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FALL IN LINE

It is becoming more and more evident that the Norwich Union International Championships, or English Open Championships as they were formerly known, are being cold-shouldered by the major European Associations --- not to mention our friends from the Far East - as witness the paucity of star players from this season's event at Brighton.

For some considerable time the European Table Tennis Union has been urging member associations to run their national open championships on a biennial basis this in view of a congested calendar. It is suggested by that august body that the English Table Tennis Association and the Table Tennis Tennis Association of Wales should alternate their major championships and now might well be the time to consider such an arrangement.

Quite apart from the ever-escalating costs of staging such championships, it is also becoming more and more costly for foreign associations to finance teams for more than one visit to the United Kingdom per season.

Now that Hungary and Yugoslavia, Czechoslovakia and Federal Germany, Rumania and Poland, Italy and Spain and, as more recently announced, France and Sweden (Scandinavian Open) have agreed to operate biennially the time has really come to give serious consideration for England and Wales to fall in line.

Further pruning has been afforded by Austria, Belgium The Netherlands and Switzerland who, henceforward, will operate on a quadrangular basis - once every four years!

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ENGLAND SAFE

As reported in last month's issue England's 5-2 victory over Poland in War-saw on Dec. 6 should ensure yet another season of **Super Division** play in the **Euro**season of Super Division play in the Euro-pean League. Hungary, as predicted, remain the favourites to relieve Czechoslovakia of their championship title and so become the first recipients of the Jupp Schlaf Cup — a trophy, duly inscribed, having been presented to Mr. Schlaf, on the occasion of his sixtieth birthday which was celebrated in Frankfurt on Nov. 23, by his colleagues on both the Executive and Management Committees of the European Table Tennis IInion

In Budapest, on Dec. 6, Hungary, after leading 3-0 over Sweden, eventually won 4-3 their victory being secured in the penulti-mate set when Tibor Klampar brought off his second singles success at the expense of Ulf Carlsson. Earlier Klampar had beaten Stellan Bengtsson in the opening set which was followed by wins for Gabor Gergely (over Carlsson) and by Judit Magos over Ann-Christin Hellman. Individual scores:-

T. Klampar bt S. Bengtsson -17, 19, 14; G. Gergely bt U. Carlsson 14, 17; J. Magos bt A-C Hellman -13, 18, 18;

- Gergely/I. Jonyer lost to Carlsson/
- Bengtsson -11, -16;
- Jonyer/G. Szabo lost to Bengtsson/E. Stromvall -19, -15; Klampar bt Carlsson 18, 17; Gergely lost to Bengtsson 13, -19, -15.

On the same night, in Nis, Czechoslovakia maintained their challenge and hopes of a title retention by beating Yugoslavia by a like score their victory coming in the final set when Milan Orlowski got the better of Damir Jurcic over three games. Prior to Dragutin Surbek had blasted his way through both Orlowski and Josef Dvoracek and, Stipancic and Erzebet Palatinus had beaten Orlowski and Maria Hrachova in the mixed. Scores:-

- D. Surbek bt M. Orlowski 16, 12; D. Jurcic lost to J. Dvoracek 21, -8, -16; E. Palatinus lost to M. Hrachova 18, -11, -14;
- A. Stipancic/Surbek lost to Orlowski/J. Pansky -13, 19, -14; Stipancic/Palatinus bt Orlowski/Hrachova

21, 17; Surbek bt Dvoracek 16, 13; Jurcic lost to Orlowski 15, -10, -17.

Still searching for their first victory Federal Germany were beaten 4-3 by France at home in Nierstein, again on Dec. 6. Lead-ing 3-1 with victories by Wilfried Lieck over Jacques Secretin; Ursula Kamizuru (nee Hirschmuller) over Claude Bergeret and by Jochen Leiss and Peter Stellwag in the men's doubles over Secretin and Patrick Birocheau a home win looked certain Birocheau a home win looked certain.

But it was not to be as first the former world mixed title holders Secretin and Miss Bergeret beat Ralf Wosik and Mrs. Kamizuru and then Christian Martin squared the match score with a tight win over Lieck. All then rested on the final set which was won, 21-16 in the third, by



Secretin over Engelbert Huging. Details:-W. Lieck bt J. Secretin 15, -9, 15; E. Huging lost to C. Martin -15, 14, -11; U. Kamizuru bt C. Bergeret 20, 13;

- J. Leiss/P. Stellwag bt Birocheau/Secretin 15. 15
- R. Wosik/Kamizuru lost to Secretin/ Bergeret -13, -18; Lieck lost to Martin -15, -21; Huging lost to Secretin 15, -6, -16.

SUPER DIVISION

	Р	W	\mathbf{L}	F	Α	\mathbf{P}
Hungary		4	0	20	8	4
Czechoslovakia	4	3	1	18	10	3
France	4	3	1	12	16	3
England	4	2	2	15	13	2
Sweden	4	2	2	15	13	2
Yugoslavia	4	2	2	15	13	2
Poland		0	4	10	18	0
Fed. Germany	4	0	4	7	21	0

Matches scheduled for Jan. 17/'80 are:-

France v Hungary (Nimes) Sweden v Poland Czechoslovakia v England (Pribram) Yugoslavia v Federal Germany (Belgrade) DIVISION ONE

In Herson the Soviet Union continued their winning ways by defeating Greece 6-1 the one to escape them being the second set when Valery Shevchenko was beaten by Konstantin Priftis. This, indeed, was the only set requiring three games. Scores:-

I. Solopov by D. Zikos 10, 6

V. Shevchenko lost to K. Priftis 8, -11, -18; V. Popova bt F. Galanou 11, 8; M. Kreeris/Shevchenko bt Priftis/Zikos 16, 16;

Shevchenko/Popova bt Zikos/Galanou 12. 12:

Solopov bt Priftis 15, 12; Shevchenko bt Zikos 14, 18.

At home to Turkey in Remich, Luxem-bourg were beaten 4-3 only Camille Putz winning a men's singles. Scores:-

- A. Hartmann lost to V. Aleksandridis

- -20, -17; C. Putz bt O. Cimen 14, 17; C. Risch bt D. Candemir 8, 15; Hartmann/Putz lost to Aleksandridis/Cimen -20. 16. -14:

Hartmann/Risch bt Cimen/Candemir

- -20, 16, 13; Hartmann lost to Cimen 21, -12, -14;
 - Putz lost to Aleksandridis -18, -16.

A similar result was inflicted on the Netherlands in Monfort where Austria triumphed 4-3 to leave the Dutch still floundering with but one success to their name, that by 4-3 over Greece. Scores in Montfort were Montfort were:-

- A. Vlieg lost to E Amplatz -12, -16; R. Hijne lost to F. Waldhausl -17, 19, -18; B. Vriesekoop bt D. Fetter 17, 12; J. v. Spanje/R. v. Spanje lost to Amplatz/ G. Muller -14, -12;
- R. Spanje/Vriesekoop lost to Muller/Fetter -18, -18; Vlieg bt Waldhausl 18, 18;

Still awaited is the result sheet from Italy who on Dec. 6, were to have played Bulgaria. Divisional table:-

	Р	w	L	Ъ.	Α	Р	
Soviet Union	4	4	0	26	2	4	
Austria	4	3	1	18	10	3	
Greece		2	2	15	13	2	
Turkey	4	2	2	9	19	2	
Luxembourg	4	1	3	13	15	1	
Italy	3	1	2	8	13	1	
Bulgaria	3	1	2	6	15	1	
Netherlands	4	1	3	10	18	1	

Matches for Jan. 17 are:-Luxembourg v Netherlands (Dudelange) Austria v Soviet Union (Judenburg) Bulgaria v Greece Turkey v Italy

DIVISION TWO

As reported elsewhere Ireland and Wales are not enjoying the best of seasons, the former going down 3-4 to Spain in Lima-vady on Dec. 5 and the latter beaten 6-1 away to Switzerland. Both countries can only boast one win with an identical set average of 11 for and 17 against from four matches but beneath them are Belgium whose set tally from four matches only totals six

Finland head the division being the only unbeaten side their latest result being a "whitewash" over Belgium in Helsinki on Dec. 6. Scores:-

J. Ikonen bt L. Belien 18, -12, 8;

J. Jokinen bt M. Eygemans 18, 17; M. Grefberg bt B. Lippens 7, 17; Ikonen/Jokinen bt Belien/Eygemans 18, 13;

Jokinen/Grefberg bt Belien/Lippens 12, 15; Ikonen bt Eygemans 10, 8;

Jokinen bt Belien 13, 18.

Meanwhile, at home to Denmark in Porsgrunn, Norway lost their unbeaten tag when beaten 4-3 the vital last set, won by Bo Holmsgard over Pal Guttormsen, giving the Danes a sporting chance of the title. Scores

J. Gierloff bt B. Holmsgard 19, -17, 11;

P. Guttormsen lost to J. Hansen -19, -9;

T. Folkeson bt S. Pedersen 23, -17, 19;

Holmsgard 19, -22, 17;

Guttormsen/Folkeson bt Hansen/Pedersen -21, 16, 14;

Gierloff lost to Hansen 19, -13, -19;

Guttormsen lost to Holmsgard -14, 17, -23. Table:-

	Р	W	\mathbf{L}	\mathbf{F}	Α	Ρ	
Finland	4	4	0	24	4	4	
Norway	4	3	1	18	10	3	
Denmark	4	3	1	17	11	3	
Spain	4	2	2	11	17	2	
Switzerland	4	1	3	14	14	1	
Ireland	4	1	3	11	17	1	
Wales	4	1	3	11	17	1	
Belgium	4	1	3	6	22	1	

Fixtures for Jan. 11/'80 are:-

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

The match between Wales and Finland at Bridgend has been postponed until Feb 11 immediately after the Stiga Welsh Open.

12th EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS

The 12th European Championships are to take place over the period April 5/13, 1980 in the Eisstadion Allmend, Berne, Switzer-land. And the E.T.T.U. Biennial Conference will be held on Thursday, April 10 in the "Alfa" Centre centrally situated in Berne.

Address of the Organising Committee for the Championships is:- PO. Box 4001, CH-3001 Berne, Switzerland. Closing date for entries is Jan. 25 and the draw will take place publically in Berne on Mar. 1/2.

ACCOMMODATION IN BERNE

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1 pillow, 1 woollen blanket (if	
with your own sleeping bag), heat	ing and
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per night, per person with bed-linen, heating and per night, per person	showe	Sfr. : r Sfr. Sfr.	80
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per night, per person	from	Sfr.	36
extra charge for single room		Sfr.	
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extra charge for single room			
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Qualifying Rounds		Sfr.	
Finals		Sfr.	
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Under-16: Sfr. 35, 5 and 7,50.

For more information and reservations please contact Mr. Matthias Thonen, c/o Marti Travel Agency, Bahnhofstrasse 14, 2502 Biel, Switzerland. Tel. 032 23 41 11 - 16.

36th WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

The next World Championships, following Pyongyang, will be staged by the Yugoslav Association in Novi Sad from April 14-26, 1981. This information was recently given by Mr. Jovan Dejanovic, the Mayor of Novi Sad and President of the Organising Committee.



The illustrated logo was chosen from 36 entries of which 22 were rejected and of the entries of which 22 were rejected and of the 14 short-listed the work of Mr. Slobodan Radovanovic was accepted. The Champion-ships will be known as SPENS 81 (obviously remembering SPENT 65 and STENS 75). It means in the Serbo-Croatian language:-Svjetsko Prvenstvo Novi Sad 1981. The design represents good graphical stylization of racket and ball, and its composition suggests movement and gathering.

NEW CHAIRMAN

From Ph. Dr. Ernest Demetrovic, President of the Czechoslovakian T.T.A. comes the news of the appointment of Dr. Vladimir Palacek as Chairman of the Czech

International Committee in successon to the late lamented Josef Nevvasil. Dr. Palacek is a member of the I.T.T.F. Council and of the I.T.T.F. World Championships Technical Committee.

SCANDINAVIAN OPEN

Results of the Scandinavian Open played in Vaesteras over the period Nov. 22-25 were:-

- Men's Team:
- China bt Sweden 3-0 Cai Zhen-hua bt S. Bengtsson 14, 13;
- Wang Yan-sheng bt U. Carlsson 18, 19; Yan-sheng/Zhen-hua bt Bengtsson/
- Carlsson 18, -13, 12.
- Women's Team:
- China II bt China I 3-2
- Tian Jing lost to Liu Yang -19, -19;
- Shen Jian-ping bt Xie Chung-ying 19, 15; Jing/Jian-ping bt Yang/Chung-ying

-15, 13, 19; Tian Jing lost to Xie Chung-ying -19, -16; Shen Jian-ping bt Liu Yang -19, 24, 14.

Men's Singles:

Bengtsson bt Xie Saike (CHN) 3-1. Women's Singles: A-C. Hellman (SWE) bt Liu Yang (CHN) 3-1.

Men's Doubles:

Liao Fu-min/Wang Hui-yuan (CHN) bt T. Danielsson/U. Thirsell (SWE) 10, -18, 14.

Women's Doubles:

Liu Yang/Xie Chun-ying (CHN) bt Shen Jian-ping/Tian Jing (CHN) 11, -12, 17.

Mixed Doubles:

Bengtsson/E. Stromvall (SWE) bt Yansheng/Chun-ying (CHN) -14, 18, 17.

In the team events England I, represented by Desmond Douglas and John Hilton, after beating Norway's Tom Johansen and Jorgen Gierloff (3.0), were beaten 3-2 by Japan when the scores were:-

Seiji Ono bt Hilton -11, 19, 18;

Ushida lost to Douglas -15, -7

Ono/Ushida bt Douglas/Hilton 16, 19;

Ono lost to Douglas -11, 17, -17;

Ushida bt Hilton -11, 15, 17.

In the semi-finals Japan were beaten 3-0 by China II.

England II represented by Paul Day and Nicky Jarvis were beaten 3-1 by Denmark in the first round. Scores:-

Johnny Hansen bt Jarvis 19, 17;

Claus Pedersen bt Day -14, 18, 19;

Hansen/Pedersen lost to Day/Jarvis -19, 15, -17;

Hansen bt Day 17, 18.



The Eisstadion Allmend, Berne, venue for the 12th European Championships.

In the counterpart women's event England I (Linda Jarvis and Melody Ludi) were beaten 3-0 by China II whilst England II were beaten 3-1 by the Soviet Union. Scores in this latter match were:-

V. Popova lost to Anita Stevenson -17, -16 Ludmilla Bakshutova bt Karen Witt 13, 13; Bakshutova/Popova bt Stevenson/Witt

20, -20, 7; Popova bt Witt 15, 13.

Douglas, in reaching the quarter-final of the men's singles beat Kenneth Frank and Ulf Bengtsson of Sweden and Wang Yan-Ulf Bengtsson of Sweden and Wang Yan-sheng of China (3-1) before losing to Ulf Thorsell of Sweden. Hilton, after beating Ake Liliegren (Sweden) lost to China's Wang Hui-yuan (0-3) whilst Day lost to Erik Lindh (Sweden) and Jarvis to Michael Nilsson (Sweden) in the first round.

But, in the men's doubles Day and Jarvis had a remarkable run to reach the semis Ushida (JAP) and Saike/Zhen-hua (CHN) before losing to Danielsson/Thorsell. Douglas and Hilton fell in the third round to Bengtsson/Carlsson.

In the women's singles none of our players survived the first round but Linda Jarvis and Melody Ludi lost in the quarterfinal of the doubles to Shen Jian-ping/Tian Jing of China (0-2). And, in the quarters of the mixed, Hilton and Miss Ludi lost to Yan-sheng/Chung-ying of China (0-2).

FRENCH OPEN

Chinese players dominated the French Open (Nov. 30 - Dec. 2) in the Arenes de l'AGORA, Evry Ville Nouvelle where the end results were:-

Men's Team: China II bt China I 3-1.

Women's Team:

China II bt China I 3-1.

Men's Singles:

Wang Hui-yuan (CHN) bt Xie Saike (CHN) 12, 8, -13, 13.

Women's Singles:

Tian Jing (CHN) bt Shen Jiang-ping 18, 22, -15, 21.

Men's Doubles:

- Cai Shen-hua/Xie Saike (CHN) bt G. Gergely (HUN)/M. Orlowski (CZE) 13, 8, 17.
- Women's Doubles:
- Sooja Lee/Kyun Kim (KDR) bt Chen Jianping/Tian Jing (CHN) -17, 13, -14, 18, 19.
- Mixed Doubles:
- Wang Yan-sheng/Xie Chun Chun-ying (CHN) bt J. Secretin/C. Bergeret (FRA) 10, -16, 18, 11.

the men's team event England I In (Donald Parker and Douggie Johnson) were beaten 3-1 by Nigeria II. Scores:-

Lasisi bt Parker 18, 21;

Johnson bt Eboh 16, -11, 9;

Lasisi/Eboh bt Johnson/Parker 16, -16, 19; Eboh bt Parker 18, 19.

England II (Graham Sandley and Kenny Jackson were beaten 3-0 by Hungary I (Klampar/Gergely).

Anita Stevenson and Carole Knight, representing England I in the women's team event had a good 3-2 win over Korea but were beaten 3-0 by Hungary's Olah and Szabo in the quarters. England II (Mandy Smith and Angela Mitchell) were beaten 3-0 by France in the first round. Daviaud and Bergeret were their conquerors.

Douggie Johnson was our only player to go beyond the first round of the men's singles beating Wang Yan-sheng of China (19, -18, 17, -17, 18) before losing to Josef Dvoracek (CZE) (13, -11, -15, -10) for a place in the quarters. We had no other successes.

Carole Knight was beaten by Gabriella Szabo of Hungary; Anita Stevenson by Sooia Lee (KDR) and Angela Mitchell by Judit Magos (HUN) in Rd. 2 of the women's singles Mandy Smith having gone out in Rd. 1 to Thiriet (FRA).

EUROPE CLUB CUP

Ormesby, England's representatives in the men's section of the Europe Club Cup were beaten 5-1 by Borussia Dusseldorf in Federal Germany where Donald Parker secured the only win for Ormesby when he beat Hans-Jorgen Nolten in the first set. Scores:-

H. J. Nolton lost to D. Parker 20, -17, -18; R. Wosik bt K. Paxton 10, 11; D. Douglas bt N. Jarvis 9, 7; Wosik bt Parker 5, 14; Nolten bt Jarvis -13, 16, 15;

Douglas bt Paxton 3, 7.

EUROPE TOP 12

To be played in Munich over the period Feb. 1-3, 1980 the invitees to this season's Top 12 are:-

Men

Tibor Klampar (HUN), Milan Orlowski (CZE), Gabor Gergely (HUN), Dragutin Surbek (YUG), **Desmond Douglas** (ENG), Istvan Jonyer (HUN), Jacques Secretin (FRA), Stellan Bengtsson (SWE), Josef Dvoracek (CZE), Peter Stellwag (GFR), Jochen Leiss (GFR), Janos Takacs (HUN). Women

Jill Hammersley (ENG), Gabriella Szabo (HUN), Ann-Christin Hellman (SWE), Judit Magos (HUN), Valentina Popova (USS), Ilona Uhlikova (CZE), Maria Alexandru (RUM), Zsuzsusa Olah (HUN), Ludmilla Bakshutova (USS), Erzebet Palatinus (YUG), Ursula Kamizuru (GFR), Bettine Vriesekoop (NET).

EUROPEAN TABLE TENNIS UNION Classification List — January, 1980 (Previous positions in brackets) Men Tibor Klampar (HUN) (1) Milan Orlowski (CZE) (2) $\overline{2}$ 3 Dragutin Surbek (YUG) (4) Stellan Bengtsson (SWE) (9) Desmond Douglas (ENG) (5) 4 5 Gabor Gergeley (HUN) (3) Jaques Secretin (FRA) (7) 6 Jaques Secretin (FRA) (7) Istvan Jonyer (HUN) (6) Josef Dvoracek (CZE) (8) Ulf Thorsell (13) Wilfrid Leick (GFR) (19) Zoran Kalinic (YUG) (16) Peter Stellwag (GFR) (10) Janos Takacs (12) 8 9 10 11 $\overline{12}$ $\overline{13}$ 14 Jochen Leiss (GFR) (11) 15 Christian Martin (FRA) (22) Anton Stipancic (YUG) (17) 16 17 Andrezej Grubba (POL) (23) Tibor Kreisz (HUN) (14) Patrick Birocheau (FRA) (18) Engelbert Huging (GFR) (15) 18 19 20 21 22Bagrat Burnazjan (USS) (-23 Leszek Kucharski (POL) 24 Claus Pedersen (DEN) (20) 25Jindrich Pansky (CZE) (24) Women

Jill Hammersley (ENG) (1) Ann-Christin Hellman (SWE) (3) $\frac{1}{2}$ Gabriella Szabo (HUN) (2) Judit Magos (HUN) (4) Valentina Popova (USS) (5) 3 4 5 Zsuzsa Olah (HUN) (8) Gordana Perkucin (YUG) (13) 6 $\overline{7}$ 8 Ilona Uhlikova (CZE) (7) Maria Alexandru (RUM) (6) Erzebet Palatinus (YUG) (10) Ursula Kamizuru (GFR) (11) 9 10 11 Bettine Vriesekoop (NET) (12) Blanka Silhanova (CZE) (14) 1213Ludmila Bakshutova (USS) (9) 14 Claude Bergeret (FRA) (15) Marie Lindblad (SWE) (17) 15 16 Marie Hrachova (CZE) (18) 1718 Beatrix Kishazi (HUN) 19 Branka Batinic (YUG) (19)Eva Stromvall (SWE) (22) 2021 Wiebke Hendriksen (GFR) (20) Eva Ferenczi (RUM) (23) Jolanta Szatko (POL) (---) Dubravka Fabri (YUG) (---) Brigitte Thiriet (FRA) (---) 22 $\bar{2}\bar{3}$ 24 25 Omitted from previous list:-Valery Shevchenko (USS) (21)

Zoran Kosanovic (YUG) (25) Dana Dubinova (CZE) (16) Anneli Hernvall (SWE) (21) Kirsten Kruger (GFR) (24) Karen Witt (ENG) (25)



SEIJI ONO'S GUTS-SHOWING POSE

by Nobuhiko Hasegawa

This is a scene from the last Pyongyang World Championships. Japan's new world champion, Seiji Ono here raises his hands unconsciously and makes a unique pose showing his fight and spirit the moment he won an important point. He showed an aw-some spiritual and concentrated power. It's incredible that Ono who looks quiet and is not stout physically showed such a strength of spirit.

It was the first time for him to make his appearance in the World Championships. On the way to his victory, his teammates were defeated one after another, leaving him alone unbeaten. His determination to stand in the battle field was not to be given up holfway at any cost up halfway at any cost.

Also he trusted his table tennis, which gave him great encouragement that he would be able to tide over a hardship by his own skill.

Additionally, he was happy with a chance to play against the world strong and veteran paddlers, and at the same time he appeared fully determined not to have to regret a defeated match if he did his best.

These three factors seemed to work out strongly to generate his marvellous fighting spirit, willpower, and concentration in Pyongyang. It also can't be over looked that he was always modest, in particular, after he remained among the top group.

In such a situation, a player is likely to show his or her ability more than 100 per cent. In order to fulfil this, it needs a serious attitude along with a constant effort.

I would like to share with you what I felt keenly after watching Ono's fine and excellent play with my own eyes. It was this: "A world No. 1's willpower is indis-pensable to be a world champion. A dedicated and hard-working player can conquer a big tournament".

Cover Picture

Lancashire's John Hilton, winner of the men's singles title in the Middlesex 3-Star Open at Picketts Lock as he was in the Midland Counties 3-Star Open at Walsall.

Debenham's English Junior Closed

HISTORY MADE AT OXFORD

by John Oakley (London Evening News)

Graham Sandley, 16 days short of his 17th birthday, made table tennis history by becoming the first player to carry off the Triple Crown two years running at the Debenhams English Junior Closed championships at the Redefield Hall, Oxford

He cruised through the singles with only one tight match, took the Boys' doubles with Colin Wilson and the Mixed with Alison Gordon and proved beyond a shadow of doubt that he is one of the finest prospects that England has had for years.

Miss Gordon also took the Triple Crown and will look back upon her last season as a junior with pride and satisfaction though she was helped by the unfortunate scratching of top-seeded Mandy Reeves and Helen Williams in the Girls' Doubles.

Left-handed Sandley thoroughly justified his top seeding in the singles by beating Kevin Satchell, seeded equal third, 21-8, 21-14 in a one-sided final but this major event produced some quite startling results in the earlier rounds.

