) bt E. Boulton (Kt) 10, 12.  
Dowsett bt Williams 10, -11, 14.

**Final**  
GORDON bt Dowsett 19, 8.

**Boys' Doubles—Semi-finals**  
Sandley/Wilson bt Oakley/G. Russell (Sy) 16, 7.

R. Bergemann (Ha)/Souter bt B. Johnson (Bk)/M. Owers (Hr) 20, 16.

**Final**  
SANDLEY/WILSON bt Bergemann/Souter 17, 19.

**Girls' Doubles—Semi-finals**  
Reeves/Williams bt J. Deakin/L. Fenner (Ch) 17, 19.

S. Cresswell/L. Barbet (Sy) bt Gordon /L. Taylor (Bk) 12, -11, 17.

**Final**  
CRESSWELL/GARBET bt Reeves/Williams 21, -18, 17.

### U-12 EVENTS

**Boys' Singles—Semi-finals**  
A. Moore (Sx) bt A. Dixon (St) 17, 14.  
Russell bt N. Harris (Kt) 20, 14.

**Final**  
MOORE bt Russell 13, 16.

**Girls' Singles—Semi-finals**  
Cresswell bt J. Clark (Ex) 14, 14.  
Y. Hall (Le) bt J. Bellinger (Bd) 9, 16.

**Final**  
CRESSWELL bt Hall 9, 6.

# DOYEN CLEVELAND CHAMPIONSHIPS

By Alan Ransome

## ANOTHER DISPUTE

Denis Neale won the Men's Singles with a disputed point on May 9 in the £500 Doyen Cleveland Championships at Middlesbrough Town Hall, beating his England colleague, Nicky Jarvis, in an exciting final.

The lead constantly changed hands as Neale cleverly moved the ball round the table forcing Jarvis out of position, whilst Jarvis hit some sizzling loop drives which left Neale standing.

Jarvis appeared to have the match sewn up when he led 18-15 in the decider, but Neale won the next four points. Jarvis produced two spectacular spin services which Neale could not return but Neale then saved the match before gaining four match points himself.

A great rally followed the last of these in which Neale claimed Jarvis made a double hit. After a stoppage Jarvis agreed and Neale was the winner.

In the semis Jimmy Walker also came very close to beating Neale when he led 18-15 in the deciding game, but Neale's greater experience pulled him back into the match and he went on to win 21-19.

The Women's Singles was won by Carole Knight, who beat Jane Skipp easily in the final after Jane had beaten Angela Tierney in the semis, but Angela gained her revenge on her way to winning the Girls' Singles.

In the Handicap Singles event, June Williams beat Jane Skipp in the final after Jane had ousted Jarvis, whilst Neale overcame Glen Skipp and Angela Tierney before going out to Stephen Holden.

The Handicap, which was the most popular event in the Championship, attracted almost 100 entries. A new system was used giving every player an even chance of winning but still keeping the game on a 21-up basis.

Jarvis and Walker combined well to win the doubles, beating Neale and Carole Knight in an interesting 3-game final.

Ian Plummer just pipped Michael Laird in the Boys' Singles, but Laird won the Cadet Boys' singles, beating Michael Low, who did well to reach the final. Helen Robinson predictably was the winner of the Cadet Girls' singles. The sponsor, Mr. Des. Davies, of Doyen, was pleased with the exposure that his Company was given from the Championships and has agreed with the County Council joint sponsorship on similar lines for the Cleveland Closed next season.

The trophies, which included two magnificent solid silver cups given by Doyen for the Men's and Women's Singles, and an impressive statue given for the Inter-Borough Trophy by Cleveland County Council, were presented by County Councillor A. McIntosh, Chairman of Cleveland County Council and other Council leaders.

The Inter-Borough Trophy was won by Langbaugh District, whose players included Nicky Jarvis, Robert Wiley, Stephen Souter, Angela Tierney, June Williams and Michael Laird.

## INTERNATIONAL TT. CLUB

by Laurie Landry

As usual, during the summer, the annual elections for the Club committee were held. It was no change for the third year running, but the six nominations for committee members were all accepted by the Officers.

The new set-up will be: Chairman—Les Cohen; Hon. Secretary—Laurie Landry; Hon. Treasurer—Brian Wright, and committee members Len Adams, Derek Burridge, Alec Brook,

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



Ron Crayden, Ralph Gunnion and Phyllis Lauder.

There was also a special sub-committee elected which will decide on the winner of the Geoff Harrower Trophy. It was pleasing that quite a number of nominations were received and it was Les Cohen, Laurie Landry and Len Adams who were finally elected.

Quite a number of enquiries have been received concerning the activities of the International Club and, in fact, during the summer an exhibition afternoon was organised at Manor Place Baths, in London, where the all-London coaching group meets on Saturdays.

The International Club exists to help Table Tennis in any way possible and has some 150 members, all of whom are or have been International players at Senior or Junior levels. Information can be obtained from me at 29 Ravenshaw Street, London, N.W.6.

## In the Coaching Field

by JOHN O'SULLIVAN

During the recent Olympic Games, there were many complaints from the competitors and officials from this country deploring the facilities made available for training.

It was obvious from the shirts many of the athletes were wearing where their training had been done. It is therefore of great interest to all athletes to note the opening, in October, of a "Centre of Sporting Excellence" situated at Leeds, serving Yorkshire and Humberside.

This centre, run in conjunction with the University of Leeds, Polytechnics, Sports Council and local government, will cater for a number of sports but the most interesting as far as we are concerned is Table Tennis.

Applications can be made by both males and females, over 14 years of age, who should attain international standard within 3 years, and live, or could live within one hour's travelling time from Leeds.

It will be staffed by National Coach, Peter Simpson, together with Hans Soova, Steve Worsman and Sylvia Broadbent, Hans being a 3-Star Coach, Steve and Sylvia 2-Star. Training will take place at Leeds Athletic Institute on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 6-30 to 9-30 p.m.

Top athletes require something more than the local sports hall and, at last, the powers that be have recognised this. May Leeds prove the first of many.

There is already in existence the Shell Centre for Table Tennis in the South-East supervised by Peter Hirst. In the Birmingham area there is also a sponsored scheme and, in Bolton, Hawker Siddeley Dynamics (Lostock) have launched a squad of budding aspirants.

As can be seen, table tennis is being taken more seriously by national and local industry, who have shown their faith in the sport by providing both facilities and cash.

You will probably have read in the national press of Brian Burn's resignation. I am sure many people will be sorry to see Brian go. I will certainly miss him. His duties, in the meantime, will be carried out by Peter Simpson.

This will, of course, put extra pressure on Peter but to prevent the North from being neglected because of the double burden, Peter Hirst will be helping out in the Northern area.

We have in hand about six months before the World Championships and what should be a golden opportunity for coaches to study the top players from all over the world which may give them new ideas to assist with their own coaching. This could be the only World Championships many will ever have the chance to see, so do not delay with your ticket applications.

Whilst visiting a tournament at the end of

last season I witnessed a stroke I had not seen before. It was delivered with the edge of the bat aimed at the collar bone just below the right ear. It was referred to as the "Hazelwood chop"!

Its effect was instantaneous and most effective. Anyone wishing to learn more about this stroke should consult Miss Julie McLean, of Hull.

The Junior Assessment Camps and Final Trials have now come to an end with Bryan Merrett looking a shadow of his former self. He had been working non-stop for many weeks on the organisation and write-ups culminating in the new Junior Rankings.

In the recent past I have visited a number of junior trials and, to me, it is becoming evident that the gap between the top juniors and the hopefuls has now narrowed to a point when a top player having a slightly off day can lose to quite a number of the lesser lights.

This situation has, I hope, come about not only because of improved coaching techniques but that more juniors are receiving coaching at the vital beginners stage.

## Salford Super League

by Brian Kean

Run along similar lines to the "Sunday Times" Super League, Salford/Eccles, thanks to Graham Compton—the new Lancashire County Match Secretary—and his committee attracted the top players in the North West to Littleton Road to compete in a summer competition.

Halax provided the balls, Mapsport the tables and Attack Sports the shirts, such sponsorship considerably reducing the financial burden placed on the shoulders of the Salford Eccles and District T.T. League.

The championship was decided on the total number of sets won which, of course, made every set vital. Six teams competed and the fact that 8 of the 15 matches played over 5 nights in June, July and August, finished 5-4 highlights the even balance of the teams in contention.

Nigel Eckersley's was the team to succeed by 5 sets on that of Roger Hampson. Eckersley's team had a significant 9-0 win over Denis Neale's team who, on the night, were without Denis and Paul Tsang, who were away on holiday.

Other than Neale's faultless performance in remaining unbeaten, for which he received a tankard, that of Scottish international John McNee, who only lost twice, is worthy of mention. He lost only to Neale and a disappointing David Constance.

Although the competition was an overwhelming success from a playing viewpoint, there was little return from that of the organisers except, perhaps, to stimulate interest in local pastures. I was surprised to see a complete lack of interest from officials of Lancashire and Cheshire and of the larger local leagues.

### FINAL PLACINGS

	P	W	F	A	Pts
N. Eckersley	5	4	31	14	31
R. Hampson	5	5	26	19	26
P. Bowen	5	3	25	20	25
N. Hallows	5	1	18	27	18
J. Hilton	5	1	18	27	18
D. Neale	5	0	17	28	17

### Leading Individual Records

	P	W	I
D. Neale	12	12	0
J. McNee	15	13	2
N. Eckersley*	15	12	3
J. Hilton	15	11	4
R. Hampson	15	11	4
B. Johns	15	11	4
D. Schofield*	15	10	5
P. Bowen	12	8	4

J. Marshall*	15	9	6
B. Kean	15	8	7
N. Hallows	15	5	10
C. Heap	12	4	8
P. Tsang	9	3	6
C. Benson	9	3	6

\* Winning team.

## LONDON BUSINESS HOUSES

### AMATEUR SPORTS ASSOC.

by FRANK CLAY

Inflation has claimed another victim. The L.B.H.A.S.A. is regretfully having to terminate its activities, due largely to the terrific increase in the rental of office premises in London.

The Association was formed in 1896, and eventually, through its 10 sports sections, catered for the sporting activities of 150 affiliated clubs. In fact, through its Table Tennis Section, the Association was a founder member of the E.T.T.A.

However, all is not lost. At its A.G.M. in May, the Table Tennis Section of the L.B.H.A.S.A., unanimously agreed the proposal that table tennis should continue, and that in future the section should be known as the London Business Houses' Table Tennis League.

The first President of the League will be A. E. H. Clewer, a name well known to many older table tennis enthusiasts, with L. T. C. Bulport and Stuart Dane as the Vice-Presidents, Charles Shepherd and Frank Clay will be Chairman and Vice-Chairman respectively, roles that they have fulfilled in the old Association for many years, whilst the Hon. Secretary will be Mrs. Iris Sothern.

The A.G.M. was also significant for another happening. Leslie Bulport regretfully decided to "call it a day" after 25 years' unbroken service as Hon. Sec. of the Table Tennis Section both as a player and an official, being a Vice-President of the L.B.H.A.S.A., an official of the now defunct London Table Tennis Federation, a member of the Referees' Committee of the English Open Championships for many years, and the Hon. Referee of numerous Open and Closed tournaments in the South of England.

A suitable presentation was made to him as a token of appreciation for his services, and in his reply Leslie stressed that Table Tennis had brought him a wealth of happiness and many good friends and that he would still keep in the game through the London Business Houses' Table Tennis League.

The Hon. Secretary of the League is Mrs. I. M. Sothern, c/o McKenna & Co., Solicitors, 12 Whitehall, London, SW1A 2DZ, and Iris will be very pleased to hear from any clubs who wish to join the League and fulfill the qualifications of a London Business House. Like the legendary Phoenix, the London Business Houses' Table Tennis League has indeed risen again from the ashes.

## INTERNATIONAL SQUAD

The English Table Tennis Association's International Squad are to give an exhibition at the William Thompson Recreation Centre, Burnley, on Friday, October 22, at 7-30 p.m. Tickets, priced at £1 (Under-16 and O.A.P.'s 50p) can be had from B. Ingham, 24 Raglan Road, Burnley, Lancashire.

### IT'S WONDERFUL

—We're in a whirl  
Announcing we've a baby girl.

To Ken and Karenza Mathews, a daughter, Julia Emma Karenza, on July 12, 1976—weight 6 lbs. 0 ozs.

## MIDDLESEX NOTES

By Don Kenny

### REMARKABLE SURVIVAL

For a County that does not actually exist, Middlesex are surviving remarkably well. Faced, as are most other organisations, with ever-increasing costs, Dave Groombridge has been appointed to act as Promotions Officer to try and get a few, money-making if possible, social events moving. A hundred club has been started and the Finance Committee given fairly urgent instructions to examine the ha'pennies.

Sales of "T.T. News" may well be lessened with the loss of its most energetic salesman. Lou Hoffman, familiar face and voice at the tournaments, feels that he must have a rest for a while. Warm words of appreciation for his past efforts were expressed at the recent A.G.M.

Following a most successful Inter-County season last year, Ken Mathews also takes his departure from the scene with thanks. No less success is anticipated this year and the addition of a team of Veterans should give the other oldsters a spot of competition.

The Middlesex "Open" will again be at Pickett's Lock, December 4-5, although the venue of the Junior events is changed to Ruislip Sports Centre.

Members of the well-known Ellenborough club have been working hard during the summer months, not so much to keep fit for the coming season as to have a headquarters for it. Although assisted with various grants, much of the cash for their brand new building has had to be raised by their own efforts. The end result should be a great new hall with all mod cons on the site of their old, somewhat ramshackle hut and a renewed enthusiasm on the part of their members. The County have made a contribution to the funds and will, it is hoped, stage some future County matches there. There can be no doubt that the place will make a very nice addition to Table Tennis facilities in the North Middlesex area and will enable a great deal of coaching to take place which should produce even more promising youngsters.

