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# Table Tennis News

Official Journal of the English Table Tennis Association  
EDITED BY **GEORGE YATES**

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## We are the Champions !



*Photo by Graham Duncan, Tooting Bec, London, SW17*

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## TABLE TENNIS NEWS

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## TEMPTING OFFER

A tempting financial offer made to Desmond Douglas, involving his permanent residence in Federal Germany, is yet another worry for those with the future of the English Table Tennis Association at heart.

Since the English No. 1 signed to play for PSV Borussia Dusseldorf in the Deutscher Tisch-Tennis Bundesliga his services have been denied his former English club, league and county.

Fortunately, up to now, England have been able to call on his services for European League matches and to represent his country in International Opens as well as World and European Championships.

But what if Douglas were to take up permanent residence in Germany? What then the very real possibility of his complete loss to England's cause?

Should this happen, coincident with Jill Hammersley's announced intention to retire at the end of the season, what of the future then?

Efforts however are being made to counter the offer, now lying on the table, and one can only hope they will come to fruition in time to prevent what could be, from England's viewpoint, a much lamented departure.

And there again Jill Hammersley's triumph in the Top 12 event in Munich may bring about a stay of execution in that direction.

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# NORWICH UNION INTERNATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS



## DES AND JILL IN FULL COMMAND

by GEORGE R. YATES

In the absence, through injuries, of Czechoslovakia's Milan Orlowski and Josef Dvoracek — seeded Nos. 1 and 3 — England's DESMOND DOUGLAS, seeded No. 2, had no difficulty in winning the men's singles title in the Norwich Union International Championships in Brighton's Dome and Corn Exchange over the three days of Jan. 10/12, 1980.

A gap of two decades was thus bridged, the last English player to take possession of the Oldroyd Cup being Gloucestershire's Ian Harrison in 1960 with a final 18, 11, 14 win over Hungarian exile Josef Somogyi at London's Royal Albert Hall on March 26.

A notable English double was achieved when JILL HAMMERSLEY, in retaining the Nicholls Cup by again winning the women's singles and for the third time in her career, cruised home against Iona Uhlíkova in another one-sided final albeit the women's entry was stronger than the men's in respect of foreign representation.

ENGLAND, in winning the men's team trophy for the sixth time, captured three titles in all, the women's team event being won by CZECHOSLOVAKIA'S Uhlíkova and Blanka Silhanova who also annexed the women's doubles title and the Coronation Cup.

New holders of the men's and mixed doubles titles are Andrzej Grubba and

Leszek Kucharski of Poland and the youthful Erik Lindh (15) and Marie Lindblad (19) of Sweden, the latter pair stopping a hat-trick bid by Douglas and Linda Jarvis.

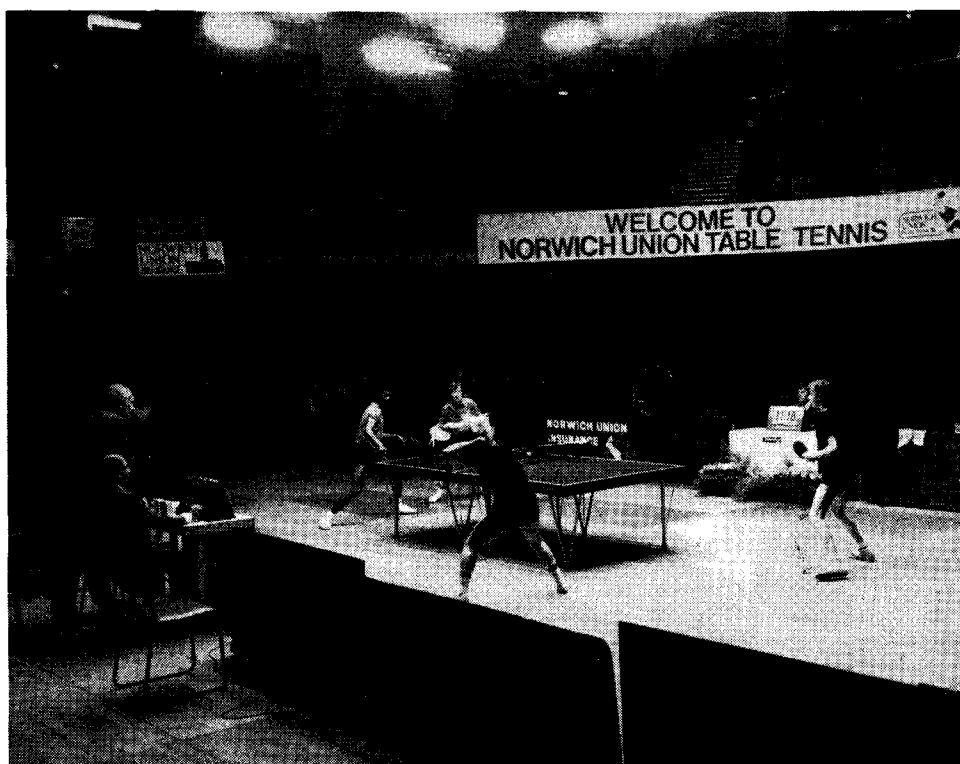
Two-straight wins over Pascal Servais (France), Kucharski (Poland I) and Stefan Dryszel (Poland II) in the men's team event and 3-straight successes in the men's singles over Nigel Thomas (Wales), Dave Barr (Berks), Richard Yule (Scotland), Milivoj Karakasevic (Yugoslavia), Vladislav Broda (Czechoslovakia) and, finally, England team-mate Paul Day is truly indicative of the superiority of Douglas over the rest of an impoverished field at Brighton.

### JUSTIFIED

Day fully justified his uplift in the English rankings, again confirmed last month from a previous jump in December from No. 14 to No. 2, when he too boasted an unbeaten run up to his meeting with the Demon King, Douglas.

The Soham left-hander had wins over Rene Hatem (France), Grubba and Stanislav Fraczyk (Poland) in the team event and claimed the scalps of John Clarke (Sussex), Dryszel, Bob Potton (Essex), Max Crimmins (Surrey) and Grubba, yet again, in the semis of the men's singles.

Donald Parker played his part in the team victory partnering Douglas to three



A general view of the Dome, Brighton with the mixed doubles final in progress.

Photo by Don Morley, Morden.



**Jill Hammersley holds aloft the Nicholls Cup, being the winner of the women's singles title for the third time, at Brighton.**

Photo by Graham Duncan.

successes in doubles but fell to Grubba (0-3) in Round 2 of the men's singles which also saw the demise of his fellow Lancastrian John Hilton beaten 3-1 by Patrick Renverse of France.

Dougie Johnson, who with Hilton, comprised England II in the team event had wins over Richard Jermyn (Herts) and Bundesliga player Alan Fletcher (ex-Yorks) before being ousted by Crimmins who won 12, 17, -19, -14, 12.

Graham Sandley and Kenny Jackson made up England III and met with little more success in the singles than together as a team. Sandley, after wins over Barry Johnson (Warwicks) and Dave Constance (Ches) was beaten 17, 21, 16 by Kucharski whilst Jackson following a walk-over against the absent Andrew Bellingham (Staffs) lost -18, -19, -12 to Bruno Parietti of France.

Down the line Potton had wins over Roger Chandler (Sussex) and Niklas Persson (Sweden) before falling to Day whilst Nigel Eckersley was ousted by Nicky Jarvis who subsequently fell, like Hilton, to Renverse.

Young Carl Prean from the Isle of Wight came through a qualifying group otherwise comprising Ian Graham (Middx), Gary Lambert (Devon) and Terry Haley (Surrey) to meet and be beaten by David Wells (Middx) in Rd. 1.

Sweden's top junior, Lindh, had a rare old set-to with Dave Newman of Essex getting home -22, -23, 9, 5 and 16 but losing

in Rd. 2 to Fraczyk. Colin Wilson fell to Constance at the first time of asking whilst Kevin Satchell, after qualifying, lost to Servais, also in Rd. 1.

#### EXPEDITE

Unlike Douglas, her fellow No. 1, Jill Hammersley did not have matters all her own way in the women's singles being taken to five games over expedite by Yugoslavia's Ruza Pavlov who led 2-1 in Rd. 2. But it was straight games otherwise against Gina Pritchard (Devon), Brigitte Thiriet (France), Silhanova and Uhlikova.

Mrs. Uhlikova (nee Vostova) was also stretched to five by Bettine Vriesekoop in the semis after the Dutch girl had beaten, without reply, Anne Leonard (Ireland), Carole Knight and Karen Witt the latter 11, 13 and 16. The Berkshire lass had previously seen off the challenge of Carole Dalrymple (Scotland) and Jolanta Szatko of Poland, the latter now European-ranked at No. 23.

Mandy Smith, elevated to No. 4 in the revised English rankings, was beaten by Brigitte Kooter of the Netherlands in Rd. 1 which also saw the fall of Alison Gordon to Patricia Germain of France.

Angela Mitchell easily survived her meeting with Patrice Fleming (Scotland) but not against the redoubtable Blanka Silhanova in Rd. 2. Melody Ludi was a non-starter from Bradford, being unaware that Kevin Beadley was making the trip south, whilst Linda Jarvis having beaten Vivian Blank-aert of the Netherlands fell -18, -17, -14 to Miss Lindblad.

#### FAVOURITES

In the absence of the top-seeded Czechs, Grubba and Kucharski became favourites, on paper at least, to win the men's doubles and this they did in the final against Karakasevic and Kurtes of Yugoslavia.

But the set to claim the attention of the audience in the semis was that between the Poles versus Douglas and Parker lost by the English pair -17 in the fifth of a titanic struggle in which the Poles lost a 2-0 advantage.

Day was paired with Jarvis but this combine was beaten in the quarters by Broda/Stepanek, the Czech stand-ins, in straight games.

Skvlet Andrew and Constance recorded an excellent 14, 11, 18 win over Hilton/Dougie Johnson but otherwise matters went according to the book.

So too did affairs in the counterpart women's event the only set, other than the final to go the distance being that between Thiriet/Germain and Anne Leonard and Karen Walker (nee Senior) of Ireland which the French pair won 17 in the fifth.

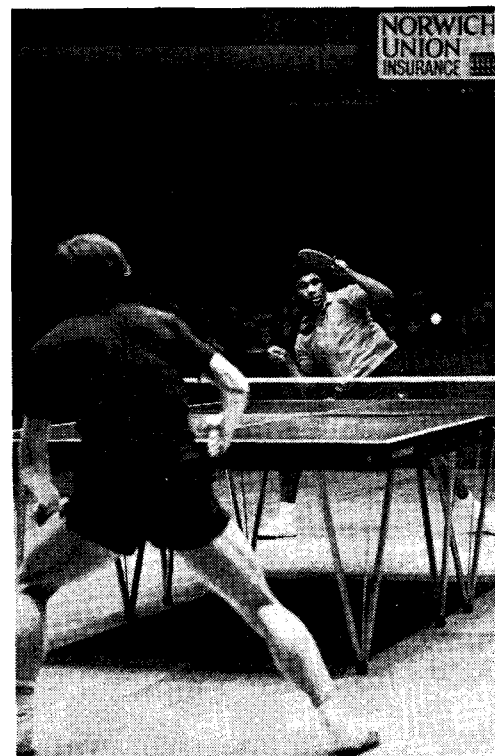
Carole Knight and Anita Stevenson had a good win over the Swedes Lindblad and Helen Lindvall, the Loughborough girl having lost to Andreja Ojstersek of Yugoslavia in the singles.

Three English pairs reached the penultimate round of the mixed but it was the odd pair out, Lindh and Miss Lindblad who carried off the Bill Stamp Cup.

They had a semi-final success over Johnson/Knight the Warwicks/Cleveland tandem having beaten Potton/Kooter and Karakasevic/Pavlov.

Without wishing to detract from the home successes these particular championships fell far short of expectations. The foreign entry, sparse as it was, also lacked top players which had an adverse effect on the initial attendance.

But the quip of pressman Brian Cuttress of Exchange Telegraph that a notice had been issued indicating spectator changes on the afternoon of the first day was not really true. Not quite!



**The master, Desmond Douglas, in action against Paul Day in the final of the men's singles.**

Photo by Don Morley, Morden.

# TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS

## EASIEST EVER VICTORY

by John Woodford

Trying to paint a picture in words of the 1980 international team championships at Brighton is a difficult task. A reduction in the number of nations to eleven and then the late withdrawal of Milan Orlovski and Josef Dvoracek from the Czech team was the final straw that gave England men their easiest ever team victory.

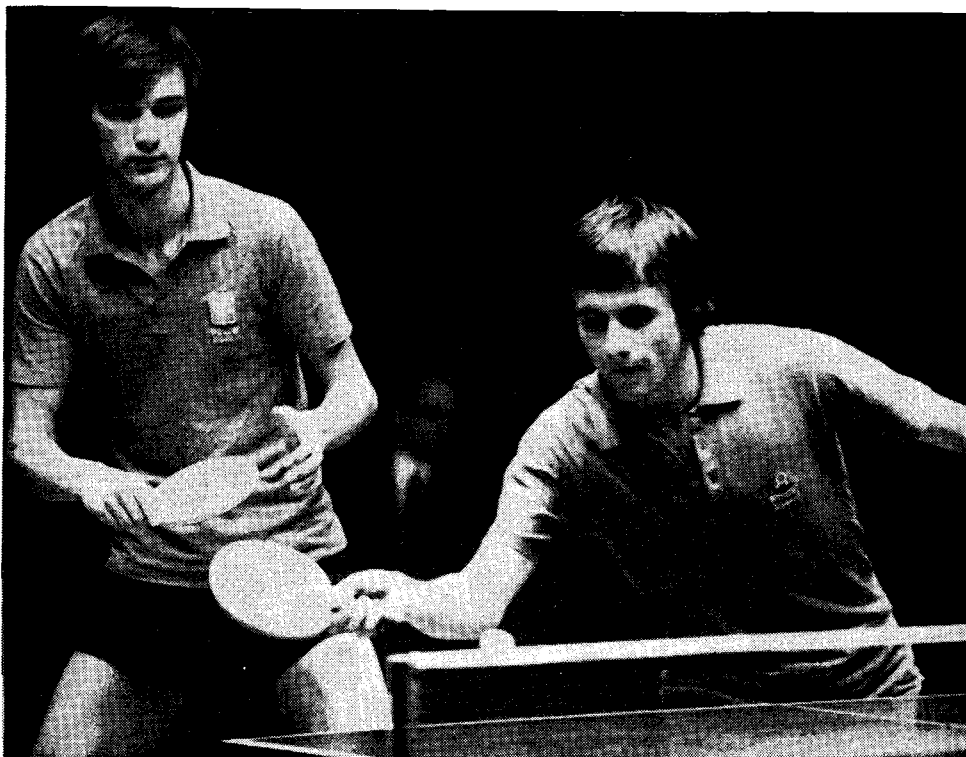
They beat France, Poland I and then Poland II in the final, all by 3-0.

Incidentally, Orlovski was prevented from carrying out his threatened boycott at Brighton by a genuine ski-injury. His leg was still in plaster later in January when England visited Czechoslovakia, but of course, it really is an incredibly poor show when a visiting nation, the only one likely to make an impact at the tournament cannot have the foresight to notify in advance that they are to arrive without the 1st and the 3rd seeds in the men's singles.

However, searching through the remnants of the scoresheets, an unbeaten performance by Paul Day, all day, made it a red-letter day for the young man from Soham, who now seems to have climbed back from that dreadful pit of being the England No. 14 not so long ago.

In the evening final, Day showed composure and a steadiness that he has lacked so many times in the past when under pressure. He beat Fraczyk in the first game 21-17, just losing the second 22-24. That was the point where in the past he might have blown it, but this time he surged forward steadily, picking out the winners to put England in the lead. Douglas destroyed Dryszel 7, 8 and with Donald Parker the two England men completed the day's rout in the doubles 17, 7.

England II (Duggie Johnson, John Hilton) started off with a 3-0 win over Scotland who fielded Richard Yule, said to be top man in Scotland for ten years and Anwar Majid, a player with an un-Scottish



Leszek Kucharski (left) and Andrzej Grubba, the Polish winners of the men's doubles.

Photo by Graham Duncan.

name who succeeded in getting 20 points from Hilton in the second.

Johnson and Hilton marched on to beat France II 3-2, a relatively exciting affair that started with Johnson being crushed by Patrick Renverse 13, 14 and then making amends in the third game of the decisive fifth set to stop Bruno Parietti 19, -15, 20.

That took England II into the semi-finals and a battle with Poland II, which the visitors won 3-1. Johnson triumphed at the beginning halting Dryszel 7, 14, but then it was Hilton who could make no progress losing -16 in the third to Fraczyk and -15

also in the third to Dryszel. Poland II then recorded an impressive victory over Czechoslovakia 3-1, although Fraczyk lost the first game -22, -22 to Broda.

A quick glance at the England I score-sheet for the semi-final win shows that Day showed the shape of things to come when he dismissed Grubba 22, 18 and then the English lads took the doubles 20, 19.

Hopes that England would complete a double in the team events lasted right through to the end of the day and beyond most of the national newspaper dead-lines, when England I women were finally beaten 3-2 by Czechoslovakia.

Someone must have got really excited by the whole thing because they managed to smuggle out of the Press Room the entire set of result sheets for the England female teams!

However, without the score sheets I can recall the final was a real battle, with Jill Hammersley winning both singles against Blanka Silhanova and Ilona Uhlikova, but Karen Witt losing the advantage, although putting up what seemed to me to be impressive resistance.

Earlier England I defeated France and The Netherlands both by 3-0 to reach the final.

### RESULTS:-

#### INDIVIDUAL EVENTS

##### Men's Singles Round 3:

M. Crimmins (Sy) bt D. Johnson (Eng) 12, 17, -19, -14, 12;  
P. Day (Eng) bt R. Potton (E) 18, -16, -14, 14, 9;  
P. Renverse (Fra) bt N. Jarvis (Cv) 21, 16, 17;  
A. Grubba (Pol) bt J. Berner (Swe) -16, 14, 18, -19, 13;  
V. Broda (Cze) bt B. Parietti (Fra) 18, -8, 12, 16;  
L. Kucharski (Pol) bt G. Sandley (Eng) 17, 21, 16;  
M. Karakasevic (Yug) bt S. Fraczyk (Pol) -17, 20, 19, -18, 8;  
D. Douglas (Eng) bt R. Yule (Sco) 5, 14, 12.

##### Quarter-finals:

Day bt Crimmins 12, 10, 13;  
Grubba bt Renverse 15, 16, 21;  
Broda bt Kucharski 15, 15, -11, 19;  
Douglas bt Karakasevic 15, 14, 21.

##### Semi-finals:

Day bt Grubba -20, 18, 20, 12;  
Douglas bt Broda 14, 23, 18.

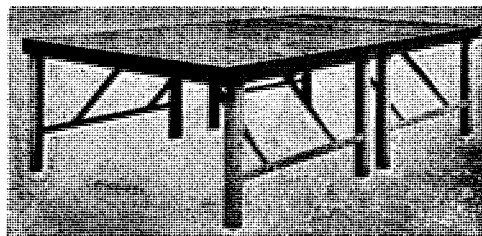
##### Final:

DOUGLAS bt Day 9, 14, 12.

##### Women's Singles Round 2:

J. Hammersley (Eng) bt B. Thiriet (Fra) 12, 13, 24;  
R. Pavlov (Yug) bt K. Walker (Ire) -11, 18, 14, 21;  
M. Lindblad (Swe) bt L. Jarvis (Eng) 18, 17, 15;  
B. Silhanova (Cze) bt A. Mitchell (Eng) 16, 11, 19;  
B. Vriesekoop (Net) bt C. Knight (Eng) 19, 19, 13;  
K. Witt (Eng) bt J. Szatko (Pol) 14, 15, 8;  
P. Germain (Fra) bt A. Ojestersek (Yug) -16, 24, 16, -22, 17;

## TABLE TENNIS TABLES



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I. Uhlíkova (Cze) bt B. Kooter (Net) 8, 7, 12.

**Quarter-finals:**  
Hammersley bt Pavlov 14, -21, -17, 8, 17;  
Silhanova bt Lindblad 16, -18, 18, 16;  
Vriesekoop bt Witt 11, 13, 16;  
Uhlíkova bt Germain 14, 9, 13.

**Semi-finals:**  
Hammersley bt Silhanova 17, 13, 13;  
Uhlíkova bt Vriesekoop 19, -20, 8, -17, 17.

**Final:**  
HAMMERSLEY bt Uhlíkova 3, 17, 18.

**Men's Doubles Quarter-finals:**  
Broda/Z. Stepanek (Cze) bt Day/Jarvis 17, 15, 19;  
Karakasevic/L. Kurtes (Yug) bt S. Andrew (E)/D.  
Constance (Ch) 8, 12, 12;  
Douglas/D. Parker (Eng) bt Berner/Lindh 18, 10, 19;  
Grubba/Kucharski bt Parietti/Renverse 19, 18, 10.

**Semi-finals:**  
Karakasevic/Kurtes bt Broda/Stepanek 17, 12, -19, 14;  
Grubba/Kucharski bt Douglas/Parker -19, 15, 19, -16, 17.

**Final:**  
GRUBBA/KUCHARSKI bt Karakasevic/Kurtes 19, 19, 15.

**Women's Doubles Quarter-finals:**  
Hammersley/Jarvis bt Szatko/M. Urbanska (Pol) 14, 14, 16;  
V. Blankaert (Net)/Vriesekoop bt Ojstersek/Pavlov

12, 13, 20;  
Knight/A. Stevenson (Eng) bt Lindblad/H. Lindvall (Swe)  
9, -11, 21, 15;  
Silhanova/Uhlíkova bt Germain/Thiriet 16, 16, 23.

**Semi-finals:**  
Hammersley/Jarvis bt Blankaert/Vriesekoop 6, 13, 13;  
Silhanova/Uhlíkova bt Knight/Stevenson 15, 15, 11.

**Final:**  
SILHANOVA/UHLIKOVA bt Hammersley/Jarvis  
-12, 20, -19, 9, 17.

**Mixed Doubles Quarter-finals:**

Douglas/Jarvis bt Kucharski/Szatko 18, 13, 16;  
Johnson/Knight bt Berner/Lindh -20, -18, 15, 16, 19;  
J. Hilton (Eng)/Hammersley bt Renverse/B. Abgrall (Fra)  
-18, 13, 14, 14;

Lindh/Lindblad bt Stepanek/Uhlíkova 16, 16, -18, 13.

**Semi-finals:**  
Douglas/Jarvis bt Johnson/Knight 9, 14, 5;  
Lindh/Lindblad bt Hilton/Hammersley 10, 15, -23, 17.

**Final:**  
LINDH/LINDBLAD bt Douglas/Jarvis 15, 13, -8, -18, 13.

**Men's Consolation Singles Quarter-finals:**

S. Mills (Y) bt D. Hannah (Sy) 15, -15, 13;  
C. Wilson (Mi) bt M. Johns (Ch) 21, 12;  
M. Thomas (Wal) bt C. Butler (USA) 19, -12, 16;  
Kurtes bt R. Jermyn (He) 12, -16, 20.

**Semi-finals:**  
Mills bt Wilson 9, -19, 9;  
Kurtes bt Thomas -16, 11, 16.

**Final:**  
KURTES bt Mills 15, -15, 9.

**Women's Consolation Singles Semi-finals:**  
A. Gordon (Bk) bt C. Jones (Wal) 17, -20, 17;  
A. Leonard (Ire) bt S. Jones (Wal) 18, 18.

**Final:**  
GORDON bt Leonard -15, 16, 13.

## TEAM EVENTS

### MEN

#### Round 1:

**Poland II 3 England III 0**

Fraczyk bt Sandley 17, -13, 17;

Dryszel bt Jackson 18, 16;

Dryszel/Fraczyk bt Jackson/Sandley 16, 15.

**England II 3 Scotland 0**

Johnson bt Yule 18, 17;

Hilton bt Majid 14, 20;

Hilton/Johnson bt Majid/Yule 12, 18.

**France II 3 Yugoslavia 0**

Renverse bt Kurtes 12, 10;

Parietti bt Karakasevic -15, 15, 17;

Parietti/Renverse bt Karakasevic/Kurtes 17, -15, 12.

**Poland I 3 U.S.A. 0**

Grubba bt Bush 8, 11;

Kucharski bt Butler 13, 21;

Grubba/Kucharski bt Bush/Butler 11, 9.

**Sweden 3 Ireland 0**

Lindh bt Hickey 19, 18;

Berner bt Weir 14, 16;

Berner/Lindh bt Hickey/Weir 11, 9.

**France I 3 Wales I 1**

Servais bt N. Thomas -15, 15, 19;

Hatem bt M. Thomas 13, 14;

Hatem/Servais lost to Thomas/Thomas -18, -17;

Hatem bt N. Thomas 13, 14.

**Round 2:**

**Poland II 3 Czechoslovakia 1**

Fraczyk lost to Broda -22, -22;

Dryszel bt Stepanek 19, -17, 16;

Dryszel/Fraczyk bt Brado/Stepanek -24, 18, 18;

Fraczyk bt Stepanek 17, 19.

**England II 3 France II 2**

Johnson lost to Renverse -13, -14;

Hilton bt Parietti -16, 4, 9;

Hilton/Johnson bt Parietti/Renverse 19, -15, 17;

Hilton lost to Renverse -14, 22, -12;

Johnson bt Parietti 19, -15, 20.

**Poland I 3 Sweden 1**

Kucharski lost to Lindh -14, 15, -16;

Grubba bt Persson 16, 7;

Grubba/Kucharski bt Berner/Lindh 20, 17;

Grubba bt Lindh -21, 16, 14.

**England I 3 France I 0**

Day bt Hatem 18, 16;

Douglas bt Servais 7, 11;

Douglas/Parker bt Hatem/Servais 10, 17.

**Semi-finals:**

**Poland II 3 England II 1**

Dryszel/lost to Johnson -7, -14;

Fraczyk bt Hilton 12, -12, 16;

Dryszel/Fraczyk bt Hilton/Johnson 15, -17, 18;

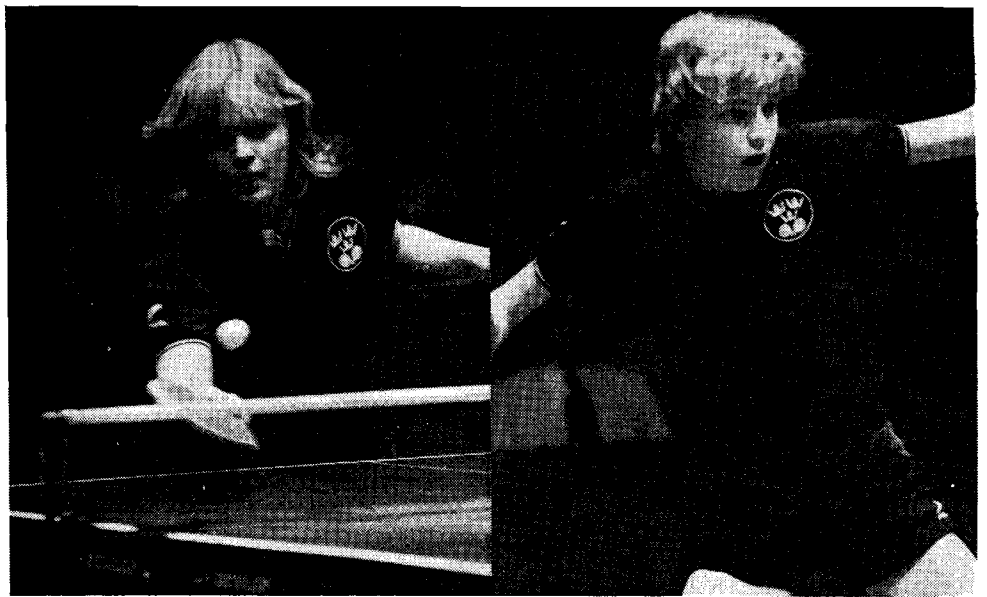
Dryszel bt Hilton -11, 19, 15.

**England I 3 Poland I 0**

Day bt Grubba 22, 18;

Douglas bt Kucharski 16, 15;

Douglas/Parker bt Grubba/Kucharski 20, 19.



19-years-old Marie Lindblad and 15-years-old Erik Lindh of Sweden who together stopped the gallop of Douglas and Linda Howard in the mixed doubles event.

Photo by Graham Duncan.



England's successful men's team (1 to r) Peter Simpson, N.P.C., Paul Day, Donald Parker and Desmond Douglas.

Photo by Graham Duncan, Tooting Bec, London SW17.



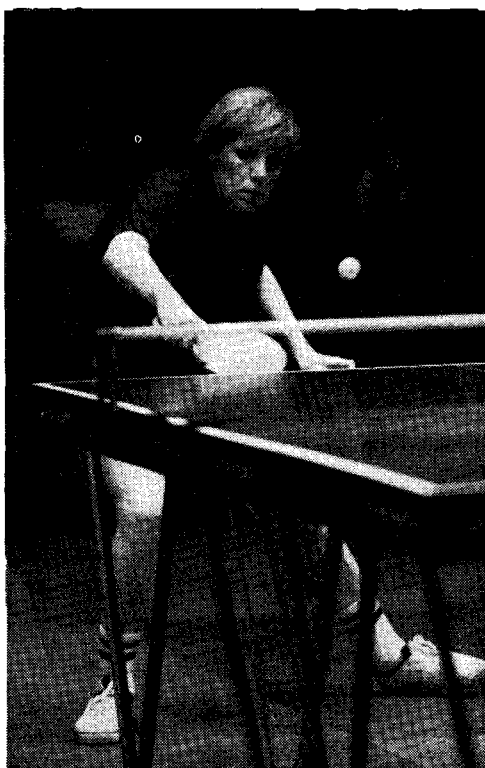
England I, beaten finalists in the women's team event (from l to r) Linda Jarvis, Karen Witt and Jill Hammersley.

Photo by Graham Duncan, Tooting Bec, London SW17.

**Final:**  
**ENGLAND I 3 Poland II 0**  
 Day bt Fraczyk 17, -22, 15;  
 Douglas bt Dryszel 7, 8;  
 Douglas/Parker bt Dryszel/Fraczyk 17, 7.

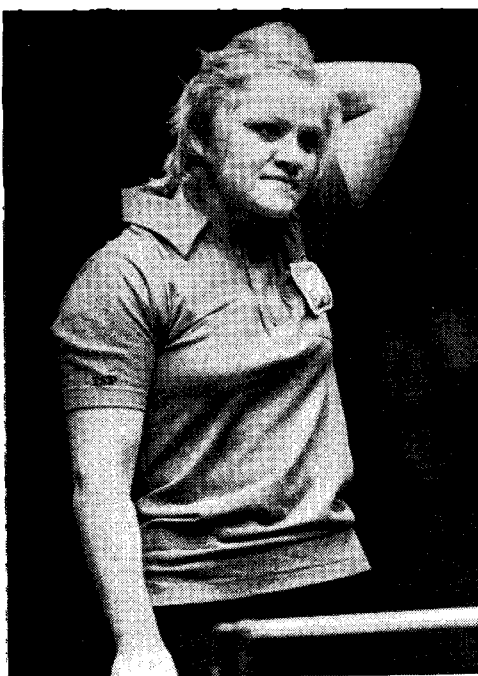
**Sweden 3 England II 1**  
 Lindvall bt Stevenson 13, 17;  
 Lindblad lost to Knight -16, -18;  
 Lindblad/Lindvall bt Knight/Stevenson -19, 18, 22;  
 Lindblad bt Stevenson 18, -19, 11.

**Sweden 3 France I 2**  
 Lindblad lost to Gourmelon -18, -17;  
 Lindvall lost to Lindvall -14, -19;  
 Lindblad/Lindvall bt Gourmelon/Thiriet 8, 16;  
 Lindblad bt Thiriet -14, 16, 13;  
 Lindvall bt Gourmelon 18, 18.  
**Czechoslovakia 3 England III 0**  
 Uhlíkova bt Mitchell 12, 17;  
 Silhanova bt Smith 17, -16, 13;  
 Silhanova/Uhlíkova bt Mitchell/Smith -10, 13, 11.