Biggest shock of all came in the last 32 when Steve White of Essex defeated second seeded Colin Wilson 21-16, 21-17.

Wilson has been the undisputed number two junior for the past 18 months but this season has been trying to change to a more positive game. It proved fatal against White who blocked brilliantly and hit some fine forehand winners.

True White went down in three games to Surrey left-hander Glenn Baker in the next round but his win over Wilson had made his day.

Two more of the 16 seeds, Paul Rainford and Peter Brownlow, both lost in the third round. Rainford, returning service badly,



Halexsport-sponsored player Graham Sandley, current English Junior Closed Triple Champion.

went out in straight games to Eddie Gorniak of Middlesex and Brownlow lost in three to Chris Bryan after winning the first game easily.

More shock results were to follow in the last 16 where Philip Bradbury, beating Paul Whiting, and Gary Lambert, defeating Adrian Moore, upset the order of seeding.

So the quarter finals saw Sandley meet Mark Oakley, Bradbury face John Souter, Satchell play Lambert and Baker oppose Steve Moore and this round produced the match of the championship.

Oakley was given no chance against Sandley but, with the crowd thickening round the barriers, he won the first game 21-16 and led 7-2 in the second. Sandley's temperament has always been good and he stormed back with a barrage of loop and drives to scramble through the second game 21-19 and win the third 21-12 from 3-6down.

Some of the rallies were almost unbelievable and the modest Sandley admitted later: "I had to pull out all the stops to beat Mark but he really tuned me up for the semi-final and final". How true that was!

Souter, who had beaten Sandley in the Middlesex Three Star Senior tournament only the week before, had come through to the semi-finals without dropping a game and he is undoubtedly one of our top three juniors. But he was completely outplayed as Sandley, concentrating grimly, won 21-13, 21-9 to gain sweet revenge.

Baker had upset the seedings by beating Steve Moore in the quarter finals and tried hard to pull off a second shock against Satchell in the semi-finals. But he trailed 6-15 in the third and though he pulled back to 15-16 it was not quite enough against the more consistent Satchell.

The final was all one way, hard as Satchell tried, for Sandley was too powerful and too accurate for the plucky Wiltshire lad. But to reach the final was achievement itself.

DOMINATING

Alison Gordon was even more dominating that Sandley in the Girls' Singles in that she did not lose a single game from start to finish.

Only seven of the 16 seeds reached their appointed places but the "Big Three" — Miss Gordon, Miss Reeves and Miss Williams — all came safely through to the semifinals. One who did not was Joy Grundy, seeded equal third, who went out to little known Jennifer Collins of Berkshire in the second round.

The Bellinger sisters also shone with Jackie upsetting the seeding by beating Gina Pritchard to reach the last eight and Lisa going through to the semi-finals with a fine win over Lesley Tyler.

Miss Williams only just got home "deuce" in the third against Cheryl Creasey in the last 16 and then beat Jill Harris. But she met her match in the semis when she was out-played by the big-hitting Miss Reeves.

The final saw the two top seeds in action and neither had lost a game to that point. But Miss Gordon, top spinning well on both wings, proved much too consistent for Miss Reeves to win 21-17, 21-18.

Gary Lambert and Carl Prean dominated the Cadet Singles though Prean did lose a game to Steve Sharpe of Yorkshire in the last 16. Otherwise it was one-way traffic all

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the way to the final which top-seeded Lambert began as the underdog.

He had lost to Prean in the ranking meeting at Cleveland the month before but this time he won narrowly 21-16, 17-21, 21-17 but only after trailing for much of the third game. Prean led 4-1, 8-5, and 13-11 in the decider but at 16-15 served into the net and Lambert came through to take the crown.



Halexsport-sponsored player Alison Gordon, current English Junior Closed Triple Champion.

The Cadet Girls' Singles provided no early upsets with the four seeds, Lisa Bellinger, Helen Bardwell, Jean Parker and Melanie Seaton all reaching their appointed places in the semi-finals.

But then came the shocks with Miss Parker, hitting superbly on the forehand, beating second seeded Miss Seaton 21-16, 21-18 in the last four and top seeded Miss Bellinger 27-25, 21-14 in the final.

The first game really decided the outcome of the final for Miss Bellinger had three game points at 20-19, 21-20 and 22-21 before Miss Parker, clearly a great prospect, hit her way to victory.

In the Boys' Doubles the "Old Firms" of Sandley and Wilson and Oakley and Souter reached the final but not without their problems.

MOTIVATE

Sandley and Wilson, finding it hard to motivate themselves, lost a game to David Dodd and Ray Namdjou in the last 16 and struggled a little in the semi-final against Peter Pudduck and Paul Rainford.

But their trouble was nothing to that of Oakley and Souter who saved a match point at 19-20 in the third to Paul Barnett and Williams Bridgeman of Staffs in the last 16, were a game and 12-15 down to Bradbury and Satchell in the quarters and trailed 8-14 in the first game and 10-15 in the second against the shock semi-finalists Brownlow and Keith Chamberlain who had put out the Moores.

The final provided some fine hitting rallies but Sandley and Wilson, 12-17 down in the first, were just a shade better to win 21-18, 22-20.

The Girls' Doubles proved sensational for the scratching of the top seeded pair, Miss Reeves and Miss Williams, for failing to report in time for their third round match with Susan Blackburn and Susan Collier. The fault lay with Miss Williams who was nowhere to be found when the match was due and bad luck for Miss Reeves who is in her last season as a junior.

But it was good luck for Julie Dimmock and Laura Goldsmith who, after winning their first two matches "deuce" in the third, sailed through to the final. There, however, their run was halted by the hard-hitting team of Miss Gordon and Miss Tyler who won comfortably 21-17, 21-15.

The Mixed Doubles ran true to form with all the seeded pairs reaching the quarterfinals. And the top seeds beat the second seeds in the final when Sandley and Miss Gordon defeated Wilson and Miss Williams 21-12, 18-21, 21-18.

As usual the championships were run with outstanding efficiency by John Wright and the introduction of new knocking-up procedures and no announcing of matches proved highly successful. At most junior tournaments the youngsters gather like vultures as contests near an end but here only those due to play the next match were allowed to knock.

Despite the scratching of Miss Williams and one or two near misses by other dilatory players the innovation of showing the time of each match and the table number in the programme should be continued.

As to the venue it looked a little forbidding but conditions were good and the only black spot was the comedy exhibition staged between the semi-finals and finals of the Boys' and Girls' Singles. It went on far too long particularly as little of the patter could be heard because of bad acoustics and seemed out of place at an English championship.

All in all, however, Debenhams, the generous sponsors, must have been well satisfied with a very successful tournament. RESULTS:

Boys' Singles Quarter-finals: Sandley bt Oakley -16, 19, 12; Souter bt Bradbury 15, 14. Satchell bt Lambert 17, 13; Baker bt S. Moore 18, 20. Semi-finals: Sandley bt Souter 13, 9; Satchell bt Baker 8, -9, 17. Final: SANDLEY bt Satchell 8, 14. Cield, Singles Overta for the

Girls' Singles Quarter-finals: Reeves bt J. Bellinger 19, 15; Williams bt Harris 17, 18; L. Bellinger bt Tyler 21, 19; Gordon bt Broomhead 6, 14.



Page 7

Semi-finals: Reeves bt Williams 11, 12;

Gordon bt L. Bellinger 11, 19.

Final:

GORDON bt Reeves 17, 18.

Boys' Doubles Semi-finals:

Sandley/Wilson bt Pudduck/Rainford 15, 21;

Oakley/Souter bt Brownlow/Chamberlain 23-21, 24-22.

Final: SANDLEY/WILSON bt Oakley/Souter 18, 20.

Girls' Doubles Semi-finals: Dimmock/Goldsmith bt Broomhead/Speight 16. 15:

Gordon/Tyler bt Deakin/Harris 14, 18. Final:

GORDON/TYLER bt Dimmock/Goldsmith 17, 15.

Mixed Doubles Semi-finals:

Sandley/Gordon bt S. Moore/J. Bellinger 19, 17

Wilson/Williams bt Souter/Reeves 12, 10. Final:

SANDLEY/GORDON bt Wilson/Williams 12, -18, 18.

Cadet Boys' Singles Semi-finals: Lambert bt Worrall 17, 15; Prean bt Mercer 10, 6.

Final:

LAMBERT bt Prean 16, -17, 17. Cadet Girls' Singles Semi-finals: Bellinger bt Bardwell 12, -21, 16;

Parker bt Seaton 16, 18. Final: PARKER bt Bellinger 25, 14.

Junior and Cadet Rankings

The National Selection Committee has, following the completion of the first two events in the Debenhams Junior series, issued new ranking lists, the first of the 1979/80 season.

Kevin Satchell, following his good form in the Debenhams English Junior Closed at Oxford, makes a rapid rise in the lists from No. 9 to No. 3, splitting the Middlesex con-tingent, and Glen Baker from Surrey moves into the No. 5 spot from previous Group A raphing ranking.

In the girls' list Alison Gordon, unbeaten in two major Junior tournaments this season, takes over the No. 1 spot, relin-quished by the now over-age Mandy Smith, with Mandy Reeves falling behind her. In the Cadet ranking lists Lisa Bellinger and Gary Lambert are the two top names in the new lists.

New rankings (previous positions in brackets) are:-

Boys

Boys 1 Graham Sandley (Mi) (1), 2 Colin Wilson (Mi) (2), 3 Kevin Satchell (Wi) (9), 4 John Souter (Mi) (3), 5 Glen Baker (Sy) (A), 6 Philip Bradbury (Bu) (A), 7 Paul Rainford (La) (A), 8 Stuart Palmer (Sk) (A), 9 Stephen Moore (Sx) (14), 10 Mark Oakley (Sy) (11), 11 Robert Swift (Ca) (A), i2 Peter Puddock (Sx) (18), 13 Martin Les (Mi) (A), 14 Peter Brownlow (He) (17), 15 Gary Lambert (Dv) (19), 16 Adrian Moore (Sx) Lambert (Dv) (19), 16 Adrian Moore (Sx) (16), 17 Andrew Dixon (St) (A), 18 Andy Withers (Sk) (A), 19 Eddy Gorniak (Mi) (-), 20 Peter Roberts (K) (-).

Girls

1 Alison (Bk) (3), 2 Mandy Reeves (Mi) (2) 1 Alison (Bk) (3), 2 Mandy Reeves (Mi) (2), 3 Helen Williams (Mi) (5), 4 Joy Grundy (La) (6), 5 Cheryl Creasey (Do) (13), 6 Jackie Bellinger (Bd) (18), 7 Janet Deakin (Ch) (20), 8 Gina Pritchard (Dv) (11), 9 Jill Harris (St) (16), 10 Lesley Tyler (Mi) (—), 11 Carol Butler (Dv) (12), Sarah Sandley (Mi) (—), 13 Lisa Bellinger (Bd) (A), 14 Elaine Bolton (K) (7), 15 Lorraine Garbet (Sy) (9), 16 Yvonne Hall (Le) (—) 17 Lesley Broomhead (Y) (—), 18 Sandra 17 Lesley Broomhead (Y) (-), 18 Sandra Peakman (Wa) (—).

Group A (Alphabetical Order)

Boys Boys Neil Bailey (Y), Anthony Booth (Sk), Steven Brunskill (Cv), Chris Bryan (Li), Jeremy Duffield (Wo), Paul Jackson (Av), Adrian Pilgrim (Wa), Carl Prean (Ha), Paul Stratton (Mi), Robert Watson (Ng), Stephen White (E), Paul Whiting (Dv). Girls

Helen Bardwell (He), Susan Blackburn (Bk), Shirley Cain (St), Jennifer Collins (Bk), Julie Dowsett (E), Lynn Fennah (Ch), Kim Mudge (E), Jean Parker (La), Jeanine Smith (He).



No. 1 Boy Cadet GARY LAMBERT of Devon.

CADET RANKINGS

Boys

Boys 1 Gary Lambert (Dv) (3), 2 Carl Prean (Ha) (5), 3 Stuart Worrall (Li) (—), 4 Alan Cooke (Dy) (—), 5 Ivan Smith (Sp) (—), 6 Nicky Hoare (Sy) (—), 7 David Polasek (Cv) (—), 8 David Rook (Y) (—), 9 Phillip Cole (Ca.) (—), 10 Mark Ellett (Dv) (—), 11 Steven Sharpe (Y) (—), 12 Ian McLoughlin (La) (—), 13 Andrew Sexton (Sy) (—), 14 Steven Dettmar (E) (13), 15 Paul Ashcroft (La) (20), 16 Michael Mercer (La) (—), 17 Darren Griffin (Gs) (—), 18 Anthony Devitt (St) (—). (<u>---</u>).

Girls

Girls 1 Lisa Bellinger (Bd) (3), 2 Jean Parker (La) (8), 3 Melanie Seaton (Y) (5), 4 Helen Bardwell (He) (6), 5 Tracy Lightfoot (Ch) (16), 6 Amanda Judd (Ca) (12), 7 Fiona Elliot (St) (-), 8 Josette Ryalls (Y) (10), 9 Mary Denbow (Ox) (-), 10 Teresa Moore (Sx) (-), 11 Stephanie Hadley (St) (18), 12 Nicky Hamilton (Bu) (9), 13 Alison Hillard (Ca) (-), 14 Susan Collier (Bk) (-), 15 Michelle Hams (Sy) (-), 16 Vicki Bellingham (St) (14), 17 Laura Goldsmith (Mi) (13), 18 Alison Barker (Sp) (-). (Mi) (13), 18 Alison Barker (Sp) (--).

SENIOR SELECTION

Selection The National Committee announced the following team to represent England in the European League Super Division match against Czechoslovakia on Jan. 17/'80 in Pribram.

Desmond Douglas (Wa), John Hilton (La), Douggie Johnson (Wa), Jill Hammersley (Bu) and Peter Simpson n.p.c.

Following the win against Poland in Warsaw, the Selection Committee has re-warded Douggie Johnson with a place in the team following his recent good form in the Norwich Union Trophy and the French Open in Paris. The structure of the team will also mean some further experimenting taking place with the doubles pairings.



Semi-finals: Reeves bt Williams 11, 12; Gordon bt L. Bellinger 11, 19.

Final:

GORDON bt Reeves 17, 18.

Boys' Doubles Semi-finals:

Sandley/Wilson bt Pudduck/Rainford 15, 21; Oakley/Souter bt Brownlow/Chamberlain

23-21, 24-22. Final:

SANDLEY/WILSON bt Oakley/Souter 18, 20. Girls' Doubles Semi-finals:

Dimmock/Goldsmith bt Broomhead/Speignt 16. 15:

Gordon/Tyler bt Deakin/Harris 14, 18. Final:

GORDON/TYLER bt Dimmock/Goldsmith 17, 15.

Mixed Doubles Semi-finals: Sandley/Gordon bt S. Moore/J. Bellinger

19, 17; Wilson/Williams bt Souter/Reeves 12, 10. Final:

SANDLEY/GORDON bt Wilson/Williams 12, -18, 18.

Cadet Boys' Singles Semi-finals: Lambert bt Worrall 17, 15; Prean bt Mercer 10, 6.

Final:

LAMBERT bt Prean 16, -17, 17. Cadet Girls' Singles Semi-finals:

Bellinger bt Bardwell 12, -21, 16; Parker bt Seaton 16, 18. Final

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Girls

(La) (8), 3 Melanie Seaton (Y) (5), 4 Helen (La) (6), 5 Metallie Settoli (1) (5), 4 Helen Bardwell (He) (6), 5 Tracy Lightfoot (Ch) (16), 6 Amanda Judd (Ca) (12), 7 Fiona Elliot (St) (-), 8 Josette Ryalls (Y) (10), 9 Mary Denbow (Ox) (-), 10 Teresa Moore (Sx) (-), 11 Stephanie Hadley (St) (18), 12 Nicky Hamilton (Bu) (9), 13 Alison Hillard (Ca) (-), 14 Susan Collier (Bk) (—), 15 Michelle Hans (Sy) (—), 16 Vicki Bellingham (St) (14), 17 Laura Goldsmith (Mi) (13), 18 Alison Barker (Sp) (-).

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IRISH AFFAIRS

by WILLIE WALSH

NORWICH UNION IRISH TROPHY

Richard Yule of Scotland became the first holder of the Norwich Union Irish Trophy, when he beat England's Nicky Jarvis -24, 12, 24, in a classic final in the E.S.B., Recreation Centre, Dublin. The large crowd watched with bated breath as both players served up a fantastic exhibition with each player having their chance of victory before Yule finally clinched it.

victory before Yule finally clinched it. This was Norwich Union's first venture in Irish Table-tennis and what a triumph it proved for the I.T.T.A. With Yule, Alan Griffiths (Wales), Tommy Caffrey and Derek Weir playing a 'Round Robin' in one section, and Nicky Jarvis, Kevin Keane, Colum Slevin and Joe Hickey in the other section, and the 15 sets being filmed by Irish Television, the exposure of the game on TV in the New Year can only help to promote Table Tennis in Ireland. Jarvis had little difficulty in reaching the semi-finals when he beat Keane, Slevin and Hickey. Yule beat Caffrey, Griffiths and Weir; Griffiths beat Weir and Caffrey 12, 15; Keane bt Kickey and Slevin. Keane bt Kickey and Slevin.

In the semi-finals Jarvis beat Griffiths and Yule beat Keane. A big disappointment was the form of 15-year-old Slevin who lost to Jarvis, Keane and Hickey. He is going through a bad patch at the moment, but, I am convinced he is still a great prospect prospect.

TENNIS

TABLES

RESULTS: Section 'A' Jarvis bt Keane 19, 11; bt Slevin 10, -16, 20, bt Slevin 10, -16, 20, Hickey bt Slevin 10, 17. Section 'B' Yule bt Caffrey 15, 20; bt Griffiths -19, 9, 18; bt Weir 13, 18. Griffiths bt Caffrey 12, 15; bt Weir 12, -25, 12.

TABLE



Richard Yule of Scotland getting his breath back after receiving the Norwich Union Irish Trophy from Mr. R. J. Burke, Norwich Union Irish Life Manager. On the left is a happy Irish Treasurer and Tournament Referee — Mr. Alex Thackaberry.

Weir bt Caffrey 19, 17. Semi-finals: Jarvis bt Griffiths 22, 16; Yule bt Keane 18, 13. Final:

YULE bt Jarvis -24, 12, 24.

At the Dinner after the match Mr. Ray O'Connell, Chairman of the I.T.T.A. paid a well-deserved tribute to Norwich Union for making this tournament possible. He had a special word of praise for Mr. John McDonnell, Public Relations Manager, Norwich Union, Mr. Des Cashell, the Irish Manager of the Norwich Union (Fire) and Mr. Joe Burke. He also paid tribute to Mr. Martin Foulser and Mr. Nick Brittan of Stiga for supplying the equipment, and Mr. Justin Nelson of Irish Television for their coverage.

EUROPEAN LEAGUE

Spain Edge Out Ireland After building up a 3-1 lead, Ireland were unlucky losers to Spain in their European



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League Division 2 match in the Grammar _ School, Limavady.

The match, which was sponsored by Cantrell and Cochrane Ltd., and played before a large attendance seemed to be all over when Colum Slevin and Derek Weir beat Ismael Caymel and Luis Calvo in a 'cliff-hanger'. Spain had other ideas though, and with the belp of a script of adaption and with the help of a series of edge balls and net cords they won the mixed and reverse singles. The Spanish coach and former world Doubles champion, Yugoslav Leo Stipek thought Christmas came early in Ireland when at so many crucial stages Spain got the breaks.

Kevin Keane gave Ireland a winning start when his 'power-house' forehand and backhand drives eventually proved too much for Jose Lupon Slevin then lost to the best player on either team, 15-year-old Jose Pales, Ann Leonard restored Ireland's lead Pales. Ann Leonard restored Ireland's lead and kept her unbeaten European League record intact with a two games to one victory over Monserrat Sanahuja in a remarkable and strange scoring set. The Irish girl won the first set comfortably 7 and then uncomfortably lost the second game -15. No one had any idea what to expect in the 3rd, but, even at that they were still surprised as Leonard romped home an easy winner 21-8.

Slevin and Derek Weir caused a mild surprise in beating Ismael Caymel and Luis Calvo.

And now for the obituary. Keane and Slevin "died" in the reverse singles in straight games to Pales and Lupon respectively, if not respectably. And so Ireland are now in trouble and their only win to date was their 5-2 victory over Spain's conquerers — Wales.

RESULTS:

Ireland 3 Spain 4

Kevin Keane bt Jose Lupon 14, -19, 13. Colum Slevin lost to Jose Pales -16, -18.

Anne Leonard bt Monserrat Sanahuja

7, -15, 8.

Slevin/Weir bt Ismael Caymel/Luis Calvo -14, 18, 19.

Keane/Leonard lost to Jose/Pilar Lupon

-18, -19. Keane lost to Pales -20, -19. Slevin lost to Lupon -15, -18.

YULE AGAIN

Richard Yule again struck gold in Ireland when he added the Men's Singles at the Milk Marketing Board's Ulster Open to his Norwich Union Irish Trophy. The large attendance at the Polytech, Jordanstown, got plenty to cheer about as some of the class 'field' fell by the wayside in the early rounds before Yule won the final against Alan Griffiths.

Teen-age International Anne Leonard completed a hat-trick in winning the Women's Singles, Doubles and Mixed. In the Singles final she beat Scottish International Patrice Fleming, and then partnered by Liz Cash beat Miss Fleming and Deirdre Kil-patrick. In the mixed with her fellow Interpatrick. In the mixed with her fellow Inter-national Colum Slevin they beat Yule and Fleming. The big shocks were the defeats ot Slevin by Martin Kinsella and Weir by John Bloomer, who is ranked No. 6 in Wales. A. Majid of Scotland lost to the Irish veteran C. McBride who is semi-retired and Tom Heasley beat Mark Thomas. Griffiths and Kevin Keane also nearly joined the elite (also-rans' Griffiths was a game down and 'also-rans'. Griffiths was a game down and losing 17-18 in the second to Alastair Cairns before he scraped through and won the third game 15. Keane fought back from the brink of defeat to beat Pat Glynn who actually lead 18-8 in the second game having won the first.

RESULTS

Men's Singles Semi-finals: A. Griffiths bt M. Kinsella 13, 17; R. Yule bt K. Keane 16, 16.

Final:

YULE bt Griffiths 18, 16.

Women's Singles: A. LEONARD bt P. Fleming 11, 10.

Boys' Singles

C. SLEVIN bt M. Thompson 13, 13

Girls' Singles: L. GIBSON bt J. Wightman 21, 10.

Men's Doubles: YULE/A. MAJID bt D. Weir/T. Heasley 19, 16.

Women's Doubles: E. CASH/LEONARD bt Fleming/D.

Kilpatrick 11, 18.

Mixed Doubles:

SLEVIN/LEONARD bt Yule/Fleming 10, 18. Veteran Singles:

C. McBRIDE bt R. Orr 9, 13.

INTER-PROVINCIALS

Leinster retained the Interprovincial championships when they beat Ulster 7-4 in the final at Omagh. Earlier in the day they had facile victories over Munster and Connacht without dropping a set.

The Leinster team of Keane, Slevin Hickey, Anne Leonard and Deirdre Kilpat-Slevin. rick proved too strong overall for Ulster's Derek Weir, Jimmie Hamill, Tom Heasley, Karen Walker and Liz Cash, although the ladies won three of the four sets they were involved in

Karen Walker beat current International Anne Leonard and Deirdre Kilpatrick and Liz Cash also beat Kilpatrick.

The men's matches went pretty much to form except maybe Joe Hickey's defeat of Derek Weir.

The Cinderella Province, Connacht, again won the wooden spoon when they narrowly lost 5-6 to Munster. Terry Dolan of Connacht scored two notable victories against Ulster when he beat Robinson and Hamill.

RESULTS RESULTS: Ulster 9 Connacht 2 Leinster 11 Munster 0 Ulster 11 Munster 0 Leinster 11 Connacht 0 Munster 6 Connacht 5 Leinster 7 Ulster 4

GRAND METROPOLITAN/STIGA TRAINING SERIES

We are sorry that owing to the growing complexity of the E.T.T.A. and English Schools programmes for young players, it has not proved feasible to find a date with the people available, and the facilities, to complete the originally projected 4th weekend.

We have therefore decided to regard the first Series as completed by the three meetings already held, and to plan two or three week-ends for 1980, embodying some of the better points of our previous programmes.