## ST. IVO SPORTS FESTIVAL

by David Deller

The second anniversary of St. Ivo Recreation Centre (Cambs) from September 1-8, brought a week long sports festival which included a full programme of table tennis. In all, over 60 hours, around 400 players and over 650 matches contributed to the programme.

First event on the opening evening was the St. Ivo Inter-Club junior tournament, in which nine teams competed. Each team played in an opening group of three and comprised 2 boys and 2 girls. The winners of each group then contested the final section.

The three group winners were Braughing (Herts), St. Ives (Hunts) and Rothborough (Northants). The home club proved successful by narrowly overcoming Braughing (R. Williams, A. Smith, J. Glazebrook and C. Webster) 3-2 and Rothborough 3-1. The St. Ives team was Steven Fisher, Mark Fisher, Melanie Ringrose and Julie Cundell, Mark being unbeaten.

Throughout the week matches were played in the Baldry's tournament (sponsored by Jack Baldry, of Cambridge). Over 150 entries were received for this individual competition.

Alan Lamprell (St. Neots) reversed his County Championships defeat by overhauling Tim Speller (St. Ives) in the final. Losing semi-finalists were Mark Fisher and Ken Green. Other awards in the competition were: Top women—Melanie Ringrose; Top junior—Mark Fisher; Top Non-League Player—Tony Abbot, with a special award going to

Derek Smith. British Athletics captain, Alan Pascoe, presented the prizes.

The senior inter-club tournament had nine clubs competing with a good Letchworth side winning the trophy. In the final group they beat Soham 3-1 and Milton Keynes 4-0. Letchworth were represented by R. Jermyn, M. Harper, S. Felstead and S. Harper and, for Soham, K. Richardson, M. Palmer, J. Palmer and P. Everitt.

Although table tennis took a big part in the festival other sports were well represented with star names such as Brian Close (cricket), Malcolm Macdonald, Don Masson and Bob Wilson (football), Gillian Gilks (badminton), Dave "Boy" Green (boxing), not forgetting Joe Loss and his Band who supplied the music for the closing night dance. I am sure that this town's smallest population of around 10,000 must have swelled somewhat during the anniversary festival.

## 1st FYLDE I-STAR OPEN

DOUGLAS ON TARGET

by Geo. R. Yates

Hot favourite Desmond Douglas won the men's singles title in the 1st Fylde 1-Star Open played at Ansdell County Secondary School, Lytham, on Sunday, September 12, but not at the expense of Denis Neale, who was ousted by Lancashire's Donald Parker.

Parker staged a storming recovery after being hit off in the opening game of the final encounter but after equating the set score, was not equal to maintaining the pressure in the final.

Another Lancastrian to hit the high spots was Stephen Cowley who, in the first round of the boys' singles, struck out the top seed, Chris Reed, of Cumbria. It was Ian Reed, the younger brother of Chris, who eventually captured the title at the final expense of Lancashire's Steve Turner, Cowley's conqueror.

Anita Stevenson and Stephanie Jones swept all before them in the female singles events in what turned out to be a first-rate tournament played under ideal conditions with, possibly, the best lighting to be found in any sports hall. Prize money exceeded £300—some effort for a 1-Star affair—thanks to Ken Westmoreland and Bob Wood, not to mention the after-finals supper laid on by John and Irene Farrer. Great show Blackpool and District.

Results:

**Men's Singles—Quarter-finals**

D. Neale (Cle) bt N. Eckersley (Ches) 19, 12.  
D. Parker (Lancs) bt A. Hydes (Yks) 15, -16, 9.

J. Hilton (Ches) bt I. Warner (Staffs) 13, 24.  
D. Douglas (Wks) bt A. Fletcher (Yks) 14, 12.

**Semi-finals**

Parker bt Neale 19, -10, 15.

Douglas bt Hilton 11, 9.

**Final**

DOUGLAS bt Parker 7, -19, 15.

**Women's Singles—Quarter-finals**

A. Stevenson (Leics) bt M. Turner (Ches) 5, 11.

S. Jones (Staffs) bt G. Smith (Cum) 15, 12.  
D. Schofield (Ches) bt A. Lloyd (Wks) 11, 14.

D. Johnson (Lancs) bt I. Farrer (Lancs) 16, 11.

**Semi-finals**

Stevenson bt Jones -19, 12, 9.

Johnson bt Schofield -18, 9, 14.

**Final**

STEVENSON bt Johnson 11, 18.

**Men's Doubles—Semi-finals**

Douglas/Fletcher bt Eckersley/B. Johns (Ches) -17, 19, 18.

P. Bowen (Lancs)/Hilton bt Hydes/Parker 15, 16.

**Final**

DOUGLAS/FLETCHER bt Bowen/Hilton 19, -15, 16.

**NO WOMEN'S DOUBLES EVENT.**

**Mixed Doubles—Semi-finals**

Parker/Stevenson bt D. Schofield (Ches)/

Johnson 15, 15.

Douglas/Jones bt R. Hampson (Ches)/Schofield 13, 19.

**Final**

PARKER/STEVENSON bt Douglas/Jones 28, 17.

**Boys' Singles—Quarter-finals**

S. Cowley (Lancs) bt E. Wilkes (Staffs) 4, 16.

S. Turner (Lancs) bt K. Godfrey (Lancs) 8, 7.

D. Gray (Cum) bt R. Weatherby (Ches) 15, -19, 12.

I. Reed (Cum) bt B. Carney (Lancs) -13, 18, 11.

**Semi-finals**

Turner bt Cowley -18, 19, 12.

Reed bt Gray -15, 15, 13.

**Final**

REED bt Turner -17, 18, 16.

**Girls' Singles—Semi-finals**

Jones bt A. Cornwell (Lancs) 12, 9.

Smith bt B. Gray (Cum) 15, 12.

**Final**

JONES bt Smith 15, 16.

**Veteran Singles—Semi-finals**

Schofield bt W. Harris (Lancs) 19, 12.

M. Tew (Ches) bt D. Hill (Lancs) 18, 22.

**Final**

SCHOFIELD bt Tew 21, 16.

## LANGBAURGH T.T. CHAMPIONSHIPS

by ALAN RANSOME

TRIPLE CROWN

Ormsby's Angela Tierney produced her best-ever table tennis to win a triple crown in the Langbaugh Championships at Guisborough on September 11, highlighted by a shock victory over Carole Knight in the women's singles final. In addition to taking her first senior singles title, Angela won the junior girls' singles and the handicap event.

At the half-way stage in the final of the women's singles competition, Miss Knight held complete command and appeared to have the title sewn up. She led by a game and 10-5 in the second but just for a moment Carole allowed her concentration to relax and paid the penalty.

Angela, who is 15, took full advantage of her chance and went on to win 21-11, taking 16 of the remaining 17 points! Once on top, Angela refused to let go and went on to be a decisive champion, winning 21-11 in the decider.

In her other two finals Angela never looked in trouble. She beat Jane Skipp comfortably in the junior girls' final and in the final of the handicap she showed her adaptability against Stockton's defensive veteran, Alan Williams, again winning decisively.

Nicky Jarvis won the men's singles beating Jimmy Walker in three in an entertaining final. Jarvis beat giantkiller Andrew Kilburn in the semis, although Kilburn put up a spirited display and did well considering the wide gap in standards. Kilburn ousted Tony Martin and Robert Wiley to reach the semi-final. Jimmy Walker dropped a game in the other semi against Stephen Souter but was an easy winner in the deciding game once he had established a lead.

The junior boys' singles was won by Ian Plummer who beat Paul Hindle in a good final. Hindle did well to overcome Michael Laird in the semi-final, winning 22-20 in the decider.

The top seeds, Jarvis and Walker, won the doubles event beating Martin and Malcolm Corking in another good final. Martin and Corking defeated Souter and Wiley in their semi-final.

Entries doubled last year's and the championships were sponsored by Langbaugh Council's Recreation and Amenities Department. The prizes and awards were presented by the Mayor of Langbaugh, Councillor J. S. Dyball. The prize money for the championships totalled £250 of which Nicky Jarvis and Angela Tierney took the lion's share, winning £60 each.

# Impact 'Ascot Butterfly' Under-14 Team Competition

by ALAN DINES

Once again invited teams from all over England assembled in Reading on June 19 to battle for the championship titles of this annual competition sponsored by Ascot Sports (Sussex) Limited and organised by I.M.P.A.C.T. (Institute of Match Play and Coaching Technics). This year the main honours went to Reading's girls and Plymouth's boys who were the winners of their events.

In the girls' event Reading were clear-cut winners for the third year running, with the strong, all-round team of Alison Gordon, Jill Purslow, Lesley Taylor and Alison Burke. Their championship success was secured by beating Barking 8-0, Newbury 6-2, Plymouth 'B' 8-0, Swindon 6-2 and Guildford 8-0. Reading have three of this team still in the under-14 age group next year and with a good supply of rising stars aim to make it 4 successes in a row. Second place in the girls' event went to Guildford, represented by Sarah Cresswell, Kerry Merritt, Michele Bland and Karen Gosling, who beat Plymouth 'A' 5-3, Reading 'B' 7-1, Newbury 5-3, drew with Swindon 4-4, and lost to Reading 0-8. The Swindon girls, Claire Maisey, Pauline Townsend, Debra Smith and Joanne Gardner, were equal on match results with Guildford, with whom they drew 4-4, but the 8-10 games ratio was not in their favour and they had to be content with third place. Newbury achieved fourth place with a 100% record from Mandy Smith and useful backing from G. Heath, K. McKenzie and J. Richardson.

Plymouth boys were convincing winners of their event and their team of P. Whiting, G. Hodges, M. Hodges, C. Bunch and G. Wiltshire beat Newbury 8-0, Coventry 7-1, Barking 7-1, Maidenhead 7-1, Wolverhampton 6-2, Guildford 6-2 and Acton 6-2. This team's impressive performance justified the efforts in Plymouth to develop junior table tennis and is an example to all those other "not conveniently situated" towns who use their location as a reason why they could not do well and consequently make little or no effort. Congratulations, Plymouth, on your success and proving that success is possible.

Second place went to Guildford, represented by S. Woodgate, M. Oakley, S. Baggott and D. Oakley with wins against Acton 8-0, Reading

8-0, Derby 7-1, Coventry 7-1, Maidenhead 6-2, a 4-4 draw against Wolverhampton and a 2-6 loss against Plymouth. The battle for the next three places was very fierce and the results very close. The Maidenhead team of D. Gloster, M. Bartholomew, N. Simpson, R. Metcalf managed to secure third place. The Acton team: M. Les, D. Pilling, D. Than and R. Les, tied on final group match points with Wolverhampton: A. Bellingham, P. Patel, P. Dawes and A. Dixon, but the 5-3 win by Acton gave them fourth position.

Final positions were:—

## GIRLS

1—Reading, 2—Guildford, 3—Swindon, 4—Newbury, 5—Plymouth, 6—Reading 'B', 7—Barking, 8—Plymouth 'B'.

## BOYS

1—Plymouth, 2—Guildford, 3—Maidenhead, 4—Acton, 5—Wolverhampton, 6—Coventry, 7—Wembley & Harrow, 8—Derby, 9—Barking, 10—Cheltenham, 11—Reading, 12—Newbury.

This competition is part of the I.M.P.A.C.T. range of tournaments and competitions and has the specific objective of encouraging in-depth development at town level of players under the age of 14. This competition has proved very popular and successful and will be repeated again next year.

Each player obtained a valuable day's table tennis with all teams playing at least five matches and some playing seven. Teams consisted of 4 players in a match with the first and second pairs playing the opposing pairs for a total of 8 singles. Each team played in a preliminary group of 4 to determine the top 2 teams who went into final groups of 6 for the boys and 4 for the girls.

When the final shots had been played the presentations were made by Judy Sharp, from Ascot Sports. All the competitors and team managers received pennants and the first and second teams in boys' and girls' events were presented with equipment prizes. Referee for the competition was John Freeman. The organisers, Alan Dines and Brian Halliday, would be pleased to hear from anyone interested in next year's competition.



Reading Girls' Team (from l to r): Judy Sharp (Ascot Sports), Alison Gordon, Jill Purslow, Lesley Taylor and Alison Burke.

## At the A.G.M.

At the A.G.M. of the E.T.T.A., held at the Imperial, London, in July, the E.T.T.A. Treasurer, Tom Blunn (Chairman, Life Members and Vice-Presidents' Committee) proposed, on behalf of the National Council, one new Hon. Life Member, Mr. A. J. H. "Tony" Wickens. Tony had served Buckinghamshire in numerous capacities for many years past and had given invaluable legal advice to the Association for some 15 years. He was also well known as a member of various standing committees. This proposal was carried with acclaim and Tony acknowledged the presentation suitably.

Having completed his three-year term of office as President of the E.T.T.A., it was proposed by Tom Blunn and seconded by the Association Chairman, Charles Wyles, that Maurice Goldstein be re-elected for a further term of office. Maurice was thanked for his support and advice over the past three years. He had carried out his duties in an absolutely first-class manner and his wife, Gladys, had supported him nobly.

Tom Blunn then proposed, on behalf of the National Council, that Mrs. A. K. Nora Vint, \*Mr. Frank Newell, Mr. A. Gordon Steggall, Mr. Derek Tyler and Mr. E. "Bill" Worsley be elected Vice-Presidents.

\*It is with sorrow that we have to report the death of Frank Charles Newell at the Nuffield Nursing Home on September 9th, 1976. Table tennis had been his life and in a letter from his son, Mr. J. A. Newell, the information was passed that his father was deeply moved when he was honoured by being made a Vice-President of the E.T.T.A. Frank had been ill with cancer for some time and his death, though deeply mourned, was not unexpected.