Action shot of Jill Hammersley on her way to victory in the women's singles.

Photo by Don Morley, Morden.



Bewitched, bothered and bewildered is the expression conveyed on the face of the defeated finalist in the women's singles, Ilona Uhlíkova of Czechoslovakia.

Photo by Graham Duncan.

**Semi-finals:**  
**England I 3 Netherlands I 0**  
 Hammersley bt Vriesekoop 21, 17;  
 Witt bt Blankaert 13, -23, 13;  
 Hammersley/Jarvis bt Blankaert/Vriesekoop 19, 8.

**Czechoslovakia 3 Sweden 0**  
 Uhlíkova bt Lindvall -19, 12, 14;  
 Silhanova bt Lindblad -21, 19, 17;  
 Silhanova/Uhlíkova bt Lindblad/Lindvall 17, 19.

**Final:**  
**CZECHOSLOVAKIA 3 England I 2**  
 Silhanova lost to Hammersley -18, -9;  
 Uhlíkova bt Witt 7, -19, 9;  
 Silhanova/Uhlíkova bt Hammersley/Jarvis 8, 20;  
 Uhlíkova lost to Hammersley -7, -9;  
 Silhanova bt Witt 11, 18.

## Cover Picture

John M. McDonnell, Public Relations Manager, Norwich Union Insurance Group, remains to congratulate England's Jill Hammersley and Desmond Douglas, after presenting his Group's trophy for "the best performance by an English player" in the Championships.

The destiny of the trophy is decided by the Press but on this occasion it was a tie so sharing the £150 and holding the trophy for six months each, a smiling Jill and Des take possession.

## News from the Trade

### NEW TABLE TENNIS TABLES FROM TSP

TSP Sports Europe Ltd., specialists in the field of Table Tennis Equipment and Clothing, are pleased to announce a collaboration with the leading table tennis table manufacturers from Belgium Sven, whose tables are already internationally renowned for their variety and high quality craftsmanship.

TSP introduced its top "Competition" autofoldaway table at I.S.L.E. in November, and this already has achieved an enthusiastic response from the sports trade. The new "TSP - SVEN" range of tables will present a wider selection of tables to cater for the increasing demands of clubs, schools, sports centres and domestic use in household rooms and garages.

"We are particularly pleased to establish this association with the Sven Company to complete our comprehensive range, as we can now offer every item of equipment for table tennis to meet the increasing popularity of the game at all levels", says TSP Managing Director, Mr. Eddy King.

Initially there will be seven tables in the range, each competitively priced from £50.00 to £250.00 Retail Price.

The main features are the true playing surfaces, manoeuvrability, strength and easy storage of each table, and special attention has been given to the safety factors involved for modern day use. Further information and price list available from TSP Sports Europe Ltd., Lindsay House, 88 Upper Richmond Road, Putney, LONDON SW15 2ST.

### TSP ASTOLL CHOSEN EXCLUSIVELY BY LEAGUE LEADERS

National club table tennis league leaders SEALINK MILTON KEYNES have recently joined other clubs and adopted TSP ASTOLL table tennis balls exclusively for all their remaining home matches this season.

Club general manager Brian Ashton said "We have been experimenting in practice with a ball new to the U.K. market, but our players prefer the consistency of TSP ASTOLL to all other balls, and have asked to use it in all future matches".

## WOMEN

**Round 1:**  
**France II 3 Ireland 0**  
 Abgrall bt Walker 16, 17;  
 Germain bt Leonard -22, 11, 12;  
 Abgrall/Germain bt Leonard/Walker 15, 18.

**Netherland I 3 Scotland 1**  
 Vriesekoop bt Fleming 7, 14;  
 Blankaert lost to Dalrymple -12, -14;  
 Blankaert/Vriesekoop bt Dalrymple/Fleming 10, 16;  
 Vriesekoop bt Dalrymple 11, 9.

**Yugoslavia 3 Wales 0**  
 Ojstersek bt S. Jones 10, 13;  
 Pavlov bt C. Jones 8, 15;  
 Ojstersek/Pavlov bt Jones/Jones 11, 13.

**France I 3 Netherlands II 0**  
 Gourmelon bt Kruiff 14, 14;  
 Thiriet bt Kooter 18, 23;  
 Gourmelon/Thiriet bt Kooter/Kruiff 10, -12, 17.

**England III 3 Poland 0**  
 Smith bt Urbanska 12, 20;  
 Mitchell bt Szatko -15, 20, 15;  
 Mitchell/Smith bt Szatko/Urbanska 16, -11, 12.

**Round 2:**  
**England I 3 France II 0**  
 Hammersley bt Germain 7, 6;  
 Witt bt Abgrall 10, 16;  
 Hammersley/Jarvis bt Abgrall/Germain 9, -19, 16.

**Netherlands I 3 Yugoslavia 0**  
 Vriesekoop bt Pavlov 12, 7;  
 Blankaert bt Ojstersek 18, 14;  
 Blankaert/Vriesekoop bt Ojstersek/Pavlov 17, 15

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# IRISH AFFAIRS

by WILLIE WALSH

## DORENE CONNACHT OPEN:

The Dorene Connacht Open, one of the best supported Opens in the Irish Calendar, has its first overseas Men's Singles Champion since the middle sixties in English-born Martin Kinsella. He beat the Irish No. 1 Kevin Keane in a tremendous final in the Leisureland Complex, Salthill, Galway. The scores — 15 and 15 scarcely reflects the excitement and closeness of a match, that saw the greater consistency of Kinsella's block and counter-hit overcome the fore-hand and backhand loops and drives of Keane.

In the semi-final Kinsella beat the Irish No. 2, Colum Slevin, and won the Men's Doubles with another English-born player, Pat Glynn.

Those two popular players are regular visitors to Irish Tournaments — which they do at their own expense, and the spectators showed their appreciation at the presentation ceremony. They have both been selected on an Irish "Exiles" team to play in the Irish Open in Belfast which may be the start of further International honours as their parents are from Ireland and so qualify to represent Ireland. Ann Leonard completed another hat-trick in winning the Women's Singles, Women's and Mixed Doubles. When Deirdre Kilpatrick beat Liz Cash and Ann Leonard dropped a set to Mary Sheehan it looked as if Kilpatrick could shock her more experienced and higher ranked team-mate. This was not to be and the final turned out to be an anticlimax as Leonard had no problem in winning.

Ann teamed up with her younger sister, Geraldine, to beat Liz Cash and Mary Sheehan in the Doubles final and with Colum Slevin to beat Derek Weir and Liz Cash in the mixed final.

Colum Slevin's greater experience was too much for the greatly improved D. Flanagan in the boys' final.

## RESULTS:-

### Men's Singles Semi-finals:

K. Keane bt P. Glynn 18, 11;  
M. Kinsella bt C. Slevin -13, 18, 17.

**Final:**  
KINSELLA bt Keane 15, 15.

### Women's Singles Semi-finals:

A. Leonard bt M. Sheehan -17, 18, 12.  
D. Kilpatrick bt L. Cash 13, 14.

**Final:**  
LEONARD bt Kilpatrick 12, 12.

### Men's Doubles Semi-finals:

Slevin/Keane bt T. Heasley/B. Larrigan 19, 13;  
Glynn/Kinsella bt J. Hickey/D. Weir 13, 18.

**Final:**  
GLYNN/KINSELLA bt Slevin/Keane -19, 18, 18.

### Women's Doubles Semi-finals:

A. & G. Leonard bt P. Hunter/Cash 17, 12.  
Sheehan/Kilpatrick bt J. Cronin/H. Walsh -16, 13, 14.

**Final:**  
A. & G. LEONARD bt Sheehan/Cash 16, 19.

### Mixed Doubles Semi-finals:

Slevin/A. Leonard bt Larrigan/Kilpatrick 15, 19;  
Weir/Cash bt K. & G. Leonard 19, 20.

**Final:**  
SLEVIN/LEONARD bt Weir/Cash 23, -13, 19.

### Boys' Final:

SLEVIN bt D. Flanagan 8, 9.

## IRISH RANKINGS

Martin Kinsella comes in at No. 2 spot to share with Colum Slevin as Kevin Keane

retains his No. 1 position. Joe Hickey moves above Derek Weir and Thomas Heasley's recent return to form joins Weir at No. 5 Tommie Caffrey or Karen Walker were not considered as they have not played in the required number of listed tournaments.

## SENIOR

### Men

1 K. Keane (L), =2 C. Slevin (L), =2 M. Kinsella, 4 J. Hickey (L), =5 D. Weir (U), =5 T. Heasley (U), 7 P. Glynn, 8 J. Hamill (U), 9 D. Pemberton (L).

### Women

1 A. Leonard (L), 2 D. Kilpatrick (L), =3 L. Cash (U), =3 M. Sheehan (M), 5 P. Hunter (U), 6 G. Leonard (L), 7 V. Moore (U).



Mrs. Pat Hunter (Lisburn), Secretary of the Ulster Branch of the Irish Table Tennis Association, currently ranked No. 5 in the Irish women's rankings is employed by the Department of Education and she is one of the hard working members of the organising committee of the Stiga Irish Open.

Photo by courtesy of the Belfast Telegraph.

## JUNIOR INTER-PROVINCIALS

Ulster won both the Junior and Cadet boys Championships and Leinster won both the Girls events at the Junior Inter-Provincials in Limerick.

The outstanding player was Michael Greene (Leinster) winning all of his nine matches. Geraldine Leonard (Leinster), Alan Marshall (Munster) and Richard McWilliams (Ulster) each won eight matches.

## RESULTS:-

### Junior Boys

Ulster 9 Munster 0  
Munster 8 Connacht 1  
Leinster 9 Connacht 0  
Ulster 9 Connacht 0  
Ulster 5 Leinster 4  
Leinster 6 Munster 3

### Junior Girls

Ulster 9 Connacht 0  
Leinster 9 Connacht 0  
Munster 7 Connacht 2  
Ulster 9 Munster 0  
Leinster 5 Munster 4  
Leinster 6 Ulster 3

### Cadet Boys

Leinster 6 Munster 3  
Leinster 6 Ulster 3

Munster 6 Connacht 3  
Leinster 8 Connacht 1  
Ulster 7 Munster 2  
Ulster 7 Connacht 2

## Cadet Girls

Ulster 9 Connacht 0  
Leinster 9 Connacht 0  
Leinster 6 Ulster 3  
Ulster 6 Munster 3  
Leinster 9 Munster 0  
Munster 8 Connacht 1

## IRISH RANKINGS

### Junior Boys

1 C. Slevin (L), 2 M. Greene (L), 3 R. McWilliams (U), 4 D. Flanagan (U), =5 W. Cherry (U), =5 J. O'Connell (M), =5 D. Crowley (L), =5 R. Barry, 9 A. Walsh (L), 10 B. Orr (U), 11 N. McGrane (L), 12 K. Galvin (M), 13 A. Greene (L).

### Junior Girls

1 G. Leonard (L), 2 L. Gibson (U), 3 J. Wightman (U), 4 P. Blair (L), 5 K. Ring (L), 6 G. Greene (L), 7 C. McGrane (L), 8 Y. Parsons (L), 9 E. Tuohy (L), 10 A. M. Reilly (L), 11 M. O'Hehir (M), 12 T. Power (L), 13 S. Slevin (L).

## Key:

L—Leinster, U—Ulster, M—Munster.

## EUROPEAN LEAGUE

### IRELAND v BELGIUM:

If Irish Table Tennis was controlled by the Racing Board, there would be a stewards enquiry after each International match. Having lost to Spain at home in December they go to Belgium in January and beat the home team 4-3 after clinching the match when they led 4-1.

They started off in a hurry when the on form Slevin beat D. Nassaux 11, 15, and Keane beat N. van de Walle 14, 16. Karen Walker who was preferred to Ann Leonard lost to Marie-France Germiot -16, -14 and then Ireland won both the doubles. Belgium won the reverse singles to restore Belgium pride.

In the first game Slevin went into a lead of 18-3 against the left handed Nassaux and even though he relaxed somewhat he went on to win comfortably. In the second game he led 20-10 and again let the Belgium in to reach 15 before he clinched the game.

Norbert van de Walle, who was earning his 211th cap, had no answer to Keane's fast loops down his backhand, which even when he did return, Keane quickly 'killed' to the amazement of the large crowd. Keane took the first and the second game equally easy.

Belgium got a set back when Marie-France Germiot beat Karen Walker by sheer consistency.

Keane and Slevin beat van de Walle and L. Belien in a thriller. This was the best doubles display ever by the Irish pair as they took the first game 13. The Belgians won the second 17 and actually led 20-18 in the third to the delight of the spectators. Their delight was slowly changed to dismay as the Irish fought back to level at 20 and go on to win 23-21 and gain a 3-1 lead.

Karen Walker proved once again the great mixed doubles player she is, as she raised her game to gain with Slevin another 'nail-biting' victory 20 in the 3rd to clinch the match.

The reverse singles were academic and proved an anti climax as the Belgians won both to put a respectable look on the match score.

## RESULTS:-

D. Nassaux lost to C. Slevin -11, -15.  
N. van de Walle lost to K. Keane -14, -16.  
M. F. Germiot bt K. Walker 16, 14.  
Van de Walle/Belien lost to Keane/Slevin -13, 17, -21.  
Van de Walle/Germiot lost to Slevin/Walker -15, 16, -20.  
Nassaux bt Keane 22, 19.  
Van de Walle bt Slevin 15, 15.  
Belgium 3 Ireland 4

**DEPRESSION PROFOUND**

There are many trends in our Sport that depress me profoundly, but nothing quite so much as the news (John Woodford's column, January Issue) that the future of Table Tennis News is now in some doubt, threatened, one gathers, by a new "professional" venture which will appear on the bookstalls next September.

I am, of course, delighted there should be another Table Tennis publication, as I was when "Tees Sporter" appeared, which I have greatly enjoyed. Our Sport is woefully under-published, ranking in terms of media time below two day old football, that interminable test series between India and Pakistan without which no winter's day is complete, darts, basket-ball, snooker and Austrian Ski-ing. I therefore applaud the courage of those who venture into our dark Cinderella sport, particularly "professionals" with their likely Fleet Street type of over-heads. I can only say that I would not risk my money on a publication venture in table tennis, particularly in competition with Table Tennis News, whilst our Sport enjoys such a low-key public image and virtually no spectator support. The miserable crumbs that come our way on television feature almost exclusively the players of other lands. Our own National League, which needs and deserves support during this formative stage, gets little or nothing.

I have no means of knowing whether Mr. Woodford's look into the crystal ball is already close to fact or merely what he thinks might happen, making assumptions that the Journal will take most advertising revenue and therefore leave Table Tennis News financially exposed.

The disappearance of Table Tennis News would be a tragedy, not only for those who have read it and loved it over the years, but because it would create a vacuum in the information field. The new publication may not survive. The magazine publishing field is a graveyard of shattered illusions. We shall then be left with a wasteland of Local Associations linked together by stencilled circulars from a central body. The isolation of Local Leagues would continue to grow, the decline of the County scene would accelerate. The Tournament Circuit would suffer because many competitors who travel long distances at great expense would be deprived of the compensating pleasure that comes their way, that of seeing their name in Table Tennis News when they have achieved something. What would ranking lists mean without Table Tennis News? Will it matter if you are ranked No. 1 or 20 or indeed at all, if no-one ever sees it?

The time has therefore come to rally round Editor Yates (whom I do not know personally) and Table Tennis News. Let it be said at once that the Editor has done and is doing a magnificent job. A magazine catering for a small Sport cannot be run as a Fleet Street type operation and, far from being a disadvantage one may be grateful for that, if one remembers how Fleet Street has often contrived to run its own industry. The magazine is informative, well printed, always interesting, highly individual, fair, and a labour of love. Its circulation should be much larger and would be if more support were forthcoming from the central body.

Let me now point to the obvious remedy. A copy should be distributed to every fee paying member of the E.T.T.A. and the cost of this added to the Affiliation Fees. At once you will achieve enormous savings in terms of distribution costs (currently each copy is sent by post and the postage stamp amount to nearly half the cost). Under my scheme copies would go in bulk to each League for local distribution. At once the circulation would be immensely increased, much higher advertising rates would be achieved and

advertisers would get much better value. Above all, there would always be surplus copies floating around creating new readers. That is the way things should be done, but as so often in our Sport it is the very opposite of what is happening.

Yes, it would cost members money and there would be grumbles, but most increases in Affiliation Fees bring benefits which are felt at the grass roots much later, often not at all. At least, if the Affiliation Fees went up to produce copies for all members of the Association, there would be tangible value which would be immediately obvious. Far from proving a financial burden, benefits would accumulate very quickly. Members would begin to look beyond their

narrow Local Leagues and gain new understanding of our potentially vast sport. Tournaments would gain new competitors and spectators. There would be an almost immediate surge of enthusiasm and realisation of many things in our Sport which many fee paying members do not think exist. There would be a broadening of horizons and decline in local narrow-mindedness. Very quickly the circulation, far from being a burden on the Association, would go up from eight copies per year to nearer that of the German opposite number, of once fortnightly, winter and summer. It is a time for imagination and courage.

It this Association is really incapable of keeping Table Tennis News alive, it too has

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no right to survive and our Sport no right to be taken seriously. To let Table Tennis News die would be a failure of will as well as character and a piece of quite monumental, uncaring incompetence. It must not happen, TABLE TENNIS NEWS must not be allowed to die.

JOHN PREAN.

The Barn,  
12 Marlborough Road,  
Ryde, Isle of Wight.

### EXCHANGE VISIT

We are a Dutch Table Tennis Club who are interested to make an exchange with an English Table Tennis Club. Our club has among the senior as well as the junior players who are playing in the rural competition. We would like to make the exchange with youth as well as with senior, of different strength.

We prefer a club in a place which is easy to reach from Holland by public means of conveyance.

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Kam. Onnesweg 192  
1223 JN HILVERSUM  
Holland

### IT CAN BE DONE

I am delighted, It can be done. It requires a lot of goodwill but it can be done. I take back all my remarks and thoughts on players' behaviour that I mentioned in my letter printed in the November edition of Table Tennis News.

I announced before play commenced in the Pontefract Open that there would be no knocking up between scheduled matches other than by the players competing in the next match. It worked. The table stewards made it work. The players were rewarded with applause and walked, not fought their way off the court. Help with Umpiring was

readily provided. There were some great matches. There was no wasted time. Three finals were staged during the afternoon to break up the monotony and the large crowd of players and non players gathered to watch, applaud and encourage their favourite.

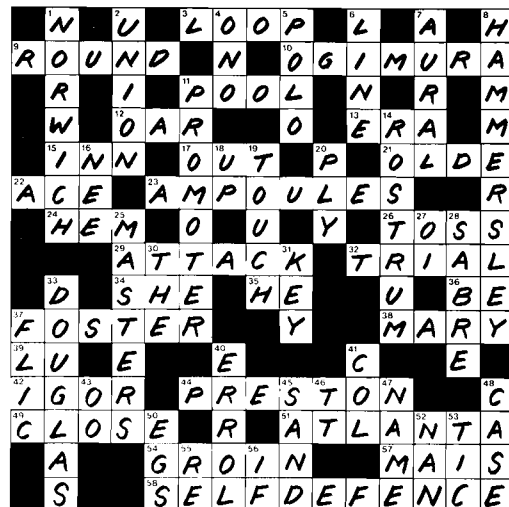
There was very little rubbish left lying about! Players must read the Mag. My sincere thanks to all competitors, parents, and officials who were at the Pontefract Open on Jan. 26.

G. T. SCRUTON,  
Referee.

96 Forest Lane,  
Harrogate.

### PRIZE CROSSWORD

The correct answers to the prize crossword featured in our December, 1979 issue are given below. The lucky winner will be named in the March issue of 'T.T. News'.



## TABLE TENNIS TECHNIQUE

### HOW TO BE A GOOD CHOPPING PLAYER

ZHANG XIELIN

Well-known both at home and abroad as a "magician" with his chopping strokes in the early '60s, the author is now a coach of the national women's table tennis team.

The chopping style was very popular in Europe in the '50s. Later, with more and more European players using loop drives — sometimes interspersed with quick pushes on both sides — it found its way to Asia.

China also possessed a number of good chopping players in the '50s, such as Jiang Yongning and Zhuang Jiafu. They were followed by Wang Zhiliang, Lin Huiqing, Zheng Minzhi, Qiu Baogin and Su Guoxi in the '60s and Liang Gellang, Lu Yuansheng, Huang Liang, Ge Xinal, Lin Meiqun and Zhu Xiangyun in the '70s, who all won top honours at international competitions.

At the 34th World Championships in 1977, the Japanese chopping player Takashima Norio defeated such strong rivals as Jonyer and Klampar from Hungary to ensure second place for Japan in the men's team event. At the 35th Championships last year, both the champion and runner-up in the women's singles — Ge Xinal and Li Song Suk (DPRK), as well as Japan's Goto Hideo, were exponents of the chopping style. It is obvious that this style has firmly established its place in the table tennis world.

#### I. Guiding principles for chopping play

1. Heavy spin: Learn how to produce spinning and non-spinning shots with seemingly similar action. Of all spins the heavy backspin is the most important; it is the key to wresting the initiative from your opponent.

2. Steady return: Return all coming balls to your opponent's court calmly and steadily.

3. Low trajectory: Send the ball just over the net in a low trajectory, so that your opponent cannot smash it.

4. Powerful attack: Chopping is chiefly a defensive weapon, with which alone you can hardly win a game. In modern table tennis a chopping player must learn how to attack whenever possible. Defence must go hand in hand with offence.

#### II. Basic techniques of chopping

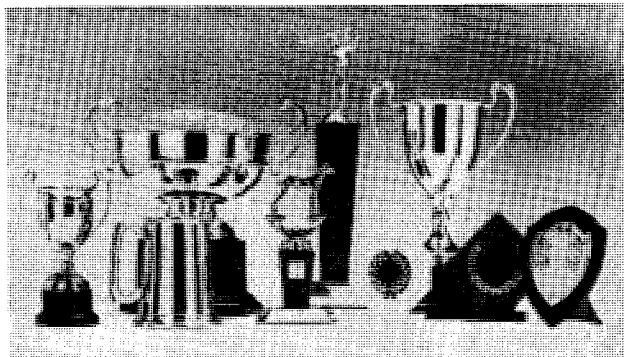
1. Preparatory stance: Face the table and stand about one metre away from it, with your feet a little apart and your legs slightly bent at the knee. Keep good balance.

2. Forehand chopping: Assuming you are a right-handed player, move your right foot slightly back and to the right. Fix your eyes on the coming ball. Use your forearm and wrist when you chop, moving your arm from shoulder level downward until it is slightly bent at the elbow. Don't swing your bat too much. Place your body weight on your left leg. Recover your right foot after every stroke. Rotate your waist so as to keep the whole body in balance and coordinate all its movements. Don't place your bat in a horizontal position, but rather tilt it a bit backward, especially in dealing with loop drives and topspins. The point of contact on the ball depends on the nature of the coming ball. In case of a powerful loop drive, hit the ball in the middle part and press or brush it downward. In case of an ordinary backspin, hit the ball in the lower part with downward brushing.

3. Backhand chopping: The basic movements are similar to those for forehand chopping. Move your left foot a bit back-

(continued on page 12)

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(continued from page 10)

ward to the left side, with both legs bent naturally. Turn your trunk slightly towards the left, your body weight on the right leg. Return to the preparatory stance after every stroke. Angle your bat in the same way as you do for forehand chopping. Move your arm from shoulder level downward, with a slight turn of the waist. Hit the ball in the middle part as you do for forehand chopping. Look straight ahead after returning the ball.

### III. Points to remember

1. Angle your bat properly. This demands quick judgement of the power, spin and speed of the coming ball. Chop it with the force of your forearm and wrist. Press and rub it downward if it is a powerful shot with heavy spin. Put more force into the forward movement if it is a light shot with little spin.

2. Use your force properly: When the ball comes to you suddenly with great forward momentum and you find it too late to retreat, return the ball with either added or cushioned force. Return a fast, powerful shot only with a flip of your wrist. The action should be neither too early nor too late: in the former case you will cause the ball to go out while in the latter you will drive it into the net.

3. Move your waist and knees properly. Many players are apt to overlook this point. The coming ball often varies in speed and placement and you may find yourself not fully prepared in timing and positioning for making a return. Here an adjustment of your waist or knee movements will help. Strengthen your striking force by rotating your waist upward if you feel that the return would otherwise end in a "net ball". Lower the trajectory of your shot by dropping your knees with the descent of the coming ball if you feel that the return would otherwise go beyond the table.

4. Time your hit properly. Strike the coming ball at the right moment, when your bat will "purchase" it in chopping. Good timing and concentration of force are necessary for precise placement, low trajectory, avoidance of errors and seizure of the initiative.

### IV. How to use a combination bat

Most chopping players are fond of using a combination bat, which is covered with inverted sandwich rubber on one side for forehand strokes and with long-pimpled, anti-topspin rubber on the other for backhand strokes. Ever since it was used by a few Chinese players, such as Liang Geliang and Lin Huiqing, at the 31st World Championships in 1971, this kind of bat has also become increasingly popular in Hungary, Japan, West Germany, the Soviet Union and many other countries.

The long-pimpled covering has the following advantages:

1. It can turn a coming ball with sidespin or some other heavy spin into an erratic or curved floater.

2. When it is difficult to judge the spinning force of the coming ball, it can be returned easily and safely with the long-pimpled covering.

3. A heavy topspinning ball can be easily returned by blocking or chopping it with the long-pimpled covering.

4. A powerful spinning smash can be turned into a backspinning shot which gives little bounce or even "sinks" after touching the opponent's court, making it difficult for him to attack again.

Of course the long-pimpled covering has its disadvantages, too.

1. It is hard to handle, produces a weak force in attacking and, in returning a non-spinning ball, often results in a long or wide shot.

2. It is incapable of producing heavy spin in returning a light shot, which should rather be handled with the sandwich face of the bat. This "change-face" technique calls for a quick judgement of the nature of the coming ball. Only then can you upset your adversary with varying spins and occasional counter-attacks.

To use a combination bat effectively, you must master the basic skills of chopping play. Try to use the sandwich side not only in producing shots with or without spin, but also in launching forehand attacks, including loop drives and smashes. You have to rely on this side in attack, as the long-

pimpled side is far less effective. Liang Geliang often takes his opponent by surprise by punctuating his chopping strokes with powerful attacks whenever there is the slightest chance. It is indeed no easy job to mix your chopping and attacking shots properly. But through much practice you will surely become familiar with the characteristic features of the two different faces of the bat and know how to "change face" and how to serve, chop and smash your way to the top.

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## NORWICH UNION GRAND PRIX

Table of all points scorers at 12th Jan., 1980

	Grand Prix Points
1 T. Klampar (HUN) .....	2,000
2 D. Douglas (ENG) .....	2,000
3 S. Bengtsson (SWE) .....	1,950
4 Xie Saike (CHN) .....	1,600
5 Wang Hui Yuan (CHN) .....	1,400
6 M. Orlovski (CZE) .....	1,100
7 A. Grubba (POL) .....	1,100
8 J. Dvoracek (CZE) .....	1,050
9 Cai Zheng Hua (CHN) .....	1,000
10 Liao Fumin (CHN) .....	1,000
11 U. Thorsell (SWE) .....	1,000
12 G. Gergely (HUN) .....	900
13 J. Secretin (FRA) .....	800
14 P. Day (ENG) .....	800
15 V. Broda (CZE) .....	750
16 I. Jonyer (HUN) .....	575
17 D. Johnson (ENG) .....	575
18 W. Lieck (GFR) .....	550
19 P. Renverse (FRA) .....	550
20 L. Kucharski (POL) .....	550
21 E. Lindh (SWE) .....	500
22 M. Appelgren (SWE) .....	475
23 D. Surbek (YUG) .....	400
24 Z. Kalinic (YUG) .....	400
25 M. Crimmins (ENG) .....	400
26 T. Nilsson (SWE) .....	400
27 B. Parietti (FRA) .....	400
28 M. Karakasevic (YUG) .....	400
29 P. Birocheau (FRA) .....	350
30 Wang Yang Shen (CHN) .....	350
31 P. Stellwag (GFR) .....	350
32 N. Persson (SWE) .....	350

### County Championships Diary

#### MARCH 1

##### Premier Division

Essex I v Middlesex I (West Thurrock Generating Station Stoneness Road, West Thurrock, Essex) 7.00 p.m.

##### 2nd South

Essex II v Sussex (Fellows Cranleigh, Ranelagh Road, Plaistow E.13.) 7.00 p.m.

##### 2nd North

Lancs v Derbys (Clitheroe Secondary School, Clitheroe) 6.30 p.m.

##### 2nd Midland

Gloucs v Glamorgan II (C.E.G.B. Sports Club, Barnwood, Gloucester) 7.00 p.m.

##### 2nd East

Northants v Suffolk (Recreation Centre, Burton Latimer, Nr. Kettering) 7.00 p.m.

##### 3rd South

Essex III v Bucks II (Fellows Cranleigh, Ranelagh Road, Plaistow, E.13.) 7.00 p.m.

##### Junior 2nd Midland

Gloucs v Warwicks (C.E.G.B. Sports Club, Barnwood, Gloucester) 2.30 p.m.

##### Junior 3rd East Midland

Norfolk v Northants (Youth Centre, Kings Lynn) 3.00 p.m.

##### Junior 3rd East

Norfolk II v Essex III (May and Baker, Norwich) 2.30 p.m.  
Herts III v Beds II (Goffs Oak T.T.C., St. James' Road, Goffs Oak, Cheshunt) 2.30 p.m.

##### Junior 3rd South Midland

Salop v Avon (Albrighton T.T. Club, Albrighton, Salop) 3.0 p.m.

##### Veteran South

Essex II v Herts II (Japan Road Club, Japan Road, off Chadwell Heath High Road, Essex) 6.30 p.m.

Middlesex v Hants II (East Finchley T.T. Centre, 142 High Road, East Finchley) 2.00 p.m.

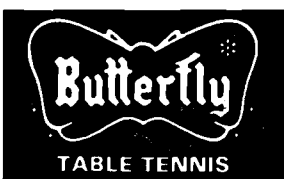
##### Veteran West

Dorset II v Avon I (International Time Recording Co. Ltd., Fleets Lane, Poole, Dorset) 2.30 p.m.

#### MARCH 2

##### Veteran West

Dorset II v Hants (International Time Recording Co. Ltd., Fleets Lane, Poole, Dorset) 2.30 p.m.



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# County of Cleveland Sixth 3-Star Open

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## DOUGLAS DOMINATES by Alan Ransome

Desmond Douglas completely dominated the Cleveland 3-Star Open Championships at the Thornaby Pavilion on Jan. 5/6. The English champion did not drop a single game or even look in danger of breaking into a sweat.

In the men's singles, Douglas took on three of England's leading players, Bob Potton (Essex) in the final, Max Crimmins (Surrey) in the semi and Kenny Jackson (Essex) in the quarters. Without being arrogant or aggressive, Douglas made the trio look like early round warm-up opponents.

Potton did well himself to reach the final of the men's singles, scoring victories over both Paul Day (Cambridge) and Graham Sandley (Middlesex), Potton has been looking for England recognition for some time and this performance could give him just that.

In Douglas's half of the draw, Crimmins enjoyed a good run with victories over Ian Robertson, Ian Horsham, David Barr and John Hilton, only to find himself up against the brick wall of Douglas.

Sandley enjoyed victories over the Johnson brothers and Nigel Eckersley to reach his semi-final — Eckersley having earlier defeated Nicky Jarvis.

The women's singles was won by Mandy Smith, whose main wins were against Carole Knight 19 in the third and Melody Ludi at 17 in the third, in the semi-final and final. Mandy took full advantage of being in the same quarter as 'flu victim Jill Hammersley.