When dates are known, your Region will

advise you, but meanwhile we thank you all for your patient co-operation.

We are proceeding to refund fees paid for the 4th week-end by cheque. If such fees originated from a grant aid, the refund should be reported to the Authority who issued the grant.

Yours in Sport, JACK CARRINGTON (Senior Coaching Officer, E.T.T.A.).

PRESS RELEASE TITLES TUMBLE TO HALEX PLAYERS

The English Junior Closed Table Tennis Championships, held recently at Oxford, proved to be a very successful event for two youngsters sponsored by Halexsport. Alison

Gordon, from Reading in Berkshire and Graham Sandley from Potters Bar in Herts between them snatched every available title - Alison teamed up with Mandy Smith to win the girls' doubles and Graham partnered long-time rival Colin Wilson in the boys' doubles, and they got together to take the mixed doubles titles, both having already won their individual singles.

For Alison, who is studying at secretarial college in Reading, it is a just reward for her months of hard training: the next target is to climb to the Top Three in the senior rankings from her current No. 13 slot. And for Graham, the schoolboy from Potters Bar who has been doing so well this season, it is the second year running that he has scooped the pool at this important event. He has already reached 4th place in the senior rankings, and is now waiting to topple those players between him and the Number One position.



Turbocharged In 1973 when we first developed Turbo rubber in Tokyo we began far behind our competitors. The fact that - statistically speaking - we have moved up to second place in the German market in rubber sales is indeed a good result. What is even more remarkable, however, is that in 1979 Turbo users Peter Stellwag, Jochen Leiss and Ralf Wosik won all of the German Men's Table Tennis Championships using the orangecoloured Turbo rubber which is made of pure caoutchouc.

Which means: we may not yet have the most players, but we have got the players who win the championships!



BEDFORDSHIRE NOTES

by Tony Dimmock

YEAR OF THE VETERAN

Three County weekends have now been completed with only the veterans making any real impression towards gaining end of season honours.

Against Herts III they won 6-3 with Jim Wooliscroft and Derick Holden winning their singles, Jim against the experienced Herts No. 1 K. Hartridge showed that he has a cool calculating match temperament that can crush an opponent especially when his big forehand smash is operating.

Beating Hartridge 10 and 12 was a good performance. Holden against opponents that he meets during the local league season struggled at the start of each set but came good at the right time to win convincingly. Playing against Oxfordshire we saw the debut of Peter Cutting and Alan Elliott alongside regulars Wooliscroft and Audrey Robinson. A 6-3 result in our favour brought two wins for Wooliscroft and one by Cutting. Audrey won her singles after a see-saw battle -21, 8, 21 and together with Wooliscroft won the mixed.

First defeat for the veterans came at the hands of Hunts who triumphed 5-4. This match was very competitive and again we saw Woolscroft winning both his singles making him undefeated in the Veterans this season. Ron Chambers took one of his singles and Audrey and Jim won the mixed. The big test for this team will be against the powerful Essex side who they meet next.

The Senior side although losing 4-6 to Northants and 2-8 to Leicestershire saw some notable performances. Stephen Barby, the County No. 1 and a very much improved player was the only man to win a singles, one in each match. He completely overwhelmed D. Gannon of Leics. 14 and 12 and then went on to take a game off P. Randell. Although losing a very exciting and, at times, stormy encounter he was the first to congratulate the opposition on winning that particular set and the match. A significant gesture from a young player because it broke the tension that had built up between the officials of both sides and a particular player. Let us all not forget that Table Tennis is a sport that is bigger than any individual. The ladies continue to be the backbone of the team, Jackie Bellinger and Barbara Hammond winning their singles against the Wallis sisters Ann and Mandy of Northants. Against Leics they won the doubles and just failed to take the singles both into a deciding game. Jackie lost to Karen Rogers and Barbara to Julie Revill.

The Senior seconds lost their first match of the season 3-7 to Cambs II. Captained by Paul Birch they showed promise and with just a little fortune the result could have been different. David Cartwright defeated G. Jordan which avenged a defeat earlier in the week in a Wilmott Cup match.

Birch accounted for M. Jackman in straight games and David Bedall took both his opponents to three. Julie Dimmock, playing against Amanda Judd, won against one of her Regional Squad friends 12 and 19 but Dawn Campbell, initially suffering from nerves. settled down but just lost her singles in the third.

The Juniors are not repeating their winning ways of last season simply because the boys have not been playing to their full potential. Losing 3-7 to Glamorgan was disappointing mainly because David Sharpe was taken ill just before the start of the match. He bravely played once, against A. Jones, but his strength gave out in the third.

Both Ian Doughty and Andrew Conquest tried hard to pull their game together but are finding this type of match pressure difficult to overcome. The girls Jackie and Lisa Bellinger won their singles and the doubles in convincing manner. Against a strong Cambs side the Bellinger sisters once again played their full part Jackie just beating Miss Judd in the third. Only Sharpe looked like winning a singles but after winning the first game against Gary Jordan and being 17-12 up in the second he finished up losing 17, -22, -18.

Congratulations to Lisa Bellinger who has been ranked England No. 1 Cadet, a tremendous achievement for a girl who will be in this age group again next season. To warrant this position she won the first Select tournament of the season, held in Cleveland, by beating Yorkshire's Melanie Seaton in the final.



£3.70

At the more recent Debenhams English Junior Closed, at Oxford, she was beaten in the final by Jean Parker of Lancashire who, at Cleveland, lost to Lisa in the semis. So it looks like the main threat in the latter half of the season will come from the Counties of the red and white rose.



LISA BELLINGER

In the E.T.T.A. Junior Ranking list Jackie Bellinger has moved up from last season's position of No. 18 to No. 6. This is fully justified by her performances this season which include success at the Kent Junior Open where she beat Mandy Reeves, ranked No. 2, in the final. She also reached the last eight both in Cleveland and at Oxford losing respectively to Helen Williams and Miss Reeves, the latter gaining her revenge.

In fact at the final stages at Oxford, Lisa reached the final of the U-14 singles, the semis of the U-17 singles (beaten by No. 1 seed Alison Gordon) in which Jackie reached the quarters. Julie Dimmock, with her partner Laura Goldsmith from Middlesex, reached the final of the girls' doubles.

Providing three players for the final stages of this important event must rate as one of our finest achievements. The local league programmes are well under way with the Luton running with an eighth division this season. Dunstable decided to restrict their first division to seven teams playing each other three times. Vauxhall Motors, Dunstable T.T.C. and AC-Delco are contesting the top positions in the premier division of both leagues.

Revised rankings for the Junior Boys have just been issued and congratulations to David Sharpe at No. 1. Only the leading places are affected and they are:-1 D. Sharpe (2), 2 I. Doughty (1), 3 C. Luscombe (4), 4 A. Conquest, 5 M. Luscombe.

SCOTTISH RANKINGS

The Scottish Classification Tournament held at Meadowbank, Edinburgh on Dec. 15 resulted as follows (the figures in brackets are the positions obtained in the previous trial on Oct. 14):-

Men (Top places)

1 Anwar Majid (1), 2 Bill Sichel (5), 3 John Wilson (-), 4 Dave Hannah (9), 5 Norman Lovie (4).

Women (Top places)

1 Carole Dalrimple (1), 2 Patrice Fleming (2), 3 Isobel Ferguson (3), 4 Elizabeth Robb (5), 5 Kay Mackay (4).

David McIlroy and Keith Rodger who came out second and third in October did not take part being currently out in Japan.

GRAHAMS VIDEO SPONSOR BILL SICHEL



BILL SICHEL

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BILL SICHEL of 12 Melgund Road, Highbury, London N5 1PT is a member of the Scottish Table Tennis Association's National Squad and ranked 2nd in the latest classification tournament. A dedi-cated player showing continued improve-ment and great persistence.

GRAHAMS VIDEO will assist Bill with his competition travelling expenses and will also provide him with a part-time job in their accounts department.

In return Bill will feature in the company's advertising, publicity and pro-motional ventures as part of their expansion programme.

This is a unique marriage between sport and commerce and could be a model for other individuals or groups seeking sponsorship.

It should be made clear that Bill did not have it easy in finding a sponsor of this kind. Over the last two years he has contacted over 600 companies in an effort to find a suitable type of sponsorship.

Bill is also sponsored by TSP SPORTS EUROPE for his table tennis equipment and clothing requirements.

NATIONAL TRANSFER

History was made in the National Club League when Mike Johns was transferred from Kelly Girl International to Soham. The fee is undisclosed as in the case of Tony Clayton who has registered with Macleans Maidenhead.

MIDDLESEX 3-STAR OPEN

DOGGED BY DIFFICULTIES

by IRIS MOSS

This season's Middlesex 3-Star was dogged by difficulties. The first blow was when Arena Promotional Facilities decided to "opt out" of erecting lighting. Those of you who know the Hall at Picketts Lock will appreciate that this presents quite a problem! But our friends at Picketts Lock came to the rescue and Terry Phillips, the Recreation Manager at the Centre, Recreation Manager at the Centre, arranged for his own electricion to put up the lights. He also arranged for his staff to put the tables and screens into position on the Friday evening but this did not work quite so well and when the Referee's Com-mittee arrived (bright and early fortunately) they found lights with no tables.

Luckily they found a number of willing hands and the Tournament got started 45 minutes later than scheduled. The main result was that the Referee, Geoff James, could not be as accommodating as usual in accepting new entrants in place of scratch-ings but with 247 "legal" entries for the Men's Singles and a general increase all round, any scratchings were welcomed. It says a lot for the dedication and hard work of the Referee's Committee that by the time I arrived half way through the afternoon, play was on schedule and we finished on time at 10.30 p.m.

Another problem was the fact that the E.T.T.A. Selection Committee decided to revise the Ranking List on Nov. 28. With the draw on the 24th and only seeded players being excused groups, it was decided that we must use the "old" ranking list in order to give players reasonable notice of playing times. I did not hear of any complaints so can only assume that the players accepted our decision.

Of the 20 players on the Men's Ranking List (as published in the October Table Tennis News) only 3 did not enter and 13 of the 14 Women were also entered. For-tunes were mixed. In the Men's Singles six of the seeds disappeared before the last 16 stage was reached, and only three of the players in the Quarter-Finals were seeded above No. 8. But our No. 1 seed, John Hilton, justified his position by winning in the end and another new name appears on our Roll of Honour.

In the Women's Singles six out of eight In the women's Singles six out of eight seeds came through to the Quarter-Finals and the Final was between the No 1 and No. 2 seeds, with Jill Hammersley taking back the title she has held many times before. The first time she won the Women's Singles in the Middlesex Open was before her marriage in 1970-71!

The Men's Doubles was one of the two titles which remained with the holders, Mark Mitchell and Graham Sandley. Hilton had no complaints about his substitute partner, T. Fujioka, following the withdrawal of Douggie Johnson, and they sailed through to the final with only the greater understanding of the opposing pair proving their downfall.

The other title retainers were Melody Ludi and Karen Witt in the Women's Doubles where they had a close final against Jill Hammersley and Linda Jarvis.

The Mixed Final had a Jarvis on either side; Nicky playing with Anita Stevenson and Linda partnering Paul Day. The latter pair proved the stronger on the night but at least the prize money was kept in the family.

RESULTS:

Men's Singles Quarter-finals:

J. Hilton (La) bt I. Horsham (E) 14, 17;

- D. Brown (E) bt J. Walker (Cv) 20, 14; D. Parker (La) bt P. Day (Ca) -11, 17, 23;
- R. Potton (E) bt N. Eckersley (Ch) 15, 15.
- Semi-finals:
- Hilton bt Brown 6, 17; Potton bt Parker -20, 19, 12.
- Final:
- HILTON bt Potton 16, 16.
- Women's Singles Quarter-finals:
- J. Hammersley (Bu) bt M. Smith (Bk) 16, -18, 10;
- A. Gordon (Bk) bt M. Ludi (Y) 12, 18; A. Stevenson (Le) bt H. Williams (Mi) 18. 13:
- K. Witt (Bk) bt K. Rogers (Le) -19, 16, 17.
- Semi-finals: Hammersley bt Gordon 12, 8;
- Witt bt Stevenson 14, 16.
- Final:
- HAMMERSLEY bt Witt 7, 15.
- Men's Doubles Semi-finals:
- M. Mitchell/G. Sandley (Mi) bt M. Crimmins (Sy)/D. Wells (Mi) 15, 20;
- T. Fujioka/Hilton bt Eckersley/Parker 16, 13. Final:

MITCHELL/SANDLEY bt Fujioka/Hilton 19, 15.

- Women's Doubles Semi-finals:
- Hammersley/L. Jarvis (Sy) bt Gordon/ Smith -19, 13, 19;
- Ludi/Witt bt S. Midgley (Y)/M. Reeves (Mi) 12, 11
- Final: LUDI/WITT bt Hammersley/Jarvis
- -15, 18, 21. Mixed Doubles Semi-finals:

N. Jarvis (Cv)/Stevenson bt Hilton/ Hammersley -13, 11, 11; Day/Jarvis bt Eckersley/Witt 14, -15, 17.

- Final: DAY/JARVIS bt Jarvis/Stevenson 10, 13.
- Veteran Singles Semi-finals:
- S. Battrick (E) bt G. Chapman (Sy) 14, -8, 19;

G. Evans (Wal) bt H. Buist (K) 11, 16. Final:

EVANS bt Batrick -19, 17, 14.

Finally, I would like to thank our sponsors, Halexsport and Gillette Industries, for their continued support and the staff of Picketts Lock Centre for all the help they gave us.



John Hilton, men's singles winner at Picketts Lock.

THE DUNCAN COLLECTION FROM PICKETTS LOCK



Bob Potton of Essex, the defeated finalist in the men's singles.



Karen Witt of Berkshire beaten by Jill Hammersley in the final of the women's singles.



Losing semi-finalist Donald Parker of Lancashire beaten by Potton. Photographs by Graham Duncan of Tooting Bec, London, SW17.



David Brown of Essex whose gallop was stopped by John Hilton of Lancashire at the semi-final stage.

County Notes Supplement

SHROPSHIRE NOTES

by Gerald Green

COUNTY 'CLOSED' RESULTS AS EXPECTED

The Shropshire County Closed Championships held at Sundorne on Sunday, 3rd Dec., 1979 produced the expected final results, with Malcolm Green and Linda Degg retaining their singles titles.

Malcolm had been in bed for a week with a chest infection, missing two League and one County match, but although he looked decidedly off colour it did not show in his play and he was never extended.

Linda's bat 'twiddling' continues to confuse the rest of the women, and she had no real problems during the day, although Tracey Powell started in very convincing fashion in the semi-final.

Malcolm and Tracey won the Mixed Doubles for the fourth successive year, but the other Doubles produced new holders with Les and Ian Baker winning the men's title and Market Drayton's Colette Soan and Alison Barker the womens. Nobby Johnston, unseeded, won the Veterans from the No. 1 Bill Stephens.

The Tournament, organised by Bill Harris and Barry Taylor, supported this year by John Casewell and David Jones, ran smoothly with the late finish only being due to the fact that the hall is not available to us until 2 p.m. County Chairman Cyril Stannett presented the trophles — and for the first time 'cash' prizes. RESULTS:

Men's Singles Semi-finals:

Malcolm Green (S) bt Les Baker (S) 12, 11. Clive Roberts (O) bt Mark Pugh (S)

-19, 14, 14. Final:

GREEN bt Roberts 7, 6.

Women's Singles Semi-finals:

Linda Degg (S) bt Tracey Powell (T) -13, 12, 8; Colette Soan (MD) bt Jane Cheetham (S) -12, 17, 16. Final:

DEGG bt Soan 16, 18.

Men's Doubles Semi-finals:

Les and Ian Baker (S) bt Tony Horobin (T)/Motto Jones (S) 8, 13; Mark Pugh/Martin Chambers (S) bt

Green/Roberts 12, 21.

Final:

BAKER/BAKER bt Pugh/Chambers 21, 17.

Women's Doubles Semi-finals:

Soan/Alison Barker (MD) bt Cheetham/ Degg 19, 20; Powell/Julie Green (S) bt Kate Harris (S)/ Denise Boughey (MD) 18, 16.

Final:

SOAN/BARKER bt Powell/Green -16, 12, 14. Mixed Doubles Semi-finals:

Green/Powell bt Green/Chambers 11, 14; Pugh/Cheetham bt Degg/Tony Cheetham (S) 17, -22, 20.

Final:

GREEN/POWELL bt Pugh/Cheetham 10, 19. Veteran Singles Semi-finals: Nobby Johnston (S) bt Norman Maycock (S) 15, 13;

Bill Stephens (S) bt John Holding (T) 9, -18, 11. Final:

JOHNSTON bt Stephens 4, 17.

Code:

S-Shrewsbury, T-Telford, O-Oswestry, MD-Market Drayton.

The Telford Table Tennis Association Closed (sponsored by C. & W. Walker Ltd., Donnington), held a couple of weeks before the County, saw Tony Horobin reach, and lose, three finals. His biggest disappoint-ment no doubt being in the Men's Singles, when on No. 1 acad be used not compared by when as No. 1 seed he was not expected to have much trouble, but team mate Bill Herbert thought otherwise and came out on top in a titanic struggle.

RESULTS:

Men's Singles: W. Herbert bt A. Horobin -21, 15, 23.

Women's Singles: T. Powell bt J. Ballard 14, -18, 12.

Men's Doubles:

F. Deakin/Herbert bt Horobin/ M. C. F. Jones 18, 19.

Mixed Doubles: Jones/J. Wakeley bt Horobin/J. Seager 19, 16.

Girls' Singles: Wakeley bt A. Lowe -16, 18, 17.

Boys' Singles: M. Tufft bt G. Cooper 15, 13.

Veteran Singles:

R. Spencer bt B. Edwards 18, 15.

Ivan Smith (S) our No. 1 Junior looks set for an England Cadet Ranking after reach-ing the semi-final of the Junior 'Select' at Cleveland and a good performance in the English 'Closed' at Oxford should clinch it.

On the County scene we are not doing too well. The Seniors losing 4-6 to Derby and Clwyd. Malcolm Green won his two singles against Derby, beating Steve Yallop and Steve McCarthy, but was unavailable for the Clwyd game through illness. However, his deputy Mike Beaman performed very well beating Greg Powell and Alun Williams. The Women (both still Juniors) Tracey Powell and Jane Cheetham, did exceedingly well in both matches and their performances augur well for the future.

The Junior 1 lost 3-7 to Derby and beat Warwick 9-1. Again the girls (Colette Soan and Alison Barker) performed well in both matches.

The Junior 2 lost 3-7 to Hereford with the girls, Kate Harris and Alison Lowe, taking the honours.

the younger generation — Julie Green, Les Baker and Ian Baker have passed the County Umpire's written paper, and County Umpire's written paper, and practicals are in hand. Bill Harris the County Umpire's Secretary will be only too pleased to hear from anyone else who is interested.

HAMPSHIRE NOTES

by David Cosway

SERINA STILL UNBEATEN

The senior first team have started the season well but nevertheless were unfor-tunate to lose 4-6 to Somerset. With Carl Prean unavailable, Ramar Bhalla of Aldershot made his debut for the county and won one of his singles as did Derek Holman and Serina Sinanin. A draw against Dorset these days is a very good result for the county and was gained by an all-round team effort. and was gained by an all-round team effort. Chris Wilshire beat Martin Abbott, Holman and Prean each beat Jason Creasey and combined to beat Abbott and Trevor Smith in the men's doubles. Serina Sinanin con-tinued her unbeaten singles run with a patient two-straight win over Joyce Coop and how good it is to see a young player beat such an experienced player in expedite. The second team in their first match after last season's championship were forced to last season's championship were forced to make team changes and lost 2-8 to Dorset II. Gary Longland and Kathy Conlon each won a singles.

Although losing narrowly to Kent juniors 4-6, John Roberts won his two singles and repeated this in his side's 6-4 win over Surrey II.

The junior second team lost their first match of the season 3-7 to Dorset with Andy Broughton being the best of the Hampshire team.

Wins by 5-4 over Worcester and 8-1 over Wiltshire again put the veterans 'A' team in with a chance of reaching the play-off with Dorset and Avon again being their main challengers.

JUNIOR CLOSED

Really a benefit day for Prean with the Isle of Wight 12-year-old winning every event he entered in straight games through-out. In the U-17 semi-finals David Collins out. In the U-17 semi-finals David Collins (Basingstoke) beat Graham Pointer (South-ampton) 15, 20 while Prean beat John Roberts (Southampton) 14, 16. In the final Collins was no match for Prean losing -10, -15. In the U-14 boys' final Carl beat Peter Yearworth (Portsmouth) 14, 6 while in the U-12 final he beat Sean Pickin (Basing-stoke) 4, 6. Carl completed his day by joining Roberts to win the boys' doubles final against Graham Pointer and Steve final against Graham Pointer and Steve Snow 15, 13.



SERINA SINANIN



CARL PREAN

Finally, it is good to report that three of

In the girls' events Bournemouth appear to have come up with another future star in Lianne Harman who beat Alison Bilmore (South East Hants) -13, 12, 9 in the U-14 final and Joanne Bush (Bournemouth) the county No. 1 in the U-17 final 8, 16.

SENIOR CLOSED

A disappointing clash with the national ranking tournament prevented Prean from entering and perhaps being the youngestever winner. The men's singles did not prove a good event for the seeding committee. No. 1 seed Holman made his exit in the quarterfinals to Smith, No. 2 seed Wilshire went out first round to D. Gilham, No. 4 seed Steve Kitcher lost to Abbott in the third round. Bhalla the No. 3 seed, had good wins over Gary Longland (19 and 14) and John Robinson (19 and 16) to reach the semifinal. Graham Outrim (Aldershot) beat Abbott (19 and 18) to reach the semi-final while Chris Pickard (Bournemouth) beat P. Shannon 16, 16. The best set I saw was the semi-final victory of Smith over Outrim 9, 15. In the other semi Pickard beat Bhalla 17, 13. The final was a disappointment — Pickard just could not read Smith's game and the 14, 18 scoreline in favour of Smith was really flattering to Pickard. It is amazing that Trevor has only won this title once before — in 1962/3. I have a great deal of respect for Trevor's game and he was certainly the best player on the day but where are the up-and-coming players in the county? and where were Southampton holders of this title since 1972 — and not one man even in the semis.

The holder of the women's singles title Sarah Gilson lost to Ivy Kershaw (Bournemouth) in the quarter-final and in the semi-final Ivy won the first game against county No. 1 Serina Sinanin (Portsmouth) 21-9 but lost the next two -14, -22. In the other half Ann Longland (Southampton) had good wins over Rose Grimaldi (Isle of Wight) and No. 2 seed Angie Gilbert (Portsmouth) 17, 20 to reach the final. Again after the good semis the final was an anti-climax with Serina gaining her first senior title with a 4, 16 win.

The men's doubles was dominated by Dorset players. Abbott and Robinson easily beat Smith and Creasey 11, 17. Bournemouth also won the women's doubles with Sarah Gilson retaining the title, this time partnering Ivy Kershaw and proving just too good for Portsmouth's Angie Gilbert and Serina Sinanin 22, 15. Sarah Gilson gained her second title when she partnered the new slimline Martin Abbott to win the mixed, beating Outrim and Andrea Seagar (Aldershot) in the final 11, 4. The seven year reign of Ray Lush (Portsmouth) as Hampshire veteran champion at last came to an end when he was beaten in the final by Isle of Wight's Jim Daley. After winning the first game 21-12, Jim led 17-13 in the second and after Ray came back to take this game at 18 I thought he had blown his chance but he led all through the third to win his first title 21-14.

Sadly it looks as if the Isle of Wight will go their separate way from Hampshire as I understand they have applied to the E.T.T.A. to be considered as a separate county. As John Prean of the Island says "People here do feel the poor relations of the Hampshire family and everyone feels the game will develop better in this way. The island is a county and attaching us to Hampshire can never be anything but a transplant and no substitute for full independence". While I sympathise with these thoughts I consider it unfortunate that this matter has got to this stage with no attempt having been made to get the two sides together to discuss possible reconcilliations. While on Island matters, I hear their champions for years, Ryde lost their first match since 1973 when they lost 4-6 to Columbia. Prean won three, Paul Morton won two and these two combined to win the doubles. Prean incidentally won the national ranking tournament cadets event winning all his ten sets 2-straight and also won both the U-13 and U-15 Kent junior open events. John Prean tells me Jacques Secretin is a previous winner of both these titles!