The Ivor Montagu Award was presented to Alan Ransome, of Cleveland, for his work in table tennis—particularly among younger people. Mr. Goldstein presented the Malcolm Scott Award to Charles Wyles, remarking on the Chairman's long service to the game and the indebtedness of all members. Both awards were greeted with acclaim.

## HUMBERSIDE 3-STAR OPEN

The 42nd Humberside 3-Star Open, organised by the Hull and District T.T. Association, will this season receive sponsorship from the Humberside County Leisure Services Committee and Dunlop Sports Company.

Prize money amounts to £520 with £120 going to the winner of the men's singles and £60 to the Women's singles winner. The tournament will be played over the weekend of October 23-24, at the Y.P.I. Ferens Recreation Centre, Chanterlands Avenue North, Hull. Play will begin at 9-30 a.m. each day with the finals scheduled for 6-30 p.m. on the Sunday.

The sponsorship by the Humberside County Leisure Services Committee is particularly appreciated in a season which is the 50th in the history of the Hull and District Association.

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# 34TH WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

## BIGGEST CHALLENGE OF ALL

On 26th March, 1977, one of the biggest events in the international sporting calendar swings into action when the English Table Tennis Association presents the 34th World Table Tennis Championships in Birmingham.

More than 70 nations will be competing for the world's top table tennis honours—a far cry from the first-ever World Table Tennis Championships which were held in London, in 1926. Then just seven countries took part—England, Austria, Czechoslovakia, Germany, Hungary, India and Wales.

Table tennis is just one of the sports that England has given to the world and 50 years later the compliment will be returned when the championships are staged in one of the giant halls at the National Exhibition Centre.

With assistance from major sponsors, including the Sports Council, Norwich Union Insurance Company, National Westminster Bank, and many others, the E.T.T.A. have taken on the tremendous task of organising this mammoth event.

Championship Director, Mike Lawless, has the unenviable job of looking after the interests of not only the competing nations but also spectators, the media and many other interested parties.

A huge effort awaits the organisers and the army of helpers in Birmingham. But for many of them it will be a labour of love as they become part of the largest single sport event ever held. For many of the officials it will be the highlight of their entire careers in table tennis administration.

The scale of the operation is enormous. Thousands of players, officials and fans will converge on Birmingham for the Championships, which will be concluded on 5th April, with the individual finals. All competitors will be housed at the University of Birmingham, where 1,400 beds have been provisionally reserved. And a fleet of coaches will maintain a service between the National Exhibition Centre each day, and the University.

The venue for the Championships is Hall 5 of the £50-million exhibition Centre. This hall has an area of nearly 25,000 sq. metres, equivalent of five soccer pitches side by side. In this shell will be built two arenas with seating for nearly 10,000 spectators together with administration offices, players' and officials' lounges, a press and television area, and all the other facilities required to accommodate the army of people who will be drawn from all corners of the world by this magnetic spectacle.

Also linked to the championships will be the first public sport and leisure exhibition ever to be staged at the N.E.C. For nine hectic days Hall 5 will be the focal point of the sporting world and "Sportacus '77" will feature the Championships as its centre piece. It will also provide a first class opportunity for manufacturers and suppliers to display their products and services to the general public. And more than 13,000 enthusiasts are expected to visit the exhibition each day.

It is, of course, expected that the reigning world champions will be defending their titles in Birmingham. The People's Republic of China are without a doubt the greatest table tennis nation, with a depth and strength unequalled by any other country. They are the holders of the World Team Championships, the Swaythling and Corbillon Cups for men

and women respectively and are bound to start favourites for the international team competitions which precede the individual events between 26 and 30 March. The players then have a full day's rest before the greatest examination of all, the world individual championships.

Istvan Jonyer (Hungary) is the reigning men's champion of the world and Pak Yong Sun (Korea DPR) is the global women's champion. But six years ago Sweden's Stellan Bengtsson won the world singles title and oriental teams will not have everything their own way. The player on whom the most fervent patriotic hopes will fall is sure to be European Champion, Jill Hammersley, and Birmingham could be her chance to win the greatest prize of all.

But whether an English player, an oriental or a European eventually reigns supreme, the 34th World Table Tennis Championships

promise to be a sporting spectacular such has not been seen in this country since the 1966 World Cup. As promoters of the championship for the International Table Tennis Federation, the E.T.T.A. has accepted the biggest challenge of all.

Public interest in the 34th World Table Tennis Championships is beginning to awaken.

The demand for tickets is already beginning to hot up and sales for the days of the finals and semi-finals are already very short.

The table tennis world are still being afforded exclusivity in ticket sales but this is a situation which will shortly come to an end.

Table tennis fans must order tickets now to be sure of a seat at this international spectacular. Once the order book is open to the general public there will be no guarantee for seating for anyone.

Send your order form and remittance as soon as possible to Mr. Maurice Goldstein, 13 Blenheim Road, Moseley, Birmingham B17.

## EQUIPMENT FILLIP

The equipment to be used at the National Exhibition Centre for the 34th World Championships will be provided by Stiga AB, the Swedish firm whose tables, nets and posts have been adopted.

The ball to be used will be provided by Halex Table Tennis Ltd., the main commercial sponsors being the Norwich Union Insurance Group.

# 34TH WORLD TABLE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS

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TEAM EVENTS—26th-30th March—Starting Time 9-00 a.m.

Saturday, March 26th—Opening Ceremony & Team Events	£2/£3
Sunday, March 27th—Team Events	£2/£3
Monday, March 28th—Team Events	£2/£3
Tuesday, March 29th—Team Events Closing Stages	£4/£5
Wed, March 30th—Team Events Closing Stages & Finals	£4/£5
Thursday, March 31st	NO PLAY

Tickets

INDIVIDUAL EVENTS—1st-5th April

Friday, April 1st—Individual Events	£2/£3
Saturday, April 2nd—Individual Events	£2/£3
Sunday, April 3rd—Individual Events	£2/£3
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Tuesday, April 5th—Individual Events, Closing Stages & Finals	£4/£5

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Sub-Committee Chairmen:

M. Goldstein (Local and Venue)  
K. Watts (Finance)  
S. T. Lenton (Promotion and Publicity)  
C. J. Clemett (Technical)  
G. M. Daniels (Administration)

Referee: J. M. Wright

At the 1975 Biennial General Meeting of the International Table Tennis Federation (ITTF) in Calcutta, it was agreed that the English Table Tennis Association should stage the 34th World Table Tennis Championships in England in 1977. It is particularly appropriate that the season 1976-77 marks the 50th Anniversary of the foundation of the ITTF and of the holding, in England, of the first-ever World Table Tennis Championships.

# The Sixth International Junior Team Tournament

AT WOLFHAGEN,

WEST GERMANY — 23-24 July, 1976

by Alan Shepherd

Back in the good old days of 1970, when I was able to beat Andy Barden (don't laugh, our 11-year-olds are pretty good in the North Middlesex League!) I took an assorted bunch of young hooligans from Essex and Middlesex for four riotous days in Hamburg during which "Sam" Coster, Brian Petch, Melvyn Waldman and I acted as team captains, while Ian Horsham, Micky Read and Bob Hellaby carried off the Trophy in the big Team Tournament we had entered.

This year we decided to take the Trophy back to Germany and while we were there play in another Tournament, under the North Middlesex League banner. All arrangements having been made, the following party set out from Victoria Coach Station late on Saturday night: Sylvia Tyler and Alan Shepherd (Team Captains), David Wells, Bryn Tyler, Susan Dove and Jill Campion (Team Players). Hopefully we would collect Angela Mitchell and Graham Sandley off a train from Vienna on the following Monday, they having been taking part in the European Youth Championships.

So off we went on a National coach which would take us via Folkestone and Ostend to Frankfurt. At Folkestone we joined up with a Kent team whose entry had unaccountably also been accepted by the Germans. This consisted of Ian Kenyon, Vince O'Brien, Joey Kennedy, Gary Pugh, Carol Colegate, Gillian Ballard, Elaine Bolton and Mr. and Mrs. Frank Ballard. Following the merger of the two parties the cross-channel ferry was forced to entertain the whole bunch of us. Despite this the crossing was fairly uneventful.

We arrived at Frankfurt on Sunday afternoon and said goodbye to our Kentish friends. We were to meet up again on the following Friday at the tournament but meanwhile would be staying in different parts of Germany. Our hosts were at Karlshafen, a beautiful little spa town, near Kassel. Getting there now involved us in a two-hour train journey, and by the time we arrived we had been travelling for 24 hours!!

At Kassel railway station we were met by Bernd Schindewolf, Secretary of the local club, and another committee member, Gerhard Mantel, two very wonderful people with whom a close friendship was to grow over the next

all too few days. They drove us to Karlshafen, taking us directly to the Town Hall for a civic reception. Much needed food and drink was liberally available and the Burgermeister welcomed us officially. Our arrival in the town was obviously hot news because a reporter turned up from the local newspaper and took photographs of the gathering. Jill Campion (the most highly educated member of the squad) said that the building we were in was called the Rathaus, but I cannot really believe that!

## TO BED

After the reception we thankfully found our "billets" and got to bed for the first time since Friday. The boys were with members of the local club, the rest of us in guest houses. After typically German breakfasts of rolls and coffee (the highlight of the week—a hard-boiled egg—was to come a few days later), we assembled at the Karlshafen Sports Hall for a practice session. Considering that this was a tiny little town of some 4000 inhabitants the presence of a well-equipped hall about the size of Picketts Lock, was quite remarkable.

That afternoon the entire party, plus the complete personnel of the Town Club, enjoyed themselves at the Swimming Pool which while not Olympic sized, appeared to have no shallow end, so I kept well away from the more boisterous members of our party (like Sue Dove).

After the swimming Bernd took Sylvia and I into Gottingen to collect Angela and Graham. Although tired after his long journey from Vienna, Graham still managed to burble cheerfully for most of the return journey. We went straight to the Karlshafen Club H.Q., the Gasthaus "Hessischer Hof" otherwise known as the local boozier. Incidentally we had, prior to the acquisition of Graham, spent hours thumbing through Jill's phrasebook looking for "I have lost my bat/passport/contact lenses/traveller's cheques/luggage", etc. More of this later. That night Gerhard—the Lloyd Lewis of Karlshafen—was a riot. His capacity is in the region of 20-30 beers an evening and he has the girth to prove it. Our people did not do too badly, but as they were in training I made them stop at 10 each. Bernd told us that he and Gerhard were members of the town

"Stammtisch". This is a group of 13 sportsmen who meet every Sunday morning at this Gasthaus and discuss a variety of sporting topics. It is a regulation of the Stammtisch that each member must also drink 13 glasses of beer during the meeting!

Tuesday morning saw us all practising intensively. I gave a rather good impression (I thought), of Marie-France Germinat against Angela, who was very worried that she might turn up among the Belgians. Lunch was the same every day, due to our financial plight—ocmmes frites plus Fanta—and that cost about 60p. The afternoon was spent on the River Weser. Our hosts drove us to the ancient town of Hannmunden, from where we returned on the riverboat, a four-hour journey. That night we were entertained at Club H.Q. to a marvellous meal, plenty of beer, and great jollity all round.

## BIG MATCH

Wednesday was to be the day of the Big Match, Karlshafen v London. The town was plastered with posters announcing that our team would include superstars of the European Championships. There was much stern work to be done before the evening, however. First there was a challenge match between Bernd and myself for 5 beers. At 19-16 to Bernd in the third I had visions of borrowing some money from Graham to pay for the beers, but fortunately a series of sweat serves and other bits of luck helped me to win. Before the match that evening all of us were entertained to a beautiful meal in the homes of club members, which was a lovely gesture. A large crowd saw us take on the town team (unbeaten for 2 years) but the expertise of Angela and Co. saw us home by 11-0!!

Thursday was spent in practising, shopping and packing, before ending in a party to end all parties at the home of Gerhard. It is hard to describe the spirit of friendship that had grown up between our two parties during this brief few days. The Karlshafen boys had become very attached to Sue, Jill and Angela, and were very upset that we had to go. Bernd, Gerhard, Sylvia and I became close friends, despite the language barrier (none of us spoke other than pidgin versions of the other's tongue) and we just had to decide on inviting

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the entire Karlshafen Club over to England next August. Now all we have to do is make the arrangements!

So at last we came to the tournament we thought was the main purpose of our journey, but so happy were we in Karlshafen with our new sporting friends that it was with very mixed feelings that we took our leave. The tournament was held at Wolfhagen, about 50 miles away, and off we went. After an incredible series of identical speeches of welcome to the teams from England, Germany, Austria, Holland, Belgium, Switzerland, Denmark, Sweden and Bulgaria, things got under way and our girls were at once locked in contest with a very muscular team of young women from far off Bulgaria. Angela was too good for her opponents but Jill could not get it together and it was left to Sue at 4-4 to see us through.

This was just the first match in a 6-team group, with only group winners figuring in the Final Pool, so we could not afford to slip up anywhere. Match 2 was an easy one, 5-0 against Berlin, and nearly all single figure scores. Wurttemberg proved slightly more difficult, Jill and Sue each losing one in a 5-2 victory. This one concluded the day's action for the girls, who had two more matches on the following day.

### SEPARATE HALL

So over to the boys in a separate hall. They kicked off against Schleswig-Holstein, oddly enough the team Essex had beaten in the 1970 Final at Hamburg. They were certainly only a shadow of that powerful side as our lads eased home 5-1. The loss was a typical Sandley affair. He had played well against Per Holm and at 19-19 in the third won a brilliant rally to reach set point. He then concentrated mightily and served into the net! Another tremendous rally this time saw Holm reach set point. More extreme concentration and Graham then served into the net. Looking only slightly puzzled Graham came off to announce, "I can't do that serve!"

