

FEBRUARY, 1964  
ONE SHILLING

# Table Tennis

*The Official Magazine of the  
English Table Tennis Association*



# Table Tennis

Official Magazine of the

English Table Tennis Association

Edited by W. HARRISON EDWARDS

Published by Walthamstow Press, Ltd., Guardian House, 644 Forest Road, London, E.17

Vol. 22

FEBRUARY, 1964

No. 5

## WANTED—THE TOOLS FOR THE JOB

AS the chairman suggested in his opening remarks, the Special General Meeting at Church House, Westminster, on January 18, was probably the most important and significant in the Association's history since its inauguration. Before the meeting were proposals for a radical change in the E.T.T.A.'s constitution and it was hardly surprising that a long, contentious and difficult conference was expected. What was surprising, however, was the complete ineffectiveness of the opposition to the proposals. It had been expected that substantial resistance would come from the North but, it was left to one League to voice disapproval after which a mere three hands rose in defiance of the remainder of the hall.

Here then was an overwhelming and unquestionable victory for the National Executive Committee and its supporters for a new and democratic constitution, framed on the basis recommended by the Development Commission in its report. Here also was the unusual occasion of an old order recommending its own dissolution in yielding place to new.

As a result, from the next Annual General Meeting, the present National Executive Committee will be replaced by a National Council and a Management Committee. The National Council will be composed of the Officers of the Association and one representative from each county in membership. It will meet several times a year to determine the broad lines of the Association's policy and will elect four of its members, who, together with the Officers, will form the Management Committee for the conduct of day to day business.

The new constitution will be more democratic; each county will have its delegate to represent it in the formation of policy and to have a voice in the future organisation of the game throughout the country. Gone, we hope, will be the days when apathy selected the governing body of table tennis in England. One of the aims of the new constitution is to give more representation and importance to county associations and, it is hoped that new and lively administrators will come to the fore dedicated to the task of expanding the activity and furthering the prestige of the game and the Association.

The Development Commission pointed the way and part of the road has been taken; the rest of the journey will be long hard and — like many things worth having — costly. Finance. Here to many, and to even more who thought of it afterwards, was the most disappointing aspect of the Special General Meeting. In the flush of enthusiasm and success over the unanimous decision to give the constitution a new look the need to pay for it had been overlooked. In fact the new fee structure which has been approved will provide insufficient additional income to pay the expenses of the new National Council so that as things stand at present, the Association's activities will have to be cut next season.

It is hardly credible that the game's administrators could agree to assemble two teams with a brand new table, net, posts and bats and then throw them a cracked ball to play with — for that is the summary of the outcome of the Special General Meeting in table tennis terms.

On several occasions these columns have drawn attention to the need for the Association to expand and advance and for the need of adequate funds to enable this to be done. The wrong of it is that those who are alleged to be opposed to the paying of a few extra coppers per player are the first to criticise England's lack of success in the international ring. They overlook the fact that the roots of success lie in the schools, the provision of facilities, coaching and presentation of the image of the game, all of which require money.

Again then, we repeat that extra income is needed, and the Association's finances must be put on a sound footing unless progress is to give way to stagnation. We believe the request will not go unheeded if it is accompanied by adequate explanations. As we see it, it is for the N.E.C. in the next few months to explain the job and to persuade the Annual General Meeting to provide the tools for it.

**CHESTER BARNES** jumps for joy at retaining the English Closed title.

# IN PERSPECTIVE

## SELECTORS REPLY TO JOHNNY LEACH

**C**RITICISM must be expected by all those in office and we of the Selection Committee do not oppose it, as we feel it stimulates and encourages progressive thinking and policies. It is our opinion, however, that criticism should be fair and not born out of fiction or fabrication. Because of this we feel justified in answering the recent article by Johnny Leach — *Three who are overlooked* — which was published in last month's magazine.

We find it difficult to reconcile with fact the two paragraphs contained under the heading "No clear policy." Several articles by the Selectors on the policy of selection have been printed in the Magazine, the last one being as recent as November, 1963. It was then that we wrote about the Ranking Meetings and the importance we were attaching to them. For one with such an avid interest in the game as Johnny it is rather disturbing to know that he does not read articles by the Senior Selection Committee.

Incidentally we should have thought that being selected himself 150 times for England would have given him a clue or two towards answering his question, "What must a player do to achieve international honours?"

**Other criticisms that are hurled around so unceremoniously in Johnny's article would appear to be directed at the present Committee and yet many of the criticisms would refer to the period before the Committee was formed. Whether or not this was a genuine omission we cannot say, but in fairness we should like to point out that the National Senior Selection Committee as it now stands has been in office for less than two years.**

### HANDS TIED

On the question of bleeding players in the Home Quadrangular Tournaments, the Selection Committee has, to a great extent, had its hands tied. The Tournaments were held only on the understanding that the strongest England team was selected. The future, however, will remedy this problem as it has now been agreed that an earnest recommendation from the Selection Committee, that the English team need no longer be the strongest available. This means, therefore, that we should be able to be more experimental.

With regard to "B" International teams this is not new, as it was agreed in principle some two years ago, but nothing has happened because the Associations of the Home Countries have greater financial problems than even we have.

Individually, we all have sympathy for those who have been deserving and who would appear to have been overlooked, but surely all level-headed supporters of the game will agree that arguments can be put forward and cases made out for dozens of players, both of the past and present.

We have the playing results of all the top players in the country and

although they are carefully studied and charted, they alone do not determine selection. Other factors have to be taken into consideration otherwise a slide rule, rather than a selection committee would be needed.

Moreover, the N.E.C. are watchdogs of the money, reluctantly voted in some quarters, to the Selection Committee. They have a right to expect each investment to pay handsome dividends in matches won. We have tried to ensure the best results for England in all matches within our capabilities. We have also introduced young players with somewhat more than promise. Time alone will show if they can make the grade in the hurly-burly of a rapidly developing sport.

It is easy for a writer to sing the praises of one player this week and another the next, but a selection committee has to live with its mistakes and it doesn't help for England's most capped player to say indiscriminately, "I told you so."

## INTERNATIONAL CLUB FORMED

**A**T a General Meeting held on January 4 at the Manor Place Baths, it was unanimously agreed to form an International Club. A "caretaker" committee was elected, pending elections by postal ballot once there has been an opportunity to build up the membership.

Johnny Leach and Geoff Harrower were both proposed as President, but Harrower, declining nomination, said that in his opinion there was only one man for the post. Whilst not wishing any disrespect to Johnny Leach, he felt sure that everybody would agree that it was only fitting that the man who had done more for international table tennis, both at home and abroad, should be elected President. He referred, of course, to the Hon. Ivor Montagu, and this statement was greeted with acclaim. After Leach had associated himself with this view, Mr. Montagu was unanimously elected.

A proposition that every English player who had won a world singles or doubles title should be elected a Vice-President was also carried unanimously. There are many present day players and supporters who do not realise that this list is ten strong. As a matter of general interest, here is the full list: Mrs. Rosalind Cornett (Rowe), Mrs. Dora Devenny (Beregi), Miss Peggy Franks, Miss Diane Rowe, Mrs. Vera Thomas (Dace), Miss Wendy Woodhead, Victor Barna, Richard Bergmann, Johnny Leach and Fred Perry.

Aubrey Simons, who was a member of England's winning Swaythling Cup side, was unanimously elected as Chairman. Others elected were: HON. SECRETARY, Geoff Harrower, 11, Lynham Road, Luton, Beds.; HON. TREASURER, Brian Wright, 69, Tubbs Road, Harlesden, London, N.W.10; HON. SOCIAL SECRETARY, Mrs. L. R. M. Kydd (Pinkie Barnes), Flat 1, 2, Melbury Road, Kensington, London, W.10; EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, Les Cohen (Manchester), Ron Crayden (Surrey), Laurie Landry (Middlesex), Tony Piddock (Kent) and Edgar Reay (Durham).

The Annual General Meeting of the new club will be held at The Corn Exchange, Brighton, on Saturday, February 29, at 6 p.m. It was agreed that the previously circulated draft Rules would become the proposed Rules, and that any alterations or additions should be put forward as amendments.

The Secretary will be pleased to send a copy of these to any International player, and to receive any proposed amendments. The Treasurer would like to receive subscriptions, and the fees are: 10s. per annum from any player who has represented England in an official senior international match, and 5s. per annum—for associate membership—from any player who has represented England in an official junior international match.

It is hoped that these very low fees will encourage all Internationals, past and present, to join. Unfortunately there are still very considerable gaps in the list of names and addresses available, and any information regarding past internationals would be gratefully received by Geoff Harrower.

The early emphasis will be placed on building up the membership, but later on it is hoped to undertake an active programme of social events, and also play a number of matches. All ideas on activities which the Club could undertake will be welcomed. The Committee will consider these, and, of course, any proposed alterations to the Rules, before the Annual General Meeting.

## AROUND EAST ANGLIA

### SUFFOLK NOTES

by D. J. BARRETT

## A CLEAN SWEEP FOR MANN

**I**N his last year as a junior, David Mann set the seal on a series of successes over the season by winning the Suffolk Men's Closed title after a struggle with Stowmarket's Brian Buckle. The finals, at St. Margaret's Institute, Lowestoft, saw an almost clean sweep of all events by Ipswich players. Only the Restricted Singles escaped them.

Mann had a good day, and also took the Boys' championship as might be expected, with the Mixed and Men's doubles thrown in for good measure. The senior event saw some typically fast

play between the finalists, with Buckle carrying the battle to Mann, and losing only after a terrific fight for every point. In fact, apart from the second game, there was little difference in the scores until Mann took four of the last five points to ensure victory in a surprisingly easy and unexpected fashion.

Linda Barrett looked set to take the Ladies' title when she won the first game to 10, but a revival by Brenda Brown in the second saw the initiative swing the other way and with it the title.

Miss Barrett made amends by taking the Girls' singles for the fourth time in five consecutive appearances in the final, then paired with Mrs. Brown for a good two-straight win over the experienced Val Martin and Barbara Killett from Lowestoft.

Promising juniors on view included Stuart Snell in the Boys' final. He

deserved a better fate than the score in the second game suggests. Jeanne Youngs, too, gave Linda Barrett some determined opposition in the Girls' final as did her sister in the previous tie.

#### RESULTS

Men's Singles: **D. MANN** bt B. Buckle 21-19, 14-21, 21-17, Women's Singles: **B. BROWN** bt L. Barrett 10-21, 21-17, 21-13. Restricted Singles: **B. BUMSTEAD** bt A. Cooper 21-15, 22-24, 21-9.

Veteran Singles: **D. ARR** bt D. Cartwright 21-11, 24-22. Boys' Singles: **MANN** bt S. Snell 21-13, 21-3, Girls' Singles: **BARRETT** bt J. Youngs 21-12, 21-11.

Men's Doubles: **MANN/BUCKLE** bt S. Enskajt/H. White 21-11, 21-18.

Women's Doubles: **BROWN/BARRETT** bt V. Martin/B. Killett 21-12, 21-18. Mixed Doubles: **MANN/Mrs. BROWN** bt S. Pearson/Mrs. A. Pearson 21-12, 21-13.

The second leg of the "Top Ten" saw David Mann take a further step towards the County No. 1 ranking, at present held by Howard Osborne. In Osborne's absence from the tournament, Mann consolidated his position by taking the overall lead when he won his section, all ties being two-straight wins, then proceeding to beat Hans Fleck by 21-17, 22-20 in the play-off. Fleck's unexpected defeat of Brian Buckle put the latter in second place in the tournament, six points behind Mann. The leading positions to date at the end of the second leg are: D. Mann 29, B. Buckle 23, H. Fleck 20, C. Tucker 14, K. Perry 9, B. Cobbold 9.

D. J. Barrett

## CAMBRIDGESHIRE FARE BADLY

**C**AMBRIDGESHIRE, without John Thurston, looked a very ordinary side when they crashed 9-1 to Norfolk in the County championship. Only Alan Ponder, who is still a junior, showed any sort of form and marked up the county's lone success.

Keith Chapman and Reg Dean gave inept displays, while Valerie Gillam, although giving her best, found Betty Cassell too good. Chapman has been playing well in the Cambridge League, but county form has been disappointing, while Dean will have a hard job to retain his place.

Cambridge City have fared much better in the South East Midlands League, where they head the Men's and Junior Divisions and promise to take both titles.

There has been plenty of excitement in the Cambridge League, where University Press have overtaken Y.M.C.A. to top the First Division. Their team of Keith Chapman, Roy Nunn and Carol Chapman will be hard to dislodge.

New Chesterton Institute and Y.M.C.A., the pacemakers of last season, are certainly finding the going hard, but should finish in the first three. Pest Control and Wilburton flounder at the bottom of the table.

Torchbearers, with Martin Brown, John Constable and Valerie Gillam, head the Second Division, with Great Ouse River Board and St. George's their main rivals. Hospitals II appear doomed to relegation.

Northern Employees are closely followed by Sohan Methodists at the top of the Third Division.

Stan Jacobson, the Middlesex player who was mainly responsible for the development of the "loop drive," was a recent visitor to the Y.M.C.A., and played for three hours against the various Cambridge players, including Ponder, Paul Chisnall, Albert Jackson and John Cornwell, who produced some of his old fire in winning a game.

The question of County umpires is again "burning" and all players are urged to make themselves available by taking the appropriate examinations to help out the hard-worked few.

The only lady county umpire in Cambridge is Margaret Cornwell, who is also County secretary.

Leslie Constable.

### NORFOLK NOTES

by J. S. PENNY

## NORTH WALSHAM LOOK UP

**F**RED MACE, chairman of North Walsham League, must be delighted with the progress made in that area since his return from Ipswich. Their recent tournament, organised by Alan Gibby, attracted entrants from Aldbrough, Aylsham, Catfield, Corpusty, Cromer, East Rushton, Gimmingham, Hickling, Norwich and Potter Heigham, with a total of 62 for the senior singles, 27 for the junior, and 22 in the senior doubles.

Midnight was almost striking when Gibby was deprived of his senior singles by Gordon Harrison, of Norwich, at 22-20 in the third. The junior final was equally thrilling with Raymond Gale (N. Walsham Methodists) beating his club-mate Ian Miller 21-23, 21-17, 22-20.

Gordon and Marion Harrison, although lucky to survive against Mace and Stannard, made it a Norwich night by beating Durrant and Amis (Hickling) for the senior doubles.

All that is needed now is for North Walsham to follow Cromer and affiliate to the County Association so that their players become eligible for Norfolk and the Norfolk Championships.

Les Holden, county captain and Norwich League coach, who is paying six visits to Aylsham Youth Club, and Maurice Ewles, the county coach, are

looking for volunteers from league players to help them with their untiring effort. Visits around the county can be a real change and relaxation after years of nothing but league matches.

So keen is the competition among Norfolk boys that Ewles is arranging a further County trial to establish their rankings. Pity there is not the same following from the girls. Maybe special ladies' sections in each league would give them more opportunities for experience until strong enough to play in mixed leagues.

Great Yarmouth took another step forward in the Rose Bowl, beating Norwich 5-4. Norwich, however, are going well in the Wilmott Cup where they beat Spalding 6-3 and now meet Oxford with a chance to enter the semi-finals.

Norwich championships are arranged for February 16.

A new venture of Doug Clutton, the Yarmouth coach, is a school's tournament, with three age-grouped sections for boys and girls, plus a special section for players who have represented the league in inter-town games.

Norfolk's 9-1 victory over a weakened Cambridge side has given them their highest place for many seasons in the Southern Division.

# THE ORDER OF ST. CARRINGTON

by **GEORGE A. STARKE**

**T**HERE are three major religions in Great Britain today: Christianity, Buddhism and Table Tennis.

No doubt, in all faiths, you will find people whose religion is not only a way of life but a means whereby they may earn a livelihood. Even monks and nuns, though under vows of poverty, are assured of food, clothing and medical necessities. There are also those who, while earning their keep in some business or trade, freely devote much of their time to promoting the welfare of their church and its congregation and in attempting to increase the number of those who, at long last, have the correct attitude respecting the world, the flesh and the devil.

Normally, those people who wish to give their services without charge, even, quite often, involving themselves in personal expense, may do so without examination and without having, first, to give any undertakings to some official body.

## RIGOROUS REQUIREMENTS

In table tennis, however, the requirements are rigorous. Devotees who would spread the gospel must attain a high degree of beauty and accuracy in performing the rites. Their health and youth must be beyond question, while their knowledge of dynamics, physical culture and social relations must be impeccable. Only then, may they be officially recorded as persons fit to wear the badge of service.

The professions, as we know, require that would-be practitioners should attain a sufficiently high degree of scholarship before being allowed to set up in business. The attainments, however, are sought so that fees may be charged.

It is to the eternal credit of Jack Carrington and his disciples that they

have been able to imbue quite an opposite spirit in the devotees of table tennis.

The award of the Diploma Badge does not authorise the charging of certain minimum fees. On the contrary, it places upon awardees a moral obligation not to demand any at all. Diploma coaches, and those who desire to become such, know that such coaches must not pick and choose their pupils but be prepared and able to help all comers.

The marvel is that anybody should strive for such an award. Yet more and more players are filling up the yellow application form as year follows year.

What is it that prompts people to such devotion? Such a degree of devoutness surely takes table tennis into the sphere of religion.

I suspect that members of a secret T.T. sub-committee, masked and hooded, present themselves at dead of Sunday-afternoon-kip time to make a "signature or else" demand. The "or else" indicating a good, long discussion of amendments to motions respecting Individual Direct Affiliations.

## STAFFORDSHIRE

### FROM GLOOM TO GLORY

**A**T the halfway stage it is interesting to note the fortunes of Staffordshire in the County Championship.

The season opened on a shock note with the departure of Derek Backhouse to nearby Warwickshire, a decision which suggested the county were in for a rough time. I must confess things did look pretty black. Yet if Staffordshire can win their match with Glamorgan it will be gloom to glory in the space of four months. For a win over the Welsh county would make them runners-up to Warwickshire.