The lack of interest in the inter-town league is typified by the mixed division. Two teams have dropped out since the start of the season, one of them I am sad to say — Southampton — who can't find sufficient players to represent the largest association in the county. Champions Bournemouth have yet to play a match and it is half way through the season! Aldershot and Portsmouth are unbeaten to date in this division. In the men's division Bournemouth, Basingstoke and Aldershot are all unbeaten and Gosport and Fareham have only lost one — 4-6 to Bournemouth and their up-andcoming junior Graham Toole has only lost one of twelve sets. Southampton "A" and Bournemouth "A" have both won all their games in the junior "A" division while Southampton "B" and the Isle of Wight are unbeaten at the top of the junior division 2. I must admit I was surprised to see the Island team in the second division after finishing second last season in the first division. Does this mean Southampton "A" and Bournemouth "A" are fighting a relegation battle at the top of the first division? No — actually the Island asked to be placed in this divison! Portsmouth "A" and Bournemouth "A" are both unbeaten at the top of the veteran division 1.

I always finish with the commercial. This time on behalf of the Portsmouth Association who stage the second European League match of the season in the county when Sweden are the visitors to the Guildhall on Wednesday, Feb. 13. Tickets at £1.50 (£1.00 for juniors) are now available from Mr. H. Tucker of 32 Kimbolton Road, Portsmouth.

MIDDLESEX NOTES

by Iris Moss

NEW RANKINGS

With the season almost half-way through, we now have three unbeaten teams in the County Championships, our Junior Premier team having played and won their first three matches. Harry Mills filled the breach and agreed to take on the captaincy of the Senior 2nd team so I am pleased to report that we did not have to withdraw a team.

The main task of the Committee during the last month has been the organisation and running of the Middlesex 3-Star Open Championships. a report of which appears elsewhere in this edition. But the Selection Committee did get round to issuing Ranking Lists, which are as follows:-

Senior Ranking List

Men 1 M. Mitchell. 2 G. Sandley, 3 C. Wilson. 4 J. Souter, 5 M. Les. 6 C. Papantoniou, 7 N. Stratton. 8 P. Stratton. 9 D. Jemmett, 10 T. Campbell. 11 N. Richardson, 12 'A. Lindsay, 13 L. Landry, 14 C. Carder, 15 E. Gorniak, 16 D. Smith. 17 C. Buckley, 18 S. Walman, 19 M. O'Mahoney, 20 K. Thorn, 21 H. Mills. Women

1 A. Mitchell 2 M. Reeves, 3 L. Tyler, 4 H. Williams, 5 S. Hamilton, 6 M. Walker, 7 S. Dove, 8 E. Britton, 9 S. Sandley, 10 M. Symes.

Junior Ranking List

Boys 1 Sandley, 2 Wilson, 3 Souter, 4 Les. 5 P. Stratton, 6 Gorniak, 7 A. Smith, 8 T. Stark, 9 H. Meadows, 10 D. Pilling, 11 R. Spiegelhalter, 12 R. Nelhams, 13 M. Dare, 14 C. Gibbons, 15 N. Tyler (U-14), 16 K. Kavanagh, 17 S. Smith, 18 M. Lubienski, 19 J. Curtis, 20 D. Hughes. Girls

J. Reeves. 2 H. Williams, 3 Tyler, 4 Sandley, 5 M. Williams, 6 Y. Knight. 7 L. Goldsmith (U-14), 8 K. Spencer (U-14), 9 S. Jones, 10 M. John, 11 K. Bussey (U-14), 12 F. Hickman, 13 J. Landon, 14 G. Blanch (U-14), 15 R. Knight (U-14).

Veteran Ranking List

1 Lindsay, 2 Landry, 3 Smith, 4 I. Redfearn, 5 M. Close, 6 M. Adedayo, 7 G. Ailward, 8 G. Muranyi, 9 P. Partos, 10 E. Snook, 11 D. Somers, 12 M. Isaacs, 13 A. Marshall, 14 J. Morris, 15 J. Schofield.

Women

Men

1 Symes. 2 Mrs. K. Nunn, 3 Mrs. M. Harris, 4 Miss E. Britton, 5 Miss M. Cherry, 6 Mrs. B. Blanch, 7 Mrs. M. Prowen, 8 Mrs. M. Seilly.

As usual, we have differences of opinion with the E.T.T.A. Selection Committee, but ranking can only be done in the light of overall performances and can look very silly when a player has a particularly brilliant "on" day or conversely a bad "off" day.

STAFFORDSHIRE NOTES

by Jack Chalkley

STORY BOOK DEBUT

Staffs senior "A" side approached their match with Gloucestershire in their County Championships programme with reasonable confidence even though they had to call on 12-year-old Amanda Hegarty as a last minute substitute. Our trio of men, Tony Isaac, Andrew Bellingham and Andrew Rich should have had the better of David Harvey, Bill Dawe and Martin Lane, playing for Gloucestershire, but when they went to a 0-3 deficit, it looked as though the best we could hope for was a 5-all draw. But in a story-book debut, Amanda not only partnered Janet Carr to win the doubles in straight games but went on to give a mature performance in her singles against Chris Jacopi -20, 12, 19. And so we ran out winners 6-4 despite Bellingham losing his for him.

One of the reasons for Amanda standing in was that both the County Junior teams were engaged in their own National divisions. The "A" team, in the Premier Division, played their first group of matches at St. Neots, and recorded victories against Yorkshire 6-4. and Berkshire 10-0 but went down to newly-promoted Devon 3-7 Although they still have to play Middlesex and Surrey, probably the two strongest sides, their performance so far should ensure their place in the Premier Division next season when, with almost an unchanged side, they could be in the running for top honours. The team of Paul Barnett, Andrew Dixon, Bill Bridgeman, Jill Harris and Shirley Cain played unchanged in all three matches. The "B" team of Craig Bakewell, Paul Dilger. Mark Devitt, Rachael Roberts and Vickl Bellingham held Derbyshire to a 5-all draw in the first match of their programme. This team is being selected on a squad basis to provide representative table tennis to several of the up-and-coming juniors.

Norton, with only one win out of four in the Div. 2 of the National Club League, failed to improve their record in the match against Salford. Neither Eddie Wilkes or Mark Evans could make much progress against the experienced Roger Hampson, but both took veteran Derek Schofield to three to give the audience the pleasure of a longer view of this remarkable and entertaining player. Stan Deakin was the only successful Norton player, winning both his sets against the Weatherby brothers in fine style even though the second was rather close — an edge point on "deuce" in the third! Norton could not really complain about the final score line of 7-2 in favour of Salford. but neither could the spectators who had witnessed some sound and exciting table tennis.

Only a few changes have been made to the initial county rankings. Phil Anderson and Deakin move up to 4 and 5 in the men's listing. Vicki Bellingham takes over at 6 in the women's and Pat Brookes and Joanne Chubb come in at 10 and 11, and Vicki Bellingham moves up to 5 in the girls'.

16 entries have been received for the new Beattie Trophy competition. The first round pairings are:- Stafford "C" v Stone "B", Wolverhampton v Stafford "B", Lichfield "A" v Walsall "B", Walsall "A" v West Bromwich "B", Cannock "B" v Bridgnorth, West Bromwich "A" v Stafford "A", Cannock "A" v Stone "A", Potteries v Lichfield "B". The matches are to be played by Jan. 31. The semi-finals and final are provisionally booked for March 23, possibly at the Woodfield club.

Finally, would all players in the County take note that the County Closed will now take place on March 2nd, 1980. The date has been changed to avoid the clash with the Cleveland Junior Select Tournament and it has been made possible by the generosity of the Potteries and District League who have agreed to switch the date with their own closed tournament. Both events are held at the Northwood Sports Centre. Incidentally, there are a few entry forms circulated with the unchanged date, so please pass the word around.

AVON NOTES

by Robert Oldfield

NOTHING DETERRED

At the risk of claiming a premature victory, nothing short of a plague epidemic would seem able to deter Avon Juniors from the Division 3 South Midland championship and a place in the promotion stakes. Despite one member down with chicken-pox, the juniors travelled to Leominster to hand out a 10-0, all-straight trouncing to Hereford on Dec. 1. It was just as well they did hurry the match as all of them, except Simon Fletcher (on his county debut), then had to speed down the motorway for the Avon I v Somerset fixture at Bridgwater in the evening.

Here it was a different story and Avon were on the receiving end, although this was hardly surprising with Avon playing two short. To cover for the absent Martyn Smith, Andy Creed and myself moved up a place to give Paul Jackson his first county Senior singles chance whilst the women were also depleted and Rebecca Russe took her Senior debut in the No. 2 spot usually held by Tina Shortman. Apart from two men's singles and the women's doubles where Geraldine Sandford stood in to support Helen Gore, Avon were truly chopped off except in the No. 1 women's clash when Helen Gore found Jill Wilson in fine attacking form. Somerset's Brian Reeves made it a 'captain's innings' winning the two best sets of the match and the men's doubles.

In the third county match of the day, Avon Veterans entertained their second team at Bath. They confirmed their superiority with a 6-3 win to continue the rivalry with Hampshire for this season's divisional honours but not without a few shocks due to the fine form of the seconds captain, John Morris.

In the last few seasons, the county's leagues have become rather one-horse affairs with Failand in Bristol. Fry's in Bath, Y.A.A. in Mendip and the Y.M.C.A. in Weston all dominating the premier leagues and cup competitions. It adds variety then to see the shifts of power with time and these have been evident with three clubs in particular of late. In the Bristol league Knowle and Brislington have three of the county's representative players in Andy Creed, Tony Brown and Paul Jackson and already this season have beaten Belsten cup-holders. Failand, and hold a one point lead after the first half fixtures in the premier division. In Bath, for the first time in two seasons, Fry's 'A' dropped six sets in one match, to the younger players of Longwell Green, lead by the county No. 7 Phil

Riley. A similar story emerges from the Mendip where Y.A.A. are being pressed harder than usual this season by Literary Sports.

I had hoped to be able to report on the inter-league competitions this month but it appears that not many fixtures have been played so far due to the heavy county in-volvements and various postponements. Nonetheless some matches have been played and in the Midland League the Bristol team of Kevin Satchell, Martyn Smith and Creed beat Birmingham 'A' 7-3. The match marked the retirement of Brian Reeves from Bristol representative play and there can be none who disagree that he has given fine and dedicated service to his city over many years. Meanwhile he still turns out for Failand to compete with Bridgwater for the top spot in the Somerset and Avon League. On the distail side the participation in the Cotswold Ladies' League flourishes with both Bristol and Bath putting in two teams this season to take advantage of the newlyformed second division. The matches are extremely popular and they give a great opportunity for our women to play against the strong youngsters of Swindon and Oxford. Certainly Bath 'B' are doing well, with Shirley O'Brien undefeated and Judy Shenton improving fast in the face of this opposition.

Finally, to round up this month's Notes, a mention of the National Cup competitions where Bristol's hopes must lie with their entries in the Wilmott and Carter Cups. The men, having beaten Cheltenham 5-2, are away to Poole in the next round whilst the boys played Reading on Dec. 27, Bristol's Rosebowl side also play Reading and the girls have a bye to the third round where they will do very well to beat Swindon!

CAMBRIDGESHIRE NOTES

by Leslie Constable

ANOTHER SETBACK

Cambs chances of retaining the Div. 2 East title had another setback when they were held to a 5-5 draw by Norfolk at Norwich. Although they were never behind in the match, Cambs squandered a 5-3 lead to drop a valuable point. They were indebted to Junior Robert Swift who has only gained his place this season through injury to Geoff Davies. He won both his singles and gave good support to Keith Richardson who was also unbeaten. Mick Harper could not win any of his sets and fell both to Bennett and Graver although Swift beat Graver. Joanne Palmer lost to Wendy Hogg in three and Jane Hunter also lost her singles against Miss Hales.

Cambs Juniors kept their 100% record with a 7-3 win over Bedfordshire at March. The formidable Bellinger sisters won all the visitors' sets but the Cambs players were much too strong. Only the last two sets were close when Mandy Judd took Jackie Bellinger to three and Gary Jordan had a struggle to beat his "bogey" player David Sharpe, winning in three close games.

The Senior second team followed up their win over Suffolk with a comfortable win over Beds II in a Div. 3 East match at March, Beds won the opening set when David Cartwright beat Gary Jordan but Cambs won the next seven. Andy Withers won two singles also the doubles with Gary Jordan who, along with Michael Jackman and Valerie Parkes chipped in with a singles. Valerie also won the women's doubles with Mandy Judd who surprisingly lost to Julie Dimmock. Paul Birch scored a third win for the visitors by beating Jackman in the final set. A weakened Junior second team, who had Paul Oldroyd as a late replacement for the indisposed Julian Wheel, lost 4-6 to Northants I in a Junior 3 East Midlands match at Northampton. Alison Edge and Ruth Hunter were unbeaten for the second successive match but

the Cambs boys could only muster the doubles through Paul Stacey and Jamie Frost.

In the 1st round of the Wilmott Cup, Cambridge won a thriller away to Dereham. Cambridge with a 4-1 lead after two wins for Albert Jackson and one each for John Thurston and David Tiplady appeared to be coasting to any easy victory but were shocked when Dereham took the next three sets to level at 4-4. The result hinged on the final set between veteran Thurston and Trevor Blunn and, as so often in the past, the veteran saw Cambridge home who meet either Wisbech or Hunts Central in the next round.

It is rare for games in the Cambridge Table Tennis League to go to expedite but in the New Chesterton Institute v Swavesey Div. I match there were three and all involved Ken Green of N.C.I. The first came in the third game against Brian Thomas when Green led 16-14 and he finally won at 17. His second was against Roger Fensom and occurred in the second game after Green had lost the fifth at -8. Fensom was again leading 16-9 when expedite was called and then went on to win at 15. Green completed his "hat-trick" of expedites against Barry Hagger this time when he led 19-18 and went on to win at 18. He lost the second -17 but then went on to win the third at 14. Green, who is a National Umpire, is usually involved in "expedites" off the table!Fensom who beat Green also went on to beat Tiplady but N.C.I. finally won after a long evening 8-2 which keeps them in second place behind TSB Soham I in the first division.

Mandy Judd, Impington's 13-year-old ranked-cadet scored her first maximum m Div. 1 of the Cambs League in her team's 7-3 win over Y.M.C.A. Impington were bottom before this month but their seven points brought them up three places to go above Y.M.C.A. Swavesey and Press whose 2-8 defeat by N.C.I leaves them bottom of the division. There is no holding University I and II in Div. II. The first team thrashed their third 10-0 and the second team only dropped one set to Press II. These two teams are now level at the top of the division, eight points clear of Fisons who defeated Telephones I 6-4 and dropped them in third place St. George's I after holding second place in Div. IIIA for a short period, lost 2-8 to Soham V who are at the top. This let in Impington II who beat bottom of the league Press II to take second place from St. George's I.

Two teams are beginning to take a grip on 3B after the leadership had changed hands several times in the early weeks of the season. Gas go top with 53 points following a convincing 8-2 win over Saffron Walden although I have information that General Accident crushed Gas 8-2 and that their new signing Bob Parkins is making his presence felt, being unbeaten in the few matches he has played. Accident are now serious contenders for the division. When Gas beat Saffron Walden, Martin Cadman won three and inflicted a rare defeat on Cameron Alexander the Cambridge Junior. St. George's III are playing well in this division and are just one point behind Gas. Inspired by Brian Tolliday with a maximum in each match. St. George's beat Impington III 6-4 and Sawston 8-2 on consecutive nights. Wesley IV are going well in Div. IVA, with Martin Livermore and Peter Melton in great form, and are unbeaten.

TSB Soham VI winners of the Cambridge & District League Knock-Out Handicap Trophy last season have been knocked out in the second round of this season's competition. With only Chris Everitt remaining from last season's team they were no match for Wesley IV for whom Cambridge Junior Livermore was unbeaten. Everitt with two wins kept the holders in the match until the eighth set but he had little support. Last season's beaten finalists TSB Soham I passed through to the first round without dropping a set to Saffrons II despite having a handicap of 18 points in a 31 point match. Three other Saffron teams did win through to the next round, two of them against teams from higher divisions. The third team, top of 4A, beat third division team Impington II 8-1 despite losing the opening set while the fourth team also beat third division opposition. For Saffron I. Alexander was in good form when he and skipper Capdeville were both unbeaten in their 6-3 win over Torchbearers II.

St. Ives who are doing well in Div. I of the league, found a handicap of 22 points just too much for them against Fisons II from Div. V. They led 3-1 and 4-3 but just failed in the end despite an excellent performance from county player Jordan who was un-beaten. Another first division team to fall by the wayside was Swavesey I who also faced a 22 point deficit and went down 2-7 to South Cambs R.D.C. for whom Thorpe and Viney were unbeaten. New Chesterton Institute who were knocked out of the competition last season by GORD II made no mistake this time by beating them 7-2 al-though Keith Ramsbottom had some satisfaction in beating both Thurston and Tip-lady, Fulbourn Hospital were beaten 10-0 by Titleist in a league match earlier in the season but turned the tables on them in the Knock-Out by winning 6-3 on a level handi-cap. This was a meritorious win by the Hospital men against the runaway Div. V leaders.

Paul Day has regained his No. 2 position Paul Day has regained his No. 2 position in the England ranking list with some good performances in Open Tournaments plus his good form in the National Club league where he has only one defeat. Cambs county champion Keith Richardson is still in the "top twenty" although he drops two places from 16 to 18. Richardson is also a member of the Soham team which tops the National Club League and has won five of his eight singles.

There is still a dearth of Umpires in Cambridgeshire and it is still left to the few to control matches at the various venues. I hear that there are a number of applicants to take their exams and I hope that in the near future that we shall see quite a few more qualified to take the burden off "the few"!

The next batch of matches in the St. Neots Invitation League were due to take place at the end of December. I hope to report on them in next month's issue of the Magazine.

PROFILE — JOHN ASHMAN

John Ashman originally started his play-ing career at the Wilburton Club in St. Peters Hall and quickly got into the lime-light with his attractive left-handed style. After Wilburton he joined the very successful Soham Club and at the start he was a great force for them in league matches, enabling them to become the top team in enabling them to become the top team in the league. He also turned his hand to coaching and was very successful, his "crowning glory" being the production of Paul Day who later became Cambs Cham-pion, English Closed Champion and now is No. 2 for England after appearing in many International matches with success also appearing for England in the World Cham-pionships at Birmingham John still plays pionships at Birmingham. John still plays very successfully in the Cambs. League and still has a number of years before him in which he can puzzle the opposition!

NORTHANTS NOTES

by Dennis Millman

JUST REWARD

A major deficiency in the essential structure of Northants table tennis is fast being remedied by the Northants Schools Table Tennis Association, which recently held its first Schools' Team Championships at the Nene College Sports Centre, Northampton.

With most of the initial effort coming from County Coach, Dave Marsh, Glennis

Hooper and Honorary Secretary Clive spinney, their enthusiasm was justly rewarded when Levi Strauss provided over £300 in sponsorship, a most generous gesture, which should do much to increase an entry lower than originally anticipated.

Nevertheless the standard of play was high, with the Boys' Under-16 Final, the pick of the bunch, and the Graeme McKim - Terry Cardwell clash the individual highlight, as Cardwell played brilliantly to beat McKim -19, 14, 17. However, Cardwell's colleagues failed to be suitably inspired, and Northampton School for Boys went on to take the title, with Beanfield Comprehensive School, Corby left as runners-up.

Winner in the important Junior School Section was Rushden Whitefriars Junior School, who in quick succession accounted for St. Thomas More, Kettering, Kings-thorpe Middle School and Goldings Middle School, for the loss of just five games.

Winners: Boys' U-19:

Weston Favell Upper School Boys' U-16: Northampton School for Boys Girls' U-16: Northampton School for Girls Boys' U-13:

Wollaston Comprehensive School Girls' U-13:

Ryelands Middle School, Northampton Juniors U-11:

Rushden Whitefriars Junior School

The latest series of County Championship The latest series of County Championship matches saw all three County sides in action, and for once none of them lost, although only the Juniors actually won, when Keith Nicoll, Ken Nicoll and Neil Knatt proved too strong for the Cambridge-shire second string, and took all six boys' singles. However with the boys' doubles still a thorny problem, and the girls too inex-perienced at this level, a 6-4 success was all that could be expected.

No doubt the Firsts would also have ended as victors over Bucks, but for the late withas victors over Bucks, but for the late with-drawal of Gary Alden, with a deep-seated shoulder injury. As it was, all five players contributed to a draw, with Connie Bane the star, as she, Romano Gallo and Dave Marsh gained singles wins, while Gallo and Steve Lyon, and Mandy Wallis and Mrs. Bane took the dowher Bane took the doubles.

Theoretically the Seconds should also Theoretically the Seconds should also have been weakened, when Marsh was elevated to the Firsts, but his stand-in David Gallo played superbly to take both singles against Berkshire Seconds, and with a top form Keith Nicoll taking both his singles and guiding Tim Chamberlain to a Men's Doubles success, this was another match in which honours ended even.

Perhaps the form displayed in this fixture. was instrumental in determining the main changes in the County Rankings for Men, issued recently, while in the Women's section, Mandy Wallis displaces sister Anne at No. 1. Complete Rankings as from 1st January 1980.

Men

Gary Alden, 2 Steve Lyon, 3 Keith Nicoll. 4 Romano Gallo, 5 Dave Marsh, 6 David Gallo, 7 Tim Chamberlain, 8 Keith Jones, 9 John Horne, 10 John Palmer. Ladies

1 Mandy Wallis, 2 Anne Wallis, 3 Connie Bane, 4 Helen Cottier, 5 Glennis Hooper, 6 Margaret Maltby, 7 Christine Price, 3 Joyce Porter, 9 Dorothy Marsh, 10 Joanne Cutler.

Boys 1 Keith Nicoll, 2 Ken Nicoll, 3 Neil Knatt, 4 Richard Malfait, 5 Neil Ridge, 6 Graeme McKim, 7 Ian Hawes, 8 Terry Cardwell. Girls

1 Joanne Cutler, 2 Jane Nicoll, 3 Jane Wallis, 4 Caron Wallis, 5 Gill Philpot.

Cadet Boys 1 Graeme McKim, 2 Ian Hawes, 3 Robert Allen, 4 Louis Mann, 5 Nigel Metcalfe.

Cadet Girls 1 Jane Wallis, 2 Julia Kendall, 3 Anne Nicoll. 4 Maxine Shears, 5 Sue Nannery.

Boys' 'A' Group

Ashley Bennett, John Connors, Paul Egan, Steven Kendall, Andrew Kimbell, Stephen Miller, Mark Nannery, Michael Spear.

Cadet Boys' 'A' Group Kevin Bird, Andrew Edmonds, Kevin Elsworth, Matthew Hughes, Steven Rogers.

The St. Neots Winter League Junior The St. Neots Winter League Junior Division was the first to be completed, with Kettering, Northampton and Wellington finishing 3rd, 4th and 6th respectively. Kettering was particularly unfortunate, for with all eleven matches played on Saturdays, County No. 1 Keith Nicoll was unable to be called upon, and his absence from the side was enough to give Peter-borough the opportunity of taking the title. For Kettering, Richard Malfait maintained his recent impressive form to win 26 sets his recent impressive form, to win 26 sets out of 33, with Ken Nicoll gaining twenty four and Terry Cardwell seventeen successes

Top Six Places

	P	W	L	P
Peterborough	11	10	1	74
Cambridge	11	9	2	74
Kettering	11	9	2	67
Northampton	11	9	2	64
St. Neots	11	5	6	48
Wellingborough	11	5	6	46

On the Wellingborough League scene. Gary Gary Alden's absence from the Roth-borough side, has given the Wellingborough Youth Centre's quartet of Mick Hawes, John Sanders, Brian Wooding and Neil Knatt an opportunity of narrowing the gap at the top of an abbreviated Premier Division, very short of teams of a high enough standard to make the venture an unqualified success.

Kettering Town 'A' still lead the Ketter-ing League's Premier Division, but continue to be hard pressed by a Rothborough team, for whom Ken Nicoll and Mick Deacon are beginning to excel.

The situation in Northampton's Premier somewhat confused, as title holders Y.M.C.A. 'A' appear reluctant to complete fixtures as scheduled, but nevertheless appear to have the necessary ability to retain the title at the season's end.

And so to 1980 - A Happy and Successful New Year to All Readers.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE NOTES

by Leslie Smith

SURPRISE RESULTS

The Trustee Savings Bank Gloucestershire Closed Championships held at Stroud Leisure Centre on Sunday, Dec. 9, produced plenty of surprise results with the juniors providing most of the shocks.

