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Table Tennis News

Official Journal of the English Table Tennis Association

EDITED BY GEORGE YATES

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TABLE TENNIS NEWS

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PLAYER DRAIN

A situation much akin to that of the Football Association, following the transfer of Kevin Keegan from Liverpool to Hamburg, is now confronting the E.T.T.A.

Desmond Douglas, with the approval of the National Council, has signed a lucrative contract to play for PSV Borussia Dusseldorf, on a commuter basis, in the Bundesliga of the Deutscher Tisch-Tennis Bund.

So too has Jimmy Walker—for TTC GW Bad Hamm—the difference being that the Clevelander is to take up permanent residence in Federal Germany. Yet another move sanctioned by the E.T.T.A.'s National Council at their July meeting was that of Denis Neale who sought permission to sign a 1-year playing contract for a club in Holland which has not yet come to fruition.

Official approval of such contracts means a retention of E.T.T.A. membership by all three players thus enabling them to play for their former English clubs, leagues and counties but only as and when they are at liberty to do so.

No such restriction will be imposed should they be selected to play for England, with the exception of Walker, but, overall the home country will be the losers more so those organisations concerned with the staging of open tournaments who will lose out on the box office names, not least the 3-Star events, should they happen to clash with foreign league engagements as, undoubtedly they will.

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ON THE INTERNATIONAL FRONT

by THE EDITOR



NEW WORLD RANKINGS

As to be expected Mitsuro Kohno (Japan) and Pak Yung Sun (Korea DPR), who won the individual titles in Birmingham, top the revised classification lists issued by the I.T.T.F. following the 34rd World Championships.

England have three men and two women in the lists, Paul Day and Carole Knight for the first time. But out goes Linda Howard who figured at No. 35 in the previous classifications.

Desmond Douglas has been lifted one place, from =26 to No. 25, as has Denis Neale, formerly at =33 and now at No. 32. Jill Hammersley is dropped from No. 6 to =10 and Carole Knight comes in at No. 28 which is not a bad beginning in a list of forty which is the position allotted Day.

Formerly at No. 1 in the men's list Hungary's Istvan Jonyer drops to =8 with Milan Orlovski of Czechoslovakia whilst European champion, Jacques Secretin of France goes down from No. 4 to No. 6. The new classification (previous positions in brackets) are:—

MEN

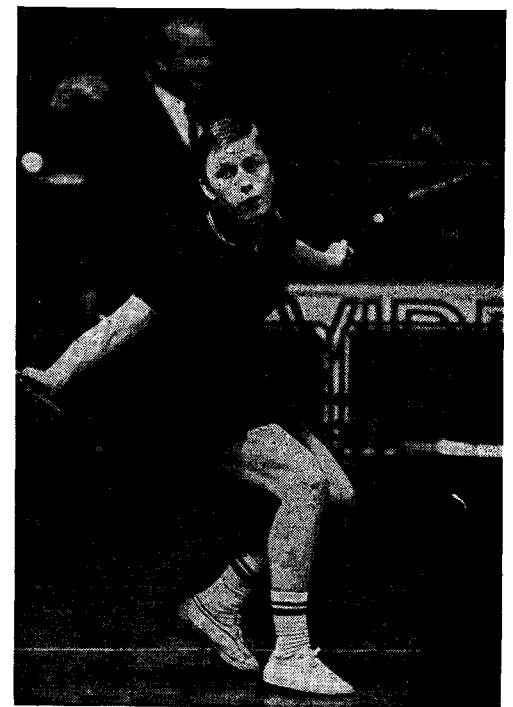
- 1 Mitsuro Kohno (JAP) (=10)
- 2 Kuo Yao-hua (CHN) (2)
- 3 Huang Liang (CHN) (12)
- 4 Liang Ke-liang (CHN) (3)
- 5 Dragutin Surbek (YUG) (5)
- 6 Jacques Secretin (FRA) (4)
- 7 Stellan Bengtsson (SWE) (=13)
- 8 Istvan Jonyer (HUN) (1)
- 9 Milan Orlovski (CZE) (=13)
- 10 Gabor Gergely (HUN) (=13)
- 11 Tibor Klampar (HUN) (7)
- 12 Norio Takashima (JAP) (=10)
- 13 Kjell Johansson (SWE) (8)
- 14 Li Chen-shih (CHN) (6)
- 15 Wilfried Lieck (GFR) (=26)
- 16 Anton Stipanec (YUG) (9)
- 17 Sarkis Sarkhojan (USS) (20)
- 18 Tokio Tasaka (JAP) (—)
- 19 Jochen Leiss (GFR) (18)
- 20 Stanislav Gomozkov (USS) (24)
- 21 Ulf Thorsell (SWE) (=13)
- 22 Anatoly Strokotov (USS) (19)
- 23 Patrick Birocheau (FRA) (=33)
- 24 Wang Chien-chiang (CHN) (—)
- 25 Desmond Douglas (ENG) (=26)
- 26 Jaroslav Kunz (CZE) (25)
- 27 Peter Stellwag (GFR) (—)
- 28 Tetsuo Inoue (JAP) (21)
- 29 Zoran Kosanovic (YUG) (—)
- 30 Milivoj Karakasevic (YUG) (=26)
- 31 Christian Martin (FRA) (29)
- 32 Denis Neale (ENG) (=33)
- 33 Li Yu-hsiang (CHN) (—)
- 34 Masahiro Maehara (JAP) (31)
- 35 Danny Seemiller (USA) (=39)
- 36 Choi Sung Kuk (KRR) (—)
- 37 Lee Sang Kuk (KRR) (—)
- 38 Li Kuang Tsu (HKG) (—)
- 39 Katsuyuki Abe (JAP) (22)
- 40 Paul Day (ENG) (—)

WOMEN

- 1 Pak Yung Sun (KDR) (1)
- 2 Chang Li (CHN) (2)
- 3 Chang Te-ying (CHN) (4)
- 4 Ke Hsin-ai (CHN) (3)
- 5 Chu Hsiang-yun (CHN) (=7)
- 6 Chung Hyun Sook (KRR) (5)
- 7 Beatrix Kishazi (HUN) (9)
- 8 Ursula Hirschmuller (GFR) (—)

- 9 Ilona Uhlakova (CZE) (13)
- 10 Jill Hammersley (ENG) (6)
- 11 A-C. Hellman (SWE) (10)
- 12 Kayoko Kawahigashi (JAP) (—)
- 13 Lee Ailesa (KRR) (11)
- 14 Maria Alexandru (RUM) (15)
- 15 Sachiko Yokota (JAP) (=18)
- 16 Judit Magos (HUN) (=7)
- 17 Ro Jong Suk (KDR) (—)
- 18 Elmira Antonian (USS) (22)
- 19 Kim Soon Ok (KRR) (—)
- 20 Zoya Rudnova (USS) (14)
- 21 Erzebet Palatinus (YUG) (23)
- 22 Gabriella Szabo (HUN) (27)
- 23 Claude Bergeret (FRA) (=18)
- 24 Pak Yong Ok (KDR) (29)
- 25 Tomie Edano (JAP) (=25)
- 26 Valentina Popova (USS) (—)
- 27 In-Sook Bhusan (USA) (—)
- 28 Carole Knight (ENG) (—)
- 29 Kim Chang Ai (KDR) (28)
- 30 Yen Kuei-li (CHN) (—)
- 31 Huang Hsi-ping (CHN) (12)
- 32 Siu Kit Man (HKG) (—)
- 33 Yang Ying (CHN) (16)
- 34 Liana Mihut (RUM) (—)
- 35 Chang Siu Ying (HKG) (—)
- 36 Blanka Silhanova (CZE) (33)
- 37 Wiebke Hendriksen (GFR) (17)
- 38 Tatiana Ferdman (USS) (—)
- 39 Eva Ferenczi (RUM) (—)
- 40 Brigitte Thiriet (FRA) (31)

Surbek takes over as Europe's top man, from Jonyer, whilst Jill Hammersley, the European champion, loses her top European women's position to Hungary's Beatrix Kishazi who is closely followed by the diminutive Federal German Ursula Hirschmuller.



Hungary's Beatrix Kishazi, the top European woman in the revised ITTF classification lists.

THE 1977 U.S. OPEN

The 1977 U.S. Open, held in Los Angeles over June 2-5 (writes **Malcolm R. Anderson** of Chicago, Ill.) was not as big as the last 3 U.S. Opens — there were only about 450 participants, competing in 38 events! Five foreign countries sent teams — the Republic of Korea sent 14 players — 2 women's teams, one boys' team and one girls' team. They were sponsored by the Korea Development Bank.

Their top player was their WS champion, Lee Ki Won, who reached the WD semis in Birmingham. Federal Germany was represented by Peter Stellwag and Jochen Leiss. Many Canadians were present as usual, including Errol Caetano and Derek Wall. Houshang Bozorgzadeh and Ali Oveissi represented Iran. The Daiechi Kangyo Bank sponsored a Japanese women's team of 8 players, including Japanese Women's champion, Cheiko Ono and Kayoko Kawahigashi, who reached the quarters in Birmingham, beating Jill Hammersley and Ann-Christin Hellman in the process.

In the men's semis, Leiss beat 6 times U.S. Champ Dal Joon Lee 17, -19, 16, -18, 8. In the other semi Dan Seemiller and Stellwag appeared very even, Peter's loop against Dan's block. Dan won the first at 19, Peter the second at 16, Dan the third at 18 — Dan then showed his mettle by winning the 4th at 7! The final was an excellent match, with Leiss using his change of pace and extreme angles from both sides to pull out the match and title, 19, -16, 18, -18, 17.

The Women's singles final, between In Sook Bhushan (USA — she beat Claude Bergeret and lost to Chang Ti-ying at 18 in the 5th at Birmingham) and Ono, was played at the same time as the men's doubles final, between Leiss/Stellwag and Ray Guillen/Seemiller. Both matches went 5 games. In Sook led Miss Ono 16-12 in the 5th, then was down 16-19. When Ono led 20-19, the doubles match was tied at 13-all in the 5th — the men stopped play to watch the girls! Ono killed 10 straight forehands, finally hit one into the net — 20-all!

In Sook made a mistake in the next point — she chopped the ball back high — Ono **smashed** in to In Sook's forehand — In Sook chopped it back high — another smash, to the backhand — In Sook chopped it back low — 3 more kills, then Ono killed into the net! 21-20 In Sook! Next point Ono was careful not to hit into the net — after about 15 hard drives, she hit over the end and In Sook was the Champion! Scores were -12, 16, -18, 17, 20. In Sook then collapsed with cramps and dehydration, and eventually had to be treated in a hospital.

The men's doubles then resumed — all 4 players were at least 5 feet from the table, counter driving — at 20-19, Seemiller finally ended one of these points by hitting the edge — 20-all! The Germans then won the next 2 (great) points to take the title, 11, -17, -18, 22, 20.

In the women's doubles, Lee Ki Won and Lee Eui Ja beat Ono and Nagahori -15, 18, 13, 17. The Mixed was won by Leiss/Judy Bochenski over Seemiller/Bhushan by default — In Sook couldn't play after winning the singles.

CANADIAN OPEN

Yugoslavia's Zoran Kosanovic beat his compatriot Dragutin Surbek to win the men's singles title in the Canadian Open (May 27-29), after the latter, in the semis, had ousted England's Desmond Douglas. Andy Barden fell in the quarters to Kim Wan.

Success came England's way in the women's doubles event in which Carole Knight and Melody Ludi took the title by beating Shin Kyung Suk and Kim Ae Kyung

(Korea Republic). Results:—

MS: Q-F's:

Surbek bt Caetano 12, 14, 12;
Douglas bt Stellwag 13, -17, -14, 8, 19;
Kim Wan bt Barden 17, -19, 14, -18, 16;
Kosanovic bt Leiss 15, -13, 16, 10.

S-F's:

Surbek bt Douglas 13, 16, -17, 11;
Kosanovic bt Kim Wan -21, -16, 12, 11, 14.

Final:

Kosanovic bt Surbek -15, 16, 18, 11.

WS: S-F's:

Shin Kyung Suk bt Knight 21, 21, 14;
Kim Kyung Ja bt Kim Ae Kyung
-19, 19, -22, 17, 13.

Final:

Shin Kyung Suk bt Kim Kyung Ja
8, 15, 14.

MD: Final:

Kosanovic/Surbek bt Leiss/Stellwag
-10, 17, -16, 11, 10.

(Barden/Douglas lost to Caetano/Wall
19, -12, -8, 19, 16 in the quarters).

WD: Final:

Knight/Ludi bt Shin Kyung Suk/Kim Ae
Kyung -20, 15, 14, 13.

TITLE FOR NEALE

Five overseas stars competed against eleven top Australian players in the Wills International Table Tennis Tournament held in Sydney from May 18-20. The singles knock-out competition was won by England's Denis Neale (32). His opponent in the final was Toshiaki Furukawa (27), a member of the Japanese team in the 1974 Asian and 1975 world championships. Neale beat Australia's Andrew Savige in the semis and Furukawa beat Steve Knapp, current Australian champion. New Zealanders James Morris, Richard Lee and Graham Lassen did not survive the quarter-finals.

En route Neale was held up for five days in Singapore by an air traffic controllers strike in Australia and in their humid conditions (writes **Keith Bowler** of Rozelle) his anti officialdom attitude must have evaporated and he was the "model" player whilst in Sydney. But the trip must have been quite rewarding, financially, and he will no doubt be invited back again next year, as the sponsors have announced they will promote the event again, with more prize money.

TITLE FOR DOUGLAS

At the Love Bird Invitation Tournament in Kingston, Jamaica (June 8/11) England's Desmond Douglas came into his own by winning the men's singles title with a final victory over Leiss 13, 18, 14. In the semis Douglas accounted for Yugoslavia's Dragutin Surbek 17, -10, 17, 14 and Leiss beat England's other male representative, Andy Barden, 18, 8, 17. Quarter-final results were:—Surbek bt Dal Joon Lee 9, 17, 13; Douglas bt Stellwag -19, 17, 17, 16; Barden bt Caetano -12, 16, 15, 19 and Leiss bt Zoran Kosanovic (Yug) 11, -20, 18 17. Barden upset Yugoslavia's Milivoj Karakasevic in the 8ths 20, -9, 21.

In Sook Bhushan defeated England's Carole Knight in the final of the women's singles -19, 18, 17, 19. It was a good final, loop and hit versus chop and pick. In the semis Miss Knight beat He-ja Lee -17, 14, 15, 13 and Bhushan eliminated England's other female representative Melody Ludi 13, 13, 8.

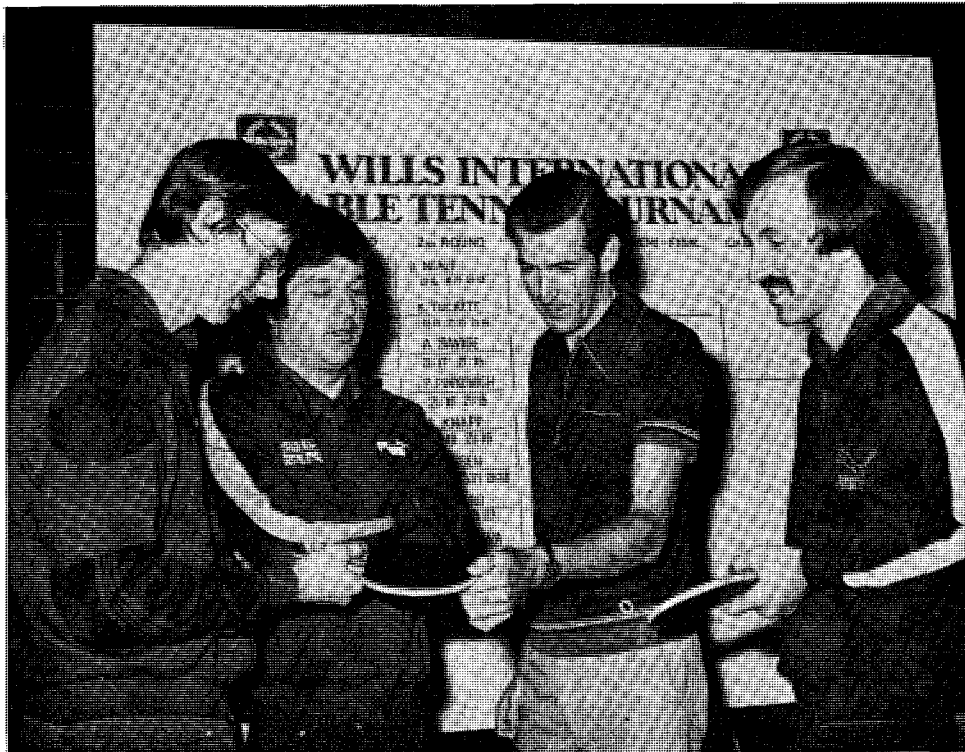
Federal Germany's Leiss/Stellwag had a final men's doubles win over Barden/Douglas 18, 8, -17, 14. Semi results were: Leiss/Stellwag bt Caetano/Karakasevic 19, -16, 17; Barden/Douglas bt Kosanovic/Surbek 19, 20. Bhushan/Lee took the women's doubles title beating Knight/Ludi in the final 19, -12, -17, 14, 19.

Mixed doubles winners were Leiss/Lee who, in the final beat Barden/Knight 11, -14, 21, -14, 14. Semi-final results were:—Leiss/Lee bt Douglas/Ludi -19, 19, 17; Barden/Knight bt Caetano/Domonkos 13, 20. This latter combination defeated top seeded Gomozkov/Rudnova in Birmingham.

EUROPE CLUB CUP

Ormesby, as winners of the English National Club Championships, both men and women, qualify for the ETTU's Europe Club Cup of Champions, and in each draw have been afforded a first round bye.

In the men's competition the Cleveland club await the outcome of the tie between Virum Copenhagen of Denmark and Knattspyrnufelag of Iceland before playing second round hosts. Similarly, in the women's competition, Ormesby have a second round home tie against the win-



Left to right: Graham Lassen (NZ), Denis Neale, New South Wales TTA president Ken Cole, and Steve Knapp talk technicalities during a break in the tournament.

Photo by Peter Kelly by courtesy of Australian Information Service.

ners of the tie between Pochtenetz Sofia

Men

Round 1

TT Senigallia IT)
 Olympiacos SFP Piraeus GR)
 Tempo Team, Amsterdam NE)
 Pioneer Club, Dublin IR)

Wloknigrz Lodz PL)
 DT Schiffnage LUX)
 SV Sax Langenlois AU)
 Pochtenetz Sofia BU)

Virum Copenhagen DK)
 Knattspyrnufelag IC)
 Sporting Club Lissabon PO)
 Young Stars, Zurich CH)

Club de 7 a 9, Barcelona ES)
 CSM Cluj-Napoca RU)

Women

Round 1

Tempo Team NE)
 Capip Domeldange LUX)

Zero Copenhagen DK)
 CS Arad RU)

Pochtenetz Sofia BU)
 Atus Graz AU)

TTC Elite Bern CH)
 Spojnia Warsaw PL)

of Bulgaria and Atus Graz of Austria.

Round 2

TJ Sparta Praha CS)
)
)

AS Messine, Paris FR)
 SSV Reutlingen D)
)

GSTK Vjesnik Zagreb YU)
 Ormesby TTC EN)
)

Havirov TTC CS)
 KSC Maccabi BE)
 Molndals BTK SW)
)

BP Spartacus, Budapest HU)

Round 2

Statisztika Bp HU)
)

G.B.C. Bari IT)
 Palette Club Stave BE)
 Club de 7 a 9 ES)
 STK Proleter Coka YU)
)

DSC Kaiserberg D)
 Ormesby TTC EN)
)

A.S. Cabourg FR)
 Spartak BS Vlasim CS)
 Olympiacus S.F.P. GR)
 31 Epitok HU)
)

Varbergs BTK SW)

Dates for Completion:—

Men: 1st Round by Oct 15; 2nd Round by Nov 13; Q-F on Dec 7; S-F on Jan 7; Final on Feb 18.

Women: 1st Round by Oct 15; 2nd Round by Nov 13; Q-F by Dec 7; S-F on Jan 7; Final on Feb 18.

EUROPEAN LEAGUE

Equipment adopted by the European Table Tennis Union for use in the European League for season 1977/78 is:—
 Dunlop Super Balls for ALL Divisions
 Stiga Tables for the Super Division
 Joola Tables for Divisions 1, 2 and 3.
 Joola Counters for ALL Divisions
 Schildkrot Nets for ALL Divisions.

Attention is drawn to the following Rule: 'Host Associations not using Adopted Equipment shall lose 2 League points.' Attention is also drawn to the Rule which imposes a Fine of 100 Swiss Francs on Associations not complying with the Rule on the sending of Results.