## SUSSEX NOTES

### BRIGHTON STILL DOMINANT

**T**HE history of Sussex table tennis has shown that Brighton have nearly always been the strongest town in the county. That this still applies, at least in the men's field, was shown at Bexhill Amateur Athletic Club on January 12 when Brighton beat Crawley 5-1 in the Division 1 final and Worthing 5-1 in Division 2 final.

The absence through illness of Chandler and Pierce brought in Peter Shead and Tunde Ogundice accompanied by an off-form Len Gunn. One shock was Whalley's defeat by the Nigerian Ogundice.

Hastings took over the domination of the women's championship, beating Brighton 5-1 in the final. When Joyce Coleman and Margaret Beany combine for Hastings there are no other women's teams in Sussex capable of beating them.

The junior final, by comparison with the senior events, was a spectacular thriller won by Eastbourne's team of Beasley, Williams, Kirkwood and Mendelson over a fine Crawley team of Green, Mervyn Whalley and Riley by 5-3.

The Crawley side are a powerful three-pronged force and Eastbourne would have lost but for the presence of the Hertfordshire senior county player Peter Williams.

J.W.

by **JOHN PIKE**

As Warwickshire already have a team in the Premier Division it would entitle Staffordshire to play off for a place in the top flight next season.

One can only assume that the standard in the Second Division (Midland) has dropped, but it is a great pity it should come following the departure of Backhouse, who did so much in the past to get top class table tennis in Staffordshire.

The county restricted tournament at Wolverhampton turned out to be very much a one club affair with the winners of the men's and women's singles both coming from the Cambridge Club, Walsall.

Glen Warwick, 16, stole the limelight, against senior opposition to win the men's title, while in the women's final Molly Jukes was never extended in beating another youngster, 15-year-old Wendy Hinton.

Will Chester Barnes be playing in the Wolverhampton League later this season? He has already turned out for the Cambridge Club in the Walsall League and I understand from an official there that there is an outside chance of seeing England's No. 1 in local circles again. With or without Barnes, Cambridge, having their first season in the Wolverhampton League, look a good bet for the First Division title.

THE FAMOUS SWEDISH **STIGA** TABLE TENNIS BATS AND EQUIPMENT

EHRLIC - BERCIK - FLISAN MELLIS

35s. 6d. Each

ACE RUBBER and THE NEW YASAKA 2 mm. - 1 mm.

**TRIANGLE SPORTS & HOBBIES**

111 Commercial Road, Bournemouth

Telephone: 2093

# THE YOUNGEST UMPIRE

by JIMMY MANNOCH

**B**ERNADETTE McGRERTY, a young lady who has just passed her tenth birthday, has the distinction of being the youngest person in the country to qualify as a county umpire. She is also the only female county umpire in Kent.

She won her badge after passing the written test satisfactorily, then coming successfully through some quite stiff practical tests, conducted at the Kent Junior Open and the Deal Invitation tournament.

Bernadette, who stands just 4 feet 2 inches tall, has been umpiring at various matches since she was eight years old, so she is quite a young veteran.

And table tennis is not the only sport where she knows and can administer the rules, for she can umpire equally well at lawn tennis.

A member of the Crescent Club, Bernadette plays for her club team, which heads the sixth division of the Sittingbourne League. She won the Under 10's singles in the Crescent Club Invitation tournament and also reached the final of the under 11's event in the Kent Junior Open. So it can be seen that her knowledge of table tennis is not restricted to umpiring.

## ALL ROUNDER

Indeed, Bernadette is a talented young all rounder. She can hold her own against many older girls at lawn tennis and at swimming and diving. At the Crescent Club Invitation swimming gala she swam in the under 10 and under 13 events, and also represented the club in diving against girls up to 16.

It is not surprising that this girl of many parts—she also holds the club darts shield and is a popular entertainer at the club concerts with her piano playing, singing and acrobatic dancing—has won the Crescent Club Parents' Association Sports Girl of the Year Cup for the past two years.

For all her talent at sport and administration—she is a member of the club committee and their representative to the Kent County Association—Bernadette is equally capable of lighting the fire or organising a handicap competition. And moreover she is capable of being as mischievous as any of the members.



BERNADETTE McGRERTY

## Gordon Howarth

NEWPORT League suffered a sad loss just before Christmas with the death of GORDON HOWARTH, one of their most popular players and also a vice-president (writes Grove Motlow).

He can be said to have died in harness for he collapsed from a heart attack just a few minutes after losing an exciting three sets match to Cyril Gray when playing for N.C.A. in an inter-club match against Almas.

He had sat down and given a few words of encouragement to colleague Bob Jones, who followed him to the table when he suddenly collapsed.

Howarth, who was made a vice-president of Newport for his services to the league, was always ready and willing to help the up and coming youngsters and give them advice.

A popular player at tournaments up and down the country, Howarth played in the new Glamorgan Open just a few days prior to his sad death.

His loyalties to club and league were such that he could always be relied upon to turn out at a moment's notice should a player have to withdraw.

Ill health over the past two years had prevented him holding a regular place in the Town team, but he loved his table tennis so much that he refused to retire altogether.

The game is poorer with his passing.

## WESTERN COUNTIES BULLETIN

by GROVE MOTLOW

# CARDIFF MARCH ON

CARDIFF continued their winning way in the Western Counties League when they beat Newport, who were without Evans and Huish, 8-1. Brian Everson scored the only Newport success when he beat K. Bull, but he lost to George Evans, the Welsh international, and Phill Bevans, both of whom were unbeaten.

Everson promised well when he forced a final set against Evans in the opening match, but he was well beaten by Bevan.

Newport also crashed 2-7 to Bristol and once again missed the services of Huish and Evans. Everson and Gray, both of whom beat Wise, were the Newport winners.

Mordecai and Brady were unbeaten for Bristol. Mordecai, however, was fully extended by Gray before getting home over three games.

Mordecai and Brady were again in top form when Bristol trounced Bath 9-0.

Wise was the only Bristol player to experience any trouble.

A mother and daughter, Mrs. Bonner and Miss D. Bonner, played a major part in Weston Ladies' 6-3 win over Swindon Ladies, collecting five wins between them.

Mrs. Bonner, who deputised for Mrs. Pettifer celebrated with an unbeaten record. She had a tough match to open when she just beat Mrs. Hazell 22-20, 25-23. Miss D. Bonner, playing in place of her sister "Penny," created a good impression with two wins.

Miss Onslow was the most successful of the Swindon players, beating Mrs. Bull and Miss Bonner.

Mrs. O'Brien won all three of her matches when Bristol Ladies beat Newport 7-2. Mrs. Gray beat both Mrs. Spokes and Mrs. Watts for the Newport wins.

WILTSHIRE WANDERINGS

by DON HILLIER

# SALISBURY HUMBLLED BY WEST WILTS

**T**ONY WARD, the ex-Wilts champion, beat reigning champion Alan Alexander 19, —18, 17, and ex-R.A.F. champion Richard Clode —12, 17, 18, but was unable to prevent West Wilts "A" becoming the first team to humble the city in the Premier Division of the County League this season.

Johnny Cleveland, the West Wilts secretary, put up his best performance with a brilliant hat-trick over Ward 20 and 15; Dorset player John Tribbles 20 and 7; and the experienced ex-Wilts player Dennis Water 14 and 18.

Swindon's faith in 15 years old William Silto and 16 years old Tony Wolff (jnr.) paid off when, captained by Tony Wolff (snr.), they held Salisbury to a Premier Division draw. Silto beat Ward 7 and 16, while young Wolff only lost 21-23 in the decider.

Salisbury suffered one of their rare Second Division (Mixed) defeats at the hands of West Wilts by 6-4. A feature of the match was the defeat of Kathleen Waters, the Wilts No. 3, by unranked Margaret Alexander.

League positions as on January 18, 1964.

DIVISION I						
	P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A. P.
Salisbury	5	3	1	1	31	19 7
West Wilts. A	3	2	1	0	20	10 5
Swindon	5	1	2	2	25	25 4
West Wilts. B	3	0	0	3	4	26 0

DIVISION II (MIXED)						
Swindon (Champions)	4	4	0	0	31	9 8
West Wilts.	3	1	0	2	11	19 2
Salisbury	3	0	0	3	8	22 0

DIVISION II (MEN)						
Swindon	5	5	0	0	39	11 10
Devizes	5	4	0	1	38	12 8
*Corsham	4	1	0	3	19	21 2
West Wilts.	4	1	0	3	19	28 2
*Warminster	4	0	0	4	2	38 0

\*Includes match awarded to Corsham under Rule 9.

JUNIOR DIVISION						
Swindon (Champions)	5	5	0	0	43	7 10
Devizes	4	2	0	2	21	19 4
West Wilts.	4	2	0	2	18	22 4
Salisbury	5	0	0	5	8	42 0

Tickets for the Wilts Dinner at Devizes on March 13 are now available (15s.) from all league secretaries. Seating is limited to 100, so early application is advised.

A second international matches for Wilts, with Trowbridge as the venue, is my inside tip for next season.

Bearing in mind the financial success, coupled with the Swedes congratulations on the local hospitality last season, it is hoped that the powers that be will endeavour to honour us with a full England team.

West Wilts secretary John Cleveland aided by an experienced team—which includes John Ford, Bill Moore, Rodney Bush to mention but a few—continues to guide his league from strength to strength as this season's championship entries prove. The total entry of 239 is 42 up on last season's record breaking entry. A new even: is a Junior Doubles.

Would-be County Coaches attended an instructional evening under Jack Car-

rington, the E.T.T.A.'s Director of Coaching. Secretary Frank Williams was also present.

British Railways teams hold the top three places in Division I of the Swindon and District Table Tennis League, Staff A, having dropped only one point

lead Athletic Association A, with Staff B well established in third place.

B.R. A.A. D are runaway leaders in Division 4, five points clear of Metal Box B but D player E. Armstrong lost his 100% record to J. Beale (B.R. A.A. E).



**JACK CARRINGTON**, E.T.T.A. Director of Coaching, demonstrates a point to **RODNEY BUSH** at the instruction evening for would-be county coaches at the Upper Studley Club, Trowbridge.

**DON HILLIER**, the Wilts. League secretary, **JOHN FORD**, the County Liaison Officer with Youth Clubs and Schools, **CHICK CHANDLER**, member of the West Wilts. Executive, and **FRANK WILLIAMS**, the Wilts. Coaching Secretary, are also seen in the picture.

## Ambitious Barnets Plan Own Centre

by ANTHONY COX

**A**T an annual meeting of the Barnets and District Table Tennis League nearly two years ago it was suggested by a member, himself a local business man, that the league should try to provide their own headquarters. The idea was readily accepted and now after a great deal of spadework the league are almost ready to go ahead with their project which, it is estimated, will cost about £10,000.

Full planning permission has just been received for the erection of the building, which will be situated in Barnet. It will accommodate 10 table tennis tables, and a spacious bar together with a canteen, dressing rooms and showers.

The project is ambitious and it is said that this will be the finest table tennis centre of its kind.

The idea that brought this about was the feeling that table tennis is probably the most under privileged sport in this country with very little money behind it. Playing facilities for the average club player are in most cases poor or restricted. The provision of the centre will overcome this problem and will give the players first rate facilities where they can practise or play matches every day of the week if they wish.

The main problem now remaining is that of raising enough money to begin building. The League are at the moment negotiating to borrow a substantial amount of money which is needed. Obviously a big task lies ahead in raising as much money as possible by voluntary means. Any offers of help should be directed to Mr. G. Stephens, 32, Northfield Road, Boreham Wood, Hertfordshire.

**ENGLAND and WALES v. WEST GERMANY**

**BARNES MEETS HIS MATCH**

**T**HE innovation of playing a joint English/Welsh team against the touring West German side at Swansea proved an outstanding success. The venue was not a large hall but it was packed to capacity, and this always provides a much better atmosphere than the reverse.

With the publicity which surrounded Chester Barnes early in the week, there were many waiting with interest to see whether his actions would speak as loudly as his words. To some extent he did as well as could be expected, losing in the third to Schöler, who must surely be one of the best defensive players in the world, and beating Martin Ness. Both these games provided the spectators with plenty of thrills.

Alan Lindsay, finding Martin Ness with no liking for his services, looked as if he too might win, but the West German settled down to cope with the problem extremely well in the third game. As expected, Lindsay provided Schöler with some trouble and, in fact, the latter only scraped home in both games.

The Welsh players in the side did not do particularly well, and had Mansfield been in better form the result may have been different, for neither Stegmann nor Michaeloff are in any way as good as the other two.

As it was, John Mansfield, after his fine display in Dublin, was right out of touch and seemed to be lacking in match practise. He rarely played at all well.

Graham Gear opened the proceedings, and was obviously nervous. He did not do well against Michaeloff but his second performance, against Stegmann, had the crowd in plenty of excitement. He took the second game in great style but seemed to become too reckless in the decider.

The doubles, which Barnes and Lindsay lost to Schöler and Ness in the third, sparkled at times.

The event was extremely well organised by the Swansea and District League and undoubtedly provided valuable propoganda for table tennis in West Glamorgan.

**S.E. MIDLANDS LEAGUE  
CAMBRIDGE STAY  
IN FRONT**

**C**AMBRIDGE CITY continue to lead the Men's and Junior sections of the South East Midlands League, with Kettering as the pace makers in the Women's section.

Cambridge have been at the top of the Men's section since the beginning of the season, although they had a narrow shave when playing Kettering. Northampton now look their chief rivals. Kettering are having quite a tussle with Bletchley for the Women's section, but their team of Miss Rixon, Miss Coleman and Miss Lenton will be hard to beat.

Cambridge City are in third position with Bedford close behind.

Cambridge appear much too strong for all comers in the Junior section, where chief opposition is likely to come from Bedford.

England/Wales 1, West Germany 8: Gear lost to Michaeloff 9-21, 14-21; lost to Stegmann 13-21, 21-19, 9-21. Mansfield lost to Michaeloff 15-21, 13-21; lost to Stegmann 9-21, 19-21.  
Lindsay lost to Ness 15-21, 21-18, 12-21; lost to Schöler 20-22, 19-21. Barnes bt Ness 13-21, 21-18, 21-17; lost to Schöler 14-21, 21-19, 15-21.  
Barnes/Lindsay lost to Schöler/Ness 19-21, 21-19, 16-21.

**IMPORTANT NEWS... For ALL T.T. players and Clubs**

95% of World top players use Jap. rubber. The finest grade is Pegasus made in Tokyo. Rev. or normal. C.4 or D.13. 7s. 6d. a piece.

Table Tennis Today by Victor Barna . . . 15/-; 10/- only to the first 50 orders.

The all-purpose tiny trolley — moves your table anywhere . . . 59/6.

Badges.—Embroidered, printed or wire. Send sketch or sample. One wire badge free for your association.

The smartest shirt in town. For all sport. Ten colours including official T.T., pastels, and white for tennis. Not 25s. 6d. but 15s. 6d.

International Tournament table. Superb value, £37.19.6. Part exchange and H.P. facilities. Half-inch model £25.10.0.

Complete range of Stiga, Melstrom, Ehrlich, Berczik, etc., Cor du Buy. Rev. or normal 36/6 each. Barnes, Harrison, Venner, Brook—all have finest Jap. rubber. Why pay 36/6? English models 25/6.

(Postage on all the above, extra.)

Write now for latest list and details of Free Tournament Table

**ALEC BROOK**

(SPORTS EQUIPMENT) LTD.

124 EUSTON ROAD, LONDON, N.W.1. EUSTON 3772/3/4



# Editor's Postbag . . .

## THE UMPIRE PROBLEM

**F**IRST it should be established that there is a problem. Not at International matches, probably not at County matches, but at County Open or Closed tournaments and at lesser events the shortage is often most marked.

It is not difficult to see why there is no scarcity at an International, particularly at one which is being televised. The umpire is more noticeable at an event of this type when there is action on only one table; he will have a timekeeper to assist him if necessary. He knows that the players will be on their best behaviour and that at the end of the match he will be thanked for his services and not ignored. **But, and this is probably most important, he knows that he will not be expected to do too much; there will be enough other umpires present to guarantee this.**

This matter of overworking an umpire may bring a superior smile to the reader's lips, and thoughts of "Umpiring is easy—not strain—anyone can do it." To that, one can only invite such doubters to do some umpiring. Take four sets on the trot, then have a break for 15 minutes (if you are lucky) and then take four more, etc. Do you still find it easy?

In my opinion at least two dozen umpires are needed at any event with twelve tables in use for any length of time. Finding this number, even with an impressively long list of active umpires, is a far from easy task. Remember also that it is not possible to compel competitors at an Open to umpire, this being forbidden

by the E.T.T.A. So that if you find yourself short of qualified people and cannot persuade others then there is no alternative to flogging your qualified umpire to breaking point, and then he may not come next time.

The prospect of being worked to exhaustion and beyond is thus one of the reasons for poor support by umpires of tournaments. Next on the list must be the bad manners of some of the players. Not all players—this must be stressed—and not always is the rudeness deliberate. The young lady who reached a late stage in the English Closed consolation and on her exit from the event rushed from the table without seeming to notice the official who had controlled her match; the England ranked player who was astonished (and livid) at having a side-line fault called against him, also in the Closed; the overseas player now resident here who shortly after coming off the table said "That is the first time I have lost in this country for (x) weeks—you must be a rotten umpire"; need I go on?

**The worst offender is probably the player who leaves the table without acknowledging the presence of the umpire; this is just thoughtlessness and should be easiest of all to correct.**

### Common Courtesy

It seems to be only common courtesy to thank him afterwards (even if you lost) for he might well have wished to be doing any of the numerous things one can do between sets.

All little things? Yes, maybe, but they add up, and the sum is greater than its constituent parts.

Does the E.T.T.A. do enough to encourage umpires? Probably not—I would like to see more publicity given in the magazine. The "League Umpire" scheme was worth trying, but seems to have brought little response, at least in Middlesex.

The leagues should do more—they must have umpires for Wilmott Cup and other representative matches, and for the finals of their own Closed championships. If those who umpire these matches could be persuaded to qualify and work (there is of course a difference) the problem would be partly solved.