Stroud's Andrew Golding just failed to complete the double when he lost in the final of the men's singles to Mark Owen, having previously won the boys' championhaving previously won the boys' champion-ship. Owen had to beat Dave Harvey, the county No. 1 in the semi-final, his conqueror in last season's final, while Golding beat Martin Lane the county No. 2 in the semis after having overcome Darren Griffin, the county's top junior in the guarters. The county's top junior in the quarters. The ladies not to be outdone, also had some shock results. Following her successes in winning the girl's U-17 and U-14 titles. Nina Tsakarisianos, the 14-year-old Cheltenham girl, reached the final of the women's singles only to lose to the experienced Jean Golding, mother of Andrew. Nina had to beat the county No. 1 Cathy Robb in the semis on her way to the final. RESULTS:

Men's Singles:

M. Owen bt A. Golding 17, -15, 13.

Men's Doubles: Owen/M. Owens bt M. Lane/D. Harvey 19, -16, 21,

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Women's Singles: J. Golding bt N. Tsakarisianos 12, 16.

Women's Doubles:

C. Robb/Tsakarisianos bt Golding/S. Giles 17, -18, 16. Boys' Singles:

Golding bt G. Slack 18, 16.

Consolation Boys' Singles: D. Griffin bt T. Squance 10, 9.

Veteran Singles: A. Giles bt J. Poynting 11, 20.

Mixed Doubles:

V. Torthenchai/Robb bt Golding/Golding -18 17, 13.

The girls' events were played on a group basis with Tsakarisianos winning both having Carol Slack in 2nd place, also in both events.

The trophies were presented by Mr. Tom Jackson and Mr. John Walker of the Trustee Savings Bank to whom the Gloucestershire Association are deeply grateful for their help. Mrs. Betty Naylor presented the Men's and Ladies' cups which had been given to the Association in memory of her late husband, Frank Newell, who was the county President and Chairman for many years, and also a vice-president of the E.T.T.A.

On the inter-town scene, Cheltenham are having one of their best seasons for many years. At the time of writing, they had only lost one match out of the 15 played, that to Bristol 2-5 in the Wilmott Cup. Stroud, when they are able to field their strongest teams, are also having some success with the ladies — after a bad start — beating Learnington 9-1 in their last match in the Cotswold Ladies' League.

NORTHUMBERLAND NOTES

by Pauline Jackson

MIXED FORTUNES

The three Northumberland County teams had mixed fortunes in their last series of matches on Dec. 1.

The first team, who were weakened by the last minute withdrawal of Barbara Kearney, returned pointless from their long journey to Burton-on-Trent, but did not succumb to the strong Derbyshire team without a fight. Six out of the ten sets went to three games, with Andrew Clark proving the outstanding player by winning both his singles against Phil Vickers and David Yallop. Ian Robertson also beat Vickers to make it a double defeat for Derbyshire's No. 1 ranked player, but also suffered his first singles loss of the season when he went down to Martin Kinsella after winning the first game.

The young second team scored a great win over Cheshire III at Byker Community Centre. They started badly, losing the first two sets, but then won the next five in a row to lead 5-2. Cheshire then fought back to narrow the gap to 5-4, but Northumber-land came back to win the match when Michael Watson took the last set of the afternoon. In addition to Watson's victory, Chris Shepherd and Martin Young each won a singles, and Watson and Young combined to take the doubles. Shirley Laver, originally only a reserve, made her mark on her County debut by winning her singles and the doubles with Susan Norris. The results are worth recording.

NORTHUMBERLAND II 6 CHESHIRE III 4 C. Shepherd lost to R. Weatherby -12, -22; bt T. Worthington -17, 20, 16.

- M. Young lost to Weatherby -15, -17: bt P. Collins 16, 15. M. Watson bt Worthington -10, 17, 16;

- M. Watson of Worthington -10, 17, 16, lost to Collins -15, 16, -19, S. Norris lost to M. Turner 18, -19, -12. S. Laver bt K. Tonge 11, -20, 13. Young/Watson bt Weatherby/Collins -10, 21, 15. Norris/Laver bt Turner/Tonge 12, -20, 18.

The juniors, still without Neil McMaster. suffered a narrow 4-6 defeat in their match at Thornaby against Cleveland II. Caron

Buglass and Christine Burke had outstanding matches, being undefeated in both singles and doubles, but the only other set won was by John Burke in one of his singles matches. Chris Reed and Malcolm Aitchison both played well on their debuts, but un-fortunately failed to win any sets — although Reed was very unlucky to lose the last set of the afternoon at 23 in the third game, which meant that Cleveland took both points.

NORTHUMBERLAND CLOSED

Ian Robertson took three titles at the Closed tournament, which was held at Ashington Leisure Centre on Dec. 15, and thus confirmed his position as Northumberland's top male player. The entry of 117 in the individual handicap (barred to all County ranked men), 114 in the men's singles and a disappointing 20 in the women's singles was considerably down on last season, mainly because for the first time, junior events were not included.

Robertson won the men's singles, beating Tom Robson in the semi-final and Andrew Clark in a close two game final. He also took the men's doubles with Peter Whiteman and the mixed with Nancy Kirsop.

With the absence of Barbara Kearney in the women's singles, this event was thrown wide open, and Kit Cheung came through to win this title for the first time, beating Mrs. Kirsop in straight games. Losing semi-finalists were Pauline Jackson (to Miss Cheung) and Lily Aust (to Mrs. Kirsop).

The juniors who did enter the tournament certainly made their presence felt. and none more so than Caron Buglass and Christine Burke, who won the women's doubles for their first ever senior victory after a rip-roaring semi-final against 1977-78 champions Pauline Jackson and Nancy Kirsop, and then a rather more straightforward final win over Daphne Russell and Clare Mouzon — the latter being one of the youngest ever senior finalists at 11 years old. Caron in particular had a very success-ful day, as she and Michael Watson were runners-up in the mixed doubles, and she also reached the quarter finals of the in-dividual handicap. This last event was won by yet another junior, Malcolm Aitchison, who finally emerged to score an extremely narrow victory over the unlucky Tom Debron for the merged to for the second time, so near and Robson yet so far. Top junior John Burke - winner of the boys' singles at the East of Scotland Open the previous weekend - continued his steady progress by reaching the semi-finals of the men's singles, losing only to Andrew Clark.

At the other end of the age scale, Arnold Warents — having won the veterans' singles title at the East of Scotland Open — took his second veterans' singles in successive weeks by beating Jim Jackson in the final. RESULTS:

Men's Singles:

Robertson bt A. Clark 18, 22.

Women's Singles:

K. Cheung bt N. Kirsop 13, 20. Men's Doubles:

Robertson/P. Whiteman bt Clark/S. Robinson 13, 12.

Women's Doubles:

C. Buglass/C. Burke bt C. Mouzon/D. Russell 8, 15.

Mixed Doubles:

Robertson/Kirsop bt M. Watson/Buglass 12, 18.

Veteran Singles:

- A. Warents bt J. Jackson -19, 11, 17. Individual Handicap: M. Aitchinson (+7) bt T. Robson (+6)

-14, 20, 20.

The Junior Closed tournament is to be sponsored by Crow's Transport Ltd., and will be known as the "Crow's Transport Junior Closed". This will definitely be held in February, but the exact date and venue at the time of writing has yet to be decided. The Northumberland Open will be sponsored by our local newspaper, the "Evening Chronicle" and will henceforth be known as the "Evening Chronicle North-umberland Open". A prize fund of £500 will be available, with the men's singles winner to receive £110. Date: April 26, 1980. Venue: Concordia Leisure Centre, Cramlington.

CLWYD REPORT

by Roy Williams

DEESIDE VICTORY

The Clwyd senior team won their match at the Deeside Leisure Centre when Shropshire were the visitors. Trevor Manning (Wrexham) who had won singles against Notts gave a repeat performance with Greg Powell and Alun Williams winning one singles apiece. Clwyd also won the men's and women's doubles to gain a narrow win.

Lancashire visited Eirias Park. Colwyn Bay and won 7-3 in the Junior Div. 2 (North) fixture. Mark Thomas won both his singles easily but, with Mark Byles, lost the doubles in the third game. Byles won our remaining set.

At Kinmel Bay the veterans, fresh from their win over Cumbria prepared to do battle with Cheshire II. At one stage it was two sets-all but the Cheshire team won all the remaining sets. Seven sets, however, went to three, Clwyd winners being Barbara Williams and Jim Bishton.

CHAMPION GIBBONS

Glyn Gibbons (Lansdowne) won the Llandudno Closed men's singles title in great style. In the final he beat former "Scouser" Ken Jones (Lansdowne). Steve Strange (CBCC) almost put him out in the semis taking Glyn to three games. The other semi-finalist was Arthur Roberts.

Wendy Jones (CBTTC) retained her singles title beating young Catherine Johnson (Lian J) in a rather one-sided final. Lansdowne's Alf Hardman won the veterans' singles yet again, his opponent in the final was Les Jones. In the semis Hardman beat Brian Roberts and Jones defeated D.O.A.R.A. clubmate George Mynott.

Max Shone and Ken Jones won the men's doubles winning a very good final with Les Jones and Mynott. Semi-finalists were Strange/Arthur Roberts and Jeff Nichols and Bill Curtis. Glen Jackson won the junior singles against Neil Hetherington and the Cadet event beating Bradley Dyson.

WELSH LEAGUE - NORTH

At last, due to the efforts of new Secretary, Les Jones, the first session of the Welsh League was completed. Only a few matches were played in this session but at least activities have commenced. RESULTS:

Veteran

Angelsey 4 Rhyl 6

East Flint 8 Llandudno II 2 East Flint 4 Wrexham 6

East Flint II 3 Llandudno 7 Senior

Wrexham 7 Anglesey 3

Junior

Rhyl II 0 Llandudno 10

Rhyl 4 East Flint II

Llandudno 8 East Flint II 2

AROUND THE LEAGUES

Colwyn Bay Cricket Club top the Llan-dudno League Division 1 having to date remained unbeaten. The first match in the new year is with Lansdowne "A" who are also leading contenders in the championship race.

For the cricket club the trio of John Hook. Steve Strange and veteran Roy Williams have swept all before them with Hook unbeaten. Lansdowne, with champion Glyn Gibbons, Alf Hardman and Max Shone, and holders of the title, no doubt will have their own ideas for the big match.

Egatube S.C. have lost a little ground in the title race in the Rhyl league but no

doubt will be in contention at the season's end. Pat de Souza, Ray Howland and Geoffrey Hollis have done the St. Asaph factory team a power of good since joining forces. Leaders of the league are Clwyd "A" (J. Hook, S. Strange and M. Williams) who after losing their first match to Egatube have since stamped their authority in the league.

Wylfa, led by Don Hobbs, top the Anglesey league. Veteran Hobbs, who had led his team to many championship successes, assures me Holyhead and Llangefni are in close contention. Both East Flint and Wrexham leagues are in full swing but to date I have received no information. Will all press secretaries please let me have details of their closed tournaments etc.

LINCOLNSHIRE NOTES

by P. Taylor

SET FOR RETENTION

Wyberton, last year's Haigh cup champions, look all set to retain the title having won all their three matches without the loss of a single rubber! Strengthened by the inclusion of David Skerratt, it will take a really brilliant team performance to beat the trio of Hill, East and Skerratt. The other 'contenders', if that can be considered the right word, are already knocking themselves out of the title race. Louth, without Brian Allison, could only manage a draw with Lincoln while Grimsby, usually the closest rival to Wyberton, went down 3-1 to Scunthorpe. Neil Parkin was the Scunthoroe hero taking all three singles against Mark Newboult, Roger Blow and myself without the loss of a single game. He was ably assisted by his two colleagues Steve Cuthbertson and Steve Barnes who both beat Mark and Roger. Grimsby's only rubbers came from the doubles with Mark and Roger beating Neil and Steve C. and two singles wins from myself. This result effectively means that Scunthorpe are the only team who could pip Wyberton.

In the Butlin Cup, once again it looks like Grimsby or Spalding for the title. Spalding have only Grimsby to play and this match will probably decide the destination of the Cup this season. For Spalding Jean White unbeaten having won all 9 singles. The Butcher Cup this year looks very open. Louth at present are leading having won four out of five matches, their one defeat being a "whitewash" from Lincoln, but at least four other teams could overtake them. The veteran cup shows Lincoln in the lead having played all their matches and it could be that rubber average will play an important factor in deciding the Champions Grimsby having beaten Lincoln have yet to play Louth and on paper if Louth field their strongest side, they should win. Because of rubber average, Louth must win both their remaining games 10-0 to tie for the title.

County-wise, our Vets continue to do well, beating Nottinghamshire 6-3 and so maintain their challenge for the Vets Midland League. Our senior team went down 1-9 to Lancashire. Despite losing all their singles matches, both Skerratt and Parkin showed considerable promise in what was their senior debut. Lincs only rubber came from Hill, who beat Paul Rainford. The junior 1st team went down 4-6 to Cheshire, Chris Bryan winning both singles while the 2nd team drew with Norfolk. In this match, once again Stuart Worrell took both his singles and also the doubles with Guy Ashton, the other two wins being both girls' singles.

Bryan and Worrell have also shown considerable success in recent junior tournaments. In the junior ranking tournament, Chris finished 6th in his group of 12 while in the cadets, Stuart finished 1st in his. Stuart also reached the semis of the cadets in the English Junior Closed. Their efforts should be rewarded in the near future by inclusion in the national ranking lists. Finally, the Lincs schools championships took place at Grantham and the individuals events produced some interesting results. In the Boys' U-16, Worrell beat all opposition, including Simon Pullen, to come 1st and hence qualify for the Nationals, Gillian Sharpe beat Jane Wingad 22-20 in the third to win the Girls' U-16 while in the U-19 events Bryan and Jackie Barnett qualified.

LANCASHIRE NOTES

by George R. Yates

PRIZE FUND DOUBLED

A record prize fund of $\pounds 630$ — double that of last season — with $\pounds 150$ going to the winner of the men's singles event, should attract a star-studded entry for this season's Lancashire 2-Star Open Championships, to be staged at British Aerospace Dynamics, Lostock, Bolton, for the 25th occasion on Saturday, Feb. 2, 1980.

Thanks to the efforts of Mr. David Plowes, Director of Administration at the Lostock factory, together with those of the organising body, the Bolton T.T. League, hopes are that this Jubilee event will turn out to be a bonanza affair.

In an effort to take more singles entries, the mixed doubles event has been discontinued but the veterans' singles is being maintained. The current title holders are:-M.S.: Don Parker (Lancs), W.S.: Sue Lisle (Ches), M.D.: Parker and Paul Rainford (Lancs), W.D.: Melody Ludi and Sally Midgley (Yorks), V.S.: Derek Schofield (Ches). The organiser and secretary is the writer of these notes contactable at Bolton 42223.

Preston, the reigning champions of Division One in the Lancashire and Cheshire League and undefeated throughout last season's campaign, lost for the first time this season when beaten 6-4 by Manchester on Dec. 10.

Hero for the Mancunians was John Hilton who completed a treble of singles wins by defeating Donald Parker in the final set -15. 13 and 16 following successes over Paul Rainford and Steve Turner. At one stage Manchester led 4-1 with Phil Bowen (v Turner) and Mark Hankey (v Rainford) adding to Hilton's wins. But back came Preston to level the match score at 4-4 with Parker adding the scalp of Bowen to that of Hankey, and taking the doubles with Rainford followed by a win for Turner over Hankey. But Bowen set the win up for Manchester in beating Rainford (13, -19, 17) leaving Hilton to put the icing on the cake. St. Helens are currently bottom but obtained a point in a 5-5 draw at home to Salford when Ron Brotherton scored a hat-trick of successess over John Weatherby, Ron Vose and Manfred Fennig. Positions:-

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Manchester	4	4	0	0	31	9	8
Preston	4	3	0	1	27	13	6
Farnworth	2	1	1	0	11	9	3
Stockport	3	1	0	2	16	14	2
Liverpool	3	0	2	1	12	18	2
Bolton	3	1	0	2	10	20	2
Salford	4	0	2	2	14	26	2
St. Helens	3	0	1	2	9	21	1

CUMBRIA COMMENT

by John Taylor

NARROW DEFEAT

The County senior team came close to earning their first point of the season when they were narrowly beaten 6-4 away to Cleveland II. Diccon Gray was most successful for Cumbria with two singles wins and a doubles with Ian Reed to his credit. Ian surprisingly lost both his singles after being unbeaten in the first match against Cheshire, and it seems that a good performance from the Cleveland Nos. 1 and 2, Corking and Ward, coupled with a stronger women's pairing of June Williams and Kath Powton swung the match in their fayour.

Ward gained wins over Reed and Stephen Dixon while Corking beat Reed 13, -11, 18 and just lost to Gray -19, 20, -19. Stephen and Louise Brockbank both made their debuts for the senior side in this match and Stephen repeated one of his earlier successes in the afternoon's junior match with a 3-game win over Kevin Green.

The Junior 1st team are still unbeaten and they followed up their draw against Cheshire with a 7-3 win over Cleveland Jnr. 1st. Dixon, Bella Gray and Louise Brockbank were all unbeaten with David Archer gaining one singles win and partnering Stephen to a doubles success. David beat the Cleveland No. 1 Stephen Brunskill, and had hard luck in his second singles, just losing -15, 11, -21 to Lindsay Taylor. Tim Pachul found the opposition a little tougher and went down to Green and Taylor. Bella and Louise both had comfortable 2-game successes over their opponents, Julia Woodcock and Anne Holden respectively.

The Veteran team are still looking for their first taste of success and for the third time this season they lost 3-6; this time away to Leicestershire. Clarice Rose continued her unbeaten run and she has proved well worthy of Philip Reid's mention in the December magazine when he praised her efforts in what he called a tough division. Bill Robinson will be pleased about breaking his duck with two fine singles wins but Eddie O'Hara and Peter Buxton in particular found the going tougher with Eddie just managing to take one of his sets to three. The mixed doubles did however produce a close tussle and Clarice and Eddie just lost -19, 14, -18.

INTER-LEAGUE COMPETITION

Carlisle once again seem to be the team to beat in the Inter-League competition after their opening match resulted in a 7-5 win over Westmorland. The way they achieved the result is rather surprising however with Alec Craib winning all three of his singles. Paul Watson two of his and the No. 1 David Kirkpatrick only winning the one, the seventh success coming with the men's doubles courtesy of Kirkpatrick and Watson. Dixon was best for Westmorland with two singles wins while Archer just managed the one win over Kirkpatrick. Clarice Rose proved as reliable as ever and was unbeaten with a singles win over Josie Dymond and a mixed win with Kevin Myers over Craib and Dymond.

BERKSHIRE NOTES

by Brian Halliday

RECORD MAINTAINED

The first team squad maintained their 100% record with a comfortable home win over Devon. Our new No. 1 Dave Barr won both his singles with some ease and he received the usual sound backing from Andy Wellman and Simon Heaps. Ruth Purseglove was brought into the side and she was able to assist Alison Gordon to a doubles victory.

The County Selectors took the opportunity of blooding two youngsters for the second team's visit to Northants. Sue Collier, who is still only 13-years-old, hails from Maidenhead and she teamed up with Reading's Jenny Collins to give Berkshire three victories in a 5-5 draw. An extremely impressive debut performance from the two girls and, with Berkshire's top star female players heavily committed, their chances of further county experience is certain.

Graham Outrim and Dave Wise both won valuable victories but Dave Gloster was not at his best. Dave seems to fluctuate between brilliance and mediocrity — perhaps a strong captain and more tournament play would enable him to realise his obvious potential.

Relegation stares our Junior Premier side in the face, Crushing defeats by Staffs and Devon (who took full revenge for their senior team's thrashing) and a 3-7 reverse at the hands of Yorkshire were disappointing. Reports from St. Neots suggest that Iain Fullerton played with spirit and responsibility but certain other performances were not up to standard.

With even tougher matches to come in the second half the selectors may make changes to help build a team for the future. Colin Finden was drafted into our veterans team for the match versus Herts III and finished unbeaten. The competition for places in this team is intense and the committee may have to consider entering additional sldes next season if present interest is maintained.

Thatcham "A" convincingly crushed A.W.R.E. "A" one of their main contenders for the Newbury Div. 1 title, by 9-1! Ron Wells who plays his clever defensive game in both Newbury and Reading beat Duncan Campbell but a fine hat-trick from Richard Kozlowski saw Thatcham home.

The Newbury League was saddened to learn of the tragic death of David Hiscock of the Kingsclere club in a third division match recently. David who also played in the Basingstoke league, had played in Newbury for 15 years The deepest sympathy is extended by the County to his widow and to his two team-mates.

Legion Tigers, the defending Div. 1 champions of the Maidenhead league, have taken a hold on the league again. Their powerful trio of Steve Brindle. Bob Parkinson and Brian Sweetzer look to be too strong for their closest rivals.

Wokingham "A" still dominate the Premier Division scene in the Bracknell league, although Woodley "A" have strung some useful results together recently. Steve Everard and Phillippe Quolin, the bearded Belgian star performer, have been in very useful form. The Gillette "C" team in Div. I already look certain to win their championship and promotion. For the five players whose average age is only 14 this is no mean achievement.

Bracknell staged their annual Ken Fellingham Grouping tournament recently and the popular winner was Colin Dyke who came through a hectic day's play unscathed. Charles Reen of Clark Eaton was runner-up in his first season, and young Simon Rowland of Gillette was third.

The chase for the Reading league's top title is hotting up. Surprise team of the

season Robson "A" still make the pace but Omega "A" are breathing down their necks. The Reading Y.M.C.A. are making something of a comeback this season but the dark horses are the experienced Post Office side who could well finish in the runners-up spot behind Omega.

In the Wilmott Cup Reading trounced Slough 6-0 with the new Omega Club signing Sam Harmer winning both his singles in impressive fashion.

The good news that our No. 1 Dave Barr had risen to No. 13 in the National Ranking List was somewhat overshadowed by the announcement of Simon Heaps' departure to Bournemouth. Simon has given sterling service to his County both as a player of skill and flair, and as a coach of great ability. As a player of star quality he is almost irreplaceable but with the five youngsters he has coached with such success, he has left a legacy of talent for the future good of Berkshire table tennis.

While our No. 1 man was on the way up, Karen Witt has slipped to No. 3. The prospect of becoming the first lady of English table tennis is the incentive that must now drive Karen on. The current pressures on her to achieve her goal are enormous and all Berkshire hopes she will succeed in her ambition.

LEICESTERSHIRE NOTES

by Philip Reid

WELL SATISFIED

Leicestershire will be well satisfied with their county results so far this season. The 1st team, even without Anita Stevenson and Chris Rogers were still too strong for Bedfordshire and won 8-2 with Phil Smith winning two in his first match in the 1st team for some time. Paul Randell as usual, was undefeated with Karen Rogers, as expected at this level being successful.

The 2nd team played their first match of the season when they beat Derbyshire 8-2 with the luckless Steven Kenny losing Leicestershire's two sets. Keith Fellows, formerly of Staffordshire now resident in Leicester as a schoolteacher, gave a fine performance with Maurice Newman looking very sharp. The juniors, without Trevor Kerslake did well to recover from 0-3 down to draw with Gloucestershire. They lost five boys' singles so will be well satisfied with the result. The best match I have seen this season was the Veterans game with Cumbria. It was a match rich in stroke play, variety and sportsmanship. Leicestershire won 6-3 with Brian Mayfield winning his usual two.

In the Midland League, Loughborough narrowly went down 4-6 to Nuneaton, with Richard Hayes winning two.

A Special General Meeting was called for the first time in the history of the Leicester and District League when apparently many clubs disliked the way the committee were interpreting rule 18. Since this rule was unaltered at the last A.G.M this puzzled some people (including your scribe) but this matter was settled amicably at a wellattended meeting.

Jones and Shipman at present lead the Leicester League 1st Division and their young team of Steve Day, David Gannon and Phil Smith could stay there. Only one player— Randell — remains 100% and his team — Earl Shilton — could provide the most severe challenge. Knighton Park II with the youth of Simon Hall and Simon Griew and the experience of Ian McKelvey has put them top of Div. 2 with Colin Grundy's University team most likely to usurp them. Magpie III have no player in the top six of the divisional averages but their all-round strength has given them the lead in Div. 3.