Carole Knight, who had a tough draw in the top half, beat Alison Gordon 19 in the third, then Karen Witt in straight games, after Miss Witt had had a series of points taken from her for foul serving by National Umpire Aubrey Drapkin.

In the bottom half of the draw, Melody Ludi played extremely well to beat Leicestershire pair Karen Rogers and Anita Stevenson in straight games and then recording a narrow victory of 18 in the third against Linda Jarvis in the semi-final.

Skylet Andrew from Essex had an excellent tournament winning both the Class 2 mixed singles and the Intermediate men's, David Hannah of Surrey and Desmond Charlery of Essex being his final opponents.

The women's Intermediate singles was won by Alison Gordon, who scored a 27-25 in the third win over the women's singles winner, Mandy Smith.

The Championships received an all-time record entry — some 20% up on last season. Play commenced at 8.30 each morning to cope with the extra players and the finals were put back to 7.30 p.m. on Sunday. If the entry is to continue to rise, then the organisers must either cancel an event — possibly the Intermediate — or restrict entries for next year.

The prizes were presented by the Chairman of Cleveland County Council, Mrs. Hazel Pearson, who represented the sponsors, the Leisure Services Department, at the finals.

### RESULTS:-

#### Men's Singles Quarter-finals:

D. Douglas (Wa) bt K. Jackson (E) 7, 16;

M. Crimmins (Sy) bt J. Hilton (Ch)

8, -10, 18;

G. Sandley (Mi) bt N. Eckersley (Ch)

-12, 12, 13;

R. Potton (E) bt P. Day (Ca) 19, 19.

#### Semi-finals:

Douglas bt Crimmins 11, 10;

Potton bt Sandley -16, 9, 14.

#### Final:

DOUGLAS bt Potton 9, 10.

#### Women's Quarter-finals:

M. Smith (Bk) bt S. Sandley (Mi) 15, 10;

C. Knight (Cv) bt K. Witt (Bk) 19, 12;

L. Jarvis (Sy) bt A. Mitchell (Mi) 13, 16;

M. Ludi (Y) bt A. Stevenson (Le) 16, 19.

#### Semi-finals:

Smith bt Knight 16, -16, 19;

Ludi bt Jarvis -17, 17, 18.

#### Final:

SMITH bt Ludi -15, 12, 17.

#### Men's Doubles Semi-finals:

Douglas/D. Parker (La) bt Hilton/D.

Johnson (Wa) 20, 14;

Sandley/M. Mitchell (Mi) bt Day/N. Jarvis

(Cv) 14, -15, 14.

#### Final:

DOUGLAS/PARKER bt Sandley/Mitchell 13, 16.

#### Women's Doubles Semi-finals:

Witt/Ludi bt Jarvis/P. Cameron (Ng) 27, 16;

Smith/A. Gordon (Bk) bt Stevenson/Knight 19, 14.

#### Final:

WITT/LUDI bt Smith/Gordon 18, 9.

#### C2XS Semi-finals:

S. Andrew (E) bt G. Gillett (Sx) 19, 16;

D. Hannah (Sy) bt S. Turner (La) 13, 20.

#### Final:

ANDREW bt Hannah -13, 21, 19.

#### Intermediate Men's Singles Quarter-finals:

Gillett bt M. Smith (Av) 10, 10;

D. Charlery (E) bt S. Scowercroft (La) 7, 9;

Andrew bt S. Moore (Sx) 14, 21;

G. Baker (Sy) bt A. Bellingham (St) 13, 17.

#### Semi-finals:

Charlery bt Gillett 6, 17;

Andrew bt Baker 14, 15.

#### Final:

ANDREW bt Charlery -15, 15, 16.

#### Intermediate Women's Singles Semi-finals:

Gordon bt L. Hryszko (Y) 14, 9;

Smith bt S. Midgley (Y) 15, 16.

#### Final:

GORDON bt Smith -6, 13, 25.

#### Veteran Singles Final:

G. CHAPMAN (Sy) bt P. D'Arcy (Ch)

-15, 16, 18.

# U.S. Open Team Championships

DETROIT, MICHIGAN

(Nov. 23/25, 1979)

One hundred and ten teams competed in the Men's Division, and ten of them made it to the final play-off. Three teams, the Max Marinko team, the Joola team and the Butterfly East team, had 8-1 records.

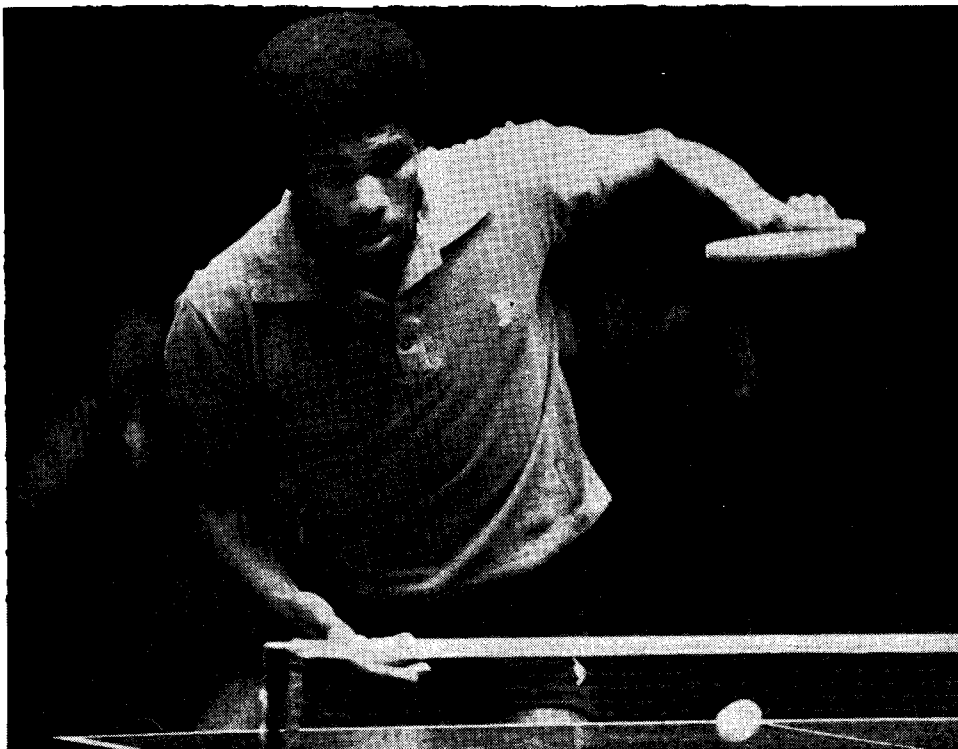
The first confrontation was between Butterfly East (Dan Seemiller, Rick Seemiller and Perry Schwartzberg, from Pittsburg) and Max Marinko (Zoran Kosanovic, Errol Caetano and Derek Wall, from Toronto). Schwartzberg won the first game at 12, Caetano won the second at 16, Perry led 20-15 in the 3rd — Errol won it 29-27! Next, Danny Seemiller overpowered Wall 17, 13 to tie the match. Kosanovic barely contained Ricky Seemiller in the first game, 22-20, then won the second easily at 13.

Danny beat Errol 8, 19 to tie the match again. Zoran beat Perry 8, 18; he stated afterwards he had no trouble with Perry's (excellent) high toss serves because Karakasevic has the same serves, only better. Ricky beat Derek 12, 19 to tie the match again.

Dan Seemiller v Kosanovic — this set would also show who is the best player in North America — Zoran eked out a 17, 19 win.

Ricky tied it up again, beating Errol 9, 15. Ninth set — Perry v Derek. Derek won the 1st game at 17, Perry won the 2nd at 12, Derek led 12-9 in the 3rd, but Perry pulled it out at 16, giving Butterfly East a 5-4 win.

Next, Max Marinko played Joola — Attila Malek bt Caetano 19, 13; Kosanovic bt D. J.



Desmond Douglas, an easy winner of the Cleveland 3-Star Open men's singles at Thornaby Pavilion.

Photo by Graham Duncan, Tooting Bec, London SW17.

(continued on page 16)

(continued from page 14)

Lee (six times U.S. Champion) 17, 17; Wall chopped down defending U.S. Champion Eric Boggan -10, 18 (Eric led 9-1 in this game) and 20! (Eric led 12-5 and 20-18!). Kosanovic bt Malek 14, 12 (Their Yugoslav is better than our Hungarian). Caetano bt Boggan -15, 12, 22! Lee bt Wall 20, 13. Kosanovic bt Boggan 17, 12, giving Max Marinko a 5-2 win.

The final confrontation was Butterfly East v Joola, with the Canadians as very interested spectators.

Dan Seemiller justified his No. 1 U.S. rating by beating Attila, Eric and D.J. — Eric led Perry 9-0 in the 1st game, lost the game! Perry led 20-19 in the 2nd game, but Eric won it. And the 3rd. Attila and D.J. also beat Perry, and Ricky beat D. J., so again it went to the 9th set — Attila eked out a 3-game victory over Ricky, giving Joola the 5-4 win! The three way tie was decided by the ration of matches won and lost — The Winner was the Max Marinko team, who won nine sets and lost seven against the other two teams. Runner up was Butterfly East, nine and nine. Joola was 3rd, with a seven and nine record. Kosanovic didn't lose a game!

The Women's Division had 16 teams — the winner was Joola (He-Ja Lee, Faan Yeen Liu, Carol Davidson, Hee R. Lee). They beat runner-up Montreal International (Mariann Domonkos, Karim, Aucoin, Bourdages) five to three. 3rd place was taken by Chicago (Grace Wasielewski (nee Ide), Cheryl Dadian, Connie Sweeris, Takako Trenholme).

The Junior Division also had 16 teams; the final was between Grand Rapids (Michigan) (Jim Doney, John Huizinga,



The Kosanovics Darinka and Zoran in Detroit.

Photo by Malcolm Anderson, Cicero, Il.

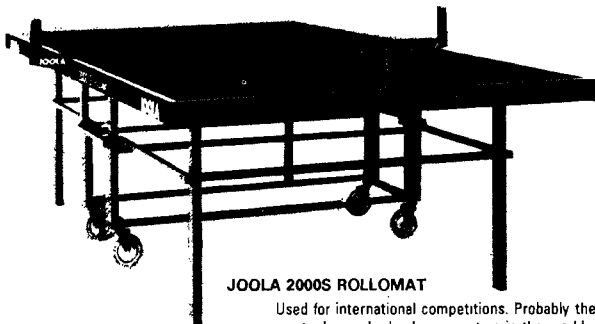
Steve Clafin) and Quebec I (Michael Roux, Michael Beaucage, Mitchell Rothfleisch). Beaucage beat Steve Clafin 17, -20, 15 but the Michigan boys won the rest — Huizinga d. Roux 14, 17; Doney d. Rothfleisch 20, -15, 15; Huizinga d. Beaucage 17, -8, 15; Doney d. Roux 16, 20; Clafin d. Rothfleisch 17, -17, 21.

Quebec brought a total of 51 players on 12 teams! Keep up the good work, Adham!

### SPONSORSHIP ACQUIRED

The Concord Table Tennis Club of Droydsden, who play in the Ashton and District League, Lancashire have acquired sponsorship from the Trim Line Health Clubs who have supplied the teams with T-shirt and shorts.

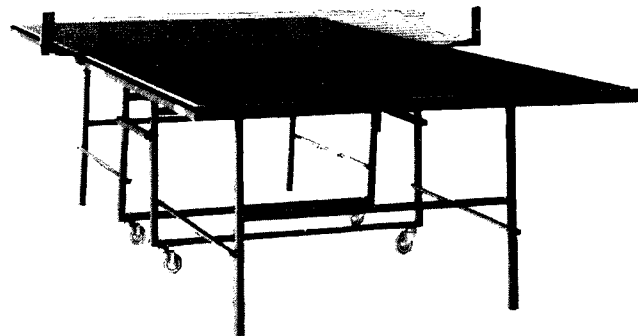
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# County Notes Supplement

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## THIS AND THAT IN SURREY

by Murray Corbin



Soon, it could be "face to face" between GLENN "Ousa" BAKER — the No. 5 National Junior and NICHOLAS "Speedy" HOARE — the No. 6 National Cadet, should they meet in the T.S.B. Surrey Junior Closed Championships this month. Graham Russell, too, will also be keen to take the Boys' U-17 Singles title from MARK OAKLEY — the defending champion and No. 10 National Junior.

Photo by "Yours Truly".

This is going to be another good month for Surrey. Wherever I go, everyone is eagerly anticipating the forthcoming T.S.B. Surrey Junior Closed Championships on 23rd and 24th of this month, at The Elmbridge Leisure Centre, Sunbury Lane, Walton-on-Thames, Surrey. I am excited to see the progress our youngsters have made over the last year, and particularly, to witness the growth of, and the number of, the newly recruited to our wonderful sport, in the County.

The Trustee Savings Bank have again lent their support by sponsoring the event. In the words of Ron Crayden, Chairman of the Surrey T.T.A., "The invaluable support given by the T.S.B. allowed us to run the event last year, more ambitiously than in previous years without the crippling financial loss that invariably followed. It is therefore, with much delight that I welcome their continuing co-operation and support. I am also grateful for the confidence shown in the ability of the Surrey Association to organise these important championships. The T.S.B. Surrey Junior Championships are run exclusively for the benefit of the young enthusiasts of our County, who participate at their own expense. Annually, the number of entries increase and the competition seems to get keener — a sign that healthy progress is taking place. Much of this is

owed to those who work hard behind the scenes to provide opportunities for the young, and special thanks are extended to them for their considerable efforts. It is, however, to the Organiser and voluntary workers of these championships, that I present a special bouquet, for without them, it would be impossible".

The Elmbridge Leisure Centre Manager and his Assistant have hosted the Junior Championship four times, and the Senior, three times. I am informed on good authority that they have always found the organisers to be most co-operative and they are sure that an enjoyable time will again be had by all. While they look forward to welcoming everyone connected with these championships, they wish the players every success.

The Championships will begin at 9 a.m. on Saturday, 23, when the order of play will be, the U-12 Boys' and Girls' Singles, and the U-14 Boys' and Girls' Singles and Doubles. On the following day, the feature will be the U-17 Boys' and Girls' Singles, and the Doubles. The resultant finals will be played on each evening. The number of players had to be limited again this year to about 300. Unfortunately, this led to many disappointments last year. I must hope that the more enthusiastic have lodged their applications with the Organiser — Norman Hooper, well in advance of the time limit. Besides the main events, there will also be four consolation events, and these should make a very hectic weekend for the Organiser and the Referee — Phil Goacher. I wish you all well.

It will be of great interest to see the youngsters in the U-12's, because it is here that strength for the future must be encouraged and advised correctly. On general form, the U-14 Boys' Singles should go to Nicholas Hoare, but David Dewsbury, Andrew Sexton and Neil Sutton, to name a few, will do their utmost to prevent this. I cannot foresee Michele Hams in great danger in the U-14 Girls' Singles, unless Lyne Bennett's speed, accuracy and consistency have improved. However, there will be good opposition from Debbie Simmonds, Jane Mills and the fast-improving Jane Barella. Mark Oakley, last year's winner of the Boys' U-17 singles, will find it rough against his pal, Glenn Baker, who has improved tremendously within the last six months.

On the other hand, Nicholas Hoare may find it exciting to walk away with this prestigious title. I suspect that Mike Hammond, Neville Miller, Lionel Faure and Robert Campbell will be putting in extra efforts to surprise us. I sincerely hope that Lorraine Garbet will be fit and playing well on the Sunday. If not, the second-seeded Sarah Cresswell, will find too little opposition in the Girls' U-17 singles. Oh how nice it would be to see my main predictions go out of the window; this would add even more excitement to the championships, which I hope you will, every one of you and your families watch with me. Please make every possible effort to be with us.

### PERCY JOHNSON CUP INTER-LEAGUE COMPETITION

**Croydon Bus. Houses 6 Reigate & Redhill 3**  
B. Garraway 3 P. Richardson 2  
B. Windett 2 K. Fogwill 1  
J. Chamberlain 1 J. Millward 0

**Thames Valley 4 Wandsworth 5**  
P. Smith 2 M. Richards 2  
R. Bole 1 S. Richards 2  
P. Matthews 1 P. Holloway 1

An excellent match, in which Wandsworth, the firm favourites, showed their true character in recovering from a 2-4 deficit to win the match. Six sets went to a third game.

**Croydon 5 Thames Valley 4**  
M. Pearson 3 R. Bole 2  
D. Crowley 1 P. Smith 1  
C. Harper 1 M. Hammond 1

Mick Pearson was in great attacking form

for Croydon. Young Mike Hammond on his debut for Thames Valley, managed to get the scalp of Dave Crowley.

**Wandsworth 9 Croydon Bus. Houses 0**  
A complete victory for P. Holloway, M. & S. Richards over B. Garraway, M. Spicer and B. Windett. Have the defending Champions ever been whitewashed before?

**LEATHERHEAD v BYFLEET:** Due to an oversight, Leatherhead did not offer any dates. However, this match should have been played by the end of January.

**BYFLEET v CROYDON:** This match is to be replayed by the 15th February, by order of the County Committee. Byfleet are to offer two dates, but the venue must not be Egham S.E.B.

	P	W	L	F	A	P
Wandsworth .....	3	3	0	22	5	8
Croydon .....	2	2	0	10	8	4
Reigate & Redhill .....	2	1	1	9	9	3
Croydon Bus. Houses ...	2	1	1	6	12	3
Thames Valley .....	3	0	3	11	16	2
Leatherhead .....	1	0	1	4	5	1
Byfleet .....	1	0	1	1	8	0

Through pressure of work, going to tournaments and being extremely busy coaching, I have not had time to complete the FACE TO FACE with Mike Kercher, for this issue. I regret this very much and apologise for having to disappoint you over this. However, this stimulating article will be featured next month. Have a good month but do not forget to order your entry forms for the South of England 2-Star, which will be held in Woking, in April. I am also hoping to have more news about this competition, next month. Until we meet again, keep warm.

## SHROPSHIRE NOTES

by Gerald Green

### ENGLAND RANKINGS FOR TWO CADETS

It is very pleasing to start these notes with news of England Rankings for two Shropshire Cadets. Ivan Smith (Shrewsbury) is No. 5 Boy Cadet and Alison Barker (Market Drayton) is No. 18 Girl in the recent list issued by the E.T.T.A. Both are well deserved and only obtained by hard work and dedication allied to good results in outside competition. The County Association offer their congratulations and hope that this is only the first step of many on the road to National/International success.

Both also figure prominently in the revised County Ranking lists issued with effect from 1st January, 1980 — with Ivan No. 1 Boy and Alison No. 3 Girl.

Full lists:-

**Men**  
M. Green (S), C. Roberts (O), L. Baker (S), M. Beaman (S), W. Herbert (T), I. Baker (S), M. Chambers (S), M. Brown (S), K. McGuire (W), T. Horrobin (T).

**Women**  
J. Cheetham (S), T. Powell (T), C. Soan (MD), A. Barker (MD), J. Green (S), D. Boughey (MD), J. Siddle (T), A. Lowe (T).

**Boys**  
I. Smith (S), T. Cheetham (S), D. Pountney (S), M. Tuft (T), R. Morris (S), K. Sillitoe (MD), J. Rea (T), R. Bayliss (MD), M. Davies (S), S. Sonsino (S).

**Girls**  
J. Cheetham (S), C. Soan (MD), A. Barker (MD), D. Boughey (MD), A. Lowe (T), J. Ballard (T), A. Stephens (S), S. Johnston (S), J. Wakeley (T), C. Wickstead (MD).

**Key**  
S—Shrewsbury, T—Telford, MD—Market Drayton, W—Whitchurch, O—Oswestry.

County Champion, Linda Degg, not ranked as she is unavailable for representative matches.

Kate Harris (formerly No. 5 Junior and No. 6 Woman), is giving up table tennis.

Mark Pugh is not interested.

No County results to report this month, but in the Midland League Shrewsbury Boys (Ivan Smith, Tony Cheetham and Dean Pountney) are doing very well, unbeaten so far, and obviously promotion prospects are good.

The Seniors in that league, weakened by unavailability of top ranked players, are having a mixed season.

No reports from other leagues, but Harlescott continue to dominate Shrewsbury Premier — winning convincingly 8-2 in the last match of the first half of the season — against previously unbeaten Pontesbury.

Shrewsbury Closed Championships are being held at Sundorne on 3rd February and Shropshire Schools (organised by Ian Cosser) at the same venue on 20th January.

## DORSET NOTES

by Martin Abbott

### FAIR RESULT

In the last round of County matches our senior first team entertained Hampshire's first team at I.T.R. in Poole. The result was a 5-5 draw which was a fair result on the day. Once again the backbone of Dorset's performance came from Trevor Smtin.

Playing against his old team-mates his two wins included a victory over the rapidly improving Carl Prean. Trevor, who is having yet another fine season, also won the Hampshire Closed title at Soton. The other wins for Dorset came from Martin Abbott (1), Ivy Kershaw (1) and the women's doubles in which Ivy combined with Joyce Coupl.

This result maintains the first team's unbeaten record, and a win in their next match, away to Berkshire, could enable them to win Div. 2 West. The result of this match depends very much on who turns out for Berkshire.

The senior second team continued their march to what seems an inevitable Div. 3 West title with a convincing 8-2 victory away to Hampshire's second team. Maximums were recorded by John Robinson, Jeremy Musselwhite and Sarah Gilson.

In the Poole League, Dorset's strongest, the top of the table clash in Div. 1 between Barclays and Lytchett produced a 7-3 victory for Lytchett. This win extends Lytchett's very impressive record into the eighties. The last time they lost was in March 1973!

## STAFFORDSHIRE NOTES

by Jack Chalkley

### JUST THE ENCOURAGEMENT

After disappointing results against Salford and Seagulls, Norton came back with a good win against March (Cambridge) in the National Club League. A 7-2 victory established their clear superiority over bottom-of-the-table March, but although perhaps expected, this second pair of points from six matches is just the encouragement needed. Norton's No. 1, Malcolm Green, had two wins. Stan Deakin one, Mark Evans two, Eddie Wilkes one and Green and Wilkes took the doubles. The young Cambridge side, together with the home team, gave the capacity audience a splendid afternoon of table tennis, and it is perhaps a pity that the Norton club cannot accommodate a larger number of spectators.

Congratulations to Andrew Dixon (No. 17), Jill Harris (No. 9) and Shirley Cain (A Group) on gaining England Junior Rankings and to Anthony Devitt (No. 18), Fiona Elliot (No. 7), Stephanie Hadley (No. 11) and Vickie Bellingham (No. 16) who are listed in the Cadet Rankings. The latest County Rankings show few changes from

the beginning of the season, but provisional Cadet rankings have now been added.

### Men

1 A. Bellingham, 2 A. Isaac, 3 A. Rich, 4 E. Wilkes, 5 P. Anderson, 6 M. Evans, 7 G. Hallam, 8 S. Deakin, 9 S. Richards.

### Women

1 J. Carr, 2 J. Harris, 3 S. Cain, 4 F. Elliot, 5. S. Hadley, 6 V. Bellingham, 7 R. Roberts, 8 M. Maude, 9 L. Burgess, 10 J. Chubb, 11 P. Brookes.

### Boys

1 P. Barnett, 2 A. Dixon, 3 W. Bridgeman, 4 C. Bakewell, 5 P. Dilger, 6 P. Dawes, 7 M. Devitt, 8 A. Trubshaw, 9 C. Hunt, 10 S. Willshere.

### Girls

1 J. Harris, 2 S. Cain, 3 F. Elliot, 4 S. Hadley, 5 V. Bellingham, 6 R. Roberts, 7 L. Burgess, 8 K. Gampston, 9 A. Hegarty.

### Cadet Boys

1 A. Devitt, 2 A. Dixon, 3 R. Bridgeman, 4 D. Haines, 5 A. Clifford, 6 P. Booth, 7 E. Wilkes, 8 J. Campbell, 9 C. Dawes.

### Cadet Girls

1 F. Elliot, 2 S. Hadley, 3 V. Bellingham, 4 R. Roberts, 5 K. Gampston, 6 A. Hegarty, 7 C. Spencer, 8 A. Barnett.

Latest positions in the County League show Wolverhampton to be in strong contention for honours in Divisions 1, 2 and 4 whilst Bridgnorth in Div. 5 have not lost a set after two matches, although they have yet to meet unbeaten Stafford "D" and Cheadle "B". Apart from the Wolverhampton teams, Stone "A" in Div. 2 and Leek "A" in Div. 3 are also unbeaten.

	Pld	Pts
<b>Div. 1</b>		
Wolverhampton "B" .....	3	6
Potteries "A" .....	3	4
Wolverhampton "A" .....	2	4
Stafford "A" .....	3	2
West Bromwich "A" .....	2	2
Darlaston "A" .....	2	0
Potteries "B" .....	3	0
<b>Div. 2</b>		
Stone "A" .....	3	6
Wolverhampton "C" .....	2	4
Walsall "A" .....	2	2
Walsall "B" .....	2	2
Cannock "A" .....	2	2
Wolverhampton "D" .....	2	0
Stone "B" .....	2	0
<b>Div. 3</b>		
Leek "A" .....	3	5
Cannock "B" .....	3	4
Cheadle "A" .....	3	3
West Bromwich "B" .....	3	3
Leek "B" .....	2	2
Darlaston "B" .....	2	1
Stafford "B" .....	2	0
<b>Div. 4</b>		
Wolverhampton "E" .....	3	6
Lichfield "A" .....	3	4
Cannock "C" .....	3	4
Stafford Vets. ....	2	2
Darlaston "C" .....	2	2
Lichfield "B" .....	2	0
West Bromwich "C" .....	3	0
<b>Div. 5</b>		
Stafford "D" .....	3	6
Bridgnorth .....	2	4
Stone "C" .....	3	4
Cheadle "B" .....	2	4
Lichfield "C" .....	3	2
Cannock "D" .....	3	2
Stafford "C" .....	3	0
Stone "D" .....	3	0

## MIDLAND LEAGUE NOTES

by Tony Darbyshire

In their opening match of this season's Div. 1 programme, Hinckley "A" overwhelmed B'ham "B" 10-0, Paul Randell, Maurice Newman and Stuart Kenny proving too experienced for Lester Bertie, Rupert Sterling and Ray Prosser on this occasion. Hinckley's neighbours, Leics "A" lost their

second match of the season to Chesterfield "A" 1-9. Leics only win came from David Gannon over Neil Marples 20, 15. Wolverhampton "A" with Bellingham, Rich and Dunning defeated B'ham "B" 8-2. Good win here for Andrew Cockerill over Steve Dunning -8, 20, 21.

In Div. 2 Notts "A" narrowly won their match against Leics "C" 6-4. At 2-all the match looked very even but Notts took the next four sets to lead 6-2 before Leics "C" pulled another two back. Notts "A" also beat Potteries "B" 9-1. Cheltenham have now completed six of their matches in this division without defeat. Only Leics "B" have pushed them close. The match score was all square at 4-all when Steve Moreman went to the table and beat Steve Day 20, 14, for a 5-4 lead which left Brian Mayfield the task of overhauling Dave Harvey in the last set to save a point. In the end Dave won by a very narrow margin of -18, 18, 19, to end a fine competitive match The Leics "B" side had better fortune against Derby "B" with Brian undefeated, Steve Day and Keith Fellows winning two each for a good 8-2 victory. The same Leics "B" side also beat Potteries "A" 7-3. Cheltenham swept away Derby "B" 10-0 without dropping a game, but had a much closer match against Potteries "B" before winning 7-3. A good win here for Steve Rowe over Dave Harvey -12, 19, 13. The Potteries "A" side took on the same Cheltenham side later in the day but went down by the same margin of 3-7. Cheltenham have now played six matches with a maximum of 12 points and are now sure of promotion to Div. 1 next season. Not bad going since all their matches have taken place before the end of 1979!

Not much joy for West Brom in the Men's Div. 3 programme, losing to Coventry "B" 1-9 and to Chesterfield "B" 4-6. Stuart Richards was the most consistent player for West Brom but they have a long way to go before they stand any chance of gaining higher status, although they do show promise for the future. As I predicted in the October issue of the mag, Hinckley "B" will take some stopping. They comfortably beat Chesterfield "B" 9-1 away from home. Alan Philpott, Stu Haines and John Iliffe form a good trio for them. Paul Wilson had a good win for Chesterfield over Iliffe 18, 19 and narrowly lost to Philpott in an excellent set -13, 14, -19. The final report in this Div. is a win for Shrewsbury by 6-4 against Leamington. The result was only decided in the ninth set when Martin Chambers beat Earl Sweeney 10, 13. Two good wins for Leamington's Phil Payne over Bill Herbert 24, -17, 16 and Mike Beamman 19, 19.

In the Men's Div. 4 Nuneaton were deservedly 7-3 winners against Tamworth although close games meant that the result was in doubt until the last but one set. Chris Knowles was unbeaten for Nuneaton. Lichfield, whilst finding it hard going in this Div., are benefitting from the experience. Notts "B" proved to be too experienced for them as they could only pick up two sets and went down 2-3. Good win for David Hanney over the stalwart Dennis Collins 9, -15, 15. The irony is that Lichfield led 2-0 before losing the next eight sets!

In Junior Div. 1 Coventry have lost all hope of retaining their title for a second season after they could only just manage a draw with Derby 5-5 after being 4-0 up. Jens Anderson and Brian Bennett for Derby won the doubles which put new fighting spirit into the Derby side. Coventry still led 5-3 before the Derby doubles winners won a singles each to save a point. Coventry were to see Shaun Green, the Notts "A" player, come back to form, with his three wins when they lost 8-2. B'ham "A" were level pegging to 3-all with the Gloucs youngsters. Paul Jackson, Michael Owens and Darren Griffin. B'ham were 4-5 down when Colin Higgins took on Owens but despite going to three the B'ham lad lost -14, 15, -14 giving Gloucs both points.

Notts "B" have eight points from four matches in Div. 2 of the Juniors and

Shrewsbury beat six points from three matches. Walsall have only played two matches but are also undefeated. Notts "B" beat Nuneaton 10-0. Walsall beat Coventry "B" 7-3. Shrewsbury beat West Brom 8-2 and Coventry "B" 10-0. In the Shrewsbury - Coventry "B" match the first set was a real cracker with fortune favouring the Shrewsbury No. 1 Ivan Smith with a narrow victory over Jaskaran Singh -18, 21, 20. Leics youngsters, Martin Pickles, Simon Griew and Yvonne Hall ran out easy winners against Coventry "C" 9-1. Pickles and Hall lost the doubles in this match -19, 19, -19. Oxford also gave the Coventry "C" lads a tough time winning 10-0 although there were many close sets. Coventry "B" picked up their first points of the season by beating Nuneaton 7-3.

## NORTHUMBERLAND NOTES

by Pauline Jackson

### JOURNEY WORTHWHILE

The Northumberland and Tyneside Summer League representative teams took advantage of the Christmas and New Year break to play off their Wilmott Cup matches on successive days. The Northumberland League made the long trip to Ulverston on Dec. 29 to play the Barrow League, but the journey proved worthwhile, when, after one or two very close sets, they eventually ran out 5-1 winners. Andrew Clark and Chris Shepherd won two sets each, and John Burke one, the latter losing to Alan Manson. On the following day, the Tyneside Summer League were hosts to the Stockton League at Byker Community Centre. Arnold Warents gave the home team a good start by winning his first set, but unfortunately neither Nigel Jobling nor Steve Robinson met with any success, and the eventual result was 5-1 to the visitors — who will have to make a second journey here to play the Northumberland League in the next round.

Following the Tyneside Summer League's 4-5 exit from the Carter Cup at the hands of the Harrogate League, the Northumberland League went out by the same score to the Sunderland League. John Burke performed magnificently to win all three sets, and the other was won by Neil McMaster, who in spite of still being short of mobility and practice following his accident in the summer, was unlucky not to gain more reward. Chris Reed failed to win a set.