**JOHN M. WRIGHT**

(Hon. County Umpires Secretary, Middlesex).

The views expressed above are not necessarily those held by the M.T.T.A.

## LET'S HAVE OUR GIRL BACK

**N**O one in the country has more admiration for the skill and ability of Chester Barnes than myself, and like most players knocking around I look forward to a bright future for him. As a photographer's model, however, I just cannot bring myself to believe in an equally roseate future for this young man.

Somehow I feel a little disappointed in the use of Chester's photograph in the latest Louis Hoffman advert, for it just hasn't got that little "something" that the former model showed!

After seeing earlier editions I anticipated a bright period to come when all young lady players turned up in similar attire!

Imagination boggled at the thought of coming Open tournaments with long queues of spectators lined up at the turnstiles, eagerly clutching their half-crowns in their little hands.

Alas! My dreams have been shattered by our Chester. For some reason I just cannot imagine him pulling 'em in to the same extent! Why? I just can't say, but there is some subtle difference between the two photos which tells me that I am correct in this assumption.

My 20-year-old son tells me that the real difference is due to other causes than a change from a blonde to a brunette—that birds and bees are involved—though I personally cannot imagine either a sparrow or a merrily buzzing bee so clad.

Please, Mr. Hoffman, have second thoughts! Louis, friend of all table tennis addicts, reconsider! Restore to us our blonde of former times—the most enjoyable spot of the magazine, and by so doing re-introduce that heartfelt "Cor!" from many a thousand throats each month! Seeing that his Christmas plea was ignored, I beg of you, tears streaming down by furrowed cheeks, flog Chester a shirt cheap, and give us hope by reinstating our favourite. We all love you, Louis, and by acceding to this *cri-du-coeur* you will probably find yourself voted Sportsman of the Year for 1964. You will certainly earn the Victor Barna award!

**JAMES R. GREEN**

(Liverpool).

## MAKES PARENTS THINK

**T**ABLE tennis appears to be getting a lot of publicity through the actions of Chester Barnes, but is this good for the game?

Surely the attitude of this precocious boy must make parents of other young teenagers think twice before encouraging them to take up the game. His television interview must have given embarrassment to his parents.

**D. MacSWAN**

(Harlow).

## A LITTLE MORE MODEST, PLEASE

**S**O Chester Barnes has set himself up as the Cassius Clay of Table Tennis. In itself I doubt whether this will do the game as a whole any harm.

Chester is full of youthful exuberance, but if he smashes a few plates on being ranked England's No. 1, I shudder to think what might happen if he won the English Open next month or a European or World title.

I feel he must become a little more modest in victory and a little more generous in defeat, and then with his undoubted talent and potential he could become a player of world class.

**A. E. STARTUP**  
(Leytonstone)

## SHOCKED

I WAS shocked to read that a young teenager has stated the following:

1. Refuses to play his opponent in the final of a tournament unless he changed his bat with a darker covering;
2. Refuses to play for England unless he is ranked No. 1;
3. Refuses to play in the Essex Open because he dislikes the slow type table used.

If I was on the committee of the E.T.T.A. I would not hesitate to put this youngster in his place and would not consider him for England until he had learned his lesson.

Surely there are several other youngsters who would be delighted to take his place. I would rather they be given a chance and lose than be dictated to by an unsporting player.

L. J. OWEN,  
(London, N.W.3).

## NO PERSONAL PROFIT

IT is apparently thought in some quarters that the Administrator, Mr. Geoff Harrower, is operating the Master Points Scheme for personal profit.

This is not true. Mr. Harrower will not take any profit from the Scheme. All profits will be returned over to the E.T.T.A. Furthermore, all moneys received under the Master Points Scheme are banked in an E.T.T.A. account and before any withdrawals can be made two signatures are required, at least one of which must be either mine as chairman of the M.P.S. Committee and Deputy Chairman of the E.T.T.A., or that of Mr. D. Peter Lowen, Secretary to the E.T.T.A.

A Statement of Account will be presented each year to the Annual General Meeting of the E.T.T.A.

GEOFF JAMES,  
(Deputy Chairman E.T.T.A.).

## RANK(ING)

ON looking at the new ranking list after the English Closed I was amazed that B. Merrett was omitted. This is a case where I think the selectors have kicked Brian while he is down, especially after the years of service he has given to England at a time when they would have been in a sorry state without him such as the last World Championships.

Brian's claim to a ranking is I think very sound. That is if selectors go by results. He played in the first ranking meeting of the season beating Harrison, Rhodes, Jacobson, Symonds, and myself. His only loss was to Gunnion.

He was then unfortunate enough to break his wrist and be out of the game until the England Closed where he beat Gunnion easily but lost to the winner, C. Barnes.

Maybe selectors give the reason for leaving him out as lack of results. What then of another high ranking player.

D. O. CREAMER,  
(Middlesex).

Following his win in the English Closed, Chester Barnes received an amount of publicity in the national Press that was unprecedented in table tennis and unusual for an individual in any sport. This was largely due to the behind-the-scenes activities of Chester's manager, Peter Madge, a producer of advertising films and therefore no stranger in the world of publicity. In view of the varying reactions to this publicity we asked Peter to tell us the full story.

# BUILDING A STAR

by PETER MADGE

**T**O explain the whole point of the publicity campaign for Chester let us start by stating the final aim and work backwards from there. Chester Barnes—World Champion. Why not? On a long shot you always aim high, as any marksman will tell you.

To achieve this aim Chester needs to devote all his time to the game, just like any top player in any other sport. This means that unless Chester can find a very understanding employer he must earn his living from table tennis, a difficult task for a comparative newcomer to the game, however good a player.

The first step is to make Chester as well or better known to the general public as the old-established stars, but in a fraction of the time it took them to become known. An important difference is that the older stars won their fame with world titles, but Chester's only claim to playing fame, so far, is his success in this country at such an early age.

How then can a nationally known

figure be made of Chester, since being a good player of a minor sport is not enough to make news headlines? There is one answer only, known to every press agent in show business: if you want space for a new name in the popular press you have to do unpopular things, nothing else will get printed. A sad truth, but at least we know where we stand. However, all publicity is good publicity in the long run. A famous actor once said "Say what you like but for God's sake talk about me!" It is worth noting that the system has done Elizabeth Taylor no harm, and she has no great talent in her field.

## BAD BOY IMAGE

Chester knows and accepts that his public image is The Bad Boy of Table Tennis. If he gets depressed about it he cheers himself up by looking at the rising sales graph of his bats. Depressed officials should look at the attendance figures when Chester is playing. Anyone else who is depressed about it should remember that in the ten year absence of a famous character in the game a whole generation of children has grown up which has no idea that there is any such thing as table tennis played on an international scale. You don't believe me? Ask around.

I should mention that publicity does not begin and end with the sensational type of story it is necessary to feed to the national press. Other plans are under way, in co-operation with Spalding's, which will benefit the game and be a better class of publicity for Chester. These further plans include Ian Harrison, but Ian feels that the national press type of publicity is not in character with him.

No, in a nutshell, a famous Chester Barnes could make enough money from bat sales, exhibitions, etc., to live on and have all the practice he needs. A famous Chester Barnes will revive public interest in the game, which is sadly lacking. The end justifies the means. Q.E.D.

There is an obvious post script. How does the real Chester match up to his public image? Frankly, you'd hardly think they were the same person. He is a bit on the shy side but with a mind of his own which he will speak when necessary. Add to this a king-size sense of humour and you have someone essentially likeable. He certainly says all the things attributed to him, but not quite in the way that some papers choose to report them.

## THE BAT COVERINGS

By Colin Clemett (Hon. Sec. N.C.U.),

**S**EVERAL readers have pointed out an error in the reply given in last month's magazine to a query about dissimilar racket coverings, which are not at present prohibited.

When racket standardisation was introduced some years ago it was intended that the surfaces on each side of the racket should be similar, although no specific reference was made in the approved wording of Law 4.

This intention was re-affirmed by the I.T.T.F. in a circular sent to member associations shortly before the last World Championships, and it was stated that during the championships all the restrictions on the coverings, colour and reflectivity of the racket would be strictly observed. The reaction produced by this letter indicated that the use of rackets with different coverings on each side was so widespread that it would be unreasonable to try to enforce a ban at such short notice, and the I.T.T.F. issued an amendment to their earlier letter saying that this restriction would not apply "for the present."

Roy Evans, the I.T.T.F. secretary, has confirmed that no further change has been made so that for the time being, at least, rackets may be covered on either or both sides with any of the approved surface materials.

# DRAMATIC ESCAPE FOR ENGLAND TEAM

**ENGLAND'S** two-girl team of Diane Rowe and Mary Shannon, with Ron Crayden as captain, will not forget their recent tour of Czechoslovakia in a hurry. In fact they are lucky to be alive after being involved in a dramatic car accident when being taken to Tynec for the international.

Fresh from their triumphs in the Czech Open they were travelling across country in sub-zero weather on roads of frozen snow and ice, when at a sharp bend they were suddenly confronted by a large open lorry in an uncontrollable skid coming straight towards them. There was no time for considered action, but their driver, with great presence of mind, averted a head-on collision by frantically swinging the wheel to the right. The tail of the car bumped the lorry and, complete with its precious cargo, hurtled over the parapet of the road to finish on its side some 20 feet below in the frozen snow.

## UNHURT

Diane was the first to emerge, scrambling through the void that was once the rear window. Then, in turn came Mary, Ron and the driver . . . all visibly shaken but fortunately without serious physical injury.

The red car lay there on its side, oozing petrol and oil, like some mortally wounded monster.

An hour of waiting around in the freezing weather followed, before the three frozen mortals were whisked away by cab to Tynec, arriving 15 minutes before the start of the match.

Even by the standards of a stunt man, this was not the best pre-match training and it was little wonder that the English girls were beaten 3-1.

Mary, who took a nasty bump on the head and was obviously suffering from delayed shock, tried her utmost, but, although the flesh was willing, her touch was missing and she lost to an inspired Bosa, whom she had previously beaten in the Czech Open.

**Gallant Di might have beaten**

## CLUB BADGES

- Attractive Cloth Badges, made to your own design, in any quantity.
- Suitable for Blazers, Sweaters, etc.
- LOW PRICES AND QUICK DELIVERY.
- Free help offered in designing your badge.

Please write to:  
S. A. CORY & COMPANY,  
20 ST. JOHN'S HILL, LONDON, SW11

Luzova, winning the first and leading 20-18 in the second, but it was not to be and the Czech girl took the match to put her country 2-0 up.

By a superhuman effort, our girls preserved their "story book" doubles record, but they were wilting fast and the score tells the rest with Luzova beating Mary to make it 3-1 to Czechoslovakia.

After his return home, Ron Cray-

den said: "Without wishing to detract from the skill of the Czech girls — they played splendid — but the fact that Mary and Di played at all was miraculous. Their courage, composure and character throughout made me proud to be their captain."

Czechoslovakia 3, England 1: Bosa bt Shannon 18, 14. Luzova bt Rowe —19, 24, 11; bt Shannon —14, 7, 17. Bosa/Luzova lost to Shannon/Rowe 18, —18, —15.

## CZECH OPEN

by RON CRAYDEN

## THANK HEAVENS FOR LITTLE GIRLS

**I**N the Bohemian town of Ceske Budejovice, in the coldest weather I have ever experienced, many of the top European players met to contest the Czechoslovakian Open Championships. Had January in England ever been as cold as this . . . then February would have been afraid to turn up. It was bone chilling.

Against the elements, however, and indeed against hostile opposition, Diane Rowe and Mary Shannon, those star turns of English table tennis, gave a heartwarming performance. Out of three possible finals, two were won and the other narrowly lost.

Our spearhead on this occasion was Diane, who was runner-up in the singles, won the mixed doubles with Vyhnanovsky and once again the women's doubles with Mary.

## SIX NATIONAL TITLES

If the record books are a guide then the Rowe-Shannon partnership must rate as one of the greatest of all times. They have been unbeaten since the final of the last world championships and this season have won six major opens — the Netherlands, Yugoslavian, Hungarian, Scandinavian, Welsh and Czechoslovakian — with the English closed throne in for good measure.

With the Rumanian, West German and English Opens to come they could set up a record that will stand for many years.

The attractive young Czech girl,

Marta Luzova, proved the one stumbling block that prevented our girls sweeping all before them. She beat Mary in the semi-final of the singles at 21-13, 21-18, 21-13, then conquered Diane in the final by 21-19, 21-11, 22-20, to take the title without loss of a game.

The English girls gained their revenge in the doubles finals, for Mary and Diane beat Luzova and Bosa in the women's doubles final, 15-21, 21-16, 21-14, 21-14; and Miss Rowe partnered Vyhnanovsky to beat Stanek and Luzova in the mixed final 19-21, 21-15, 21-17, 22-20.

## SWEDES FAIL

Surprisingly, in view of their previous successes in Europe, Sweden failed to produce a finalist, the men's singles going to Vecko (Yugoslavia), who beat Miko (Czechoslovakia); and the men's doubles to the Czechs Miko and Kunz with a five games win over the East Germans, Pleuse and Fahrnich.

## CZECH OPEN RESULTS

Men's Singles: **VECKO** (Yugos.) bt Miko (Czech.) 18-21, 15-21, 21-18, 21-18, 21-13.

Women's Singles: **Semi-Finals:** D. ROWE (England) bt Piric (Yugos.) 21-10, 21-11, 15-21, 21-17. **LUZOVA** (Czech.) bt M. Shannon (England) 21-13, 21-18, 21-13. **Final:** **LUZOVA** bt Rowe 21-19, 21-11, 22-20.

Men's Doubles: **MIKO/KUNZ** (Czech.) bt Pleuse/Fahrnich (East Germany) 21-15, 18-21, 21-9, 16-21, 21-18.

Women's Doubles: **ROWE/SHANNON** bt Luzova/Bosa 15-21, 21-16, 21-14, 21-14.

Mixed Doubles: **VYHNANOVSKY** (Czech.)/Miss **ROWE** bt Stanek (Czech.)/Miss Luzova 19-21, 21-15, 21-11, 22-20.

ENGLISH CLOSED SPECIAL

# BARNES DOES IT AGAIN

● **DROPS ONLY  
ONE GAME**

● **TRIPLE CROWN  
FOR DIANE**

by *HARRISON EDWARDS*

**WHATEVER** the personal opinions of the ballyhoo that surrounds **CHESTER BARNES**, that controversial 16-year-old from Forest Gate, he is a talented young table tennis player. No one can dispute this after his success in the English Closed Championships at Manor Place Baths, Walworth, from January 1 to 4.

While other stars slipped up, and titles changed hands, Barnes carried all before him to become the first player to successfully defend the men's singles.

No one can begrudge him his right to the title, for only Brian Wright, in the needle atmosphere of the final, succeeded in taking a game from him.

**Diane Rowe** and **Mary Shannon**, in the women's doubles, as to be expected of the European champions who have carried all before them in Europe this season, were the only other title holders to win again. **Miss Rowe** made it a treble by regaining the women's singles and mixed doubles with **Ian Harrison**.

And back to champion status once again came veteran **Johnny Leach** with a brilliant win in the men's doubles, partnered by **David Creamer**, for whom it was his first national title.

Barnes proudly boasted before the championship that he would keep the title without losing a game, but he found a stubborn Brian Wright a worthy opponent in the final before winning 21-11, 18-21, 21-17, 22-20.

Indeed, Barnes was fortunate not to be forced to a deciding set for the fourth was all set up for Wright, when, after fighting off a match point, he smashed an easy sitter into the bottom of the net. It was a costly mistake for he was never given another chance.

## UNRANKED

Wright, who had been dropped from the ranking list earlier in the season, has never played better or more grimly.

When Barnes halted play to rub the towel over his face, Wright calmly waited at the table, then went and did the same thing himself. And when Barnes jumped about at the table to receive service Wright waited until he kept still. He refused to stand any nonsense and in the end Barnes found himself with quite a fight on his hands.

The opening set went easily to Barnes and it was in the second that Wright began to find his length and rhythm to level at set-all.

Barnes edged out in the third, but only after Wright had made two

spectacular recoveries from 7-13 to 13-14, and from 13-19 to 17-20.

The fourth and last set seen-sawed with Wright threatening a turn up when he led 18-16, but was beaten by an "edge ball" to be 19-20 down, before missing that "sitter" which could have given him 21-20.

Barnes, with his controlled use of the "loop" and the drop shot, had previously beaten D. Gilbert, of Bucks, Tony Piddock, of Kent, George Muranyi, of Surrey, Brian Merrett, of Gloucestershire, and Connie Warren, of Surrey.

## FIRST SHOCK

It was fitting that Wright should reach the final for he opened the championships with the major shock when he beat Ian Harrison, until then England's No. 1, in the first round.

This was a thrill-packed match, going the full distance, before Wright got home, at 21-18, 21-18, 19-21, 20-22, 22-20. Using the loop to full purpose, Wright was well on top for the first two games, then Harrison started his fight back.

Harrison survived a crisis when he needed three points to win the third game then in the fourth saved two match points with some splendid retrieving to make it two-all.

Wright became a little anxious at this stage and started to push, but there was an incident here which should have given him the match on his second point.

Harrison, in attempting to go back for a shot, moved the table, but it apparently missed the notice of the umpire.

Having got to terms it began to look as though Harrison would now save the match and amidst mounting excitement he kept just a point or two in front to 17-15. Three brilliant shots took Wright ahead; the next two points went to Harrison. Then fate took a hand. Harrison got to what looked a winner all the way from Wright, spectacularly returned the ball high, only for it to hit the wires supporting the lights. It was a cruel stroke of luck and with it went his last chance, although he did save two more match points before finally hitting off.

## CHAMPIONSHIP ROLL

*Men's Singles*  
**CHESTER BARNES**  
(Essex)

*Men's Doubles*  
**JOHNNY LEACH**  
(Essex)

**DAVID CREAMER**  
(Middlesex)

*Women's Singles*  
**DIANE ROWE**  
(Middlesex)

*Women's Doubles*  
**DIANE ROWE**  
(Middlesex)

**MARY SHANNON**  
(Surrey)

*Mixed Doubles*  
**IAN HARRISON**  
(Gloucestershire)  
**DIANE ROWE**  
(Middlesex)

## ENGLISH CLOSED SPECIAL

Encouraged by this success, Wright took another crack at the ranking list by beating the seeded Mike Symonds in the quarter finals, another five-setter, with a score of 21-17, 14-21, 21-19, 10-21, 21-14.