Fixtures for the 1977/78 season are:—

SUPER DIVISION

1977

September 29
 Soviet Union v Czechoslovakia
 Hungary v Sweden
 England v France (Millom)
 Yugoslavia v Netherlands

October 13
 England v Yugoslavia (Bracknell)
 Czechoslovakia v Sweden
 Netherlands v France
 Hungary v Soviet Union

November 2
 Yugoslavia v Czechoslovakia
 Sweden v Netherlands
 France v Hungary
 Soviet Union v England

December 15
 Hungary v Yugoslavia
 Czechoslovakia v France
 England v Sweden (Gloucester)
 Soviet Union v Netherlands

1978

January 19
 Soviet Union v Yugoslavia
 Czechoslovakia v England
 Sweden v France
 Netherlands v Hungary

February 9
 France v Yugoslavia
 Netherlands v Czechoslovakia
 Hungary v England
 Sweden v Soviet Union

April 6
 Yugoslavia v Sweden
 Czechoslovakia v Hungary
 France v Soviet Union
 England v Netherlands (Plymouth)

DIVISION 1

1977

September 29
 Austria v Poland
 Belgium v Federal Germany
 Ireland v Greece
 Luxembourg v Bulgaria

October 13
 Federal Germany v Austria
 Greece v Belgium
 Bulgaria v Ireland
 Poland v Luxembourg

November 2
 Luxembourg v Federal Germany
 Austria v Greece
 Belgium v Bulgaria
 Ireland v Poland

December 15
 Greece v Luxembourg
 Bulgaria v Austria
 Ireland v Federal Germany
 Poland v Belgium

1978

January 19
 Federal Germany v Greece
 Poland v Bulgaria
 Luxembourg v Ireland
 Belgium v Austria

(Continued on page 6)

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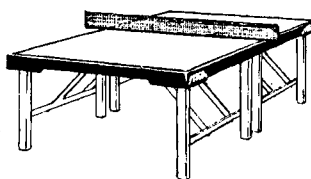
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February 9

Greece v Poland
Austria v Luxembourg
Bulgaria v Federal Germany
Ireland v Belgium

April 6

Federal Germany v Poland
Luxembourg v Belgium
Bulgaria v Greece
Austria v Ireland

DIVISION 2

1977

October 13

Finland v Italy
Scotland v Switzerland

November 2

Italy v Spain
Switzerland v Finland

December 15

Finland v Scotland
Spain v Switzerland

1978

January 19

Switzerland v Italy
Scotland v Spain

February 9

Italy v Scotland
Spain v Finland

DIVISION 3 — To be arranged

EXECUTIVE AND MANAGEMENT

A meeting of the ETTU's Executive Committee will be held in Duisburg on Nov 5 in the morning, followed by a Management Committee meeting in the afternoon.

BUNDESLIGA

A study of the make-up of teams participating in the Bundesliga of the Deutscher Tisch-Tennis Bund reveals that foreign nationals, other than from England, are scattered throughout the 10 men's and 10 women's teams.

PSV Borussia Dusseldorf, in their men's team of eight, sees Warwickshire's Desmond Douglas at No. 1 in front of such players as Ralf Wosik, Hans Joachim Nolten, Hanno Deutz and Eberhard Scholer, whilst Jimmy Walker figures at No. 2 behind Claus Pedersen of Denmark for TTC GW Bad Hamm.

TTC Jagermeister Calw have the Yugoslav, Dragutin Surbek at No. 1, in front of Manfred Baum, with his compatriot Edvard Vecko at No. 3. Yet another Yugoslav, Istvan Korpa, is to be found at No. 3 for Eintracht Frankfurt, behind Heinrich Lammers and Klaus Schmittinger.

On the distaff side, Karen Senior, the Irish No. 1 holds that position for TSV Kronshagen whilst Diane Scholer (nee Rowe) heads the Post SV Dusseldorf team. Participating teams with their No. 1 players are:—

Men

SSV Reutlingen 05 (Peter Stellwag)
Eintracht Frankfurt (Heinrich Lammers)
VfB Altna (Wilfred Lieck)
TTC GW Bad Hamm (Claus Pedersen)
TTC Simex Julich (Joachim Leiss)
PSV Borussia Dusseldorf (Desmond

Douglas)

TTC Jagermeister Calw (Dragutin Surbek)
TTC Morfelden (Jurgen Heckwolf)
FTG Frankfurt (Rudiger Emrich)
TTC Herbornseelbach (Michael Graf)

Women

DSC Kaiserburg (Ursula Hirschmuller)
DJK SG Schwabisch Gmund (Birgit Balke)
VSC Donauworth (Jana Eberle)
Kieler TTK Grun-Weib (Edit Wetzell)
FTG Frankfurt (Blanka Rohan)
TTVg WRW Kleve (Wiebke Hendriksen)
GieBener SV (Gerlinde Glatzer)
Post SV Dusseldorf (Diane Scholer)
SSV Hagen (Iris Sudmann)
TSV Kronshagen (Karen Senior).

Match dates are:—Sept 3/4 and 10, Oct. 1/2, 8, 19 and 22, Nov 19/20 and 23, Dec. 10; Jan 7, 21/22 and 28/29, Feb 18/19 and 25, Apl 1/2, 8, 15/16 and 22.

COVER PICTURE

Chang Li, of the People's Republic of China, and defeated women's singles finalist in the last two world championships, still manages a smile as she grasps two of the presents distributed to the Chinese team which played a North of England side at Kirkby Sports Centre, Liverpool which was organised by the St. Helens & District League following the 34th World Championships in Birmingham.



Alan and June Hydes married on the eve of their departure to Egypt. They now reside at "Hamza", 1 Nostell Fold, Dodworth, Barnsley, Yorkshire (Phone Barnsley 85547). All happiness to you both. Ed.

Coaching Seminar in Africa

by ALAN HYDES

From June 1-14, I had the privilege to be invited by Amin Abou Heif, President of the African Table Tennis Federation, and Jim Wambua, Technical Director of the African Supreme Sports Council, to conduct a seminar for table tennis coaches from African countries in Port Said, Egypt.

In all 25 delegates attended the seminar which was preceded by an umpires discussion conducted by Jean Mercier, the Hon. Treasurer of the I.T.T.F.

Ichiro Ogimura, former world champion (1953/54, 1955/56) and Pascal Conteaux, French national coach, were also in attendance assisting in coaching. H. Roy Evans, the President of the ITTF, and I conducted a very successful seminar along similar lines in Alexandria last year.

What made my visit very unusual and adventurous was that, in addition to the tuition I gave, this was also the occasion of my honeymoon. I married Miss June Swallow at Holyrood Church, Barnsley on Saturday, May 28 and on the evening of May 29 we both absorbed the beauty and mystique of the Nile having a bird's eye view of the

river from the balcony of our hotel, The Nile. Indeed an unusual honeymoon but one of unique value which took us to Port Said, Alexandria and Cairo.

It is the desire of the International Table Tennis Federation, directed by its President, Roy Evans, to offer a guiding hand to areas of the world which lack the modern know how which we in Europe have gained by experience of studying coaching. Many months at the Peking Physical Culture Institute discussing methods and techniques with great champions, Chuang Tse-tung, Li Fu-jung, Hsi En-ting and, under National Coach, Hu Hsi-hieng, has given me a marvellous knowledge of Chinese table tennis not known by many in Europe.

This latter was as the result of winning a Winston Churchill Travelling Fellowship which also took me to study coaching in Japan, where I had my first of many discussions with Ichiro Ogimura.

The ITTF seminar in Egypt did, I believe, achieve its aim of spreading knowledge to the African continent which offers so much in potential still yet undeveloped. The African Supreme Sports Council is set on maximising fully this talent and let us hope that it is not too long before a great knowledge of table tennis coaching is evident in Africa.

SOMERSET NOTES

by GRAHAM GREEN

JUNIOR RANKINGS

More than twenty of Somerset's top junior players attended two Bridgwater venues for the County junior trials on Sunday, Sept 11. As a direct result of these trials the following initial ranking lists for 1977-78 have been compiled:—

Boys:

1. N. Baldwin (F)
2. M. Lazenby (B)
3. N. Banwell (B)
4. P. Bennett (F)
5. S. Slater (B)
6. I. Poole (F)
7. D. Wilson (B)
- M. Williams (F)

Girls:

1. V. Frost (B)
2. W. Payne (B)
3. N. Fudge (B)
4. H. Dodden (B)
5. J. Buckingham (B)
6. D. Turner (B)
7. S. Robinson (B)
8. K. Reardon (B)
- H. Humfries (C)
- E. Pickard (C)

Key:

- B — Bridgwater
C — Chard
F — Failand

It was disappointing that the Taunton and Yeovil Leagues were not represented at the trials. Thus two junior boys who represented the County last year were omitted from this ranking session. It is hoped that all of the leagues will be fully represented at future trials. Looking on the bright side the youngest competitor at this session was 12-year-old Wendy Payne who finished the day in the No. 2 girls' position.

The County match programme will open on Oct 8 with the Junior and Senior teams playing our neighbouring rivals Avon, the venue being Westlands Helicopters Social Club at Yeovil.

NATIONAL TRAINER/COACH

Peter Simpson, who took over the position of National Trainer/Coach following the resignation of Brian Burn is to continue in that capacity under new Terms of Reference yet to be finalised.

The World's Championships

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

Whilst it is now well known that there was a substantial loss on the World's, the extent of that loss is still in the balance. Most accounts have been settled and further assistance has been obtained from the Sports Council. Some of the main creditors have shown consideration in negotiating final settlements, but there are still some major outstanding problems to be solved.

There have been unreasonable charges for work performed and undue delay in payment of money owing to us. These have resulted in one law suit already pending against us for the cost of services in dispute and several to be taken up by us for money due for space taken at the exhibition. The difference between the best and worst positions on these legal proceedings is about £15,000 loss.

The main items still outstanding will be settled next month when we meet representatives from the Birmingham Corporation and the National Exhibition Centre. There are large amounts due to the N.E.C. and some of these are in dispute whilst others are a question of the allocation of liability between ourselves and Birmingham. There is no dispute regarding the latter, it is just a question of interpretation of the work performed in relation to the agreements between Birmingham and the E.T.T.A. in the first place.

This leads to the final matter which is the financial obligations of Birmingham and the E.T.T.A. according to the agreements entered into when the decision was made in 1974 to stage the event in Birmingham. Here again it is a question of interpretation and understanding and we have no doubt that the Birmingham people are fully aware that the E.T.T.A. is not capable of bearing the full extent of the loss alone.

We are still negotiating and putting up a good defence on behalf of our members in every direction and the final outcome is now in sight. The best position will absorb the whole of the first year's guarantee fund and the worst position is too pessimistic to contemplate at present. So the second year's guarantee fund must be collected and remitted as quickly as possible.

In the meantime the bank has been very considerate and the normal life of a table tennis season will carry on as usual. The prospects for the future, once the World's position has been settled, are very good. Reports show an increase in activity all over the country and enquiries from sponsors and advertisers are almost more than we can handle.

So everything is not bad, but the next few weeks will be critical and we can only look to our associates and British justice to see us through.

PLAYERS' REPRESENTATIVE

Cleveland's Nicky Jarvis attended the first National Council Meeting of the season held in London on July 23 as a representative of the players.

Nicky was elected by P.A.T.T. members as the representative for this particular meeting and a full discussion took place on how representation should be decided in future. It was finally agreed 'that the players' representative be elected by and from the Senior Ranking List'.

It was further agreed that only the elected players' representative should be able to attend meetings; there should be no right to send a deputy. And it was also

agreed the Players' Representative should have access to the following committees:—

1. English Championships
2. National Team Competitions
3. National Umpires and Referees
4. Tournaments
5. Coaching and Schools
6. Selection
7. Rules
8. Development
9. County Championships
10. Calendar Working Party

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Peter Hirst, the ETTA's National Coach for the East and South East, has changed his address to: 5 Sidney Gardens, Haslingfield, Cambs. (Phone: Cambridge 870592).

1977 World Table Tennis Championships Preserved by British Film Institute

Eight hours of B.B.C. Television film of the World Table Tennis championships, sponsored by Norwich Union Insurance last March/April, are to be preserved for posterity by the British Film Institute in its National Film Archives.

On the advice of the Central Council of Physical Recreation, the Institute has selected for acquisition film material of all the finals and semi-finals of the Championships, which were held at the National Exhibition Centre, Birmingham.

The World Table Tennis Championships are held every two years in a different country, and may not be staged in England again until the twenty-first century.

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LANCASHIRE NOTES

by GEORGE R. YATES

NEW DIVISION

An overall increase of 11 teams, from 115 to 126, has led to the creation of a fourth junior division, comprising nine teams, for the new season in the Lancashire and Cheshire Table Tennis League. The League consists of 26 Lancashire and nine Cheshire leagues.

A total of 68 teams will again compete in the eight men's divisions. The Lancs County selection committee decided to dispense with the time honoured custom of holding pre-season trials for senior players and to submit an initial ranking list. Emphasis has been placed on youth and Graham Hoy, of Bury has been listed at No. 3 in preference to Farnworth's Clive Heap who figured in the first team last season with Donald Parker and Phil Bowen.

Ideally the selectors would prefer a second team solely comprised of teenagers Ian Smith, Steve Turner and Tony O'Connor. But with O'Connor still under seventeen, required to spearhead the junior team now in the Junior Premier Division this would not always be possible. Salford's Wendy Shaw, together with Sue Manning and Julie Black of Liverpool were earmarked as the county's leading ladies but there is to be an early get-together to formulate a women's ranking list. The men's list has been finalised as:—1. D. Parker (Preston), 2. P. Bowen (Manchester), 3. G. Hoy (Bury), 4. I. Smith (Preston), 5. S. Turner (Preston), 6. A. O'Connor (Liverpool), 7. C. Heap (Farnworth), 8. A. Whittle (Preston), 9. J. Marshall (Liverpool), and 10. Steve Cowley (Bolton).

Following Junior county trials at Hawker Siddeley Dynamics, Lostock on Sept 11 the rankings submitted are:—

Boys — 1. O'Connor; 2. Brian Carney (Blackpool); 3. Paul Rainford (Preston); 4. Bob Freely (Bury); 5. Mark Walmsley (Southport); 6. Tim Malkin (Manchester); 7. Paul Garvin (Rochdale); 8. Tim Hatton

(Rochdale); 9. Graeme Black (Liverpool); 10. George Cheng (Liverpool); 11. Phil Hoy (Bury); 12. Ian Truman (Southport); and 13. Paul Eade (Blackpool).

Girls—1. Joy Grundy (Lytham/St. Annes); 2. Carolyn Scowcroft (Bolton); 3. Jean Parker (Preston); 4. Julie Dixon (Bolton); 5. Dorothy Scowcroft (Bolton); 6. Monica

Coogan (Southport); and 7. Angela Cornwell (Bolton).

Tony O'Connor, nationally ranked at No. 4, retained his No. 1 position of last season despite his one loss to Bob Freely.



George R. Yates, President of the Lancashire TTA, (left) makes the presentation of a silver salver to Tom Alston in recognition of 50 years service to the Burnley and District Table Tennis League. Tom, a former chairman of the LTTA is the current President of the Burnley League having served in every conceivable capacity for the north Lancs. League.

'Photo by courtesy of Burnley Express.

LEICESTERSHIRE NOTES

by PHILIP REID

NEW CHAIRMAN

Everything is now ready for the opening of the 1977-78 season in the hunting shire. Increases in members are reported everywhere but nowhere more than in Leicester itself, which now has 20 divisions, each consisting of twelve teams. This is easily the highest number of divisions the Leicester League has ever had but there are still more applications flooding in.

There have been few changes in officials but one has been the chairman of the county association. After holding posts for years, your scribe did not stand for re-election for the chairmanship and Ian McKeveley was appointed to this post. In the short time (comparatively) Ian has been in Leicestershire he has worked hard and his expertise will be much appreciated.

The Town & Country Building Society will again be sponsoring both our County first team and the County Closed Championships. They have, in fact increased their sponsorship and we are much appreciative of their help.

Dick Johnson is the new Vice-Chairman of the Leicester & District League and his infectious enthusiasm is sure to be of great benefit to the league. Sadly at the time of writing Dick was not enjoying the best of health and we in Leicestershire will wish him all the best to a speedy return to 100% fitness.

Terry Highton is the new County Coaching Secretary and there is little doubt he will be a great success and fit in ideally into the new National Coaching set-up. Terry has already done great things for Leicester and we can look forward to him extending his talents to embrace the county.

All in all it looks a promising time ahead for Leicestershire.

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FOUR SQUARE FOR THE FUTURE

Congratulations and best wishes for the future are hereby extended to Laurence F. Landry and Miss Judith Kennedy who were married at Hampstead Registry Office on July 30 and now reside at 29 Ravenshaw Street, London, NW6 1NP (Phone: 01-794 6753).

20th EUROPEAN YOUTH CHAMPIONSHIPS



Nor did our fortunes take much of a turn for the better in the individual events. Shuttle and Rogers reached Rd. 4 in the Boys' singles, the former, with Beadsley, being ousted in the quarter-finals of the Boys' doubles.

Karen Witt was also a losing quarter-finalist in the Girls' doubles when partnered by no less a player than Bettine Vriesekoop, the new singles champion.

Sandley, in the Cadet Boys' Singles failed to emulate his deeds in Austria, when taken out in Rd. 3 by the eventual champion, Kent Christensson.

French Purkart tables and German Schildkrot balls were used in the championships, the playing conditions being good. English supporters posed a problem and one that will have to be considered for the future.

Countries, hitherto not so prominent in European circles, could be noted as having made rapid development. And into this category must come Austria. Poland and Finland (Girls) and Spain, whose Cadet boy finalist has another year as a cadet!

Peter Simpson and Bryan Merrett were the non-playing captains accompanied by Val Steele as Physiotherapist and Chaperone.

20th EUROPEAN YOUTH CHAMPIONSHIPS

Boys' Singles: Round 4:
H. Kubitschka (AUT) bt Georgiev (POL) -11, 13, 17;
I. Frank (YUG) bt P. Rud (DEN) -15, 17, 15;
A. Stefko (CZE) bt G. Rogers (ENG) 8, 10;
K. Piechaczek (POL) bt D. Paal (RUM) -13, 19, 15;
R. Pavlicek (CZE) bt I. Solopov (USS) 16, -9, 20;
L. Kucharski (POL) bt M. Shuttle (ENG) 18, 15;
J. Pansky (CZE) bt E. Amplatz (AUT) 13, 15;
D. Hassanov (BUL) bt G. Pekar (HUN) 18, -12, 14.

Quarter-finals:
Frank bt Kubitschka 10, 14;
Piechaczek bt Stefko -15, 19, 22;
Kucharski bt Pavlicek 19, 17;
Pansky bt Hassanov 19, 19.

Semi-finals:
Frank bt Piechaczek -12, 15, 13;
Kucharski bt Pansky 14, 18.

Final:
KUCHARSKI bt Frank -16, 19, 19.

Girls' Singles: Round 3:
M. Lindblad (SWE) bt K. Bogyo (HUN) 15, 12;
Evs:ifeeva (USS) bt R. Pavlov (YUG) -15, 15, 15;
B. Vriesekoop (NET) bt M. Sedmair (GFR) 9, 17;
G. Szabo (HUN) bt N. Daviaud (FRA) 10, 21;
V. Popova (USS) bt I. Balogh (HUN) 19, 9;
G. Ferencsi (YUG) bt A. Hernvall (SWE) 13, 18;
E. Ferencsi (RUM) bt M. Stork (GFR) 13, 19;
Z. Olah (HUN) bt S. Huskova (CZE) -13, 18, 15.

Quarter-finals:
Evs:ifeeva bt Lindblad 17, -17, 17;
Vriesekoop bt Szabo 20, 22;
Popova bt Perkucin 14, -14, 18;
Ferencsi bt Olah 20, 14.

Semi-finals:
Vriesekoop bt Evs:ifeeva -15, 19, 7;
Popova bt Ferencsi 11, 15.

Final:
VRIESEKOOP bt Popova 12, -16, 10.

Boys' Doubles: Quarter-finals:
H.-J. Peters/J. Schirrmeister (GFR) bt I. Kavka (CZE)/Pavlicek 13, -20, 12;
U. Bengtsson/L. Franklin (SWE) bt Z. Bohm/S. Crisan (RUM) 17, 14;
Amplatz/A. Pokorny (AUT) bt E. Hanonge/P. Renverse (FRA) -18, 19, 17;
U. Carlsson/U. Cronqvist (SWE) bt K. Beadsley/Shuttle 9, 20.

Semi-finals:
Bengtsson/Franklin bt Peters/Schirrmeister 19, 15;
Amplatz/Pokorny bt Carlsson/Cronqvist 26, 18.

Final:
BENGTSSON/FRANKLIN bt Amplatz/Pokorny 15, 9.

Girls' Doubles: Quarter-finals:
A. Olschewski (GFR)/Sedmair bt A. Landeau/S. Flombin (FRA) 16, 9;
Hernvall/Lindblad bt Balogh/I. Bolvari (HUN) 18, 14;
Olah/Ferencsi bt Pavlov/Perkucin 15, -19, 22;
N. Antonian (USS)/Popova bt Vriesekoop/K. Witt (ENG) 17, 15.

Semi-finals:
Hernvall/Lindblad bt Olschewski/Sedmair -17, 13, 17;
Antonian/Popova bt Olah/Ferencsi 20, 19.

Final:
ANTONIAN/POPOVA bt Hernvall/Lindblad -17, 15, 13.

Mixed Doubles: Quarter-finals:
V. Putilovskij (USS)/Antonian bt Kucharski/J. Szatko (POL) 19, -15, 15;
Frank/Perkucin bt Renverse/Landeau 6, 13;
Pansky/D. Hermanova (CZE) bt A. Martirosian (USS)/Popova 16, 18;
Hassanov/Szabo bt Bengtsson/Hernvall -9, 16, 16.

Semi-finals:
Putilovskij/Antonian bt Frank/Perkucin 16, 24;
Hassanov/Szabo bt Pansky/Hermanova -9, 19, 16.

Final:
PUTILOVSKIJ/ANTONIAN bt Hassanov/Szabo 22, 19.