In Div. 6 Simon Thomas is still 100% as are his team LUCA. Leicester Gas have

maximum points in Div. 7 but have three matches outstanding. The divisional averages, however are topped by A.E.I.'s R. Davies, whose team only occupy a position mid-way up the chart. Another 100% man is Brian Austick, playing for Knighton Park in Div. 8 who have yet to drop a point. Brian is the first good player I ever saw — that was when he led Caldecote Road Youth Club during the war! Rank Taylor Hobson have opened up a gap in Div. 9 with Jeff Foster leading their challenge. Records or Ring O' Bells look favourites in Div. 10 but Steven Want (ex Knighton Park) leads the averages, playing for Wadkins. Great Glen Y.C. V lead a closely-contested Div. II where R. Neat (University) leads the divisional averages.

Div. 12 already looks settled — Bentley Engineering have won all ten matches played, with a sets return of 92-8. Their team of Geoff Hibberd. Don Bates and Martin Dunn occupy the first three places in the averages. Leicester Gas lead Div. 13 but the averages are topped by County Hall's Alan Lo. Groby Community Centre lead Div. 14 despite a defeat by University. Mike Long (Groby) and David Williams (University) are still 100%.

Magna Travellers are favourites in Div. 15 and with the 100% Brian Canavan in their side this is not surprising. Braunstone Avenue lead in Div. 16 although it is Gynsill's David Thompson who leads the divisional averages. Newcomers Netherhall are setting a very hot pace in Div. 18 with Dave Bodycott and Kevin Christmas unbeaten whilst Nigel Brown has lost only once. Div 19 is led by R. and J. Hill but the divisional averages are topped by John Smits, whose team Chloride Gent are placed bottom but one!

The excellent Loughborough magazine edited by hard-working secretary Reg Billson — allows about 1½ pages for each of their four divisional reports. Cavaliers 'A' must be favourites to top Div. One if David Gannon plays regularly since they have already beaten their strongest rivals, Knightthorpe. Div. 2 is very open indeed — Unicorn, Charterhouse, Thringstone and Kossacs are all in with a chance. John Brindley (Pioneer) and Terry Roome (Thringstone) jointly top the averages. Things are just as close in Div. 3 where Loughborough, Charterhouse, Unicorn and University lead the way. It is, though, Knightthorpe's C. Baker who leads the averages. Div. 4 however, looks clear-cut. Fisons, in the shape of Alan Turton (100%). Ian Cairns and H. Cairns have taken a commanding lead.

It seems probable that Loughborough Sports Centre, venue of so many county matches over the past few years, may not be available for table tennis much longer. It is the intention to turn this building into a car park. Such a prospect would put pressure on the county's resources particularly as Knighton Park, with its concrete floor will not, apparently, be suitable for county matches

SUFFOLK SCENE

by Steve Richards

JUNIORS SHOW THE WAY

November was a poor month for the Seniors. The first team lost to Leicestershire 1-9 the solitary win coming in the men's doubles when John Kitchener and Mick Palmer played well. I hear John was exhausted after a return trip from Jersey and played well below his usual standard.

The second team also lost heavily 0-10 to Cambs II the team comprising Terry Kirby (a charming character and surely one of the senior citizens playing County table tennis today), Anthony Booth, Julian Hall, Janet Matthews and Kathy Brierley.

A strong Junior side of Hall, Booth, Stuart Palmer, Jane Leonard and Jane Richards overwhelmed a weak Norfolk II 10-0. Apparently other commitments was the reason for a very below par Norfolk side.

Revised senior rankings are as follows:-Men

1 John Kitchener, 2 Mick Palmer, 3 Stuart Palmer, 4 Julian Hall, 5 Russell King, 6 David Henderson, 7 Terry Kirby, 8 Anthony Booth, 9 Chris Shepherd, 10 Clive Woolard, 11 Malcolm Davis, 12 Paul Beamish.

Women

Women 1 Sue Welham, 2 Deb Wootton, 3 Kathy Brierley, 4 Debbie Hubble, 5 Jane Richards, 6 Jane Leonard, 7 Jane Newton, 8 Alison Rowbottom, 9 Sally Gray, 10 Janet Matthews, 11 Karen Edwards-Hayes, 12 Matthews, 11 F Michelle Denny,

Bury St. Edmunds lost to Ipswich 3-4 in the Wilmott Cup when the result hinged on the outcome of the final set when Ken Barker beat Gerald Webster in the decider. Three Suffolk men are playing in the National Club League, viz:- Kitchener (Ellenboro), Mike Palmer (March) and Stuart Palmer (Soham).

up-and-coming Stuart Palmer The thrilled all Suffolk supporters by winning the Folkestone 2-Star tournament defeating Andy Withers 12, 18. Stuart also reached the quarter-finals in the Debenhams English Junior Closed . . . well done!

December was a quiet time on the County scene. Most leagues have reached the half way stage and in the Bury League three sides have won all their eleven matches:-Lakenheath (Div. 1), Greene King (Div. 2) and Newmarket Upper School "A" (Div. 3), Treatts (Div. 4) and Chalkstone Befect (Div. 5) have only dropped a single point.

Bury's Junior I and II sides are still un-beaten in the East Anglian League and perhaps will achieve the double this season. The top table tennis school in Suffolk is Newmarket Upper School who have reached the Regional Finals (U-16) their team being Gary Marvell, Andrew Bentinck, Michael Lister and Raymond Thorpe. The school should also win the Schools League for in this competition Anthony Booth has won all his sets.

Another Newmarket school, St. Felix Middle, has provided the U-13 boys' and girls' champions. The boys are David Turner, Dale Gibson, Max Kirby and Benedict Jackson. The girls' team comprises Clare Richards, Heide Adamson, Juliet Ecclestone and Nicky Taylor. We wish them well at St. Neots this month.

Much of the success is due to Suffolk's only 2-Star coach Mick Palmer who lives locally and who coached all the local players. The lack of coaches here in Suffolk is surely the reason for so few ranked players. We are all looking forward to the eighties and wish players and organisers alike great success in 1980.

SUSSEX NOTES

by John Woodford

ANOTHER CLASH

A regrettable clash between the Lombard Sussex Championships and the National League on January 13th, means that three players who might have had a considerable hand in the destination of the Sussex titles will be in the Midlands.

Peter Pudduck (Littlehampton) and Adrian Moore (Bexhill) are in the Seagulls team — the two youngsters capable of causing major upsets. John Clarke will be the Seagulls captain and another regrett-able absentee at the Corn Exchange.

However, Roger Chandler makes his second attempt to win his thirteenth Sussex title, unimpeded this time by "outsiders" from other counties as those playing for other counties are not eligible — such as Andy Wellman who won it last year.

Chandler is of course the No. 1 seed with

Graham Gillett the No. 2 seed, with six other men's seeds all capable with a little luck of up-ending the "giants".

Diane Griggs as the No. 1 seed attempts to win the women's crown for the third time, seeded to meet in the final the holder Carol Hewett (Lewes). Possibly playing in Sussex for the last time, the other two seeds will be Julie Reading and Linda Budd.

Malcolm Francis the Uckfield semi-professional is still poised to make his debut for Kent. His game has shown some deter-ioration as he has changed his tactics con-siderably following many hours of practice in Manchester with England players including John Hilton.

But now, the Uckfield youngster has resumed his danger-man role and is on the up-and-up once again with two fine wins in the Wilmott Cup for Tunbridge Wells over the Moore brothers. But that did not prevent Hastings reaching the zone semi-finals 5-3 to Hastings. Gillett was unbeaten, but he did not play Francis.

EAST MIDLANDS CADETS

by Philip Reid

After the second set of East Midlands Cadets matches, Coventry and newcomers Lincoln have emerged as favourites. Coventry in fact have dropped only five of their fifty sets played with Jaz Singh 100%. their fifty sets played with Jaz Singh 100%. A 9-1 victory over Loughborough (where Louise Forster beat Clive Geelan) was followed by one of 10-0 over Nottingham. Lincoln's Stewart Worrell has yet to lose. Spearheaded by Alan Hearn, Derby are playing well with an 8-2 win over nearest rivals Leicester confirming their third position. In this match only David Aldwinckle could win a singles. Leicester in fact may struggle to stay in fourth spot with both Coventry and Lincoln to play. David Aldwinckle and Shayne Murray are playing well but without a number three of the same standard will obviously find things difficult.

Two big defeats on Nottingham by Lincoln (7-3) and Coventry (10-0) have seen them slip to fifth. Michael Archer is their star, winning almost half the sets they have so far collected. Nuneaton played the two Leicester teams, losing to the first team 4-6 and beating the second team 9-1. Chrisand beating the second team 9-1. Chris-topher Bache played well in both these encounters, losing only one of his six sets (to Aldwinckle). Grantham, newcomers to the league are well down the chart with defeats against Derby (1-9) and Lough-borough (2-8). Cathy Bryan, who has won half her sets is easily the pick of the Grantham side, won a set against both Derby and Loughborough Hinckley got off Derby and Loughborough. Hinckley got off the mark with a 10-0 win over Leicester II but lost 2-8 to Lincoln. Andy Allen was below his best in these two encounters with Wayne Harris and Richard Walker recording the Hinckley wins. Loughborough, too will have been glad to get off the mark with an 8-2 win over Grantham. Maximums by Louise Forster and Paul Bumpus ensured victory for the North Leicestershire town. Leicester II — the only town with two teams entered — looked destined for the wooden spoon. With only three sets from five matches things can only get better and it is hoped it will not be too long before they do. It is, however, a young team and they will surely benefit by playing at this level.

1979-80 Second Session

Hinckley 10 Leicester II 0 Nuneaton 4 Leicester I 6 Derby 9 Grantham 1 Loughborough 1 Coventry 9 Lincoln 7 Nottingham 3 Leicester I 2 Derby 8 Grantham 2 Loughborough 8 Coventry 10 Nottingham 0 Hinckley 2 Lincoln 8 Leicester II 1 Nuneaton 9

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Coventry	5	5	0	0	45	5	10
Lincoln	5	4	1	0	34	16	9
Derby	5	3	1	1	36	14	7
Leicester I	4	3	0	1	26	14	6
Nottingham	4	2	0	2	16	24	4
Nuneaton	5	1	1	3	21	29	3
Grantham	4	1	1	23	16	24	3
Hinckley	4	1	0	3	17	23	22
Loughborough	5	1	0	4	16	34	2
Leicester II	5	0	0	5	3	47	0

Averages

(Qualification - 3 matches)

	P	W	%
Jaz Singh (Co)	15	15	100
Stewart Worrell (Li)	15	15	100
Michael Thomas (Co)	9	8	89
Alan Hearn (De)	15	12	80
David Aldwinckle (Le)	12	9	75
Shayne Murray (Le)	12	9	75
David Slack (De)	15	11	73
Clive Geelan (Co)	9	6	67
Michael Archer (No)	12	7	58
Russell Hodson (Li)	12	7	58
Stuart Horn (De)	12	7	58
Christopher Bache (Nu)	15	8	53
Andy Allen (Hi)	12	6	50
David Beasley (Nu)	12	6	50
Cathy Bryan (Gr)	12	6	50
Andrew Burwell (Li)	12	6	50

Edgware Travel Firm **Organises** First 'Good Neighbour' Multi-Sports Festival

Bookings opened Dec. 12 for the first "good neighbour" sports festival for 250 amateur teams in ten different sports, to be staged in the Isle of Thanet next Whitsun.

Organisers are Edgware Travel Service, in conjunction with Thanet District Council, which hope to attract teams from the Continent, in addition to those from London and major cities in the U.K.

Entries will be drawn from enthusiasts in badminton, bowls, cricket, darts, hockey, netball, rugby, soccer, squash and table-tennis, on a knock-out and league basis of competitions throughout the weekend. competitions throughout the weekend. Edgware Travel's Colin Field has completed arrangements for booking a total of 1,000 hotel rooms; and venues for matches, part of his company's £10,000 investment in making the weekend a success.

Describing the background to the festival, Mr. Field said today: "The concept has taken five years to develop, during which time I have discovered that there is an increasing demand for sports competitions with an edge to them, rather than a series of friendly games.

"Nowhere has it been more apparent than among leading amateur clubs, where there is an appetite for something more than just a stag weekend away from home . . .

"The plan has come a long way from my original idea which was confined to two, or three sports involving a few hundred hundred competitors, to its present state"

Although the "good neighbour" festival is based on the enjoyment principle, all games are being played according to the rules and laws of each and will be refereed accordingly.

The festival is being promoted by Edg-ware Travel with a direct mailing to 400 sports clubs and organisations in this country and Europe.

If the festival works practically, economically and to competitors' satisfac-tion, Mr. Field intends to expand the concept and organise other festivals in 1981.

THIS AND THAT IN SURREY

by Murray Corbin

T.S.P. Sponsored Coach, Umpire, Player.

In mid-November, the S.T.T.A. entered two teams in the Regional U-14 Competition at Tweeddale School, Carshalton. Both Halls were used to accommodate two teams from Essex and Surrey, plus one each from Sussex and Middlesex — each team played two matches — Kent being the only absentees. These players were bidding for County Honours and with the success of this event, due mainly to the high standard of play and the full support of the players and their parents, other meetings will be organised for this year. This is good news, because outings like these can only condi-tion the young and inexperienced for the final step into the limelight.

Surrey II finished ahead of Essex I, Surrey I, Essex II, Middlesex and Sussex. Our first team comprised David Dewsbury, Martin Jones, Mark Hancock, Lesley Pop-kiewicz and Jane Mills with Anthony Haggerty and Deborah Simmonds, as the reserves. The victorious second team had Paul Gibbs, Colin Ho, Neil Sutton, Jane Barella and Nicola Taylor with reserves Derren Hams, Jennifer Deeks and David Baker. Much credit can be given to Stuart Richards of Devas and Fred Garbet, the non-playing Captains, for their guidance of our teams. Since Fred has been looking for "The Riot Squad" and "The Hunters" or "Surrey Alphas" and "Surrey Betas"?

In early December, the Junior Premier Division matches were also staged at Tweeddale. This meant that each match was completely independent of each other; this brought favourable comment from most involved, in spite of them being unable to watch both programmes simultaneously. The sessions began at 10 a.m., 2 p.m., and 6 p.m. The talented Phil Goacher was able control all sessions with Surrey Umpires, to with the exception of one, who came with the Sussex team. The S.T.T.A. wish to thank all concerned for their help and time, in-cluding Brian 'Hi-Fi' Barber, the caretaker at the school, who worked very hard the night before to clean one of the halls which had been used by nearly 300 Disco-teenies, as well as him being on hand to run the canteen during Saturday. What a great Chap! Get to know him and you will never



Max Crimmins of Wimbledon in action. A big jump from No. 12 to 5 in England.

stop laughing.

The following were selected to take part in the Ranking Tournament in Cleveland, late November.

Boys: Mark Oakley (4), Glenn Baker (2), Graham Russell (10). Girls: Lorraine Garbet (3), Sarah Cresswell

(6)

Calet Boys: Nicholas Hoare (2), David Dewsbury (5), Andrew Sexton (3), Martin Jones (8). Cadet Girls: Michele Hams (4) and Lynne

Bennett (6).

The Boys played in groups of 12 and the others, in groups of 8. The figures in brackets show the position each player finished in their respective group. Each top two then went into a K.O. tournament, where Nicky went out to Cooke from Derbyshire in the quarters, and Glenn, after mesmerising Stuart Palmer of Suffolk in the guarters, suffered at the hands of Graham Sandley, in the semis.

At the second Ranking Tournament which was held recently in Oxford, Glenn went out again in the semis, this time to Kevin Satchell of Wiltshire. Mark Oakley, who played rather well, managed the last sixteen, as did Nicky, in the Cadets. As a result of good sustained play by these three, I am happy to report that in the National List just released, Glenn moves into the No 5 spot, straight from Group A, and Mark has moved from 11 to 10. Lorraine, in spite of missing Oxford, on account of sickness which has hampered her performances during the season, is positioned at 15. This should gives her the confidence to bounce back with fervour, aided by the skill she possesses.

Michele Hams comes into the Girls' Cadets at 15, for the first time. This is another good result and should please her parents, Frank and Sandra, whose support and encouragement are unending. If Michele can mature into a more positive player, and also believe in herself, she chauld at heart more to source at the and of should at least move to seven at the end of this season. In the Men's Senior Ranking list, Max Crimmins is at five and Peter McQueen at 17. Linda Jarvis is now at 4, in the Women's list. In toto, this is a satis-factory showing for Surrey, and I con-gratulate the players and everyone con-cerned, including the parents. David Hannah and Dave Wellsman are listed in their pating countries. their native countries - Scotland and Wales.

I cannot believe that the Surrey Schools Tournament is being arranged to clash with the Cleveland Junior Select, in March. No one should be so short sighted. I am holding the Inter-League Cup matches until next month, when I will also show the full results of the Thames Valley individual champion-ships. Please do not forget to order your South of England (Woking) entry forms this month.

FACE TO FACE with Jill Hammersley, M.B.E.

Born in December 1951 in Carshalton to Owen and Joan Shirley, the family, includ-ing an older brother Paul, moved to Colnbrook, Berks., where Jill was schooled at the nearby Langley County Secondary and later coached by the late Alf Robinson of Old Windsor, at Slough's British Legion Club. Played her first Junior International at the age of 15 against Holland and Senior, at 17 versus Ireland. Married Nicholas Hammersley of New Malden in 1971 and set up home in Camberley.

In 1976 she won the coveted European Women's championship and is our current National Champion, which she has won six out of the last seven years. Now resides at borking near her table tennis business and has joined TSP recently as an official product promoter.

Q. MRS. HAMMERSLEY, you have announced that you will retire in 1980, what

were your motivations — "Well, I have been playing for 18 years and have achieved one of my ambitions, in winning the European, I would love to have won the World's, but I realised that the top Asian players were brought up to play against my style which they do rather well. In the circumstances, this is just beyond me".



Jill Hammersley on her way to yet another success in the Middlesex 3-Star Open. Photo by Graham Duncan Tooting Bec., London S.W.17.

Q. Why do you believe that you were chosen for the M.B.E.? — "I suppose that I was considered because they thought that I have been a good exponent of the game and portrayed the high standard set in England by the E.T.T.A., its coaching scheme, all of the officers involved including those at the training camps, who are the best, and particularly, for my achievements".

Q. When you were informed about this honour being bestowed upon you, what thoughts ran through your mind, was one of them "What have I done to deserve this"? — "I was amazed and surprised. After reading the official letter twice, I passed it on to Nick for his perusal".

What would you attribute mostly to the G. What would you attribute mostly to the standard you have attained? — "This is a culmination of a few things, like dedication, the desire and ability to work hard con-tinually, building up a good mental and physical approach to the game and maintaining these for long periods, discipline in training, and mostly, the sound basic coach-ing I received from Alf, who, unfortunately died before his work had matured fully'

What advice would you give to Michele Hams and Lynne Bennett, who are two of the best from a good field of young players in Surrey? — "The same priorities I mentioned before and the unwavering belief in themselves. Players in England look very good among themselves at all levels. If they reach international level, they find that the game is much tighter in the serving. The stroke play is adequate, but our serves are too long and the returns lack imagination and control. The opposition at this level keep their doors shut and work for an opening, while we put everything on their plates. This takes a long time to adjust to, as it is not a basic part of our practised

game. Perhaps Lynne and Michele could make a special note of this".

Q. Why have we been unable to produce more players like Desmond and your good self? — "This happens in every sport. I suppose it is fair to say that we think and plan more thoroughly Once we have worked out our tactics for a game, we stick to them. We do not panic if things do not click immediately. Belief and confidence are the key words".

Q. Why is Hungary so successful? — "The top players there are centred in Budapest. As a result, a high standard of practise is always available. In England, it is unfortunate that our good players live so far apart. I have to travel too many miles to practise in my build-up to a match".

Q. We were led to believe recently, that Desmond pulled out of the Top Table at Gillingham in Kent, suddenly. Can you give me a clearer picture? — "After Desmond returned from the Scandinavian Open, he informed the General Secretary of E.T.T.A. — Mr. Shipley, that he would not be taking part in Top Table, because he would prefer to rest and be fitter for the England match against Poland, in the European League. Knowing how efficient Mr. Shipley is, I can assume that this information was relayed to the Sponsors in good time. However, when the news broke just before Top Table, the media made Desmond look like a "black sheep", in spite of wanting to play for his Country, instead of pecuniary gain. The whole affair was treated disgustingly by the media. By the way, we won that match 5-2".

Q. With your playing committments and your added business venture, do you find time to follow what is happening in Surrey, which is ably run by a very efficient Committee? — "I am Vice-President of the Dorking League. The Secretary and Treasurer keep me up to date on local matters. Friends give me bits and pieces and I read 'This and That'".

Q. Will you hang your bat up for good, or will you play only in English Tournaments? — "It will have to be for good, because if I play, I would have to follow my usual preparation. I would hate to just show up at a Tournament and be beaten by someone, to whom I should not lose. Nick has been a tower of strength to me since our marriage and has shown great strength during my many trips abroad. The least I can do now is to make it up to him. He is lovely".

Mrs. Hammersley, thank you very much. It is opportune for me to wish you well and to thank you on behalf of people everywhere, for the sheer joy you have given us over the years in showcasing the craft and expertise of defensive table-tennis. I bow to a 'real Lady'.

Expect "Face to Face" to feature Mike Kercher, Ron Crayden and Peter Corner in future issues.

Before I go, Well done David Hannah and Dave Wellsman for being placed in your respective Country Ranking list — Scotland and Wales.

Letters to the Editor

V.A.T. ADVANCE WARNING!

At the Annual General Meeting in July 1979, a proposition to increase affiliation fees was passed with an overwhelming majority. In accordance with Rule 42.4, the increase is due to become effective for the season 1980/81.

At the Annual General Meeting, the question of V.A.T. was not a factor as, Leagues will recall, we had agreed with the local V.A.T. office in Hull that certain interpretations in the law enabled the Association to escape V.A.T. on its affiliation fees. Subsequently, our local V.A.T. office has changed from Hull to Southampton and the new office has looked into the position in greater detail and decided (after referring to their Head Office) that the agreement reached in Hull was incorrect. As a result we have had to pay V.A.T. on our fees for 1978/79 and are paying on our current 1979/80 fees

Rule 7.4 makes it clear that Leagues should pay V.A.T. on top of their affiliation fees but as the decision (that V.A.T. is payable) was arrived at after the issue of affiliation forms, Leagues are not being







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COMPO PROMOTIONS TELEPHONE: 047482-3325 (Day or Evening) asked to add V.A.T. to their fees for season 1979/80, instead the V.A.T. due is being met out of E.T.T.A. funds.

For season 1980/81, Leagues will have to add V.A.T. to their affiliation fees which will mean that each team place referred to in Rule 7.2.1.1 will cost 50p plus V.A.T. at the current rate (presently 15%).

This letter is written so that Leagues may have advance warning of the amounts involved when calculating their own internal fees for the 1980/81 season.

M. S. Greatrex, Hon. Treasurer.

HQ 82

HQ 82 was established two years ago to raise money to help the Birmingham and District T.T.A. build its own headquarters. The fund raising committee has had donated three items of interest to all T.T. enthusiasts which it proposes to auction to the highest bidder.

The items are:-

1 Programme 1938 World Championships (32 pages), 2 Programme 1939 English Open (24 pages), and 3 Programme 1935 England v Hungary match (4 pages).

The first two contain the championship draws and results and include such delights as "Round 1 I. Montagu v M. Goldstein", and advertisements like "Tournament Tables $\pounds 7$ 2s 6d". They have photographs, histories etc., and have stereographed autographs of all the leading players in the world — Barna, Bergmann, Bellak, Vana, etc.

The auction will be postal and bids should reach me, at the address below within two months of the publication of this letter. All bids must be for the three programmes as a job lot and there is a reserve price of £20.

All money raised will be given to the HQ 82 fund. I hope bids will be generous for this worthy cause.

BARRY HAYWARD, Chairman, HQ 82.

38 Aldridge Road, Streetly, Sutton Coldfield, West Midlands, B74 3TT.

MAGYAR VICTORY IN PYONGYANG

I have read in Barna's book that one of the attributes needed to beat the penholder players is the possession of a good chop plus the ability to hit, on both sides, forehand drive and chiefly the backhand drive.

"Fortunately, I detect a growing realization among some associations of the need to direct more attention again to the backhand stroke. The Hungarian association is one. They have instructed that players should realize backhand is a stroke that can mean the difference between defeat and victory".

I would like to know which is the principle factor of the excellent victory of the players of Hungary in Pyongyang. Could it be the constant employment of the backhand drive allied with a good chop?

Major J. T. Libanio,

Caixa postal 115, 12460 — Campas do Jordao, SP, Brazil, South America.