Our second match was against Bayern which I believe was a team representing the whole of Bavaria. They were obviously a powerful squad and appeared to be easily as good as Nolten, Peters and Schiermeister, the German national team. Our boys fought really hard but the necessary good fortune was not with us. Bryn lost -19, -20 to Schneider and David lost -19, 10, -22 to Voigt. So it was 5-0 to Bayern and our only hope was that now Denmark would beat Bayern and we could then beat Denmark. As it happened Denmark—virtually a National side, and a very fine one at that—lost 4-5 after being 4-2 up, while we kept in the running by beating Hessen II 5-3.

The next morning was rather an anti-climax as Denmark, fielding a reserve, beat us 5-2. One felt sorry for them as they were so clearly the second strongest side among the boys, yet were eliminated by virtue of not winning their group. We felt sorry for ourselves because we had to play both Bayern and Denmark in our group.

Our friends from Kent meanwhile had mixed fortunes. Their girls found themselves in a very tough group and had suffered 5-0 defeats at the hands of Hessen I and Bayern. Against this they had beaten Belgium (no Germiat here!) by 5-1 and North West Switzerland by 5-4, losing by the same score to Wurttemberg I. So Kent girls joined our boys in the ranks of the spectators. Not so the Kent boys. They were shocked in their opening match by an Austrian team, to whom they lost 4-5, but thereafter had easy wins by 5-1 over Hamburg, 5-2 over Wurttemberg and 5-1 over North West Switzerland.

### PROGRESS

In the Girls' Hall, Angela and company were continuing their triumphant progress and they clinched a place in the Final Pool by defeating Vienna 5-3 and Hamburg 5-1. To this point Angela had 13 wins out of 13, Sue 8 out of 11 and Jill, who was struggling, 4 out of 11.

The Boys' semi-finals saw Kenyon, Kennedy and O'Brien come through very creditably against W.T.T.V. (who were, to be fair, minus

all their international stars) while Bayern smoothly saw off the challenge of Hessen. In the final Bayern showed their undoubted class by repelling the Kent challenge 5-0. So at least we had done as well as them!

Our girls now had to contest their Final Pool against W.T.T.V. and Bayern. The former included internationals Seidler and Lehr. Sue Dove had perhaps a career-best victory over Seidler -16, 19, 19, while Angela only just beat the same girl -19, 18, 23. The long-playing schedule on top of her European Tournament at last seemed to be catching up with Angela because she now lost her first set of the week to Lehr 18, -13, -15. Sue took Lehr all the way, losing 20, -13, -13. Jill found the opposition a bit too hot and we went down 3-5. Against Bayern we trailed 1-3 and Angela just kept us alive by improbably beating a girl called Dill -19, 13, 19.

Sue lost the next one but then a very tired Angela slumped -13, -18 to Sedlmayr and the match was over, 5-2 to Bayern. As Bayern also beat W.T.T.V., they achieved the grand slam of winning both Boys' and Girls' events.

The day ended with a Grand Party/Disco at which Cups were presented to all sorts of people. Obviously Bayern received the two Champions Cups but Kent took a Cup for being runners-up and our girls one for being third. Ian Kenyon and Angela Mitchell both received Cups for the second best individual performances. As all the announcements were being made in German we could not quite understand why the Bulgarian team received a Cup, since they had not won anything, and their average age appeared to be nearer 27 than 17, but it was suggested that the Cup was awarded for having travelled farther than anybody else!

Our overall impression of the tournament was that of the very friendly and sporting atmosphere in which it was played. All the umpires were youngsters of very limited experience, but all attired alike in T-shirts and shorts, and everybody was very good-humoured about their mistakes. Apparently no English teams had ever played in this tournament before and it would be wonderful to see more in action when the tournament is next held in 1979. I can assure anybody interested that they will receive wonderful hospitality and will really enjoy their trip.

So ended a memorable trip for us all and we embarked on our long journey home full of stories to tell of our experiences and determined to make those arrangements to bring our Karlshafen hosts over to London next year. Bernd has promised to show me Big Ben and the Tower, and I am looking forward to that!!

## LAURIE LANDRY — A legend in his own lifetime

By DAVID LUDDY

As each season produces a new brigade of sponge loopers and a new generation breaks through into the top rankings perhaps many of them have never heard of Laurie Landry—a genuine table tennis legend in his own lifetime.

A legend not only because of his exemplary skills at the game but because of his courage and determination that overcame the toughest of disasters. Fifteen years ago, at the age of 22, Laurie was an aspiring light in English table tennis.

He was ranked sixth in the country, a current international, and had won numerous

open titles (careful research shows 72 in 115 finals).

But on a May day, in a successful attempt to prevent his four-year-old nephew from being run over, he in turn was hit, suffering multiple injuries.

Laurie was given only half an hour to live and telegrams were sent to his parents in West Germany.

But miraculously he survived. He remained unconscious for ten days and was in hospital for a total of 23 weeks. Slowly his body mended from the three fractures of the skull, a broken left shoulder blade, a fractured pelvis and a broken right leg, apart from severe bruising and bad cuts. Laurie attended a rehabilitation centre but was told he would never be able to play table tennis again.

But to everyone's amazement, propping himself up with crutches, he returned to the tournament scene only months after his accident.

Laurie, although never quite managing to break back into the rankings despite several wins over ranked players in recent seasons, celebrated his 25th year in table tennis by winning his 10th open title, excluding rubber bat events, partnered by Tony Clayton, in the men's doubles at Bournemouth last September. Since then he has added another title, also in doubles with Clayton, at Newbury, in now a grand total of 175 finals.

With Clayton, Laurie has won 12 titles, and in 1973 produced a remarkable performance, reaching the English closed doubles final before losing to Denis Neale and Trevor Taylor.

"But the victory that gave me the most satisfaction," he told me, "was winning the men's singles at the Midland Open in 1965 from a top class field. I remember I defeated Gloucestershire and England-ranked player at that time, Roy Morley, in the final".

Laurie, who played 52 times for Middlesex before his accident, has now reached a grand total of 98 for the County with the century hopefully to be completed this season.

"Whilst I do not retain my former consistency, I have still been able to produce the odd success over leading players", he added.

Laurie, however, is not just totally committed to the playing side of the game for he has held several posts in the English Table Tennis Association. He was formerly the England junior non-playing captain for eight years, and currently is a member of the Management Committee, an England selector, on the National Council, secretary of the International T.T. Club in England, plus various other posts. Laurie is also a three-star coach, guiding several players in recent years in their progress towards international level.

"I will continue to play table tennis", he added, "until I no longer enjoy it".

Perhaps that is the secret of success and the game!

### SCHOOLS' AWARD

Although the Halex Proficiency Award Scheme continues to serve table tennis in general with a system of measuring progress, there have been a number of enquiries where large numbers of children, just starting to play table tennis, require some incentive to aspire to higher levels.

With this in mind, a pilot scheme of the new "Schools' Award" is to be run in Essex and West Yorkshire, starting in September. It must be underlined that, for the present, the scheme is confined to these two areas until results can be analysed when, if favourable, the scheme could become nationwide.

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## WESTERN LEAGUE NOTES

## by Grove Motlow

## SAD ENDING

We ended last season on a sad note with the loss of Kay Waters of Salisbury, Bill Spry of Exeter and, early in June, we in Newport lost our president, Stan Jones, the old Welsh international who played for Wales so many times and competed in world championships along with Walter Sweetland of Cardiff. Stan died in Lowestoft whilst on holiday.

In the same month we also lost Tommy Lisle who played for Wales prior to the last war and played in the Western League before he moved to Birmingham. Our sincere condolences to their loved ones. At our recent A.G.M. we paid homage to their memory by standing in silence.

At the A.G.M. our president John Ford from Shirehampton, Avon was re-elected as was chairman Reg Salway and yours truly as Hon. Secretary/Treasurer.

We were all pleased to welcome back into the fold Bristol men and Plymouth women but much regretted losing Exmouth men, last season's runners-up. Paul Stone is now at university and Mike Raffue and Mike Putland, I am informed, have returned to Exeter whose popular match secretary, Val Addicott, is having difficulty in finding a volunteer to arrange matches.

The same problem has beset West Wilts., due to illness in the Edwards family. Bill Moulding was hoping to revive Salisbury but, to date, without luck. Salisbury women have withdrawn for, without the services of Kay Waters, they are finding it hard with both Alison Boyce and Helen Rusby unable to devote much time to the cause.

Out too are Devizes women and my own league, Newport have also withdrawn. Newbury who last season had two women's teams will, this season, only have one.

The men's division will have in competition this season Bournemouth, Bristol, Newbury, Newport, Plymouth, Poole, Swindon and Weston. And a newly-formed youth division (U-17) will comprise teams from Bournemouth, Newbury, Plymouth, Swindon and West Wilts.

Many thanks to all those who have written to make enquiries about my sight. I am still battling on with restricted vision in my left eye, my right having been lost two years ago. I have retired from the only firm I have worked for—48 years I was with them.

Naturally I have had to give up a number of my table tennis commitments and appointments but continue as secretary of Newport and start out on my 32nd season as secretary of the Western League.

Les Gosling, the league's oldest vice-president, who did so much for the game in Weston, has had to return to hospital. We wish him an early discharge with improved health.

Finally a gentle reminder to match secretaries—once your dates have been finalised please let me have them on your league's notepaper and christian names of your players would be further welcomed. It is so much nicer to have them in print along with match reports.

## NORFOLK NOTES

## by J. S. Penny

## WONDERFUL YEAR

In Norfolk Notes for the May/June, 1976 issue of Table Tennis News, it was reported that Douglas Bennett had achieved the unique record of becoming the Norfolk senior and junior, and the Norwich senior and junior champion in the same season. All this at 15 years old!

We can now record that Douggie crowned a wonderful year by being selected to represent England in the Schools' international versus Scotland at Meadowbank Stadium, Edinburgh, on

26-27 June. He came fourth in the intermediate individual championships and won all his games in the match between the two countries. This is the first time that a Norfolk player has represented his country at any level, at Table Tennis.

At the Norfolk County A.G.M. at Norwich C.E.Y.M.S. on June 8, the Treasurer's accounts revealed that the Juniors' great effort of raising £83.84 by a sponsored walk had turned a substantial deficit into a profit of £12, for the year ending May 31st, 1976. Now, in the close season, Vic Bennett, the County Junior Coach and Douggie's father, tells me that our youngsters have held yet another sponsored walk, this time netting £55. Congratulations, Juniors! And may your seniors follow your example!

At the A.G.M. there was great enthusiasm from one of our smaller leagues, Fakenham, who had arranged an exhibition tournament between four of England's leading players at their Community Centre on Aug. 27. At that time, it was stated that the players concerned were to be Denis Neale, Trevor Taylor, Chester Barnes and Paul Day. This will be the third major exhibition tournament staged by this go-ahead league.

Table Tennis players will be glad to know that the sponsorship by the Norwich Union Insurance Group (whose Head Offices are, of course, in Norwich), is to continue for another three years. It is now four years since the Group have been associated with the English and International Championships, including the World Championships, the total cost to the Group over the next three years is likely to be about £50,000.

## THE CAMBRIDGESHIRE SCENE

## by Leslie Constable

## ALL-OUT TO RETAIN

Cams, have again entered four teams in the County Championships and, bearing in mind the success of the first team in Div. 2 (East), they will again be all-out to retain the title again with the services of the 'old brigade'. After his successes in the European Youth Championships, Paul Day should again be in good form and, backed up by Keith Richardson, Mick Harper, Sally Hirst and Valerie Scripps, with Geoff Davies in reserve, they should give a good account of themselves. Although they failed in their quest for promotion, the second team should again have a good chance of challenging in Div. 3 (East) with Geoff Davies, Brian John and Brian Richardson again available.

Last season both junior teams finished bottom of their respective divisions, although it must be remembered that Day was not available for the first. Bearing in mind their success over Kent and also the availability of many up-and-coming players, they should be able to hold their place in the Premier Division. The second team is, so far, an unknown quantity, but here again the standard of many juniors (particularly Wisbech) should enable them to do well.

The Cambs. League will consist of eight divisions this season, with 96 teams, which is comparable to last season. One new team is Pye (T.V.F.) and Wesley have increased their number of teams to five. Last season's champions, Soham I, will again have the services of last season's players and it will take a very good side to topple them. Telephones now have two teams in Div. 1, which is an innovation for this club. Cambridge Evening News have withdrawn from the League after 14 years but their players have joined other clubs. The season runs from Sept. 27th until April 18th, 1977.

The following officers were elected to conduct the affairs of the Cambs. League:—

W. J. Rogerson (President), G. Waters (Chairman), F. W. Pettitt (Vice-Chairman), L. R. J. Constable (Gen. Sec.), A. A. Brothie (League & Comp. Sec.), A. A. Brothie (Treasurer), Pat O'Bryne (Coaching Sec.), Messrs. R. Pettitt, G. Peck, K. Lloyd, A. Adams (League Committee), A. Brothie, R. Pettitt (A.G.M. Reps.), L. Constable, C. Cushen (County Committee), B. Bean (Auditor).

The position of Match Sec. is in abeyance.

Ruth Puddick has once more been elected County Secretary, with Margaret Cornwell as Treasurer and Tournament Sec. Keith Rudland has been elected Chairman and Ian Marshall as Coaching Sec. Geoff Waters has been re-elected Match Secretary, a post which he has held with distinction for several years.

In the final of the Cambs. League Knock-Out Handicap Soham I defeated Wesley (Parkside) II 5-4, after trailing 0-4. This result was too late for insertion in the June issue of the magazine, but I feel that this was an incredible result between a newly-formed side and the champions of Division I, and deserves mention. For the record, the teams were: Soham I: Keith Richardson, Steve Palmer and Mick Palmer. Wesley (Parkside) II: Reg Goddard, Tony Ashdijen and Geoff Hudson.

Cambs. teams have again entered the South East Midlands League, namely Cambridge, Wisbech and Ely. Wisbech and Ely will be competing in Div. I (Men) and Cambridge in Div. 2. All will be competing in the Junior Division and Cambridge and Ely in the Veterans'. Wisbech have also entered teams in the Women's and Reserve Divisions. Ely should have a good chance of winning the Men's title, having lost it last year to North Herts, by a single point.