Cadet Boys' Singles: Round 3:
T. Aleksandridis (TUR) bt J. Revel (GFR) 19, 17;
I. Rak (CZE) bt F. Farout (FRA) 9, -11, 14;
D. Leroy (BEL) bt M. Daugaard (DEN) -17, 10, 12;

FIRST MEDALS FOR NETHERLANDS AND POLAND by The Editor

ROLL OF HONOUR

Boys' Singles:
LESZEK KUCHARSKI
(Poland)

Boys' Doubles:
ULF BENGTTSSON and
LARS FRANKLIN
(Sweden)

Mixed Doubles:
VASILIJ PUTILOVSKIJ and NARINE ANTONIAN
(Soviet Union)

Cadet Boys' Singles:
KENT CHRISTENSSON
(Sweden)

Boys' Team:
SOVIET UNION

Cadet Boys' Team:
CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Girls' Singles:
BETTINE VRIESEKOOP
(Netherlands)

Girls' Doubles:
NARINE ANTONIAN and
VALENTINA POPOVA
(Soviet Union)

Cadet Girls' Singles:
NARINE ANTONIAN
(Soviet Union)

Girls' Team:
HUNGARY

Cadet Girls' Team:
SOVIET UNION

Leszek Kucharski of Poland and Bettine Vriesekoop of the Netherlands brought honour to their respective countries in winning the major singles titles at the 20th European Youth Championships, placed under the patronage of the French President, Monsieur Valery Giscard d'Estaing, and played in the Pierre Coulon Sports Centre, Vichy, over the period July 22 — August 1.

They were singular honours insofar as neither country had previously claimed a 'gold' but again it was the Soviet Union who claimed the lion's share of the eleven titles at stake, the Russians winning five of them, retaining the Boys' and Cadet Girls' team and annexing the Girls' and Mixed Doubles individual titles as well as the Cadet Girls' Singles.

Sweden (Boys' Doubles and Cadet Boys' Singles), Hungary (Girls' team) and Czechoslovakia (Cadet Boys' team) were other winners. All seven individual titles changed hands from those captured at Modling, Austria last year.

Whereas, in Modling, England captured one Gold, two Silver and a Bronze — Paul Day and Andrew Barden winning the Boys' Doubles, Day and Melody Ludi losing finalists in the Mixed, and Graham Sandley, a losing semi-finalist in the Cadet Boys' Singles — it was very much a nil return for us on French soil.

In the team events the boys' team of Martin Shuttle, Chris Rogers, Kevin Beadsley and David Reeves equated their fifth position obtained in Austria the two losses sustained being, predictably, to Sweden and the Soviet Union both by 5-3 margins.

The girls team, however, slumped in the

finishing order, from sixth to twelfth, being represented by Karen Witt, Angela Mitchell and Suzanne Hunt. In the preliminary groupings they had a disastrous 3-0 reverse at the hands of Holland which meant we could not finish in the first eight in Europe!

Nor did matters proceed entirely our way in the second phase as we struggled to beat Italy and Finland losing, for the first time ever, to Poland! Final losses to Federal Germany and Luxembourg took us down to No. 12 in the final placings.

Our Cadet boys' Graham Sandley and Colin Wilson also lost ground in the team events dropping from No. 6 to No. 11. A bad defeat at the hands of Italy meant we came fourth in the initial groupings with no chance of qualifying for the top positions.

But it was in the Cadet Girls' team event that we took the greatest stick, Alison Gordon and Mandy Reeves managing no higher a final placing than No. 13. It will be recalled that we did not send such a team to Modling, after finishing 11th in the 1975 championships in Zagreb.

Losses to France, Finland and the U.S.S.R. in the Phase 1 matches really put the skids under us although, apart from losing to Federal Germany, we subsequently accounted for Poland, Luxembourg and Austria.

Shuttle had a creditable 75% return from his 20 sets in the Boys' team event, as did Sandley in the Cadet Boys and, not far behind was Alison Gordon in the Cadet Girls' with an average of 72.7% from her 11 sets. But, overall, a great deal was left to be desired.

K. Christensson (SWE) bt G. Sandley (ENG) -15, 8, 18;
 N. Azarchenko (USS) bt Z. Stepanek (CZE) -14, 7, 16;
 G. Jancsa (HUN) bt D. Vavik (NOR) 12, 11;
 J. Pales (SPA) bt E. Lindh (SWE) 15, -12, 18;
 H.-R. Blum (GFR) bt T. Karner (AUT) -19, 17, 13.

Quarter-finals:
 Aleksandridis bt Rak -17, 15, 19;
 Christensson bt Leroy -22, 16, 12;
 Azarchenko bt Jancsa -15, 15, 14;
 Pales bt Blum 16, -11, 19.

Semi-finals:
 Christensson bt Aleksandridis 15, -20, 15;
 Pales bt Azarchenko 19, 17.

Final:
CHRISTENSSON bt Pales 17, 13.

Cadet Girls' Singles: Round 3:
 Antonian bt M. Weizades (SWE) 4, 10;
 S. Wenzel (GFR) bt D. Gueorguieva (BUL) 18, 11;
 S. Grefberg (FIN) bt R. Mauriello (ITA) 16, 15;
 I. Bolvari (HUN) bt R. Pravdikova (CZE) 8, 12;
 C. Sava (RUM) bt U. Schulz (GFR) -12, 10, 17;
 C. Germain (FRA) bt U. Urban (HUN) 21, 14;
 A. Zakharian (SWE) bt B. Filipowska (POL) 14, 11;
 M. Hrachova (CZE) bt G. Kirschner (GFR) -23, 19, 16.

Quarter-finals:
 Antonian bt Wenzel 16, 9;
 Bolvari bt Grefberg 13, 22;
 Sava bt Germain -15, 13, 19;
 Zakharian bt Hrachova 18, 14.

Semi-finals:
 Antonian bt Bolvari 17, 18;
 Sava bt Zakharian -14, 16, 15.

Final:
ANTONIAN bt Sava 17, 13.

BOYS COUNT-DOWNS — TEAM EVENTS

Positions	Count-downs	Team Events
1/2	U.S.S.R. 5, Sweden 1.	
3/4	Czechoslovakia 5, Federal Germany 1.	
5/6	England 5, Poland 4.	
7/8	Hungary 5, Yugoslavia 4.	
9/10	Rumania 5, Austria 2.	
11/12	Bulgaria 5, Italy 4.	
13/14	Denmark 5, Spain 0.	
15/16	France 5, Finland 1.	
17/18	Netherlands 5, Luxembourg 3.	
19/20	Turkey 5, Norway 1.	
21/22	Scotland 5, Belgium 1.	
23/24	Switzerland 5, Wales 4.	

Positions	Count-downs	Team Events
1/2	Hungary 3, Sweden 1.	
3/4	U.S.S.R. 3, Yugoslavia 2.	
5/6	Rumania 3, Netherlands 1.	
7/8	Czechoslovakia 3, Austria 0.	
9/10	Federal Germany 3, Poland 1.	
11/12	Luxembourg 3, England 2.	
13/14	France 3, Finland 2.	
15/16	Belgium 3, Italy 0.	
17/18	Turkey 3, Ireland 1.	
19/20	Switzerland 3, Greece 0.	
21/22	Norway 3, Spain 1.	

Finishing positions (previous placings in brackets):—

Boys

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

Girls

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

CADET BOYS Positions

1/2	Czechoslovakia 3, U.S.S.R. 0.
3/4	Federal Germany 3, Hungary 2.
5/6	France 3, Austria 0.
7/8	Sweden 3, Finland 0.
9/10	Netherlands 3, Italy 2.
11/12	England 3, Belgium 1.
13/14	Turkey 3, Spain 1.
15/16	Denmark 3, Wales 2.
17/18	Poland 3, Luxembourg 2.
19/20	Norway 3, Switzerland 1.

CADET GIRLS Positions

1/2	U.S.S.R. 3, Rumania 0.
3/4	Czechoslovakia 3, Hungary 2.
5/6	France 3, Sweden 2.
7/8	Netherlands 3, Bulgaria 1.
9/10	Finland 3, Belgium 2.
11/12	Federal Germany 3, Denmark 0.
13/14	England 3, Austria 1.
15/16	Luxembourg 3, Italy 1.
17/18	Poland 3, Norway 0.
19/20	Spain 3, Switzerland 0.

FINAL POSITIONS

Boys	Girls
1. Czechoslovakia (2)	1. U.S.S.R. (1)
2. U.S.S.R. (1)	2. Rumania (3)
3. Federal Germany (17)	3. Czechoslovakia (4)
4. Hungary (8)	4. Hungary (6)
5. France (13)	5. France (10)

- Austria (7)
- Sweden (5)
- Finland (15)
- Netherlands (4)
- Italy (14)
- England (6)
- Belgium (11)
- Turkey (12)
- Spain (9)
- Denmark (10)
- Wales (16)
- Poland (18)
- Luxembourg (19)
- Norway (—)
- Switzerland (—)
- Portugal (—)
- Scotland (20)

- Sweden (8)
- Netherlands (2)
- Bulgaria (—)
- Finland (9)
- Belgium (—)
- Federal Germany (5)
- Denmark (—)
- England (—)
- 11th previously
- Austria (11)
- Luxembourg (—)
- Italy (12)
- Poland (—)
- Norway (—)
- Spain (14)
- Switzerland (13)
- Scotland (15)

ENGLISH TEAM RESULTS

Boys Preliminary Stage v Portugal (won 5-0)
 D. Reeves bt J. Rocha 13, 14;
 C. Rogers bt A. Torres 10, 13;
 K. Beadsley bt J. Janeiro 11, 13;
 Rogers bt Rocha 8, 14;
 Reeves bt Janeiro 14, 19.

v Luxembourg (won 5-2)
 Reeves bt M. Birel -26, 14, 17;
 M. Shuttle bt G. Wagner 13, 11;
 Beadsley lost to G. Stebens -17, 15, -17;
 Shuttle bt Birel 13, 13;
 Reeves lost to Stebens -18, 20, -15;
 Beadsley bt Wagner 16, 19;
 Shuttle bt Stebens 21, 9.

v Spain (won 5-2)
 Rogers bt E. Torres 12, -20, 9;
 Beadsley bt S. Moles -13, 19, 11;
 Shuttle bt R. Junyent 19, 18;
 Rogers lost to Moles -15, -15;
 Shuttle lost to Torres -14, -21;
 Beadsley bt Junyent 6, -14, 19;
 Shuttle bt Moles 11, 15.

Qualifying Stage v Poland (won 5-3)
 Reeves lost to T. Klimkowski -13, 19, -13;
 Rogers lost to L. Kucharski -21, -18;
 Shuttle bt K. Piechaczek 8, 15;
 Reeves lost to Kucharski -14, -13;
 Shuttle bt Klimkowski 14, 13;
 Rogers bt Piechaczek 19, 21;
 Shuttle bt Kucharski 10, -17, 19;
 Reeves bt Piechaczek 19, 14.

v Sweden (lost 3-5)
 Reeves lost to U. Bengtsson 19, -18, -16;
 Shuttle lost to U. Conqvist -11, -14;
 Rogers lost to L. Franklin -12, -16;
 Shuttle bt Bengtsson 12, -14, 16;
 Reeves bt Franklin 18, 17;
 Rogers bt Cronqvist 16, -12, 16;
 Shuttle lost to Franklin 14, -19, -14;

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Rogers lost to Bengtsson -12, 22, -18.

v U.S.S.R. (lost 3-5)
 Beadsley lost to I. Solopov -8, -14;
 Shuttle bt A. Martirosian 19, -14, 9;
 Rogers bt V. Putilovskij 14, 18;
 Shuttle lost to Solopov -16, -15;
 Beadsley lost to Putilovskij -17, -16;
 Rogers lost to Martirosian -9, -18;
 Shuttle bt Putilovskij 18, -12, 14;
 Rogers lost to Solopov -17, -13.

Final Stage
v Hungary (won 5-0)
 Rogers bt J. Kaiser 20, 20;
 Reeves bt Z. Kriston 11, 12;
 Shuttle bt G. Pekar 15, 21;
 Rogers bt Kriston 11, -12, 17;
 Shuttle bt Kaiser 6, 17.

Play-off 5/6 positions
v Poland (won 5-4)
 Rogers bt Klimkowski -19, 17, 14;
 Reeves lost to Kucharski -15, -16;
 Shuttle bt Konopczynski 10, 18;
 Rogers lost to Kucharski -20, -12;
 Shuttle bt Klimkowski 16, 10;
 Reeves lost to Konopczynski -17, 21, -15;
 Shuttle lost to Kucharski -19, -18, -19;
 Rogers bt Konopczynski 19, 11;
 Reeves bt Klimkowski -21, 14, 20.

Precis of Results

	P	W	L
M. Shuttle	20	15	5
C. Rogers	17	10	7
D. Reeves	13	7	6
K. Beadsley	7	4	3

Boys' Singles

M. Shuttle bt M. Birel (LU) 10, 14;
 bt U. Bengtsson (SV) -23, 18, 13;
 lost to L. Kucharski (PL) -18, -15;
 C. Rogers bt F. Kantebeen (NL) 8, -19, 17;
 bt K. Nesse (NO) 13, 13;
 bt R. Schneider (FG) 8, 10;
 lost to A. Stefko (CS) -8, -10.
 D. Reeves bt J. Krause (FG) 20, 14;
 bt J. Pla 8, -16, 18;
 lost to J. Pansky (CS) -14, -11.
 K. Beadsley bt B. Lucena (PL) 4, 10;
 bt G. Stebens (LU) -20, 18, 18;
 lost to P. Rud (DK) -14, -9.

Girls

Preliminary Group

v Ireland (won 3-0)
 A. Mitchell bt A. Leonard 14, 12;
 K. Witt bt D. Kilpatrick -17, 16, 12;
 S. Hunt/Mitchell bt Kilpatrick/Leonard -19, 19, 16.

v Netherlands (lost 0-3)
 Witt lost to Vrijswijk -10, -18;
 Mitchell lost to B. Vriesekoop -17, -15;
 Mitchell/Witt lost to Vriesekoop/I. Willems -16, -19.

2nd Groupings

v Poland (lost 1-3)
 Witt bt W. Sikora 11, 7;
 Mitchell lost to J. Szatko -19, -15;
 Mitchell/Witt lost to Sikora/Szatko -15, -16;
 Witt lost to Szatko -19, -16.

v Italy (won 3-0)
 Mitchell bt F. Saporetta 17, 15;
 Hunt bt S. Mannicci 14, 15;
 Mitchell/Witt bt Eccardi/Saporetta 21, 10.

v Finland (won 3-0)
 Mitchell bt M. Grefberg 14, 16;
 Witt bt E. Malmberg -18, 15, 10;
 Mitchell/Witt bt Grefberg/Malmberg -16, 15, 18.

Final Phase

v Federal Germany (lost 1-3)
 Mitchell lost to M. Sedlmair 12, -17, -21;
 Witt lost to M. Stork -17, -19;
 Mitchell/Witt bt Olschenski/Sedlmair 19, -14, 14;
 Mitchell lost to Stork -23, -16.

Play-off for 11/12 Positions

v Luxembourg (lost 2-3)
 Hunt lost to C. Risch 18, -15, -11;
 Mitchell bt N. Deltour 11, 18;
 Hunt/Mitchell lost to Deltour/Risch -17, -19;
 Mitchell bt Risch 12, 15;
 Hunt lost to Deltour -13, -19.

Precis of Results

	P	W	L
A. Mitchell	9	5	4
K. Witt	6	3	3
S. Hunt	3	1	2
Mitchell/Witt	5	3	2
Hunt/Mitchell	2	1	1

Girls' Singles

K. Witt bt M. Paun (RU) 19, 17;
 lost to R. Pavlov (YU) -11, -8;
 A. Mitchell bt E. Bueschlen (CH) 16, 14;
 lost to M. Stork (FG) 18, -19, -17;
 S. Hunt lost to N. Deltour (LU) -16, -13.

Cadet Boys

Preliminary Stage

v France (won 3-2)
 G. Sandley bt T. Leclercq 12, 11;
 C. Wilson lost to F. Farout -13, -15;
 Sandley/Wilson bt Farout/Leclercq -16, 22, 18;
 Sandley lost to Farout -21, -12;
 Wilson bt Leclercq 16, 12.

v Switzerland (won 3-0)
 Sandley bt O. Gross 11, 10;
 Wilson bt R. Buchser 14, 14;
 Sandley/Wilson bt Buscher/Gross 14, 18.

v Italy (lost 2-3)

Sandley bt A. Silveri -22, 12, 12;
 Wilson lost to F. Ingrassia -16, -19;
 Sandley/Wilson bt Ingrassia/Silveri 18, 18;
 Sandley lost to Ingrassia -13, -16;
 Wilson lost to Silveri 18, -16, -20.

v Sweden (lost 2-3)

Sandley lost to N. Persson -13, -12;
 Wilson lost to E. Lindh -11, -14;
 Sandley/Wilson bt Lindh/Persson 17, 19;
 Sandley bt Lindh 18, -13, 17;
 Wilson lost to Persson -12, -19.

Qualifying Stage

v Spain (won 3-0)
 Sandley bt C. Roig 14, 16;
 Wilson bt J. Pales 13, -19, 16;
 Sandley/Wilson bt Lopez/Pales 12, 18;

v Denmark (won 3-1)
 Wilson lost to M. Daugaard -20, 14, -19;
 Sandley bt J. Haagensen 14, -19, 8;
 Sandley/Wilson bt Daugaard/A. Jensen 4, 9;
 Sandley bt Daugaard 18, 20.

Play-off for 11/12 positions

v Belgium (won 3-1)

Sandley bt T. Cabrera 8, 13;
 Wilson lost to D. Leroy -18, -16;
 Sandley/Wilson bt Cabrera/Leroy 11, 11;
 Sandley bt Leroy 18, 17.

Precis of Results

	P	W	L
G. Sandley	12	9	3
C. Wilson	10	4	6
Doubles	7	7	0

Singles

G. Sandley bt P. Swier (NL) -23, 16, 15;
 lost to K. Christensson 15, -8, -18.
 C. Wilson lost to H. Blum (FG) -14, -14.

Cadet Girls

Phase 1

v France (lost 1-3)
 M. Reeves lost to C. Germain -5, -11;
 A. Gordon bt I. Dutouya 18, 15;
 Gordon/Reeves lost to Germain/Dutouya -19, 18, -16;
 Gordon lost to Germain 18, -17, -17.

v Finland (lost 0-3)

Gordon lost to S. Grefberg -10, 18, -17;
 Reeves lost to U. Backman -18, 17, -17;
 Gordon/Reeves lost to Backman/Grefberg -18, 19, -11.

v U.S.S.R. (lost 0-3)

Gordon lost to A. Zakharian -15, -16;
 Reeves lost to N. Antonian -7, -9;
 Gordon/Reeves lost to Antonian/Zakharian 16, -6, -17.

Phase 2

v Poland (won 3-1)

Reeves lost to B. Filipowska -22, -14;
 Gordon bt M. Wojcik 13, 19;
 Gordon/Reeves bt Filipowska/Wojcik 12, 14;
 Gordon bt Wojcik 7, 10.

v Federal Germany (lost 2-3)

Gordon bt G. Kirschner 20, 13;
 Reeves lost to S. Wenzel -15, 16, -20;
 Gordon/Reeves lost to Kirschner/Wenzel -10, -8;
 Gordon bt Wenzel 12, 20;
 Reeves lost to Kirschner -12, -18.

v Luxembourg (won 3-0)

Gordon bt C. Simon 8, 6;
 Reeves bt D. Kerschen 9, 16;
 Gordon/Reeves bt Simon/M. Toussaint 19, -19, 18.

Play-offs for 13/14 positions

v Austria (won 3-1)

Gordon bt A. Leitgeb 15, 11;
 Reeves lost to B. Wiltsche -19, -18;
 Gordon/Reeves bt Leitgeb/Wiltsche 13, 19;
 Gordon bt Wiltsche 18, 10.

Precis of Results

	P	W	L
A. Gordon	11	8	3
M. Reeves	8	1	7
Doubles	7	3	4

Singles:

A. Gordon lost to C. Germain 19, -19, -18.
 M. Reeves bt L. Erentsen (NO) -16, 18, 14;
 lost to M. Weizades (SV) -18, -16.

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Applications are invited for the post of National Coach for the Northern area. Applicants should possess an E.T.T.A. Coaching Diploma of a high standard and a practical knowledge of modern fitness training methods.

The duties of the National Coach will include organisation of general coaching within the E.T.T.A. Coaching Scheme and supervision of training for leading senior and junior players.

The starting salary will be based on age, qualifications and experience, and will be within the scale of £2,986 — £3,616.

Application forms are available from the E.T.T.A. Office and should be submitted to the General Secretary, E.T.T.A., 21 Claremont, Hastings, East Sussex TN34 1HA by 31st October 1977. Envelopes to be marked — "COACH".

OCTOGENARIAN

On Sept 22, Mr. A. C. Roberts, senior Vice-President of the Lincoln and District Table Tennis League, celebrated his 80th birthday. As well as giving immense support to all the Lincoln League's functions Mr. Roberts is still an active playing member of the league being currently registered for the 77/78 season. It is not supposed that there can be many 80-year-olds still playing throughout the country.



The Pioneers (l. to r.) Tony Martin, Pat O'Brien, Mick Rice, Joe Hickey and Eamonn Donaghue.

Photo by Studio Vance, Dublin.

FIRST IRISH VENTURE

The Pioneer Club of Dublin, Ireland's first to enter the Europe Club Cup of Champions, have embarked on this venture purely on their own initiative. To make it possible, a fund-raising campaign was started with £200 being donated by the Club itself, another £200 being obtained through coaching by team members in various clubs around Dublin. There have also been some very generous donations from table tennis fans North and South who prefer to remain anonymous. Travel arrangements were made by Aer Lingus, the Irish national airline, and playing equipment was supplied free of charge by Mr. Paul Towell of O'Neill's Sports Shop, Capel Street, Dublin for which the Club was most grateful.

Pioneer's team qualified for entry into this competition by first winning the Premier Division in the South of Ireland and then beating their counterparts in the Premier Division of the Belfast and District League in Northern Ireland. The team is made up of Pat O'Brien, a former international player, ranked No. 6 in Ireland and current Pioneer Open champion; Michael Rice, ranked No. 10 in Ireland and current holder of the Kilkenny Open title and two promising youngsters in Joe Hickey and Eamonn Donaghue. Non-playing captain is Tony Martin, the Club coach, who has put in a great amount of work into organising the team for this event.