SCOTTISH LAMENT

Brian Webster whose address is c/o Harrison. 5 Noran Avenue, Arbroath, Scotland DD11 1TE is missing issues 1, 2, 3, 6, 7, 27, 56, 57, 66, 72, 81, 87 and 88 of Table Tennis News and is desperately anxious to complete his table tennis library. can anyone help?

NATIONAL CLUB LEAGUE

SOHAM BEATEN by The Editor

Soham, in the sixth series of matches in the **Premier Division** of the **National League** on Dec. 23, were beaten for the first time when, without the services of Kenny Jackson, they went down 4-5 to Ellenborough.

Matters went awry for Soham in the very first set when previously unbeaten Paul Day lost -21, -18 to Graham Sandley and subsequent victories for Mark Mitchell (over Keith Richardson) and John Kitchener (over David Tan) got Ellenborough off to a 3-0 lead.

But Soham were not going to yield that easily and a magnificent fight back saw Stuart Palmer beat Colin Wilson to be followed by a doubles win for Day and Tan over Sandley and Kitchener. The match score was then equated when Day blasted off Mitchell, 7 and 17.

Ellenborough then nosed in front with a victory for Sandley over Richardson only for Tan to bring the match score level once more with a third game victory over Wilson leaving Palmer and Kitchener to fight it out for the points at stake. But it was all so easy for Kitchener who triumphed 11, and 15.

Meantime Sealink Milton Keynes drew abreast, on points at least, with a tight 5-4 away win over Newham to place them just one set in arrears of Soham. It was not a bright beginning for Sealink whose Douggie Johnson was beaten, 19 in the third, by Bob Potton to be followed by a great win for Ian Horsham over John Hilton (17 and 17). Skylet Andrew, by beating David Newman, and Nigel Eckersley with a convincing victory over David Brown, restored the balance to 2-2.

Hilton and Johnson then made amends by accounting for Potton and Horsham in the doubles only for the Lancastrian to fall foul of Potton which produced a 3-3 match score. Johnson then beat Horsham and the points went into Sealinks bag when, in the penultimate set, Eckersley made it a double by beating Newman But in the final set Brown got home -21, 20, 15 over Andrew to deny Sealink the set that would have placed them equal with Soham at the top.

Ormesby I, following their 5-4 win over Macleans Maidenhead are still very much in the hunt and their victory was accomplished in the last but one set when Denis Neale beat Andy Wellman having previously accounted for David Reeves. Donald Parker, with a victory over Richard Jermyn, and Nicky Jarvis in beating David Barr, had given Ormesby I a 2-0 lead narrowed when Wellman beat Keith Paxton

Then followed Neale's first success countered with a doubles win for Wellman and Sam Harmer over Neale and Jarvis who subsequently beat Jermyn but Parker found the defence of Barr much too watertight.

In a remarkable fourth 5-4 scoreline Denmark beat Kelly Girl International, the winners being indebted to John Souter who won both his singles beating Peter McQueen and Dave Welsman his second win, in the sixth set, giving Denmark the match points.

David Constance was also on the ball with victories over Welsman and McQueen, the former by 23-21 in the third, John Burleton chipping in with a victory over Mike Johns. For the losers David Wells had wins over Joey Kennedy and Burleton whilst Johns had a good win over Kennedy. In the doubles Welsman and Johns beat Kennedy and Burleton.

PREMIER	DIVISION
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	Р	w	L	Ъ,	Α	Р	
Soham	6	5	1	35	19	10	
Sealink Milton K	6	5	1	34	20	10	
Ellenborough	6	4	2	30	24	8	
Ormesby I	6	4	2	29	25	8	
Kelly Girl Int'l	6	2	4	28	26	4	
Denmark	6	2	4	20	34	4	
Newham	6	1	5	25	29	2	
McLeans M'head	6	1	5	15	39	2	

Matches for January 13 are:-Sealink Milton Keynes v Soham Kelly Girl International v Ormesby I Denmark v Newham

Ellenborough v Macleans Maidenhead

DIVISION 2

Bradford's Unity consolidated their position at the top of Division 2 with an 8-1 win over pointless March whose only winner was Gary Jordan who, in the penultimate set, beat Clem Lo. For the winners Kevin Beadsley, Chris Rogers and Tony Bottomley kept a clean sheet.

Second-placed Sun Life Second City (Birmingham) had to fight all the way to achieve their 5-4 win over Salford with the outcome depending on the outcome of the final set in which Barry Johnson beat John Weatherby, 16 in the third Never more than one set separated the teams throughout with Andrew Bellingham making a great start for the visitors by beating that ace veteran (50 on Jan. 4/'80) Derek Schofield.

Ron Weatherby had wins over both Johnson and Barry Hayward whilst Schofield came good in the Greek versus Greek encounter with Derek Munt and Roger Hampson also beat Munt. Bellingham also accounted for Hampson; Hayward beat John Weatherby and Hayward and Johnson took the doubles against Schofield and Hampson.

Seagulls (Brighton), with a match in hand, had a more than comfortable 8-1 win



over Norton whose solo success came in the fourth set when Eddie Wilkes beat Stephen Moore. Unbeaten for Seagulls were Roger Chandler, Graham Gillett and Malcolm Francis. Unproductive for the losers were Mark Evans, Stan and Jo Deakin.

Ormesby II, languishing in the lower reaches, were beaten 6-3 at home by Briarside whose David Svenson had wins over Tony Martin and Malcolm Corking. He was aided and abetted by Tony Gelder (v Stephen Brunskill); Ian Svenson (v Brunskill); Andrew Clark (v Martin) and Clark and Gelder together in the doubles against Martin and Corking. Phil Ward had two wins for the losers with Corking supplying the other at the expense of Clark.

SECOND DIVISION

Unity Sun Life Second City . Seagulls Salford Briarside Ormesby II Norton March	P66556666	W6533210	L 0 1 2 2 3 4 5 6	F 45 39 27 22 24 24 15 11	A 9 15 18 23 30 30 39 43	P 12 10 6 6 4 2 0
Next matches, on Jar Unity v Ormesby II Sun Life Second City v Norton v March Briarside v Salford				_		

A match to savour

writes Philip Reid

Veterans matches rarely rate much of a mention but I was fortunate enough to attend one at Loughborough recently. At Loughborough there were two matches being played simultaneously at opposite ends of the Sports Hall. The juniors were playing Gloucestershire, the Veterans were playing Cumbria. I decided that since I was a member of the Veterans Selection Committee (but not the juniors) that was the match I should watch. I was rewarded with a match of excitement, stroke play and sportsmanship the like of which I have rarely experienced.

Cumbria are newcomers to veterans table tennis but they are already Premier Division class when it comes to sportsmanship. This enthusiastic team set off from Windermere at 8.30 and arrived at Loughborough three hours later . . . exactly three hours before the match was due to start. Clarice Rose I know from National Council and she was like the rest of the Cumbria team — amicable and enthusiastic. With two wins this season out of two including one over Connie Moran she had reason to be happy! Geoff Aldwinckle opened against the slim and quick-moving Cumbria skipper, Eddie O'Hara. Also involved was another table tennis personality — Mike Jackson, who travels up from Cambridge for practically all our Veterans matches. He was the umpire. Geoff attacked more than usual four attacking shots in the first game alone but he was never comfortable against Eddie's sudden quick-silver backhand drives although ironically it was probably because of a few misses in the third that Eddie lost out, although Geoff contributed a generous number of misses himself. The applause from both sides was instantaneous and the rallies were worth every decibel.

Brian Mayfield, whose defensive play was too much for everybody in this division last season, except Peter Skerratt, then played Pete Buxton. The Cumbria player made some fine attacking strokes but Mayfield's consistency brought him a fairly comfortable victory including four forehand drives of which two went on, one hit the wall and one fooled everybody except the net. Ernest McLeish making his home debut found the rubber on Bill Robinson's bat very confusing but he worked hard at finding a solution. "I've been practising hard with John Iliffe" he told me "If I'm going to play in the team I want to do well". That would surprise nobody — for 'Mac' to give less than 100% would be unthinkable.

Glenys Odams, having heard of Clarice Rose's feats was far from confident "I can only do my best" she said. Much to the delight of her team-mates Glenys found Clarice's defensive game much to her liking and led 20-16 in the first. There a mixture of nerves and a determined effort by Clarice resulted in the Cumbria player taking six points in a row to win 22-20. I thought this might discourage Glenys a bit but at this point Geoff Aldwinckle suddenly appeared with tea for everyone and the match was delayed for five minutes!

On resumption both players looked sound but Glenys, 18-20 down came back to take the second. Consistency, though brought Clarice victory in the third. The doubles pairing of Mayfield/Aldwinckle may not be the most exciting in the world (they went to expedite at 7-4 in the first against Nottinghamshire) but they are pretty -er- steady -and even some inspired play by Buxton and Robinson, who established a big lead in the first game, failed to upset their composure and fought back to take a game many would have given up for lost. Although they took the second it was after some marvellous rallies and neither player reaily



played Robinson with much confidence.

Mixed Doubles is not every body's cup of tea but on this occasion it provided perhaps the best set of the whole match. It had the elegance of O'Hara, the defensive skills of Miss Rose, the flair of McLeish and the determination of Mrs. Odams. For once the ingredients came out just right and the frequent and sustained rallies brought such thunderous applause that the juniors must have wondered what on earth was going on. In the end it was some murderous backhand kills by McLeish which gave the home side victory. O'Hara — a magnificent sportsman was quick to acknowledge what a great set it had been. For my part — and quite uncharacteristically — I felt obliged to tell each of the four players how much I had enjoyed the set.

Eddie, however had little time to relax he was on the table in the next set — against Mayfield. In a day and age when backhand kills are something of a rarity — at least the flat kill is — it was a real delight to see Eddie displaying his skills, Brian had to fight hard for every point in the first and at times it looked as though Eddie's power would pull him through Digging deep and varying his chop kept Brian in the game and what an interesting contrast the two players provided. In the second it looked initially as though Eddie was going to try for expedite but must have decided against it - much to the disappointment of Jackson who thrives on this type of game! Eddie seemed to lose concentration a little — against a player like Mayfield this is always fatal and although there were several good rallies the home skipper won comfortably.

McLeish—who had suddenly "come good" McLeish—who had suddenly "come good" half way through the Mixed — then went to the table to play Buxton. Buxton's flashing backhand drives brought some good defensive skills from McLeish who then proceeded to hammer some telling back-hand blows of his own. In his hey-day no-bedy could bit a backhand like McLeish He body could hit a backhand like McLeish. He showed only too clearly that with a little practice he could still turn it on. In the circumstances well as Buxton played — and he did play well — he could do little to stop the flow.

For one person, though, this match must For one person, though, this match must have particularly happy memories. Robinson, who had lost his previous four singles, looked a very good player in this match. Having beaten McLeish he followed up by ending the match with a lengthy match with Aldwinckle. Geoff was in no mood to give anything away. The score may have been 6-2 but it was still a county match — to be fought like the eight to be fought like the eight match predecessors tooth and nail but always in the right spirit. It took Geoff most of the first game to sort out Bill's variation of spin and then just get home in the second. Having sorted everything out it seemed the third might be little more than a formality but it was nothing of the sort. Robinson, a great fighter, pushed, floated, chopped and then came in with the occasional telling kill.

By now, the junior match which started later and had ten sets as against the Veterans nine, was long since over. They Veterans nine, was long since over. They had finished their match, changed, had refreshments and made their way to all parts of Leicestershire and Gloucestershire by the time Geoff and Bill had finished. And when it did finish it was a win for the Cumbria man at 19 in the third. Having changed the players and officials partook of seemingly unlimited refreshments provided by Joyce Johnson, Irene and Reg Billson "I have visitors at home" Brian Mayfield told me, "But I would never dream of going until I had eaten with the visitors regard this as part of my job as captain".

After the refreshments it was time to go. Before this match it is no secret that Leicestershire were not looking forward to the long journey to Cumbria. Now they are relishing the thought. "I hope I'm playing" said Glenys" in between making sure every-body had enough to eat and drink. "I thoroughly enjoyed it". I suppose then there is a moral in this match. Whilst professional table tennis is a 'Must' and a welcome development — it brings our game to the public eye much more than would otherwise be the case — there must ALWAYS be a place for people who play to win but play simply for pleasure like the eight people who had provided such an entertaining and pleasurable match.



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News from the Trade EARLY SUCCESS FOR NEW TSP "ASTOLL" RUBBER

"ASTOLL", the new table tennis rubber from TSP has made an immediate impact in the sport with the success already achieved in competition by several leading players, both in the U.K. and in other countries.

Recently launched by TSP Sports Europe after two years careful research and testing by many coaches and players of all stan dards, it is the newest of Rubbers produced in Japan by the same company whose TSP Astoll Ball and other table tennis products are now world famous

Newest converts to this Rubber includes Sweden's leading player Ulf Thorsell, who is enjoying increasing success throughout Europe since changing to "ASTOLL" Rubber with wins over higher ranked players. "This new Rubber has given me the extra confidence to use my heavy top spin shots in attacking the ball, without losing control", he says

Jill Hammersley, ranked number one in Europe has also changed to "ASTOLL" after many years of using other Rubbers. "I can now use this Rubber to good effect on one side of my bat, with Curl, a long pimpled Rubber on the other This combination is just right for my type of game", says Jill.

More praise for the Rubber comes from Ex. England International Mike Johns. "Since trying "ASTOLL" Rubber on my blade I have been regaining some of my old form, and I would rate it as the best Rubber I have ever used and certainly its' spin quality lasts longer".

TSP Managing Director Eddy King is delighted with the early reaction of players to "ASTOLL" Rubber. "I now feel that this long period of time, during which we dis-carded many proto-type Rubbers and con-sulted players and coaches from all over the world, has all been worthwhile, and based on the response so far I am sure that "ASTOLL" Rubber will soon become as popular as our TSP Astoll Ball".

PRIZE CROSSWORD

Entries for the Prize Crossword puzzle set by Michael Lawless in last month's issue close on Thursday, Jan 31/'80.

Stop Press NORWICH UNION INTERNATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

As expected Desmond Douglas and Jill Hammersley captured the singles titles in the Norwich Union International Championships at Brighton on Saturday, January 12th, 1980.

Douglas beat Paul Day 21-9, 21-14, 21-12, and Mrs. Hammersley, in what could be her final appearance in these Championships, beat Uhlikova (Czech) 21-3, 21-17, 21 - 18

A full report with photographs will appear in February's issue of "T.T. News".



TABLE TENNIS TALKS TO TENNIS

John James (left), Assistant Secretary of the Lawn Tennis Association due to become Secretary in March, 1980, talks to E.T.T.A. General Secretary, Albert Shipley, at the C.C.P.R. Conference in Bournemouth last November. Photo by Morris Benjamin, Bournemouth.



Welsh Corner

H. ROY EVANS

BUMPER STIGA WELSH

It looks like another bumper Stiga Welsh Open! Firm entries to date include China, Hungary, Sweden, F.R. Germany, France, Yugoslavia, Poland, Denmark, Finland, Netherlands, England, Ireland, Scotland, Rumania, Malta, Norway, Iceland, Guernsey, Canada, U.S.A., Turkey, Austria, Luxembourg and Switzerland.

The team events are on Thursday, Feb. 7, and hold out the prospect of a return fight between World Champions Hungary and China, whom they defeated in the 35th World Championships in Pyongyang. The individual players, too, will be looking for an opportunity to add to the Norwich Union Grand Prix points they have amassed in the preceding Hungarian, Scandinavian, French and English Opens. The Federal German Open, following the Stiga Welsh, is the last in the Grand Prix Circuit.

The Stiga Welsh has been brought forward a day this season, and the Finals on Saturday afternoon will be in the BBC Grandstand programme at 2 p.m.

Entries closed on January 1st.

EUROPEAN LEAGUE

Following our disappointing defeat by Norway at Rhyl, there were changes in the Welsh team. Nigel Thomas was promoted to No. 1 to play his first senior singles for Wales, David Welsman was dropped to No. 2 and Cathryn Jones was also given her first Second Division chance in place of Stephanie Jones.

But the trip to Liebruti in Switzerland brought us only further disaster in the shape of a 6-1 defeat. Welsman went on first against Thomas Busin, and was again too slow to avoid being crushed 16 and 8. Nigel then faced Martin Hafen, and won comfortably 15 and 13. With the score even, the pressure on Cathryn, making her debut, was intensified, and she was too nervous to do herself justice, losing -16 and -15 to Renate Wyder.

There was a chance to revive our fortunes when Nigel and David played doubles against Busin and Jurek Barcikowski, but although we took the second game, we lost -12, 16, -12.

Next came the Mixed, but Dave and Cathryn were not in it, and Busin and Wyder put the decisive nail in our coffin. Nigel's loss to Busin -12, -14 and Dave's to Hafen -13, -18 only prolonged our misery.

And so what seemed to be a promising start to our Second Division campaign when we beat Spain so decisively, has now stuttered to a stop. We play Denmark in Swansea on the eve of the Stiga Welsh Open, and Finland at Bridgend immediately after it, and we can't really look for much chance of success in either of these matches. So it will be left to our last match, against Belgium, away on March 13, to decide whether we stay up or sink again to the Third Division. Moreover Belgium have already beaten Switzerland 4-3 so the prospects are not encouraging.

CARDIFF OPEN

This was Graham Davies's tournament, and after a couple of lean seasons, the Cardiff title was a very welcome Christmas Box. True Graham had a struggle with John Bloomer in the quarters, but after John had played well to make it game-all, he started the decider in such a hurry that Graham had little else to do than wait for the errors to come.

But the semi-final, in which Graham met No. 1 Seed Alan Griffiths, was a cracker. Alan took the first game in authoritative manner, but in contrast to recent matches when Graham has just faded away, this time he got his head down to it, and took the second 13. The decider produced some brilliant table tennis by both players, with a splendid display of the use of the table, and breathtaking winners to long rallies. It went to 20-all, and then Graham took the next two points to end a long run of being the under-dog.

In the final, Dave Welsman upset Graham's rhythm, and it was a very scrappy first game which Graham contrived to win. He then lead 13-7 in the second, only to get one of his bad patches, allowing Dave to catch up, and win 21-17 By this time the game had wakened up and there were some fine exchanges, but again Graham lifted his morale to such an extent that he eventually won almost as he liked.

Welsman's semi-final victim had been Angie Evans, whose appearance at this stage was a reflection of his better form this season. Dave won 16, -19, 14, but he knew he'd been in a battle — more so than when No. 1 Junior Mark Thomas with high hopes of a senior success, crumpled badly to Dave in the quarters.

Stephanie Jones, No. 1 seed in the women's event just didn't turn up, and Cathryn Jones couldn't lead the Welsh contingent to any success Staffordshire's Janet Carr was given a good run by Karen Groves of Birmingham, both girls leaving their opponents on 16 in the first two games, but the decider going to Janet 21-11.

Ever present Bloomer and Angie Evans contested the men's doubles with Griffiths and Davies, but lost 17 and 18, and have still to get that winners' prize.

It was an all-Welsh women's doubles, Cathryn Jones teaming up with Debbie Coulthard, down from Manchester University, to success over Kim Wheatley and Rhyl's Sue Powell 11, 18.

Mark Thomas and Brian Jeanes contested a fine boys' final, which Mark won 17, -16, 16, and one could wish that both boys could impose this kind of form on senior opponents. One of the most pleasing accomplishments came when Linda Leggett beat Brenda Annand 16, -17, 10 in the girls' final. One would not wish to belittle Brenda's performance to get there, but she does get a lot of good competition in Gwent, whereas Linda is quite on her own in Milford Haven, and one wonders how she can play so well. Certainly she is utterly dedicated at squad training and that is probably the answer.

David Griffiths (Cardiff) and Paul Griffiths (Flint) contested the cadet final, which David won 17, -15, 16, but both boys have great promise. Jayne Sully from Swansea beat Helen Wilson of Wilts -15, 16, 22 in the cadet girls' final.

CLEVELAND 3-STAR

England No. 1 Desmond Douglas was the winner of the men's singles event in the Cleveland 3-Star Open, played at Thornaby Pavilion over the weekend of Jan. 5/6. In the final the Warwickshire left-hander beat Bob Potton of Essex 9 and 10 having accounted for Max Crimmins (Surrey) 11 and 10 in the semis. Potton had to overcome a first game deficit before beating Graham Sandley (Middlesex) -16, 9 and 14 in the other semi-final.

Winner of the women's singles was Mandy Smith of Berkshire who in the final beat Melody Ludi (Yorkshire) -15, 12, 16. A full report with detailed scores will appear in the February issue.

TAMCA — FOR YOUR CARBON FIBRE — TAMCA

COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS LEAGUE TABLES	Division 3 South P W D L F A P Surrey II 2 2 0 15 5 4 Sussex II 2 1 0 1 12 8 2	Junior 2 North P W D L F A Cumbria 2 1 1 0 12 8
Premier Division	Sussex II 2 1 0 1 12 0 2 Herts II	Cheshire
PWLFAP	Essex III 2 1 0 1 9 11 2	Yorks II 1 1 0 0 8 2
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Cheshire	Division 3 North	Cleveland 2 1 0 1 9 11 Clwyd 3 1 0 2 13 17
Middlesex 2 2 0 15 3 4	Lancs II 1 1 0 0 9 1 2 Cleveland II 1 1 0 0 6 4 2	Clwyd 3 1 0 2 13 17 Lincs 1 0 0 1 4 6
Essex	Cheven and II	Junior 2 Midland
Warwickshire 2 1 1 7 2 Glamorgan 3 1 2 14 13 2	Northumberland II. 2 1 0 1 7 13 2	Cambs
Kent 2 0 2 2 16 0	Cumbria 2 0 0 2 7 13 0	Gwent
Cleveland 4 0 4 2 34 0	Division 3 North Midland	Warwicks
Division 2 South	Leics II 1 1 0 0 8 2 2 Notts 1 1 0 0 7 3 2	Gs 3 0 2 1 14 16
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Essex II 2 1 0 1 9 11 2	Division 3 South Midland	Junior 3 South
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Kent II	Northants II	Kent II 1 0 0 9 1 Berkshire II 1 1 0 0 8 2
Division 2 North	Oxon 1 0 0 1 4 6 0	Berkshire II 1 1 0 8 2 Bucks II 2 0 0 2 4 16
Lancashire	Worcs II 1 0 0 1 3 7 0	Sussex II 2 0 0 2 3 17
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(continued from page 38)

Sussex 5 Kent II 4

Middlesex kept up their unbeaten record when they beat Herts 7-2 with Alan Lamprell recording an exciting -20. 19, 18 win over Laurie Landry. Essex II, the only other unbeaten team dropped only one set when Mike Watts lost to G. Harris who nearly beat Ray Murray in the only other set to go to three. A. Rowden the saviour of Sussex in a narrow win over Kent II.

VETERAN MIDLAND Clwyd 2 Cheshire II 7

Leicestershire 6 Cumbria 3

Nottinghamshire 3 Lincolnshire 6

Cheshire I 7 Nottinghamshire 2

Nottinghamshire, who failed by only one set last season to become overall champions, fell out of the running when, in successive days they lost to Lincolnshire and Cheshire. Well done, though, Ron Bolton who was in-volved in all five Notts wins (three singles, two mixed doubles).

The match on March 22 will now surely decide the destiny of the title — and has there ever been such a strong Veterans division as this?

VETERAN EAST

Essex I 9 Huntingdonshire 0

Hertfordshire I 5 Hertfordshire II 4

Bedfordshire 6 Oxfordshire 3 Essex, with two 9-0 wins must surely take the title. Against Hunts — who had won their other two matches — only two sets went the full distance. The first one, which Laurie Fountain beat Colin Dale by the curious score of -20, 3, 11 and the Women's Singles which Mrs. Cathcart beat Mrs. Bushby -16, 16, 19, a set which was played on expedite from 16-17 down in the third. Herts I took only one Men's Singles against Herts I took only one Men's Singles against their third team but still won 5-4. Keith

Hartridge won two for the losers. Two wins by Jim Wooliscroft kept up his 100% record against Oxfordshire when Beds recorded a good win.

VETERAN WEST

Avon I 6 Avon II 3

Wiltshire I Hampshire 8 Worcestershire 7 Somerset 2

Dorset II 3 Dorset I 6

Hampshire, Avon and Dorset I, all un-beaten, won again. Avon I won comfortably against their second team but first-teamer K. Watts lost both his sets and has still to score this season — but surely that success cannot be long delayed?

Hampshire raced to a 7-0 lead before J. Bright beat G Holly 10, 18. Dorset I led by C. Bush who is undefeated this season had a good win over their second team for whom J. Russell again played well. An unfortunate knee injury to Joe Garland in the very first set of the evening against Mervyn Wood (Worcs) when he led 15, 15-14 gave Somerset little chance of success. Garland took no further part in the match.