Cambridge have entered the Wilmott Cup but, owing to a dearth of players, not the other National competitions. They have also dropped out of the East Anglian League—for the same reason—although they won the title last season.

The Wisbech League started out on its 27th season in mid-Sept. with a slightly reduced number of teams but still maintaining five divisions.

Entries have again been made in the South-East Midland League, also three representative sides in the East Anglian League and one in the North Norfolk League.

March have entered teams in the East Anglian League and are to stage two County matches this season.

## CUMBRIA COMMENT

## by John Taylor

## EARLY BATHS!

Most of the activity during the summer months has centred around Millom and the Millom School Club in particular. John Reed held his annual summer course, for juniors, in early July and apart from selected Millom juniors invited players included D. Newman (Essex), R. Jermyn (Herts.), M. Laird (Cleveland), A. O'Connor and S. Cowley (Lancs.) and A. Summerscales (Yorks.).

The week's programme consisted of intensive training, systematic practices, free play, match play, Stiga Robot etc., 8 a.m. starts were made to each day with two beginning with dips in the sea and River Duddon. The club itself has undergone an expansion and basically membership has been opened to the many former pupils who have passed through the club, thus allowing school leavers of past and present to continue to enjoy facilities similar to which they had become accustomed.

The county has twelve new club coaches as a result of a course held by Peter Simpson helped by Eddie O'Hara and John Reed at Barrow. Congratulations are due to the following:—Keith Edwards, Keith Allen, Mike Yardley, Jim Geldart, Colin Davies, Roy Gordon, Neil McKinnon and Ted Rockley from Barrow and Jennifer Pachul, Colin Taylor, John Taylor and David Bell from Millom.

The county trials held at Millom School resulted in no change at the top of all four lists. Jennifer Pachul, however, had to fight to regain her top spot with Helen Addy and Gail Smith both challenging strongly, all three in fact finished the day with one defeat. Pachul beat Smith who beat Addy who beat Pachul.

Neil Smith must be disappointed with his No. 5 position in the senior list after showing such good form towards the end of last season. The senior No. 1, Chris Reed, however, goes from strength to strength and although demoted from the England ranks at the end of last season, he looks certain to

have gained a respectable position in the first list of the new season following his good showing at the final English junior trial for the country's top 20.

Chris recovered well after a poor start to record wins over Reeves (Berks.), Newman (Essex), Kennedy (Kent), Rogers (Leics.) and Jermyn (Herts.) to name five of his nine successes which put him in 11th equal place. Rankings in Cumbria are:—

#### Men

1. C. Reed (M), 2. B. Towell (K), 3. D. Kirkpatrick (C), 4. I. Reed (M), 5. N. Smith (M), 6. S. O'Neil (C), 7. D. Gray (M), 8. A. Manson (B), 9. E. O'Hara (B), 10. P. Buxton (B), 11. W. Robinson (B), 12. A. Craib (C), 13. I. Oliver (C), 14. L. Merner (W), 15. R. Stewart (C).

#### Women

1. J. Pachul (M), 2. H. Addy (C), 3. G. Smith (M), 4. M. Gray (M), 5. E. Mathie (M), 6. M. McPortland (B), 7. J. Sephton (M), 8. B. Gray (M), 9. C. Tyson (M), 10. J. Davies (B), 11. P. Bickerdike (M).

#### Boys

1. C. Reed (M), 2. I. Reed (M), 3. N. Smith (M), 4. D. Gray (M), 5. M. Wallace (C), 6. A. Pachul (M), 7. S. Sharp (M), 8. M. Cairns (M).

#### Girls

1. G. Smith (M), 2. M. Gray (M), 3. E. Mathie (M), 4. M. McPortland (B), 5. J. Sephton (M), 6. B. Gray (M), 7. C. Tyson (M), 8. J. Davies (B), 9. P. Bickerdike (M).

#### Key:

B—Barrow, C—Carlisle, K—Kendal, M—Millom and W—Whitehaven.

## YORKSHIRE NOTES

by Tony Ross

### SUPER LEEDS

Leeds completed a season of success at Coventry on June 6 with a nail-biting 5-4 win over Thames Valley in the final of the Carter Cup and became the first Yorkshire league, apart from Ormesby, to win a national title. For the first time since 1950-51, Leeds topped Division 1 of the Yorkshire League, and the Leeds second team, winners of Division 3 in 1974-75, are Division 2 champions. Leeds are also champions of the Junior Division 1 and Leeds Y.M.C.A. won the men's and junior Yorkshire Club Championships. The chief reason for this string of Leeds successes has been the emergence of twins Stephen and Robert Hazlewood and Andrew and Brian Metcalfe into the ranks of the county's leading players.

In the final of the Carter Cup, it was Andrew Metcalfe who stole the show. First, rather surprisingly, he lost the opening set of the match to Gary Stewart. Then he more than made amends by beating Martin Shuttle 23-21 in the third to level the score at 2-2. But the climax came in the eighth set with the score at 4-3 to Thames Valley. Stephen Boxall led 20-15 in the first but Metcalfe won the next 7 points and the game. Boxall won the second 21-17. The deciding game was evenly balanced throughout, with neither player dictating the play. From 19-all, Metcalfe held the first set point, but Boxall then had two set and match points before the game swayed back again and the Leeds boy got home 24-22. A fine, entertaining match, with Leeds' all-round strength finally just outweighing the individual ability of Martin Shuttle.

In the Yorkshire Club Championships, Leeds Y.M.C.A. had a 6-3 win over Hermits (Bradford) in the men's final, where Stephen Hazlewood was unbeaten for Y.M.C.A. who also comprehensively defeated Hull Y.P.I. 6-0 to take the junior title. Hull Y.P.I., however, won the women's final, beating Bradford's Unity by the surprising margin of 8-1.

The Yorkshire League and Club Championships trophies and awards were presented at the very successful Annual Dinner Dance at the Aire Leisure Centre, Horsforth, Leeds, on May 7, where E.T.T.A. 100 Club Chairman and Yorkshire Vice-President Brian Kennedy and Mrs. Kennedy



Brook Motors—Huddersfield League champions for 1975-76 (l to r) Chris Mear, Stuart Sykes, Alan Rennison and Philip Schofield.

were chief guests. The Forrest Memorial Award went to Sheffield's international umpire Alec Head for yeoman service at county matches. The J. A. Cram Award, presented for the first time to the "most improved junior" over the season, was awarded to Bradford's Sally Midgley.

For health reasons, Bradford Chairman and County Secretary Frank Briggs did not seek re-election as the county's National Councillor, though he is continuing in his other posts. Frank was first elected as Yorkshire's national representative in July 1968, and for a time occupied one of the hot seats of the national sub-committees—that of Secretary of the Tournaments Committee. I am sure that players and officials would like me to thank Frank for his work on the National Council and to hope that it is not too long before he overcomes his health troubles. The county Executive Committee elected yours truly as Frank's successor on the National Council.

The Brook Motors club in Huddersfield lay claim to a record which they feel is rarely achieved in the larger leagues. Last season, the club first team finally broke Huddersfield Y.M.C.A.'s long grip on the Division 1 title and have now won every division title (all 10 of them) since the Huddersfield League was founded in 1933. The Y.M.C.A. club has always been a force in Huddersfield table tennis with names like Hinchliff, Dyson, Wadsworth, Hirst, Kedge and Mear to call upon over the past 20 years, but Brook Motors finally achieved the elusive Division 1 title by six clear points. The four players responsible were Chris Mear, Stuart Sykes, Alan Rennison and Philip Schofield.

At the county A.G.M. at York on June 23, Malcolm Hartley and Ken Park were elected Vice-Presidents, and Mrs. Evelyn Hart was awarded a Special Badge for exceptional service to the county. Malcolm's work at Bradford's "Telegraph & Argus" over the years has meant that table tennis events, be they local, county or national, have not gone unrecorded on the "Telegraph & Argus" sports pages. A former county player from Leeds, Ken Park has been Auditor for the county since 1970, and has also served on the Executive Committee. Evelyn, wife of county Treasurer Ron Hart, has been a meticulous Minute Secretary since January, 1972.

In the Yorkshire Summer League individual championships at Moor Grange, Leeds, on Aug. 1, Andrew Metcalfe, representing Trinity Cavaliers of Knarborough, won the individual title and also took the under-20 singles title. Biggest upset of the tournament was the quarter-finals doubles triumph by Richard Scruton and Keith Bell of

second division Knarborough S.C. over the Metcalfe twins 17, -19, 20.

## LINCOLNSHIRE NOTES

by Joan Robinson

### NEW JUNIOR OPEN

The Lincolnshire A.G.M. held at Lincoln in May produced no major surprises, all the Officials offered themselves for re-election and were all unanimously elected.

The County has decided to run a 2nd Junior Team this season, to give more up-and-coming youngsters a chance to show their potential, also the Association are running a new Tournament called the Lincolnshire Junior Open. This will be held at North Kesteven Sports Centre, North Hykeham, near Lincoln on Sunday, Jan. 2, 1977. Entry Forms will be available in the near future from the Organising Secretary, Mrs. J. Robinson, 13 Croppers Way, Freiston, Boston, Lincs. This will be the first Tournament of the new year and we look forward to a bumper entry.

The first of the season's Coaching Sessions took place at the North Kesteven Sports Centre on Sept. 12, when Dennis Worrall and his band of helpers start their monthly sessions. With three of the top four junior boys now over age and an extra junior team to fill, places in the teams are there for the taking. The Junior Girls will be hoping to maintain last seasons 100% record in Singles and Doubles, and with Suzanne Hunt (Grantham) and Cheryl Buttery (Lincoln) leading the field we hope to be successful.

At the moment the senior team looks much as before unless some of the younger players can make an early impression. However, after being so close last season to reaching the Promotion Challenge Matches they will be determined to gain those extra vital rubbers. With a second Women's Singles in place of the Mixed we hope to stand a good chance.

In the local inter-town competitions the Haigh Cup has 10 teams entered, the Butlin Cup six, and the Butcher Cup 11. A welcome return to these competitions is given to the Louth League who has entered all three events. These matches will start early October with Wyberton, Spalding and Grantham out to retain their trophies won respectively last season.

The County Junior Closed Tournament will be held in Louth on Oct. 24, 1976. This Tournament is organised by Mr. A. Norman and the Louth League, and they hope that last year's record entry can again be broken.



# CONTROVERSY

## JOHN WOODFORD

DEPUTY TABLE TENNIS CORRESPONDENT  
"DAILY TELEGRAPH"

opens the season with thoughts on  
THE LONG HOT SUMMER

but "NO GO" IN THE NATIONAL PRESS

One of the more merciful happenings during the long, hot summer of 1976 is that in some areas of the country there has been less enthusiasm for summer table tennis leagues. I have no doubt that there are fanatical groups who believe that our sport should be played on an organised basis all the year round. I think that is crazy. It makes much more sense for players to take at least four months complete break from serious competition, to store up their mental and physical energy for the massive programme ahead. I am not suggesting that players should not practice. By all means keep fit, preferably at other summer sports with limited periods of easy practice at table tennis makes sense. Rather than hours of slogging away at the table resulting in exhaustion and almost swimming in sweat!

Talking of perspiration, when the minutes of both the E.T.T.A. A.G.M. and the first National Council meeting arrived through my letter-box, there was a tremendous thump. I notice that the A.G.M. took nearly four hours and the Council meeting, including the meal-breaks, finished about seven and a half hours after a 10 a.m. start! It has been said before, the whole National Council format is unwieldy, with 40 or so persons present. If I wore a hat I would take it off to these dedicated administrators who give up their weekends during the year to represent their countries and to air their views, many travelling huge distances.

True, the World Championships are fast approaching and therefore much business is to be done but when the minutes run to 20 foolscap pages, I think the person who takes the minutes deserves a special medal. It took well over half an hour to read through the report of the business. With so much to digest it takes another half an hour to refer back to special points of interest, or to see where a possible press story might be hidden.

At the meetings I attend I always observe closely the "opposition" from the floor. I feel it a healthy sign that at almost every gathering there are one or two members constantly on their feet, continually probing. Democratically, they are doing a fine job. In contrast, you see many, some in high offices, adding nothing to the debates, when you are sure that their experience could be of value. But then you look again and see that they are nodding off as the temperature soars into the eighties! I observe that the "leader of the opposition" at National Council was John Wright. His name appeared about nine times in the minutes and I suspect he was involved in more than nine different discussions, but to record everything would leave that heroic minute-taker with about 40 pages of single-spaced typescript. A close second for the opposition was Alan Ransome, whose involvement in table tennis, always total, still seems to be growing day by day.

Finishing this article where I began, with this scorching marathon of a summer, I see that John Wright was upstanding on the question of the lack of national publicity concerning the European Youth Championships, held in Vienna in mid-July. Deputy Chairman George Yates is quoted as saying that there was no press interest in the North. John Wright said that he considered the publicity obtained was diabolical. I agree one hundred per cent, but I would go further; it shows a diabolical lack of understanding when organisers expect full reporting in the middle of the summer, let alone a summer like the one we have just

experienced. Damn it all, table tennis is a winter sport. Our programme of major events extends now from early in September until early in June—over eight months!

How can you expect national newspapers to omit and cut back the summer sports, most of whom only have a five-month season at the most, in order to cover such an event?

I admit that even I, cynical and hardened as I am on this subject, was disappointed to find that the Press Association declined to accept even three lines of results from the Worthing International Championships on May 16th! And we have table tennis friends in the corridors of power at the Press Association.

What chance, therefore, had the European Youth Championships in the middle of July? (These events, if they are going to be reported, have got to be held during the recognised season. If that is not possible, and I do not believe it is, then there never will be a cat in hell's chance of getting mid-summer table tennis, even at continental level, reported in the national press.