The team was scheduled to travel to Holland on Sept 24 and play their match against Tempo Team, Amsterdam on Sept 25 and it will take a great deal of "Pioneering" spirit to overcome the Dutchmen who include in their ranks such players as Bert van de Helm and Nico van Slobbe.

GRADED TOURNAMENT EVENTS ARE HERE!

by TONY ROSS

John (Controversy) Woodford will be pleased to hear that one of his predictions has come true — albeit as yet in an experimental form. John made his prediction in the November 1973 issue following a suggestion of mine that a national players' grading scheme and graded events in tournaments should be considered.

As a member of the E.T.T.A. Development and Tournament Committees, I have been able to progress the idea, and this season tournament organisers will be able to run, if they wish, a "Class 2" singles event. Separate men's and women's events may be held, but if the tournament organisers wish to combine them into a "Class 2 Mixed Singles" they may do so.

The E.T.T.A. Selection Committee has produced a list of the top 50 men players

(the "Elite" Class) and the top 25 women players (likewise "Elite"). These players will not be permitted to enter the "Class 2" men's and women's singles respectively. In the case of a "Class 2" mixed singles, the top 50 men and the top 10 women are the players excluded from entry.

The idea is to provide a competition (not based on age restrictions, within tournaments for the players not of the highest standard. It is hoped that this will encourage more players of this lower standard (not only juniors) to enter tournaments, with the goal of achieving "Elite" status.

At the moment, the scheme is experimental and the "Elite" Class lists will be decided by the Selection Committee. Eventually, it is hoped to develop an individual affiliation system, with a players' grading scheme incorporating lower levels (e.g. Class 3, Class 4) through which promotion will be obtained automatically by points gained at tournaments, etc.

A questionnaire sent out to all senior tournament organisers in connection with

the experiment did not promote an exactly encouraging response, but it is always difficult to change a long established way of doing things. We are one of the few (if not the only) European table tennis countries not to have a players' national classification system.

The first tournament to run a graded event will be the Humberside 3-Star Open in Hull on 29/30 Oct, where a "Class 2" mixed singles will be held at the expense of the mixed doubles, which has been dropped. Further details are being sent to senior tournament organisers by the Tournaments Committee.

"Elite" Class players not eligible to play in Class 2 men's and women's singles are:

MEN

A. Barden (Mi)	J. Kennedy (K)
C. Barnes (E)	I. Kenyon (K)
K. Beadsley (Y)	J. Kitchener (Sk)
P. Bowen (La)	L. Landry (Mi)
D. Brown (E)	S. Lyons (Sy)
R. Chandler (Sx)	P. McQueen (Cv)
A. Clayton (Y)	M. Mitchell (Mi)
D. Constance (Ch)	C. Morris (K)
M. Crimmins (Sy)	D. Munt (Wa)
J. Dabin (K)	D. Neale (Cv)
P. Day (Ca)	D. Newman (E)
D. Douglas (Wa)	D. Parker (La)
N. Ekersley (Ch)	K. Paxton (Du)
A. Fletcher (Y)	R. Potter (E)
S. Gibbs (E)	P. Randell (E)
R. Hampson (Ch)	D. Reeves (Bk)
S. Heaps (Bk)	I. Robertson (E)
J. Hilton (Ch)	C. Rogers (Le)
I. Horsham (E)	C. Sewell (Av)
A. Hydes (Y)	M. Shuttle (Sy)
D. Iszatt (E)	D. Tan (Mi)
N. Jarvis (Cv)	J. Walker (Cv)
B. Johns (Ch)	D. Wells (Mi)
M. Johns (Ch)	D. Wellsman (Sy)
D. Johnson (Wa)	R. Wiley (Cv)

WOMEN

L. Barrow (E)	*S. Lisle (Ch)
J. Coop (Do)	A. Mitchell (Mi)
E. Foulds (E)	J. New (Do)
A. Gordon (Bk)	*L. Radford (E)
*J. Hammersley (Bu)	C. Reeves (Bk)
*S. Hession (E)	J. Robertson (E)
*L. Howard (Sy)	*K. Rogers (Le)
L. Hryszko (Y)	M. Smith (Bk)
S. Hunt (Li)	*A. Stevenson (Le)
D. Johnson (Ch)	A. Tierney (Cv)
S. Jones (St)	J. Williams (Cv)
*C. Knight (Cv)	*K. Witt (Bk)
*M. Ludl (Y)	

* Excluded from Class 2 mixed singles.

Dutch Treat

by Ken Muhr, Coach

In late May, Acton's Gunnersbury Triangle Club played a Dutch club, Victoria TTC from Hilversum, at Aylestone High School, London NW6, whose excellent facilities were afforded by kind permission of the Brent TT Club.

Two sets of matches were played, each club fielding 12 teams of 3. In the first series of matches the teams were made up in ranking order, but for the second time around it was as they came out of the hat.

Although Victoria had some strong players and several promising juniors, the Triangle teams ended up convincing winners overall. We are hoping to take up the offer of a return match in Holland next year but were warned by Victoria's Chairman, Cees van den Bovenkamp, that they had left several of their top players behind on this trip!

CANCELLATION

The Yugoslav Open International Tournament scheduled for Nov 17/19 has been cancelled.

EUROPE CLUB CUP OF CHAMPIONS

The team entered by the Portuguese Association in the Men's Event — Sporting Club of Portugal — was not in fact the Champion Team, but the runners-up. They will be substituted by Balmeiras TTC.

I.M.P.A.C.T. 'GOLD CUP' UNDER 12 TEAM COMPETITION

by Alan Dines

Invited teams from all over England assembled at Bulmershe Centre in Reading on 9th July to contest this annual competition sponsored by Actif Sports the U.K. Agents for 'Gold Cup' Chinese equipment and staged by I.M.P.A.C.T. (Institute of Match Play and Coaching Technics). Separate events were staged for the 12 boys' and 7 girls' teams who played in a system of groups with 4 players in each match.

After an intensive day's play the victorious boys' team was Acton (B. Collingwood, S. Mott, M. Lublinski, E. Gorniak and J. de Souza) who beat Coventry 8-0, Reading 7-1, Oxford 7-1, Ely 6-2, Guildford 5-3, drew with Luton 4-4 and beat Barking 7-1. Close behind in second place were Guildford (G. Russell, G. Kemp, M. Pearce, A. Warner and M. Handcock) who beat Ely 6-2, Swindon 7-1, Lincoln 8-0, Barking 6-2, lost to Acton 3-5 and beat Oxford 5-3 and Luton 8-1. Ely (S. Carvalho, A. Bentinck, S. Green, J. Darnell and R. Thorpe) won 5 matches and only lost to the above two teams so finished 3rd. A new force to be reckoned with secured 4th place — this was Oxford (P. Mabbutt, R. Denbow, N. Hughes and R. Argyle), Luton (D. Sharpe, D. Richardson, J. Youngman and L. Scarbrow) finished 5th and 6th place went to Barking (J. Sparks, P. Sayer, I. Chalkley and P. Deag). Wolverhampton were not at full strength and did not finish in a position they would expect.

The champion girls' team were Ely (J. Richards, J. Rivett, S. Bailey and C. Richards) who started off with a 4-4 draw against Oxford and then beat Guildford 6-2, Reading 'B' 8-0, Reading 'A' 8-0 and Barking 6-2. Causing a few surprises to some were the Oxford girls (M. Denbow, J. Windle, J. Marlow and J. Woodward) who secured second place with results against Ely 4-4, Reading 'B' 7-1, Guildford 4-4, Reading 'A' 5-3 and Barking 4-4. Reading 'A' (L. Green, J. Andrews, H. Vallis and S. Herbert) finished 3rd and Barking (A. Sparks, K. Hall, T. Cook and D. Deag) finished in 4th position.

Final placings were:—

BOYS:

1. Acton
2. Guildford
3. Ely
4. Oxford
5. Luton
6. Barking
7. Maidenhead
8. Reading
9. Swindon
10. Wolverhampton
11. Lincoln
12. Coventry

GIRLS:

1. Ely
2. Oxford
3. Reading
4. Barking
5. Swindon
6. Guildford
7. Reading 'B'

Arthur Simcox the M.D. of Actif Sports presented the winning teams with equipment prizes and all players and team managers received pennants. The successful day's activities were then concluded with a Disco.

The Referee was Harold Larcombe and the Organiser Alan Dines.

HANGOVER RESULT

ORMESBY YET AGAIN

by Keith Ponting

On Saturday, June 11, the players and supporters of the Ellenborough Club, from the North Middlesex League, made the long trek to Cleveland to challenge the Ormesby Club for the Club Championship of England.

The Londoners got away to a flying start with Mark Mitchell scoring a great win over Jimmy Walker. Welshman Alan Griffiths, making his debut for Ormesby in this competition, quickly levelled the scores, beating John Kitchener. Denis Neale was taken to three by Max Crimmins but eventually ran out a comfortable winner.

Mitchell again put Ellenborough on level terms with a 2-straight win over Griffiths. But with the score at 2-2 Walker, Neale and Griffiths made no mistakes in the remaining sets to run out 5-2 winners. The Ellenborough club were worthy challengers and proved themselves as the second best club team in the country. Both teams will be entering European competitions this season and we wish them the best of luck. Mr. R. E. Ransome, President of the Cleveland TTA, presented the awards to the players on behalf of the E.T.T.A. Individual scores (Ormesby names first) were:—
J. Walker lost to M. Mitchell -12, -18;
A. Griffiths bt J. Kitchener 8, 17;
D. Neale bt M. Crimmins 22, -17, 10;
Griffiths lost to Mitchell -11, -14;
Walker bt Crimmins 18, 14;
Neale bt Kitchener 10, 13;
Griffiths bt Crimmins 17, 13.

NATIONAL LEAGUES CHAMPIONSHIPS

The write-up of last season's National Leagues Championships finals, played at Slough, (15 Year Gap Bridged — TT News, May '77) may well have been attributed to Keith Ponting but, in actual fact, was written by the Editor, from information

supplied by 'phone and incorporated a statement attributed to Alan Dines on the Bromfield Trophy final.

The Sun - An Apology

In the issue of The Sun for April 14, 1977, it was stated in the Chester Barnes column that an England table tennis party which had visited China consisted of 13 officials going on a 'free loader' with only five players.

No tour of China sponsored by the English Table Tennis Association has been "top heavy" with officials going on a 'free loader'.

It was also implied that the English Table Tennis Association had interfered in the selection of "expert" commentators for the World Championships. In fact the English Table Tennis Association were asked to provide a list of possible names by the BBC and they were in no way involved in the final selection.

We apologise to the English Table Tennis Association and their officials for any embarrassment which our original statements caused.

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Junior Rankings

BERKSHIRE AT THE HELM

The Royal County of Berkshire can be justifiably proud that their top boy, **David Barr**, and their top girl, **Karen Witt**, head the first junior ranking lists for the 1977/78 season.

These rankings are based entirely on the results of the Final Assessment Camp held in Cheltenham at the end of August. Those players who were selected for the Final Assessment and who were genuinely unable to attend, or complete the full series of matches, have been given an estimated position in order to assist tournament organisers when compiling seeding lists.

The results of the Essex Junior Select tournament, one of the major considerations for junior ranking, will be taken into account when the ranking lists are revised, probably in December.

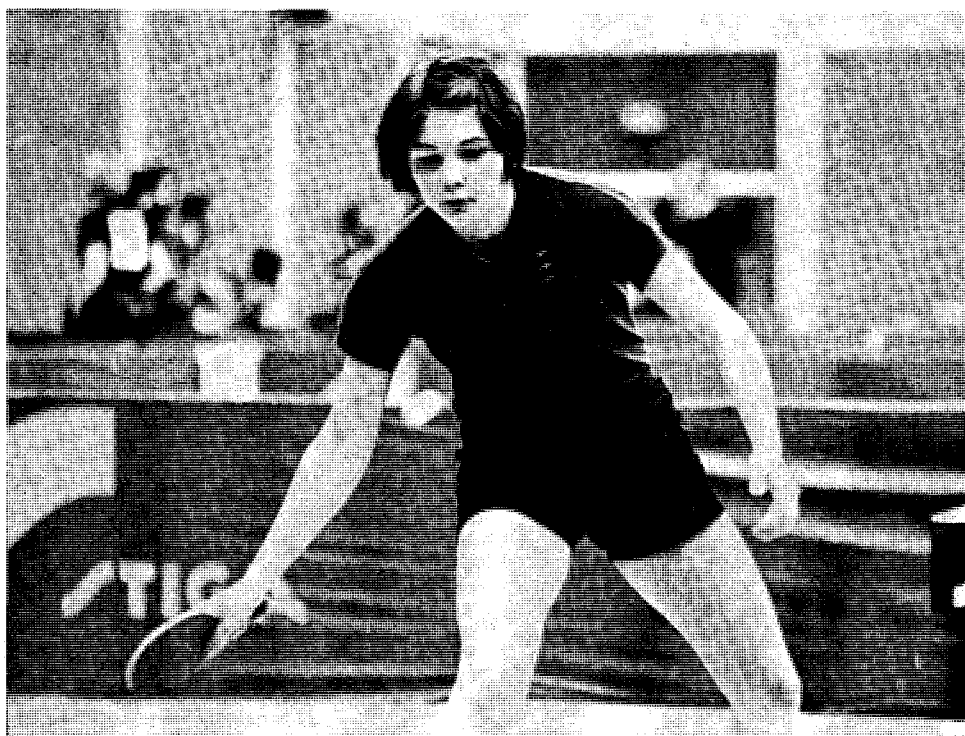
In the round-robin series of matches played at Cheltenham, Barr had a sets analysis of 21 wins against 2 losses, Kenneth Jackson (20-3), Graham Sandley (19-4), Tony O'Connor (18-5) and John Souter (17-6). Karen Witt won all her 15 sets with both Alison Gordon and Mandy Smith finishing with 12 wins and 3 losses, Alison gaining the No. 2 spot by virtue of her win over Mandy.

Rankings (previous positions in brackets):

BOYS:

1. David Barr (Bk) (—)
2. Kenneth Jackson (E) (17)
3. Graham Sandley (Mi) (10)
4. Anthony O'Connor (La) (A)
5. John Souter (Mi) (—)
6. Joseph Naser (Y) (A)
7. Mark Owen (Hr) (A)
8. Stuart Kimm (E) (A)
9. Desmond Charlery (E) (—)
10. Graham Gillett (Sx) (A)
11. Sam Harmer (Bd) (—)
12. Bryn Tyler (Mi) (19)

13. Robert Johnson (Bk) (—)
14. Stephen Holloway (Sy) (—)
15. Ian Plummer (Cv) (A)
16. Paul Whiting (Dv) (—)
17. Anthony Penny (E) (—)
18. Michael Laird (Cv) (—)
19. David Hughes (Cv) (—)
20. Kevin Satchell (Wi) (—)
21. John Weatherby (Ch) (—)
22. Michael Shearman (Dv) (—)
23. Eddie Wilkes (St) (A)
24. Mark Murphy (Cv) (—)



Karen Witt, of Reading, undefeated in the Final Assessment at Cheltenham.

Photo by Tony Ross, Hessele.

GIRLS:

1. Karen Witt (Bk) (1)
2. Alison Gordon (Bk) (9)
3. Mandy Smith (Bk) (7)
4. Angela Tierney (Cv) (3)
5. Linda Hryszko (Y) (6)
6. Jill Purslow (Bk) (A)
7. Gina Pritchard (Dv) (—)
8. Helen Williams (Mi) (A)
9. Sally Midgley (Y) (14)
10. Gillian Galloway (Li) (A)
11. Helen Gore (E) (A)
12. Carol Colegate (K) (A)
13. Helen Robinson (Cv) (A)
14. Rachel McKriell (Wa) (—)
15. Lesley Taylor (Bk) (—)
16. Sarah Gilson (Do) (—)

The following players were not ranked as they were unable to take part in the Final Assessment but should they enter open tournaments they should be seeded in accordance with the places shown:

BOYS:

- 1A Kevin Beadsley (Y) (3)
- 3A Malcolm Green (Sp) (18)
- 6A Colin Wilson (Ha) (A)

GIRLS:

- 4A Linda Holmes (Dy) (A)
- 7A Mandy Reeves (Mi) (11)
- 8A Yvette Brown (E) (A)
- 13A Sarah Cresswell (Sy) (—)

NEW FACES

Nine new members have been elected onto the National Council of the E.T.T.A. including Gerald Hammond to take the vacant seat of last season by Bedfordshire.

Derbyshire have elected Miss Eileen Simpson to take over the resigned seat of Tony Chatwin the other newcomers being (previous members in brackets):—
 Durham — Ken Taylor (Edgar Reay)
 Norfolk — Jack Fuller (D. N. Aldous)
 Northumberland — Aubrey Drapkin

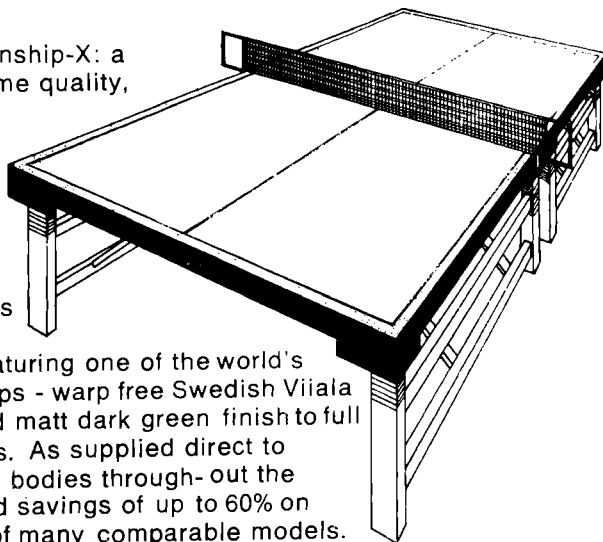
(Harry Dignan)
 Oxfordshire — Miss Anna Waines (R. Hart)
 Staffordshire — Geoffrey Williamson
 (Roy Colcough)
 Surrey — Peter Brennan (Trevor Channing)
 Sussex — Bernard Rowley (Keith Watts - retired)

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SPENSPORT

County Notes

Supplement

NORFOLK NOTES

by J. S. PENNY

ADMIN. CHANGES

There have been big changes on the administrative side of the County Association, it being announced at their AGM that Derek Aldous, Hon. Secretary since he succeeded Eric Fairhead three seasons ago and before that Hon. Treasurer from 1967-68, did not wish to stand for re-election. Derek was also County Press Correspondent and a much-needed umpire at County matches, whilst his wife, Frieda, gave him loyal support in providing refreshments. They will both be greatly missed.

We now hear that Neville Graver has agreed to take over from Derek. His address is 1 Lime Drive, Toftwood, Dereham, and his telephone numbers Dereham 5188 (home) and Dereham 2311 (business). I give this information since it will be some time before it appears in the ETTA Handbook.

Neville has, over the years, been Norwich, Great Yarmouth, Dereham and York champion, and has appeared in 49 matches for Norfolk. He is looking forward to making his half a century very early in the new season.

Neville will be dealing with the general administration and match side, whilst Jack Fuller of Yarmouth is National Councillor.

There are changes, too, in Norwich and District League. Mr. Tom Stevenson, who took over from Mr. R. Q. Gurney as President in 1969-70, announced his retirement after seven seasons. He has been a first class President, experienced also in sports other than table tennis, and always available on all Presidential occasions with the right word for all. Thanks were expressed at the league AGM, when Mr. Stevenson was presented with a gift of sherry glasses. He will be succeeded by Peter Barnes of Norwich City Police TTC, who, on his appointment, stressed the help that can be given to delinquents by introducing them to a good club. He also mentioned the need for umpires.

Graham Johnson becomes Vice-Chairman, replacing Derek Aldous. Harry Carr, 21 years Treasurer, received an inscribed salver, and Jimmy Scott was awarded the Harold Betts Trophy.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE NOTES

by G. STREDDER

CLOSE TO GLORY

The Notts Veterans' team again came so close to glory last season, winning the Midland Division title for the 2nd season running, once more accounting for the formidable Cheshire side, and contesting the Challenge matches with Middlesex and Hampshire.

First match was against Hants resulting in a narrow 4-5 defeat but next they beat the fancied Middlesex team 8-1. All then hinged on the final encounter between Middlesex and Hants which the metropolitan county won and clinched the title by one set so pushing Notts into second place.

The Senior 1st team had a fairly good season finishing 3rd in Div. 3 North and we all feel that had Alan Croome been

available for the first match things may have been even better.

The Juniors also had a good season finishing 3rd behind Cheshire and Clwyd in Jnr Div. 3 North. Perhaps the most heartening aspect of the season was the depth of players available for selection.

All-in-all, last season was an interesting and eventful one in Notts with the World Championships sparking off a series of events culminating in an increase of divisions in both the Nottingham and Mansfield leagues. In Nottingham the 12 divisions of last season has increased to 15, and Mansfield have increased their divisional strength by one to 7.

On the coaching front affairs have also been moving rapidly, the highlight being the performance of Miss Pauline Cameron in the National Y.C. finals at Luton. Although Pauline was beaten in the final of the girls' singles her high standard of play augers well for the future making her a force to be reckoned with. Our other junior girl, Kath Lindley, has also made good improvement and the junior team should benefit from this strong pair.

In conclusion I would like, on behalf of the county players, to wish Mrs. S. Ellis a speedy recovery from the knee operation she has recently undergone. It is disturbing news to hear that Sue may never play competitive table tennis again because of this injury she sustained whilst playing in last season's County Championships. Finally I would ask all players and officials to let me have any news or views so that all within the county can become aware of what is going on.