The pattern for shocks had been set by Alan Cornish, of Woolwich, with a first round win over Bobby Stevens, the champion of 1962. Playing as he had never done before, Cornish hit like a whirlwind to win 24-22, 22-20, 16-21, 21-19.

His success was, however, short lived for he fell to Joe Somogyi in the next round.

Of the eight seeded players, only Barnes survived the quarter-finals. Ralph Gunnion went out to Merrett in round 3, at which stage David Creamer lost to Alan Lindsay, while Alan Rhodes fell to veteran Harry Venner in the quarter-final. Jeff Ingber, the remaining seed scratched and it was his place that Venner, a late entrant, took in the draw.

There was much speculation as to whether or not Venner, the coach behind Barnes, would come through to meet his pupil in the final. He was playing so well, that his quick-fire hitting and knowledge of the Barnes' tactics, might well have led to a shock result. However, this was not to be, for Wright ended Venner's run at this stage.

The other surprise semi-finalist was Connie Warren, who gained a

shock win over Lindsay at 21-19, 12-21, 17-21, 21-19, 26-24.

Mary Shannon once again found Lesley Bell her bogey player when she was dethroned by the Essex girl in the semi-final with a score of 21-19, 21-8, 21-11. Miss Bell, in turn was completely crushed 21-15, 21-14, 21-7 in the final by Miss Rowe.

### CURIOUS POSITION

One cannot help feeling that Miss Rowe must owe her title to the way the draw came out, for we have the curious position at the top where Miss Bell always beats Miss Shannon, while Miss Shannon, on this season's form, usually gets the better of Miss Rowe.

It is almost as though Miss Shannon, now one of the strongest players in Europe, suffers psychologically when she has to face that looping defence of Miss Bell. Yet it causes no trouble at all to Miss Rowe, who went through the singles without loss of a game, beating Gloria Sayer, Judy Williams and Jean McCree on her way to the final.

Jackie Canham failed to justify her seeding when she lost to Peggy Piper in the second round. Carol Blackshaw showed promise for the future with wins over Shelagh Hession and Pauline Martin, before falling to Miss Bell, who was also too good for that other Yorkshire hope, Lesley Proudlock.

The only upset of the women's doubles was provided by Jackie Canham and Elsie Carrington when they beat Mrs. McCree and Miss Piper, before going out to Miss Rowe and Miss Shannon.

Miss Bell and Miss Martin came through the other half, but were hopelessly outclassed in the final at 21-4, 21-9, 21-6.

The first shock of the men's doubles was the second round defeat of Harrison and Wright by Michael Creamer and Terry Densham, who kept up their good work to reach the final, where they had a terrific battle with David Creamer and Leach before losing over five games.

### TWO BROTHERS

It was indeed unusual to find two brothers on opposing sides and there was no love lost as each tried to win. Densham and Michael Creamer looked set to take the title when they won the first two games, but with Leach finding his form and beginning to hit with power and accuracy he carried David Creamer to victory at 17-21, 22-24, 21-16, 21-16, 21-19.

Leach and Creamer beat the top seeds, Stevens and Bobbie Raybould, in the quarter-finals, while Henry Buist and Tony Piddock, the No. 4 seeds, surprisingly went down to David Lowe and Peter Shead.

Harrison, who has had such a poor time since his return from Sweden, and had begun to wonder if his journey was really necessary, made amends for earlier failures in the mixed doubles. Here he teamed up with Diane Rowe to dethrone the holders, Brian Wright and Mary Shannon in the final.

Wright and Miss Shannon had promised to keep their title when they took the opening game, but the determined Harrison found his real touch and ably supported by Miss Rowe swept through the next three to win 19-21, 21-9, 21-15, 21-11.

Harrison and Miss Rowe dropped only one other game and that was to Piddock and Irene Ogus in their opening match. After that they were completely dominant. They easily disposed of the No. 4 seeds, Gunnion and Miss Bell in the semi-final.

This was the only event where the seeding worked out as planned, for the other semi-final brought together Stevens and Mrs. McCree against Wright and Miss Shannon, who were fully extended before getting home at 21-15, 12-21, 21-17, 18-21, 21-15.

Stevens and Mrs. McCree also had

Meet and make new friends at the

## TABLE TENNIS CENTRE

EVERYONE WELCOME

WEEKDAYS: 2 p.m. to 11 p.m.

SATURDAYS: 10 a.m. to 11 p.m. SUNDAYS: 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.

2s. 6d. per table per 30-minute session.

NINE TABLES — CENTRAL HEATING — SHOWERS



SNACK BAR

International Star available.

Coaching by appointment.

Housewives:

FREE COACHING ADVICE Tuesday and Thursday afternoons.

497-505, GALE STREET, DAGENHAM. DOMInion 8311

Opposite Becontree District Line Tube. Buses 145 and 62 pass door.

ENGLISH CLOSED SPECIAL

PHOTO COVERAGE by MICHAEL MACLAREN



Top: BARNES arrives for his final and two action studies. Second row: DAVID CREAMER emphasises a point to JOHNNY LEACH. Old England players are the formation of the new Internationals Club. AUBREY SIMONS, BARBARA (MILBANK) ANDREWS, JOYCE (SEAMAN) FAULKNER, PEGGY (FRANKS) HOOK, and BETTY STEVENTON. Bottom row: IAN HARRISON; HARRISON and Miss ROWE the mixed doubles winners. ROY MOOR, of the "Daily Mail" and JOHNNY LEACH study the programme; DIANE ROWE with her trophy.

## ENGLISH CLOSED SPECIAL

a five games match with David Creamer and Peggy Piper, while Wright and Miss Shannon surprisingly dropped a game to the Essex juniors Stuart Gibbs and Beverley Sayer.

Although there were no new discoveries, there was a noticeable narrowing of the gap in some cases and the crowds were always kept on tenterhooks with anticipation of upsets. And, of course, in the true traditions of the English closed there were plenty of these around.

## DETAILED RESULTS

## MEN'S SINGLES

**First Round:** G. C. Barnes (Essex) bt D. Gilbert (Bucks.) 13, 8, 16. A. Piddock (Kent) bt A. Ward (Wilts.) 5, 15, 18. G. Muranyi (Surrey) bt D. Bevan (Yorks.) —14, —16, 12, 13, 17. P. Shead (Sussex) bt D. Badderley (Warwicks.) 18, 12, 10.

B. Merrett (Glos.) bt M. Billington (Warwicks.) 14, 19, 12. L. Landry (Midxx.) w.o. D. Schofield (Ches.) scr. D. Jones (Bucks.) bt M. Westoby (Kent) —14, 18, 15, —11, 17. R. Gunnion (Warwicks.) bt M. Ellis (Kent) 9, 12, 12.

A. Cornish (Kent) bt R. J. Stevens (Essex) 22, 20, —16, 19. J. Somogyi (Surrey) w.o. G. Whalley (Sussex) scr. D. Baden (Kent) bt B. Meisel (Kent) 17, 21, 19. C. Warren (Surrey) bt T. Densham (Herts.) 16, 18, —20, —21, 13.

M. Thornhill (Mids.) bt A. Miller (Surrey) 11, 11, 11. A. Lindsay (Midxx.) bt P. Williams (Sussex) 2, 13, 14. H. Buist (Kent) bt S. Gibbs (Essex) 17, 15, 12. D. Creamer (Midxx.) bt B. Hill (Lincs.) 10, 7, 16.

A. Rhodes (Midxx.) bt G. Taylor (Midxx.) 10, —17, 17, 10. G. Chapman (Surrey) bt M. Creamer (Midxx.) 13, 20, —18, 8. D. Neale (Yorks.) bt D. Lowe (Surrey) 8, —21, 19, 18. G. Golding (Essex) bt R. Bradstreet (Midxx.) 18, 7, 13.

B. Brumwell (Essex) bt J. Bender (Midxx.) 17, 12, 19. A. Robinson (Midxx.) bt J. Beasley (Sussex) 17, 8, 17. D. Bloy (Kent) w.o. L. Gresswell (Midxx.) scr. M. Venner (Surrey) bt S. Hill (Kent) 17, 14, 13.

M. Symonds (Lancs.) bt N. Brabrook (Surrey) 8, 15, 7. J. Moore (Surrey) bt L. Cooper (Kent) 15, 12, 17. V. Ireland (Surrey) bt C. Duncombe (Yorks.) 9, 14, 23. D. Wall (Midxx.) bt K. Bradley (Midxx.) 13, 7, 14.

J. O'Hara (Midxx.) bt S. Jacobson (Midxx.) 19, 19, 18. R. Raybould (Essex) bt K. Baker (Kent) 16, 17, 13. L. Kerekcs (Midxx.) bt D. Whittaker (Kent) —14, 17, 18, 17, 11. B. Wright (Midxx.) bt I. Harrison (Glos.) 18, 18, —19, —20, 20.

**Second Round:** Barnes bt Piddock 17, 23, 19. Muranyi bt Shead 18, 18, 19. Merrett bt Landry 7, 8, 7. Gunnion bt Jones 11, 9, 13.

Somogyi bt Cornish 17, 15, 13. Warren bt Baden 18, 11, 13. Lindsay bt Thornhill 5, —14, 18, 15. Creamer bt Buist —15, 18, 22, —12, 16.

Rhodes bt Chapman 19, 20, —19, —14, 16. Neale bt Golding 13, 16, 11. Brumwell bt Robinson 19, 20 —19, —14, 16. Neale bt Golding 13, 16, 11. Brumwell bt Robinson 8, —16, 19, 16. Venner bt Bloy 11, 12, 6.

Symonds bt Moore 6, 20, 14. Ireland bt Wall 14, —17, —16, 10, 16. Raybould bt O'Hara 17, 16, —14, 14. Wright bt Kerekcs 8, 6, —19, 9.

**Third Round:** Barnes bt Muranyi 15, 20, 17. Merrett bt Gunnion 6, 18, 18. Warren bt Somogyi 17, —19, —13, 13, 15. Lindsay bt Creamer 22, —17, 18, 22.

Rhodes bt Neale 14, 17, 11. Venner bt Brumwell 19, 16, —23, 11. Symonds bt Ireland 18, 17, —9, 16. Wright bt Raybould 14, 8, 16.

**Quarter-Finals:** Barnes bt Merrett 17, 16, 13. Warren bt Lindsay 19, —12, 17, 19. Venner bt Rhodes 11, —13, 17, 13. Wright bt Symonds 17, —14, 19, —10, 14.

**Semi-Finals:** BARNES bt Warren 16, 23, 18; WRIGHT bt Venner 16, —16, 16, 21.

**Final:** BARNES bt Wright 11, —18, 17, 20.

## WOMEN'S SINGLES

**First Round:** D. Rowe (Midxx.) bye. G. Sayer (Essex) bt A. Mills (Hants.) 9, 17, 15. B. Sayer (Essex) bt M. I. Hicks (Midxx.) —17, 8, 10, 18. J. Williams (Herts.) bt Mrs. R. Bird (Kent) 10, 18, 16.

Mrs. J. Head (Surrey) w.o. A. Taft (Herts.) scr. Mrs. A. Cassell (Norfolk) bt Mrs. Know (Essex) 17, 15, —20, 17. Mrs. K. Andrews (Herts.) bt C. Carter (Kent) 14, 15, 16. Mrs. R. McCree (Essex) bye.

L. Bell (Essex) bt I. Ogus (Midxx.) 11, 14, 11. L. Proudlock (Yorks.) bt J. Williams (Bucks.) 14, —17, 19, —21, 13. P. Martin (Essex) bt C. Holes (Hants.) 12, 17, 15. C. Blackshaw (Yorks.) bt S. Hession (Essex) 18, 5, —15, 15.

J. Canham (Herts.) bt P. Holes (Hants.) 7, 11, 11. M. Piper (Surrey) bt M. Fry (Midxx.) 17, 16, 18. Mrs. J. Carrington (Essex) bt P. Venus (Midxx.) 6, 10, 6. M. Shannon (Surrey) bye.

**Second Round:** Rowe bt G. Sayer 7, 16, 14. Williams bt B. Sayer 16, 20, 9. Cassell bt Head 15, 18, —11, 16. McCree bt Andrews —21, 19, 15, 11.

Bell bt Proudlock 6, 15, 14. Blackshaw bt Martin 15, 12, 10. Piper bt Canham 18, —21, —14, 15, 15. Shannon bt Carrington 10, 5, 13.

**Quarter-Finals:** Rowe bt Williams 8, 12, 17. McCree bt Cassell 18, 9, 10. Bell bt Blackshaw 18, 14, 10. Shannon bt Piper 20, 15, —19, 10.

**Semi-Finals:** ROWE bt McCree 17, 14, 16. BELL bt Shannon 19, 18, 11.

**Final:** ROWE bt Bell 15, 14, 7.

## MEN'S DOUBLES

**First Round:** R. Raybould/R. Stevens (Essex) bt K. Hurlock (Surrey)/L. Kerekcs (Midxx.) 8, 6, 21. S. Hill/M. Westoby (Kent) bt D. Bloy/A. Cornish (Kent) 21, 19, 16. S. Edwards (Hants.)/A. Ward (Wilts.) w.o. K. Bradley/K. Jell (Midxx.) scr. V. Ireland (Surrey) / A. Lindsay (Midxx.) bt D. Burton/P. Fenwick (Essex) 5, 9, 6.

C. Duncombe/D. Neale (Yorks.) bt D. Baden/M. Ellis (Kent) 15, —19, 16, 14. I. Somogyi (Surrey)/D. Wall (Midxx.) bt T. Law/A. Rowden (Surrey) —18, 19, 18, 16.

B. Merrett (Glos.)/M. Thornhill (Midxx.) bt G. Chapman/J. Moore (Surrey) 15, 11, 13. D. Creamer (Midxx.)/J. Leach (Essex) bt R. Thoro/D. Whittaker (Kent) 13, 14, —16, 16.

H. Buist/A. Piddock (Kent) bt C. Warren (Surrey)/R. Gunnion (Warwick.) 20, 12, 8. D. Badderley (Warwick.)/B. Hill (Lincs.) bt L. Gresswell/A. Robinson (Midxx.) —18, 12, 18, —19, 17, D. Lowe (Surrey)/P. Shead (Sussex) bt K. Baker (Kent)/D. Gilbert (Bucks.) 15, 15, —15, 24.

M. Billington (Warwicks.)/M. Symonds (Lancs.) bt A. Khanna (Midxx.)/D. Jones (Bucks.) —17, 12, 8, 7.

D. Bevan (Yorks.)/B. Brumwell (Essex) bt T. Kirby (Surrey)/S. Wright (Midxx.) 12, 11, 11. M. Creamer (Midxx.)/T. Densham (Herts.) bye. C. Barnes (Essex)/G. Muranyi (Surrey) bt J. Beasley/P. Williams (Sussex) 16, 10, 18. I. Harrison (Glos.)/B. Wright (Midxx.) bt H. Venner (Surrey)/L. Landry (Midxx.) 3, 11, 10.

**Second Round:** Raybould/Stevens bt Hill/Westoby —18, 15, 18, —19, 18. Ireland/Lindsay bt Edwards/Ward 17, 10, 21. Somogyi/Wall bt Duncombe/Neale —18, 17, 15, 13. D. Creamer/Leach bt Merrett/Thornhill 23, 16, 22.

Buist/Piddock bt Baddeley/Hill 11, 19, 4. Lowe/Shead bt Billington/Symonds 18, —19, 14, 19. M. Creamer/Densham bt Bevan/Brumwell —17, 6, 14, —12, 16. Barnes/Muranyi bt Harrison/Wright 18, 19, 23.

**Quarter-Finals:** Raybould/Stevens bt Ireland/Lindsay 18, —18, 23, 13. D. Creamer/Leach bt Somogyi/Wall —12, 5, 14, —14, 14. Lowe/Shead bt Buist/Piddock 14, —14, 12, 18. M. Creamer/Densham bt Barnes/Muranyi —17, 22, 13, 16.

**Semi-Finals:** D. CREAMER/LEACH bt Raybould/Stevens 16, —14, 17, 20. M. CREAMER/DENSHAM bt Lowe/Shead 8, 17, 10.

**Final:** D. CREAMER/LEACH bt M. Creamer/Densham —17, —22, 16, 18, 19.

## WOMEN'S DOUBLES

**First Round:** L. Bell/P. Martin (Essex) bt Mrs. K. Andrews (Herts.)/J. Williams (Midxx.) —19, 19, 18, 12. M. Hicks/I. Ogus (Midxx.) bt B. Sayer/G. Sayer (Essex) —11, —18, 6, 21, 15. Mrs. R. Bird/Mrs. M. Ellis (Kent) bt Mrs. Know/K. Stokes (Kent) 20, —17, 9, 10. C. Blackshaw/L. Proudlock (Yorks.) bt A. Mills (Hants.)/J. Williams (Bucks.) 6, —18, 8, 14.

Mrs. R. McCree (Essex)/M. Piper (Surrey) bt Mrs. A. Cassell (Norfolk)/ M. Fry (Midxx.) 17, 12, 14. J. Canham (Herts.)/Mrs. J. Carrington (Essex) bt Mrs. J. Heap (Surrey)/J. Williams (Herts.) 13, 14, —14, 11. S. Hession (Essex)/A. Taft (Midxx.) 17, 12, 14. J. Canham (Herts.)/—17, 15, 16, —19, 17. D. Rowe (Midxx.)/M. Shannon (Surrey) w.o.

**Quarter-Finals:** Bell/Martin bt Hicks/Ogus 15, —18, 12, 18. Blackshaw/Proudlock bt Bird/Ellis 8, 18, 17. Canham/Carrington bt McCree/Piper 9, —8, 16, —19, 13. Rowe/Shannon bt Hession/Taft 11, 12, 9.