The Northumberland League representative sides in the Rose Bowl and Bromfield Trophy were both drawn away to the Sunderland League on January 4. The Rose Bowl team of Kit Cheung, Nancy Kirsop and Pauline Jackson lost 1-5, with Kit winning the only set against last minute choice Lynne Yarnell. However, the young Bromfield Trophy team — the first entered by Northumberland for many years — pulled off an excellent 5-4 win, with Caron Buglass and Christine Burke each winning two sets, and Susan Yeung one.

The County ranking lists were recently reviewed, but no changes were made to the junior or cadet rankings. The only change in the women's list is at the bottom of the rankings, where Daphne Russell and Susan Yeung change places to become 11th and 12th respectively. The revised men's ranking list is as follows (previous positions in brackets):-

1 Ian Robertson (1), 2 Andrew Clark (2), 3 John Burke (3), 4 Dave Armstrong (4), 5 Chris Shepherd (5), 6 Martin Young (7), 7 Peter Whiteman (8), 8 Bob Dodds (10), 9 Michael Watson (9), 10 Malcolm McMaster (6), 11 Fred Short (11), 12 Arnold Warents (13), 13 Bill Dial (14), 14 Charlie Robertson (—), 15=Dave McAllister (16), 15=Steve Robinson (12).

The first team's next match will be against Lincolnshire at Byker Community Centre on Jan. 19, and they will be hoping

to record their first points of the season. The team is the same as that originally selected to play Derbyshire in the last match, namely Robertson, Clark, Armstrong, Barbara Kearney and Kit Cheung, with Burke, Shepherd, Nancy Kirsop and Pauline Jackson standing by as reserves.

In the National Club League, Briarside scored a thrilling victory over Salford by five sets to four. The outcome was not decided until the last game of the final set when Ian Svenson beat John Weatherby 12 in the third.

RESULTS (Briarside names first):-

A. Clark bt R. Hampson 17, 16;  
D. Svenson lost to D. Schofield -19, 17, -19;  
A. Gelder bt J. Weatherby 13, 13;  
I. Svenson lost to R. Weatherby -15, 15, -18;  
Clark/Gelder lost to Hampson/Schofield -15, -14;  
Clark lost to Schofield -19, 19, -17;  
D. Svenson bt Hampson -17, 11, 15;  
Gelder beat R. Weatherby 13, 13;  
I. Svenson bt J. Weatherby 12, -18, 12.

The Northumberland League positions as at Dec. 31 show that New Collingwood 'A' remain unbeaten in the Premier Division and are now five points clear of last season's winners, Briarside 'A', although the latter have a game in hand. Byker C.C. 'A' move into third place having taken maximum points from their last four games. There is no change at the top of Div. 1 with East Cramlington 'A' and South Shields Y.M.C.A. 'A' just ahead of Delaval C.C. 'A'. Simonside and New Collingwood 'B' have lost their 100% records in Div. 2A, but are still at the top of the table, while North Shields E.E. 'B' and St. George's 'B' take over at the top of Div. 2B. Reyrolles 'D' retain their 100% record and the leadership of Div. 3A, but there are new leaders in Div. 3B (R.G.S. 'A') and Div. 3C (Tyne Dock 'B'), with the latter also showing a 100% record. Newton 'D' are now top of Div. 4A, and Byker C.C. 'J' (formerly New Benwell), Cullercoats Meths 'A' and B.S.R.A. lead Div. 4B, 4C and 4D respectively. The leading players' league averages show that Andrew Clark (Briarside, Premier Division), Bill Arkle (South Shields Y.M.C.A., Div. 1), M. Grimes (Tyne Dock 'B', Div. 3C), D. Lee (Newton, Div. 4A) and M. Tate (now St. George's, formerly New Benwell, Div. 4B) have yet to lose a set this season, while Eddie Kennedy (New Collingwood 'B', Div. 2A), Derek Williamson (Brandling Hall), Alistair Collin (Cullercoats Methodist 'A'), Malcolm Lusk (Cullercoats Methodist 'A') — all Div. 4C — and Caron Buglass (Briarside 'C') and J. Carr (B.S.R.A.) of Div. 4D have each lost only one set. Grateful thanks go to Alan Livingstone of Whitehouse Lane T.T.C., who has taken a lot of time and trouble to compile players' league averages this season.

The men's Knock-Out Cup competition is now under way, and Cullercoats Methodist 'A' (Div. 4C) pulled off the shock result of the second round when they sent Blyth Town of the Premier Division out of the competition. This was an excellent performance by Cullercoats, even though they do include former Div. 1 players Alistair Collin and Malcolm Lusk in their side. Other second round results were:- Tyne Dock 'A' had a walkover against Briarside 'B', and holders Briarside 'A' defeated Dunston Hill. The rest of the draw is as follows:- Tyne Gas 'A' bye; H.M.S.O. Press 'A' v Woodlands Park 'A'; Eldon Square v Procter and Gamble 'B'; Byker C.C. 'A' v Woodlands Park 'B'; Gladstone Terrace 'B' bye; Byker C.C. 'E' v Wills 'C'; St. George's v Byker C.C. 'F'; North Shields Y.M.C.A. 'A' bye; Tyne Dock 'B' bye; Byker C.C. 'D' v Scotswood St. Margaret's; Postal Clerks v Spittal; Byker C.C. 'J' v Newcastle N.A.L.G.O. 'A'; Byker C.C. 'H' v B.S.R.A.; Newton v Ouston C.C. 'A'; Byker C.C. 'G' bye; Brandling Hall bye; East Cramlington v Procter and Gamble 'A'; D.H.S.S. v Ashington Y.M.C.A.; Schwalbe v New Collingwood 'B'; Telephones 'A' v Northumbria Police; Wills 'A' bye; Northumberland Fire Brigade bye; New Collingwood 'A' v Whitehouse Lane 'B';

Gladstone Terrace 'A' v North Shields Y.M.C.A. 'B'; Revac bye; North Shields E.E. 'A' v Byker C.C. 'B'; Sevcon 'A' v Whitehouse Lane 'A'; North Shields E.E. 'B' v Wrekenton C.C.; Byker C.C. 'C' bye.

The next local tournament will be the Crow's Transport Northumberland Junior Closed Championships, to be held at Blydon Youth Club on Feb. 23. The tournament, which includes junior and cadet boys' and girls' singles and doubles, and also an under-11 open singles, is being sponsored by Crow's Transport (1971) Ltd.

The Evening Chronicle Northumberland 2-Star Open tournament will be held at Concordia Leisure Centre, Cramlington, on April 26. This is sponsored mainly by the "Evening Chronicle", our local newspaper, and there will be a prize fund of over £500, with £110 going to the winner of the men's singles, and £50 to the women's singles winner. Entry forms will be circulated as soon as they are available.

## BUCKINGHAMSHIRE NOTES

by Ronald Hedley

### SNIPPETS APLENTY

After a couple of blank months due to lack of news from the leagues, Bucks Notes return with plenty of snippets from the county and league scene.

The Inter-league season commenced on 26th November 1979 with the first session of the men's tournament. Due to a late hitch the venue had to be changed and unfortunately was not up to the desired standard.

The men's tournament had nineteen entries in divisions as follows:- 'A' division - 6 teams, 'B' division - 5 teams and the 'C' division split into two groups of four with the top two teams of each half from the first session competing in a cross-over knock-out tournament to decide the winners, this taking place in the second session.

Tables after the first session are:-

	P	W	L	F	A	P
<b>Div. 'A'</b>						
Milton Keynes	3	3	0	23	6	23
Slough	3	2	1	14	13	14
High Wycombe	2	1	1	12	6	12
Maldenhead	2	2	0	12	6	12
Aylesbury	3	0	3	6	21	6
Chiltern	3	0	3	5	22	5
<b>Div. 'B'</b>						
Milton Keynes (2)	2	1	1	11	7	11
Avlesbury (2)	2	1	1	11	7	11
Slough (2)	2	1	1	9	9	9
Maldenhead (2)	2	1	1	9	9	9
High Wycombe (2)	2	1	1	5	13	5
<b>Div. 'C1'</b>						
Maldenhead (3)	3	3	0	20	7	20
High Wycombe (3)	3	2	1	19	8	19
Milton Keynes (3)	3	1	2	15	12	15
Buckingham	3	0	3	0	27	0
<b>Div. 'C2'</b>						
Chalfont	3	3	0	19	8	19
High Wycombe (4)	3	1	2	17	10	17
Slough (3)	3	2	1	17	10	17
Aylesbury (3)	3	0	3	1	26	1

Players in the 'A' division are also competing for the Roland Sewell Cup for the best individual performance. Stuart Lines (MK) leads after the first session with a maximum 9-9. Ian Haines 8-9 is close behind and as a few players have 5-5, Stuart will be hard pressed in the second session to keep his head.

When the second half takes place on 26th January, Slough, High Wycombe and Maldenhead will all be fighting hard to catch Milton Keynes. In the 'B' division it is very open as all teams have won once and lost once. The 'C' division knock-out will be between Maldenhead (3), Chalfont and High Wycombe (3) and (4).

The Senior selection committee have revised their men's ranking list taking into

account results from the Inter-League. Phillip Bradbury moves to the No. 1 spot in front of Chris Leslie and Gary Hamilton. Phillip is to be congratulated on his England junior No. 6 ranking. Interest has already been expressed to whether Phillip will be able to cope when the 'Bucks Closed' arrives and Phillip will be the player everybody will have to beat. I shall be interested to see if the 'retired' Nikki Hamilton will enter the 'Closed', and pit her ability against our best county players. Back to the ranking list where Stuart Lines moves from eight to six as reward for his performance with Alex Pratt, John Barby and Dave Poutney entering for the first time.

#### The Top Ten are:-

1 P. Bradbury (Ayl) (3), 2 C. Leslie (Ayl) (1), 3 G. Hamilton (MK) (2), 4 V. McCarthy (SL) (4), 5 S. Brindle (M) (5), 6 S. Lines (MK) (8), 7 D. Martin (Chi) (7), 8 A. Pratt (Ayl) (—), 9 J. Barton (Sl) (—), 10 L. Pratt (Ayl) (9).

#### Slough League

Division One of the Slough league is headed by Centre One. In the next two weeks they meet their two closest rivals, Chippenham Buccaneers and N.W.C.A. 'A', and these two matches could be decisive in the winning of the championship. Informed opinion tips Chippenham to win the crunch match and the title. Slough were removed from the Wilmott Cup by a strong Reading team. Andy Wellman, Sam Harmer and Jim Stokes handed out a 6-0 defeat to the Slough team of John Barton, Dave Poutney and Frank Faris. T. Silcott, J. Hansell and S. Kelly represented Slough in the Carter Cup going down 7-2 to Staines. In the Bromfield Trophy, Linda Phelps, Jackie Farwell and Carol Brown went down 8-1 to Oxford. Jackie was the only Slough winner.

#### Milton Keynes League

The premier division of the league is headed by Cock Hotel Duces who are closely followed by A.H.W. Matadors. Ian Haines (A.H.W.) leads the averages with 92.86%, followed by Northants-ranked Romano Gallo 92.59%. This position makes it all the more disappointing that seventeen-year-old Ian has retired from County table tennis. Ian with Stuart Lines and Robert Harman represented M. Keynes in the Wilmott Cup defeat by High Wycombe. Alec Watson led Wycombe to a convincing victory.

#### High Wycombe League

After beating M. Keynes the second match in the Wilmott Cup was against Reading. The Reading team that defeated Slough beat Wycombe 5-1 with Alec Watson, Wycombe's only victor. The boys' team of M. Curtis, S. Foster and S. Honore lost 0-9 to North Middlesex in the Carter Cup. In the Bromfield Trophy our girls travelled to Kent but lost 2-7. Dawn Robbins put up a fine display winning both of Wycombe's sets. Julie Robbins and Joanne Ilett were the other Wycombe players.

Division one of the Wycombe League is dominated by Exiles 'A' who have not dropped a point so far. The most interest is centred on the runners-up spot where Bourne End 'A' just have the edge over Haylemere 'A'.

One of the surprise teams in the league are Bourne End 'B', who top division three with maximum points. The experienced G. Robbins (100%) is well supported by Steven Honore, who has only been playing table tennis for 18 months. Steven's best result was when he beat his father early in the season. Dawn Robbins is the third member and has surprised a lot of people this season. She is ranked No. 2 junior and No. 5 senior in the County. In the senior trials only No. 1 Stephanie Lines got the better of Dawn. Her improvement is considerable as she has a better average in Div. 3 than she had in Div. 9 last season.

#### Dates for the Diary

Feb. 23/24—Bucks Closed Championships.  
Mar. 15/16—High Wycombe Closed Championships.

Mar. 30—Slough Closed Championships.  
May 3/4—Milton Keynes Closed Championships.

June 6—Bucks A.G.M. (at Aylesbury).

## CAMBRIDGESHIRE NOTES

by Leslie Constable

### JUST PIPPED

Cambridge Juniors were just pipped at the post in the St. Neots Invitation League and had to settle for runners-up position despite finishing level on points with Peterborough. With just two matches to play, Cambridge led Peterborough 63-62, but in the match between them, Peterborough won 5-4 to bring them level on 87 points. Andy Withers won his three singles for Cambridge and Julian Wheel one.

In the final match Cambridge met March and Peterborough met North Herts. Both teams won by the same margin (7-2) to leave both level on 74 points but Peterborough were awarded the title by virtue of having won 10 matches to that of nine by Cambridge. Withers was again unbeaten in the March match with Wheel and Mandy Judd winning two each.

In the Cambridge and Dist. League, St. Ives are still challenging Soham in Division I. They notched their fourth 10-0 victory of the season when they beat Impington and are now 11 points behind the leaders with a match in hand (10 points being possible from one match). The two teams clash at St. Ivo Recreation Centre.

Telephones have taken advantage of the University vacation to go back on top of Div. II. A maximum from Tony Rayner helped 'Phones to a comfortable 8-2 victory against Wesley who have faltered rather badly. Telephones now have 60 points, seven more than University I who have three matches in hand. T.S.B. Soham V keep a comfortable lead in Div. IIIA following 7-3 wins over N.C.I. III and C.I.B.A. They lead by 13 points from Impington II who struggled to beat Wesley II 6-4. Graham Wyde posed problems for Impington and won his three singles.

St. George's I and Swavesey II keep in the hunt for second place beating Torchbearers II 6-4 and Y.M.C.A. II respectively. Mick Runswick was unbeaten for "the saints" while Johnson's three wins for Swavesey included a good win over John Loker. St. George's III have finally broken clear in Division IIIB following their 6-4 win over Wesley III. Brian Tolliday was in good form and his three singles wins were mainly instrumental in breaking down the Methodists resistance. Eastern Gas, their closest challengers, crashed badly against General Accident and went down 2-3 mainly due to Bob Parkins the ex-Devon player.

Six players are still unbeaten in the League at the half way stage. Les Wooding of St. Ives is the only player in Div. I with a 100% record having won all 18 sets he has so far played. Two University players M. Walmsley and C. Lusher are unbeaten in Div. II while John Ashman of Soham is the only third division player still to taste defeat. The remaining two players are in Div. V — Bentinck of newcomers Caravans International and Peter Kerslake of Soham VII.

#### Leading Averages

**Div. I**  
L. Wooding 100%, K. Richardson 95%,  
S. Palmer 94%.  
**Div. II**  
C. Lusher 100%, M. Walmsley 100%,  
B. Harlow 94%.  
**Div. IIIA**  
J. Ashman 100%, J. Loker 90%,  
D. Appleby 83%.  
**Div. IIIB**  
C. Alexander 85%, D. Pluck 83%,  
A. Driver 81%.

#### Div. IVA

B. Odell 96%, R. Goodwin 87%,  
M. Livermore 87%.

#### Div. IVB

J. Sykes 92%, A. Spackman 88%,  
J. Cook 87%.

#### Div. VA

A. Pletts 91%, N. Williams 87%,  
H. Moore 83%.

#### Div. V B

P. Kerslake 100%, R. Adams 95%,  
B. Wallman 94%.

#### Div. VC

A. Bentinck 100%, R. Turnbull 95%,  
P. Diver 94%.

#### Div. VD

R. Viney 95%, T. Rhorp 91%,  
R. Sulman 86%.

Soham T.T.C. suffered their first defeat in six matches in the National Club League when they went down 4-5 to Ellenborough at Soham Methodist Hall. The home team made a disastrous start when top player Paul Day was beaten in straight games by England's top junior Graham Sandley. Day appeared to have the first game when he led 20-17 but he let it slip and went down. He was again narrowly beaten in the second game, for only his second defeat in the league. Keith Richardson promoted to No. 2 in the absence of Kenny Jackson, playing in the Israel Open, was no match for Mark Mitchell and so Soham went 0-2 down.

David Tan fared little better against John Kitchener and so at 0-3 Soham looked in for a hiding. The situation appeared worse when reserve Stuart Palmer, a late substitute for new signing Martin Shuttle — unable to play for domestic reasons — trailed 2-10 in the third against Colin Wilson, but the Soham youngster took 16 points while Wilson scored two and finally won 21-16. Day and Tan narrowed the gap by winning the doubles and then Day levelled the scores with a good win over Mitchell. Ellenborough again took the lead when Sandley beat Richardson but Tan then beat the luckless Wilson who again squandered a good lead in the first game. The match result hinged on the final set between Palmer and his Suffolk captain Kitchener but the Lakenheath boy went down much to the disappointment of the biggest crowd of the season at Soham.

#### RESULTS:-

P. Day lost to G. Sandley -21, -19;  
bt M. Mitchell 7, 17.  
K. Richardson lost to Mitchell -14, -10;  
lost to Sandley -15, -18.  
D. Tan lost to J. Kitchener -17, -13;  
bt C. Wilson -10, 17, 13.  
S. Palmer bt Wilson -12, 19, 16;  
lost to Kitchener -11, -15.  
Day/Tan bt Sandley/Kitchener 15, -21, 11.

The Cambridge League K.O. Handicap Trophy Competition has reached the fourth round and T.S.B. Soham have three teams left namely their 1st, 2nd and 3rd teams. Wesley and Saffrons have two left. Soham I defeated M.A.F.F. 6-3 despite Adams defeating Stuart and Mick Palmer while Wooding was also successful against Stuart. Soham II defeated Haslingfield 9-0 and Soham III defeated Ely Fire Service 6-3. St. Georges III defeated Soham IV 9-0 but were then defeated 6-3 by Wesley IV for whom Martin Livermore and Peter Melton won all their sets and this team looks good. Saffron III defeated Y.M.C.A. II although two wins for Loker saved Y.M.C.A. from complete disaster.

In the Wilmott Cup Cambridge beat Hunts Central 5-4 and meet Dagenham in the next round.

It is pleasing to learn that there are a few umpires who are taking their final stages in the Umpires Exam and I hope to report how successful these have been in next month's issue.

#### PROFILE — A. C. ADAMS

He is known as "Lofty" Adams and is a very popular performer in the Cambridge League where he still plays despite reaching



his 60th year! He still has the younger opposition in a tangle at times and he also serves on the Cambridge Executive Committee. Playing for the Impington Club in the Cambs League he has served them well for many years and has helped them gain honours during the past few seasons. During his younger days he was a good soccer player in the Cambs League and his tall frame prevented many moves by the opposition coming to fruition. With a pleasant personality and very fair in all his decisions I know that all players and fans will be pleased to see him continue in table tennis for many seasons to come! Well done Lofty!

The Fenland 2-Star Championships are being held at Hudson Leisure Centre, Wisbech on Sunday, 9th March commencing at 9 a.m. There are seven events and Richard Jermyn will be defending his Men's Singles title. There will be eight Dunlop Barna Tables in play and it is hoped for a good entry.

#### Ely League Championships

Andy Withers had a very successful tournament at Ely, winning the Men's and Boys' Singles. In the Men's Singles he defeated the Suffolk No. 2 Mick Palmer in the semi-final and then Stuart Palmer the England No. 8 junior and Suffolk No. 3 Senior 3-1 in the final. Withers repeated his win over Stuart in the U-17 final this time in straight games. Mandy Judd won the Women's Singles beating holder Joanne Palmer. Julian Wheel won the U-15 singles beating Mandy Judd while Brian Jones beat John Ashman in the Veterans' final. Stuart and Mick Palmer were successful in the Men's Doubles beating Withers and Brian Judd.

#### RESULTS:-

##### Men's Singles Semi-finals:

Andy Withers bt Mick Palmer 2-0;  
Stuart Palmer bt Anthony Booth 2-0.

##### Final:

WITHERS bt Palmer 3-1.

##### Women's Singles:

MANDY JUDD bt Joanne Palmer 2-0.

##### Boys' Singles:

WITHERS bt Stuart Palmer 2-0.

##### U-15 Singles:

JULIAN WHEEL bt Mandy Judd 2-1.

##### Men's Doubles:

S. PALMER/M. PALMER bt Withers/Brian Judd 2-0.

##### Boys' Doubles:

BOOTH/MICHAEL LISTER bt Wheel/Tim Ashman 2-1.

##### Mixed Doubles:

S. PALMER/J. PALMER bt M. Palmer/Kath Hubbard 2-1.

##### Veteran Singles:

BRIAN JONES bt John Ashman 2-0.

##### Men's Handicap:

Winner: Andy Withers.

##### Men's Plate:

Winner: Brian Judd.

#### Cambs Closed Championships

The Cambs Closed played at Kelsey Kerridge Sports Hall, Cambridge on Jan. 12 produced some rather surprising results and also one big upset. Garry Jordan of March defeated Keith Richardson (last season's champion and also England-ranked) in the quarter-finals of the Men's Singles leaving the field wide open for a new champion among the teenagers of Cambridge, Wisbech and March. Jordan proceeded to the final at the expense of Geoff Davies of Wisbech. As Robert Swift had beaten Mick Harper in the other semi-final a tense struggle was expected between the two teenagers from March — Swift and Jordan — with Jordan being favoured at this stage bearing in mind his splendid victory over Richardson.

But it was not to be and Swift, a great fighter, overcame Garry in two games (16 and 19) but only after some splendid table tennis which had the crowd applauding. Jordan had his revenge on Swift in the Boys' Singles but again had disappointment when he lost to Andy Withers of Cambridge in the final with Withers going away very strongly in the last game 21-6.

This was after Withers had had a marathon struggle against Michael Jackman in the other semi -20, 19, 23! Although this was disappointment for Jordan he was given the Merit Award at the close of the championships. Mandy Judd surpassed herself in the championships by winning five titles and all in fine style. This young lady has improved beyond all measure and fully justifies her England ranking. She was much too good for the opposition and in the Women's Singles defeated Jane Hunter, although Jane struggled gamely in the second game. In the Girls' Singles Mandy again beat Jane, this time in three although the last was always Judd's game.

In the Girls' U-14's Judd beat Tracy Fisher to show her consistent form of the day with Tracy never being in the hunt. In the Boys' U-14 Julian Wheel (last season's winner) easily defeated Paul Oldroyd and was never in trouble in this event which he dominated throughout. Harper and Richardson won the Men's Doubles title when they defeated Swift and Withers although both pairs were taken to three in their respective semi-finals against John Thurston/David Tiplady and Jordan/Davies.

The Women's Doubles title was won by Ruth Hunter and Mandy Judd in a tense final which produced some fine table tennis as the score suggests -22, 23, 22! Joanne Palmer and Jane Hunter were the unfortunate losers. Judd gained her fifth title when she annexed the Mixed Doubles with Keith Richardson, beating Mick Harper and Joanne Palmer. Thurston won the Veterans' event when he defeated last season's champion Cyril Halstead in three, the attacking Halstead not just being good enough against Thurston's defence. Don Downham from the Cambridge League's 5th Division defeated Keith Richardson in the revived Handicap event, winning 42-38 but starting with a 38 advantage!

This was the first time that the Championships were held at the Sports Hall and I think that everybody was pleased with the venue.

#### RESULTS:-

##### Men's Singles Quarter-finals:

G. Davies bt A. Withers 18, 16;  
G. Jordan bt K. Richardson 2-1;  
M. Harper bt J. A. Thurston -20, 13, 11;  
R. Swift bt D. Tiplady 13, -19, 16.

##### Semi-finals:

Swift bt Harper 14, 19;

Jordan bt Davies 16, 18.

##### Final:

SWIFT bt Jordan 16, 19.

##### Women's Singles Semi-finals:

J. Hunter bt T. Fisher 15, 17;

A. Judd bt J. Palmer 15, -18, 14.

##### Final:

JUDD bt Hunter 11, 19.

##### Boys' Singles Semi-finals:

Jordan bt Swift 2-1;

Withers bt M. Jackman -20, 19, 23.

##### Final:

WITHERS bt Jordan 21, -19, 6.

##### Girls' Singles Semi-finals:

Judd bt R. Hunter -10, 11, 9;

J. Hunter bt Fisher 11, -16, 13.

##### Final:

JUDD bt Hunter 15, -15, 11.

##### Consolation Boys' Singles Semi-finals:

J. Wheel bt T. Ashman 16, 14;

P. Oldroyd bt N. Burgess 13, -18, 18.

##### Final:

WHEEL bt Oldroyd 12, 10.

##### Consolation Girls' Singles Final:

JUDD bt Fisher 11, 9.

##### Final:

##### Men's Doubles Semi-finals:

Harper/Richardson bt J. Thurston/Tiplady 14, -9, 12;

Swift/Withers bt Jordan/Davies 13, -11, 16.

##### Final:

HARPER/RICHARDSON bt Swift/Withers 18, 12.

##### Women's Doubles Semi-finals:

R. Hunter/Judd bt J. Whitlam/Y. Driver 2-0;

Palmer/J. Hunter bt A. Rudd/D. Skeith 2-0.

#### Final:

JUDD/R. HUNTER bt Palmer/J. Hunter -22, 23, 22.

#### Mixed Doubles Semi-finals:

Richardson/Judd bt Withers/R. Hunter 22, -21, 16;

Harper/Palmer bt Jordan/J. Hunter 12, 14.

#### Final:

RICHARDSON/JUDD bt Harper/Palmer 18, 19.

#### Veteran Singles Semi-finals:

Thurston bt B. Judd 25, -22, 10;

C. Halstead bt P. O'Bryne 2-0.

#### Final:

THURSTON bt Halstead 14, -10, 15.

#### Handicap Singles Semi-finals:

Richardson (0) bt Swift (+5) 42-32;

D. Downham (+38) bt Wheel (+19) 42-27.

#### Final:

DOWNHAM bt Richardson 42-38.

## SUSSEX NOTES

by John Woodford

### END OF ERA

It seems almost certain that the 1980 Lombard Sussex Championships at Brighton Corn Exchange on January 13, marked the end of an era — 18 years almost total domination of the Sussex scene by Brighton's Roger Chandler.

Certainly, history was made in the men's singles final as Graham Gillett, 17, of Bexhill, cleverly prised Chandler off the throne, preventing him from collecting his 13th county crown on the 13th day of the month! Gillett triumphed 21-15, 21-15.

Admiration for Chandler remains as high as ever. It is quite remarkable and without precedent that at 35, he has remained on top for so long. But all good things come to an end. It now remains to be seen whether he will carry out his stated intention after defeat of retiring at the end of this campaign.

The Sussex selectors added their accolade and encouragement for him not to call it a day, when they announced their new ranking list — Chandler still on top at No. 1!

That surprised a number of fans, because there are very few occasions in the past where the man on top at the end of the annual Corn Exchange marathon has not been given the top ranking.

However, after Chandler's command of the stage for 18 years ended, it must be all credit to Graham Gillett, his family, coaches and supporters for a new climax to his table tennis career. Sussex champion at 17 is another record that suggests that his reign at the top could last as long as Chandler's.

Chandler had a couple of fights on his hands during the day, early on against Emil Emecz and then a semi-final duel with Phil Smith, the Crawley and East Grinstead counter-hitter who now becomes another firm contender for the Sussex crown in this new decade.

The unfortunate absence of the Sussex national league team Seagulls, robbed the tournament of three strong contenders. We shall never know whether, had John Clarke, Adrian Moore and Peter Pudduck been present, the result would have been different.

Diane Griggs, the No. 1 seed confirmed the organisers' faith in her by taking the Sussex women's singles title for the third time in five years beating Hastings surprise packet Sheila King in the final round without too much difficulty.

But in the bottom half of the women's singles there was chaos, created by the two East Sussex girls, Miss King, 24 and just half her age, England No. 10 cadet Teresa Moore, a Sussex champion of the eighties if I ever saw one.

Miss Moore, who created a sensation back in September by beating Diane Griggs in

the East Sussex championships, struck again when she hammered out the defending champion Carol Hewett 21-18, 21-18 in Round 1.

Sheila King, a coaches nightmare in terms of mobility, on court, pulled the mat from under Julie Reading with deceptive shots that left the hard-fighting Hampshire girl spellbound. A fine lawn tennis player, Miss King is inclined to reach for the angled shots. But her successes at Brighton have given her new confidence. In a recent Eastbourne league match she again beat Miss Reading and Linda Budd.

But Reading and Budd, sportswomen to the core, showed what spirit they can muster on January 22nd — they caused the biggest shock for ten years in a local league game when they demolished Norman Beaney and Colin Monson, two of the most experienced and wily men in East Sussex.

On that occasion they were coached and captained by none other than top E.T.T.A. official Mike Watts who took a maximum that included the Sussex county player Tony Clark.

Final comment on the Sussex championships — for about five years the faithful team of Brighton league officials who annually take on the formidable task of running the tournament for 12 hours or more non-stop on 16 tables, almost succeeded in their desire for an early finish. It was around 10.30 p.m. when the final ball was served. Each year a new move is made to streamline the day. This time, intermediate men were not allowed in both the intermediate singles and the main singles. Groups and wooden spoon events were eliminated in recent years. But still, it is a mystery to me that the tournament did not end two hours earlier.

But, a big improvement on the midnight finishes of the past.

**RESULTS:-**

- Men's Singles:**  
G. GILLETT bt R. Chandler 15, 15.
- Women's Singles:**  
GRIGGS bt S. King 14, 17.
- Men's Doubles:**  
P. SMITH/R. STACE bt E. Emecz/L. Gunn -16, 13, 21.
- Women's Doubles:**  
READING/L. BUDD bt Griggs/A. Maskell 15, 12.
- Mixed Doubles:**  
SMITH/L. BUDD bt Gillett/C. Hewett 14, -22, 19.
- Men's Intermediate Singles:**  
STANDEN bt B. Marshall 15, 16.
- Women's Intermediate Singles:**  
T. MOORE bt S. Haffenden -9, 8, 19.
- Veteran Men's Singles:**  
Emecz bt G. Batt-Rawden 11, 16.
- Veteran Women's Singles:**  
V. GILLAM bt Miss P. Piper -11, 12, 16.
- Men's Consolation Singles:**  
G. BONNER bt P. Venis 16, 14.
- Women's Consolation Singles:**  
V. GILLAM bt T. Curran -15, 19, 17.

**CHESHIRE CHAT**

by Dick Turner

**CHESHIRE THREE IN ENGLAND 20**

It's good to see the old un's back. After a gap of some few years Mike Johns has returned to the England Senior Ranking coming in at No. 18. He joins two other Cheshire players, Dave Constance now established and currently up at No. 12 and Nigel Eckersley, firmly established, and up from No. 10 to No. 9. This trio put Cheshire firmly on the map in helping them to win the County Premier Championship last season, a title they have been fighting to retain (see County Championship Notes). Cheshire having lost their leading lady Sue Lisle (retired) look to the continued development of their young ladies Lynn Fennah, Janet Deakin, Tracy Lightfoot and Vivian Wilson. Janet has moved up to No. 7

in the England Girls' Ranking and Tracy to No. 5 in the Cadet Girls.

Cheshire Veterans had a good win over Notts to put them in a challenging position for the title, and the Junior Second team are in with a good chance for the Division Three North title. Fortunes are mixed for the other County teams (see County Tables) but there's no doubt that Cheshire are blessed with a large number of good table tennis players. The first ten in the Men's Ranking make quite an impressive list:-  
1 Nigel Eckersley, 2 Dave Constance, 3 Mike Johns, 4 Brian Johns, 5 John McNea, 6 Mark Hankey, 7 Derek Schofield, 8 Wayne Pertival, 9 Pete D'Arcy, 10 Ron Weatherby.