CUMBRIA COMMENT

by JOHN TAYLOR

CHRIS TO LEAD

After training hard throughout the summer a really fit looking Chris Reed will lead the county senior side for the first time as a senior in his own right in the coming County Championships campaign. With Chris playing as a regular alongside county No. 2 Brian Towell, who won 70% of his sets at No. 1 for the seniors last term, the possibility of a more settled side and a more successful season ahead is on the cards. Looking back to last season although only two wins were gained out of five played, Lancashire II were the only team which we really struggled against. Derbyshire I who finished second have moved on and so things are looking promising. The opening match for the seniors is v Northumberland II at Millom on Nov. 5.

With Neil Smith also joining the senior ranks two gaps are to be filled in the Junior 1st team and Diccon Gray will be one to step up to take a place booked for some time. With only one defeat at the hands of Cheshire's Mark Hankey last season Diccon certainly has no need to prove his worth. The other place is likely to go to either Andrew Pachul or Steven Sharp. The girls remain as last season and Gail Smith and Miranda Gray both have the ability to improve on past records when they often found themselves up against England-ranked opposition. The opening match here is v Derbyshire, away, on Nov. 5. The Junior 2nd team play Northumberland at Millom on Nov. 5 in their opening fixture.

Millom School Table Tennis Club again provide the venues and facilities for all the home county matches except for a couple at the end of the season when the dates clash with school holidays. The county is indeed lucky to have such an enterprising club within its boundaries and last season's roll of honour which included the ESTTA U-19 Boys' and U-16 Girls' National titles surely makes it the leading club of its kind

in the country. The efforts of founder and coach John Reed are ending and are beyond all praise.

Inter-League champions Carlisle, the team with the most strength in depth, will again be the team to beat in this season's competition once again run by Richard Johnstone of Workington.

County officials for the new season are:—

Chairman: Bob Gale
Vice-Chairman: Miss Pat Staton
Hon. Secretary: Miss Clarice Rose
Hon. Treasurer and Tournament Secretary: Ron Rigg
Hon. Match Secretary and Press Secretary: John Taylor
Hon. Umpires Secretary: David Gallagher

CLEVELAND VIEW

by ALAN RANSOME

MAJOR CRISIS

With substantial cash incentives being offered by clubs on the Continent, English table tennis is facing a major crisis and this crisis is being most felt in the stronger table tennis areas of the country which includes Cleveland and their champion club, Ormesby. From the Teesside stable Jimmy Walker has already left for West Germany for the season, whilst Denis Neale's future is, at the time of writing, unclear.

If this was just purely the extent of the problem then it would not be so serious, but it appears that any talented player who comes up in this country and looks like reaching senior international standard will be snapped up by a foreign club before ever reaching his potential unless strong action is taken quickly.

Ormesby as a club has been operating in isolation using the same procedures and systems as the continental clubs for about a decade, but because there is no national league for clubs as such and the only way of club competition on the domestic scene is that of the Club Cup in which most of the matches are of only small spectator value, there is not the scope for promoting club table tennis with the exception of the odd home match in the European Club Cup itself.

If a club league was set up in this country with, say, six or eight strong units, I am convinced that it would not be difficult to attract substantial sponsorship to the Ormesby Club who would then be able to pay the players realistic sums for participating. Initially one could not expect to be able to match the lucrative figures which are being offered by the Continentals, but hopefully within a short period something towards this might be possible. Of one thing I am sure and that is that unless a system such as this, or a suitable alternative which will guarantee the leading players a good income from the game within this country, the standard of the English men will fall, and once that standard has dipped it becomes increasingly difficult to recover.

SUSSEX NOTES

by JOHN WOODFORD

MEDIA SPONSORED EVENT

Not many newspapers are sponsoring table tennis tournaments these days, so Sussex officials were pleased to accept a new venture by the "Sussex Express & County Herald" circulating 30,000 strong in East Sussex — a one-day tournament in September with £140 prize money provided by the newspaper group proprietors.

As a curtain-raiser and as an extra county trials event it should prove in-

valuable for the Sussex selectors. There is one major problem with trials — a player will have a fabulous day beating people he shouldn't or a rated player will lose to everyone present. Most selectors feel that they have to act on trials results, but so often following results conflict with the happenings at the trials.

However, this very new event gives the players the chance of an extra warm-up. In fact the tournament has attracted all but one of the leading players and she is a leading Sussex lawn tennis player — Anita Gedge (Hastings) recent winner of the national tennis K.O. tournament run by the London "Evening News".

The eight seeds will line up with Roger Chandler still battling on and seeded No. 1 to meet Sam Ogundipe in the final. Bexhill's dual sharpshooters Graham Gillett (15) and Stephen Moore (14) continue to improve and to seriously challenge the senior stars.

Linda Budd is now in Sussex for three years and is certain to strengthen considerably one or other of the Sussex senior teams. In fact, the Eastbourne Rose Bowl team which will almost certainly be Linda Budd, Julie Reading and Diane Gard, now seem to have an even greater chance of reaching the semi-finals by beating Bourne-mouth, if the two towns continue to clash.

Sussex finances and other resources are due to be stretched to the limit once again with the inclusion of a veterans team in the County Championships. Latest news is that former England international Peter Shead is available to lead Sussex veterans!

THE SUFFOLK SCENE

by R. C. LANGRIDGE

SENIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS

The postponed Suffolk Senior Closed Championships served as a finale to the County season. The thanks of all competitors are due to Ron Clark, Mr. and Mrs. Denis Barrett and Mrs. Barbara Henderson who, year after year, organise and run all of Suffolk's TT occasions with such enthusiasm.

After unavoidably missing the previous season's championships, John Kitchener emerged again as the M.S. winner, bringing his record to five wins in the past six seasons. Linda Woodcock became the W.S. champion in the most impressive style, which raises hopes that, this season, she will find it possible to add her great talent to Suffolk's newly promoted County side.

Robert Hellaby, whose calm ability greatly assisted the Suffolk side's promotion efforts, was runner-up to Kitchener and, maintaining their county rankings, Mick Palmer (the previous holder) and Bob Milne were the losing semi-finalists.

Results:—

MS: J. Kitchener bt R. Hellaby 10, 11.

WS: L. Woodcock bt C. Ting 19, 10.

MD: Hellaby/R. Milne bt Kitchener/

T. Wootton -20, 14, 10.

WD: Woodcock/D. Wootton bt J. Faiers/

J. Newton 17, 21.

XD: Kitchener/Woodcock bt M. Palmer/

Faiers 11, 12.

VS: A. Cropper bt J. Mansi 15, -16, 6.

RS: B. Garrod bt C. Woollard 14, 14.

Lowestoft and District were able to stage a second special event to celebrate their League's 50th Anniversary year and to complement the earlier, much appreciated, exhibition by the England International Squad. Prior to competing in the World Championships the United States team were persuaded to leave their HQ at Crystal Palace and play "tuning-up" matches in Lowestoft and Norwich.

A capacity crowd of 300 attended the Roman Hill School and saw a Lowestoft "Select" team lose an exciting match against the U.S. 3-7. The home team comprised Bob Thornton, Keith Richardson, Russell King, Jeanne Brown (nee Youngs) and Linda Woodcock.

From the "Navy News" comes tidings of two of Suffolk's exiles! In the 1977 Inter-Services Champs, at R.A.F. Stanmore Park, Dave Halliday reached the semis of the MS. Wren Judy Langridge became the W.S. champion at her first attempt and with P.O. Wren Pat Williams also carried off the W.D. title. Both Dave and Judy were then selected to represent the Combined Services in a match against the Civil Service.

WORCESTERSHIRE NEWS

by DOUG. MOSS

TRANSFER AGREED

The main pre-season talk has concerned an application by Simon Claxton to be released by Worcestershire in order to be eligible for consideration as a Warwickshire player. The County Association is naturally disappointed because Simon is positively the outstanding player in Worcs. and will obviously continue to improve. However, it is appreciated that one of his ambitions is to play in the County Championships Premier Division and this he will be striving to do with Warwicks. Worcs. have agreed to the transfer making it clear that Simon will be welcome if, at any time, he wishes to return. He has played for three seasons in the Birmingham Premier Division and it has been this experience which has benefited him so much and improved his standard. It should be understood that Warwicks. made no approaches for Claxton and the move was initiated by him.

Co-incidentally there has been an application from Steve Moreman to be released by Gloucestershire in order to be eligible for Worcs. He played in Worcester League Div. 1 last season and lost only one event. However this matter has not yet been resolved.

The 26th Anniversary of the Association was celebrated on 1st July at the Holt Fleet Hotel. It was a great success with 170 attending from all over the County together with old friends from Hereford. Geoff Holland, the Association President, with Sheelagh, his wife, came along and he proposed a toast to the Association. The Association was also very pleased and honoured to see an old friend, Maurice Goldstein (ETTA President) and his wife. Maurice made a presentation, on behalf of the County Association, to Doug. Moss (County Chairman), the only person to have held an office for the 25 year period.

The Executive Committee will benefit from some new members. Brian St. de Croix, of the Bromsgrove League, has taken on the role of the County Secretary. He has played in a number of Leagues in the south. John Barber, who is Hon. Sec. of the Hereford-Worcester area of the ESTTA, is the new representative for Bromsgrove and John Duffield (Kidderminster) has been co-opted as Match Secretary of the County Junior team. He has been negotiating some sponsorship of the County Juniors by Trustee Savings Bank.

Derek Baddeley is continuing as Manager of the County teams and joining him on the Selection Committee are Doug. Young, Mervyn Wood and John Mytton with Beryl Shammon added for the Veterans Team. The Junior Selection Committee has Clive Stott as Captain with John Barber and John Mytton as members. Derek Baddeley has got things off to an excellent start in

arranging for 4 tables to be available at the Abbey Stadium, Redditch, on 25 Sept. and 2 and 16 Oct., for team practice sessions, which will include Juniors.

Entries have been received for the County League. There is more interest in Div. 1 (Men). However there is again little interest in the Mixed Division (2 Men and 2 Women). This seems rather significant. Worcs. again tried to influence the re-introduction of the Mixed Doubles event in County Championships matches but found even firmer opposition. More Open Tournaments are also excluding mixed events. There is obviously going to be much less of this play. Worcs. women have always liked these events and it has been recognised as providing good opportunities to improve standard of play. I wonder whether it is the preference of a majority of men or women players, or perhaps both (!), to cut back mixed doubles play!

On the coaching front arrangements have been made with Bryan Merrett to have 8 sessions providing instruction for Coaches.

SHROPSHIRE NOTES

by ALAN CAVELL

CLASHES

Reports at the 1977 county AGM confirmed the views expressed at the 1976 AGM that the county's top players are having clashing table tennis commitments on many weekends. Two town associations failed to complete their inter-league fixtures and the county club knock-out tournament was not held.

Match and tournament play outside the county involves much travelling and the county is fortunate that the Trustee Savings Bank is again sponsoring junior county activities. The playing strength of the top players is rising rapidly and the extensive coaching activities throughout the county are introducing many more young promising players to the sport.

Officers and officials elected were:—

President: A. J. Cavell

Chairman: W. E. G. Harris

Vice-Chairman: T. Felton

Secretary: P. K. Parkhurst

Treasurer: Mrs. D. Jackson

Inter-league Secretary: M. C. F. Jones

County Competition Secretary: J. A. Burke

Umpires Secretary: W. E. G. Harris

Coaching Secretary: P. Jackson

Press Representative: I. Cossor

AVON NOTES

by MARY WETMORE

BRIAN STARS FOR FAILAND

Failand "A" became the first time winners of the Avon Club Team competition when, at Swainswick, Bath on June 16 they defeated Oakfield Park Baptist 5-2. Brian Reeves was Failand's 'man of the match' winning all his three sets.

At the AGM of the Avon County TTA held in Bath, the following officers were elected to serve for the 1977/78 season:—

President: H. Whitmore

Chairman: E. Wynn

Vice-Chairman: G. Mortimer

Secretary: Mrs. J. Watts

Match Secretary: R. House

Inter-Town League Secretary: M. Baker

Coaching Secretary: M. Lewis

Umpires Secretary: Mrs. A. Archdale

Publicity Secretary: Mrs. M. Wetmore

Four representative sides have been entered in this season's County Championships, 2 senior, 1 veteran and 1 junior.

NORTHANTS NOTES

by DENNIS MILLMAN

PROFESSIONAL COACH

A new season dawns, and the enthusiasm engendered at the close season A.G.M. remains, as demonstrated by an attendance of sixteen, representing all six member leagues, at the first County Committee meeting of the season, held at that far outpost of Northants table tennis — Towcester.

The meeting itself was a lively one, centred perhaps on the news that the Trustee Savings Bank had agreed to sponsor table tennis in the county to the tune of over £300. In the main the money will be used to finance a junior first team squad under our first professional coach Rod Marchant. The juniors' gain will of course be the seniors' loss, for his new duties will prevent him from adding to his record number of fifty county appearances.

The recently imposed, and more structured approach to County Championship matches, including the appointments of non-playing captains Ken Marchant, Dave Marsh and Rod Marchant, may not be to everyone's liking, but it should produce a more dedicated attitude than of late, and only time will tell whether or not it produces the standards of which Northants should be capable.

The other main item on the agenda was the County Tournament to be staged at Kettering Recreation Centre on November 26th. Staged before Christmas for the first time, it promises to be a gala occasion fit to celebrate the County's Jubilee in the Queen's Jubilee year. This season's highlight is likely to be a special doubles event, open to all entrants at the tournament. For this competition there will be eight awards, each one carrying the County crest, with the method of pairing up, ensuring that at least four players of lesser status will be among the eventual recipients. Here too, the Trustee Savings Bank has made a significant contribution, generously consenting to provide all the remaining trophies. Let us hope that all players throughout the length and breadth of the County will do their utmost to make the arrangement mutually beneficial.

This season's interest in the South East Midlands League has increased with twenty County sides competing in a record nine divisions. Here Northampton lead the way with seven entries, while Kettering, Wellingborough and Daventry have five, four and three respectively. Entries for the County League are unchanged with Wellingborough, Kettering, Daventry, and Towcester hoping to take away Northampton's title.

The Northampton League is also in the ascendancy, with an increase in the number of clubs for the first time for many years, making it necessary to create an extra division. Kettering has not been so fortunate, for hire charges at Lodge Park Sports Centre, together with a lack of suitable alternative accommodation, has decimated the largest of Corby's table tennis clubs, and simultaneously dealt a serious blow to the Kettering League.

The Kettering League also says farewell to the retiring Terry Sutton, probably the League's most popular player over the past quarter of a century, and at times certainly the best. Winning his first Championship title in 1955, he went on to add a further eighteen, together with one at County level, and was the mainspring of Kettering Town's twenty two League title wins since 1951. His cheerful personality, his dedication to the game, and his ability to win or lose with equal grace, will be qualities hard, if not impossible, to replace.

However for those still in harness,

whether playing, watching or officiating, may I wish them an enjoyable and successful season.

NORTHUMBERLAND NOTES

by PAULINE JACKSON

CLOSE SEASON ACTIVITIES

The close season activities this summer read almost like a full scale continuation of the previous winter season. These started with the County Association's Annual Dinner/Dance and Presentation of League and Cup trophies, which was once again held at the "Highlight Suite" of J. T. Parrish Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne, on Friday, May 13. The choice of date did not deter 150 members and friends from attending, and among those present were Doreen Ormond (nee Smith), Joyce Hewitt (nee Purves) and Madge Pattinson (formerly Waugh), Northumberland's winning Rose Bowl team of the 1947-48 season. Our thanks once again go to Bill and Lily McMaster for taking the trouble to organise this event.

Interest in League play during the summer showed a further substantial increase, with three further Divisions — two of 8 teams and one of 7 — added to last season's total in the Tyneside Summer League. Matches were played on a home and away basis with one point for each set won, and a knock-out Cup competition, run on a handicap basis, was also organised. Details of winners and runners-up were:—

Division 1A:

Winners: National Carriers "A"
Runners-up: North Shields BC "A"

Division 1B:

Winners: Eldon Square
Runners-up: Byker CC "B"

Division 2A:

Winners: National Carriers "B"
Runners-up: Allen Bradley

Division 2B:

Winners: Great Lumley "B"
Runners-up: Byker CC "B"

Division 3A:

Winners: Maccabi
Runners-up: Gosforth CS

Division 3B:

Winners: Byker CC "E"
Runners-up: Procter & Gamble

Division 4A:

Winners: Oxhill
Runners-up: BBC Youth

Division 4B:

Winners: Byker CC "H"
Runners-up: Delaval CC "C"

Division 4C:

Winners: Thompson's "D"
Runners-up: North Shields YMCA "B"

The Div 1A and 1B championship challenge match was won by Eldon Square, for whom Andrew Clark won 3 sets, Frank Mitchinson (2) and their other win came in the doubles. National Carriers' sets were gained by Peter Gorman (2), Dave Armstrong (1) and Bob Dodds (1). Eldon Square (Scratch) also achieved the double by beating Washington (plus 27) in the final of the K-O Cup by 366 pts to 294.

A large entry was received for both of the close season tournaments — the Silver Jubilee North Tyneside Carnival Tournament on July 24 at Wallsend Sports Centre, and the inaugural Northumberland Junior Closed Championships on Aug 15 at Eldon Square Recreation Centre. The junior entry, in particular, continued in an encouraging vein, which should augur well for the future. One name to note must surely be that of the fast-improving John Burke of Byker C.C., who was runner-up in two events at the Silver Jubilee Tournament, and followed that with a notable treble at the Junior Closed. Results:—

SILVER JUBILEE

MS: A. Clark bt M. McMaster 13, 20
WS: K. Cheung bt L. Aust 13, 13

MD: C. Shepherd/McMaster bt D.

Lawrence/A. Thompson 14, 17

WD: J. Aust/L. Aust bt P. Jackson/
V. Frankland 13, 19.

XD: McMaster/Cheung bt T. Straughan/
J. Hobson 16, 15

Div 3/4 S: A. Westwater bt P. Kolvin 16, 13

B U-18 S: Clark bt J. Burke 11, 16

G U-18 S: Hobson bt V. Elsdon 21, 9

U-15 S: S. Lawrence bt Burke 14, -14, 18.

U-11 S: M. Schapira bt A. T. Drapkin
12, 15.

JUNIOR CLOSED

BS: J. Burke bt J. Anderson 17, 16

GS: S. Norris bt C. Morton 19, -12, 14

BS U-15: Burke bt I. Bonner 11, 11

GS U-15: S. Yeung bt J. Aust 16, 17

BS U-13: M. Schapira bt J. Coorsh 17, 17

GS U-13: Yeung bt C. Burke 19, 16

XS U-11: Schapira bt D. Clark 12, 13

The summer season ended with another very successful social evening at the "Highlight Suite" on Sept 16, with trophies being presented to all the Summer League and Cup winners and runners-up. The new format of a buffet supper and 50/50 Disco boosted the attendance to 170 members and friends, and the evening was such a success that consideration is being given to adopt this idea for the Northumberland League's annual event in May.

Our thanks go to the Summer League Secretary, Aubrey Drapkin, and also the Committee for all the hard work they have put in during an extremely successful close season.

The Northumberland League season commenced on Sept 19 but the first County fixtures are not until November 5, when the first team (Div 2N), the second team (Div 3N) and the Junior team (Junior Div 3N) all travel to meet Cheshire, Cumbria and Cumbria II Juniors respectively.

YORKSHIRE NOTES

by TONY ROSS

TRIALS

Following trials at Moor Grange School, the county selectors have issued the first ranking lists of the season. Although the selectors attached great emphasis to the results of the trials, other information was taken into account, and players who were not able to attend the trials were also considered.

The ranking lists are:—

MEN: 1 — Alan Hydes (Barnsley); 2 — Tony Clayton (Hull); 3 — Alan Fletcher (Hull); 4 — Kevin Beadsley (Bradford); 5 — Andrew Metcalfe (Leeds); 6 — Steven Mills (Sheffield); 7 — Clem Lo (Bradford); 8 — Michael Harrison (Hull); 9 — Joe Naser (Hull); 10 — Michael Stephenson (Bradford); 11 — Alan Summerscales (Doncaster); 12 — Jim Yeats (Bradford); 13 — Stephen Kosmowsky (Leeds); 14 — Brian Metcalfe (Leeds); 15 — Robert Shutt (Bradford).

WOMEN: 1 — Melody Ludi (Bradford); 2 — Julie McLean (Hull); 3 — Linda Hryszko (Bradford); 4 — Sally Midgley (Bradford); 5 — Helen Shields (Bradford); 6 — Carole Grayson (Hull); 7 — Jane Guanaria (Leeds); 8 — Maureen Gott (York); 9 — Cathryn Haworth (Leeds).

BOYS: 1 — Beadsley; 2 — Naser; 3 — Tony Bottomley (Halifax); 4 — Paul Sanderson (Leeds); 5 — Adrian Hill (Bradford); 6 — Andrew Leather (Sheffield); 7 — Neil Harris (Bradford); 8 — David Ryan (Sheffield); 9 — David Gee (Leeds); 10 — Trevor Fletcher (Leeds); 11 — Neil Barley (Hull); 12 — Neil Hillerby (Leeds); 13 — Paul Makinson (Bradford); 14 — Ricky Burrett (Hull); 15 — David Roseman (Leeds).

GIRLS: 1 — Hryszko; 2 — Midgley; 3 — Guanaria; 4 — Haworth; 5 — Margaret Sargent (Sheffield); 6 — Angela Hudson (Hull); 7 — Angela Lutkin (Hull); 8 — Julie Todd (Bradford); 9 — Tracey Wenn

by GEOFF NEWMAN

BETTER THAN EVER

This season promises to be even better than last with both our Open Tournaments being granted top rating in the ETTA's tournament calendar. New Tournament Secretary, Vic Russell, has already entered the fray with the Junior Open, again granted "Select" status, already on the shelf. The Senior Open, granted 3-Star status for the first time, will again be held at Wanstead Sports Centre over the weekend of May 6/7, 1978. The Closed has been arranged for Mar 4/5 at St. Chad's School, Tilbury by courtesy of the Headmaster.