**Semi-Finals:** BELL/MARTIN bt Blackshaw/Proudlock 11, 14, 9. ROWE/SHANNON bt Canham/Carrington 10, 11, 12.

**Final:** ROWE/SHANNON bt Bell/Martin 4, 9, 6.

## MIXED DOUBLES

**First Round:** I. Harrison (Glos.)/Miss D. Rowe bye. A. Piddock (Kent)/Miss I. Ogus (Midxx.) bt P. Leckie (Herts.)/Miss J. Williams (Bucks.) 13, —23, 11, 18. D. Neale (Yorks.)/Mrs. K. Andrews (Herts.) bt M. Bullington (Warwicks.)/Miss P. Martin (Essex) —15, 12, 17, 19. B. Hill (Lincs.)/Mrs. A. Cassell (Norfolk) bt J. Beasley (Sussex)/Miss A. Mills (Hants.) 14, 20, 8.

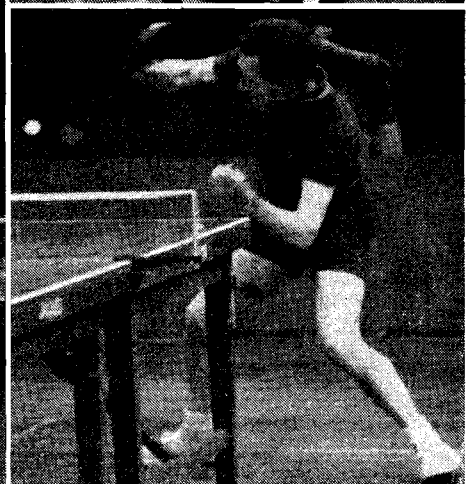
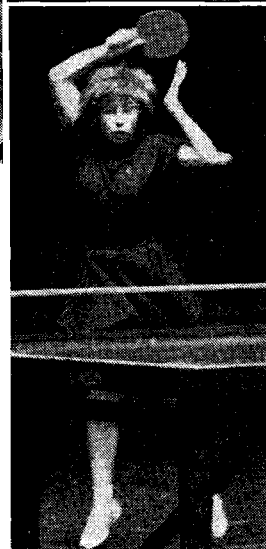
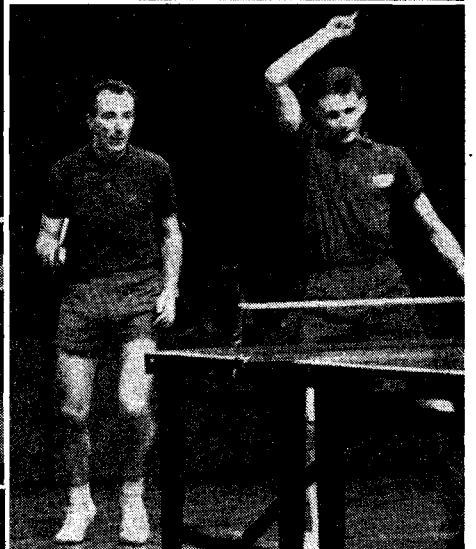
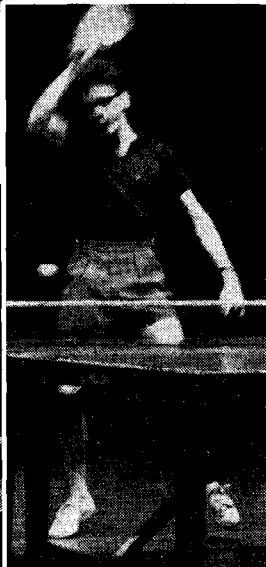
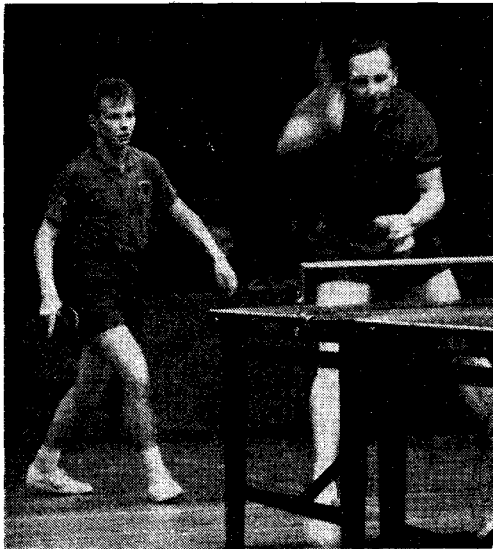
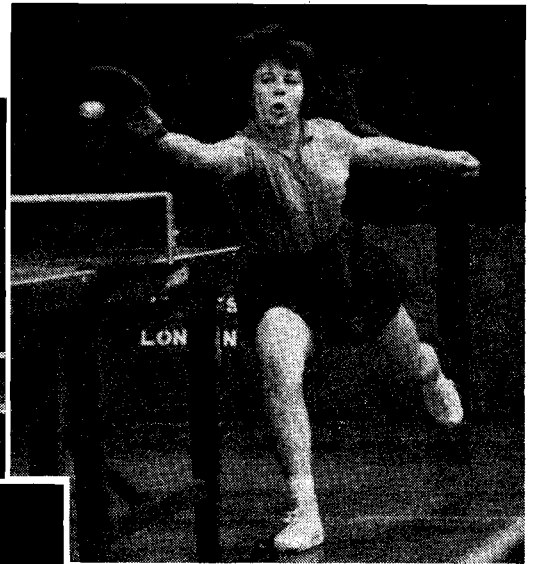
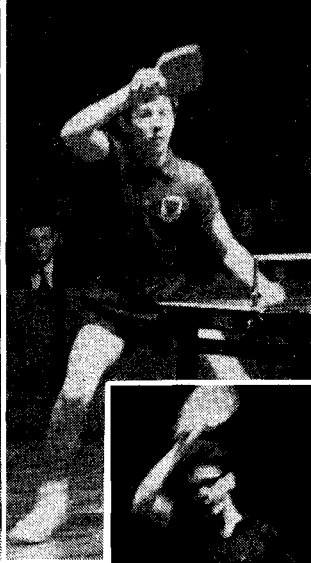
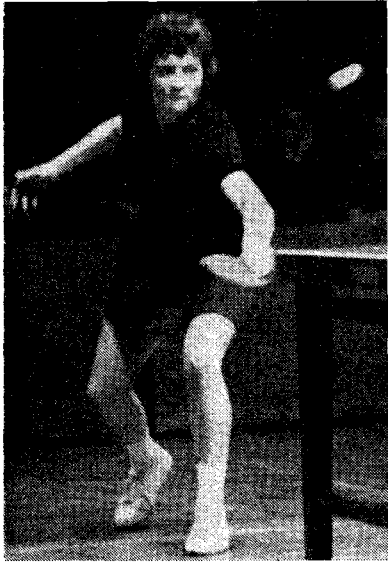
G. Baddeley (Warwicks.)/Miss S. Hession (Essex) bt A. Robinson (Midxx.)/Miss K. Stokes (Kent) —10, 16, 15, 14. C. Barnes (Essex)/Miss A. Taft (Midxx.) bt S. Jacobson/Miss M. Hicks (Midxx.) —14, —18, 9, 16, 8. D. Bevan (Yorks.)/Mrs. R. Bird (Kent) bt B. Merrett (Glos.)/Miss J. Canham (Herts.) —18, 18, —16, 16, 12. R. Gunnion (Warwicks.)/Miss L. Bell (Essex) bye.

R. Stevens/Miss R. McCree (Essex) bt C. Duncombe/Miss C. Blackshaw (Yorks.) —18, —10, 10, 13, 15. G. Chapman (Surrey)/Miss P. Venus (Midxx.) w.o. L. Landry (Midxx.)/Mrs. J. Head (Surrey) scr. D. Creamer (Midxx.)/Miss M. Piper (Surrey) bt D. Whittaker/Miss C. Carter (Kent) 18, —18, 12, 17. M. Symonds (Lancs.)/Miss L. Proudlock (Yorks.) bt C. Edwards/Miss P. Holes (Hants.) —19, 16, 14, —19, 17.

D. Lowe (Surrey)/Miss J. Williams (Herts.) bt N. Isbell/Miss J. Williamson (Midxx.) 19, 18, —22, 11. S. Gibbs/Miss B. Sayer (Essex) bt G. Golding/Mrs. Know

(Continued on Page 20)

**ENGLISH CLOSED SPECIAL**  
**ACTION SHOTS by DENIS OFFER**



Top : The Champions in action. **DIANE ROWE**, women's singles winner. **CHESTER BARNES**, the men's champion, and a fine study of **MARY SHANNON**, women's doubles champion. Centre : **DAVID CREAMER** watches **JOHNNY LEACH** slam a winner in their doubles final success. **BRIAN WRIGHT** shows his paces against Barnes. **TERRY DENSHAM** and **MICHAEL CREAMER** the doubles runners-up. Bottom : **LESLEY BELL** plays the loop, and some forceful hitting by **HARRY VENNER** in the singles semi-final.



# BARNES GOES TO THE TOP

**A**FTER a record run of four-and-a-half years Ian Harrison has lost his position as England No. 1 in the New Ranking List. Up to the top goes that controversial young Essex player, Chester Barnes.

After his brilliant performances this season, including the winning of the English closed title for the second time, no one can dispute Barnes's right to the premier position. Now, however, he will find the heat on as he becomes the "Aunt Sally" of all.

Harrison, who has had a disappointing season, shares the No. 2 spot with Brian Wright, who has come storming back after being dropped from the list this season.

There is a high ranking, too, for Alan Lindsay, who shoots up from No. 12 to No. 4. David Creamer slumps to No. 7 and Alan Rhodes to

No. 8, both being passed by Bobby Stevens and Mike Symonds.

Into the list for the first time comes Connie Warren on the strength of his semi-final place in the English closed. He shares the No. 10 spot with Ralph Gunnion.

Brian Merrett, the previous No. 2 is not ranked because of insufficient evidence, following his long absence because of a broken wrist. Yet he was good enough to beat Gunnion at the "closed," before losing to Barnes.

There is no change among the first four places in the women's list with Diane Rowe still top, Lesley Bell and Mary Shannon sharing the second position, and Jean McCree at No. 4.

A case could be made out for Miss Shannon to have moved up to No. 1 as she has beaten Miss Rowe several times this season. At the same time,

however, she has repeatedly lost to Miss Bell and it would appear that the selectors are playing safe.

Jackie Canham, who came into the list for the first time this season, has been promoted to No. 5, while with only ten ranked this time, Joyce Ellis and Mary Hicks have been dropped from the list.

## RANKING LIST

### MEN

1. G. C. Barnes (Essex) (3).
2. I. O. Harrison (Glos.) (1).
3. B. D. Wright (Middx.) (—).
4. A. G. Lindsay (Middx.) (12).
5. R. J. Stevens (Essex) (6).
6. M. Symonds (Lancs.) (9).
7. D. O. Creamer (Middx.) (4).
8. A. Rhodes (Middx.) (5).
9. D. Neale (Yorks.) (10).
10. R. Gunnion (Warwicks.) (8).
11. C. Warren (Surrey) (—).

B. R. Merrett (2) has not been ranked because of insufficient evidence.

### WOMEN

1. D. Rowe (Middx.) (1).
2. L. Bell (Essex) (2).
3. M. Shannon (Surrey) (2).
4. Mrs. J. McCree (Essex) (4).
5. J. Canham (Herts.) (8).
6. Y. J. Williams (Herts.) (7).
7. C. Blackshaw (Yorks.) (6).
8. A. Taft (Middx.) (9).
9. M. Piper (Surrey) (10).
10. D. Fitzgerald (Lancs.) (12).

(Figures in parenthesis denote position in previous list.)

## ESSEX NOTES

by ROY HAYES

# A SECOND JUNIOR TEAM

**S**INCE the previous Essex notes appeared in the December issue, the County teams, with the exception of the Juniors, have not fared so well. The sad tale of the match against Middlesex has already been reported by Frank Bateman but one thing which must be mentioned is the wonderful effort of the Billericay League in staging the game. Secretary, George Wenham, and his committee, with the willing co-operation of the managing director of Rotary Hoes, provided first class facilities for the crowd, which was one of the largest for some time for an Essex home match.

The juniors continue on their winning way and, in addition to the N.C.C. programme, in which they beat Suffolk 8-2, a number of friendly matches have been arranged for the players lower down the ranking list. In the first of these a five-all draw with a Surrey side, composed of all but one of their junior first team, was a good performance and, subsequently, we have beaten Kent 7-3, and Hertfordshire 8-2.

The efforts of coaching liaison officer, Dick Frost, are slowly bearing fruit and more and more organised coaching is taking place. A coach-load of players and helpers took part in Jack Carrington's coaching rally at Stevenage in December, and the high standard of the Essex contingent was very apparent.

In the Inter-League's Championships, East London appear to have the First Division under control, although Ilford veteran, Bert Levinge, recently scored shock wins over Bobbie Raybould and Percy Curtis. An interesting situation is developing in the Junior Division. Ilford held Barking to a draw, with David

Brown beating Stuart Gibbs, and have also drawn with East London. The championship now seems to hinge on the result of the Barking-East London match, which will be played in March.

## TITLES CHANGE HANDS

Two Leagues, East London and Romford, have held their individual championships. Surprise of the former was the failure of Bobby Stevens to retain the men's singles title he has won six times in all. Victor, for the first time in 18 years of trying, was Percy Curtis, who proved his form by also taking the men's doubles, partnered by Reg Gray. At Romford the men's title holder was also deposed; Ken Beamish going out in the semi-final to Danny Dempsey, who in turn lost to Roy Murray.

Results:—**East London:** MS. P. Curtis b R. Stevens, 10-21, 21-18, 21-17. MD. Curtis and R. Gray b F. B. Brumwell and Stevens 17-21, 21-19, 21-16. WS. J. McCree b E. Carrington 17-21, 21-12, 21-12. WD. Carrington and McCree b B. and G. Sayer 21-15, 21-14. XD. Stevens and Mrs. McCree b S. Gibbs and Miss B. Sayer 21-19, 21-19. VS. H. Levinge b R. Markwell 21-16, 21-12.

**Romford:**—MS. R. Murray b D. Dempsey 21-18, 21-12. MD. K. Beamish and B. Bond b J. Darling and Dempsey 21-17, 21-19. WS. S. Hession b L. Henwood 21-13, 21-18. WD. L. Bell and A. Hewitt b Henwood and Hession 21-6, 21-11. XD. Beamish and Miss Hession b Bond and Miss Bell 21-16, 21-18. JBS. D. Medcalf b D. Bysouth 19-21, 21-11, 21-15.

(Continued from Page 18)

(Essex) 12, 15, 15. M. Ellis/Mrs. M. Ellis (Kent) bt L. Gresswell (Middx.)/Miss G. Sayer (Essex) —12, 14, 18, 19. B. Wright (Middx.)/Miss M. Shannon (Surrey) bye.

Second Round: Harrison/Rowe bt Piddock/Ogus —17, 9, 13, 8. Neale/Andrews bt Hill/Cassell 11, 13, 12. Barnes/Taft bt Baddeley/Hession 15, 11, —13, —17, 17. Gunnion/Bell bt Bevan/Bird 10, 8, 15.

Stevens/McCree bt Chapman/Venus 15, 15, 19. Creamer/Piper bt Symonds/Proudlock —12, 19, 16, 17. Gibbs/Sayer bt Lowe/Williams —16, 17, —21, 19, 14. Wright/Shannon bt Ellis/Ellis 13, 9, 6-0 rtd.

Quarter-Finals: Harrison/Rowe bt Neale/Andrews 16, 9, 12. Gunnion/Bell bt Barnes/Taft 10, —20, 12, —17, 22. Stevens/McCree bt Creamer/Piper 17, 9, —20, —19, 18. Wright/Shannon bt Gibbs/Sayer —16, 12, 9, 11.

Semi-Finals: HARRISON/ROWE bt Gunnion/Bell. WRIGHT/SHANNON bt Stevens/McCree 15, —12, 17, —18, 15.

Final: HARRISON/ROWE bt Wright/Shannon —19, 9, 15, 11.

## CONSOLATION SINGLES

Men: A. Piddock (Kent) bt H. Buis (Kent) 15, 16.

Women: P. Holes (Hants.) bt Mrs. R. Bird (Kent) 11, 17, 22.

Michael Maclaren's **GLAMOUR CHOICE****PENNY HANSEN**

**T**HE second of my table tennis glamour-girls is **PENNY HANSEN** from Redhill in Surrey.

"I love playing table tennis," says Penny, "but I'm no good at it—I must be the worst player in the whole of Surrey—and yet all the boys come and see me play. I don't know why!"

Well, I do and here's a photograph to prove it!

Penny, who is all of fifteen years, is still a schoolgirl but will be leaving soon to become a hairdressing apprentice and would eventually like to work in this or in any of the show business professions. She loves dancing, lots of boy friends (she had lost count of how many), the Dave Clark Five and, of course, the Beatles (particularly Paul whom she has met).

Travel is another of her pursuits and she has probably played more T.T. afloat than anyone else as she journeys regularly between England and West Africa and greatly enjoys the ship competitions.

Her only comment on the game is that she would like to play in the boys' events, but I explained tactfully that she does enough disturbing in this quarter, or should I say half, without having to play in it, as well!

Penny stands 5ft. 4in. without her socks on, her lateral dimensions being 34in., 23in., 34in., she also has a sister, Sandra, aged eleven, who is coming along on these lines but does not play table tennis yet.

**BOOK REVIEW****KNOW THE RULES**

**A**RGUMENTS over rules are commonplace whenever sportsmen get together. Everyone appears to have a different version over some particular knotty point.

Those thoughtful publishers of sporting books, Messrs. Nicholas Kaye, have, therefore, once again proved themselves the sportsman's friends with their new edition of "Official Rules of Sports and Games 1964-1965."

Compiled with the co-operation of governing bodies, the book covers 20 different sports in its 682 pages, ranging from Athletics to Water Polo. It is liberally illustrated with line drawings and cartoons to clarify many tricky points.

Table Tennis has its own section covering 17 pages.