Cheshire's Second Ranked Junior, Tony Taylor, reached the final of the Men's Singles in the Lancashire and Cheshire League Tournament, losing to Derek Schofield in an all-Cheshire final. Tony did well to defeat Phil Bowen and Clive Heap on route. In the Stockport Closed, the first of the County's League Closed this season, Ron Weatherby became the new champion beating Roger Hampson after a semi-final win over Derek Schofield. Di Johnson recovered sufficiently from her leg injury to defeat Doreen Schofield in the Ladies' final whilst veterans Derek Schofield and Terry Donlon took the Men's Doubles title. Ron Weatherby beat younger brother John in the Youth final to give him two titles, whilst in the absence of John young David Kennedy from Marple Hall School made the most of his opportunity to defeat Ian Nield in the Junior final.

The Crewe and the Hyde Closed will be all over by the time these notes are printed. But we look forward to the Wirral Closed on Saturday, Feb. 23, and the Macclesfield Closed on Mar. 7/8. Also on Feb. 23 Karen Tonge, Cheshire Coaching Secretary, is running the Halton U-14/U-17 Tournament at Norton Recreation Centre, Runcorn.

Will all Cheshire players please take note that the Cheshire Closed Championships, sponsored by Rosebank Sports, is to be held on Sunday, Apr. 13 at the Brinnington Secondary Modern School, Brinnington, Stockport. Entry forms are available from Mrs. B. Fowler, 9 John Street, Marple, Cheshire.

**EAST MIDLANDS CADETS**

by Philip Reid

The keenly-contested and highly successful league looks certain to reach a climax when Coventry play Lincoln in the final set of matches. Lincoln have already dropped one point and have a vastly inferior sets difference to Coventry but they also have what could be their trump card — Stewart Worrell. England-ranked he has looked an outstanding prospect in the league this season but Coventry's all-round strength could give them the verdict.

Whilst Russell Hodson is giving Worrell good support, if there is a team which has strength in depth it is Coventry. With a quartet of Michael Thomas, Jaz Singh (still 100%), Clive Geelan, Ian Davies and Richard Marklow to call on it is hardly surprising they have only dropped eight sets whilst collecting 64! Derby, with Alan Hearn, David Slack and Stuart Horn performing well and consistently (rather than spectacularly) are having a very good season but leagues the size of Leicester and Nottingham must be rather disappointed to be outshone by smaller leagues but Michael Archer and David Billings (Nottingham) and David Aldwinckle and Shayne Murray (Leicester) look real prospects in the future.

The emergence of Richard Walker has helped Hinckley to have a good season and backed by the experience of Andy Allen and the enthusiasm of Wayne Harris this small but very energetic league will certainly be delighted with their results.

Nuneaton's Chris Bache is having a fine

season and Dave Beasley continues to improve but the remaining three teams will gain little other than valuable experience this season. D. Beaty and C. Bryan both managed a set in their recent series of matches but with only two sets out of thirty the Lincolnshire town still have some way to go. Still they have produced only one England Junior star — Suzanne Hunt — and there is no reason why they should not do it again. Loughborough's Louise Forster, and Paul Bumpus continue to improve rapidly but Leicester II look destined for the wooden spoon this year but the debut by Marcus Bellot and a win in his first match — against Nottingham — shows there is always someone coming along. Marcus plays in the Leicester League Division 19 — quite a jump Marcus — and well done!

**1979-80 Third Session**

Derby	7	Hinckley	3
Nottingham	9	Leicester II	1
Loughborough	1	Nuneaton	9
Leicester I	3	Lincoln	7
Grantham	0	Coventry	10
Lincoln	9	Grantham	1
Coventry	9	Leicester I	1
Leicester II	1	Derby	9
Hinckley	8	Loughborough	2
Nuneaton	2	Nottingham	8
Grantham	1	Hinckley	9
Leicester I	5	Nottingham	5

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Coventry	7	7	0	0	64	6	14
Lincoln	7	6	1	0	50	20	13
Derby	7	5	1	1	52	18	11
Nottingham	7	4	1	2	38	32	9
Leicester I	7	3	1	3	35	35	7
Hinckley	7	3	0	4	37	33	6
Nuneaton	7	2	1	4	32	38	5
Grantham	7	1	1	5	18	52	3
Loughborough	7	1	0	6	19	51	2
Leicester II	7	0	0	7	5	65	0

**Leading Averages**

(Qualification - Four matches)

	P	W	%
Stewart Worrell (Li)	21	21	100
Jaz Singh (Co)	18	18	100
Michael Thomas (Co)	15	14	93
Alan Hearn (De)	21	18	86
Clive Geelan (Co)	12	9	75
David Slack (De)	15	11	73
Michael Archer (No)	18	13	72
Dave Billings (No)	15	10	67
Russell Hodson (Li)	18	12	67
Stuart Horn (De)	18	12	67

**LEICESTERSHIRE NOTES**

by Philip Reid

**SUDDEN DEATHS**

Leicestershire suffered two blows within three weeks when Muriel Whait and John Ellis died suddenly. A tribute to these two people is given elsewhere.

The 2nd Division (East) shows Leics still 100 per cent with a confident win against Buckinghamshire improving their chances of topping the division. Phillip Bradbury had an impressive win against David Gannon but generally Leics seemed well in control.

Unfortunately only once this season — against Suffolk — have Leics been able to field their strongest side and with Chris Rogers, Anita Stevenson and Karen Rogers all unavailable for their next match the hunting shire have by no means clinched the title.

The 2nd team have won both their matches and clearly there is little to choose between Gannon, Maurice Newman, Phillip Smith, Keith Fellows and — when fit — Grahame Hall. But what is happening to the Junior side? With only two pts. from four matches the team continues to be picked on a rota basis with each of the top three boys being dropped in turn.

Nottinghamshire were below us in what was a relegation battle but Paul Brindley was 'rested' — the outcome being an 8-2

defeat. Notts, it must be said, were a very good team and surely far too good to be relegated. For the next match — against pace makers Cambridgeshire — it is the turn of promising Simon Griew — recently promoted to No. 2 in the ranking list — to be 'rested'.

In the Leicester League 1st division Fellows beat Paul Randell but Magpie failed to halt the run of Earl Shilton who, inspired by a maximum by Newman, gained a 6-4 victory and with it the great probability of the first division title. Magpie regularly beat championship contenders (this season they virtually put Jones and Shipman out of the running, last season it was Great Glen's turn) but so far have failed to stop Paul Randell's team.

Loughborough will have National Westminster Bank sponsoring their very popular Divisional Championships this season and a bumper entry is expected. Back on the Leicester League front Bob Kenney will not be able to continue as treasurer after this season owing to increasing business commitments but fortunately Tony Lillcrap is willing to bear the secretary's mantle yet again.

Congratulations to Yvonne Hall who appears in the Junior Ranking list for the first time.

## YORKSHIRE NOTES

by Tony Ross

### DOUBLE TRIPLE CHAMPIONS

Bradford's Kevin Beadsley and Linda Hryszko won the Yorkshire Closed senior singles titles for the first time at the Richard Dunn Sports Centre, Bradford on Dec. 15, and between them, with assistance from Joe Naser and Helen Shields, went home with all of the doubles titles also.

The Junior events were somewhat devalued by the clash with the English Junior Closed at Oxford, but the lower ranked players took their opportunity and some close finals resulted. A word of thanks to County Secretary and Bradford Chairman, Frank Briggs, who undertook the organisation of the Closed yet again.

However, there must be concern that so few volunteers were willing to help in the setting up and clearing away before and after the tournament. This comment is true of all the major county-run tournaments and must place the future of these tournaments in jeopardy, when enough becomes enough even for the most willing of officers.

### RESULTS:-

#### Men's Singles Semi-finals:

K. Beadsley (Bradford) bt R. Priestley (Bradford) 13, 7;  
S. Mills (Sheffield) bt J. Naser (Hull) 21, -14, 19.

#### Final:

BEADSLEY bt Mills -15, 16, 16.

#### Women's Singles Semi-finals:

L. Hryszko (Bradford) bt J. McLean (Hull) 10, 22;  
J. Walker (Sheffield) bt M. Gott (York) 16, 14.

#### Final:

HRYSZKO bt Walker 17, 11.

#### Men's Doubles Final:

BEADSLEY/NASER bt A. Bottomley (Halifax)/C. Lo (Bradford) 18, 16.

#### Women's Doubles Final:

HRYSZKO/H. SHIELDS (Bradford) bt Y. Abdallah (Harrogate)/J. Guanaria (Leeds) -19, 19, 9.

#### Mixed Doubles Final:

BEADSLEY/HRYSZKO bt M. Stephenson (Bradford)/McLean 11, 10.

#### Veteran Singles Final:

T. MOREN (Doncaster) bt K. Hurley (Wakefield) -15, 13, 17.

#### Boys' Singles Final:

I. DUXBURY (Leeds) bt T. Dyson (Huddersfield).

#### Girls' Singles Final:

R. BROOK (Dewsbury) bt J. Evans (Hull).

The Harrogate Closed Championships were held at the Harrogate Exhibition Centre with the help of continuing sponsorship from Modern Maintenance Products. One of the non-playing captains for our county sides, Nicky Davies, won the major singles and doubles titles.

### RESULTS:-

#### Men's Singles:

N. Davies bt I. Walmsley 16, 16.

#### Women's Singles:

L. Smith bt Y. Abdallah -16, 20, 15.

#### Men's Doubles:

Davies/Walmsley bt P. Campkin/P. Cottenham 19, 9.

#### Mixed Doubles:

Davies/Smith bt W. Morris/D. Ward 15, 10.

#### U-17 Junior Singles:

R. Whiteley bt N. Pennock 17, 11.

#### U-14 Consolation Singles:

S. Tasker bt D. White 11, 9.

The fortunes of Yorkshire leagues in the National Leagues Championship have been:-

#### Wilmott Cup

Leeds 0 Preston 6  
Sheffield 8 Huddersfield 1  
Potteries w.o. Hull

Sole remaining Yorkshire representatives Sheffield were due to play Preston at home in Round 3.

#### Rose Bowl

Bradford 8 Sheffield 1

In Round 3, Hull were drawn to play Carlisle at home and Bradford to play Liverpool away.

#### Carter Cup

Harrogate 7 Hartlepool 2  
Leeds w.o. Salford/Eccles  
Bury 5 York 2  
Sheffield w.o. Hull

In Round 3, Harrogate meet Sunderland at home, Sheffield to play Bury away and Leeds are away to Preston.

#### Bromfield Trophy

Market Drayton w.o. Bradford

In Round 3, Leeds are at home to Sheffield.

The two Yorkshire entries into the National Club K.O. Championships, Unity (Bradford) and Railway Institute (York), were due to play each other in Rd. 2. The only Yorkshire club in the National League, Unity are continuing to dominate the second division, with Beadsley and Chris Rogers still unbeaten.

### NATIONAL RANKINGS

It must be many seasons since a national men's ranking list contained no Yorkshire players, although it is probable that Alan Fletcher would have been included if he had not decided to play in West Germany without the likelihood of E.T.T.A. permission.

In the Boys' list Sheffield's Neil Bailey, ranked No. 4 in Yorkshire, is the sole representative, with a Group "A" slot. The County rankings of Steven Sharpe (1) and David Rook (4) are also overturned in the cadet boys' list. Current national rankings are:-

Men - None; Women - Melody Ludi (Bradford) (6), Sally Midgley (Bradford) (12); Boys - Neil Bailey (Sheffield) (Group A); Girls - Lesley Broomhead (Sheffield) (17); Cadet Boys - David Rook (Bradford) (8), Steve Sharpe (Wakefield) (11); Cadet Girls - Melanie Seaton (Doncaster) (3), Josette Ryalls (Sheffield) (8).

In conjunction with the Yorkshire and Humberside Region of the Sports Council, we are hoping to arrange a one-day conference in Leeds towards the end of May, the theme being "Development in Table Tennis". It is intended to aim the conference at league secretaries, coaching secretaries, principal officers and leading coaches and to have ample opportunity for discussion and debate.

Here will be a unique opportunity for grass roots opinion to express itself in a sympathetic (hopefully) forum. Watch out for further details!

Please note that my address is now 53 Inglemere Lane, Cottingham, North Humberside HU16 4PE. Home Telephone: Hull (0482) 842150. Office: Hull (0482) 896251.

## LINCOLNSHIRE NOTES

by P. Taylor

### SPLENDID VICTORY

Grimsby are now favourites to win the Butlin Cup after their splendid 8-2 victory over Spalding, last season's champions. The first four sets were very closely contested. The opening one between Connie Moran and Jean White was probably the best of the 10 played. Connie won the first game at 18 and then lost the next -12. The deciding game was very dramatic. Connie from 1-4 down went into a 9-4 lead and then changed ends at 10-5. Jean however came back with great determination to narrow it to 12-10 but Connie held on to finally win 21-16. The next set between Pauline Hale and Mary Burgess was equally tense. Pauline won the first and then after being 17-8 up found herself 17-18 down and then 19-20 down but finally won 23-21. Gillian Sharpe made it 3-0 to Grimsby by beating Monica Green but not before losing the first game -13. Jean White then pulled one back for Spalding by beating Pauline in a tense struggle only winning 19 in the third. From then on, Grimsby took command losing only the doubles. The ninth set was particularly interesting for Gillian Sharpe, the Lincs Junior No. 1, had a splendid win over Jean White, the scores being 19 and 9.

At county level, our teams were not very successful. The senior team went down 4-6 to Northumberland, Brian Hill taking his two singles and the doubles with David Skerratt and Neil Parkin won 1 singles. The veterans continued their successful run by beating Clwyd 9-0. The Junior 1st team had two matches on the same day, drawing against Cumbria and losing 3-1 against Lancashire. The Junior 2nd team were beaten 10-0 by Northants to end their unbeaten run.

Next main events the County will be staging are the East of England Championships to be held on Sunday, 2 March at North Kesteven Sports Centre (entry forms from M. Brown, High St, Eagle, Lincoln LN6 9DG) and the Lincs Junior Open to be held at the same venue on Saturday, 15 March (Under-14 events) and Sunday, 16 March (Under-17 events). Entry forms are available from D. Worrell, 111 Newark Road, N. Hykeham, Lincoln.

## NORFOLK NOTES

by Neville Graver

### HAT-TRICKS FOR DOUG AND WENDY

Doug Bennett and Wendy Hogg both achieved singles hat-tricks in the Broadside Norfolk Closed Championships held at the University of East Anglia, Norwich, on Sunday, Dec. 16. This was a change in venue and day, and resulted in a 50% increase in entries.

Despite the performances of the number one seeds, the player who attracted most attention was the unseeded Loo Fong Sui, a student from Singapore studying at the U.E.A. Loo has only been playing in the first division of the Norwich League, and, as such, his form was difficult to assess. However, he soon set about upsetting the seedings by beating ex-county champion Mick Musson in his group. After that, he proceeded to power his way to the final, beating Norwich Premier players Honor, Hipperson and Graver prior to the semi-final where, by a quirk of the draw, he played Musson again, Musson having finished runner-up in the group.

The result was as previously, the strong kill of Loo again earning a straight games

win. In the other half of the draw, Bennett made more predictable progress, beating Richard Stevenson in the quarters, and twin brother Martyn in the semi-final.

The final turned out to be one of the best for years, with Loo always looking for the chance to use his forehand kill, supplemented by a variety of serves and subtle drop shots. In the first game he was, if anything, over anxious and lost -14. He came back, however, to take the second at 19, only to lose his grip mid-way through the third, losing again at -14.

In the women's singles the results went more to seeding, with Wendy Hogg meeting No. 2 seed Margaret Hales in the final. This was Miss Hales' first singles final appearance, and perhaps she was over anxious as a result. In the event, Miss Hogg won comfortably in straight games.

In the other events, Miss Hogg added Women's and Mixed Doubles titles, whilst Bennett also received a winners trophy in the Men's Doubles and runners-up in the Mixed. The Veterans' Singles, for the fourth year running, went to Dave Hardy. Miss Hogg was awarded the Victor Ludorum Trophy for the best overall results.

Trophies were presented by Mr. A. D. Felton, the new Norfolk President, and, prior to the finals, senior county badges were awarded to Wendy Hogg and Doug Bennett. Also, belated Junior badges were awarded to Dave Unwin, Andrew Buckingham and David Smith.

Elsewhere on the county front the senior first team notched their first point of the season against Cambridgeshire in a fine all-round performance, in which special mention should be made of Margaret Hales, winning both singles and doubles. This was an exciting match which kept spectators on their toes right to the very end, Norfolk coming back from 3-5. The TSB Junior first team have made a good start to the season, beating Hunts 6-4, and drawing with Lincs.

In the Broadside County Club Knock-Out Trophy the event has now reached the semi-final stage, with Gothic and Police of Norwich in one half and Electricity and P.O. Sports of Kings Lynn in the other.

The next big date in the county calendar is Sunday, Feb. 10, the date of the TSB Junior Closed at Neatherd High School, Dereham. One thing guaranteed is a new champion in both girls' and boys' singles, last year's champions now being too old. Favourite in the boys' event is Richard Stevenson, followed by his brother Martyn, whilst the girls' favourites are Sue Browne and Zoe Nichols, followed by Sarah Bignell, who could upset the seedings.

## CHARLIE WHEELER

—A legend in his own time

by COLIN TRUNDLE

Press Officer of the Chelmsford League

Charlie Wheeler, can truly be described as a legend in his own time, at least as far as table tennis in Chelmsford is concerned. Recently, there was yet another achievement in a remarkable career when he reached the memorable and probably unique milestone of having played competitively for 50 years.

He was first introduced to the game when he was given a bat as a present, this of course being the old 'hard bat' variety, the type that Charlie has remained faithful to over the years. When he was 15-years-old he joined the Scarborough Y.M.C.A. and had to serve a considerable apprenticeship before the better players would deem to play with him. These were the days of the depression and in a social climate that had

produced the general strike and the hunger marches, Charlie in common with many others was unable to find work. To while away the time he practised every day at his club and consequently his prowess blossomed quickly from what according to Charlie was an inauspicious start. It was in October 1929, probably the 21st, when he was selected for his first league match and so started something that has been his abiding passion ever since. The Scarborough League had six-man teams, all playing to a handicap, a method that made any other style than defensive almost suicidal. These requirements moulded Charlie's game and he has been known as an arch-defender ever since.

In the next six years he made a considerable impact in the locality, becoming Scarborough champion on four occasions, and in the first of these triumphs he beat Austin Harrison, later to become president of the E.T.T.A. in the final. He also took the open tournament defeating B. L. Hookins an English international to take the crown.



CHARLIE IN ACTION

Four league medals and the Yorkshire club championship came to his team and he also made his presence felt in other parts of the county, taking events at Castleford and Pontefract as well as the North East Riding title. He was Yorkshire Y.M.C.A. champion four times and to crown it all what he regards as his best ever achievement when he became the Yorkshire Closed champion at the age of 21, a mere five years since he first held a bat. During those days he also turned out for his county in friendly matches and was awarded his county badge. Also at this time he had the greatest thrill of his career when with the backing of a local businessman, he took part in the 1935 World Championships in London. His entry was accepted in the men's doubles and he was partnered with Alec Brook, an international, probably much to the latter's dismay, adds Charlie.

This year saw him take his talents and his bat to Brighton when his family moved there. He immediately got into the swing of things on the south coast and before long was invited to join the powerful Seahouse Club where he teamed up with three players who were destined to play for England. The Brighton League was of such a high standard that even with this star-studded

line-up, the team only managed to win the league on games average. He became Brighton champion, took the Worthing Open and then the Sussex Closed in 1938, his victim in the final being his team-mate Charlie Seaman, who in the same week had been capped for England. Mainly on the strength of this he was selected to take part in the final England trials and here he had his best ever singles win when he beat the great Eric Filby, the English champion. Despite this outstanding performance he did not gain international recognition and with the war years looming this was an honour that was to elude him, a fact which remains his biggest disappointment.

He was called up for the Army in 1940 and, now married, it was decided that his wife, Dot, would go to live with her sister in Chelmsford. This decision was later to have a significant effect on the history of the Chelmsford Table Tennis League. During the next six years Charlie's opportunities to take part in the game that he loved so much were naturally limited. He managed to keep in trim by playing in and winning service tournaments both in this country and in India and also found time to annex the Nottingham Open when he was stationed in the locality.

Demobbed in 1946 he decided to join his wife in Chelmsford and started work at Marconi. The Chelmsford League, which had been in cold storage during the war years, was under way again and Charlie was welcomed by his works' club. He was a member of this team that carried all before them until the end of the next decade, doing the League and Cup double on 15 consecutive occasions, with Charlie only missing the first of these. Amongst those who shared these triumphs were such well-known local names of that era as Reg Sleet, Ted Mackey, Tom Mayer, now president of the Chelmsford League, and later on Tony Condon.

Although Charlie himself will be quick to deny it, the others will agree that he was the star of this great team, going to the table an incredible 450 times without tasting defeat. Later on he moved to Cromptons and played for them for four years until the works closed. During this time they were league champions on two occasions when one of his team-mates was Vic Keeble, of footballing fame. Then on to Crittalls at Witham, winning a cup winners' medal



CHARLIE AND HIS TROPHIES

with Mark Sweeting also in the team. When this club left the league he joined E.E.V. and he has just started his fourth season with them and he is still collecting his trophies, having shared in two second division and one third division championships during this time.

On the individual scene he was Chelmsford champion eight times out of nine starts between 1947 and 1955 and took it yet again in 1962. When he qualified as a veteran at the age of 40 he completely dominated this event, winning it on 14 consecutive occasions and 19 in all, the last time in 1973. Add to the list his nine men's doubles, four mixed doubles with his great partner, the late Marjorie Shipstone, and one consolation singles, you get a total of 42 championship titles, an astonishing record. Nor did he confine his triumphs to Chelmsford, because he was Essex Closed champion in 1947, county veteran champion four times and runner-up for this title a further seven times. He also became the Essex Open veteran's champion when it was held on his home ground at Marconi in 1958. He has made his presence felt in nearby leagues, being Billericay champion twice as well as Colchester and Braintree veterans title holder. Charlie stopped taking part in tournaments about three years ago because he claims it is now too hard going for him, but one suspects that he would still cause a few hearts to flutter if he did enter.

He has enjoyed four tours to Holland, Wales, Norfolk and Torquay with Chelmsford teams and has represented the league something like 250 times. At 67 years of age he will be turning out in the veterans section of the Essex Inter-League once again this season. The Chelmsford league made him a life member in 1968 for his services to the sport.

Going back Charlie appeared in the first county championship match to be played in this country when this was started in 1948. This was against Surrey and his teammates on that occasion need no introduction because they were world champion Johnny Leach and Jack Carrington. He played only once more for Essex, but was travelling reserve on another occasion and much to his lasting regret he was never awarded his county badge.

Asked how he felt the game had changed over the years he singled out three aspects. The obvious one was the style of play, the emphasis on attack making it a much more exciting game. The mode of dress has also changed because when he started people just played in their normal everyday clothes. In fact when Charlie won the Yorkshire Closed he really cut a dashing figure in his plus fours and he also remembers one opponent who always wore a pair of heavy boots. The third and probably the best improvement has been the opportunities now given to youngsters because in his youth the rules debarred him joining a club until he was 16.

Now in the twilight of his career his ambition is to put back something into the sport that has given him so much enjoyment and is now imparting some of his know-how to the local juniors. He insists his playing days are nearly over, but it will be tantamount to cutting off his right arm when he does finally call it a day.

That is the remarkable story of a remarkable man and one it has been a privilege to tell. On behalf of the entire world of table tennis we salute you Charlie and hope to see you gracing the tables for some years to come.

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## Obituaries

### MURIEL WHAIT

One of Leicestershire's most successful players in the 1950's and early 1960's, Muriel Whait died suddenly in Paris on January 1st, aged 51. Muriel was unfortunate to be at her best at a time when Jose Rogers (then Perry) was dominating the local scene and this reason alone almost certainly prevented her from winning the Leicestershire Closed Singles title. Muriel did, however contrive to take five doubles titles. Her great strength was her brilliant backhand kill but her weakness — if it was a weakness — was that she played for enjoyment far more than bothering over-much about winning. For many years her business commitments had taken her abroad (she had spent a considerable time in Canada) but she always looked out her table tennis friends when she was in Leicester.

P.R.

### JOHN ELLIS

Before Muriel Whait had even been buried Leicestershire table tennis was dealt another shattering blow with the sudden and totally unexpected death of John Ellis. John had been Chairman of the Leicester League for several years but titles never bothered him much. As a player he was good enough to play representatively for Leicester and was later in the early County Veterans team. His game was like the man himself. No airs and graces, straightforward and forthright. He hit the ball and had few pretensions at defence.

It was when he took to coaching he became best known but that should not really be surprising. He was able to bring out the best of anybody and had unlimited patience. His ability as a coach was quite startling. At his death he had Chris Rogers, Anita Stevenson, Karen Rogers and Susanne Hunt all under his wing — all of whom played for England. In company he mixed easily with everybody but his knowledge of coaching was such that nobody could doubt his worth. Whilst he could clearly have done quite well financially out of table tennis, this aspect never bothered him. Monetary considerations meant nothing where table tennis was concerned. His great joy at being with his pupils and talking to them about the game was plain for all to see. At the comparatively early age of 52 John had still a lot to offer table tennis — and which he would gladly have given had he not been snatched away from us. Our sympathy goes to his wife Pam who, while taking little part in table tennis itself was ever-ready to help her husband in any way possible and was a very popular figure on the few occasions she graced the table tennis scene.

P.R.

## NORTHUMBERLAND 2-STAR OPEN

After a lapse of many years Northumberland are once again staging an open tournament. This is a 2-Star event and will be staged at Concordia Leisure Centre, Cramlington on Apl. 26, 1980. The local newspaper, the Newcastle Evening Chronicle are the main sponsors of the tournament and there is a prize fund of over £500 with £110 going to the winner of the men's singles and £50 to the winner of the women's singles.

Entry forms are now available from the Organiser, Mr. Aubrey Drapkin, 6 Northfield Road, Gosforth, Newcastle-on-Tyne NE3 3UL.

## PONTEFRACT 1-STAR OPEN

### VICTORY FOR MILLS OF SHEFFIELD

by Geoff Scruton

No, not a political headline, but Steven Mills, the Yorkshire County player certainly gave a steely performance in winning the Men's Singles and Men's Doubles in the last two finals of the day. His hammer backhand and piercing forehand demolished all the opposition in the Singles to retain the title which he won last year. His opponent in the final Steve Tracey (York) had no answer yet Tracey played well all day.

Mills and Mick Stephenson (Bradford) won the Doubles beating unlikely finalists Phil Spencer (St. Albans) and Mel Twidale (Doncaster). Spencer's powerful backhand proved a winner throughout the event and they just lost in the final.

Veteran Matt Sheader of Grimsby had a tremendous day, winning the Veterans Final v Derek Schofield, and with Connie Moran the runners-up in the Mixed. He also reached the Semis of the Men's Singles and the Doubles partnered by Brian Allison.

Linda Hryszko reversed last year's result in the Women's beating Linda Holmes. The two then combined to beat Karen Groves and Julie Woodcock in the Doubles.

Tracy Wenn beat Gail Watson in the Girls' final and then beat her again in the first round of the women's!

An all-Yorkshire Boys' final with Mark Illingsworth beating Sean Madden in the third game rather easily.

The Girls' final was played at 1.15 p.m., the Boys' at 2.0 p.m. and the Veterans at 4.30 p.m. and were watched by a large crowd and brought out the best in the players. Far better than waiting until the end of the day when most of the players have gone home.

Played at the new venue, Featherstone Sports Centre, the Tournament attracted a large entry of 180. The 10 tables were kept going all day with a large band of enthusiastic workers headed by Brian Govan as Organiser.

A nice touch was provided by the Pontefract League when they presented a tankard to Eddie Brown (Stockport) on making his 26th consecutive appearance. Eddie had just finished umpiring the Vets final and after presenting the Winners Trophy and runners-up awards, Harold Robinson, President of the League, called Eddie over and presented the tankard.

#### RESULTS:-

##### Men's Singles Quarter-finals:

S. Mills (Y) bt R. Priestley (Y) 17, 12;  
M. Sheader (L) bt S. Wathey (Y) 13, 17;  
D. Schofield (Ch) bt P. Whiteman (Herts) 16, -17, 15;  
S. Tracey (Y) bt D. Smith (Norwich) 13, 7.

##### Semi-finals:

Mills bt Sheader 11, 14;  
Tracey bt Schofield 17, 20.

##### Final:

MILLS bt Tracey 16, 15.

##### Women's Singles Semi-finals:

L. Holmes (Dy) bt Janet Evans (Y) 12, 19;  
L. Hryszko (Y) K. Groves (Wa) 16, 10.

##### Final:

HRYSZKO bt Holmes 14, 16.

##### Men's Doubles Semi-finals:

Mills/Stephenson (Y) bt I. Denton/G.

Roberts (Y) 17, 6.  
P. Spencer/M. Twidale bt B. Allinson/M. Sheader (L) 12, 17.

##### Final:

MILLS/STEPHENSON bt Spencer/Twidale 21, 16.

##### Women's Doubles Semi-finals:

Hryszko/Holmes bt J. & J. Evans (Y) 18, 6;

Groves/Woodcock (Cv) bt G. Stocks (Y) /  
C. Moran (L) -19, 11, 19.

**Final:**  
HRYSZKO/HOLMES bt Groves/Woodcock  
13, -18, 7.

**Mixed Doubles Final:**  
F. McEWAN (La)/HRYSZKO bt M. Sheader/  
C. Moran -11, 19, 18.

**Veterans' Final:**  
M. SHEADER bt D. Schofield -17, 18, 18.

**Boys' Final:**  
M. ILLINGSWORTH (Y) bt S. Madden (Y)  
-16, 16, 9.

**Girls' Final:**  
T. WENN (Y) bt G. Watson (Y) 14, -18, 8.

## CLWYD REPORT

by Roy Williams

### WELL DONE MARK

For the first time in almost thirty years a North Wales player has won a senior international cap for Wales. Rhyl's Mark Thomas played his first match against France in the English Open Championships at Brighton. Congratulations, Mark, for the dedication you have given to your game during the last four years.

Rhyl stage their second international match of the season when Wales meet Ireland in a junior fixture at the St. Asaph Sports Centre theatre on Friday, Feb. 15. The only previous junior match played in the North Wales area was in 1975 when Wales beat Scotland. The following day the teams will join a record entry of over a hundred competitors at the Deeside Leisure Centre for the North Wales Junior Open Championships. Organisers David Tapp and Michael Holden hope that the tournament will increase in size and quality every year. To complete a full week-end of table tennis the North Wales Closed championship will be played on the Sunday and again a record entry is expected for this very popular tournament.

John Hook (Clwyd) retained the men's singles title at the Rhyl Closed championship held at the Coventry Coop Holiday camp, Kinnel Bay on Sunday, Jan. 20. In the final he beat Meirion Williams who plays for the same club. Andrew Halsall (R.A.F.A.) the first junior for some time to reach the semi-final stage played very well and when he learns to steady his game could prove to be another find for representative honours. Dave Murphy was the other semi-finalist.

Barbara Williams won the Women's singles defeating Pru Oakes in the final. Mrs. Williams had beaten young Sharon Sayer in her semi-final whilst Mrs. Oakes beat Mrs. J. P. Hughes.

The second session of Welsh League (North) matches were played at Erias Park, Colwyn Bay when secretary Les Jones organised fourteen matches for a very exciting day's table tennis. Rhyl, the defending champions in the senior division, won their opening game with Wrexham and East Flint beat Llandudno II and look to be the main contenders again. Wrexham beat Rhyl in the Veterans' division match in a very close game and now must be favourites to win the division which grows in size each season. Eight of the games played were in the Junior division and to date East Flint look to be in a strong position to win the title.