The E.C. heard with much regret that George Meakin has resigned as Competitions Sec. due to personal reasons. George was a refreshing face on the Executive and his hard work last season, together with his aptitude for improving the work in the Essex competitions was a joy to see and our best wishes go out to him. For once his vacancy did not cause us a problem for Dick Roffe, so unlucky to just lose out on the vote for Treasurer, accepted the Chairman's offer to step into the breach. Our good wishes go to Dick who takes on the unenviable task of reconstituting the whole Essex Leagues following the proposition that was passed by the M.C. to have three separate competitions this season. Our other new Officers, Peter Radford (Hon. Treas.) and Peter Roden (Umpires Sec.) are settling down well and the E.C. are indeed fortunate to have obtained the services of such efficient and willing workers.

At our AGM, the Corti-Woodcock Memorial Award was presented, on behalf of the Trustees, to Gordon Lightfoot. Bobby Stevens, representing the Trustees, made the award. The meeting also conferred on Shelagh Hession the award of Life Member for services to Essex both awards being fully justified and deserved.

Our congratulations must also go to our hard working secretary, Mike Watts who, at the ETTA AGM, became the recipient of the Ivor Montagu Award for his work in the administrative field. There could be no more deserving a person to receive this award. Mike has promoted table tennis at all levels for many years and his boundless enthusiasm, dedication and hard work has done much to promote the game and I shudder to think what Essex would have done without him. Well done Mike.

I am delighted to announce that our Essex Senior Premier team has been sponsored this season by Lenval Ltd. Lenval are specialists in thermal insulation. They are based at High Road, Fobbing, Stanford-le-Hope, Essex, and we are indebted for their support.

Our Senior Selection Committee (Ron Mackenzie, Pete Radford and Ron Gore) have selected the following team for our first match against Cleveland at No. 1 Terminal Building, Tilbury Docks on Oct. 8 (7 p.m.): Bob Potton, Ian Horsham, Dave Newman, and Lesley Radford.

Taking into consideration the closed season coaching/training sessions, and the fact that there will be no pre-season trials the Selection Committee have produced the following rankings:—

Men 1 R. Potton; 2 D. Brown; 3 I. Horsham; 4 D. Newman; 5 D. Iszatt; 6 K. Caldon; 7 I. Robertson; 8 L. Eadie; 9 S. Gibbs; 10 K. Jackson; 11 G. Blomfield; 12 R. Randall; 13 B. Malley; 14 P. Hunt; 15 J. Drew; 16 S. Whiteley; 17 L. Smith; 18 J. Poysden; 19 N. Brierley; 20 F. Mauthoor.

Women 1 L. Radford; 2 S. Hession; 3 L. Barrow; 4 J. Robertson; 5 E. Foulds; 6 H. Gore; 7 J. Livesey; 8 Y. Brown; 9 G. Donaldson; 10 E. Sayer; 11 T. Pickard; 12 J. Boulter; 13 J. Dowsett; 14 K. Tillyer.

Congratulations to Dave and Hazel Brown on the arrival of Christina on July 13, wt. 8 lbs. 9 ozs.; Ian Horsham and Julie Kelly on their marriage on Aug. 6 and to Leon Smith, Kenny Jackson, Helen Gore and Julie Dowsett, all capped for England Schools in the Stiga Jubilee Schools' International Championships in July. And, finally, to Bob Potton on his selection for the England team to visit China this month.

Kenny Jackson, Stuart Kimm, Desmond Charlery, Tony Penny, Helen Gore and Yvette Brown are all included in the new English rankings and are to be congratulated also. Especially Kenny who added the Essex Junior "Select" title to his recent wins in the Welsh Juniors, ESTTA and European YMCA Championships — a very impressive run of successes.

Finally you will all be pleased to know that Harry Walker is making an excellent recovery from his recent illness and he wishes to thank everyone who kindly wrote to him in hospital. Harry would still like to hear from any of his old Essex friends his address being — 14 Braybrooke Road, Hastings, East Sussex.



Bob Potton, winner of last season's men's singles title in the Bairstow Eves Essex Open with Colin French, the Managing Director of Bairstow Eves. Bob has been selected for the England team to tour China this month.

'Photo by Geoff Newman.

SELECTION COMMITTEE

The following will serve as this season's Selection Committee:— R. J. Crayden (Chairman), Alan Hydes, Mick Kercher, Laurie Landry, Bryan Merrett, Alan Ransome and Peter Simpson. Results Analyst will be Peter Charters without vote as applies to Gordon Steggall, the Chairman of the Coaching and Schools Committee, also a member.

Honours List

At the AGM of the ETTA held at the Imperial Hotel, London, on July 9, Tom Blunn, in his capacity as Chairman of the Life Members and Vice-Presidents committee, proposed on behalf of the National Council one new Life Member, John M. Wright of Middlesex. John had given exceptional service over very many years to the sport, and as the Referee of the 34th World Championships had carried out this responsible duty in a first class manner. In reply, Miss Cynthia Scrivens, now John's wife, apologised for his absence due to unavoidable professional commitments and thanked everyone for the honour bestowed upon him.



JOHN WRIGHT

Mr. Blunn further proposed, on behalf of the National Council, that Mrs. E. F. Betts, Mr. G. M. Daniels, Mr. C. C. Hames, Mr. L. F. Landry and Mr. J. McDonnell (Norwich Union) be elected as Vice-Presidents of the E.T.T.A. These proposals were all seconded and carried unanimously.

Maurice Goldstein (President) presented the Malcolm Scott Award to Keith Watts (Hon. Life Member) and paid tribute to the long service Mr. Watts had devoted to the game. The presentation was greeted with acclaim and Mr. Watts expressed his gratitude. Mr. Goldstein also presented the Ivor Montagu Award to Mr. M. D. Watts (Essex) and paid tribute to the high merit of the recipient. Mr. Watts suitably replied and the presentation was applauded.

Mr. Blunn announced the presentation of the Queen's Silver Jubilee Medal to Mrs. E. F. Betts (Folkestone) and Mrs. J. F. Reay (Sunderland), and the meeting added their congratulations.

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FIFTY EVENTFUL YEARS

by RON CRAYDEN

1927 was a year to remember, it was the year when Charles Lindbergh flew solo across the Atlantic, when Tunney beat Dempsey in the 'long count' fight and London introduced the Automatic telephone. It was also the year when the English Table Tennis Association was formed. Many years previously table tennis had been fashionably popular and acquired the onomatopoeic name of 'Ping Pong'. To change the image and to build a new National body on firm foundations became the burning ambition of two brilliant men, the Hon. Ivor Montagu and W. J. 'Bill' Pope. Had they not succeeded we would not be celebrating a Golden Anniversary. In half a century, the Association that started out as a precarious venture has been transformed into an Internationally respected organisation. It was perhaps fitting that in the 1928-29 season, less than two years after the formation of the E.T.T.A., an Englishman became the Singles Champion of the World. His name of course was Fred Perry, who later achieved Lawn tennis fame.

THE THIRTIES

Foresight and judgement were the main ingredients to help overcome the growing pains and when such men as H. Oldroyd (President) and A. K. 'Bill' Vint — later to be awarded the O.B.E. for his services to the game — joined the dynamic pair of Montagu and Pope, the future was assured.

The magical skills of three Hungarians, Barna, Bellak and Szabados had much to do with the rise in popularity of the game in the thirties. They were brought to England for a series of exhibitions and gave table tennis a new dimension. Between 1936 and 1939 the number of affiliated Clubs jumped from 1,654 to more than 4,000 and a new spectator sport was born. As playing standards improved there was a noticeable swing towards defensive play and the menace of stonewalling tactics loomed large. In 1937 the net was lowered from 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ in. to 6in. and a time-limit-rule was introduced. The controversial finger spin was adjudged illegal and rallies became the 'norm' rather than the exception. In 1938 the World Championships were held at the Albert Hall (with the finals at Wembley) and we had another home-grown champion, when Wendy Woodhead from Amersham won the Mixed title in partnership with Lazlo Bellak.

THE FORTIES

The War years halted normal activities although Exhibitions were held to raise money for the Red Cross and various War charities. The post-war period however, brought about a quick revival and in 1946 the National County Championships were inaugurated. Internationally we were a force to be reckoned with and in 1947 our Ladies won the coveted Corbillon Cup without conceding a set. The following season the 'Worlds' returned to England and it was success all along the way. We retained the Corbillon Cup, won the Women's Doubles title (Vera Thomas and Peggy Franks) and the great Richard Bergmann, now a naturalised British subject, won the Men's Singles crown. In the 1948-49 season, Essex born Johnny Leach won the first of his two Men's Singles titles.

THE FIFTIES

In my opinion, English table tennis reached its peak in the fifties although it started on a sad note. Bill Pope, one of the game's finest administrators and founder member of the E.T.T.A. passed away in June 1950, and less than three years later H. Oldroyd died, having served as President for twenty-two years. It is not easy to replace administrators of such quality but we were most fortunate in having a tireless worker on the sidelines by the name of Tom Blunn. It was as long ago as season 1957-58 that Tom took over as Treasurer, a position he has held with great efficiency ever since.

In the playing arena more World honours came our way and nicely pressed flannels gave way to a natty line in shorts. Richard Bergmann again won the Men's Singles title in 1950 and then a year later in Vienna, Johnny Leach achieved greatness by winning the World's Singles title for a second time.

The delightful Rowe twins, Di and Ros, also had us waltzing in Vienna by winning the Women's Doubles title, a sort of double celebration. 1952 was the 25th Anniversary of the E.T.T.A. and Her Majesty the Queen graciously consented to assume Patronage of the Association. It was this year that Sponge bats were banned in domestic play. This was felt by many to be detrimental to our chances abroad but in 1953 we gained our greatest victories. Our Swaythling Cup team of Bergmann, Kennedy, Leach and Simons travelled to Bucharest and for the first and only time won the Cup in a thrilling final against Hungary.

In April, 1954, the World Championships came again to Wembley and more than 30,000 people saw the matches. It was a coming of age party for our own Di and Ros, who on their 21st birthday won the World's Doubles title for the second time. The cost of running the World Championships was becoming astronomical so in the 1956-57 season it was decided to hold them biennially. To take care of the interim years Europe inaugurated their own Championships and the first of these was held in the 1957-58 season. The Women's team championship was won by England, represented in all matches by Diane Rowe and Ann Haydon. In 1959, I was privileged to be the tour leader of the first Chinese team to visit this country and had my first glimpse of Chuang Tse-Tung and Li Fu-Jung who developed into the greatest players I have ever seen.

THE SIXTIES

In 1960, Jack Carrington, one of the pioneers in coaching became the first full-time Director of Coaching and paved the way for the extensive Coaching scheme we have today. Four years later the National Executive Committee was replaced by the National Council composed of a representative from each County. In 1965, former World Champion, Johnny Leach was awarded the M.B.E.

1961 was a special year in our history as an England team made its first ever trip to China to compete in the World Championships that were held in Peking. Internationally, our Ladies still retained their great competitive skills and Diane Rowe found a new partner in Mary Shannon. Together they won the European Women's Doubles titles in 1962 and 1964 and they were the backbone of England's team victory in the European Championships in Malmo, 1964. On the other hand, our Men's team although blessed with technical ability lacked that special something associated with champions. In 1966, the European Championships were held at Wembley but results and public support did not come up to expectations.

THE SEVENTIES

Bill Vint became President of the E.T.T.A. in 1970 and a new Chairman,

Charles Wyles, took office. Charles worked tirelessly for table tennis and masterminded the tour of China in 1972 that received considerable press coverage and acclaim in high circles. The following year, 1973, he was awarded the O.B.E. Charles has not rested on his laurels, in point of fact he was the guiding light behind the recent World Championships held in Birmingham, an event of enormous magnitude that involved over seventy countries.

Playing wise, the seventies have not been so successful as those recorded in other decades, that is without taking into consideration the wonderful results achieved by Jill Hammersley and to a lesser degree Linda Howard. In Prague, 1976, Jill thrilled us all by winning the European Women's Singles title and then for good measure teamed up with Linda to take the Women's Doubles crown. We have been markedly successful in the Commonwealth Championships and our youngsters have recorded some first class wins in the European Youth Championships. Although we do not appear to have a potential World Champion in the pipe-line it is worth reflecting on the strides we have made. At the last count we had some 7,900 registered Clubs, almost double the number of that recorded in 1939 which by many was looked upon as a 'boom' year, and we are becoming a sporting body of growing importance.

The future, my friends, is what we make of it.

WESTERN LEAGUE NEWS

by GROVE MOTLOW

JUNIOR SECTION FOLDS

The AGM was held at the National Dock Labour Board offices at Avonmouth, kindly arranged by our genial President, Mr. John Ford who, at the close of the meeting supplied us all with refreshments as he has done since his appointment to the chair ten years ago.

All were sorry to learn that our popular Chairman, Mr. Reg Salway was in hospital for the second time, the first being last November. All expressed wishes that his second operation would be successful and that he would have a speedy recovery.

It was unfortunate that our first venture into a Junior section was not a success. Matches were not completed and although we did intend to try again, now that I have had a belated withdrawal from Swindon, both Seniors and Juniors, we have stopped the Junior section and Bristol and West Wilts have now entered the Senior section.

Bournemouth and Newbury, who were in the Juniors at the start of last season, had already withdrawn. This only left Plymouth whose juniors have been used in senior contests. Newbury have not entered any teams after withdrawing last season. The women's teams left are the two strong ones from Bournemouth and Plymouth as Newport were forced to withdraw last season and now Swindon have no teams at all in the League. But the League, formed in 1936, will continue and, hopefully, return to its former strength as I shall make every effort in this regard as I begin my 29th season at Hon. General Secretary.

There were no changes in officials at the AGM but we did appoint Mr. Percy Crocker of Bristol as Vice-Chairman and Mr. George Mortimer (Bristol) and Mr. Alan Wettstein (Bournemouth) were added to the list of Vice-Presidents. This season the Men's section will comprise: Bournemouth, Bristol, Newport, Plymouth, Poole, Weston and West Wilts. Before the close of the AGM trophies and individual awards were made by our President to Poole in the Men's section and Bournemouth in the Women's.



A view of the playing area in the St. Neot's Club.

REALISATION OF A DREAM

The St. Neots Table Tennis Club was formed 1944. In 1947 the Club entered the Bedford League (having previously been playing in the Huntingdon League) and won the division at the first attempt, which was a remarkable feat for such a new club. The St. Neots Club has since won the Bedford and other Leagues on many occasions.

It was in 1973 that the St. Neots Table Tennis Club decided they needed large premises of their own and as the bank balance at the time was only about £100 a massive fund raising exercise was introduced. In just over 2 years the balance was increased to over £6,000. In addition, grants were received from the National Sports Council and the Huntingdon District Council and a piece of land was allocated, at a very low annual rent, by the Local Council.

By the beginning of 1976, building had commenced and with a great deal of help and hard work from many people, including members, ex-members, local businessmen and the ETTA the club was able to move into its new premises for the start of the 1976/77 season.

It is considered that the building is probably one of the largest and best equipped clubs, being used solely for Table Tennis, in the Country. It is capable of providing up to 12 tables for beginner coaching, up to 8 tables for general coaching and general match play, up to 6 tables for County and National competitors and up to 2 tables for International play.

The premises have already been used for the National Counties K.O. competition, the English Schools Eastern Area Team competition, the Eastern Cadet Rankings (under the direction of Peter Simpson, England's Team Manager) for the R.A.F. National Players, the ETTA Regional Coaching Scheme, the ETTA Gold Cup Cadet County competition, events arranged by the South East Midlands League and County Senior and Junior events.

The St. Neots Table Tennis Club believe they can now offer the best facilities available and are very hopeful that an England

International will emerge in the not too distant future.

Any enquiries for bookings etc. to:
Len Saywell.
Tel.: Huntingdon 75178.

Successful Formula

In late June 1976, just three weeks prior to their A.G.M. the High Wycombe & District TT League General Secretary resigned unexpectedly after 16 years in office. Despite various attempts to find a successor the post was unfilled at the A.G.M. and so the League faced season 1976/77 without the services of a General Secretary. The League is one of the largest town leagues in the Association and with 137 teams from 44 clubs contesting 12 divisions is the twenty-second largest overall. League Chairman for the two previous seasons was **Brian Webb** (National Councillor and Hon. Treasurer of the Buckinghamshire County Association) and here he outlines their successful formula for the completion of an active and complete playing programme.

There was a 100% attendance at the first Council Meeting following the A.G.M., six officers and seven committee members, and our very first action was to co-opt an additional lady member as Minutes Secretary, and she joined us immediately. Of the now 14 members seven were serving for the very first time, in retrospect this was no bad thing but at the onset it was not exactly one of our strengths. Fortunately four officers including myself and one committee member were real stalwarts and had all served in various capacities, for ten years or more and two of these had service nearer to twenty years than ten.

The new committee were informed that the current season would be one of:

- (1) PARTICIPATION.
- (2) DELEGATION.
- (3) INNOVATION.
- (4) EXPEDIENCY.

In the unusual circumstances which we

found ourselves past precedence would necessarily not count for much.

(1) PARTICIPATION

It was my deliberate intention to involve the entire Management Council (M.C.) as never before and their active participation was to be vital. This proved to be unstinting and the final completion of a very full and active programme was due in no small measure to the united efforts of a happy and harmonious committee team. Right at the start I requested that if, after accepting a particular task anyone found that for any reason at all they were unable to complete same it was essential that they either obtained help, passed the job on or contacted either the Assistant Secretary or myself immediately. Fortunately such an occasion did not arise but at least the machinery was set up to ensure that no task just petered out halfway. Every member of the M.C. had an identical list of the names, addresses and telephone numbers (home and/or business if convenient) of all the committee.

(2) DELEGATION

The only comment under this heading is that participation without responsibility is unlikely to be a complete success. A possible criticism of our M.C. in previous seasons was the lack of opportunity by the ordinary committee member to participate constructively and actively. Not only did the new situation force this to cease but it was obvious that every member of the M.C. relished the new opportunities and gave much more effort to the League. The specialised sub-committees for INTER TOWN TEAMS and the CHAMPIONSHIPS and TOURNAMENTS were encouraged to organise completely their own sphere and report regularly to the M.C. meetings.

(3) INNOVATION

Although we did not attempt anything startling under this heading it was an opportunity to try out ideas and suggestions and also systems already used successfully by other table tennis organisations. Perhaps in some cases we should have been using some of these already but a long strong previous administration is never a hot bed of change; but in all our efforts we did have the benefit of a tried and tested soundly organised league.

Undoubtedly our greatest success revolved around a new procedure, for us, for Council Meeting Minutes. Previously these were recorded and kept in a book by the General Secretary and were read at the beginning of the next meeting by which time they were history. The prime function of minutes should be to activate and so we co-opted a Minutes Secretary (incidentally this also hived off one complete and unpopular job) whose duty it was to produce numbered and typed minutes within a few days of the meeting. An action appendix was then added, specifying particular responsibilities and the paperwork was photostated and promptly distributed to every committee member by a reliable and fast pass on system which was guaranteed to beat the local second class post hands down. By this simple and effective system need, responsibility and promised commitment were clearly defined and tasks eventually satisfactorily completed.

Other new ideas introduced in this period were a standard committee agenda, issued to all committee members at the first meeting, and always fixing the date for the next meeting at the close of every meeting. As this information was always duly minuted there was obviously no further need to contact any absent committee member on this topic.

During this season we took the opportunity to re-organise our end of season team handicap competition successfully

using John Wright's Handicap Amendment Chart (see Table Tennis News No. 88, Page 24, May 1977) which I had been fortunate enough to have prior to the publication of the article. The widow of our President, John Hudson, who died midway through the season, kindly donated a new rose bowl trophy so enabling us to institute a new style tournament for the John Hudson Memorial Trophy.

(4) EXPEDIENCY

In the immediate period after the July 1976 A.G.M. our first priority was obviously the task of organisation for the new playing season which commenced eight weeks after the A.G.M. Initially it was important that we sorted out our real priorities and concentrated our energies, however as the season progressed this proved to be less and less necessary and in the end we completed every event in our normal very full playing schedule plus an additional separate Finals Night programme for our Annual Individual Championships.

During the previous 16 seasons virtually all the initial League organisation had been handled solely by our General Secretary. To tackle the post A.G.M. work load, especially between the A.G.M. and the first M.C. meeting I invited a few senior members to join me in an ad-hoc group which included our Assistant Secretary who was both a long serving officer/committee member and a League Life Vice-President.

GENERAL COMMENTS

If necessary I occasionally sought advice from other quarters, we are lucky in having a professional organisation at the E.T.T.A. H.Q. and if any other County Association has a better Hon. Gen. Sec. than Buckinghamshire then they are indeed greatly blessed. The one task which gave me the most concern beforehand, because of the

obvious implications if it was published incorrectly, was the allocation of letters for the coded fixture chart. In the final event my worries were groundless as I took slightly over two hours to complete the task, working in the garden one hot Saturday August afternoon (137 teams from 44 clubs in 12 divisions). I was extremely grateful that my old friend John Wright had agreed to check my work and within 48 hours a couple of minor alterations and his assurance that the home and away alternatives were all covered.

CONCLUSION

The additional participation by the whole committee was mutually beneficial, and they all appeared to enjoy the year so much so that they were all willing to seek re-election at the 1977 A.G.M. This seemed to re-emphasise a favourite adage of mine "the more you put in the more you get out". Our A.G.M. was a quiet affair, always the sign of a contented membership and we were able to fill all the offices and had a keenly contested election for committee places.

Looking to the coming season we intend to have a reallocation of responsibilities and duties appertaining to all secretarial work and additionally both the new General Secretary and Assistant Secretary will be documenting all they do and when, so that a basic job description will evolve for future reference.

To any other organisation in a similar position I would say be confident, positive and flexible. Much can be accomplished with good will and determination. Never be afraid that you will make a mistake, the person who has never made one has never done anything.