Priced at 30s. it is a handy reference book, which should be on the bookshelf of anyone claiming to be an enthusiastic and knowledgeable follower of sport generally.

**English Open Draws International Stars**

**B**IGGER and better than ever. That's the prospect for the English "Open" at the Corn Exchange and Dome, Brighton, on February 27-29.

It will be like the European Championships in miniature with entries from Hungary, Czechoslovakia, Rumania, Yugoslavia, Sweden and West Germany, as well as the four home countries. Also for the first time there will be challengers from Jersey.

Unlike last season when only the finals took place in the Dome, this arena will be in operation each day, and added to the Corn Exchange will keep ten tables going.

The international team competitions, introduced last season, are being repeated and these will be played on the Thursday in the Dome.

Sessions from the Dome will be televised each day. His Grace the Duke of Norfolk, K.G., P.C., G.C.V.O., will present the prizes.

Tickets for the finals of the Saturday evening in the Dome will be 15s., 12s. 6d., 10s. 6d., 7s. 6d., and 4s. Evening session in the Dome on Thursday and Friday will be 4s., while admission to the Corn Exchange will be 2s. 6d. per session.

**HARRY VENNER**

(England & Surrey)

Coach to the Champions:

Mary Shannon, Chester Barnes.

Individual coaching 15/- per hour.

All enquiries:

14, CRANHAM ROAD,

HORNCHURCH, ESSEX.

HORNCHURCH 46344.

## COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS ROUND UP

by FRANK BATEMAN

## MIDDLESEX GO TO THE TOP

THIS has been a quiet month for the County Championships, only two senior and five junior matches having been played.

Middlesex, the reigning champions, take over the lead of the Premier Division following a 9-0 win over luckless Hertfordshire, who flounder on the bottom of the table, without a win from their four matches.

Such was the Middlesex supremacy that they swept through the match without loss of a game.

Brian Sykes came nearest to pre-

venting the complete whitewash when he ran Alan Lindsay to 23-25 in the first game, while Terry Densham and Judy Williams put up some strong resistance in the mixed doubles before going down 22-24, 19-21 to David Creamer and Diane Rowe.

**With two matches in February—against Gloucestershire and Surrey—Middlesex are likely to increase their lead over Lancashire, who, after their match with Warwickshire at the end of January, are not due to play again until mid-March.**

## CHANGE OF ADDRESS

MARGARET FRY, secretary of the National County Championships, has moved to:

**32, DUDLEY GARDENS,  
EALING, LONDON, W.13.**

Hertfordshire were just that little too good for Norfolk in the Southern Division, winning 8-2. Norfolk's successes were in the men's and women's doubles, while the outstanding Hertfordshire win was that of Pauline Hemmings in beating Mrs. Betty Cassell.

Derek Grant had to struggle to beat the Norfolk youngster Alan Coby at 25-23 in the third.

This win took Hertfordshire to the top of the table with a two points lead over Buckinghamshire, who have, however, two matches in hand.

Cheshire gained their first point in the Junior Division North when they held Yorkshire to a draw. It was a point that could prove costly to Yorkshire in the final reckoning for it spoils their 100 per cent record. Northumberland, who have also dropped only one point, lead the division.

**Essex maintained their unbeaten record in the Junior Division East with an 8-2 win over Suffolk and now appear certain to keep the title they have won for the past two seasons.**

David Mann played exceptionally well for Suffolk, marking up one of their wins.

It was not a happy month for Suffolk, however, for they also lost 4-6 to Buckinghamshire and 3-7 to Hertfordshire.

The one bright spot has been the promise of Mann, who won both his singles against Hertfordshire. He was, however, on the losing side in the mixed doubles.

Pauline Hemmings won the girls' singles for Hertfordshire, beating L. Barrett.

Suffolk might well have taken a point from Buckinghamshire had not Lipscombe faltered when leading Oliver. Suffolk mixed doubles pair also looked set for a win, but slipped up against the Bucks youngsters, who played well.

The big upset of this section was Hertfordshire's 6-4 win over Middlesex, thanks mainly to the splendid play of Peter Williams who upset the national junior ranking list by beating Tony Robinson. Williams also won his other singles.

## COUNTY DIARY

## PREMIER DIVISION

February 1	Warwickshire v Hertfordshire, Parish Hall, Vicarage Street, Nuneaton	
February 1	Essex v Yorkshire, Ilford Ltd. Sports Club, Ilford Lane, Ilford	7 p.m.
February 1	Middlesex v Gloucestershire, Duchess of Gloucester Homes, Ridgeway Road, Isleworth	7 p.m.
February 15	Gloucestershire v Surrey	7 p.m.
February 20	Surrey v Middlesex, Congregational Hall, North Street, Guildford	7.30 p.m.
February 21	Hertfordshire v Essex	

## SECOND DIVISION SOUTH

February 1	Hampshire v Kent, Tanners Brook Infants' School, Millbrook, Southampton	6.30 p.m.
February 1	Bedfordshire v Sussex	
February 22	Essex v Hampshire	
February 22	Kent v Bedfordshire, V.C.S., Crayford	7.30 p.m.

## SECOND DIVISION NORTH

February 22	Durham v Lincolnshire, Darlington	7 p.m.
February 22	Lancashire v Yorkshire	

## SECOND DIVISION WEST

February 1	Dorset v Cornwall	
February 1	Somerset v Devon, St. Peter's Church Hall, Dorset Street, Lower Bristol Road, Bath	7.15 p.m.
February 22	Wiltshire v Somerset	
February 22	Devon v Dorset	

## SECOND DIVISION MIDLAND

February 1	Oxford v Glamorgan, St. Margaret's Hall, Polstead Road, Oxford	6.30 p.m.
February 15	Warwickshire v Oxfordshire, Birmingham Gas Co., Devon Street, Birmingham	7 p.m.
February 22	Staffordshire v Glamorgan	

## MIDLAND DIVISION

February 1	Worcestershire v Staffordshire, Cripplegate Pavilion, Worcester	7 p.m.
February 1	Nottingham v Derbyshire	
February 22	Derbyshire v Oxfordshire, Chesterfield	7 p.m.
February 22	Staffordshire v Nottinghamshire	

## SOUTHERN DIVISION

February 1	Huntingdonshire v Cambridgeshire, Samuel Jones Paper Mills, St. Neots	7 p.m.
February 1	Berkshire v Norfolk, Sperry Gyroscope Canteen, Bracknell	7.30 p.m.
February 15	Huntingdonshire v Hertfordshire, Samuel Jones Paper Mill, St. Neots	7 p.m.
February 22	Cambridgeshire v Berkshire	
February 22	Buckinghamshire v Huntingdonshire	

## JUNIOR DIVISION MIDLAND

February 1	Leicestershire v Staffordshire	
February 1	Warwickshire v Nottinghamshire, Girling Ltd., Tysly, Birmingham	7 p.m.
February 22	Staffordshire v Warwickshire	
February 22	Nottinghamshire v Leicestershire	

## JUNIOR DIVISION SOUTH

February 1	Berkshire v Sussex, Sperry Gyroscope Canteen, Bracknell	3.30 p.m.
February 22	Surrey v Sussex, Higgs and Hill, Vauxhall	4 p.m.

## JUNIOR DIVISION SOUTH WEST

February 1	Oxfordshire v Glamorgan, St. Margaret's Hall, Polstead Oxford	3 p.m.
February 1	Gloucestershire v Monmouthshire	
February 22	Gloucestershire v Glamorgan	
February 22	Monmouthshire v Oxfordshire	

## JUNIOR DIVISION EAST

February 22	Middlesex v Buckinghamshire, Victoria Boys' and Girls' Club, Egerton Road, Stamford Hill, London, N.16	7.30 p.m.
-------------	--	-----------

**DIVISIONAL TABLES**

**WELSH OPEN**

**SCHOLER TAKES ALL THREE**

**T**HE best footwork since Richard Bergman. This was the unanimous verdict of the large and enthusiastic crowd who saw the finals of the Welsh Open in Cardiff on January 11, and the reference was to the impeccable artistry of West Germany's Eberhard Schöler, who took the Men's Singles title.

His task was not an easy one, for the cream of English table tennis was there to deny him success, but in the event he appeared to have very little trouble.

In the fourth round hard-hitting Tony Morley made little impression on Schöler; Alan Lindsay could not repeat his effort of the previous night; and Ian Harrison in the semi-final, although he took the first game and tried hard to build up a position for an attacking winner, seemed to give up the unequal struggle in the decider.

Harrison had previously beaten David Creamer and Ralph Gunnion in this quarter. The best outside performance here was by London's D. H. Lowe, who defeated Stegmann before losing to David Creamer.

**Martin Ness, now challenging Schöler for top West German place, took a game from his countryman by virtue of painstaking top spin and the occasional winner, but only just got double figures in the third.**

Ness's semi-final was Chester Barnes, and although this was a brilliant game of counter-attack, Chester never looked like winning. In previous rounds Chester had beaten Derek Wall and disposed of West German Michaeloff in three games, whilst Martin Ness, after beating Warren, just scraped home in the third against Brian Wright.

It was West Germany again in the Men's Doubles with Schöler and Ness combining to beat Warren and Gunnion in the semi-final and Harrison and Lindsay in the final. Warren and Gunnion did well to dispose of Barnes and Wright in the

RESULTS	
<b>Men's Singles: Semi-Finals:</b>	E. SCHOLER (W. Germany) bt I. Harrison (Glos.) 18-21, 21-13, 21-10.
	M. NESS (W. Germany) bt C. Barnes (Essex) 21-14, 21-11.
	<b>Final: SCHOLER</b> bt Ness 21-12, 14-21, 21-11.
<b>Women's Singles: Final:</b>	<b>M. SHANNON</b> (Surrey) bt D. Rowe (Middx.) 21-17, 22-20.
<b>Men's Doubles: Final:</b>	<b>SCHOLER/NESS</b> bt Harrison/Lindsay 13-21, 21-14, 21-13.
<b>Women's Doubles: Final:</b>	<b>ROWE/SHANNON</b> bt A. Taft/P. Taylor 21-8, 21-18.
<b>Mixed Doubles: Final:</b>	<b>SCHOLER/Miss D. ROWE</b> bt Ness/Miss Taft 21-18, 21-16.
<b>Boys' Singles: Final:</b>	<b>BARNES</b> bt D. McGarry 21-17, 21-18.

quarters, whilst Harrison and Lindsay got home in two close games against Stegmann and Michaeloff.

In the Women's Singles, Mary Shannon looked every bit a winner in this event last year before falling away against Diane Rowe. This time she made no mistake, and although Diane saved four match points in the second game, Mary looked all the time the more likely winner.

Alma Taft and Irene Ogus had a long drawn-out battle before Alma qualified to lose to Mary Shannon in the semi-final.

Mary Shannon and Diane Rowe combined in the Women's Doubles and, as expected, had little difficulty in beating the scratch partnership of Alma Taft and Pat Taylor.

Schöler collected his third title in the mixed, teaming up with Diane Rowe, to Roy Morley and Irene Ogus in the semi-final, then Ness and Alma Taft two straight in the final. **Brian Wright** and **Mary Shannon** beat Michaeloff and Doreen Spooner before losing narrowly in the third to the runners-up.

Chester Barnes was rarely extended in winning the Boys' Singles but the Welsh disappointment here was the failure of Dennis Samuel to repeat an earlier success against David McGarry to earn the right to meet Chester Barnes in the final.

Sandra Hinley, with no outside opposition, won the Girls' Singles with ease.

**PREMIER DIVISION**

	P.	W.	L.	F.	A.	P.
Middlesex	3	3	0	21	6	6
Lancashire	3	3	0	20	7	6
Essex	3	2	1	18	9	4
Gloucestershire	3	2	1	12	15	4
Surrey	3	1	2	15	12	2
Warwickshire	3	1	2	10	17	2
Yorkshire	4	1	3	15	21	2
Hertfordshire	4	0	4	6	30	0

**SECOND DIVISION (NORTH)**

	P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.	P.
Lancashire	3	3	0	0	24	6	6
Yorkshire	2	2	0	0	16	4	4
Lincolnshire	3	1	0	2	16	14	2
Cheshire	3	2	0	1	15	15	4
Northumberland	3	0	0	3	6	24	0
Durham	2	0	0	2	3	17	0

**SECOND DIVISION (SOUTH)**

Kent	2	2	0	6	18	2	4
Sussex	3	2	0	1	15	15	4
Essex	2	1	0	1	14	6	2
Hampshire	2	1	0	1	13	7	2
Bedfordshire	2	1	0	1	8	12	2
Suffolk	3	0	0	3	2	28	0

**SECOND DIVISION (MIDLAND)**

Warwickshire	3	3	0	0	21	9	6
Staffordshire	3	2	0	1	21	9	4
Glamorgan	2	1	0	1	13	7	2
Oxfordshire	2	1	0	1	10	10	2
Monmouthshire	2	0	0	2	4	16	0
Worcestershire	2	0	0	2	1	19	0

**SECOND DIVISION (WEST)**

Dorset	2	1	1	0	14	6	3
Wiltshire	2	1	1	0	12	8	3
Cornwall	1	0	1	0	5	5	1
Devon	2	0	1	1	8	12	1
Somerset	1	0	0	1	1	9	0

**MIDLAND DIVISION**

Nottinghamshire	2	2	0	0	18	2	4
Derbyshire	2	1	1	0	12	8	3
Staffordshire	2	1	1	0	11	9	3
Oxfordshire	2	0	0	2	6	14	0
Worcestershire	2	0	0	2	3	17	0

**SOUTHERN DIVISION**

Hertfordshire	4	3	0	1	28	12	6
Buckinghamshire	2	2	0	0	18	2	4
Norfolk	4	2	0	2	23	17	4
Berkshire	2	1	0	1	12	8	2
Cambridgeshire	2	0	0	2	3	17	0
Huntingdonshire	2	0	0	2	0	20	0

**JUNIOR DIVISION (NORTH)**

Northumberland	4	3	1	0	20	12	7
Yorkshire	3	2	1	0	17	7	5
Durham	5	2	1	2	18	22	5
Cheshire	4	0	1	3	13	19	1
Lancashire	2	0	0	2	4	12	0

**JUNIOR DIVISION (SOUTH)**

Sussex	2	2	0	0	14	6	4
Surrey	2	1	1	0	14	6	3
Hampshire	2	1	0	1	14	6	2
Kent	2	0	1	1	7	13	1
Berkshire	2	0	0	2	1	19	0

**JUNIOR DIVISION (EAST)**

Essex	4	4	0	0	32	8	8
Hertfordshire	4	3	0	1	25	15	6
Middlesex	4	2	0	2	23	17	4
Buckinghamshire	4	2	0	2	14	26	4
Suffolk	5	0	1	4	18	32	1
Norfolk	3	0	1	2	8	22	1

**JUNIOR DIVISION (MIDLAND)**

Warwickshire	2	2	0	0	16	4	4
Staffordshire	1	1	0	0	10	0	2
Nottinghamshire	2	0	0	2	3	17	0
Leicestershire	1	0	0	1	1	9	0

**JUNIOR DIVISION (SOUTH-WEST)**

Monmouthshire	3	3	0	0	27	3	6
Glamorgan	3	2	0	1	18	12	4
Gloucestershire	3	1	0	2	12	18	2
Oxfordshire	3	0	0	3	3	27	0

**DETAILED RESULTS**

**PREMIER DIVISION**  
 Hertfordshire 0, Middlesex 9  
 D. Grant lost to A. Lindsay -5, -9; lost to A. Rhodes -17, -13, T. Densham lost to Rhodes -19, -12; lost to D. Creamer -18, -15. B. Sykes lost to Creamer -11, -18; lost to Lindsay -23, -14.  
 Miss J. Williams lost to Miss D. Rowe -9, -19.  
 Grant/Sykes lost to Rhodes/Lindsay -15, -19.  
 Densham/Miss Williams lost to Creamer/Miss Rowe -22, -19.

**SOUTHERN DIVISION**  
 Norfolk 2, Hertfordshire 8  
**JUNIOR NORTHERN DIVISION**  
 Yorkshire 4, Cheshire 4  
**JUNIOR DIVISION EAST**  
 Hertfordshire 7, Suffolk 3  
 Suffolk 2, Essex 8  
 Hertfordshire 6, Middlesex 4  
 Suffolk 4, Buckinghamshire 6

## SCOTTISH CORNER

by JAMES M. McCORMACK

## SUGDEN WINS SCOTTISH CLOSED

**MALCOLM SUGDEN**, following on from his unbeaten singles run the previous week-end in the Quadrangular International — although regrettably he was not in against England — won the Scottish Closed championship in convincing style by defeating Jim Dow 2-1 in an exciting final.

Sugden's passage to the final was relatively easy, the first player to extend him being new cap John Reilly in the semi-final. This game was a delight to the spectators and with both players determined to attack, the first set developed into a counter-hitting battle, with Sugden the more agile and versatile, winning comfortably.

Reilly appeared to control his hitting more in the second and took a good lead, only to be caught at 15, by Sugden, who then went ahead to 20-18. Reilly levelled at 20-all and the game ended with a Sugden forehand to which Reilly did not move.

Dow had the more difficult path to the final, beating Ian Barclay, the defending champion, in the quarter

final, and Ally Laidlaw in the semi-final.

The final saw Sugden lose a closely contested first game — the first he had dropped in the championship — but he took command early in the second with a top-spin, side-spin defence and had no further trouble.

Making more errors than usual, Olive Hawkins easily lost her women's singles title to Lesley Barrie. However, she made amends to retain the women's doubles with Doreen Robertson, beating Miss Barrie and Doreen Donaldson, although it went to three light games.

Mrs. Hawkins and Miss Barrie were on opposing sides yet again in the mixed doubles, where Mrs. Hawkins and Dow twice came from behind to beat Reilly and Miss Barrie. Strong calculated hitting by Dow while under pressure was a deciding factor.

Dow collected a second title in the men's doubles with Sugden, but they were hard pushed to beat Laidlaw and George Maxwell, being game points down in both sets before winning 24-22, 23-21.