Wylfa Power station lead the way in the Anglesey league with Holyhead once again being their main rivals. Anglesey once again seem to be producing a higher standard of players as their Welsh League appearances show.

Clwyd are clear at the top of division one of the Rhyl league in spite of losing their opening fixture. Egatube who have fallen away a little are in contention but the R.A.F.A. Club are chasing hard on their heels.

Colwyn Bay Cricket club are well on top of the Llandudno first division having beaten their two closest rivals in two successive weeks. Defending champions North Western and Lansdowne are fighting it out for the runner-up spot.

In the East Flint league Connahs Quay Power Station with Ivor Jones, Derek Stansfield and John Smith are racing away in the first division and do not look as if they will be caught for the championship this year. I.E.P. Sandycroft and Caergwrle so long the leading team in the league are fighting it out for the runner-up spot. Ivor Jones who won many county caps is back on form after being in the doldrums for a number of seasons. In fact he is tipped to return to the county side. Also in contention is Derek Stansfield who has yet to play for the county.

Trevor Manning, Hadyn Young and Peter Williams playing for Queens Park are top of the Wrexham first division even though Manning lost his unbeaten tag to Phil Jones who is making a fine comeback after a long illness. In second place are Malpas (Kevin McGuire, Ian Wooley and Arthur Jones) who are themselves being chased by Llay Royal British Legion who have in their side veterans Jim Bishton, Vic Ralls and Andy Homes.

### County Matches

January was not the best of months for the Clwyd county teams. The seniors did not have a fixture, the junior team lost at home to Yorkshire II and our second junior team made the trip to Derby and were beaten, then our veterans visited Gainsborough to play Lincolnshire and were white-washed for the first time. The dazed Clwyd veterans were beaten for speed as well as being outwitted in the matches by this very good team.

#### RESULTS:-

##### Rhyl Closed Championship

Winners	Runners-up
<b>Men's Singles:</b> J. Hook	M. Williams
<b>Women's Singles:</b> B. Williams	P. Oakes
<b>Veteran Singles:</b> D. Murphy	R. Williams
<b>Junior Singles:</b> A. Halsall	R. Rimmington
<b>Consolation Singles:</b> S. Sayer	M. Williams
<b>Div. 2 Singles:</b> H. Green	R. Rimmington
<b>Div. 3 Singles:</b> H. Harper	I. Hughes
<b>Men's Doubles:</b> J. Hook/ K. Fitzsimmons	R. Howland/ G. Hollis
<b>Women's Doubles:</b> B. Williams/ P. Oakes	D. Murray/ S. Halsall
<b>Mixed Doubles:</b> J. Hook/ P. Oakes	M. Williams/ B. Williams
<b>Junior Doubles:</b> A. Halsall/ R. Rimmington	S. Sayer/ S. Sayer

##### Welsh League (North)

**Senior Div.**  
Wrexham 7 Anglesey 3  
Rhyl 7 Wrexham 3  
East Flint 8 Llandudno 2  
Anglesey 3 Llandudno 7

**Veteran Div.**  
East Flint 7 East Flint II 3  
Rhyl 4 Wrexham 6  
Llandudno 9 Llandudno II 1  
Anglesey 5 Llandudno 5  
East Flint II 4 Anglesey 6

**Junior Div.**  
Rhyl 10 Rhyl II 0  
Rhyl II 0 East Flint 10  
Wrexham II 2 Llandudno 8  
Wrexham 7 Anglesey 3  
Rhyl 2 Wrexham 8  
Wrexham II 3 Anglesey 7

## NORTHANTS NOTES

by Dennis Millman

### SHOT IN THE ARM

Although of recent vintage, the Northamptonshire Schools' Table Tennis Association compared most favourably with other similar Midlands organisations, when the English Schools Table Tennis Association staged its 'Area Six' Team Championships at Stratford-on-Avon recently.

With entries in all eight events, Northants carried off five area titles, and the following list of winning schools, will be hoping to gain further honours at Swindon, on Sunday, Feb. 17.

**Girls' Under-11**  
Goldings Middle School, Northampton.

**Boys' Under-11**  
Whitefriars Junior School, Rushden.

**Girls' Under-13**  
Ryelands Middle School, Northampton.

**Boys' Under-16**  
Northampton School for Boys.

**Girls' Under-19**  
Northampton School for Girls.

Although many of the participants already play in local league table tennis, the ever increasing interest on the part of schools, can do nothing but good for table tennis in the county, and may just prove the shot in the arm required, if Northants is ever to compete on even terms at County Championship level.

Sadly, Gary Alden's continued absence from the game, seems certain to prevent the County Firsts from challenging for promotion, especially after their shattering defeat at the hands of Cambridgeshire, when the only win came in the ladies doubles — the only department in which the team has compared favourably with this season's opposition. But, while the return to the side of Anne and Mandy Wallis has helped preserve a 100% doubles record, their singles results have proved disappointing, with just one win from seven attempts, and now the loss of Alden makes the outlook decidedly gloomy.

The Seconds lost their unbeaten record at the hands of Oxfordshire, for after dropping the first four events, the team was unable to make up the leeway, despite wins for Dave Marsh, Connie Bane, Glennis Hooper and a Men's Doubles success for Marsh and David Gallo. On the credit side, it is nice to note that the talented defensive player Mrs. Bane is again having a good season at County level, with three wins out of three, and one of those when playing for the Firsts.

The Juniors are finding the Third Division East Midlands to their liking, and if they can avoid defeat against Norfolk in the final fixture, promotion will be assured. The TSB Squad training under TSB Junior Squad Coach - Dave Marsh, appears to be paying dividends, and the ten - nil win against Lincolnshire Seconds was a fine achievement for the team of Keith Nicoll, Neil Knatt, Ken Nicoll, Jane Nicoll, Joanne Cutler and Richard Malfait, who was brought in to play with Knatt in the doubles, in the absence of any other match-winning pairing.

Although the experiment paid off against Lincs. it failed to produce a win against Huntingdonshire, but unbeaten performances from Keith Nicoll and Neil Knatt, a singles from Ken Nicoll and a doubles from the two Janes, Nicoll and Wallis, just gave Northants a narrow yet important victory.

Romano Gallo, that enthusiastic County player, with strong Northampton connections, may not have had too much success in the county championships this season, but this did not prevent him from organising a very successful Y.M.C.A. Open Tournament at Northampton recently, and the standard of play, coupled with the emergence of some hitherto undiscovered

talent, should have given him ample reward for his efforts.

#### RESULTS:-

##### Open Singles:

KNEIL KNATT bt Richard Malfait 16, 19.

##### Handicap Singles:

NIGEL METCALFE (Scr) bt R. Ford 14, 17.

##### Open Doubles:

KNATT/MALFAIT bt Graeme McKim/  
M. Hall 19, 21.

couraged to be positive and to win points rather than hope the opponent makes mistakes because on the international scene players do not make many mistakes. It must be pointed out that a defensive player can be positive not only by hitting but also by varying the degree of backspin on the ball and deceiving the opponent. It is interesting to note that almost every team in Category A of the World Championships had a defensive player in its squad (irrespective of that players national ranking!).

Indeed, I feel strongly that this positive type of game must be encouraged and not only among the boys but also the girls. The days of just getting the ball back and hoping, are rapidly coming to an end. Therefore, when examining cadet players I am looking for this positive type of game irrespective of style. Another important criteria with cadets is their motive for playing the game. The ideal motives in my opinion are enjoyment and winning and at this age the former is equally important. If a cadet is not enjoying the game and all involved with the game the chance of him or her being involved as a leading senior are somewhat reduced. Obviously a player should not enjoy losing but it should not be regarded as the end of the world. As in reality, cadet and indeed junior table tennis are only stepping stones to the all important senior level.

## LANCASHIRE 2-STAR OPEN

### PARKER RETAINS TITLE

by Geo. R. Yates

Preston star Donald Parker retained the men's singles title in the Lancashire 2-Star Open, played at British Aerospace Dynamics, Lostock, Bolton on Feb. 2, beating John Hilton in the final and claiming the top cash prize of £150 for this jubilee event which celebrated 25 years play at the Lostock factory.

Both men's semi-finals produced high quality play with Parker beating Yorkshire's much travelled Tony Clayton and Hilton getting the better of a determined Nigel Eckersley.

The women's singles title, undefended by Cheshire's Susan Lisle, went to the England No. 2 Carole Knight who accounted for Alison Gordon the reigning national triple champion.

Hilton had some compensation in winning the men's doubles with Mike Johns, wresting the title from the holders Parker and Paul Rainford. But Melody Ludi and Sally Midgley retained their women's doubles title beating the top seeds Miss Knight and Miss Gordon.

Surprise winner of the veteran singles was Peter D'Arcy who, in the final, beat the holder and top seed Derek Schofield.

Cheshire junior Janet Deakin eliminated the No. 4 seed, Sally Midgley, in the 2nd round and went on to the semis taking a game off Miss Knight.

The only seed to fall before reaching his target was Cheshire's David Constance, a former title holder of the men's singles, who fell to Clayton.

The Bolton League were greatly indebted to British Aerospace Dynamics and their caterers Gardner Merchants for their more than generous contribution to a record prize fund of £630. The pity was that the event clashed with the Irish Open, the European Top 12, the Division 3 round robin in Guernsey and numerous county matches.

#### RESULTS:-

##### Men's Singles Quarter-finals:

J. Hilton (La) bt M. Johns (Ch) 16, 12;  
N. Eckersley (Ch) bt K. Beadsley (Y) 13, 11;

A. Clayton (Y) bt D. Constance (Ch) 18, 19;  
D. Parker (La) bt A. Fletcher (GFR) 15, 17.

##### Semi-finals:

Hilton bt Eckersley -17, 18, 17;

Parker bt Clayton 17, 15.

##### Final:

PARKER bt Hilton 16, 14.

##### Women's Singles Quarter-finals:

C. Knight (Cv) bt J. Parker (La) 8, 10;

J. Deakin (Ch) bt B. Kirkman (La) 16, 11;

A. Gordon (Bk) bt K. Smart (Dy) 6, 20;

M. Ludi (Y) bt S. Alexander (Ch) 18, 12.

##### Semi-finals:

Knight bt Deakin 16, -18, 8;

Gordon bt Ludi -12, 19, 19.

##### Final:

KNIGHT bt Gordon 14, 15.

##### Men's Doubles Semi-finals:

Hilton/Johns bt Clayton/Constance

-16, 18, 11;

Parker/P. Rainford (La) bt A. Boasman/  
P. Bowen (La) 14, -15, 13.

##### Final:

HILTON/JOHNS bt Parker/Rainford 19, 16.

##### Women's Doubles Semi-finals:

Gordon/Knight bt J. Grundy (La)/Parker

-18, 13, 7;

Ludi/S. Midgley (Y) bt C. Hilton (La)/  
Smart 18, 17.

##### Final:

LUDI/MIDGLEY bt Gordon/Knight

11, -18, 18.

##### Veteran Singles Quarter-finals:

D. Schofield (Ch) bt N. Deakin (Ch) 13, 18;

J. Scowcroft (La) bt V. Hankey (Ch) 11, 9;

M. Tew (Ch) bt R. Allcock (La) 17, 12;

P. D'Arcy (Ch) bt F. Davies (La) 10, 8.

##### Semi-finals:

Schofield bt Scowcroft 12, 8;

D'Arcy bt Tew 17, 17.

##### Final:

D'ARCY bt Schofield 13, -20, 20.

## EXPANDED NATIONAL CLUB LEAGUE PROPOSALS

by Alan Ransome

Following on the success of the National Table Tennis League this year, the English Table Tennis Association are currently assessing the demand for an expansion of the league next season into regional senior, women's and junior divisions.

Without obligation, the National League Committee are considering recommending expansion in the following three ways:

1. That either two or three regional third divisions of eight teams be formed for the men's section. Fixtures and matches to be arranged on the same dates and in the same way as the existing first and second division games. The regulations covering facilities would not be as stringent and the entry fees and other costs involved would be proportionately lower.

2. That a Women's division comprising of eight four-player teams be introduced, possibly being played on two weekends throughout the season, rather than incurring the expense of single home and away matches. The spectator and media interest in the women's section is not likely to be as high as in the men's.

3. That three or four regional club leagues be started, with each club playing each other in its own territory twice throughout the season, possibly on a home and away basis, using the senior dates or being played on two weekends. The winning team from each region to participate in the national junior club championship which would be played over a weekend at a central venue. Again, four players per team and eight teams per division.

The English Table Tennis Association will only consider going ahead with this expansion if there is strong interest from the

## IMPRESSIONS OF ENGLISH JUNIOR TABLE TENNIS

by DONALD PARKER

Peter Simpson in his capacity as English National Trainer, Susan Lisle in her capacity as English Junior Girls' Captain and myself in my capacity as English Junior Boys' Captain, attended between us the English Junior Closed and the National Junior Ranking Tournament. The obvious point of this invaluable exercise was to examine the talent on show and from the various performances draw plans up for the forthcoming European Youth Championships in Poland. Obviously selection at this stage is impossible as at this stage of the competitive programme there are many candidates at all levels. However it is possible to start planning the training programme, including the content of training camps, for the next six to seven months.

The overall impression from these championships was that while, with the odd exception, there is little difference in the standard at the top, the general standard has improved tremendously. For this fact I pay tribute to the numerous coaches/parents who take their players week in week out to the various tournaments, coaching sessions etc., across the length and breadth of the country. Whilst it has never been proved that an increase in ability at the base of the triangle (the general players) will raise the standard of the tip of the triangle (the top players), I feel fairly optimistic about the future.

From a technical point of view, I was disappointed to see a large number of players reluctant to take the initiative and attack a half ball. When comparing our leading Junior players with those of other leading countries (Sweden, Czech), our standard of service and receive is poor, however, domestically, these two cancel each other out and this weakness is not exploited. When playing the two mentioned countries some of our players lose easily with the majority of points being won on the third and fourth ball.

It was pleasing to see that several of the leading players had the ability to attack strongly with both wings, an essential characteristic in the modern game at European level. The Hungarians — Klampar, Jonyer, Gergely and Takacs — all attack well with the backhand as well as the forehand, a leading factor in their Swaythling Cup victory.

I was asked by several coaches as to what type of game I was looking for in the players especially the cadets. In brief my answer was that while there are subtle differences between the boys' game and girls' game, I was looking for players who could and would attack a half ball with either wing, whether it be with topspin or drive. In the defensive players I was looking apart from the obvious, for a player who could and would hit the right ball irrespective of the score. There are no top class defensive players in the world who cannot hit a loose ball.

Whatever the style, a player must be en-

clubs throughout the country. Any club interested in playing in the expanded National League in any of the above sections should write to the E.T.T.A. office at 21 Claremont, Hastings, East Sussex, telephone Hastings 433121, giving a firm indication of interest. Further information can be obtained from the E.T.T.A. office.

The decision on whether to proceed or not is likely to be taken by the E.T.T.A.'s National Council at their meeting in April, therefore clubs who wish to indicate interest are asked to do so, in writing, as soon as possible.

## NATIONAL LEAGUE

by ALAN RANSOME

The first Division of the English Table Tennis Association's new NATIONAL LEAGUE couldn't be more exciting! At the top, four clubs are battling it out for the honours and prize fund, whilst at the bottom of the division, the four other clubs are fighting hard to avoid relegation.

No team in the first division is unbeaten, and no team is without a victory. The even spread of the top players has produced magnificent competition which has created the impetus that was needed to establish this national club competition.

The Second Division is in a more normal state with one club, Unity of Bradford, unbeaten and out in front. At the opposite end of this division, Norton and March are fighting hard to save themselves from the potential drop.

Although the National League has created tremendous interest in the various localities, there is still a distinct lack of national publicity, and this must be remedied before the end of the season if we are to maintain the support of such club sponsors as Sealink and Macleans.

I'm sure a vote of thanks is due to Keith Ponting who has taken the administration of the National League into his capable hands, and a reminder that Keith needs every co-operation from match organisers in order to be effective.

Will the 80's see the advent of "Professional" team managers as well as professional players? Bill Wheel who is doing an excellent job with the Soham Club, feels that this situation must come to pass if sanity is to be maintained whilst building up a prestigious team and league.

National League Standings as of Jan. 14, 1980:-

	P	W	L	F	A	P
<b>Premier Division</b>						
Sealink Milton Keynes	7	6	1	39	24	12
Soham	7	5	2	39	24	10
Ellenborough	7	5	2	36	27	10
Ormesby	7	5	2	36	27	10
Newham	7	2	5	31	32	4
Kelly Girl Intl.	7	2	5	30	33	4
Denmark	7	2	5	23	40	4
Macleans Maidenhead	7	1	6	18	45	2
<b>Division 2</b>						
Unity	7	7	0	54	9	14
Sun Life Second City	7	6	1	46	17	12
Briarside	7	4	3	29	34	8
Seagulls	6	3	3	29	25	6
Salford	6	3	3	26	28	6
Ormesby 2	7	2	5	24	39	4
Norton	7	2	5	22	41	4
March	7	0	7	13	50	0

### Individual Records

	P	W
<b>Premier Division — Top Half</b>		
P. Day (Soham)	14	11
N. Jarvis (Ormesby)	14	11
R. Potton (Newham)	14	11
G. Sandley (Ellenborough)	12	10
K. Jackson (Soham)	12	8
J. Hilton (Sealink M.K.)	14	8
D. Parker (Ormesby)	12	7
M. Mitchell (Ellenborough)	14	7

D. Constance (Denmark)	14	6
R. Yule (Sealink M.K.)	10	5
M. Crimmins (Kelly Girl)	12	5

### Premier Division — Bottom Half

D. Neale (Ormesby)	14	11
N. Eckersley (Sealink M.K.)	14	11
D. Wells (Kelly Girl)	12	10
J. Souter (Denmark)	14	9
M. Johns (Kelly Girl)	10	8
J. Kitchener (Ellenborough)	12	8
D. Johnson (Sealink M.K.)	12	7
D. Tan (Soham)	12	7
D. Newman (Newham)	14	7
K. Richardson (Soham)	12	5

### Division 2 — Top Half

K. Beadsley (Unity)	14	14
C. Rogers (Unity)	14	14
P. Glynn (Sun Life)	12	9
D. Schofield (Salford)	12	8
G. Gillett (Seagulls)	12	7
R. Hampson (Salford)	12	6
D. Munt (Sun Life)	12	6
R. Swift (March)	12	6

### Division 2 — Bottom Half

B. Johnson (Sun Life)	14	12
T. Bottomley (Unity)	14	10
B. Hayward (Sun Life)	14	9
P. Ward (Ormesby 2)	14	8
T. Gelder (Briarside)	14	8
M. Francis (Seagulls)	12	7
J. Weatherby (Salford)	12	7
R. Weatherby (Salford)	12	7

**Note:** Where a player has played some of his matches in the top half and some in the bottom, he has been included in the section in which he has played the majority of his games.

## SEALINK GO TOP OF THE NATIONAL CLUB TABLE TENNIS LEAGUE

Sealink Milton Keynes are now two points clear at the top of the E.T.T.A. National Club Professional Table Tennis League.

Joint-leaders Soham from Cambridgeshire, led by England No. 2 Paul Day were their latest victims losing 4-5 in a match that turned out to be an incredible advert for the sport. It had everything — atmosphere, scintillating play and a result that was in doubt right up to the final point being played.

In front of almost 400 spectators and TV cameras from both channels, Sealink went into the lead by beating Soham 5-4 on Sunday, 13th January. The match was a cliff hanger all the way and kept the excited spectators on the edge of their seats until the last point.

Table Tennis like this is doing the sport the world of good. Well done, Sealink!

Sealink heroes were England Senior No. 3 John Hilton and England Senior No. 3 Nigel Eckersley who won both their games.

John's win over Paul Day was particularly noteworthy as was Nigel's over Mike Johns who had been signed by Soham only four days previously especially to combat Sealink's strength in the No. 3 and 4 positions. Twice Soham were in a match-winning situation and twice Sealink clawed their way back with Dougie Johnson going 11-17 down in the third against England colleague Keith Richardson before finally winning on deuce.

Sealink's win takes them to the top of the National Club League with three clubs — Soham, Ellenborough (London), and Ormesby (Middlesbrough) chasing them just two points adrift.

So the Sealink Milton Keynes v Ellenborough match in North London on Sunday, Feb. 17, suddenly becomes very important. Ellenborough are the only club to have beaten Sealink this season and the Milton Keynes side will be looking to reverse that narrow 4-5 defeat suffered at Bletchley Leisure Centre in their first match of the season.

The match starts at 14.00 hours.

## SEALINK MILTON KEYNES ARE THE ONLY NATIONAL LEAGUE CLUB TO HAVE FOUR PLAYERS IN THE LATEST ENGLAND SENIOR RANKING LIST

John Hilton retains his No. 3 spot just behind Soham's Paul Day — a player he has beaten twice in recent weeks.

Dougie Johnson moves up six places to No. 5 following good wins in the French Open where he was the only European to beat Chinese opposition and in the Top Table televised tournament where he triumphed over Hungary's Takacs.

Nigel Eckersley continues his climb up the ranking list, moving to No. 9 and into the list in his first year in the Senior ranks, comes young Skylet Andrew, already being referred to as Britain's second Desmond Douglas.

Two other Sealink players are also top of their respective ranking lists.

Richard Yule is Scottish Senior No. 1 and Gary Lambert is England Cadet No. 1.

## MESSAGE TO JOHN WOODFORD

Thank you John for your January editorial which appeared in Table Tennis News.

It gave Sealink Milton Keynes an additional ten column inches to add to its press cutting file.

One thing I have not got is time on my hands but for you, I will make time... for a drink and a discussion on National Club League activities.

You may contact me on 01-387-1234 Ext. 2498... anytime!

BRIAN ASHTON,  
Club General Manager,  
Sealink Milton Keynes.

## JOHN ELLIS — A TRIBUTE

John Ellis will be sadly missed on the English Tournament circuit. He was a gentleman in every sense of the word and the presence of his cheerful personality and his broad smile were an integral part of tournament table tennis for me over the last eight years. I had enormous respect for John, not only as a person but as a coach. He was the greatest single influence on my early coaching and without doubt was one of England's top coaches.

His outstanding achievements as a coach are a matter of record but the loyalty he gave, and the respect he had for his players was evident to only those who spoke with him or watched him working. I never heard John speak ill of any of his players; to him the players were the most important people and he was there to help them. And help them he did; his players will miss him even more than the rest of us in Table Tennis. Deepest sympathy to his family.

Peter and Judi Charters.

## SCOTTISH RANKINGS

Following the Scottish Association's Ranking Tournament in Edinburgh on Jan. 20 the results were listed as follows:-

### Men

1 Richard Yule, 2 Norman Lovie, 3 Anwar Majid, 4 Bill Sichel, 5 Bert Kerr, 6 David Campbell, 7 John Wilson, 8 John Moir, 9 Kenny McLean, 10 Jim Graham.

### Women

1 Carole Dalrymple, 2 Patrice Fleming, 3 Kay Mackay, 4 Isobel Ferguson, 5 Kirstie Hammond, 6 Susan Ferguson, 7 Liz Robb, 8 Aileen Bennett, 9 Hilary Calder, 10 Singh Thomson.



# On the International Front

by The Editor

## ENGLAND PRESS ON

A second successive away victory for England in the Super Division of the European League, the latest by 4-3 against Czechoslovakia in Pribram on Jan. 17, is surely indicative that far from being relegation candidates each season, England — for this season at least — are a force to be reckoned with.

Admittedly, in Pribram, the Czechs were without Milan Orlowski and Josef Dvoracek — still nursing the injuries that prevented them from appearing at Brighton — but it was still a good performance from England especially that of John Hilton in the final set when the match score stood poised at 3-3. But the Lancastrian came through with flying colours to beat Miroslav Shenk in straight games to earn his country the victory.

Prior to Desmond Douglas had figured in



two singles successes and, of course, Jill Hammersley had contributed her share in beating Marie Hrachova. New doubles pairings were tried in Hilton and Duggie Johnson and Hilton/Hammersley but neither were successful and Hilton, in his opening set, lost to Jindrich Pansky 17 in the third.

Scores:-

J. Pansky bt Hilton -21, 20, 17;  
M. Schenk lost to Douglas -15, -15;  
M. Hrachova lost to J. Hammersley -13, -7;  
Pansky/Schenk bt Hilton/D. Johnson -19, 20, 14;  
Pansky/Hrachova bt Hilton/Hammersley -18, 13, 16;  
Pansky lost to Douglas -15, -13;  
Schenk lost to Hilton -16, -10.

Meantime, in Nimes, Hungary were preserving their unbeaten record with a 4-3 win over France who got off to a 2-0 lead when Patrick Birocheau accounted for

Istvan Jonyer and Jacque Secretin had the better of his exchange with Tibor Klampar. But from then on it was the Hungarian who called the tune to take the next four sets but Secretin completed his double by beating Jonyer.

Scores:-

P. Birocheau bt I. Jonyer 17, 19;  
J. Secretin bt T. Klampar 16, 13;  
C. Bergeret lost to Z. Olah -17, -14;  
Birocheau/Secretin lost to Jonyer/Klampar -16, -16;  
Secretin/Bergeret lost to Jonyer/G. Szabo -17, 11, -20;  
Birocheau lost to Klampar -15, -10;  
Secretin bt Jonyer 13, 14.

Poland brought off their first win in the Super Division and that a most impressive one by 5-2 over Sweden in Rimbo which must have been a bitter pill to swallow for the home spectators for in Stellan Bengtsson, Ulf Thorsell, Ulf Carlsson, Marie Lindblad and Eva Stromvall the Swedes were more than adequately represented.

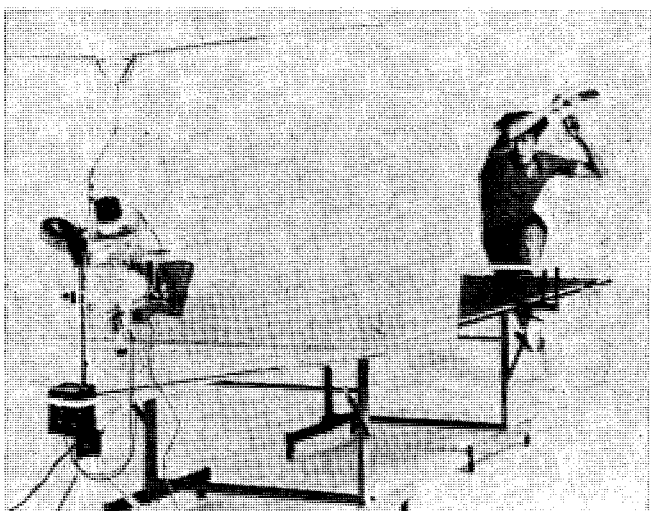
But it was only Bengtsson, with a win over Andrzej Grubba, and Miss Lindblad who beat Jolanta Szatko who in any way evoked applause. Thorsell lost to both Grubba and Leszek Kucharski the latter also adding the scalp of Bengtsson to his belt.

Scores:-

U. Thorsell lost to L. Kucharski -14, -22;  
S. Bengtsson bt A. Grubba 16, -12, 22;  
M. Lindblad bt J. Szatko -22, 15, 16;  
Bengtsson/U. Carlsson lost to Grubba/Kucharski 20, -18, -17;  
Bengtsson/E. Stromvall lost to Kucharski/Szatko 19, -17, -16;  
Thorsell lost to Grubba -17, 13, -20;  
Bengtsson lost to Kucharski -17, -12.

Just as well then for Federal Germany

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that they brought off their first victory 4-3 away to Yugoslavia in Sibenik where Peter Stellweg starred with wins over Dragutin Surbek and Zoran Kalinic and furthered the German cause by teaming up with Jochen Leiss to win the men's doubles against Anton Stipanovic and Surbek. Wilfried Lieck supplied the other win against Kalinic.

Scores:-  
D. Surbek lost to P. Stellweg 18, -12, -19;  
Z. Kalinic lost to W. Lieck -21, 26, -15;  
G. Perkucin bt U. Kamizuru 13, -17, 16;  
A. Stipanovic/Surbek lost to J. Leiss/Stellweg -18, -18;  
Stipanovic/E. Palatinus bt R. Wosik/Kamizuru 16, 16;  
Surbek bt Lieck 15, -20, 18;  
Kalinic lost to Stellweg -17, -15;

#### SUPER DIVISION

	P	W	L	F	A	P
Hungary	5	5	0	24	11	5
Czechoslovakia	5	3	2	21	14	3
England	5	3	2	19	16	3
France	5	3	2	15	20	3
Yugoslavia	5	2	3	18	17	2
Sweden	5	2	3	17	18	2
Poland	5	1	4	15	20	1
Federal Germany	5	1	4	11	24	1

Fixtures for Feb. 14:-  
Czechoslovakia v Hungary (Kladno)  
France v Yugoslavia (Chalons S/Saone)  
England v Sweden (Portsmouth)  
Poland v Federal Germany (Warsaw)

#### DIVISION ONE

Practically home and dry in the first division of the European League, the Soviet Union continued their unbeaten run with a 5-2 away victory over Austria in Judenburg on Jan. 17.

Valery Shevchenko figured in three of the Russian wins beating Franz Waldhausl and Eric Amplatz and sharing a mixed success with Valentina Popova. Amplatz, with a win over Igor Solopov in the final set, added to his shared triumph with Gunter Muller in the men's doubles.

Scores:-  
F. Waldhausl lost to I. Solopov -13, -5;  
E. Amplatz lost to V. Shevchenko -25, -14;  
D. Fetter lost to L. Bakshutova -18, -16;  
Amplatz/G. Muller bt M. Kreeris/Shevchenko 18, 15;  
Muller/Fetter lost to Shevchenko/Popova -20, -15;  
Amplatz bt Solopov -15, 21, 18.

On the same night in Budelange visitors Netherlands picked up a little lost ground with a 5-2 win over Luxembourg. Rene Hijne brought off a treble performance with solo wins over Andre Hartmann and Jean Krier and shared in a mixed success with Bettine Vriesekoop.

Scores:-  
A. Hartmann lost to R. Hijne -17, -15;  
J. Krier lost to v. Spanje -13, 14, -17;  
C. Risch lost to B. Vriesekoop -13, -13;  
Hartmann/Krier bt Hijne/v. Spanje 20, 12;  
Hartmann/Risch lost to Hijne/Vriesekoop -15, -10;  
Hartmann bt v. Spanje -19, 11, 18;  
Krier lost to Hijne -12, -12.

On the Eastern front Bulgaria had a 6-1 win over Greece in Sofia whilst, in Istanbul, Turkey were beaten 4-3 by Italy whose improving woman Paolo Bevilacqua had a straight games win over Kadriye Poyrazoglu.

Scores:-  
**In Sofia**  
D. Hasanov bt D. Zikos -16, 17, 12;  
I. Stoianov bt K. Priftis -19, 13, 20;  
D. Guergueltcheva bt F. Galanou 12, 18;  
S. Stefanov/Stoianov lost to Priftis/Zikos -15, -16;  
Stoianov/Guergueltcheva bt Zikos/Galanou 8, 12;  
Hasanov bt Priftis 18, -16, 7;  
Stoianov bt Zikos 20, 9.  
**In Istanbul**  
V. Aleksandridis bt G. Bisi 8, 13;

O. Cimen lost to M. Costantini -14, -16;  
K. Poyrazoglu lost to P. Bevilacqua -15, -15;  
Aleksandridis/Cimen lost to Bisi/Costantini -19, 17, -12;  
Cimen/Poyrazoglu bt Bisi/Bevilacqua 18, 14;  
Aleksandridis bt Constantini 12, -12, 18;  
Cimen lost to Bisi -14, -13.

Ireland's victory over Belgium in Heive (reported elsewhere) should ensure a retention of status in Division 2 for the Emerald Isle whilst both Denmark, 7-0 winners over Switzerland, and Norway, victors by 4-3 over Spain in Ferrol, keep the pressure on Finland whose fifth match was scheduled for Feb. 11 in Bridgend.