## RANKING POLICY FOR 1976-77

by RON CRAYDEN

(Chairman of Nat. Selection Committee)

The new Selection Committee met recently and discussed in detail its ranking policy for the 1976-77 season. It is important therefore, for both aspiring and recognised players to take note of the deliberations of the Selectors. They are as follows:

For the guidance of Tournament organisers the Selection Committee intends to produce three ranking (or seeding) lists, covering Cadets, Juniors and Seniors, during the course of the season. The timing of the compilations must obviously be related to the calendar of events, therefore the ranking of Cadets, Juniors and Seniors will not necessarily be made at the same time.

## SPECIFIED EVENTS

It is, of course, vitally important for players to be rewarded for outstanding results, but it also must be borne in mind that no player can be expected to be at a peak continually. The over-crowded calendar puts tremendous demands upon the top players and the profusion of results received by the Selectors makes it difficult for them to judge accurately the validity and importance of many of those results. In an endeavour to be fair to the over-played competitor and consistent in ranking, it is now the policy of the National Selection Committee to compile ranking lists with most credit being given to the results obtained in the events specified below.

### SENIORS

#### 3-Star Tournaments.

Norwich Union English Championships.  
Norwich Union International Championships.  
International Open Events.

### JUNIORS

#### Assessment Camps.

Junior "SELECT" Tournaments.  
Wayfarer's English Junior Closed.  
Worthing Jun. International Championships.  
International Junior Open Events.

### CADETS

Cadet events in "SELECT" Tournaments.  
English Cadet Closed Championships.  
International Cadet Open Events.

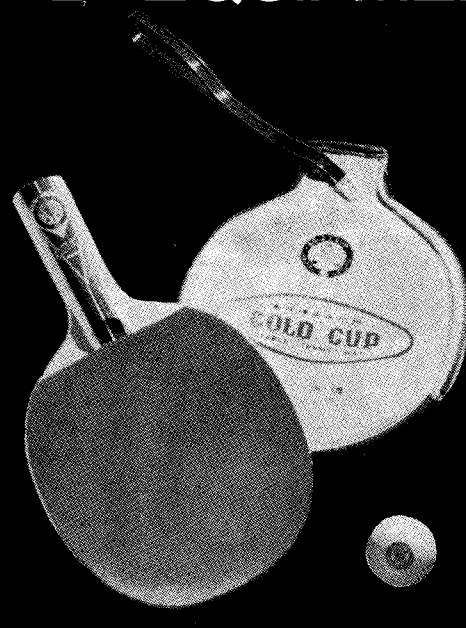
It is important to note that players will be assessed for ranking within their own categories. For example, when Cadets are being ranked their results against Juniors or Seniors will not be taken into consideration. Likewise, when Juniors are being assessed their wins or losses against Senior players will have no bearing upon their final ranking. To some this may seem abstruse, but as mentioned earlier, it is the job of the Selectors to produce lists for the guidance of Tournament organisers and an organiser wants to know the correct order of the players in the particular event he is staging. In conclusion may I wish you all a most successful season.

## STAMPS

The Post Office are to issue a set of four stamps marking racquet sports and table tennis in January.



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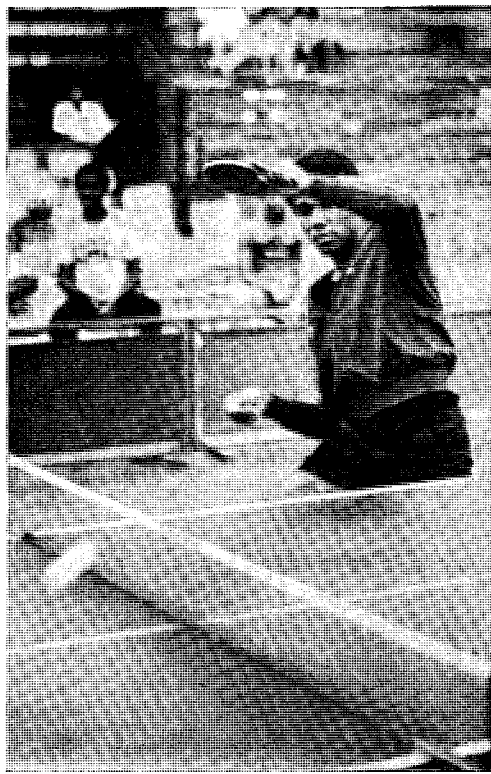
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## PROFILE

As part of the build-up to the World Championships in Birmingham next March, a new series starts in "Table Tennis News" this month called Profile. Each month one of the England squad will be featured, and we start the series with Desmond Douglas, who pulls no punches in a frank interview with JOHN PIKE.

Birthplace: Wood Hall, St. Catherine, Jamaica, West Indies.

Birthdate: 20th July, 1955.

Which school did you attend?—Gower Street Boys' Secondary, Lozells, Birmingham.

Hobbies: Football and Cricket.

Favourite T.V. Programme: Shaft, but the series ended some time ago now.

Favourite Food: Curried Rice and King Prawns.

Favourite Drink: Pop, Lager and Lime and Rum Punch.

Favourite Colour: Blue.

Favourite Singer: Elton John.

Favourite Holiday Resort: Jamaica.

Favourite Car: Jaguar XJ6.

Which person in the world would you most like to meet?—Pele.

Biggest influence on your career: West Midland Passenger Transport for giving me time off to play table tennis.

Ambition: At the moment I have no ambition because I am pessimistic and live from day to day and not for the future.

Earliest Representative Honours: Played for England Juniors in March, 1972, and for the Seniors in a friendly match against France the following year.

Greatest moment in table tennis: Beating Kjell Johansson, of Sweden, in a European League match at Belper.

Most difficult opponent: Another Swede, Stellan Bengtsson.

Finally, what are your thoughts on the World Championships and the future of English table tennis?—At the moment I am not thinking too much about the Worlds. I have my doubts on whether the event will be staged well, and, in fact, if it will be as good as past World Championships.

The future of English table tennis could rest on everyone's performance, including players and officials at the Worlds. There will be a lot of pressure on the England team and myself as the local boy. Personally I do not think we will do very well, and I know that is not being very confident, but it is my opinion. I will not say how I am going to play at the Worlds because I know I have a lot of critics, but I hope to do quite well. If England want to become a top nation in table tennis they will have to put a lot of money into the game and give better incentives to the players. The E.T.T.A. should not expect players to attend camps and pay them only £3 a day. If I was married I could not afford to play for England, and if things continue as they are, only the Paul Days of this world will be able to represent their country.

Tough words from the England No. 1, but that is what this new series is all about. Next month the spotlight falls on Jill Hammersley.

## BENSON & HEDGES 'LOVE BIRD' TOURNAMENT

TWO TITLES FOR JILL IN JAMAICA  
by "Lawyat"

Co-sponsored by The House of Benson and Hedges and Air Jamaica, the National Arena, Kingston, again provided the setting for this invitation tournament which brought the stars from Asia and Europe to delight the assembled throng, over the period June 1-4.

England's Jill Hammersley, the new European champion, was successful in both the women's and mixed doubles, her partners being In Sook Na-Bhushan (U.S.A.) and her fellow traveller, Desmond Douglas, back in his native land.

Ian Horsham was also an invitee and he, with Douglas, lined up with 14 others to contest the men's singles title last won, but not defended by Anton Stipanovic, of Yugoslavia. But the title was destined to return to that country with Dragutin Surbek, a hard-pressed winner over his compatriot, Milivoj Karakasevic, in a five-game final.

Horsham failed to clear the first hurdle when beaten by Charlie Wuvanich, a former Thai and Australian international, now resident in the United States. Douglas progressed to the semis with wins over Evan Williams, of Jamaica (13, 13) and Danny Seemiller, of the United States, before losing to Surbek.

In the counterpart women's event, Jill Hammersley, after an easy victory (7 and 6) over Tina Walter, a 16-year-old Jamaican schoolgirl, fell to In Sook-Bhushan, a former captain of the Korean team which won the Corbillon Cup in the 1973 World's in Yugoslavia. She now plays for the U.S.A.

Katsuyuki Abe and Yukie Ohzeki (Japan) were the final victims of Douglas and Mrs. Hammersley in the mixed, whilst the Canadians, Irene Cordas (formerly Yugoslavia) and Violetta Nesukaitis were the beaten finalists in the women's doubles. Results:—

Men's Singles—Quarter-finals

D. Surbek (Yu) bt E. Caetano (Ca) -19, 15, 17, 19.

## An Apology

Our sincere apologies to those coaches and organisers whose Bronze badges have been held up recently due to delays at the badge manufacturers. We are now informed that the supply of Bronze badges will restart from October 10 and all outstanding despatches will be cleared immediately.

HALEX TABLE TENNIS LTD.

D. Douglas (En) bt D. Seemiller (USA) 16, 9, -19, 15.

M. Karakasevic (Yu) bt C. Wuvanich (USA) 11, -13, -18, 17, 14.

Z. Cordas (Ca) bt K. Abe (Ja) 19, -14, 9, 18.

Semi-finals

Surbek bt Douglas 17, -16, 17, -15, 19.

Karakasevic bt Cordas 15, 18, -19, -14, 21.

Final

SURBEK bt Karakasevic -14, 19, -21, 16, 15.

Women's Singles—Semi-finals

Y. Ohzeki (Ja) bt I. Cordas (Ca) 19, 17, 12.

In Sook Bhushan (USA) bt J. Hammersley 17, 12, 19.

Final

OHZEKI bt In Sook-Bhushan 19, -17, 15, -16, 14.

Men's Doubles—Semi-finals

Caetano/Cordas bt Karakasevic/Surbek 19, 17, 18.

Seemiller/Wuvanich bt Abe/T. Furukawa (Ja) 13, 18, -14, 21.

Final

SEEMILLER/WUVANICH bt Caetano/Cordas 21, 11, -15, 26.

Women's Doubles—Final

HAMMERSLEY/IN SOOK - BHUSHAN bt Cordas/V. Nesukaitis (Ca) -13, 11, 14.

Mixed Doubles—Final

DOUGLAS/HAMMERSLEY bt Abe/Ohzeki 11, 18, -18, 15.

## JAMAICAN RANKINGS

Men

1. Evan Williams
2. Roberto Byles
3. Cornel France
4. Hector Bennett
5. Dennis Duncan

Women

1. Sharon Spence
2. Tina Walter
3. Sandra Riettie
4. Ingrid Spence
5. Adlyth Ellis (Trelawny)

Boys

1. Roberto Byles
2. Colin McNeish
3. Basil Coombs
4. Anthony Dunkley
5. Ernest Virgo

Girls

1. Sharon Spence
2. Tina Walter
3. Ingrid Spence
4. Aldith Ellis
5. Denise Campbell

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1970	M.S.: Orville Haslam (Jamaica)
1971	M.S.: Orville Haslam (Jamaica) W.S.: Alice Green (USA)
1974	M.S.: Danny Seemiller (USA) W.S.: Irene Cordas (Yugoslavia)
1975	M.S.: Anton Stipanovic (Yugoslavia) W.S.: In Sook-Na (Korea)

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# Stiga Schools International Championships



All smiles from the English Schools' non-playing captains. Back (l to r): Bob Wood (Junior Boys), Rea Balmford (Senior Girls), Bryan Merrett (Intermediate Girls). Front (l to r): Phil Burwell (Intermediate Boys), John Reed (Senior Boys), Dolly Harmer (Junior Girls) and Eddie Mitchell (Team Manager).

## England Dominate

by David Lomas

Meadowbank Sports Centre, Edinburgh, was the magnificent venue for the second Stiga Schools' International Championships, held on June 26-27.

English players dominated the Championships, winning all the six Individual titles and winning the team events 6-0 with a final sets ratio of 202-14, this being the same margin as the first international held at Eston last year.

The concept of mass participation which was so successful last year was continued, with teams being made up of six players from Scotland and six from England on an all-play-all basis. In the Individual events there were nine players from Scotland and seven from England.

Any fears that the Scottish Schools' Table Tennis Association officials have had about their ability to organise such a prestigious event were soon dispelled, for their organisation and hospitality were superb.

The Local Authority, Lothian Regional Council, played their part, too, and the Civic Reception given for all players and officials on Saturday evening at the Regional Chambers, Parliament Square, was a magnificent gesture and a new experience for the majority of players.

Although the Scottish players were generally outclassed, there were outstanding performances from three of their players who reached the final group in the Individual Championships: David McIlroy lost only to Richard Bergemann in the Junior Boys' team event, Carol Dalrymple won four of her six matches in the Junior Girls' and Anwar Majid came fourth in the Senior Boys' Individual. There was no doubt that there had been a general improvement in the standard of the Scottish players.

Mandy Mellor—making her farewell appearance in schools' table tennis activities and a participant in the National School Team Championships for the last seven years—received the Stiga Trophy from Mr. Brian Hearn, Stiga's Export Marketing Manager.

The withdrawal of England's senior players,

Martin Shuttle (Surrey) and Karen Witt (Berkshire) threw the Individual titles wide open. David Newman won his final group matches in straight games against Stephen Hazelwood and Anwar Majid but faced a stiff task against Douglas Johnson in the final encounter. In a fine match which was a repeat of the English Schools' Individual Championship Final, Newman came from behind to take the third game 22-20 with the spectators on the edge of their seats.

Janet New (Dorset) also came from behind to win the Senior Girls' event over Julie Reading, although the final game (which almost went to "expedite") was very close. A points count-up was necessary to determine places two to four.

Stephen Boxall gained sweet revenge over Keith Paxton (to whom he lost in the English Schools' Individual Championships) in winning the Boys' Intermediate title, whilst Angela Tierney was in good form when successfully defending her Girls' Intermediate title without dropping a game.

Richard Bergemann confirmed his great promise, winning the Junior Boys' title, and Alison Gordon retained her Junior Girls' crown.