Our season was not perfect and I hope

that I have not given the impression that it was but I do hope that this coming season we will eliminate our errors of last year.

LINCOLNSHIRE NOTES

by JOAN ROBINSON

Following the success of the Lincolnshire Junior Open, held for the first time last season, the AGM gave approval for the event to be held again this season. The Tournament has been upgraded to 2-star, and will be held on Sunday, Jan 8, 1978, at the North Kesteven Sports Centre, North Hykeham, Lincoln. U-17, U-14 and U-12 events will be run. Entry Forms are available from the Organising Secretary, Mrs. J. Robinson, 13 Croppers Way, Freiston, Boston, Lincs. The first event on the Lincs. Calendar is the Junior Closed on Oct 30. This event is organised by Alan Norman, and with the high interest at Junior level it is anticipated that this season's Tournament will break all records.

Officers elected at the AGM were:—

President: A. J. Biggadike
 Vice-Chairman: W. V. Moran
 Match Secretary: J. Robinson
 Coaching Secretary: D. L. Worrell
 Chairman: J. J. Robertson
 General Secretary: J. Robinson
 Treasurer: D. L. Worrell
 Umpire Secretary: W. V. Moran
 Press Officer: J. Robinson
 Selection Committee: J. J. Robertson,
 D. L. Worrell, A. Black, A. Norman,
 A. Owen.


The Senior County Team (having been relegated to the 3rd Division (North)) will be hoping for a short stay in this Division, while the two Junior Teams will be fielding some new blood.

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Bats. Four Joola bats; the Andy Barden, Jochen Leiss, Christa Johansson and Toni Hold are on offer. The Barden, Leiss and Johansson come in either Super Turbo or Standard Turbo, with three thicknesses of rubber. The Toni Hold is available with anti-loop or backhand rubber.

Blades. All four models are available in blade form in 5mm and 7mm thicknesses.

Tables and Nets. Joola's speciality are Fold and Roll tables. The top model the Rollomat 2000S, is I.T.T.F. approved with a 21mm top. Used in the European Youth Championships in Austria, this is the simplest and most effective Fold and Roll system yet. For school, youth club or sports centre, the perfect table is the Joola Transport. Each half has four wheels to make moving, erecting and dismantling literally child's play. Joola nets are used for most top competitions, including the European League.

Clothing and Accessories. Joola market a full range of smart, practical and comfortable clothing. Shorts and shirts are available in tournament and training models. The Joola tracksuit, the most popular amongst the top German players, and the world famous Koyo Bear Shoes are on offer.

Andy Barden, Joola's first British Player.

JOOOLA

table tennis

DERBYSHIRE NOTES

by ANNE FEARNEHOUGH

COMMITTEE CHANGES

The 1977/78 table tennis season has begun with many changes. This season the Derbyshire committee welcomes three new members; Bill Druce who has taken over the position of chairman, and we hope Bill settles down in his new job! We also welcome Bill Fowkes as the new secretary from Danny Blair who has served the committee for many years, and last but by no means least we welcome Joan Walker (a delegate from Burton), who used to be a regular county first team player. We hope all the new members as well as old members (or should I say regular members!) settle down and sort out all the problems soon!

To assist in the selection of county teams this season, all contenders have been invited to take part in three county sessions. The first of these sessions was held at Derby on Sept 14 and apart from a disappointing turnout from the senior men, the session was quite successful. The next session is hoped to be held in mid-October and the final session in November.

This season there is a change in the county colours. The new colours are navy blue shirts and black shorts/skirts. This change is mainly due to the fact that grey shorts/skirts were not easily obtainable and thus players were not turning out in the correct fashion. So starting this season, the county hope to see smartly dressed players!!

It was pleasing to note the inclusion of a Derbyshire player in the new national ranking lists namely Linda Holmes. Although not actually included in the lists Linda has been ranked at No 4A with Angela

Tierney as failure to attend the Final Assessment Camp meant that Linda was given an estimated position and now must obviously prove to the selectors that she is worthy of the honour by beating the necessary players. Unfortunately Linda has requested to play for Nottinghamshire this season and the decision is now awaiting the committee's attention.

This season for the first time, Derby and District TTA have organised a sponsored Derby open tournament to be played on Oct 16. At the moment the number of entries is very promising but the hope is for many more come the closing date of Sept 30.

What a transformation for Poole. When they first joined the League they were regarded as the 'chopping blocks' but with steady improvement ultimate success has been obtained. Well done! As I look at the list of secretaries I note most are new with the exception of Poole. Ray Philpott, 31 years for Weston, and myself, 33 years for Newport, are the sole survivors. And Ray still plays!

Stop Press !

European League Results

Super Division

Soviet Union 4, Czechoslovakia 3.

Hungary 1, Sweden 6.

England 4, France 3.

Yugoslavia 5, Netherlands 2.

Division One

Austria 1, Poland 6.

Belgium 0, Fed. Germany 7.

Ireland 3, Greece 4.

Luxembourg 0, Bulgaria 7.

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Alan Ransome with 19 votes was elected onto the Management Committee in the place left vacant by the retirement of Keith Watts, Laurie Landry, Maurice Goldstein and Arthur Upton were the retiring members to be re-elected. Voting:—

L. F. Landry (Cornwall) 33 votes.

M. Goldstein (Warwks) 30 votes.

A. E. Upton (Lancashire) 28 votes.

A. E. Ransome (Cleveland) 19 votes.

Unsuccessful in the ballot were:—

Mrs. D. Henderson (Avon) 12 votes.

C. A. Burden (Kent) 12 votes

M. S. Greatrix (Hants) 10 votes.

ENGLISH TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION

DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

Applications are invited for the post of Development Officer with the English Table Tennis Association.

The duties are likely to be wide and varied with full involvement with the work of the Championship, Selection and Development Committees. The promotion, presentation and publicity of the sport will occupy a considerable portion of time, through involvement with the international matches and championship events.

The starting salary will be based on age, qualifications and experience, but will be within the scale of £3,142 — £3,904.

Application forms are available from the E.T.T.A. Office, and should be submitted to the General Secretary, E.T.T.A., 21 Claremont, Hastings, East Sussex TN34 1HA by 31st October 1977. Envelopes to be marked "DEVELOPMENT OFFICER".

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SUMMER WEDDING

Congratulations and all best wishes for their future happiness to John M. Wright the National Councillor for Middlesex, and Cynthia Scrivens, the former Administrative Secretary of the English Table Tennis Association, who formed a permanent doubles partnership on July 28. They now reside at 57 Cardinal Avenue, Kingston-upon-Thames, Surrey, KT2 5RY.

Playtable tennis with **TEES SPORT** SUMMER SCHOOL '77

3-STAR COACHING AT DURHAM CASTLE

by NORMAN GATISS

Tees Sport's first Summer school was held at Durham in August and this unique opportunity to work under the best of British coaching was seized by an enthusiastic 40-strong, mixed-ability group from all over the U.K.

During five days they spent thirty stimulating hours under the eyes of England stars, Nicky Jarvis and Carole Knight, Brian Burn, England trainer-coach 1974-76, Bob Wiley, 3-star coach, and England selector/3-star coach, Alan Ransome. The playing arena, equipment and administration under Josie Tomkins, were excellent, and good food and a friendly atmosphere completed a memorable week.

The course consisted of definitive demonstrations of the modern stroke range, with emphasis on the inter-linking movement patterns, followed by intensive practice under the constant supervision of a 3-star coach. The accent was on personal tuition, geared to the standard of the individual, and regular rotation of coaches ensured a

variety of coaching approach.

Brian Burn's physical training programme quickly demonstrated that well-developed arms and legs are not enough for the modern player — the heart, lungs, back and stomach muscles need equal attention. He recommends a programme of running and circuit training to develop stamina and agility. A demonstration match, Knight v Jarvis, underscored his point that the modern game demands a body, 100% fit, to produce the required speed, power, and mobility.

In the Closed Season two separate weeks of high level coaching were held in the beautiful and historic surrounds of Durham Castle under the auspices of Alan Ransome's Tees Sport Company. A parent of two of the participants, Mr. Norman Gatiss of Milton Keynes, sends this report.

Nicky Jarvis stressed the need to choose the correct equipment to complement the player's style. Many players, he says have squandered an early talent by using too fast a bat before acquiring the control necessary to handle it. Seek expert advice, says Jarvis.

Alan Ransome on 'How to Win' was an interesting session on match tactics and mental approach. The Chinese say this comprises 80% of their game and filmed games of the 1977 World Championships showed their views are to be respected.

An ability-zoned tournament, with excellent equipment prizes, rounded off an inspiring course, and a greatly enlightened squad left Durham to employ new skills and ideas in their local leagues.

My two sons attended the course and in their words, Alan Ransome's team were the Greatest! Next year it's Dad's turn!

NON-PLAYING CAPTAINS

At a meeting of the National Selection Committee, held in London on August 3, the following non-playing captains were agreed:—

Men — Peter Simpson
Women — Bryan Merrett
Boys — Alan Hydes
Girls — Alan Ransome
Cadets — Donald Parker



Participants on the first week

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

CONSIDERABLE ACHIEVEMENTS

I do not know Alan Shepherd personally, only by sight and reputation but have the greatest respect for him. Whilst I understand his feelings about some of the entries apparently refused by the organisers of the last Reading 2 Star Junior Tournament, I cannot go along with his other criticisms of the Event. I assume that, in giving Reading 'Select' status, the tournament committee were influenced largely by what Reading and Berkshire have done for Junior Table Tennis and the achievements in that direction are considerable.

Nothing is perfect and great playing conditions are rare indeed in this country. Certainly partitions should have been provided between tables. Seating arrangements for spectators, indeed players were uncomfortable. The organisation lacked flair. There should at all times be at least one attractive match on one of the centre tables which will focus attention and give the spectators something to remember. In the under 14 event the Leroy - Moore was such a match which attracted a large crowd, but there were other matches equally good, which were played in almost total isolation on one of the outside courts.

What really angered me was the behaviour of some competitors. As soon as one match had ended — sometimes sooner — hordes of youngsters descended on the empty tables, pushing aside often quite small players who had barely finished their last point. Few could conclude the formality of shaking hands, before large, old-looking juniors swooped, vulture-like, all over the playing area in search of a few minutes' practice. Officials, who were present in large numbers, coaches in track-suits decorated by the latest badges either made some half-hearted, generally futile gesture or, more frequently, pretended not to notice. Printed instructions, so clear on such earth-shattering matters as the colours of competitors' plimsols, were less explicit about the anti-social antics we witnessed at the end of practically every match. At one point in the afternoon I counted unauthorised players on more tables than competitors playing matches. At that stage what seemed a feasible and leisurely time-table was running late. One could not be altogether surprised.

Reading is not alone in this. It happens at most junior and some senior tournaments. At some officials are more active than at others in stamping out what is at best bad manners, at worst selfish and undisciplined.

Where Reading deserves nothing but praise is for staging an Under-11 Event, described by Alan Shepherd as 'totally unnecessary'. There is no shortage of Under 14, 15 or 17 tournaments. It is these latter that are totally unnecessary, indeed pointless. Due to the curious method of calculating ages in our sport, taking the qualifying birthday before the start of the season, most of the competitors are in fact nearly 17, or, if you like, as old as Stellan Bengtsson when he was champion of the world or one year older than Chester Barnes when he was champion of England. With the

greatest respect to all concerned, at that age these 'juniors' should be playing against other men (or women).

I can see some point in the Under 14 and 15 events, but these players too are already nearing their best. If there is a national search to produce great players, on which topic I have the gravest doubts, then they will have to be found when they are 'Under 11' or 'Under 12'. That is the time when they will benefit most from the right coaching, they will not have cultivated bad habits, they will be most receptive, but few players will emerge in that age group, which is the vital one, whilst there are so few tournaments for players of that age. What is one to make of a table tennis scene that provides so many more events for Over 40's than for Under 12's, indeed a climate of opinion in which an otherwise enlightened activist like Alan Shepherd presumably regards that state of affairs as quite normal?

Does it not go a long way to explain why we produce so few players of world class? They were probably there, but nobody noticed them 'till they were 15, by which time their full potential could no longer be realized.

So to John Woodford's 'of lesser controversy'. To run the English Junior Open in Mid-May is 'ludicrous', he writes. The season, he feels, ought to be finished in April and presumably start again in October. As far as many club players are concerned, he is probably right, but an English Junior Open attracts the best Juniors in the land. Surely they are not expected 'to sun themselves in the early summer sun' for 5 or 6 months every year, whilst their major competitors have a practice schedule of 5 or 6 hours per day for 11 months of the year. If our top players want to have a 6 months season, they may earn the applause of Mr. Woodford, but they will win few other prizes. They may sport an excellent sun tan (in a good summer), but they will never be world champions.

After a list of complaints, I close on a happier note. My warmest thanks to the E.T.T.A. for staging the recent world championships. It was a marvellous experience that will remain with me for the rest of my life.

JOHN PREAN.

12 Marlborough Road,
Ryde, Isle of Wight.

ANY ADVANCE?

I am wondering as to whether our club has set a record for the number of teams entered in a League. In the coming season we have entered 15 teams in the seven divisions of the Eastbourne & District League.

Our Club was formed 20 years ago when four members of the Southbourne Cricket Club got together and formed a table tennis team to compete in the local league. Initially they played in a games room of a local public house which was followed by periods in other public houses until they obtained the use of a room at a local cricket ground. Over the years other players joined until we were running six teams.

In 1974 our club assisted at an Exhibition of Sport and as a result a number of teenagers from the age of 11 years came to us for coaching sessions which we were holding at our club then being in the garage of a member. These juniors have improved to the extent that amongst our 57 members we have seven of the leading juniors in Eastbourne.

At the present time we are playing at Stafford School, Ringwood Road, Eastbourne

where we have three tables and play on three evenings each week.

DEREK WILKINSON,
Hon. Gen. Secretary
Southbourne Table Tennis Club.

36 Desmond Road,
Eastbourne, East Sussex.

FAIR COMPROMISE

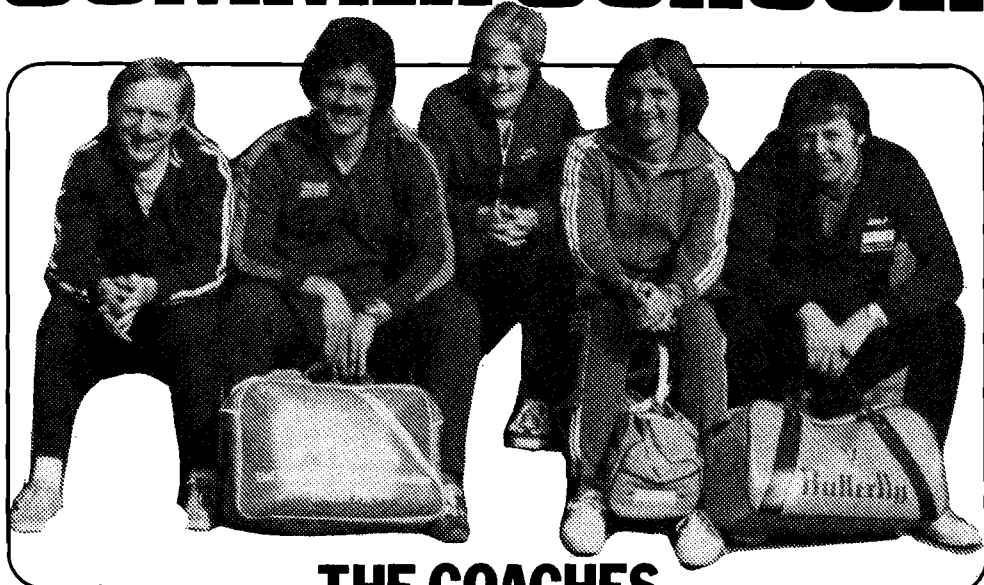
As you know, for the International Table Tennis Federation, the net stood at 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ in. in height. Not long before the war, "reform-

ers" secured a lowering of the net from 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ in. to 6in., i.e. $\frac{1}{2}$ in. reduction (19 mm), intending that the game would thereby be "speeded up" and attack encouraged (Ivor Montagu). This $\frac{1}{2}$ in. reduction made a great difference in the play, for it robbed the game of much of its artistry and skill.

The need to build up a scientific attack no longer exists, since the lower net encourages wild slogging and "bull-at-a-gate" methods. That reduction is now generally recognised that it was overdue (Barna). A height of 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ in. would probably be a fair compromise and one generally acceptable to the great majority of play-

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ers, the conservatives in the matter and me too.

Major J. T. Libanio.

Caixa postal 115,
12460 Campos de Jordao, S.P.,
Brazil.

"NORWICH UNION ROSE"

At the Anniversary Dinner of the English Table Tennis Association which was such an enjoyable function, the Norwich Union Insurance Group was privileged to provide roses as a present to each lady, and roses in addition, formed the table decorations.

The rose is officially the "Norwich Union Rose", a golden-yellow scented floribunda.

Many of the guests at dinner that evening asked how these roses could be obtained. The grower is Peter Beales, and his address is Peter Beales Roses, Intwood Nurseries, Swardston, Norwich, NR14 8EA. The price is 95p per bush, and he is taking orders now for delivery in November.

JOHN M. McDONNELL.

Public Relations Manager,
Norwich Union Insurance Group,
Publicity Department,
1 St. Stephen's Street,
P.O. Box No. 48,
Norwich. NR1 3TA.

I.M.P.A.C.T. 'ASCOT BUTTERFLY' UNDER 14 TEAM COMPETITION

by Alan Dines

This well established and popular competition was staged by I.M.P.A.C.T. at Bulmershe Centre in Reading on 18th June and again sponsored by Ascot Sports. 12 Boys' teams and 8 Girls' teams contested their events fiercely and after 12 hours play with each team playing 5 to 7 matches the final positions were not resolved until the last points had been played. Many matches had been extremely close and the finishing stages were very exciting and there were only narrow margins between all the top teams. The permutations were complex and the excitement in the last matches was intense.

The champion Boys' team of 1977 were Acton (J. Souter, M. Les, D. Pilling, B. Collingwood and M. Brogan) who well earned their day of triumph with 6 wins and 1 draw. They were closely pursued home by Plymouth (P. Whiting, P. Waldron,

C. Bunch and G. Wiltshire) the team who drew with Acton but they in turn went down against Wolverhampton. Third place went to Guildford (M. Oakley, G. Baker, G. Russell and T. Vine) who won 5 matches but lost to Acton and Plymouth. Barking (I. Att-ridge, S. Edwards, W. Campbell, C. Scott and T. Pascal) secured 4th place, 5th place went to Wolverhampton (A. Dixon, P. Owen, M. Devitt, P. Dawes and J. Lamb) and 6th place to Bradford (G. Wilson, M. Plowright, M. Cartledge and R. Frazer).

The Girls' championships was secured by Barking (M. Abbott, D. Taylor, G. Travers, K. Mudie and J. Askem) who had wins in the final group over Plymouth and Reading and a loss to Guildford. Final placings were in doubt until the very end but second place went to Reading (L. Taylor, A. Burke, T. Vallis and S. Purslow) who, without the services of A. Gordon, beat Guildford and drew with Plymouth in the final group. Guildford (S. Cresswell, M. Bland, S. Conway and C. Gibbs) with a win over Barking and a draw with Plymouth finished 3rd and Plymouth (C. Butler, S. Collings, T. Sugden and P. Green) finished 4th. The Lincoln girls were not at full strength and could have contested a higher place than their final 7th position. The 5th place secured by the Oxford team was impressive particularly considering the strength of the teams who finished above them.

Winning teams received equipment prizes from Ascot Sports and all players and managers received pennants.

The intensive day's activities were brought to a successful conclusion with a Disco.

The Referee was John Freeman and the Organiser Alan Dines.

Final positions were:—

BOYS

1. Acton
2. Plymouth
3. Guildford
4. Barking
5. Wolverhampton
6. Bradford
7. Bromley
8. Derby
9. Coventry
10. Gravesend
11. Maidenhead
12. Reading

GIRLS

1. Barking
2. Reading
3. Guildford
4. Plymouth
5. Oxford
6. Swindon
7. Lincoln
8. Reading 'B'

WHAT'S ON AND WHERE

- October**
- 13—(Thurs.) European League — Super Division.
ENGLAND v YUGOSLAVIA.
Bracknell Sports Centre, Bagshot Road,
Bracknell, Berks. (7-15 p.m.).
- 15/16—(Sat./Sun.) ITT Open Championships of Sussex,
White Rock Pavilion, Hastings.
Final at 6-30 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 16.
- 16—(Sun.) Carlisle Bros Derby 1-Star Junior Open,
Sinfon Community School, off Arleston Lane,
Sinfon Moor, Derby from 9-30 a.m.
- 16—(Sun.) East of Scotland Open 2-Star (Edinburgh).
22—(Sat.) North of Scotland Open 2-Star (Aberdeen).
22/23—(Sat./Sun.) North Middlesex 2-Star Open
(North London).
- 23—(Sun.) Aberdare Open.
- 29/30—(Sat./Sun.) **Dunlop Humberdale 3-Star Open.**
Y.P.I. Ferens Recreation Centre,
Chanterlands Avenue North, Hull.
Finals at 6-30 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 30.
- 30—(Sun.) Scottish Junior 'Closed' (Edinburgh).
- November**
- 5—(Sat.) County Championships (2).
- 5—(Sat.) Midlands Open 1-Star (Dundee).
- 6—(Sun.) Middlesex Junior Under-15 2-Star
(Edmonton).
- 12—(Sat.) National Council (London).
- 12/13—(Sat./Sun.) Southend 2-Star Open (Rayleigh).
- 12/13—(Sat./Sun.) Woodfield 1-Star (Wolverhampton).
- 12/13—(Sat./Sun.) Swansea Open (Aberavon).