WHAT'S ON AND WHERE

January 26 Pontefract 1-Star Open (Featherstone). (Folkestone).

- 26 Ponterract 1-Star Open (Featherstone).
 26/27 Kent 2-Star Open (Folkestone).
 26/27 Whitbread Cotswold 2-Star Junior 'Select', Gloucester Leisure Centre, Station Road, Gloucester (from 9 a.m. each dav).
 31 Feb. 1 STIGA IRISH OPEN (Belfast).

- February
 Lancashire 2-Star Open Jubilee Event, British Aerospace Dynamics, Lostock, Bolton (from 9.30 a.m. Finals at 7.30 p.m.).
 2/3 County Championships Junior Premier (St. Neots).
 North Bournemouth 1-Star Open, Winton
- North Bournemouth 1-Star Open, Winton Y.M.C.A., Jameson Road, Winton, Bournemouth (from 9 a.m.). 2nd Hartlepool 1-Star Open, Rossmere Centre, Ross-mere Way, Hartlepool (from 9 a.m. Finals at 6 p.m.) mere p.m.). Europ
- 6 7/9
- p.m.). European League Second Division WALES v DENMARK (Swansea). STIGA WELSH OPEN, National Sports Centre for Wales, Sophia Gardens, Cardiff. 9th International Club Hard Rubber Bat Open, Barnet Table Tennis Centre, Barnet Lane, Barnet, Herts (from 9.30 a.m. Finals at 7.30 p.m.). 10

- European League Second Division WALES v FINLAND (Bridgend). Priendly International England v Sweden (Reading). European League Super Division ENGLAND v SWEDEN (Guild Hall, Portsmouth) 7 p.m. 13
- 14/16
- European League Super Division ENGLAND v
 SWEDEN (Guild Hall, Portsmouth) 7 p.m.
 NORWICH UNION ENGLISH CHAMPIONSHIPS, Woking Sports and Leisure Centre, Kingfield Road, Woking, Surrey.
 14th 2 p.m. Qualifying Competitions.
 6.30 p.m. Men's Singles 1st, 2nd and 3rd Rounds.
 15th 9 a.m. Women's Singles 1st and 2nd Rounds.
 9.30 a.m. Men's Division State 2 p.m. Mixed Doubles 1st and 2nd Rounds.
 11 a.m. Veteran Singles.
 2 p.m. Mixed Doubles 1st, 2nd, Quarter and Semi-final Round. Consolation Events.
 6.30 p.m. Men's Singles Quarter and Semi-final Rounds. Women's Singles Quarter and Semi-final Round. Mixed Doubles Final. Veteran Singles Final.
 16th 9 a.m. Men's Doubles 3rd, Quarter and Semi-final Rounds.
 10 a.m. Consolation Events.
 1.30 p.m. Finals.
 National Club League (8).
 E.S.T.T.A. Regional Team Finals.
 Lanarkshire Open (Larlow).
 Derby Junior 1-Star (Exeter, Devon).
 Essex 3-Star Open (Harlow).
 Derby Junior 1-Star (Derby).
 County Championships (6).
- 23/24 24
- March
- 2

11

17

County Championships (6). East of England 2-Star (North Hykeham). Lancashire Junior 2-Star (Institute of Technology,

National Club League (9), Edinburgh Junior and Youth Open (Meadowbank, Edinburgh). Yorkshire 2-Star (Bradford). Cleveland Junior 2-Star 'Select' (Eston). Fenland 2-Star Open (Wisbech). Coventry 1-Star (Coventry). Scottish Closed (Meadowbank, Edinburgh).

- 8/9

DEBENHAMS SOUTH OF ENGLAND 2-STAR OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS

Monday, March 10th is the closing date for the Debenhams South of England Open to be played at Woking Sports and Leisure Centre, Kingfield Road, Kingfield, Woking, Surrey over the weekend Apl. 12/13 with the finals at 4 p.m. on Sunday, April 13/'80. Forms should be returned to Mr. M. Gorman. 3 Gumbrells Close, Fairlands Estate, Guildford, Surrey ('Phone: Worples-dop 929122) don 233132).

YSP 4-Star balls are to be used with Jaques tables. Seven events comprise the championships M.S., W.S., M.D. W.D., V.S. and U-21 M.S. and W.S., the cash prize awards being £250, £200, £80 each, £50 each, £50, £125 and £80 with substantial awards down to the losing quarter-finalists.



(continued from page 39)

Butler/Pritchard bt Harris/Cain 12, 19.

Essex 0 Middlesex 10

- I. Attridge lost to C. Wilson -12, -12; lost to J. Souter -16, -16.
- I. Carson lost to Wilson -12, -15;
- lost to M. Les -10, -16. J. Sparks lost to Souter -8, -14;
- lost to Les -18, -15.
- Miss D. Taylor lost to Miss M. Reeves -12 -12
- Miss J. Askem lost to Miss H. Williams -15, 20, -16. Attridge/S. White lost to Wilson/Souter
- -20. -19.
- K. Mudge/Askem lost to Reeves/Williams -17, -18.
- Surrey 5 Sussex 5

M. Oakley bt S. Moore -22, -8, 19;

- Iost to A. Moore 12, -17, -17.
 G. Baker lost to S. Moore -14, 24, -14; lost to P. Pudduck -18, -17.
 G. Russell lost to A. Moore -14, 18, -15;
- G. Russen lost to A. Mole -14, 18, -13, lost to Pudduck -15, -12.
 Miss S. Cresswell bt Miss T. Moore -12, 16, 19.
 Miss M. Hams bt Miss T. Curran 16, 19.
- Baker/Oakley bt S. Moore/Pudduck
- -19, 17, 20. Cresswell/Hams bt Moore/Curran 14, 11.
- Middlesex 10 Surrey 0
- C. Wilson bt M. Oakley -12, 14, 10; bt G. Baker 14, 10.
- J. Souter bt Oakley 18, 19; bt G. Russell -20, 8, 13. M. Les bt Baker 15, -19, 19;
- bt Russell 10, 18
- Miss M. Reeves bt Miss S. Cresswell 12, 13. Miss H. Williams bt Miss M. Hams 18, 14. Wilson/Les bt Oakley/Baker 9, 15.
- Reeves/Williams bt Cresswell/Hams 19, 17.

Staffordshire 10 Berkshire 0

- P. Barnet bt B. Johnson 15, 9;
- bt I. Fullerton 21, 15.
- A. Dixon bt Johnson 15, 19;

- A. Dixon bt Johnson 19, 19, bt M. Barr 14, 10.
 W. Bridgeman bt Fullerton 9, 14; bt Barr -16, 10, 13.
 Miss J. Harris bt Miss A. Burke 12, 9.
 Miss S. Cain bt Miss T. Vallis 16, 19.
 Barnett/Dixon bt Fullerton/Rowland 12, 14.
 Harris (Cain bt Burke (Vallis 22, 18, 18)
- Harris/Cain bt Burke/Vallis 22, -18, 18.
- Sussex 5 Essex 5
- S. Moore bt I. Attridge 13, 15;
- bt S. White 10, 14. A. Moore lost to Attridge -13, -20;
- bt Carson 18, 10. P. Pudduck bt White 19, -9, 8;

- bt Carson 19, -17, 19. Miss T. Moore lost to Miss K. Mudge -10, -23. Miss T. Curran lost to Miss Askem -19, 18, -14. S. Moore/Pudduck lost to Attridge/White
- -17, -18. Moore/Curran lost to Taylor/Mudge 15, -9, -16.

- Yorkshire 2 Devon 8 S. Madden lost to P. Whiting -16, 11, -20; lost to G. Lambert -19, -13.
- M. Illingsworth lost to Whiting -11, 18, -13; lost to P. Waldron -13, -21.
 D. Illingsworth lost to Lambert -13, -13; bt Waldron 13, 19.
 Miss L. Broomhead bt Miss C. Butler 22, 15.

- Miss M. Seaton lost to Miss G. Pritchard -18.
- N. Bailey/D. Illingsworth lost to Whiting/
- Lambert -16, -13. Broomhead/J. Speight lost to Butler/ Pritchard -18, -13.

Middlesex with 29 out of 30 sets to date look odds-on favourites to retain their title. Oddly the only set they have dropped is by Moore of Sussex). Devon, promoted from Div. 2 last season have looked very impressive and are the only other team to record three wins. Gary Lambert and Gina Pritchard, both England-ranked are 100%. Staffordshire's defeat at the hands of Devon appears to have put them out of contention although Jill Harris is going to be difficult to beat. Berkshire, who did very well last season are struggling this time. Apart from three Boys' Singles by their No 1 B. Johnson, their only other success has been a Girls Doubles. Essex find themselves in the unfamiliar position of not having a boy or girl on the Junior Ranking List and it is, of course reflected in their results, with only one point (against Sussex) from their three cresswell and Michelle Hams, held Sussex to a draw but their "white-wash" against Middlesex took them out of the running. Sussex have drawn two and taken the only set from Middlesex but this is entirely due to their boys who have won all eleven of their sets!

Yorkshire should occupy a mid-table position, their highlight so far being a 7-3 win over Essex with David Illingsworth winning two.

JUNIOR 2 SOUTH

- Essex II 2 Kent I 8
- Middlesex II 8 Hertfordshire 2
- Surrey II 4 Hampshire 6

Wiltshire 8 Buckinghamshire 2 Middlesex II, as expected were too strong for a Hertfordshire who were playing one player short. Nicky Hoare won two in fine style for Surrey II against Hampshire but the star of the match was Hants' John Roberts who kept up his 100% singles record and 100% doubles record (with Graham Toole). Two casy wins by Keyin Sataball Toole). Two easy wins by Kevin Satchell — not unexpected from a player now ranked No. 3 in England — spearheaded Wiltshire's victory over Buckinghamshire but Kent who disposed of Essex II fairly comfortably - still look firm favourites.

JUNIOR 2 NORTH

- **Cleveland 3 Cumbria 7**
- Clwyd 3 Lancashire 7

Lincolnshire 4 Cheshire 6 Cumbria's 7-3 over Cleveland keeps them in contention for the championship with Stephen Dixon winning two and Bella Gray and Louise Brocklebank taking all the girls' events M. Thomas easily the outstanding player in the Clwyd — Lancashire match but with only one more set (from M. Byles) the Welsh side succumbed fairly easily. Similarly Lincolnshire's C. Bryan had two wins against Cheshire playing at two wins against Cheshire playing at number one but still finished on the losing side.

- JUNIOR 2 MIDLAND
- **Cambridgeshire 7 Bedfordshire 3**
- Leicestershire 5 Gloucestershire 5
- Nottinghamshire 5 Glamorgan 5

Warwickshire 6 Worcestershire 4 Cambridgeshire kept well on course for the championship title (they are now the only unbeaten team in the division) their boys — Robert Swift, Andy Withers and Gary Jordan taking the seven sets. Amanda Judd and Tracey Fisher dropped girls' singles and doubles for the first time this season. Hardly surprising though against the Bellinger sisters — Jackie and Lisa — who are undefeated this season and have been responsible for nine of the eleven sets Beds have collected. Leicestershire, un-usually perhaps, rested their number one Trevor Kerslake, dropped five Boys' Singles yet still took a point off Gloucestershire for whom Andrew Golding and Darren Griffin won two. Glamorgan, similarly won only one Boys' Singles against Notts yet managed a draw thanks to Susan Jones and Lynne Sellick, who won their singles -15, 19, 19 and 20, -19, 20! Robert Watson (unbeaten this season) and Andrew Phillips outstanding for Notts. Adrian Pilgrim inspired a come-back for Warwickshire who trailed 0-2 but still won 6-4, Pilgrim unbeaten in singles or doubles.

JUNIOR 3 SOUTH

Kent II 9 Sussex II 1

Oxfordshire 8 Buckinghamshire II 2 Oxfordshire have made a favourable start to this division and with a selection of

Page 38 BUTTERFLY — for information BUTTERFLY U.K. LTD., MIDDLESBROUGH. Tel. 0642 224444 — BUTTERFLY

players to call on could well top the division. They will not under estimate the challenge of Kent II, however, who beat Sussex II 9-1 failing only in the Girls' Doubles.

JUNIOR 3 NORTH MIDLAND

Staffordshire II 5 Derbyshire 5

Shropshire 9 Warwickshire II 1

Stronger girls (V Bellinger and R. Roberts) resulted in Staffs taking a point from Derbys, for whom Alan Cooke and Stephen Young were once again unbeaten. Shropshire had an excellent win over Warwickshire.

JUNIOR 3 EAST MIDLAND

Lincolnshire II 5 Norfolk 5

Northamptonshire 6 Cambridgeshire II 4

What a division this is proving! All four matches played either 6-4 or 5-5. Two wins by Stuart Worrell (now ranked No. 3 in England amongst the cadets) kept his un-beaten record and gave Lincs their second draw. Roger Margetson won two for Norfolk but weakness on the distaff side could cost Norfolk promotion. Cambridgeshire lost all six singles to Northants (Keith Nicoll, Neil Knatt and Ken Nicoll) but Northants appear to have the same problem as Norfolk!

JUNIOR 3 SOUTH MIDLAND

Gwent 8 Devon III 2

Herefordshire 0 Avon 10 Avon's 10-0 win over Herefordshire has made made them clear favourites to take this division although Gwent looked very sharp against Devon III. It could be, though, that Avon's girls could sway the balance in their favour.

JUNIOR 3 EAST

Hertfordshire II 4 Essex III 6

Norfolk II 0 Suffolk 10

Keith Bardwell's two failed to keep Herts from defeat against Essex, for whom Paul Hobbs won two. With boys of the calibre of Stuart Palmer, Julian Hall and Anthony Booth it is difficult to imagine who will wrest the title from Suffolk.

JUNIOR 3 WEST

VETERAN SOUTH

Kent I 1 Essex II 8

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Cornwall 7 Somerset 3

Hampshire II 3 Dorset 7

Dorset's 7-3 win in this division, with M. Werner winning two, keeps up their promotion challenge. Similarly Cornwall, with maximum sets from the girls were too strong all-round for Somerset.

(continued on page 37)

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County Championships Round-up

by PHILIP REID

PREMIER DIVISION

Essex 5 Cheshire 4

- R. Potton bt N. Eckersley 19, 16;
 bt D. Constance 16, -13, 12.
 I. Horsham lost to Eckersley -9, 13, -17;
- bt M. Johns 19, 16.
- D. Newman lost to Johns 18, -14, -15;
 bt Constance 17, 19.
 E. Foulds lost to L. Fennah -14, 21, -16.
- Potton/Newman lost to Eckersley/Johns
- 19, -16, -13. Horsham/Foulds bt Constance/ Fennah 12, -19, 13.
- Glamorgan 8 Cleveland 1 A. Griffiths bt K. Paxton 13, 13;
- bt D. Alderson 8, 11,
- G. Evans bt Paxton -15, 8, 20; bt A. Martin 11, 13.

- G. Davies bt Alderson -14, 14, 23; bt Martin 4, -19, 14. S. Jones lost to A. Tierney -17, -21
- Griffiths/Davies bt Alderson/Martin 16, 11.
- Evans/Miss Jones bt Paxton/Miss Tierney 13, -15, 16.

A good win for Essex who came back from 2-4 down to leave only Middlesex 100%. Glamorgan who look a different team when Alan Griffiths plays — had a fine win over Cleveland. Will evergreen George Evans go on for ever?

2nd SOUTH

Surrey 8 Hertfordshire 2

Kent II 3 Essex II 7

Middlesex II 2 Sussex I 8 Sussex obviously well in line to reach the Premier Division Challenge. Costas Papan-toniou beat Roger Chandler 17, 17 but Middlesex could only otherwise collect the Women's Doubles. Graham Gillett two conwomen's Doubles. Granam Ginett two con-fident wins. Surrey were too strong for Herts, one of their two defeats being con-ceded when Max Crimmins arrived late. Skylet Andrew the Essex star in their match with Kent, producing a number of seem-ingly impossible shots.

2nd NORTH

Cheshire II 3 Yorkshire II 7

Derbyshire 7 Northumberland 3

Lincolnshire 1 Lancashire 9

Cheshire 1 Lancashire 3-0 and incredibly lost 3-7! Yorkshire won all the women's events but the Schofield v Bottomley match — lost by the Cheshire veteran -17, 19, -20 with the match score 3-2 to Cheshire decisive. Derbyshire look a useful side in this division — to win 7-3 when No 1 Philip - to win 7-3 when No. 1 Philip this division -Vickers loses two must rate a good performance. Andrew Clark took two for North-umberland. But who will stop Lancashire in this division. The answer is probably — nobody. Only Brian Hill's victory over Paul Rainford prevented a 10-0 "whitewash" against Lincolnshire.

2nd MIDLAND

Gloucestershire 4 Staffordshire 6

Gwent 7 Glamorgan II 3

Warwickshire II 7 Worcestershire 3 From 0-3 down Staffordshire came back to Harvey, on fine form beat both Andy Bellingham and Tony Isaac in straight games. The Staffs girls too strong with Janet Carr in particularly good form. Gwent won the seven men's events and lost the three women's in their match with Glamoran. Warwickshire — with Staffs joint favourites to win this division — the defensive skills of Barry Hayward much in evidence. Too strong for Worcs with Jenny Cornock on great form against her old county and involved in two of Worcs three wins.

2nd EAST

Buckinghamshire 5 Northamptonshire 5 Norfolk 5 Cambridgeshire 5

Bedfordshire 2 Leicestershire 8 Two draws and another big win for Leics. Bucks led 3-0 against Northants but Connie Bane — still a force to be reckoned with — and Mandy Wallis started a fight-back, supported by Dave Marsh and Romano Gallo.

Pete Bradbury the Bucks star with two good wins including the vital one when they trailed 4-5. Keith Richardson as expected trailed 4-5. Keith Richardson as expected the best player in the Norfolk - Cambs encounter but the Norfolk girls (Wendy Hogg and Margaret Hales) helped to secure a draw for home side. Neville Graver en-sured it when he beat Mick Harper in the last set 18, -18, 18. Leics without Chris Rogers and Anita Stevenson were 2-2 against Beds but took all the remaining sets S Barby had a convincing win and sets. S. Barby had a convincing win and came close to beating Paul Randell — it's some time since that happened!

2nd WEST

Dorset I 5 Hampshire I 5

Somerset 7 Avon 3

Trevor Smith's two wins vital in Dorset's match with Hampshire which keeps them in contention for the championship. Brian Reeves gave a good defensive display against A. Creed and Jill Green gave what many considered to be her best-ever display in accounting for Helen Gore.

3rd SOUTH

Sussex II 4 Surrey II 6

Essex III 7 Herts II 3 Surrey kept well in line for the championship of this division when they beat Sussex 6-4 despite losing all three women's events. Gordon Chapman showed he is still a force b. White won two for Herts but Essex superior all-round strength told.

3rd NORTH

Cleveland 6 Cumbria 4

Northumberland II 6 Cheshire III 4

Cumbria took three Men's Singles and the Men's Doubles but still lost. Diccon Gray the best player on view with P. Ward winning two for Cleveland. Northumberland had a good win with Chris Shepherd, Martin Young and Michael Young all winning a singles with Young and Watson combining to take the doubles. Shirley Laver, originally nominated as a reserve stepped in and won her singles and, with Susan Norris, the Women's Doubles. R. Weatherby unbeaten for Cheshire.

3rd NORTH MIDLAND

Leicestershire II 8 Derbyshire II 2 Shropshire 4 Clwyd 6

In the Leics - Derby match six sets went to a deciding game Maurice Newman on great form for the home side. Shropshire were without Malcolm Green. Mike Beaman came into the side and brilliantly won both his sets. Shrops also won the two Women's Singles but nothing else. Trevor Manning easily the outstanding player on view.

3rd SOUTH MIDLAND

Herefordshire 6 Oxfordshire 4 Northamptonshire II 5 Berkshire II 5

M Owens and M. Owen both won two for erefords and together they won the Herefords and together they won the doubles. Mike Prosser also took one. David Gallo and Keith Nicoll unbeaten for Northants. Jennie Collins on tremendous form for Berks.

3rd EAST

Cambridgeshire II 7 Bedfordshire II 3

Hertfordshire III 8 Norfolk II 2

Andy Withers in a different class to everyone else for Cambs. Cambs led 7-1 before losing the last two sets. Herts too strong for Norfolk in a match where only two sets went the full distance. Alan Lamprell still a player of note.

3rd WEST

Cornwall 8 Somerset II 2

Hampshire II 2 Dorset II 8 Cornwall impressive with Jon Bassett on devastating form. Dorset's 8-2 win over Hants gives them a great chance of topping the division. John Robinson especially impressive.

JUNIOR PREMIER DIVISION

- **Devon 9 Berkshire 1**
- P. Whiting lost to B. Johnson 19, -18, -22; bt I. Fullerton 15, 18.
- G. Lambert bt Johnson 17, 20;

- bt S. Rowland 16, 14.
 G. Wiltshire bt Fullerton 17, 18; bt Rowland 16, 14.
 Miss C. Butler bt Miss A. Burke -19, 12, 14.
 Miss G. Pritchard bt Miss T. Vallis 12, 7.
- Lambert/Whiting bt Johnson/M. Barr 17. 17.
- Butler/Pritchard bt Burke/Vallis 18, 14.
- Staffordshire 6 Yorkshire 4
- P. Barnett lost to M. Illingsworth
- -14, 20, -17; bt S. Madden 17, 17.
- A. Dixon lost to Madden -19, 16, -18; bt D. Illingsworth 21, 16.
- W. Bridgeman lost to M. Illingsworth

- W. Bridgeman lost to M. Hingsworth -20, 19, -19;
 bt D. Illingsworth 17, 19.
 Miss J. Harris bt Miss L. Broomhead 12, 15.
 Miss S. Cain bt Miss M Seaton 17, -19, 17.
 Barnett/Dixon bt D. Illingsworth/M.
 Illingsworth 15, 16.
 Harris Miss Cain Lost to Broomhead (Casta
- Harris/Miss Cain lost to Broomhead/Seaton -13, 19, -15.

- Surrey 8 Essex 2 M. Oakley bt I. Attridge 16, 19; bt S. White 17, 11. G. Russell lost to Attridge 14, -10, -16

C. Wilson lost to S. Moore 14, -17, -19; bt A. Moore 11, -19, 18. J. Souter bt S. Moore -14, 9, 17;

bt Pudduck -20, 14, 16. Miss M. Reeves bt Miss T. Moore 13, 14. Miss H. Williams bt Miss T. Curran 17, 15. Wilson/Souter bt S. Moore/Pudduck

Reeves/Williams bt Moore/Curran 10, 12.

M. Barr lost to M. Illingsworth 14, -19, -17; lost to D. Illingsworth -16, -12. Miss A. Burke lost to Miss L. Broomhead

-15, -12. Miss T. Vallis lost to Miss M. Seaton -5, -14.

lost to Bridgeman -22, -16. Miss C. Butler lost to Miss J. Harris -11, -15. Miss G. Pritchard bt Miss S. Cain 16 14.

-12, -15;

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B. Johnson bt S. Madden 15, -13, 18; bt M. Illingsworth 18, -17, 12.

Fullerton/Rowland lost to Bailey/D.

P. Whiting bt P. Barnett 13, -19, 13; bt A. Dixon 21, 20.
G. Lambert bt Barnett -17, 16, 15;

bt W. Bridgeman 10, 12. G. Wiltshire lost to Dixon -13, -17;

Whiting/Lambert bt Barnett/Dixon

Illingsworth -19, 19, -14. Burke/Vallis bt Broomhead/J. Speight

bt P. Pudduck 13, 19. M. Les bt A. Moore -19, 12, 10;

Berkshire 3 Yorkshire 7

I. Fullerton lost to Madden

Devon 7 Staffordshire 3

lost to D. Illingsworth -22,

Middlesex 9 Sussex 1

18, -16, 17,

19, 19.

-17, 12, 19

G. Russell lost to Attridge 14, -10, -16 bt I. Carson 17, 14.
P. Holloway bt White 12, 15; lost to Carson -24, 23, -18.
Miss L. Garbet bt Miss K. Mudge 12, 14.
Miss S. Cresswell bt Miss D. Taylor 11, 15.
Oakley/Baker bt Attridge/White 17, -22, 16.
Creaswell/Garbet bt Mudge/Taylor 15, 29 Cresswell/Garbet bt Mudge/Taylor 15, 22.