## RESULTS

### Team Championships

SCOTLAND 0 ENGLAND 6

### Senior Boys

SCOTLAND 2 (B. Grundy 1, A. Majid 1), ENGLAND 34 (D. Newman 6, D. Johnson 6, S. Hazelwood 5, A. Wellman 4, J. Proffitt 6, S. Claxton 6).

### Senior Girls

SCOTLAND 1 (M. Cuthbertson 1), ENGLAND 35 (M. Mellor 6, J. Skipp 6, J. Reading 6, J. New 6, J. McLean 6, J. Thorpe 5).

### Intermediate Boys

SCOTLAND 2 (K. Rodger 1, K. McLean 1), ENGLAND 34 (K. Paxton 5, S. Boxall 5, C. Rogers 6, C. Reed 6, K. Edwards 6, D. Bennett 6).

### Intermediate Girls

SCOTLAND 0, ENGLAND 36 (S. Hunt 6, A. Tierney 6, L. Hryszko 6, M. Smith 6, J. Purslow 6, S. Jones 6).

### Junior Boys

SCOTLAND 5 (D. McIlroy 5), ENGLAND 31 (R. Bergemann 6, P. Whiting 5, J. Souter 5, B. Johnson 5, J. Duffield 5, M. Oakley 5).



England's Intermediate Girls' team who were unbeaten in Scotland. Back (l to r): Bryan Merrett (captain), Angela Tierney, Suzanne Hunt, Mandy Smith. Front (l to r): Suzanne Roebuck (reserve), Linda Hryszko, Stephanie Jones and Jill Purslow.



England's senior player, Mandy Mellor, receives congratulations from Stiga's Export Marketing Manager, Mr. Brian Hearn, on winning the team trophy.

### Junior Girls

SCOTLAND 4 (C. Dalrymple 4), ENGLAND 32 (A. Gordon 6, L. Garbet 6, M. Abbot 5, J. Dowsett 5, H. Robinson 5, E. Bolton 5).

### BOYS FINAL PLACINGS

#### Senior

1. David Newman (Essex County)
2. Douglas Johnson (West Midlands)
3. Stephen Hazelwood (West Yorkshire)
4. Anwar Majid (Lothian)
5. Simon Claxton (Hereford & Worcester)
6. Andrew Wellman (Berkshire)
7. Jonathan Proffitt (Middlesex)
8. Michael Stuart (Grampian)
9. Richard Mountford (West Midlands)
10. Walter Clarkson (Central)
11. Graham Lundie (Lanarkshire)
12. Ronald Motherwell (Lothian)
13. Brian Grundy (W. Dunbartonshire)
14. Garry McKenzie (W. Dunbartonshire)
15. Callum Gerrard (Renfrewshire)
16. Mathew Wallace (Dumfriesshire)

#### Intermediate

1. Stephen Boxall (Surrey Metropolitan)
2. Keith Paxton (Tyne & Wear)
3. Chris Reed (Cumbria)
4. Douglas Bennett (Norfolk)
5. Chris Rogers (Leicestershire)
6. Adam Proffitt (Middlesex)
7. Kenneth McLean (Lanarkshire)
8. Michael Aitken (Grampian)
9. Keith Rodger (Lothian)
10. Colin Harkins (Central)
11. William Murphy (Glasgow)
12. Kevin Edwards (Somerset)
13. Edward Scott (Lothian)
14. Robert Faulds (Glasgow)
15. Charlie Rodger (Lothian)
16. James Taylor (Glasgow)

#### Junior

1. Richard Bergemann (Dorset)
2. David McIlroy (Glasgow)
3. John Souter (Middlesex)
4. Paul Whiting (Devon)
5. Mark Oakley (Surrey County)
6. Bryon Johnson (Oxfordshire)
7. David Lee (W. Dunbartonshire)
8. Philip Matthew (Grampian)
9. Kevin Grundy (West Midlands)
10. Jeremy Duffield (Hereford & Worcester)
11. James Leishman (Central)
12. Paul Quail (Glasgow)
13. Alastair Davidson (Grampian)
14. David Morrice (Grampian)
15. Tom Reid (W. Dunbartonshire)
16. David Paton (Grampian)

### GIRLS' FINAL PLACINGS

#### Senior

1. Janet New (Dorset)
2. Mandy Mellor (Derbyshire)
3. Julie Reading (Hampshire)
4. Jane Skipp (Cleveland)
5. Julie McLean (Humberside)
6. Janet Thorpe (Oxfordshire)
7. Karen Groves (West Midlands)
8. Belinda Petherick (Lothian)
9. Margaret Cuthbertson (Central)
10. Susan Ferguson (Renfrewshire)
11. Carolyn Byres (Grampian)
12. Jacqueline McFarlane (Glasgow)
13. Wendy Pullen (Lothian)
14. Carolyn Hearn (Central)
15. Fiona Rae (Lothian)
16. Helen Moir (W. Dunbartonshire)

#### Intermediate

1. Angela Tierney (Cleveland)
2. Linda Hryszko (West Yorkshire)
3. Suzanne Hunt (Lincolnshire)
4. Mandy Smith (Berkshire)
5. Suzanne Roebuck (Surrey County)
6. Stephanie Jones (West Midlands)
7. Jill Purslow (Berkshire)
8. Eleanor Hardy (Central)
9. Kay McKay (Central)
10. Yvonne Laird (Central)
11. Fiona Hyde (W. Dunbartonshire)
12. Wendy Smith (Grampian)
13. Kirstie Hammond (Central)
14. Karen McPhie (Grampian)
15. Marian Galloway (Grampian)
16. Pauline McLaughlan (Renfrewshire)

#### Junior

1. Alison Gordon (Berkshire)
2. Lorraine Garbet (Surrey County)
3. Carol Dalrymple (Central)
4. Elaine Bolton (Kent County)
5. Helen Robinson (Cleveland)
6. Maxine Abbott (Essex Metropolitan)
7. Julie Dowsett (Essex County)
8. Jane Stewart (Lothian)
9. Sarah Cresswell (Surrey County)
10. Francesca Corrigan (W. Dunbartonshire)
11. Hilary Calder (Central)
12. Ann Inness (Grampian)
13. Suzanne Slack (Lothian)
14. Mary Stuart (Grampian)
15. Debbie Jones (Lothian)
16. Helen Glass (Lothian)

Although membership totals have increased steadily during the formative years of the English Schools' Table Tennis Association, there are still several areas in the country where there is little sign of any significant schools' table tennis activities.

Writing in the new edition of the Association's Official Handbook, the Chairman, Mr. T. L. Matthews, makes an appeal for more support:—"With the coming World Table Tennis Championships and the interest and publicity it will create, now would be the time for every member, or interested teacher, to exercise whatever influence he (or she) has to persuade another school, town, city or county to join us. Lines of approach such as these might well help:

1. Try the game in your own school and arrange matches with other schools.
2. Make contact with your P.E. Adviser and Leisure Service Activity Director.
3. Find out who is Secretary of the nearest Table Tennis League, and liaise closely.
4. Make contact with one of the E.T.T.A. Staff Coaches.
5. Write to the Secretary of the Schools' Association for information or help.

The standards of play at the top of schools' table tennis are now high—they can become even higher if the base is broadened. Let your policy be "Be a member or gain a member".

The Annual General Meeting approved the new affiliation procedures whereby member Associations will be asked to pay a "block" affiliation fee to the E.S.T.T.A. thus affiliating their member schools. It is expected that the new set-up will prove to be a much more realistic administrative task.

The Association's competitive programme will follow the successful format of last season with the main emphasis on the National School Team Championships which are open to teams of four players, girls and boys, in seven different age categories, ranging from Under-11 to Under-19.

All counties are required to nominate—by October 31—the events in which they will have entries with actual entries in by December 17, so now is the time to make sure that your local school takes part.

The qualifying teams from each of the 50 county areas will take part in one of 12 area finals being held on January 15-16, with the winners going forward to one of three Regional Finals on Sunday, January 23, and thence to the National Finals which are again being held at Lea Green Centre, Matlock, Derbyshire—on Saturday, February 12.

Later in the season—on Sunday, May 8—comes the Individual Championships, at Luton Regional Sports Centre.

Negotiations are in progress for the holding of the third annual Schools' International Championships, English Schools v Scottish Schools, at a Northern venue in late June or early July.

All three competitions will again be sponsored by Stiga, as is the Official Handbook. Copies of the new issue can be obtained from the General Secretary, John Arnold, Sandal Endowed C.E. Middle School, Barnsley Road, Wakefield, West Yorkshire, WF2 6AS, at a cost of 15p, including postage.

### PHOTOGRAPHIC COVERAGE BY

GEOFF NEWMAN

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# 1976 U.S. OPEN

by Malcolm R. Anderson  
(U.S.T.T.A. Recording Secretary)

The 1976 U.S. Open didn't have quite as many foreign teams as did our last two "Nationals", but there was a respectable entry nonetheless. We had teams from England, Yugoslavia, Canada, Iran, South Korea, Mexico and the Dominican Republic. The English team was Desmond Douglas and Ian Horsham; Jill Hammersley also came, but she played in only the individual events.

The Men's Team event had 11 entries, divided into four groups. England was grouped with the U.S.A. Youth team and Iran. 1. The English duo started with a 3-0 win over U.S.A. Youth, with Horsham beating Dean Galardi (of California; later won the U.S. Open Junior Men's title) -13, 15, 18; Douglas then beat Dennis Barish (of California, later lost to Galardi in the Junior finals) 17, 18, and England then won the doubles over Barish and Perry Schwartzberg (Texas) 16, -20, 14. Next to fall was Iran 1—Douglas beat Houshang Bozorgzadeh (now a U.S. citizen living in Cedar Rapids, Iowa) 18, -8(!), 13; Horsham beat Hamid Hayatghaib (presently studying dental surgery at the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia) 16, -20, 13, and the English pair then finished off the transplanted Iranians in the doubles -14, 11, 12, to reach the semis against Canada 1, who got there by beating Iran 2 and the Dominican Republic, both 3-0.

In the semis, Zlato Cordas (now the Canadian T.T.A. National Coach) won the first set from Desmond Douglas 15, -6, 18. Horsham then evened the score at 1-1 by beating Errol Caetano 18, -14, 19. Canada then won the doubles 16 and 17, to lead again, but Douglas evened it again by beating Caetano 12 and 14. Cordas then won the tie for Canada, beating Horsham 15, 13.

In the other semi, Yugoslavia beat U.S.A. 1, as Dragutin Surbek beat Ray Guillen (of California, later the U.S. Closed Men's Singles winner) 9, 9; Milivoj Karakasevic beat Dal Joon Lee (who in the last month became a

U.S.T.T.A. Vice-President and got married) 15, 18, and the Yugoslavs took the doubles 10, 18.

Yugoslavia took the Men's Team title (and \$500 apiece) by beating Canada 1—Karakasevic beat Cordas 8, 14; Surbek beat Caetano 13, 11 and the Yugoslavs won the doubles 19, -16, 19.

The Women's Team title was won by Korea 1 (Korean Air Lines sent two women's teams) over U.S.A. 1, 3 matches to 1. In Sook Bhushan (nee Na) started things with a win for the U.S., beating Yang Sook Hee 15 and 20; Kim Soon Ok then took over. She beat Angelita Rosal 16 and 18, teamed with Son Hye Soon to beat Ehusan and Patty Martinez (who first won the U.S. Open Women's Singles title in 1965, at age 13) 16 and 14, and then beat In Sook -18, 13, 10.

In Men's Singles, Douglas beat Bohdan Dawidowicz 10, 9 and 13, and D. J. Lee 18, 18 and 12, to reach the semis against Surbek. That resulted in a fantastic match—great hitting, spinning, lobbing—3 of the games went to deuce! Douglas won the first game at 20. Surbek took the next two at 19 and 15, Douglas tied the match at 2-1 by winning the fourth game at 20, and he led 20-18 in the fifth! Surbek then tied it with two savage loop kills; Douglas led again at 21-20, but Surbek then won it (the best match in North America all year) 23-21. In the other half, Horsham reached the quarter-finals where he lost to Karakasevic -10, 16, -10, -9. Cordas then beat Karakasevic 19, 18, -11 19, to reach the finals, where he won the first game at 19. Surbek then took charge and won the next three games 19, 17, 17.

Jill Hammersley was seeded first in the Women's Singles, and she started impressively, beating Gloria Nesukaitis 7, 7, 7; next to fall was Mariann Domonkos (who upset Kim Hye Jung) 14, 10, 17, and finally Lee Soon Joo 17, -13, 15, -15, 18. We've seen log chops over here, but nothing like Jill's — aggressive, offensive chops from 20 feet out that rise just enough at the last instant to clear the net, then dive on to the table — impressive! The only person who wasn't impressed was Son Hye Soon, who patiently rolled and hit through Jill in the semis 17, 15 and 19. Jill's pick shots weren't on this match. In the other half, In Sook Bhushan beat Kim Kye Soon 16, 9, -20, 9, and Kim Soon Ok beat Shin Myung Sook 18, 15, -17, 13. Kim, a left-handed hitter, then beat In Sook, a chopper, in the semi 10, 11, 20. Kim is the only player I've seen who knows where In Sook's pick hits are going—Kim returned about nine out of 10 of them. Most players, including the top U.S. men, miss them all! In the finals, Kim beat Son -15, 17, 18, -23, 18.

In Men's Doubles, Horsham and Douglas beat Sanchez and Quintero (Mexico) and Galardi and Guillen to reach the semis, where Caetano and Cordas beat them -14, 12, 17, 19. Surbek and Karakasevic beat Ali Oveissi and D. J. Lee in the other semi, 10, 11, 12, and then beat the Canadians in the final -18, -17, 16, 14, 15.