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Official News

APPROVED BALLS

The following brands and grades of ball are the only ones which are licensed for the 1977/78 season:—

Dunlop Super DDD and DD
Halex 3-Star and 2-Star
T.S.P. 3-Star and 2-Star
Peace 3-Star and 2-Star
Nittaku 3-Star and 2-Star
Stiga Alser 3-Star and 2-Star

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

TABLE HIRE SCHEME

We are pleased to say that this scheme continues to operate whereby affiliated Clubs can obtain a top-class table by paying four annual instalments of £30 (plus V.A.T. at the current rate) and a 'peppercorn' rent of 5p per annum thereafter. The present waiting list will take about three months to clear but tables will be available throughout the current season. Full details and application form can be obtained from the ETТА office.

B.R. RAIL CONCESSION

May we remind all organisers of Open Tournaments, junior County matches, area Coaching Panels, etc. that the ETТА 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 ETТА. 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 ETТА office please.

TOURNAMENT DIARY

These diaries contain dates of Open Tournaments, European League and other international matches, and are available from the ETТА office, price 50p plus 7p 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 left from last season, the printed insert only will cost 35p each plus postage, or £3.50 per dozen.

TABLE TENNIS NEWS

May we appeal to League Secretaries once again to help us inform all members of the availability of this magazine. This can be done either by including a few short lines in your League Handbook or by distributing subscription forms with a circulation to clubs, teams and members. We will gladly supply any number of subscription forms required. The magazine is published monthly from October to May each season at a subscription rate of £2.75 for the eight issues. Any person submitting ten or more annual subscriptions at any one time need only remit at the rate of £2.47 per subscription.

PERMIT MEMBERS

May we remind you that all Permit Members are required to renew their membership each Sept. 1, at the fee of £4 and that any member earning money from his skill at table tennis, such as coaching or writing articles, should hold a permit to do so. Application forms are available on request.

WINSTON CHURCHILL MEMORIAL TRUST

A leaflet describing the opportunities for persons to apply for one of the Travelling

Fellowship are available from the ETТА office. One of the categories for 1978 covers Sport and completed application forms must reach the Trust Office by Nov. 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 we still get many enquiries from individuals. Full details can be supplied on request.

LINCOLN LOTTERY

This fund-raising exercise will be organised again 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.

NORWICH UNION LAW BOOKS

Once again Norwich Union Insurance have generously provided these pocket-size booklets containing the up-to-date Laws of Table Tennis which will remain in force for the next two seasons. We can supply these booklets to Leagues in reasonable quantities but such is the cost of postage these days that we must charge 1p per booklet in order to recover the costs of despatch.

DRAW SHEETS

In response to many requests we have produced tournament draw sheets, each for 64 players with a separation between each block of 32. Totally devoid of any headings they are suitable for every event from an international open to a club championship. Price 10p each.

TABLE TENNIS PHILATELY

When the Post Office issued the set of stamps depicting racket sports on Jan. 12, 1977 we obtained a supply of special envelopes with the 10p table tennis stamp and franked on the first day of issue. This is a joint venture with the English Schools TTA on a profit-sharing basis and we still have a few of these first day covers available at the bargain price of 25p each.

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS SOUVENIRS

Although the sale of souvenir items at Birmingham was a success, there are still a few items available from the ETТА Office:—

1. Official Programme — cost £1 each inclusive of postage.
2. Paper knives with the World Championship symbol engraved on the handle—£1 each.
3. First Day Covers the souvenir envelope with the table tennis stamp and bearing the special franking stamp dated April 26—£1 each.

E.T.T.A. TIES

The official tie has been standardised with a single motif of the three leopards. Our new stock are of the more modern style with a 4½ inch blade, navy blue or maroon: price £1.50 each, plus 10p post/packing.

INTERNATIONAL TABLE TENNIS CLUB

This Club, consisting of members who have, at one time, represented England as either a Junior or Senior, wishes to remind members of the services that can be provided. The Club offers to provide a team of players to play a local League side in the interests of publicity or charity, or they will provide two teams to give an entertaining exhibition match. Further details of the Club's activities can be obtained from the Hon. Secretary, Mr. Laurie Landry of Flat 1, 29 Ravenshaw Street, London, NW6 1NP ('Phone 01-794 6753).

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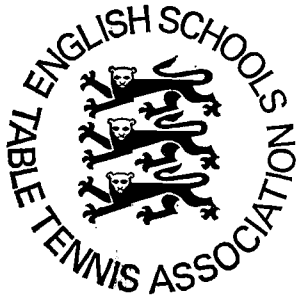
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by David Lomas

STIGA SCHOOLS JUBILEE INTERNATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

Another chapter was written in the relatively short history of the English Schools' Table Tennis Association when the Stiga Schools Jubilee International Championships were staged at the Nab Wood Sports Centre, Bingley, West Yorkshire, on July 9th and 10th.

Although this was the third international it was the first occasion on which players from Ireland and Wales were involved: previous events had involved Scotland. The idea of mass participation was continued successfully with over 100 players being involved and thus giving representative honours to many schoolchildren who in many cases might otherwise not have had the opportunity.

Once again the England teams swept the board; England 'A' won the team event, the 'B' team came second and English players dominated the Individual Championships. Ireland ousted Wales for third place.

In the team competition teams consisted of four players and matches were contested in three categories (boys and girls) on an all-play-all basis.

Chris Rogers (Leicestershire) and Mandy Smith (Berkshire) were unbeaten on both days although Mandy had a tough battle in her Senior Final against a determined Elaine Lamb (Devon).

Kenny Jackson (Essex Met.) confirmed his promise in beating Malcolm Green (Salop) in the Intermediate Final although he only qualified by virtue of a better points ratio, having lost to Joe Naser (Humberside) in his semi-final group.

Alison Gordon (Berkshire) added the Girls' Intermediate title to two previous Junior International crowns after a close encounter with local hope, Sally Midgley of Bradford.

Middlesex players John Souter and Helen Williams added international honours to their national schools titles in winning the Junior events.

RESULTS:

Team events:

1. England 'A' (34 points)
2. England 'B' (18 points)
3. Ireland (8 points)
4. Wales (6 points)

Senior Boys:

- England 'A' 16, Wales 0.
- England 'B' 15, Ireland 1.
- England 'A' 14, Ireland 2.
- England 'B' 16, Wales 0.
- Ireland 10, Wales 6.
- England 'A' 11, England 'B' 5.

Senior Girls:

- England 'A' 16, Ireland 0.
- England 'B' 15, Wales 1.
- England 'A' 14, Wales 2.
- England 'B' 16, Ireland 0.
- Ireland 3, Wales 13.



Mandy Smith, Senior Girls' winner receives congratulations from Bradford's Deputy Lord Mayor (Counc. Fred Atkinson).



The international team trophy was presented to Carol Colegate of England by Mr. Brian Hearn, Stiga's Export Marketing Manager.

England 'A' 9, England 'B' 7.

Intermediate Boys:

- England 'A' 16, Ireland 0.
- England 'B' 15, Wales 1.
- England 'A' 15, Wales 1.

England 'B' 16, Ireland 0.

Ireland 8, Wales 8.

England 'A' 14, England 'B' 2.

Intermediate Girls:

England 'A' 16, Ireland 0.

England 'B' 16, Ireland 0.
England 'A' 14, England 'B' 2.

Junior Boys:

England 'A' 11, Ireland 5.
England 'B' 3, Wales 13.
England 'A' 11, Wales 5.
England 'B' 3, Ireland 13.
Ireland 8, Wales 8.
England 'A' 13, England 'B' 3.

Junior Girls:

England 'A' 16, Wales 0.
England 'B' 13, Wales 3.
England 'A' 16, Ireland 0.
England 'B' 11, Ireland 5.
Ireland 9, Wales 7.
England 'A' 14, England 'B' 2.

INDIVIDUAL EVENTS

Senior Boys:

CHRIS ROGERS (Leicestershire) bt Leon Smith (Essex Met.) 18, 11;
third: Simon Claxton (Hereford & Worcester) and Diccon Gray (Cumbria).

Senior Girls:

MANDY SMITH (Berkshire) bt Elaine Lamb (Devon) -19, 11, 17;
third: Cheryl Buttery (Lincolnshire) and Helen Robinson (Cleveland).

Intermediate Boys:

KENNY JACKSON (Essex Met.) bt Malcolm Green (Salop) 16, 16;
third: Joe Naser (Humburside) and Graham Sandley (Hertfordshire).

Intermediate Girls:

ALISON GORDON (Berkshire) bt Sally Midgley (West Yorkshire) -13, 15, 19;
third: Carol Colegate (Kent County) and Angela Tierney (Cleveland).

Junior Boys:

JOHN SOUTER (Middlesex) bt Ian Attridge (Essex Met.) 15, 19;
third: Jeremy Duffield (Hereford and Worcester) and Paul Rainford (Lancs.).

Junior Girls:

HELEN WILLIAMS (Middlesex) bt Lorraine Garbet (Surrey County) 16, 17;
third: Carol Butler (Devon) and Lesley Taylor (Berkshire).

Association Officials are optimistic that the new season will be a record one continuing the pattern of previous seasons. Hopefully the impact of the World Championships and the interest it aroused will not have worn off. The Chairman, Mr. T. L. Matthews — who is headmaster of a Leeds High School — writing in the new edition of the Association's Official Handbook, says that he is sure that where pupils want to play for the first time Heads and teachers will respond. He also mentions that Colleges of Education are taking a greater interest in the game.

Certainly the growth of interest in the game from Primary Schools is most encouraging and I have received illustrated newspaper articles concerning the pupils of Rushwick Primary School, Worcester, and Holmgate County Primary School, Clay Cross, Chesterfield. The Derbyshire boys tasted success last season when they won through to the Regional Final of the National School Team Championships. These Championships are open to schools and colleges affiliated to one of 50 County Schools' Associations.

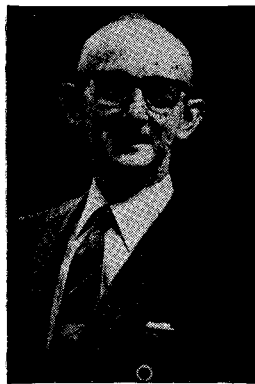
Some counties will have already made plans for this season's competition because they are required to notify the ESTTA by December giving details of the schools which will compete in twelve Area Finals on Jan. 21/22, 1978. From there the winners go forward to three Regional Finals on Sunday, Feb. 19, 1978 and finally the National Finals which are once again being held at Lea Green Centre, Matlock, Derbyshire, on Saturday, March 11, 1978. So if any school is interested they are asked to

make contact with their County Association before it's too late.

Later in the season — on April 29 — it's time for the Stiga Individual Championships at Luton.

Full details of these and other activities are included in the Official Handbook, just published. Copies can be obtained from the General Secretary, Mr. John Arnold, Sandal Endowed C.E. Middle School, Barnsley Rd., Wakefield, West Yorkshire, WF2 6AS, at a cost of 15p, including postage.

The 50th Anniversary Dinner



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

It is well known that the 50th Anniversary of the founding of the English Table Tennis Association coincided with the 1977 World's Championships. It must be explained, however, that table tennis as we know it today, started in England in the early twenties and the E.T.T.A. was the first of the existing national associations to be formed. So this puts the 50th anniversary around 1973/74 and the occasion passed without any fuss or celebrations. The reason being that the constitution was re-written and the name changed in 1927 and this has survived the 50 years. So probably a little steam was taken out of this year's celebration but that did not impair the success of the event for those who attended.

For some time now I had been formulating plans for an anniversary to do justice to our history and to be remembered for a long time. However, this was not to be and the financial strain put on the association following the World's Championships made it necessary to cut out the frills and celebrate in a modest manner on a much less ambitious scale.

The decision was taken to limit the net cost to no more than £1,000 and accordingly all plans of a great get-together of ex players and officials had to be abandoned. This was the real tragedy but commonsense had to prevail. Invitations were limited to those who came to speak and celebrate with us but to the hundreds of people who have helped to make the E.T.T.A. the finest association of its kind in the world, both players and officials, I can only say thank you for your services and offer the above explanation to account for your non-participation in the event.

The event itself was most successful. As an entertainment and value for money, it was the best event of its kind that the association has ever held. It was held on Saturday, 9th July, 1977 at the Bloomsbury Hotel, London, following the annual general meeting in the afternoon. About 200 people attended and the celebrations lasted until 2 a.m. and even later than that in some instances!

The speakers could not have been better either in their choice or in their performance.

The proceedings were opened by the President, Maurice Goldstein, who proposed the loyal toast to Her Majesty, the Queen. The toast to the English Table Tennis Association was proposed by Denis Howell, the Minister for Sport, who set the mood for the evening with an appropriate but nevertheless hilarious speech. The response on behalf of the E.T.T.A. was given appropriately by Ivor Montagu, the Life Vice-President and founder of the association. Ivor too gave a wonderful speech full of reminiscences and anecdotes, that bridged the gap of 50 years. He was representing the past but his remarks were just as appropriate and encouraging to the many younger people present. Indeed, a welcome aspect of the whole event was the good attendance of the current and future generations of administrators which augers well for the future.

The toast to our guests was given by Charles Wyles, O.B.E., the Chairman of the association who limited his remarks to welcoming the guests and thanking them for doing us the honour of attending our celebrations. The reply on behalf of the guests came from the highest possible authority in table tennis, the President of the International Table Tennis Federation, H. Roy Evans, O.B.E. Roy has been a friend of the E.T.T.A. since the very early days and this was very much reflected in his speech, which, like the ones from the preceding speakers, took up the mood of reminiscences mingled with amusement.

The meal was really excellent and the wine being free and provided by our friends from Halex, flowed very freely. Other items of table decorations and roses for the ladies were provided by our friends from Norwich Union; the roses being a special bloom named after the company.

The souvenir wine mats with the E.T.T.A. crest were provided by our colleague and friend Alec Brook.

The menu was printed and provided by our friends Geerings, who produced the excellent programme for the World's.

An evening of dancing and cabaret followed and the whole proceedings were conducted by our own Albert Shipley, acting as the M.C.

During the evening a considerable number of prizes were given away by ballot and all these had been supplied by friends in the trade with whom we have had many years of happy relationship.

The cabaret was excellent and followed the mood started by the guest speakers; the dancing was varied and catered for all tastes and the bar stayed open throughout the whole proceedings.

As chairman of the 50th committee I would like to thank the organisers Jean and Frank Clay who were ably assisted by Albert Shipley and Doreen Stannard. Also to Charles Wyles who negotiated the various gifts.

Altogether a night to remember. Sorry if you missed it but there is always the 75th to look forward to.

DEPARTURES

Michael Lawless, the E.T.T.A.'s Development Officer, who was appointed Director of the 34th World Table Tennis Championships in Birmingham, has left the employ of the English Association as has Miss Cynthia Scrivens, the former Administrative Secretary, immediately prior to her marriage to John Wright. This latter position has been taken over by Mr. Roy Stevens, the post of Development Officer being advertised elsewhere in this issue.

County Championships Round-up

by BOB BRIDGES

SERIOUS THREAT

Cleveland's reign as County supremos since their formation in 1974 will be seriously threatened in the coming season and they will really have to pull out all stops if they are to retain the Premier title for the third year in succession.

Their opening match on Oct. 8 against Essex at Tilbury will indicate the way of things for the following seven months and an Essex team led by Bob Potton may repeat their success over Cleveland gained last April. Cleveland will be without Jimmy Walker, but uncertainty surrounds Denis Neale (retired?) and Nicky Jarvis (improving after serious injury).

It is too early to forecast accurate placings at the end of the season but another nail-biting competition is in prospect for the lower positions with the difference between success and failure infinitesimally small.

Formation of the Divisions 1977-78

Premier	3rd Midland
Berkshire	Cheshire II
Cleveland	Clwyd
Essex	Herefordshire
Glamorgan	Shropshire
Middlesex	Staffordshire II
Surrey	Worcestershire II
Warwickshire	3rd East
Yorkshire	Bedfordshire II
2nd South	Cambridgeshire II
Dorset	Huntingdonshire
Hampshire	Leicestershire II
Kent	Norfolk II
Middlesex II	Northamptonshire II
Surrey II	3rd West
Sussex	Avon II
2nd North	Berkshire II
Cheshire	Cornwall
Cleveland II	Dorset II
Durham	Glamorgan III
Lancashire	Gloucestershire
Northumberland	Junior Premier
Yorkshire II	Berkshire
2nd Midland	Cleveland
Bedfordshire	Devon
Derbyshire	Essex
Leicestershire	Lancashire
Northamptonshire	Middlesex
Staffordshire	Surrey
Warwickshire II	Yorkshire
2nd East	Junior 2nd South
Buckinghamshire	Essex II
Cambridgeshire	Hampshire
Essex II	Kent
Hertfordshire	Middlesex II
Norfolk	Surrey II
Suffolk	Sussex
2nd West	Wiltshire
Avon	Junior 2nd North
Devon	Cheshire
Glamorgan II	Cleveland II
Gwent	Clwyd
Somerset	Cumbria
Wiltshire	Derbyshire
Worcestershire	Staffordshire
3rd South	Yorkshire II
Buckinghamshire II	Junior 2nd Midland
Essex III	Buckinghamshire
Hertfordshire II	Hertfordshire
Kent II	Leicestershire
Oxfordshire	Norfolk
Sussex II	Northamptonshire
3rd North	Shropshire
Cumbria	Warwickshire
Derbyshire II	Junior 3rd South
Lancashire II	Berkshire II
Lincolnshire	Buckinghamshire II
Northumberland II	Dorset
Nottinghamshire	Essex III

Hampshire II	Veteran South
Kent II	Essex
Sussex II	Hampshire II
Junior 3rd North	Kent
Cleveland III	Oxfordshire
Cumbria II	Sussex
Durham	Veteran Midland
Lincolnshire	Cheshire
Nottinghamshire	Clwyd
Northumberland	Leicestershire
Junior 3rd Midland	Nottinghamshire
Gloucestershire	Worcestershire
Herefordshire	Veteran East
Oxfordshire	Essex II
Shropshire II	Hertfordshire
Staffordshire II	Huntingdonshire
Worcestershire	Middlesex
Junior 3rd East	Suffolk
Bedfordshire	Veteran West
Cambridgeshire	Avon
Hertfordshire II	Dorset
Huntingdonshire	Dorset II
Lincolnshire II	Hampshire
Suffolk	Wiltshire
Junior 3rd West	
Avon	
Cornwall	
Devon II	
Glamorgan	
Gwent	
Somerset	
Wiltshire II	

COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS

Fixtures for October

Premier	Oct. 8—Essex v Cleveland Glamorgan v Surrey Warwickshire v Middlesex Yorkshire v Berkshire
2nd East	Oct. 8—Cambridgeshire v Suffolk
3rd Midland	Oct. 22—Shropshire v Herefordshire
2nd West	Oct. 8—Devon v Wiltshire Gwent v Glamorgan II Somerset v Avon
3rd Midland	Oct. 22—Shropshire v Herefordshire
3rd West	Oct. 15—Cornwall v Gloucestershire
Junior Premier	Oct. 8—Essex v Cleveland Lancashire v Middlesex Surrey v Devon Yorkshire v Berkshire
Junior 2nd South	Oct. 8—Middlesex II v Wiltshire Surrey II v Kent Sussex v Essex II
Junior 2nd North	Oct. 8—Cleveland II v Cheshire Clwyd v Derbyshire Staffordshire v Yorkshire II
Junior 2nd Midland	Oct. 8—Hertfordshire v Northamptonshire Shropshire v Norfolk Warwickshire v Buckinghamshire
Junior 3rd South	Oct. 8—Berkshire II v Kent II Essex III v Buckinghamshire II Hampshire II v Sussex II
Junior 3rd Midland	Oct. 21—Worcestershire v Gloucestershire Oct. 23—Herefordshire v Shropshire
Junior 3rd West	Oct. 8—Devon II v Cornwall Somerset v Avon Wiltshire v Glamorgan

CONTRIBUTION

The E.T.T.A. acknowledge, with due gratitude, the contribution of 50 guineas, forwarded by Stan Francis on behalf of the Umpires at the 34th World Championships in Birmingham. Stan was responsible for the production of a World Table Tennis badge for Umpires which proved so successful in the provision of a worthwhile souvenir to the many, many umpires connected with the Championships.

FAR EAST BOUND

On August 8, the E.T.T.A. were pleased to announce that an invitation had been received and accepted for a team to tour China in October. In order to fit in with European League commitments, the party will leave England on Oct. 15 and will return on Oct. 30.

Players making the trip are: John Hilton (Cheshire), Robert Potton (Essex), Martin Shuttle (Surrey), Duggie Johnson (Warwickshire), Carole Knight (Cleveland), Linda Howard (Surrey), Melody Ludi (Yorkshire) and Karen Witt (Berkshire). Hilton, (as the nominated reserve), goes in place of Andy Barden (Middlesex) who has declined the invitation because of work commitments.

The Team will be accompanied by the Chairman of the E.T.T.A., Charles Wyles, and the Hon. Treasurer, Tom Blunn. In addition Peter Simpson and Bryan Merrett will travel as captains. The tour has been made possible by the generosity of London Export Corporation Ltd., who have agreed to cover the appropriate costs.

It will be the third visit to China by an England team in recent years, the two previous occasions being April 1971 and June 1973.

The Hong Kong TTA are staging an International Invitation Tournament in Hong Kong from Oct 22-29 and they have invited a team of four players and one official from England.

The team selected to receive invitations is as follows: Nigel Eckersley (Cheshire), Max Crimmins (Surrey), Chris Sewell (Avon) and Chris Rogers (Leicestershire). Alan Hydes will captain the team.

This latter event takes place during the time of the China tour and it means that twelve of our top players will be able to gain valuable experience against the style of play used so effectively by players from the Far East, as demonstrated at the Birmingham world championships.



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