The boys' singles final provided one of the best of the meeting with John Hawkins beating Reilly 27-25 in the third. Reilly had previously beaten the defending champion, Billy Gibbs.

## SCOTTISH CLOSED RESULTS

**Men's Singles: Semi-Finals:** J. DOW bt A. Laidlaw —18, 20, 17. M. SUGDEN bt J. Reilly 13, 24. **Final:** SUGDEN bt Dow —19, 17, 8.

**Women's Singles: Semi-Finals:** L. BARRIE bt D. Robertson 17, 12. O. HAWKINS bt M. Coats 6, 11. **Final:** BARRIE bt Hawkins 12, 11.

**Men's Doubles: Semi-Finals:** DOW/SUGDEN bt R. Kerr/T. McMichael 11, 16. LAIDLAW/G. MAXWELL bt E. Latham/G. Anderson 12, 16. **Final:** DOW/SUGDEN bt Laidlaw/Maxwell 22, 21.

**Women's Doubles: Semi-Finals:** BARRIE/D. DONALDSON bt E. Hogg/M. McKenzie 17, 15. HAWKINS/ROBERTSON bt S. Forbes/M. Kennedy 12, 12. **Final:** HAWKINS / ROBERTSON bt Barrie/Donaldson 20, —18, 17.

**Mixed Doubles: Semi-Finals:** DOW/Mrs. HAWKINS bt Kerr/Mrs. Kerr 11, 11. REILLY/Miss BARRIE bt A. Stewart/Mrs. Coats 5, 15. **Final:** DOW/HAWKINS bt Reilly/Barrie 20, 20.

**Boys' Singles: Semi-Finals:** J. HAWKINS bt C. Vesco 17, 16. REILLY bt Stewart 18, 17. **Final:** HAWKINS bt Reilly 20, —14, 25.

## SCOTLAND THRASHED

SCOTTISH fans were shown how table tennis should be played when the West German team of Eberhard Schöler, Martin Ness, Elmar Stegmann and Hans Michaeloff thrashed Malcolm Sugden, John Reilly, Jim Dow and Ally Laidlaw 7-0 in an entertaining if somewhat lopsided international in Glasgow.

Although well beaten the Scottish players were never disgraced. Sugden, the unorthodox left hander, prevented the Germans going through with a clean score card, using a full blooded drive from well back to take a game off Ness.

Schöler, the West German champion, obviously a defensive player, found no difficulty in returning Reilly's loop, which is considered quite formidable, and scored freely with a whiplash forehand.

Dow played well when going down in straight games to Michaeloff, but lost more easily to the hard-hitting Stegmann.

Stegmann and Michaeloff handed out the same treatment, but in greater measure, to Laidlaw, while Sugden and Dow went down to Schöler and Ness in the doubles.

**Scotland 0, West Germany 7:** M. Sugden lost to M. Ness —11, 18, —6. J. Reilly lost to E. Schöler —13, —14. J. Dow lost to H. Michaeloff —18, —18; lost to E. Stegmann —14, —15. A. Laidlaw lost to Stegmann —13, —14; lost to Michaeloff —6, —8. Sugden/Dow lost to Schöler/Ness —17, —16.



MALCOLM SUGDEN, EBERHARD SCHÖLER and JOHN REILLY examine each others bats before the Scotland versus West Germany International.

**MASTER POINTS**

by **GEOFF HARROWER**

**BOLTON PILE UP POINTS**

**B**EFORE the season started I was naturally considering just how many leagues and players would join the Master Points Scheme before the deadline of January 31. Bearing in mind that this is a revolutionary scheme, and that the committee has decided not to exert any pressure at all upon members to join, I thought that perhaps 15 per cent of the membership would be a good figure, with 20 per cent the very maximum that could be hoped for.

My experience of the Contract Bridge Scheme, now well into its eighth year, convinced me that a great number of people would want first of all to see how it worked. Additionally, many organisations would not be able to join in the first season, for they had already held their annual general meetings prior to the introduction of the scheme.

It is with very great pleasure that I am able to report that, by mid-January, 37 leagues had entered, covering over 12,500 players. Now, last season between 68 and 69 thousand players paid the 6d. levy, so over 18 per cent have already been enrolled. Several other leagues, I know, were holding meetings before the deadline date, and two have applied for a brief extension so that general meetings could decide whether or not to enter.

**PARTIALLY COVERED**

Of course, many more players are partially covered by the scheme. Not only are many county associations including their annual championships, and Inter-League and Inter-Town programmes, but the South-East Midlands League has now joined.

This is a "League of Leagues" and includes Bedford, Bletchley, Cambridge, Hunts Central, Kettering, Northampton and St. Neots. Of these leagues, only Cambridge were members at the time of writing. I have been told that one of those leagues had decided not to enter because of "too much work involved." My informant is another league official, who, in passing, mentioned that, to date, he hadn't noticed any increased work.

If there are any leagues who feel that too much work is involved, may I ask them to write to me, so that I can demonstrate that this is not the case? Thank you.

Two leagues have already notified me of their intention to enter next season. It would seem that the scheme is bound to be a success, for I would expect a greatly increased

number of organisations to enter next season, particularly when a considerable number of players have attained the status of Club Master, which is bound to occur in March and April of this season.

An interesting thought: At the special general meeting of the E.T.T.A., Tom Blunn read out a list of 80 leagues who had not paid their subscriptions. Only one of these is a member of the M.P.S.! This must prove something, and I leave it to the readers to determine what.

The Master Points Committee will be meeting on February 10, when decisions will be taken about the items publicised in the last two issues of TABLE TENNIS. Many helpful and constructive letters have already been received, and this note will serve as a reminder to anyone who was intending to write, that they only have a few days left.

George Yates, that livewire Lancashire official, was quick to take up my point about the length of time needed for good class players to become Club Masters. He points out that, by Christmas, Bryn Farnworth had already scored 234 points in BOLTON LEAGUE COMPETITIONS ALONE.

**LANCS. and CHESHIRE**

by **GEORGE E. YATES**

**INGBER DETHRONES FORSHAW**

**A**SSUMING the proportions of a Lancashire and Cheshire Closed, the Manchester and District League's closed championships went off smoothly on January 6-8.

Regrettably not wishing to be considered for county duty, Kevin Forshaw retained a half share in two doubles titles but lost his singles crown in the semi-final to Jeff Inger who went on to account for Jack Clayton in the final.

Diane Fitzgerald retained the women's singles, beating Connie Moore, and together the pair kept the doubles with a win over Marion Sidwell and Barbara Stern.

Another to retain his title was Benny Casofsky who, with a win over George Beddows, took the veterans' singles for the fifth successive year.

**RESULTS**

**Men's Singles: Semi-Finals:** J. INGBER bt K. Forshaw 21-16, 23-21. J. CLAYTON bt R. Allcock 21-15, 17-21, 21-6. **Final:** INGBER bt Clayton 21-13, 21-17.

**Women's Singles: Semi-Finals:** D. FITZGERALD bt C. Hughes 21-8, 21-8. C. MOORE bt W. Swift 21-13, 21-11. **Final:** FITZGERALD bt Moore 21-16, 19-21, 21-10.

**Men's Doubles: Finals:** FORSHAW/R.

96 points from ordinary league matches, 68 for winning the first division singles knock-out competition, and 70 for helping Bolton to win their zone of the Wilmott Cup. Bryn has also won points in several Open tournaments, but he is sorry he can't gain any in the Lancashire and Cheshire League, not included in the M.P.S.

Other Bolton League players piling up points include Clive Heap, with 92 by Christmas, and a lot more in neighbouring Horwich League matches, George Livesey, with 142 plus Open tournament winnings, Arthur Hartshorn with 102, and Cliff Booth with 94.

These are all first division players, you say? Quite right, but how about second division Ray Warburton, with 84 points by Christmas, or Brian Rostern, from the third division, with 57 by mid-December. George Yates continues . . . "Oh yes, the scheme is a winner in Bolton and now near neighbours Horwich and Bury have come in . . . At 3d. a time who is bothered about finance."

I shall always be pleased to hear from member leagues with their experience of the Scheme—for or against. There are bound to be some snags, and they will never be righted unless you tell me about them. Frankly, I am very surprised at how smoothly the scheme has worked in all areas.

**CRUSHAM** bt Clayton/D. Schofield 23-21, 21-11. **Women's Doubles: Final:** FITZGERALD/MOORE bt M. Sidwell/B. Stern 15-21, 21-18, 21-12. **Mixed Doubles: Final:** FORSHAW/SWIFT bt Allcock/Moore 21-19, 21-16.

**Boys' Singles: Final:** M. JOHNS bt D. Watson 21-19, 21-19. **Veteran Singles: Final:** B. CASOFSKY bt Beddows 21-19, 21-10.

Manchester hold a one point lead over Bolton at the top of the Lancashire and Cheshire League First Division, while the "A" teams of the two clubs also lead Division II (East) with Bolton slightly ahead on games average.

Mid-Cheshire hold sway in Division II (West) with but one point dropped to Wirral in four matches, but Chester could be the dark horses in this section.

Holding similar records in the women's First Division, Manchester have a slight edge on Blackpool, while Bolton lead the Junior Division with five successive wins, Liverpool holding second place with a point dropped to Blackpool.

The Cheshire Junior Open is at **Byrne Avenue Baths, Rock Ferry, Birkenhead, on February 22**. Entries close to R.S. Bissell, 8, Nurse Road, Thingwall, Heswall, Cheshire, on February 12.

## LEICESTERSHIRE NOTES

## Hinckley Join Up

THE Rose Johnson Bowl, the team handicap competition for teams in Leicestershire is already living up to its reputation for shocks and excitement. In the first round, two Loughborough teams—Cottons III and Holy Trinity were involved in the closest match. When the final game was reached Cottons led by two points—691 to 689. In the concluding match, however, D. Oakes (Holy Trinity) beat R. Osbourne 21-10 to put his team into round two.

The Rose Johnson Cup has reached the final stages and two of the "favourites"—Hinckley Y.M.C.A. and Leicester Y.M.C.A. are drawn to play each other.

In the Leicestershire Towns League John Brunning (Melton Mowbray) put up an outstanding performance when he spoilt John Geschke's 100% record and also beat Noel Tailby in their match with Leicester 'B'. Even this fine performance, however, was to no avail, Leicester taking the other eight sets.

The number of affiliated leagues in Leicestershire has been increased to six with the affiliation of the Hinckley Youth League. This league, with two divisions is having an excellent season. Claybrooke Magna, who practised hard all the summer are now reaping their reward and top both divisions. Outstanding are Malcolm Whiston, Rex Tailby and Gerald Proctor.

In the Loughborough League Shepshed seem to be taking all before them but Sibley Boys' Club are right behind them should they slip. Keith Coulthard has shown splendid form in recent matches.

There are prospects of several close finishes in the Leicester and District League. In Division 4B Wildt/Mellor-Bromley IV, led by Keith Surtees have a narrow lead on Spinney Hill W.M.C. II for whom Frank Lewin is the star. Both these teams, however, could be pushed out by Minatins II, who have K. Smith topping the individual averages.

University I and Knighton Park are neck and neck in 2B but if Chris Monahan can maintain his present form the odds must be on University regaining the first division place they lost last season. British Railways II lead the way in 3B but Abbey, with Clive Kettleby in splendid form are right behind them.

Leicester's teams continue to meet with mixed success in the Midland League. The men's first had a good win over Wolverhampton by 9-1 with both the Veterans and men's second beating Darlaston 10-0. Both these teams have a good chance of their respective championships. The Veterans have now concluded their first season with only one defeat—a very creditable performance. The men's second have still a long way to go but, having been pipped at the post the last two seasons, they will be flat out this time. The return of John Ellis has added to their chances of taking the title. The Intermediates are doing well but the juniors are finding the going tough.

Phillip Reid.

## FIXTURE ENGAGEMENTS

In the Open Tournaments below, events shown in the column are *additional* to M.S., W.S., M.D., W.D. and X.D. in every case. Tournaments marked (R) are Restricted. Suitable entries are inserted in this diary without charge but all organisers should send information to the Editor at the earliest possible date.

Date	Title of Venue	Extra Events	Organising Secretary
Feb. 8	<b>Midland Open</b> Rover Co. Ltd., Lode Lane, Solihull.		M. Goldstein, 415, Moseley Road, Birmingham.
14-15	<b>IRISH OPEN</b> Ulster.		C. A. Moore, 78, Orby Drive, Belfast.
14-16	<b>South of England Open (R)</b> I.C.T. Ltd., Croydon.	<b>J.B.S.</b> <b>J.G.S.</b>	S. H. Buchan, 124, Portnalls Road, Coulson, Surrey.
15	<b>Grimsby Open</b> Augusta Street Barracks, Grimsby.		A. Black, 25, Hainton Avenue, Grimsby, Lincs.
22	<b>Leicestershire Closed</b> Cottons Canteen, Loughborough.		
22-23	<b>Staines Closed</b>		
23	<b>Sussex Closed</b> Brighton.		
22	<b>Yorkshire Open</b> Railway Institute, York.		
22-23	<b>Co. Antrim Open</b> Ballymena.		
27-29	<b>ENGLISH OPEN</b> The Dome and Corn Exchange, Brighton.		E.T.T.A. Office, 652, Grand Buildings, Trafalgar Sq., London, W.C.2.
22-23	<b>GERMANY (WEST) OPEN</b>		
Mar. 2-3 & 9	<b>East London Closed</b> St. Luke's Youth Centre, Jude Street, Canning Town, London, E.16.		L. Tolvin, 10, Chadwick Street, Leytonstone, London, E.11.
7	<b>North Middlesex Closed</b> Town Hall, Edmonton, London, N.		
7-8	<b>Worcestershire Closed</b> Geraldine Staff Club, Barnards Green, Malvern.		D. J. Moss, 4, Hillery Road, Red Hill, Worcester.
7	<b>Welsh Closed</b>		
7-8	<b>Bucks Open</b> Slough Community Centre, Farnham Road, Slough.		L. Thompson, "Auchmead," The Avenue, Sunnymeads, Wraysbury, Bucks.
15	<b>Sussex Junior Open</b> Assembly Hall, Worthing.		Miss J. Williams, 27, Bellview Road, Worthing, Sussex.
20-21	<b>Irish North West Open</b> Strabane.		
26	<b>Old Boys' Invitation</b> 241-3, Mile End Road, London, E.1.		D. Stanger, Old Boys' Club, 241-3, Mile End Road, E.1.
28-30	<b>North East England Open</b> <b>J.S. Y.S.</b> Wallis Holiday Camp, <b>V.S. J.G.S.</b> Cayton Bay, <b>C.H. S.M.</b> Scarborough. <b>C.H. S.W.</b>		W. Mitton, 16, The Whins, Newby, Scarborough, Yorks.
29-30	<b>SCOTTISH OPEN</b> Glasgow.		G. A. Hawkins, 126, Monifeith Avenue, Glasgow, S.W.2.
Apr. 4	<b>Gwent Open (March 21)</b> Standard Telephones, Newport, Mon.		G. Motlow, 29, Carisbrooke Road, Newport, Mon.
10-12	<b>Stevenage Open</b> Stevenage.		J. G. W. Thompson, 268, Chertsey Rise, Stevenage.
26	<b>Cambridgeshire Open</b> Cambridge.		Mrs. M. Cornwell, 28, Harding Way, Cambridge.
May 9	<b>Crescent Invitation</b> Sittingbourne, Kent.		
23-24	<b>SWISS OPEN</b>		

## YORKSHIRE JUNIOR OPEN

by REA BALMFORD

**SINGLES DOUBLE FOR HYDES**

THE Yorkshire Junior Open, again held at Hull's Madeley Street Baths, provided a good measure of success for the host county, with both major singles, as well as the boys' under-15 singles and boys' doubles, going to White Rose players.

Top seed in both events, Alan Hydes, made steady progress to the under-17 final via Stuart Seaholme, Paul Canham (quarters) and Alan Ransome (semi) before crushing David Brown 21-7, 21-9 in a one-sided final.

Brown had shown his power with victories over No. 2 seed Mike Johns in the last eight, and then over inform Brian Burn, who had come through the quarter, from which 'flu victim Glenn Warwick had had to scratch, but the Essex boy had no

answer to the tight game of the young "Boy of the Year."

In the under-15 event, it was the turn of Burn to try to baulk the young Yorkshireman, but the Tyne-sider, who had a tough struggle to put out promising Harrogate boy, Dave Shaw, fared little better than Brown in the final.

**On the girls' side, Pat Dainty found little difficulty until the final of the under-17. Here, after being in complete control of the first game against Pauline Hemmings, she had to fight hard to gain the verdict at 22-20 in the third.**

Pauline had previously dismissed Linda Henwood, also in an advantage third game.

In the under-15, Miss Hemmings

fell in the semi-final to Ingrid Sykes, while in the other half, top seed Linda Henwood crashed to Karenza Smith, who in turn went down to Maureen Heppell. Maureen dropped the first game of the final, but got on top to come through comfortably in three.

A shock win, too, in the boys' doubles, where hotly fancied top seeds, Mike Johns and Alan Ransome, fell at the last hurdle in a tense three-setter to Yorkshire pair, Paul Canham and John Kedge. The homesters disposed of Paul Harmer and Pidduck in the semi- the southern pair having first put out Burn/ Joe McLeod, fancied to take the other final place, in the absence of Warwick.

Consolation for losing under-15 finalist Ingrid Sykes came in the doubles, where with Johns and Miss Henwood, she was twice on the winning side.

## YORKSHIRE NOTES

by MALCOLM HARTLEY

**Victoria's Reign May End**

**VICTORIA'S** crown is slipping. Having dominated the Leeds League every season but one since their formation in 1947-48, they dropped four points in the first half of this campaign.

Victoria's reign was interrupted by Rowland Road in 1961. And this time University, unbeaten at halfway, are favourites.

The invincible David Bevan is backed by Frank Earis, who held Yorkshire Closed surprises up his sleeve for Eric Hall and Harvey Coward; and M. K. Das, who lost only three sets in heading last season's Division Two averages.

northern junior crown Yorkshire were held by Cheshire. It was the first time they had not won the fixture since 1955, when they conceded a double.