Scores:-  
**Denmark v Switzerland**  
C. Pedersen bt M. Hafen 10, 13;  
J. Hansen bt T. Busin -12, 15, 19;  
C. Polk bt R. Wyder 14, -16, 12;  
Hansen/Pedersen bt J. Barcikowski/Busin 14, 14;  
Pedersen/Polk bt Busin/Wyder 16, 12;  
Pedersen bt Busin -15, 17, 14;  
Hansen bt Hafen -19, 18, 8.

**Spain v Norway**  
J. M. Pales lost to F. Gierloff -16, 15, -19;  
J. Lupon lost to T. Johansen -17, 12, -12;  
P. Lupon bt K. Hagen 20, 14;  
Galvo/Kaimel bt Johansen/Gierloff 15, -16, 17;  
Lupon/Lupon bt Johansen/Hagen 12, -18, 16;  
Pales lost to Johansen -19, 18, -14;  
Lupon lost to Gierloff 13, -17, -15.

#### DIVISION ONE

	P	W	L	F	A	P
Soviet Union	5	5	0	31	4	5
Austria	5	3	1	20	15	3
Italy	5	3	2	17	18	3
Greece	5	2	3	16	19	2
Netherlands	5	2	3	15	20	2
Bulgaria	5	2	3	14	21	2
Turkey	5	2	3	12	23	2
Luxembourg	5	1	4	15	20	1

#### DIVISION TWO

	P	W	L	F	A	P
Finland	4	4	0	24	4	4
Denmark	5	4	1	24	11	4
Norway	5	4	1	22	13	4
Ireland	5	2	3	15	20	2
Spain	5	2	3	14	21	2
Switzerland	5	1	4	14	21	1
Wales	4	1	3	11	17	1
Belgium	5	1	4	9	26	1

Fixtures for Feb. 14, 1980:-

**Division 1**  
Netherlands v Turkey  
U.S.S.R. v Luxembourg  
Bulgaria v Austria  
Greece v Italy

**Division 2**  
Switzerland v Denmark  
Norway v Ireland  
Spain v Belgium

#### EUROPE CLUB CUP

Even with the assistance of Desmond Douglas, PSV Borussia Dusseldorf took their departure in the semi-final round of the Europe Club Cup when beaten 5-0 by Bp. Vasutas of Budapest, Hungary. In the other semi-final of the men's competition Bp. Spartacus, also of Hungary, beat AZS Gdansk of Poland 5-1.

#### WRONG NUMBER

The Box No. of Ken Wilkinson, Secretary of the New Zealand Table Tennis Association is 867 and not 876 as printed in the latest edition of the I.F.F.T. Handbook, the full address: New Zealand Table Tennis Association (Inc.), P.O. Box 867, Wellington, New Zealand.

#### NETHERLANDS NEWS

Bettine Vriesekoop (18) was the winner, for the fifth time, of the Limburg Coupe with eight wins to her credit and no losses. Former English international Judy Williams finished second and Sandra de Kruiff third. Miss Vriesekoop in the final had a 10, 9, 10 win over Miss Williams.

In the counterpart competition for the N.T.T.B. Cup, Nico van Slobbe was the winner, for the third time, his previous successes being in 1973 and 1977. Van Slobbe had a 16, 13, 16 win over Bert van der Helm in the final. Hans Lingen was third. Cor du Buy holds the record of most wins in this competition with 15 successes to his name. Bert v.d. Helm has won it on five occasions.

## ● STOP PRESS

# EUROPE TOP 12

## TRIUMPH FOR JILL

England's Jill Hammersley, for the second time in three years, was the winner of the Europe Top 12 women's section which was concluded in Munich on Feb. 3, her overall record being nine wins against two losses to Gabriella Szabo of Hungary, the defending champion, and Gordana Perkucin of Yugoslavia who ultimately finished eleventh.

Desmond Douglas, England's top man who a year ago in Kristianstad, Sweden, finished runner-up to Dragutin Surbek of Yugoslavia had to content himself with 4th position in Munich winning seven and losing four to the Swedish winner Stellan Bengtsson, Jacques Secretin (France), Istvan Jonyer (Hungary) and Wilfried Leick of West Germany.

Finishing positions:-

#### Men

1 S. Bengtsson (Swe), 2 U. Thorsell (Swe), 3 J. Secretin (Fra), 4 D. Douglas (Eng), 5 G. Gergely (Hu), 6 P. Stellweg (GFR), 7 W. Leick (GFR), 8 D. Surbek (Yug), 9 J. Dvoracek (Cze), 10 J. Takacs (Hu), 11 I. Jonyer (Hu), 12 Z. Kalinic (Yug).

#### Women

1 J. Hammersley (Eng), 2 B. Vriesekoop (Nth), 3 G. Szabo (Hu), 4 I. Uhlíkova (Cze), 5 E. Palatinus (Yug), 6 B. Silhanova (Cze), 7 U. Kamizuru (GFR), 8 Z. Olah (Hun), 9 A-C. Hellman (Swe), 10 J. Magos (Hun), 11 G. Perkucin (Yug), 12 C. Bergeret (Fra).

# I.T.T.F.

The following items can be obtained from the ITTF Secretariat at 53 LONDON ROAD, ST. LEONARDS-ON-SEA, EAST SUSSEX, TN37 6AY.

1. **ITTF Lapel Badges.** Produced to celebrate the ITTF's 50th Anniversary, these are brooch pin type, gilt finish, lacquered red and green, with the ITTF emblem in laurel leaves. Supplied in plastic envelope.
2. **ITTF Ties.** Good quality neckties, 105 mm wide, featuring the ITTF emblem in gold and a narrow white and gold stripe, on a red or blue background.

#### PUBLICATIONS

3. **International Table Tennis - The First Fifty Years.** This illustrated 40-page 50th Anniversary Brochure contains the history of the game and its international development, photos of World Champions, complete details of World Championships and much other information about the world-wide organisation of the sport. First published in 1976, it contains an insert bringing it up-to-date for 1979-81 and including details of the 34th and 35th World Championships.
4. **ITTF Handbook and Yearbook 1979-81 (English Edition),** comprising in one volume:

Handbook: Constitution, Disciplinary Regulations, Laws of Table Tennis, Regulations for International Competitions, Special Regulations for World Championships, complete records 1962-1979. Fully indexed.  
Yearbook: All details of current ITTF Officers, Council, Committees and Commissions, member Associations, World Classification Lists of teams and players, World

(continued on page 32)

(continued from page 30)

and Continental Championships results, Calendar of International events, etc.

5. **Handbook for Umpires.** A reference booklet giving the basic laws that apply at all levels of play, the basic regulations and recommendations for international competitions up to International Open Championships, and a specially written section of advice to umpires on the practical application of the laws, regulations and recommendations.

6. **Handbook for Referees and Competition Organisers.** This includes more detailed regulations and recommendations for international competitions which have not already been included in the Handbook for Umpires, a summary of the specific responsibilities of the referee, and guidance on various aspects of competition organisation.

7. **Table Tennis Terms.** A glossary listing the equivalents in English, French, German and Spanish of 300 of the main technical terms used in table tennis.

8. **Championships Organisation.** Produced mainly for the guidance of host Associations of World Table Tennis Championships and other major international sporting events. Revised edition 1980.

9. **ITTF Bulletin.** Issued about six times a year, this contains ITTF news, official announcements and comments, and tournament results.

10. **Laws of Table Tennis.** A pocket booklet (published by the ETTA) giving the complete laws.

#### PRICES

1. ITTF Lapel Badge 35p
2. ITTF Tie, blue £2.00  
ITTF Tie, red £2.00
3. International Table Tennis - The First Fifty Years £1.00
4. ITTF Handbook and Yearbook 1979-81 £2.00
5. Handbook for Umpires 35p
6. Handbook for Referees and Competition Organisers 35p
7. Table Tennis Terms 35p
8. Championships Organisation £1.00
9. ITTF Bulletin (subscription for six issues, airmail) £2.00
10. Laws of Table Tennis 10p

#### Note:

1. Deduct 10% discount on all orders over £10 in value, or 20% on all orders over £50.
2. Prices include U.K. or overseas SURFACE mail postage; for airmail please ask for price.
3. If remitting by cheque (or draft) on a bank outside the U.K., or in currency other than sterling, add £2.00 to cover bank charges.

## NATIONAL CLUB KNOCK-OUT CHAMPIONSHIPS

#### MEN

##### Round 3:

First team drawn plays at home

Closing date: 24th February, 1980

##### Zone 1

ST. JAMES (Carlisle) v BILLINGHAM  
COMMUNITY CENTRE (Stockton) (1)  
STOREYS SPORTS (Morecambe, Lancaster)  
BYE (2)

##### Zone 2

SAVOY (Blackpool) v PRESTON POST  
OFFICE (Preston) (1)  
WAVERTREE LABOUR CLUB (Liverpool) v  
UNITY T.T.C. (Bradford) (2)

##### Zone 3

CAVALIERS (Loughborough) v PENMAEN  
(Wyberton) (1)  
JAMES BIRKS (Potteries) v BARWELL  
LIBERALS (Wolverhampton) (2)

##### Zone 4

HANDSWORTH VICTORIA (Birmingham)  
v ST. JOHN'S (Kidderminster) (1)  
ST. ANDREW'S (Derby) v MOSELEY PARK  
(Wolverhampton) (2)

##### Zone 5

MARCH TOWN T.T.C. (March) v C.E.Y.M.S.  
(Norwich) (1)  
ROSARY (Ipswich) v DUNSTABLE T.T.C.  
(Dunstable) (2)

#### Zone 6

WOKINGHAM (Bracknell) v EXILES (High  
Wycombe) (1)  
OMEGA (Reading) v LEGION TIGERS  
(Maidenhead) (2)

#### Zone 7

GUNNERSBURY TRIANGLE (Acton) v  
NEWHAM T.T.C. CENTRE (Dagenham) (1)  
COLNE VALLEY (Braintree) v LLOYD'S  
REGISTER (Reigate, Redhill) (2)

#### Zone 8

ST. IVES (West Cornwall) v TRINITY  
(Bridgwater) (1)  
MERTON (Bournemouth) v LYCHETT  
(Poole) (2)

#### RESULTS:-

##### Round 2:

SAVOY (Blackpool) walkover against  
D.A.T.E.N. (Warrington)  
WAVERTREE LABOUR CLUB (Liverpool) 7  
UPTON VICTORY HALL (Wirral) 2  
UNITY T.T.C. (Bradford) 5  
YORK RAILWAY INSTITUTE (York) 2  
PRESTON POST OFFICE (Preston) 5  
E.L.M.P. (Bury) 2  
PENMAEN (Wyberton) 6  
NEW PREMIER (Grimsby) 3  
BARWELL LIBERALS (Leicester) 5  
PHOENIX (Coventry) 2  
DUNSTABLE T.T.C. (Dunstable) 5  
HALL CLUB (Leighton Buzzard) 2  
C.E.Y.M.S. (Norwich) 9  
WISBECH INSTITUTE (King's Lynn) 0  
WOKINGHAM (Bracknell) walkover against  
NAVY (London Civil Service)  
SPARTAN (Brighton) 4 GUNNERSBURY  
TRIANGLE (Acton) 5  
COLNE VALLEY (Braintree) walkover  
against ST. MARK'S (Ilford)  
LLOYD'S REGISTER (Reigate, Redhill)  
w.o. against P.O. SUPPLIES (Woolwich)  
NEWHAM T.T.C. CENTRE (Dagenham) 6  
ALLNUTS INSTITUTE (Harlow) 0  
LYCHETT (Poole) 5  
V.R.S. SPORTS (Portsmouth) 4  
MERTON (Bournemouth) 5  
PILGRIMS (Plymouth) 3  
ST. ANDREWS (South Devon) 2  
ST. IVES (West Cornwall) 6  
SAINTS (Exeter) 4  
TRINITY (Bridgwater) 5

#### Zone Finals Draw

Closing date: 23rd March, 1980

ZONE 1: 1 v 2  
ZONE 2: 1 v 2  
ZONE 3: 2 v 1  
ZONE 4: 2 v 1  
ZONE 5: 2 v 1  
ZONE 6: 1 v 2  
ZONE 7: 1 v 2  
ZONE 8: 2 v 1

#### WOMEN

##### Quarter-finals:

First team drawn plays at home

Closing date: 23rd March, 1980

B.M.C. CARS (March) v WOODLEY  
(Bracknell)  
MALDON (Chelmsford) v ELLENBOROUGH  
(North Middlesex)  
NEWHAM T.T.C. CENTRE (Barking) v  
OMEGA (Reading)  
CHILTON (Bridgwater) v MERTON  
(Bournemouth)

#### RESULTS:-

##### Round 1:

MALDON (Chelmsford) walkover against  
FELDBRIDGE T.T.C. (East Grinstead)  
EXETER COMMUNITY CENTRE (Exeter) 3  
CHILTON (Bridgwater) 6

##### Semi-finals:

Closing date: 27th April, 1980

MALDON (Chelmsford) or  
ELLENBOROUGH (North Middlesex) v  
B.M.C. CARS (March) or  
WOODLEY (Bracknell)  
CHILTON (Bridgwater) or  
MERTON (Bournemouth) v  
NEWHAM T.T.C. CENTRE (Barking) or  
OMEGA (Reading)

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**EDDIE GORNIK**

Photo by courtesy of Acton Gazette.

## EDDIE FIGHTS BACK

England-ranked Junior, Eddie Gorniak (15) of Middlesex, a member of the Gunnersbury Triangle TT. Club has been hit by a rare killer disease, Polyneuritis — a disease that attacks the nervous system and immobilizes the body. Eddie seems to have suffered particularly badly for initially he was almost totally paralysed having only a little movement in his arms and face and having to be put on a breathing machine.

But now, having gone through the crisis period, Eddie's chances of making a complete recovery are rated good for he is making better than anticipated progress.

A total recovery will be long, hard and painful necessitating intensive physiotherapy and rehabilitation. But since being admitted to West Middlesex Hospital he has subsequently been transferred to the National Hospital for Nervous Diseases in Queen Square, London, W.C.1, being in The Chandler (General) Ward.

Professor John Marshall, a neurology consultant at the National Hospital said: Although you can never be certain in medicine I think Eddie is 99 per cent certain to make a full recovery provided there are no further complications.

"He caught the disease very badly but is fighting off the effects and will slowly get his health back".

Eddie has been cheered by all the cards and letters he has received particularly the one sent from the Norwich Union International Championships at Brighton signed by top international players including Desmond Douglas, Paul Day, Mark Mitchell and Linda Jarvis.

Ken Muhr, the National Councillor for Cambridgeshire, is a constant visitor who can be relied upon to keep us up to date with Eddie's progress. Let us all hope it will be as speedy as possible, meantime all best wishes to you Eddie, get well soon.

Ed.

### WHAT'S ON AND WHERE

1980

March

- 1 County Championships (6).
- 2 East of England 2-Star, North Kesteven Sports Centre, North Hykeham, Lincoln (from 9.30 a.m.) Closing date 13/2/80.
- 11th Lancashire Junior 2-Star Open, Bolton Institute of Technology, Deane Road, Bolton (from 9.30 a.m.) Closing date 19/2/80.
- National League (9).

- 8 Yorkshire 2-Star Open (Bradford).
- 8/9 County of Cleveland Debenhams 6th 2-Star Junior "Select", Eston Leisure Centre, Normanby Road, Eston, Cleveland (from 9 a.m. each day) Closing date 16/2/80.
- 9 Fenland 2-Star Open (Wisbech).  
Coventry 1-Star Open.  
Scottish Open.
- 13 European League Super Division, Hungary v England.
- 15 ESTTA Team Event — National Finals, Lea Green Sports Centre, Matlock, Derbyshire.
- 15/16 Lincolnshire Junior 2-Star Open (North Hykeham).  
16 National League (10).
- 21/23 SCOTTISH OPEN (Meadowbank, Edinburgh).  
22 County Championships (7).  
23 Durham County 2-Star Open, Easington District Leisure Centre, St. Cuthbert's Road, Peterlee, Co. Durham (from 9 a.m.) Closing date 23/2/80.
- 28/29 Merseyside 2-Star Open, Kirby Sports Centre, Valley Road, Liverpool L32 4UP (6 p.m. Fri./9.30 a.m. Sat.) Closing date 7/3/80.
- 29/30 Junior Ranking Tournament (South) by invitation.  
30 National League (11).
- April
- 5/6 Yorkshire Junior 2-Star "Select", Ferens Recreation Centre, Chanterlands Avenue North, Hull.
- 5/13 EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS, Berne, Switzerland.
- 12/13 Debenhams South of England 2-Star Open, Woking Sports and Leisure Centre, Kingfield Road, Woking Surrey (from 9 a.m. each day) Closing date 10/3/80.  
Prizes: MS £250, WS £200, MD £80 ea., WD £50 ea., VS £50, U-21 MS £125, U-21 WS £80. Entry forms from Trevor Channing, 16 Hampton Close, Church Crookham, Fleet, Hants (Phone: Fleet 4821).
- 12 South Yorkshire 2-Star Open, Concord Sports Centre, Sheffield. Closing date 20/3/80.  
Prizes: MS £100, WS £80, MD £20 ea., WD £15 ea., BS £25, GS £20. Entry forms from Mr. R. Turner, 91 Overton Road, Sheffield, S6 1WH.
- 13 Bedford 1-Star.  
Wrexham Open.

### FRIENDLY MATCHES WANTED

We'd like to play one or two matches in London at the end of the present season (about May 1st, 1980) and we'd like to know to whom we could apply for the organisation of such matches. We possess a lot of young players and we'd like to meet a club counting many young elements among their affiliated members.

We would also like to know the eventual facilities concerning lodging, the travel cost is anyway chargeable to us.

I hope some interested club may find the time to send me the information I request.

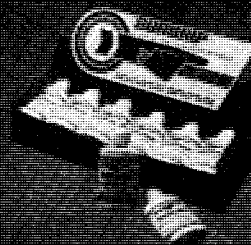
Yours sincerely,

**D. PAULUS**

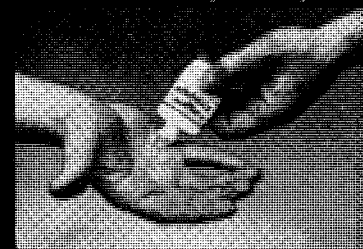
105 rue Spintay,  
4800 Verviers,  
Belgium.



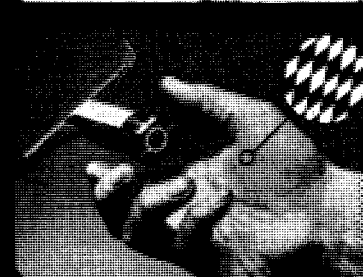
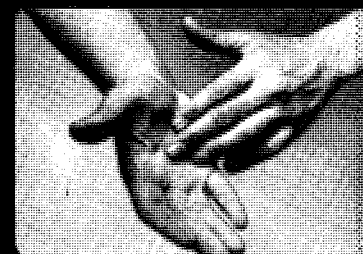
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# Christmas Charity Tournament a success

by MALCOLM HARTLEY

The Telegraph & Argus sponsored hard bat tournament held at Parkside Sports Centre on Dec. 30 was again a huge success. Proceeds of nearly £40 were handed to Councillor Ernest Saville, Chairman of the Bradford Cinderella Club. The standard of entrants was high and included eight Yorkshire-ranked players and over 20 Inter-league players.

Popular winner of the singles was Steve Mills, who dismissed John Davies (1973 champion), conquered Kevin Beadsley (1978 champion), struffed Stuart Milnes, immobilised Ivor Warner then trounced Trevor Williams (1978 champion) all without losing a game to earn the new singles trophy donated by Bradford President John Page.

The new doubles trophy was donated by contemporary Bradford players in memory of the late Eddie Payne, who died during a match earlier in December. It was especially fitting that Geoff Kelly, teamed up with another son of an Irishman, Martin Kinsella, reached the doubles final. Geoff was Eddie's doubles partner for many enjoyable years.

The other half of the doubles saw the spirit of the tournament exemplified by Graham Lynch. His bat was passed by officials, but he sportingly changed it for a traditional one, then struggled as he and Beadsley went under to Mick Holt and John Page.

Page and Holt went on to eliminate David Sykes and Trevor Williams, doubles champions of 1977 and 1978, and then Mick Stephenson and Ian Gomersal in a nail biting semi-final.

The final was a stirring contest. Page and Holt dominated the table to win the first game, then were tied down by Kelly's varied defence until Kinsella began killing the ball past them to level the games. The third game saw a repeat of the second to 10-6 then Holt stemmed the tide with three clean kills. Kelly and Kinsella countered to

lead 18-15, but a net and an edge helped to haul the score to 18-all. Page and Holt then hit with conviction to charge home at 19 in the third.

Steve Nunn — tournament organiser.

## Singles Quarter-finals:

I. Warner (Sheffield) bt N. Davies (Leeds) 16, 10.  
S. Mills (Sheffield) bt S. Milnes (Dewsbury) 18, 17.  
G. Kelly (Bradford) bt J. G. Page (Bradford) 18, 17.  
T. Williams (Sheffield) bt S. Kosmowsky (Bradford) 15, 7.

## Semi-finals:

Mills bt Warner 18, 21.  
Williams bt Kelly -12, 17, 17.

## Final:

MILLS bt Williams 16, 20.

## Doubles Semi-finals:

Page/M. Holt (Bradford) bt I. D. Gomersal/M. Stephenson (Bradford) -11, 18, 19.  
Kelly/M. Kinsella (Sheffield) bt B. McLean/R. Pedelty (Hull) 18, 11.

## Final:

PAGE/HOLT bt Kelly/Kinsella 13, -15, 19.

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

### COMPETITION REQUIRED

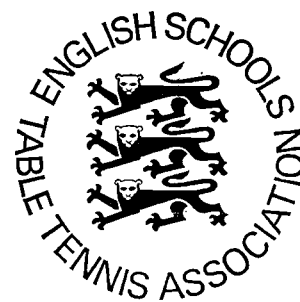
Our T.T. club is planning a journey to your country and we are looking for a suitable competition to take part in. We are wondering if anyone could help us.

**Suitable time:** If possible one of the last two weekends of March. If that's not convenient we would, however, be glad for other suggestions (March-April). The place of the competition is not very important. Almost any place will do. Our players are youths in the age between 12 and 20. Their table tennis standard: just above Swedish average.

We'd be very grateful for any help, and we're hoping for an early reply. Thanks!

DAVID HAMILTON

Djursholm BT,  
Aurav. 31,  
182 62 Djursholm,  
SWEDEN.



by David Lomas

In addition to the familiar leading schools such as Millom School, Cumbria, there are some new challengers amongst the schools which have qualified for the Regional Finals of the National School Team Championships.

The annual Championships — sponsored by Stiga and organised by the English Schools' Table Tennis Association — have again attracted a record entry. The preliminary stages — the Area Finals — were staged at twelve venues throughout the country on January 19/20.

But now the competition hots up with the staging of the three Regional Finals at Leeds, Swindon and Orpington on Sunday, Feb. 17, 1980. And then the winners from each Region fight it out in the sylvan surroundings of Lea Green Centre, Matlock, Derbyshire on Saturday, March 15th.

The new Girls' Under-11 event was not included in the preliminary stages and teams from 17 County Associations were due to kick off their contests at Wakefield, Stroud and Luton on Saturday, February 2nd. The winners will, however, line up amongst their seniors at Lea Green.

Teams qualifying from the Area Finals were as follows:-

### NORTH REGION

#### Area 1 (Bishop Auckland)

B19 Newcastle R.G.S. (Tyne & Wear)  
G19 King James, Bishop Auckland (Durham)  
B16 Slatyford, Newcastle (Tyne & Wear)  
G16 King James, Bishop Auckland (Durham)  
B13 Newcastle R.G.S. (Tyne & Wear)  
G13 Bishop Barrington (Durham)  
B11 Thornley Junior (Durham)

#### Area 2 (Leeds)

B19 Allerton Grange, Leeds (W. Yorkshire)  
G19 Allerton Grange, Leeds (W. Yorkshire)  
B16 Fairfax, Bradford (W. Yorkshire)  
G16 Parrenthorn, Prestwich (Gtr. Manchester)  
B13 Sandal Endowed, Wakefield (W. Yorkshire)  
G13 Wibsey Middle, Bradford (W. Yorkshire)  
B11 Wold Junior High, Hull (Humberside)

#### Area 3 (Fleetwood)

B19 Millom (Cumbria)  
G19 Millom (Cumbria)  
B16 Longlands, Kendal (Cumbria)  
G16 Millom (Cumbria)  
B13 Millom (Cumbria)  
G13 Cardinal Allen, Fleetwood (Lancashire)

#### Area 4 (Grantham)

B19 Frank Wheldon, Nottingham (Notts)  
G19 Netherthorpe, Staveley (Derbyshire)  
B16 King's, Grantham (Lincs)  
G16 Kesteven & Grantham (Lincs)  
B13 Fairham, Nottingham (Notts)  
G13 Tupton Hall, Chesterfield (Derbyshire)  
B11 Caistor Primary (Lincs)

### MIDLANDS & WEST REGION

#### Area 5 (Wolverhampton)

B19 Highfields, Wolverhampton (W. Midlands)  
G19 Highfields, Wolverhampton (W. Midlands)



Pictured at Parkside hard bat table tennis tournament sponsored by the T. & A., from left, Steven Nunn (organiser) presenting a cheque for the Cinderella Fund, John Page (Bradford League president with the new singles trophy he has donated), Counc. Ernest Saville (chairman of the Cinderella Club), Geoff Kelly (with the new doubles trophy in memory of his former partner, Eddie Payne) and Carol Holdsworth (Cinderella Princess).

Photo by courtesy of Telegraph and Argus, Bradford.

**B16 Moseley Park, Wolverhampton (W. Midlands)**  
**G16 Walton High, Stafford (Staffs)**  
**B13 The Grove, Market Drayton (Salop)**  
**G13 The Grove, Market Drayton (Salop)**  
**B11 Bingley Junior, Wolverhampton (W. Midlands)**

Moseley Park led by Andrew Dixon with the same outfit that won the B13 title in 1978. Bingley Junior look a strong side too.

**Area 6 (Stratford-on-Avon)**  
**B19 Higham Lane, Nuneaton (Warwicks)**  
**G19 Northampton School for Girls (Northants)**

**B16 Northampton School for Boys (Northants)**  
**G16 Milham Ford, Oxford (Oxon)**  
**B13 Sladen CE, Kidderminster (Hereford & Worcester)**

**G13 Ryelands Middle, Northampton (Northants)**  
**B11 Whitefriars Junior, Rushden (Northants)**

**Area 7 (Callington)**  
**B19 Penlee, Plymouth (Devon)**  
**G19 Bridgwater College (Somerset)**  
**B16 Exmouth (Devon)**  
**G16 Callington (Cornwall)**  
**B13 Camborne (Cornwall)**  
**B11 Camborne CE (Cornwall)**

Gary Lambert spearheads Exmouth's B16 team.

**Area 8 (Swindon)**  
**B19 Portsmouth GS (Hampshire)**  
**G19 Bournemouth School for Girls (Dorset)**  
**B16 Fareham Park, Fareham (Hampshire)**  
**G16 Charlton Park, Cheltenham (Gloucs)**  
**B13 Glen Eyre, Southampton (Hampshire)**  
**G13 Ferndale, Swindon (Wiltshire)**  
**B11 Chalford Junior, Stroud (Gloucs)**

National champions, Bournemouth School for Girls are back to try to retain the title.

**SOUTH & EAST REGION**  
**Area 9 (St. Neots)**  
**B19 Bedford Modern (Bedfordshire)**  
**G19 Longsands, St. Neots (Cambridgeshire)**  
**B16 Sprowston High, Norwich (Norfolk)**  
**G16 Manshead Upper, Luton (Bedfordshire)**  
**B13 Hereward, March (Cambridgeshire)**  
**G13 St. Felix Middle, Newmarket (Suffolk)**  
**B11 Bedford Modern (Bedfordshire)**

**Area 10 (Reading)**  
**B19 Desborough, Maidenhead (Berkshire)**  
**G19 Langley GS, Slough (Berkshire)**  
**B16 Waddesdon CE, Aylesbury (Bucks)**  
**G16 Goff's, Cheshunt (Hertfordshire)**  
**B13 St. George's College, Weybridge (Surrey County)**

**G13 Bulmershe, Reading (Berkshire)**  
**B11 Aldrynton, Reading (Berkshire)**

Competition Secretary Eddie Mitchell's forecast came unstuck when Colin Wilson's B19 team (Goff's School) went out with Brownlow losing to Fullerton.

**Area 11 (Barnet)**  
**B19 Stepney Green (Inner London)**  
**G19 Brampton Manor, Newham (Essex Met)**  
**B16 St. Paul's Way, Bow (Inner London)**  
**G16 Lister, Newham (Essex Met)**  
**B13 Stepney Green (Inner London)**  
**G13 Brampton Manor, Newham (Essex Met)**  
**B11 St. Osyth Junior, Clacton (Essex County)**

Lister (G16) are defending their national crown. Good representation for Inner London.

**Area 12 (Croydon)**  
**B19 Harvey GS, Folkestone (Kent County)**  
**G19 Tolworth Girls', Surbiton (Surrey Met)**  
**B16 Borden, Sittingbourne (Kent County)**  
**G16 Conyngham, Ramsgate (Kent County)**  
**B13 Hillcross, Morden (Surrey Met)**  
**G13 Stanford Middle, Norbury (Surrey Met)**  
**B11 Hillcross Middle, Morden (Surrey Met)**

Four of the six schools winning their way through to the next stage at Orpington have appeared in previous national finals.

Winners of the U-11 Girls' events (Regional Finals) staged on Feb. 2 were:-

**NORTH:** Wold Junior High School, Hull (Humberside)

**MIDLANDS & WEST:** Market Drayton Junior School (Salop)  
**SOUTH & EAST:** Dale Hall Primary School, Ipswich (Suffolk)

Eddie Mitchell reports that Market Drayton are a very strong side. The outstanding match was that between Lorraine Pidd of Market Drayton and Helen Lower of Merridale Primary School, Wolverhampton. Helen won the battle of the No. 1's.

John Arnold also says that the Humberside representatives, Wold Junior, are very strong with convincing wins over teams from Derbyshire, West Yorkshire and Lancashire.

County Secretaries are reminded that they are expected to indicate to the Competitions Secretary which events they are intending to enter (in the Stiga English Schools Individual Championships at Gloucester on April 26) by March 1st.

The ESTTA has re-elected the selectors for the Stiga Schools International

Championships which take place at Bradford on July 11-13. They are:-  
**Rea Balmford (Humberside)** Chairman  
**John Barber (Hereford & Worcester)**  
**Phil Burwell (West Midlands)**  
**Eddie Mitchell (Hereford & Worcester)**  
**Bob Wood (Lancashire)**

**STIGA WELSH OPEN**

As expected the Chinese players virtually swept the board except for the Men's Doubles title, at the "Stiga Welsh Open" played at Cardiff over the week-end of February 8-10th, 1980.

Desmond Douglas, the England No. 1, gave his usual impressive performance, but was eventually defeated in the semi-final of the M.S. by Wang Hui-Yuan 18-21, 21-12, 21-19, 21-15.

Jill Hammersley, sadly out of touch on this occasion, was beaten by Carole Knight. It was the first time Jill had been beaten by an English player for two years, but full marks to Carole who played extremely well.

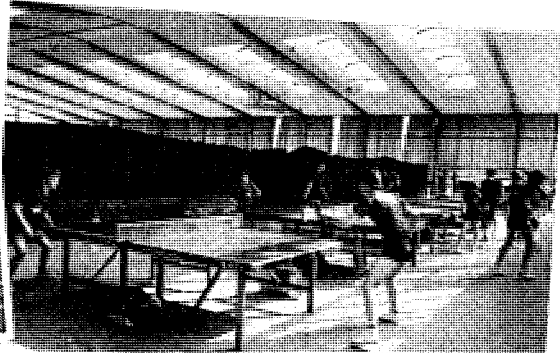
A full report of this tournament and the "Norwich Union English Championships" held at Woking will appear in the next issue of 'T.T. News'.