In Women's Doubles, Jill and In Sook chopped down Yang Sook Hee and Kim Kye Soon in one semi, and Kim Soon Ok and Son Hye Soon out-hit Lee Soon Joo and Choi Kyung Mee -20, 20, 15, 18, in the other semi. In the final, Kim and Son again showed that they know how to play against chop, winning it at 17, -15, 6 and 10. Kim Soon Ok and Dragutin Surbek were certainly the outstanding players at this tournament—both of them entered three events, their respective singles, doubles and team events, and both won all three of them.

In the Mixed Doubles, Hammersley and Douglas beat Horsham and Yang Sook Hee in the semis 12, 15, 19, and Caetano and Irena Cordas beat D. J. Lee and Choi Kyung Mee. Jill and Desmond then won the title, beating the Canadians -12, 19, 19, -8, 20!

We've added two U.S. Closed events this year—in the Men's Dean Galardi upset D. J. Lee in the quarters -19, 18, 21, -17, 18, then lost to Barish -19, -21, -16. Ray Guillen reached the final by beating Bozorgzadeh 13, 13, 13, and he then beat Barish 22, -18, 12, 19, to

become the first U.S. Closed champion. In the Women's, Olga Soltesz upset Patty Martinez 19, -14, 19, 12, then lost to Bhushan 15, 18, 14. Angelita Rosal reached the finals by beating Alice Sonne (nee Green) -12, 15, 14, -14, 24!

## New Role for Development Committee

By ALAN RANSOME

Have you complained about the way Table Tennis is organised in England? Do you want to do something about it? If so, now is your chance to put forward your ideas on how the game in this country should be organised.

The E.T.T.A. Development Committee has recently been given a new task. That of looking into what changes are desirable to develop table tennis as a sport and how they should be introduced leading up to and following the World Championships in Birmingham in 1977. In other words, how can the E.T.T.A. best capitalise and benefit from the increased interest in table tennis which the World Championships will create.

The Committee has appointed 6 sub-committees each with a Chairman responsible for forming proposals in each section together with a number of individuals who will be invited to serve on a sub-committee. The 6 sections are:—

1. **Competitions.**—All kinds of tournaments National Championships, County Championships, National League and Club Competitions, Calendar Working Party. Chairman — Tony Ross.

2. **Coaching.**—Coaching, English Schools, Regional Sports Councils. Chairman — Eddie Mitchell.

3. **Selection.**—Team training, professional players. Chairman—Ken Mathews.

4. **Constitution.**—E.T.T.A. Constitution, National Committees, professional staff, fee structure and affiliation. Chairman — Alan Cram.

5. **Publicity.**—National and local press, E.T.T.A. magazine, grass roots. Chairman — Norman Reeve.

6. **Sponsorship.**—Finance, income communications, fund raising, manufacturers. Chairman — Stan Lenton.

All the above-named Chairmen will be inviting others whom they feel have a contribution to make to at least one meeting of the sub-committee to which ideas and proposals can be put forward which will in turn be passed on to the full Development Committee.

Where do I come into all this? For my sins I have been given the job of Development Co-ordinator, which means that I have the task of attending all 6 meetings then, at the end of the day, along with the sub-committee Chairman, bringing the proposals back to the Development Committee.

If you have any ideas that you would like to be considered by the Development Committee then please let me have these as soon as possible and I will see that they are considered by the appropriate sub-committee. Please send them first-class post to my home at 21a Church Lane, Ormesby, Middlesbrough, Cleveland.

## EUROPEAN LEAGUE

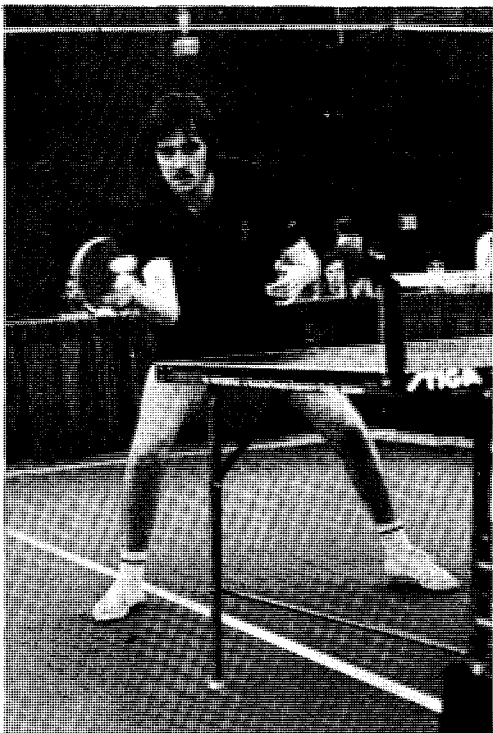
### DEFEAT IN TOURS

Taken in conjunction with the other results on the night of September 30, England's defeat by 6-1 to France in Tours was a sad beginning to their Super Division fixtures in the European League.

Nicky Jarvis was our lone winner, against Christian Martin, and with Jill Hammersley recovering from the removal of an appendix, Linda Howard failed to make her mark.

Other results:—

- Czechoslovakia 3, Soviet Union 4
- Sweden 3, Hungary 4
- Federal Germany 5, Yugoslavia 2
- Division 1
- Bulgaria 1, Netherlands 6



Ian Horsham (Essex), who reached the quarter-final of the Men's Singles, losing to Karakasevic, of Yugoslavia.

Photo by Malcolm Anderson.

# County Championships Round-up

by BOB BRIDGES

## NEW LOOK

A new season, and a new look for the County Championships (having also been ousted from the back page) with a few significant amendments to Championship Regulations.

Most important to the Number 2 women is that they now play a singles along with Women's Doubles instead of Mixed Doubles; this amendment slyly incorporates all Junior matches as well, but Premier Division and Veteran Divisions remain the same as before.

As I look back one year and read John Wright's "Preview of the Season", I cannot predict with the same confidence and the same lengths (John Wright's predictions were all correct!) except to say that Cleveland will force the pace in the Premier and any other County on top of that Division next March will be a surprise to most.

Looking at the Premier Division Competition last season does not help in predicting who is for the drop, although Leicestershire are competing up there for the first time . . .

. . . and its a distinct possibility that Cambridgeshire may find themselves in that position (not necessarily at Leicestershire's expense) next season.

Yorkshire and Surrey might be favourites for the Junior Premier Title but Middlesex have a fair sprinkling of talent and this season's battle for honours at this level might be one of the best.

The Veteran Competition received a boost with four new teams but Staffordshire have dropped out. Veteran Champions, Essex, who gave Nottinghamshire an 8-1 beating in last season's Challenge, will have to overcome the possibilities of a Middlesex team, in the Veteran Competition for the first time, which is capable of fielding one or two good players.

## COUNTY TABLE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS

### Formation of Divisions 1976-77

<b>Premier Division</b>	<b>2nd South</b>
Cheshire	Essex II
Cleveland	Hampshire
Essex	Kent
Leicestershire	Middlesex II
Middlesex	Surrey II
Surrey	Sussex
Warwickshire	
Yorkshire	
<b>2nd North</b>	<b>2nd Midland</b>
Cleveland III	Cheshire II
Durham	Clwyd
Lancashire	Derbyshire
Lincolnshire	Glamorgan
Northumberland	Staffordshire
Yorkshire II	Warwickshire II
<b>2nd East</b>	<b>2nd West</b>
Bedfordshire	Avon
Buckinghamshire	Berkshire
Cambridgeshire	Devon
Hertfordshire	Gwent
Norfolk	Somerset
Northamptonshire	Wiltshire
	Worcestershire
<b>3rd South</b>	<b>3rd North</b>
Bedfordshire II	Cleveland III
Buckinghamshire II	Derbyshire II
Essex III	Cumbria
Hertfordshire III	Lancashire II
Kent II	Northumberland II
Sussex II	Nottinghamshire
<b>3rd Midland</b>	<b>3rd East</b>
Clwyd II	Cambridgeshire II
Glamorgan II	Hertfordshire II
Leicestershire II	Huntingdonshire
Northamptonshire III	Norfolk II
Shropshire	Suffolk
Staffordshire II	

<b>3rd West</b>	<b>Junior Premier</b>
Avon III	Berkshire
Cornwall	Cleveland
Dorset	Essex
Gloucestershire	Hertfordshire
Herefordshire	Kent
Worcestershire II	Middlesex
	Surrey
	Yorkshire
<b>Junior 2nd South</b>	<b>Junior 2nd North</b>
Berkshire II	Cleveland II
Devon	Clwyd
Dorset	Cumbria
Hampshire	Durham
Kent II	Derbyshire
Middlesex II	Lancashire
Surrey III	Northumberland
Sussex	Yorkshire II
<b>Junior 2nd Midland</b>	<b>Junior 3rd South</b>
Cambridgeshire	Buckinghamshire II
Essex II	Essex III
Norfolk	Hampshire II
Northamptonshire	Hertfordshire II
Staffordshire	Sussex II
Leicestershire	
Suffolk	
Warwickshire	
<b>Junior 3rd North</b>	<b>Junior 3rd Midland</b>
Cheshire	Gloucestershire
Cleveland III	Herefordshire
Clwyd II	Oxfordshire
Cumbria II	Shropshire
Lincolnshire	Staffordshire II
Nottinghamshire	Worcestershire
<b>Junior 3rd East</b>	<b>Junior 3rd West</b>
Bedfordshire	Avon
Buckinghamshire	Cornwall
Cambridgeshire II	Glamorgan
Huntingdonshire	Gwent
Lincolnshire II	Somerset
	Wiltshire
<b>Veteran Midland</b>	<b>Veteran East</b>
Cheshire	Essex
Clwyd	Essex II
Clwyd II	Hertfordshire
Leicestershire	Huntingdonshire
Nottinghamshire	Kent
Warwickshire	Middlesex
<b>Veteran West</b>	
Dorset	
Hampshire	
Oxfordshire	
Wiltshire	
Worcestershire	

## NEW JUNIOR RANKINGS

Following a series of assessment events at regional, intermediate and national level throughout the summer, the National Selection Committee have issued the first junior ranking list of the 1976-77 season.

No ranking lists for the Cadet category (under-14) have been compiled, owing to insufficient evidence at this early stage of the season. Full lists with previous positions in brackets are:—

### BOYS

1. Martin Shuttle (Surrey) (3)
2. Keith Paxton (Durham) (12)
3. David Reeves (Berks) (9)
4. Joe Kennedy (Kent) (—)
5. David Newman (Essex) (15)
6. Tony O'Connor (Lancs) (A)
7. Ian Kenyon (Kent) (6)
8. Chris Rogers (Leics) (7)
9. Kevin Beadsley\* (Yorks) (11)

10. Richard Jermyn (Herts) (A)
11. Graham Sandley (Middlesex) (A)
12. Chris Reed (Cumbria) (A)
13. Steven Mills (Yorkshire) (—)
14. Adam Proffitt (Middlesex) (A)
15. Stephen Boxall (Surrey) (16)
16. David Wells (Middlesex) (A)
17. Joe Naser (Yorkshire) (—)
18. Colin Wilson (Hants) (A)
19. Gary Alden (Northants) (—)
20. Kenneth Jackson (Essex) (—)

### GROUP A

- A. Bottomley (Yorkshire)
- D. Cammiade (Sussex)
- S. Cowley (Lancashire)
- K. Edwards (Wiltshire)
- G. Gillett (Sussex)
- M. Green (Shropshire)
- M. Harrison (Yorkshire)
- J. James (Middlesex)\*
- R. Johnson (Berkshire)
- S. Kimm (Essex)
- M. Owen (Herefordshire)
- I. Plummer (Cleveland)\*
- L. Smith (Essex)
- N. Smith (Cumbria)
- A. Summerscales (Yorkshire)
- B. Tyler (Middlesex)
- D. Ward (Warwickshire)

### GIRLS

1. Karen Witt\* (Berkshire) (1)
2. Angela Mitchell (Middlesex) (3)
3. Angela Tierney (Cleveland) (5)
4. Jane Skipp (Cleveland) (12)
5. June Williams (Cleveland) (8)
6. Linda Hryszko (Yorkshire) (11)
7. Janet New (Dorset) (6)
8. Suzanne Hunt (Lincolnshire) (4)
9. Mandy Smith (Berkshire) (A)
10. Elaine Lamb (Devon) (A)
11. Sue Roebeck (Surrey) (14)
12. Jill Purslow\* (Berkshire) (A)
13. Stephanie Jones (Staffordshire) (13)
14. Carol Colegate (Kent) (—)
15. Helen Gore (Essex) (15)
16. Sally Dickerson\* (Yorkshire) (A)
17. Sally Midgeley\* (Yorkshire) (—)
18. Carol Buttery (Lincolnshire) (—)
19. Belinda Chamberlain (Hunts) (A)
20. Wendy Parker (Wiltshire) (A)

### GROUP A

- E. Bolton (Kent)
- J. Boulter (Essex)
- Y. Brown (Essex)
- J. Dowsett (Essex)
- S. Gilson (Dorset)
- A. Gordon (Berkshire)
- C. Maisey (Wiltshire)
- H. O'Brien\* (Surrey)
- M. Reeves (Middlesex)
- H. Robinson (Cleveland)
- E. Sayer (Essex)
- M. Wallis (Northants)
- H. Williams (Middlesex)

Players marked \* were unable to attend a final assessment camp and have been placed in accordance with Selection Committee opinion.

## NISSEN INVITATION

This season's Nissen Invitation Tournament, featuring the leading players of England, Scotland and Wales, will be held at Sale Leisure Centre, Broad Road, Sale, Cheshire, on Friday, November 12, at 7 p.m.

Admission is by numbered programme only (price 15p) which can be obtained from Sale Leisure Centre or D. Webster, 8 Dronfield Road, Northenden, Manchester 22, and R. N. Buckley, 23 Swan Road, Timperley, Altrincham, Cheshire.

One of the two tables used in the tournament will be awarded to the largest group from one association (club, school, etc.) present on the evening—so start organising now! The other table will be the prize for the holder of the "lucky number" programme.