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 August 11th - 18th  
 August 17th - 22nd  
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# PING COMMENTARY

**JOHN WOODFORD**  
Deputy Table Tennis Correspondent,  
**THE DAILY TELEGRAPH**

\*\*\*\*\*

## AGAINST THE MEDIA!

Although it's now water under the bridge regarding the absence of Desmond Douglas at Gillingham for the Norwich Union Trophy, I notice that Mrs. Jill Hammersley has given her opinion in favour of Desmond's action and against the media response.

I fully understand his reasons for pulling out — the threat of Poland pulling off a fast one over England on their own ground was real.

But the unfortunate situation is now becoming apparent each Saturday evening on BBC2 as we watch the Top Table Series. Several people outside table tennis have said to me, "Where was Desmond?" To hundreds of thousands of people, perhaps even millions, Desmond Douglas is the man at the top in England and they find it difficult to accept as they watch the TV series that he was the man who might have won the Trophy. No one can have been more disappointed than BBC Television — they know that everyone wanted to see Desmond's flashing attack pitted against Orłowski, Dvoracek and Gergely.

Jill is now a TV personality in her own right. I feel that she is being a little severe on the media, especially TV when she says their attitude was "disgusting". How-

ever, let's hope it will not happen again, especially at such late notice which was the reason that there were so many "tears" and huge disappointment expressed on behalf of Norwich Union through the eloquence of Mike Lawless.

The present furore over the Moscow Olympics and the Prime Minister's stand against the Olympic movement's determination to proceed as planned, must remind all wise people inside our sport of the happenings at Pyongyang last year.

Mrs. Thatcher has said that the Soviet Union is going to "use" the Games as a political vehicle and there is very little opposition on that point. This proves to me and it must create the same impression with many readers that table tennis was "used" in the same way on a smaller scale by North Korea.

What really intrigues me is that the vast majority of people agree with the Prime Minister, except the Olympic officials and their supporters — can this tiny minority be right and everyone else be wrong? Or is it because they see something they have been creating for years disappearing in political dust?

## SHORT LIST FOR BERNE

The National Selection Committee have drawn up a short list of eight men and six women from whom the team to represent England in the European Championships will be chosen. Short listed (in alphabetical order) are:-

### Men

Paul Day, Desmond Douglas, John Hilton, Kenny Jackson, Nicky Jarvis, Dougie Johnson, Robert Potton, Graham Sandley.



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### Women

Jill Hammersley, Linda Jarvis, Carole Knight, Mandy Smith, Anita Stevenson, Karen Witt.

The selectors wish to consider the performances of players in the Stiga Welsh Open and the Federal German Open before announcing the squad of five men and four women to travel to Berne, Switzerland, for the European Championships taking place from the 5th to the 13th April, 1980. Therefore, the selected team will be announced on or before Feb. 27/80.

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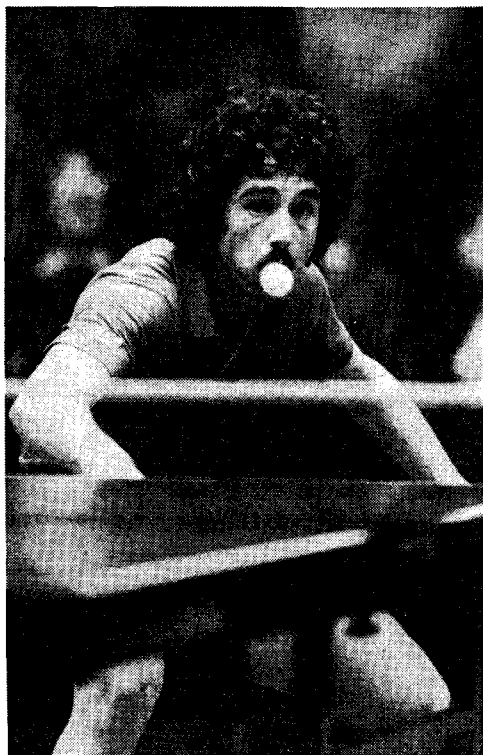
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# REVISED SENIOR RANKINGS



Warwickshire's Douggie Johnson might find it hard to swallow but yes he is up from No. 11 to No. 5 in the revised rankings.

Photo by Don Morley, Morden, Surrey.

Recent good performances by Bob Potton in the Cleveland and Middlesex 3-Star Open Championships have been taken into consideration, and Potton moves to No. 4, his

highest position ever. Douggie Johnson also moves up again to No. 5 after good International performances. There are wholesale changes at the lower end of the list with five new names appearing including returns for Mike Johns, Ian Horsham and David Brown.

In the Women's list Carole Knight's improvement of late, particularly in the French Open, means a massive leap from No. 8 to No. 2 whilst Angela Mitchell, Mandy Smith and Junior Alison Gordon are the other girls to improve their positions. Anita Stevenson, after early good results, has hit a bad patch, and it is reflected in her No. 9 ranking. Naturally both Desmond Douglas and Jill Hammersley retain their No. 1 positions.

The revised lists (previous positions in brackets) read:-

## Men

- 1 Desmond Douglas (Wa) (1)
- 2 Paul Day (Ca) (2)
- 3 John Hilton (La) (3)
- 4 Robert Potton (E) (7)
- 5 Douglas Johnson (Wa) (11)
- 6 Graham Sandley (Mi) (4)
- 7 Max Crimmins (Sy) (5)
- 8 Donald Parker (La) (9)
- 9 Nigel Eckersley (Ch) (10)
- 10 Nicky Jarvis (Cv) (6)
- 11 Kenny Jackson (E) (8)
- 12 David Constance (Ch) (16)
- 13 Denis Neale (Cv) (14)
- 14 Mark Mitchell (Mi) (15)
- 15 David Barr (Bk) (13)
- 16 John Souter (Mi) (—)
- 17 Skylet Andrew (E) (—)
- 18 Mike Johns (Ch) (—)
- 19 Ian Horsham (E) (—)
- 20 David Brown (E) (—)

## Women

- 1 Jill Hammersley (Bu) (1)
- 2 Carole Knight (Cv) (8)
- 3 Karen Witt (Bk) (3)
- 4 Mandy Smith (Bk) (7)
- 5 Angela Mitchell (Mi) (6)
- 6 Melody Ludi (Y) (5)
- 7 Alison Gordon (Bk) (13)
- 8 Linda Jarvis (Sy) (4)
- 9 Anita Stevenson (Le) (2)
- 10 Karen Rogers (Le) (10)

- 11 Suzanne Hunt (Li) (9)
- 12 Sally Midgley (Y) (14)

Omitted from the previous list are David Wells (Mi) (12), Peter McQueen (Sy) (17), Keith Richardson (Ca) (18), David Newman (E) (19) and Colin Wilson (Mi) (20) together with Claire Maisey (Wi) (11) and Helen Williams (Mi) in a shortened women's list.

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

### REPLY MERITED

John Woodford's opening story (January issue) about a new "glossy" table tennis magazine being published from next September merits a reply — if only to correct his "Big Brother" impression.

My company currently publish, among other things, three racquet sport monthlies TENNIS TODAY, BADMINTON and SQUASH, the first two titles being the official journals of their respective associations. It was only natural that we should consider completing our racquet sport circle of publications by looking at table tennis.

Over a year ago we made contact with the E.T.T.A. and advised them of our interest. We were invited to submit a proposal and although I am not prepared to divulge its total contents, we did state quite emphatically that we would hope and wanted Mr. George Yates to be involved in our project. In a personal letter from me to George Yates way back in August last year I reiterated this statement and suggested an early meeting. Mr. Yates, as was his prerogative, did not reply and I therefore assumed that he was not interested.

On January 18 this year my company formally agreed to publish TABLE TENNIS as from September. It is our intention to publish monthly and follow the editorial style of our three existing sporting magazines. The magazine will be available from newsagents or by direct subscription. It will contain colour, this enabling us to produce editorial photographs in their true glory. I would refute that we produce "glossy" magazines. Professionally written and well printed they definitely are, but glossy is more a term associated with Vogue.

It is not our intention to "kill" Table Tennis News and in due course your readers will more appreciate this statement. Suffice to say here that the Badminton Association of England published Badminton Gazette for over fifty years. The B.A. of E. invited us, as professional publishers, to take over the financial responsibility and in March 1979, BADMINTON (incorporating Badminton Gazette) was born. The Editor of the old Gazette, a full-time teacher is now Badminton's Consultant Editor. The B.A. of E. now have, although I say it myself, an excellent monthly publication and everything works smoothly and amicably.

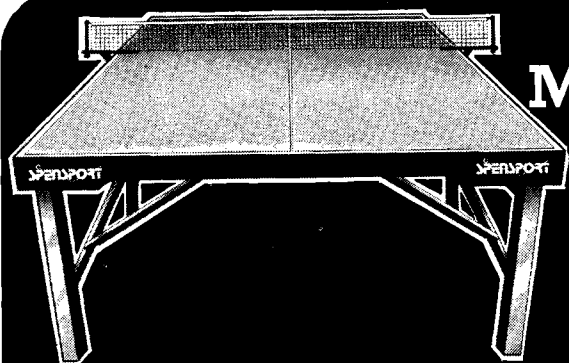
I trust you will give space to this letter in your next issue and I would always be pleased to give John Woodford, or any other of your correspondents, any further information required.

JOHN ROBERTS,  
Managing Director.

Marsh Publications Ltd.,  
77 Great Peter Street,  
Victoria, London SW1P 2EZ.

There has been correspondence between the Editor and Mr. Henry Wancke, a director of Marsh Publications Ltd., and the letter from Mr. Roberts is acknowledged. But until such times as the question is resolved as to whether the E.T.T.A. continues with its own magazine or have it, in some yet to be determined degree, within a commercial publication no answer can be afforded Mr. Roberts. The topic is due for further consideration at the next meeting of the National Council on April 19.

ED.



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# 'NATURAL JUSTICE'

by A. J. H. WICKENS

1. It appears from some of the cases which have come before the E.T.T.A. Board of Appeal that County Associations might find the following note on the "rules of natural justice" helpful.

2. With the increasing tendency of people in the sports world to consider recourse to the Courts, it is important for sports bodies in the exercise of disciplinary or quasi-judicial (e.g. deciding appeals) functions to be careful not only to act in accordance with their own rules but also to observe the rules of natural justice. The domestic rules of each organisation vary, and if they are clearly drawn those responsible for administering them should be able to ensure that the organisation acts in accordance with its own rules (and it cannot be emphasised too strongly than an organisation should be very careful to act in accordance with its own rules), but the "rules of natural justice" are another matter; they are the principles the non-observance of which is the most common reason for a Court to assume jurisdiction and interfere in the domestic affairs of an organisation such as a trade union, a private club or a sports organisation or association. The rules of natural justice are broad principles which are not defined in detail, so it is often difficult to advise whether a Court is likely to decide that there has been a breach, and even if there has, whether the Court will interfere in the domestic affairs of a club. However, it is wise to take what steps are possible to avoid the likelihood of being taken to Court (or even of being likely to

fail in a domestic appeal) — quite apart from it being quicker and simpler to deal domestically with issues arising "within" the table tennis organisation, being taken to Court is expensive, time consuming, bad publicity and a harrowing and discouraging worry for voluntary officials.

3. The "rules of natural justice" are two — any "additional" ones will on examination be found to be only extensions of the two basic ones —

1. No-one may be judge in his own cause.

2. Everyone is entitled to the opportunity to put his case to the adjudicating body before a decision is reached.

"Justice must not only be done, but must manifestly and undoubtedly be seen to be done".

4. Rule (1): This principle makes it important that if a member of a Committee is involved with the matter being dealt with, he should not be permitted to have any say in the decision being arrived at (nor should his wife or anyone closely related); and care needs to be taken to avoid any suggestion that such a person is treated any differently from someone who is not a member of the Committee (no-one must even seem to be a judge in his own cause). In such a situation the best course may often be to appoint a sub-committee to act, on which are appointed to serve only people who clearly have no connection with the matter under consideration. If it is a decision of the Committee itself which is in question, an independent body should deal with the matter. The adjudicating body must be seen to act in good faith.

5. Rule 2: To be able to put his case, a person must know what he is being accused of or called upon to answer for; if he is not given sufficient details for that purpose

there may well be a breach of principle (2).

If oral evidence is being accepted from a witness, the other party must be given the opportunity to question the witness; evidence must not be heard in the absence of a party (unless the party is deliberately absent, or is absent having been given the opportunity to be present); in addition there may be cases of a nature such that it is not proper to accept written evidence because the person sending written evidence should be available to be questioned. That is not to say that the adjudicating body should never accept written evidence, but it is better to err on the side of being careful.

Another extension of the principle (2) is that a person must be given proper notice of the hearing, otherwise he has not really been given the opportunity to put his case.

A person must not be punished for something he has not been charged with — it is not uncommon for those seeking to have someone punished for alleged misbehaviour to refer (or seek to refer) to other instances of alleged misbehaviour, and expect him to be punished for those as well, even though he has not been charged with them. The adjudicating body should be careful to award punishment only in respect of what the offender has been charged with.

6. Despite the common (but often inaccurate) use of the term "natural justice" the rules of natural justice are lawyer's rules and are not just "fairness" dressed up in legal language. However, "fairness" is to be recommended and there are some principles the breach of which might encourage a Court to find a reason to interfere; one such — do not invent a crime after it has been "committed" and then punish the "offender"; a person is entitled to be able to judge a course of action by the rules in force at the time of the action.



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(continued from page 43)

Tony Sanderson lost 100% record to Thomas -17, 20, 16. Lincs played Lancs and Cumbria same day. Gillian Sharpe most successful won both Girls' Singles and still 100%. Lancs won all Boys' Singles to ensure Lancs win. Stephen Scowcroft also unbeaten against Cheshire but P. Flint ensured success for latter. Lincs drew with Cumbria when Simon Pullen beat Tony Pachul in final set.

**DIVISION JUNIOR 2 MIDLAND**

Bedfordshire 5 Gloucestershire 5  
Cambridgeshire 9 Warwickshire 1  
Glamorgan 5 Worcestershire 5

Leicestershire 2 Nottinghamshire 8

Cams look certain to take title. 9-1 win over previously unbeaten Warwicks. Two more draws — seven out of 16 matches played and four others 6-4. Bellinger sisters kept up their 100% Girls' Singles and Girls' Doubles against Gloucs but Andrew Golding ensured they took a point. Jeremy Duffield outstanding for Worcs in match with Glamorgan.

**JUNIOR 3 SOUTH**

Oxfordshire 5 Kent II 5

Sussex II 4 Berkshire II 6

Kent fielded ineligible player against Oxon — score amended from 6-4 to 5-5. Two wins by Peter Venis not enough to gain a point for Sussex against Berks, now only team with 100%.

**JUNIOR 3 NORTH**

Durham 9 Cumbria II 1

D. Goldbold (Durham) outstanding and still unbeaten.

**JUNIOR 3 NORTH MIDLAND**

Derbyshire II 9 Clwyd II 1

Staffordshire II 6 Shropshire 4

Derbyshire and Staffs — top teams — both won again. Derbys lost only the last set — Stephen Young and Allen Cooke still to lose. Staffs won but not so easily (against Shrops). P. Dilger beat I. Smith -17, 14, 21 and C. Bakewell beat A. Cheetham 16, -16, 20 — and these were the first and third sets!

**JUNIOR 3 EAST MIDLAND**

Huntingdonshire 6 Cambridgeshire II 4

Northamptonshire 10 Lincolnshire II 0

Hunts, with Graham Dale outstanding, just got home despite a fine display by Julian Wheel. Leaders Northants rarely troubled against Lincs.

**JUNIOR 3 SOUTH MIDLANDS**

Avon 6 Devon III 4

Shropshire II 5 Gwent 5

Andy Creed and Paul Jackson played well Avon should top this division. G. Wilkins outstanding in Shrops-Gwent match but D. Boughley had a fine match for Shrops.

**JUNIOR 3 EAST**

Norfolk II 4 Hertfordshire II 6

Essex III 8 Bedfordshire II 2

Philip Logsdon good for Norfolk but Herts better all round. Andrew Conquest won two for Beds against Essex but that was all they could take. Paul Sayer unbeaten in Singles and Doubles for Essex.

**JUNIOR 3 WEST**

Devon II 10 Hampshire II 0

The scoreline tells it all. Only the Boys' Doubles produced a close finish.

**VETERAN SOUTH**

Kent II 6 Hertfordshire II 3

Middlesex 5 Essex II 4

The win by Middlesex may well have clinched the title for them. D. Smith unbeaten for Middlesex with Miss Pemberton still unbeaten 100% for Essex. Kent II gained their first win thanks largely to B. Maxted.

**VETERAN MIDLAND**

Lincolnshire 9 Clwyd 0

**Cheshire II 5 Cumbria 4**

Lincolnshire not really troubled but Don Hobbs — who travelled from Angelsey to Gainsborough did at least take Peter Skerratt to three. Cumbria's elegant Eddie O'Hara had two good wins and Clarice Rose was also unbeaten. Terry Donlan beat Bill Robinson 17, -18, 22 with Cumbria leading 1-0 — could have made all the difference.

**VETERAN EAST**

Berkshire 6 Hertfordshire I 3

Essex I 9 Bedfordshire 0

Essex haven't dropped a set yet and even Jim Wooliscroft was unable to win, although he did take Laurie Fountain to 19, -12, 18. But that was that. A. Foster spear-headed Berkshire's victory over Hertfordshire.

**VETERAN WEST**

Hampshire 8 Dorset II 1

Somerset 4 Wiltshire 5

Worcestershire 5 Avon I 4

Dorset I 7 Avon II 2

Hampshire continued on their triumphant way against Dorset II, only the Women's Singles escaped them. But Dorset I's 7-2 victory over Avon II keeps them well in contention. Cyril Bush and Fred Kershaw are still 100%. Wiltshire got off the mark with B. Freeman being the outstanding player. Mervyn Wood played well for Worcs against Avon where K. Watts, previously without a win, celebrated in style and won two!

**SENIOR PREMIER DIVISION**

	P	W	L	F	A	P
Middlesex .....	5	5	0	36	9	10
Cheshire .....	7	5	2	36	27	10
Yorkshire .....	7	4	3	39	24	8
Essex .....	4	3	1	26	10	6
Warwickshire .....	5	3	2	28	19	6
Glamorgan .....	4	1	3	14	22	2
Kent .....	5	1	4	12	33	2
Cleveland .....	7	0	7	9	54	0

**NEW DEVELOPMENT OFFICER**

Robert Oldfield is the newly appointed Development Officer of the E.T.T.A. being hopeful of commencing his duties at the end of the month or as soon thereafter as he can obtain his release from his teaching duties in Bristol.

His involvement in table tennis began when, at the age of thirteen, he joined the Britannia Table Tennis Club in Ipswich. The club was soon to acquire purpose-built premises and he spent his next five years at The Dome playing Ipswich League table tennis and later, inter-town and Suffolk Junior and Senior matches.

At this time he felt the importance of young players involving themselves in the administration of the game and he became a league and inter-town match secretary and a member of the club executive. Before leaving Ipswich, Suffolk Juniors gained promotion to the Premier Division and his school, Northgate Grammar School for Boys, became E.S.T.T.A. Under-19 Champions.

At University Robert ended his first term by winning the English Universities' (UAU) Individual Championship and over his five years at Bath University represented the UAU on several occasions as well as taking part in the administration of sport at University and national University level. He continued to play league table tennis in the Bath and Bristol leagues and first represented Avon in 1975.

After obtaining a degree in Chemistry and a Postgraduate certificate in Education he became a teacher in Bristol and took on the position of Avon Press Officer, his first event being the 'TSP Kohno v Douglas Exhibition' at Bath Sports Centre. A 1-Star

Diploma coach and a County Umpire, this season he was appointed as Avon's first team captain and secretary of Avon Schools' T.T.A.



**ROBERT OLDFIELD**

Photo by courtesy of Bristol United Press.

**News from the Trade**

**ALISON CONQUERS KENT**

Alison Gordon, the young table tennis star from Reading, is certainly on good form this season. Having carried off all three English Junior Titles just before Christmas, Alison, who is sponsored by the well-known sports company Halexport, recently added the Kent Open 2-Star singles title to her impressive list. In the final of the tournament, which was held at Folkestone, she beat her old rival Mandy Reeves from Middlesex. As Alison herself admits, now that she has the Junior Championship title under her belt, she is chasing the top three women in the country and setting her sights on the No. 1 position!

**NEW APPOINTMENT AT TSP SPORTS**

TSP Sports Europe Ltd., have appointed Mike Johns as Marketing Manager for the U.K. as from January 1st, 1980. Mike, who previously worked as Sales Director for Kenways Ltd., has many years experience in the Sports trade in various capacities, dealing in particular with Table Tennis products.

He will be responsible for both sales and promotion of the TSP comprehensive range of Table Tennis equipment and Clothing.

A former England International, Mike still plays at County and National Club League level, and organizes the Reading Centre of Excellence for the E.T.T.A.

In this latter capacity, Mike was involved in the testing of the new TSP ASTOLL Rubber recently introduced into this country, and his experience both as a player and in the sports business will strengthen the service that the Company can now provide to players at all levels of the game. He will be based at the TSP London Offices at Putney, and can be contacted on 01-870 8641.

# County Championships Round-up

by PHILIP REID

## CLEARER PICTURE

With the latest set of Premier Division matches played, a clearer picture has emerged. Middlesex must now be hot favourites to win the title whilst at the other end of the chart Cleveland are relegated. They will be joined by either Kent or Glamorgan who have still to play each other. In Men's Singles only Bob Potton (Essex) still 100%. Yorkshire — who won every Women's Singles spoilt Angela Mitchell's 100% when Melody Ludi beat her. Warwicks a bit unlucky against Cheshire. Four sets went to 18 in the third or closer and Cheshire won the lot (or were Cheshire just better under pressure?). Excitement in the Yorks-Middlesex match. With the score 4-4, Graham Sandley beat Clem Lo 21, -20, -21.

## PREMIER DIVISION

### Essex 9 Glamorgan 0

I. Horsham bt G. Davies 19, -15, 19;  
bt P. Harry 10, 17.

R. Potton bt Davies 16, 18;  
bt J. Morgan 15, 9.

D. Newman bt Morgan 12, 8;  
bt Harry 11, 16.

Mrs. E. Foulds bt Miss S. Jones 17, -16, 16.  
Potton/Newman bt Davies/Morgan 19, 14.  
Horsham/Foulds bt Harry/Jones 18, 19.

### Cleveland 3 Kent 6

D. Alderson lost to J. Kennedy -19, -14;  
lost to J. Burleton -18, 18, -19.

T. Martin lost to Kennedy -19, -20;  
bt C. Morris 16, 18.

P. Ward lost to Burleton -22, -14;  
lost to C. Morris -13, -19.

Miss J. Williams bt Miss E. Bolton 11, 13.  
Martin/Alderson lost to Kennedy/Burleton  
-15, 19, -18.

Ward/Williams bt Morris/Bolton 15, 17.

### Warwickshire 5 Yorkshire 4

D. Johnson bt A. Clayton 12, 8;  
bt S. Mills 19, 11.

D. Munt lost to Clayton -10, -10;  
bt C. Lo 12, 17.

P. Glynn lost to Mills -15, -19;  
bt Lo 17, 17.

Miss K. Groves lost to Miss M. Ludi  
-14, 13, -15.

Johnson/Munt bt Mills/Lo 17, -12, 13.  
Glynn/Groves lost to Clayton/Ludi -21, -20.

### Cheshire 2 Middlesex 7

N. Eckersley bt M. Mitchell 24, 17;  
bt G. Sandley -17, 14, 11.

M. Johns lost to Mitchell -21, -14;  
lost to J. Souter -19, 15, -15.

M. Hankey lost to Sandley -6, -6;  
lost to Souter -20, -15.

J. Deakin lost to Miss A. Mitchell 18, -15, -10.  
Eckersley/Hankey lost to Mitchell/Sandley  
11, -16, -15.

Johns/Deakin lost to Souter/Mitchell  
-15, 10, -18.

### Cheshire 6 Warwickshire 3

N. Eckersley bt D. Johnson 16, 19;  
bt D. Munt 13, 20.

M. Johns bt Johnson -17, 16, 18;  
lost to P. Glynn -25, -20.

M. Hankey lost to Munt -12, -8;  
lost to Glynn -14, -12.

Miss J. Deakin bt Miss K. Groves 16, -19, 18.  
Eckersley/Hankey bt Johnson/Munt  
-13, 14, 19.

Johns/Deakin bt Glynn/Groves 18, -19, 23.

### Kent 2 Yorkshire 7

J. Kennedy lost to A. Clayton -11, -17;  
lost to S. Mills -18, -19.

J. Burleton lost to Clayton -10, -4;  
lost to C. Lo -18, -19.

C. Morris lost to Mills 17, -7, -16;  
bt Lo 3, 19.

Miss E. Bolton lost to Miss M. Ludi -15, -12.  
Burleton/Kennedy lost to Lo/Mills -19, -18.  
Morris/Bolton bt Kennedy/Ludi 14, -6, 20.

### Middlesex 9 Cleveland 0

M. Mitchell bt D. Alderson 15, 13;  
bt T. Martin 17, 16.

G. Sandley bt Alderson 15, 14;  
bt P. Ward 19, -13, 12.

J. Souter bt Ward 7, 13;  
bt Martin -18, 11, 19.

Miss A. Mitchell bt Miss J. Williams  
19, -11, 12.

Mitchell/Sandley bt Alderson/Martin 17, 6.  
Souter/Mitchell bt Ward/Williams 18, 15.

### Cleveland 4 Cheshire 5

D. Alderson bt M. Johns w/o;  
lost to N. Eckersley -19, -13.

T. Martin lost to Eckersley -9, -11;  
lost to M. Hankey -13, 12, -22.

P. Ward bt M. Johns w/o;  
lost to Hankey -19, 20, -14.

Miss J. Williams bt Miss J. Deakin 17, -19, 9.  
Alderson/Martin lost to Eckersley/Hankey  
-11, -15.

Ward/Williams bt Johns/Deakin w/o.

### Yorkshire 4 Middlesex 5

A Clayton lost to M. Mitchell -9, -15;  
lost to G. Sandley 8, -19, -19.

S. Mills bt Mitchell 8, 18;  
bt J. Souter 14, 17.

C. Lo lost to Sandley -21, 20, -21;  
lost to Souter 20, -6, -14.

Miss M. Ludi bt Miss A. Mitchell 18, -17, 15.  
Mills/Lo lost to Mitchell/Sandley 18, -12, -7.  
Clayton/Ludi bt Souter/Mitchell 19, 15.

### Warwickshire 7 Kent 2

D. Johnson bt J. Kennedy 14, 13;  
bt J. Burleton 12, 13.

D. Munt lost to Kennedy -19, -17;  
bt C. Morris 17, 17.

P. Glynn bt Burleton 12, 14;  
bt Morris -18, 15, 16.

Miss K. Groves lost to Miss E. Bolton  
-20, -17.

Johnson/Munt bt Kennedy/Burleton  
-15, 13, 8.

Glynn/Miss Groves bt Morris/Miss Bolton  
13, 8.

## DIVISION 2 SOUTH

### Middlesex II 4 Essex II 6

### Hertfordshire I 6 Sussex I 4

### Kent II 2 Surrey I 8

A good win by Herts over Sussex was helped by two wins by Richard Jermyn. With Surrey winning 8-2 against Kent, the latter are in a very strong position to win the title. Peter McQueen still 100% for Surrey.

## DIVISION 2 NORTH

### Durham 7 Derbyshire 3

### Lancashire I 6 Cheshire II 4

### Northumberland 6 Lincolnshire 4

Durham had a good win over Derbyshire which appears to have put the latter out of the reckoning. Martin Kinsella on form for Derbyshire with two competent wins but Philip Vickers is struggling — only one win out of six so far. I. Svenson chipped in with two wins for Durham. Lancashire lost four Men's Singles but still beat Cheshire II. Don Parker won two — Jean Parker unbeaten in singles or doubles this season. Despite Brian Hill being involved in three wins, Lincs. still lost to Northumberland for whom Ian Robertson played well.

## DIVISION 2 MIDLAND

### Glamorgan II 5 Worcestershire 5

### Gwent 6 Gloucestershire 4

### Staffordshire 8 Warwickshire II 2

Vital match between top two teams Staffs and Warwicks a bit disappointing. Staffs won 8-2. Andrew Bellingham and Janet Carr outstanding. Worcs three down but drew with Glamorgan, newcomer T. Washington winning two for Worcs. Last month

I said Gwent lost all the Women's events against Glamorgan — in fact they won a Women's Singles — sorry!!

## DIVISION 2 EAST

### Cambridgeshire 5 Suffolk 5

### Norfolk 6 Bedfordshire 4

### Leicestershire 8 Buckinghamshire 2

This draw by Cambs virtually puts them out of the running. John Kitchener and Stuart Palmer responsible for all Suffolk sets. Doug Bennett and Neville Graver never troubled against Beds but Lisa Bellinger and Barbara Hammond took all the women's events.

## DIVISION 2 WEST

### Avon 2 Devon 8

### Hampshire 3 Berkshire 7

### Wiltshire 7 Somerset 3

Andy Creed involved in both Avon wins but Devon, particularly Paul Whiting and Mike Shearman too strong. Berks — who must surely be favourites beat Hants 7-3 but what an asset young Carl Prean (straight-game wins over Graham Outram and David Reeves) will be to new Isle of Wight county team. Kevin Satchell still 100% for Wilts but the team probably not strong enough all round to challenge this year.

## DIVISION 3 SOUTH

### Hertfordshire II 0 Sussex II 10

Only Men's Doubles (11, -22, 21) really exciting.

## DIVISION 3 EAST

### Norfolk II 5 Suffolk II 5

### Bedfordshire II 4 Norfolk II 6

### Suffolk II 4 Hertfordshire III 6

### Huntingdonshire 1 Cambridgeshire II 9

Norfolk came back from 0-4 to draw with Suffolk. D. Henderson two wins for Suffolk. Norfolk went one better against Beds with P. Tye and D. Smith the stars. Herts maintained their Championship challenge with a win at Ipswich. Alan Lamprell showed he's still a player to be reckoned with — involved in three wins. Cambs, though, won 9-1 against Hunts after losing the first set and must be favourites. Robert Swift and Amanda Judd never troubled.

## DIVISION 3 NORTH MIDLANDS

### Derbyshire II 4 Nottinghamshire I 6

### Shropshire 3 Leicestershire II 7

Notts won from 2-4 down, Kevin Edwards outstanding. Malcolm Green easily the best player in Shrops-Leics match.

## DIVISION 3 SOUTH MIDLANDS

### Oxfordshire 6 Northamptonshire II 4

One of the closest divisions — anything could happen. Oxon stopped Northants making it three draws in a row. Northants won both Women's Singles but Chilvers and Alcock ensured Oxon win.

## DIVISION 3 WEST

### Cornwall 8 Avon 2

### Somerset II 2 Hampshire II 8

Cornwall 0-2 down, won 8-2. Nobody bothered John Bassett. What service he has given Cornwall! Hants had easy win with Ramish Bhalla, Martin Gilbert and Gary Longland all unbeaten.

## DIVISION JUNIOR 2 SOUTH

### Buckinghamshire I 7 Essex II 3

### Hertfordshire I 5 Surrey II 5

Essex played ineligible player with the result going from 6-4 to Essex to 7-3 to Bucks. Herts and Surrey had close match. Each won 3BS, 1GS and a doubles.

## DIVISION JUNIOR 2 NORTH

### Lancashire 7 Lincolnshire 3

### Cumbria 5 Lincolnshire 5

### Clywd 4 Yorkshire II 6

### Lancashire 4 Cheshire 6

Yorkshire maintained their 100% record but only just. Mark Thomas outstanding for Welsh team but Tykes took all girls' events.

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