Barnsley have swept to the fore in the youths' inter-league championship. Their 6-4 defeat against Bradford has been reversed because the visitors played out of order and they dented Hull hopes of retaining the title with a 7-3 triumph in which Alan Hydes and Terry Heath won two singles each.

The man who looks after the affairs of all six inter-league sections, Alan Cook, is one of Yorkshire's most able and discerning administrators.

He has done the job since 1949 and in 1958 was awarded Yorkshire's special badge for outstanding services.

Thirty years ago in Barnsley he founded the North End club with his brother, now living in Birmingham, and Frank Millett, and he has been secretary ever since.

A past chairman of the Barnsley League, he played 30 times for the town, mainly before the war. His wife, Caroline, has been a Barnsley representative 71 times, played four matches for Yorkshire and has done great work in connection with official county publications.

Chasing the Huddersfield League title are the experienced Post Office Engineers team of Huddersfield second-teamer Philip Earnshaw, ex-inter-league man Alan Land and Howard Birch, Yorkshire Closed champion of 1945-6. The young Y.M.C.A. team will not easily be overhauled, however.

## RESULTS

**Boys' Singles (Under 17): Semi-Finals:** ALAN HYDES (Barnsley) bt Alan Ransome (Middlesbrough) 21-18, 21-17; DAVID BROWN (Essex) bt Brian Burn (Northumberland) 18-21, 21-11, 21-15. **Final:** HYDES bt Brown 21-7, 21-9.

**Girls' Singles (Under 17): Semi-Finals:** PAT DAINTY (Barnsley) bt Ingrid Sykes (Birmingham) 21-12, 21-17; PAULINE HEMMING (Herts.) bt Linda Henwood (Essex) 15-21, 21-13, 22-20. **Final:** DAINTY bt Hemmings 21-7, 16-21, 22-20.

**Boys' Singles (Under 15): Semi-Finals:** HYDES bt Phillip Rowe (Bradford) 21-12, 21-17; BURN bt David Shaw (Harrogate) 15-21, 21-9, 21-15. **Final:** HYDES bt Burn 21-12, 21-7.

**Girls' Singles (Under 15): Semi-Finals:** MAUREEN HEPPELL (Newcastle) bt Karenza Smith (London) 21-17, 21-17; SYKES bt Hemmings 16-21, 21-10, 21-17. **Final:** HEPPELL bt Sykes 18-21, 21-5, 21-14.

**Boys' Doubles. Semi-Finals:** PAUL CANHAM (Hull)/JOHN KEDGE (Huddersfield) bt P. Harmer/T. Pidduck (Beds.) 21-17, 16-21, 21-7; RANSOME / MIKE JOHNS (Cheshire) bt Shaw/Chris Jones (Harrogate) 21-8, 22-20. **Final:** CANHAM/KEDGE bt Ransome/Johns 21-18, 10-21, 22-20.

**Girls' Doubles. Semi-Finals:** HENWOOD/SYKES bt Denise Crowe (Doncaster)/Janet Ashford (Hull) 21-9, 21-10; HEPPELL/DAINTY bt Wyn Clarkson (Durham) / Lynda Twidale (Hull) 21-19, 21-10. **Final:** HENWOOD/SYKES bt Heppell/Dainty 21-17, 21-12.

**Mixed Doubles. Semi-Finals:** JOHNS/SYKES bt Brown/Hemmings 21-17, 17-21, 23-21; HYDES/DAINTY bt Stuart Seaholme/Evelyn Canham (Herts.) 21-18, 22-20.

**Final:** JOHNS/SYKES bt Hydes/Dainty 21-15, 20-22, 21-13.

**ENCOURAGING SCHOOLS**

The Leeds League organised a schools tournament in December which attracted 186 entries, encouraged several school friendly matches and may prove the forerunner of either a schools league or even a schools division of the Leeds League.

The first time I talked to former England junior Denis Neale after he joined Yorkshire I asked him his ambition. "To play for England seniors," he replied. All northern enthusiasts would be pleased with his selection shortly afterwards, first for the home internationals and then against West Germany.

It was unfortunate that the quadrangular contest should clash with Yorkshire's visit to Warwickshire. Neale was missed and the Midlanders took two points they were not otherwise likely to have collected.

After two wins in defence of their



## LANCS OPEN

By George R. Yates

# Symonds Regains Singles Crown

**WHEN** the tumult and shouting died following the pulsating, temperamental semi-final clash between internationals Mike Symonds and Denis Neale, the Lancastrian went on to regain the men's singles crown of the Lancashire Open, which he lost to Jack Clayton 12 months earlier, by dismissing Jeff Ingber two-straight in the final.

Making full use of the very adaptable premises of Messrs. Hawker Siddeley Dynamics Ltd., Bolton, a vast entry of 256 players were kept hard at it in the eight events comprising the championships.

Staged finals before a big crowd in the concert hall were run simultaneously with the dragging mixed doubles sets in the adjoining canteen without any great detriment to either players or spectators.

Some 188 entrants contested the men's event which necessitated a 9.15 a.m. start and one was left to marvel at the standard of play which prevailed in the finals after such a long day's stint.

Seeded before the new ranking list was available, Ingber and Symonds were the top dogs, followed by Brian Hill and Neale in that order. Only Hill departed this select quartet, being ousted by Londoner N. J. Brabrook, who subsequently fell to Lancashire county player Roy Crusham.

Holder Jack Clayton came through from this quarter, however, with Yorkshire's Mike Dainty and Peter Duncombe in his wake. Ingber's passage was relatively smooth with little of renowned opposition barring his approach.

## RUGGED PATH

Neale had the rugged path with Scottish international John Reilly, Welsh exile Gerald Cooklin and Derek Baddeley to meet before the quarters. Symonds, on the other hand, found little to trouble him either from the youthful zeal of Glenn Warwick or the experienced craft of Maurice Pitts up to his meeting with Derek Backhouse.

Alan Hydes had a good win over Scotland's Bertie Kerr as did Roger Hampson of Stockport over Howard Collins. Maurice Billington regained some of the prestige attaching to his junior days with wins over E. L. Briscoe and Vic Ireland who, together with Brabrook and Collins, failed to make any lasting impression as representatives of the Metropolis.

Taking the opposition by the scruff of the neck, Lesley Proudlock would contribute lavishly to the interior of 21, King Egbert Road, Totley Rise, by her prizes won in the women's



MIKE SYMONDS

singles and doubles in partnership with Cynthia Blackshaw.

Having a rare day out Lesley shook off the challenge of Manchester's Rose Bowl player Mary Leigh, Warwickshire's Doreen Griffiths and Merseyside winner, Jackie Canham before drawing sword to smite yet another ranked head in Miss Blackshaw.

Florence Rolling advanced both Barnsley and Yorkshire stock still further with creditable wins over Di Fitzgerald, Beryl Broad and Mrs. J. Lloyd of Stourbridge.

Neale made up for his disappointment in the singles by taking the men's doubles with Duncombe, axing such notables as Ireland/Collins and Symonds/Clayton. Warwick, and the weighty Sido-like Ronnie Allcock—a scratch pairing—came through from opposition including Kerr/Reilly and the holders, George Livesey and Bryn Farnworth.

## JOHNS' GOOD WIN

A star-studded field of 60 junior boys, including England's Nos. 4 to 7 inclusively ranked players and Scotland's John Reilly, battled it out from start to finish with no quarter asked or given. Two excellent semi-finals were followed by a last ditch 25-23 win for Mike Johns over Warwick in a final which was only bettered by the Symonds/Neale affair in arousing the crowd to fever pitch.

In all, Yorkshire plundered six of the eight titles at stake, Pat Dainty weighing in with the junior girls' and Norman Lusher retaining the veterans' crown—a haul calling for police escort at the Pennine border.

### RESULTS

**Men's Singles: Quarter-Finals:** J. Ingber (Lancs.) bt R. Hampson (Cheshire) 21-10, 21-9; J. Clayton (Lancs.) bt R. Crusham (Lancs.) 21-17, 21-15; D. Neale (Yorks.) bt M. Billington (Warwicks.) 21-14, 21-15; M. Symonds (Lancs.) bt D. Backhouse (Warwicks.) 21-13, 20-22, 21-16.

**Semi-Finals:** INGBER bt Clayton 22-20, 21-13; SYMONDS bt Neale 21-18, 21-23, 21-16.

**Final:** SYMONDS bt Ingber 21-14, 21-19.

**Women's Singles: Semi-Finals:** C. BLACKSHAW (Yorks.) bt F. Rolling (Yorks.) 21-15, 21-13; L. S. PROUDLOCK (Yorks.) bt C. Moore (Lancs.) 21-16, 17-21, 21-12.

**Final:** PROUDLOCK bt Blackshaw 21-14, 21-15.

**Men's Doubles: Semi-Finals:** G. WARWICK (Staffs.)/R. ALLCOCK (Lancs.) bt G. Livesey (Lancs.)/B. Farnworth (Lancs.) 21-11, 7-21, 21-18; NEALE/P. C. DUNCOMBE (Yorks.) bt Symonds/Clayton 21-18, 21-19.

**Final:** NEALE/DUNCOMBE bt Warwick/Allcock 21-18, 21-17.

**Women's Doubles: Semi-Finals:** BLACKSHAW/PROUDLOCK bt P. Dainty (Yorks.)/Rolling 20-22, 21-15, 21-19; D. FITZGERALD (Lancs.)/C. MOORE bt L. M. Gordon (Yorks.)/M. Heppell (Northumberland) 21-9, 21-11.

**Final:** BLACKSHAW / PROUDLOCK bt Fitzgerald/Moore 21-19, 15-21, 21-13.

**Mixed Doubles: Semi-Finals:** B. HILL (Lincs.)/FITZGERALD bt M. Watts (Warwicks.)/D. Griffiths (Warwicks.) 20-22, 21-15, 21-18; DUNCOMBE/BLACKSHAW bt Billington/J. Canham (Herts.) 21-16, 21-18.

**Final:** DUNCOMBE / BLACKSHAW bt Hill/Fitzgerald 9-21, 21-13, 21-18.

**Boys' Singles: Semi-Finals:** WARWICK bt A. Hydes (Yorks.) 12-21, 21-13, 25-23; M. JOHNS (Cheshire) bt A. Ransome (Durham) 21-15, 21-23, 21-18.

**Final:** JOHNS bt Warwick 17-21, 21-16, 25-23.

**Girls' Singles: Semi-Finals:** P. DAINTY (Yorks.) bt M. Heppell (Northumb.) 21-8, 21-17; I. SYKES (Warwicks.) bt M. W. Clarkson (Durham) 21-13, 21-14.

**Final:** DAINTY bt Sykes 21-16, 21-12.

**Veteran Singles: Semi-Finals:** N. LUSHER (Yorks.) bt N. G. Sumner (Cheshire) 21-14, 21-11; E. A. BROWN (Cheshire) bt H. M. Nixon (Lancs.) 22-24, 24-22, 21-10.

**Final:** LUSHER bt Brown 21-5, 21-10.

# GERMANS TOO GOOD FOR BARNES

CHESTER BARNES may be England's No. 1, but he still has a way to go before he can conquer Europe. This was all too evident when West Germany beat England 5-3 at Preston.

Barnes lost both his singles, being chopped off the table by Eberhard Schöler, and hit off by Martin Ness. It is a disturbing thought that he could be beaten like this by two direct opposite styles, and it seems he still has a lot to learn.

Bobby Stevens also lost to the same two players, although he did take a game from Schöler, the strongest of the Germans.

It was left to the two weaker members of the team to gain England's successes and most encouraging was the performance of Denis Neale, playing his first international against overseas opposition. Revealing a good temperament, he recovered from 12-18 down in the first game to beat Hans Michaeloff 21-18, 21-19; and from 17-20 down in the second to beat Elmar Stegmann 21-16, 22-20.

England 3, West Germany 5: M. Symonds bt E. Stegman 12, 13; lost to H. Michaeloff —11, —10, D. Neale bt Michaeloff 18, 19; bt Stegman 16, 20. C. Barnes lost to E. Schöler —18, —18; lost to M. Ness —19, —15. R. Stevens lost to Ness —13, —16; lost to Schöler —18, 16, —19.

## TABLE TENNIS ANYONE?

IN June, 1954, there appeared on the horizon of the table tennis world a new club, ESTREHAM, and in November of the following year "Table Tennis" (No. 2, Vol. 14) reported upon the activities of the new club at their headquarters at Howland Hall, Sunnyhill Road, Streatham, S.W.16.

The Estreham Club in its first season became champions of the Second and Fourth Divisions of the South London League and followed up these successes with their first major championship in 1961 when they defeated the Earlsfield Club, which included internationals Peggy Piper of Surrey and the former Barbados champion, Joe Head, to become Wandsworth First Division champions. In the same season Estreham gained promotion to the Premier Division of the South London League and finished runners-up to the strong West Norwood Club.

Ray Murray, Estreham's No. 1, winner of the men's singles in the Wandsworth League Closed Championships in 1962, Keith Hurlock the former England International, and Alan Lampe, a trio who secured major honours in the Croydon League in the same year with Croydon Wanderers by winning both the First Division and the Croydon Open Competition Cup, not forgetting the young starlet, Martin Hart, who has been chosen to represent Surrey County Juniors, have proved to be the bulwark behind the playing successes of the Estreham Club.

The South London Closed Championships are held at Howland Hall every season in November and yet another success came the way of Estreham this year, Miss Betty Hart winning the ladies' singles. At least we do know where this lady goes in the winter time! The paucity of lady players seems to be one of the problems which has yet to be resolved in the world of table tennis.

With four Jacques tables available on Tuesdays for the lesser lights, Wednesdays (match night) and Friday evenings, and with eight teams competing in both the South London and Wandsworth Leagues and a strong membership in the summer (please note!) and winter, Estreham is now probably the largest non-subsidised table tennis club in South London and have every reason to be proud of their efforts to keep the "table tennis" flag flying high. The motto of the Club, "Deeds not Words," has been amply justified.

Thomas Wernham

# DAVIES MOVES UP

D. DAVIES, ex-county junior put up his best ever performance in beating three county players to help Southampton to an unexpected 5-4 win over Bournemouth for a place in the last 16 of the Wilmott Cup.

Davies, at No. 4, is one of four newcomers in the new Hampshire men's ranking list. R. Bassett (Bournemouth) maintains his top position with R. Ellis (Bournemouth) moving from No. 3 to No. 2. They are followed by F. Bradley (Portsmouth), Davies, G. Clay (S.E. Hants), T. Smith (Bournemouth), J. Waterhouse (Southampton), W. Draper (Southampton) and P. Chaplin (Basingstoke).

The Hampshire Closed Championships have been provisionally arranged for March 1 at Aldershot. Bournemouth are planning three invitation tournaments. Plans are under way to revive the Southampton Open next season after a break of eight years.

## JACK CARRINGTON'S NOTEBOOK

### ANOTHER NEW CENTRE

TWO high-spots from the recent welter of coaching events:

**STEVENAGE:** Inter-county co-operation with the National Coaching Scheme brought together 4 teams of 20-a-side, all under 16, from Hertfordshire, Essex, Norfolk, and Buckinghamshire with 26 coaches and senior officials. A rule of these meetings is that at least 5 girls must be included in the team, and I mention this because so often we hear Counties and Leagues bewailing their lack of good girl players, while neglecting to ensure their participation in early training events.

These inter-county "Quadrangulars" are designed for players emerging from the coaching-class level; the same stipulation for inclusion of girls is made in the E.T.T.A. Best-Trained Youth Group Competition (in which 12 teams of 12 have entered this year).

**PETERBOROUGH:** A smaller event, but equally significant, was the opening, on

January 14, of the Orchard Street Coaching Centre, with 2 tables permanently at disposal of the local League. The City Youth Officer last year accepted my suggestions for adaptation of an old school, provided correct tables and lighting on my advice, but insisted that the local league weighed in with voluntary labour for the decoration.

Fair enough; co-operation all round, and now one more centre, small but it is there, all the time, and showing correct standards all the time.

Mr. Lowe is allowing us to hold regular Sunday sessions for coaches and coaching students, so we have a chance to spread the gospel around the smaller areas within reach of Peterborough.

Cheshunt students please note! The February meeting will be on Sunday, 23, not 16.

### COACHING DIARY

February	(Director in attendance except where marked *)		
7/8	Lyneham	R.A.F. Station	} R.A.F. Course and Wilts. T.T.A. Rally
9*	Lyneham	R.A.F. Station	
9	Coventry	Rootes	Coaches' Practical
14	West Ham	F. Cranleigh	Under-16 Groups
15/16	Hereford	R.A.F.	Under-16 Quadrang. Dev. Meeting
19	Walthamstow	St. Patrick's	Under-16 Groups
23	Cheshunt	Drill Hall	Coaches' Advancement
26	Brighton	Corn Exchange	Schools and Youth Coaching
28	Kilburn	Mobberley Y.C.	L.C.C. Young Players
March			
6/7	Lowestoft	Ald. Woodrow School	Teachers and Coaches
8	Mattlock	Lea Green Centre	Under-16 Groups (Zone Meeting)
9	Newbury	Youth Centre	Opening New Centre
15	Peterborough	Orchard St. Centre	Coaches' Course
(prov.)			
16	Newbury	Youth Centre	Coaches' Practical
21	Southend	Belfair School	School-leavers' Rally (with Essex T.T.A.)
28	Letchworth	Kincaid Hall	Assessing League coaching candidates
(prov.)			
April			
5	Bethnal Green	Albion Club	Under-16 Groups (Zone Meeting)
18/19	Preston		Lancashire E.C. Mass Rally
(prov.)			
22/23	London		Schools' Equipment Exhibition
24/25	London		Schools' Equipment Exhibition
24/25	Manchester		Manchester E.C. Mass Rally

Any persons interested in attending, assisting, or organising events to fit into above programme, please contact Director of Coaching, E.T.T.A., 24, Worcester Gardens, Ilford, Essex. (Tel. VAL 5838).

## ESSEX OPEN

by GEORGE WENHAM

## HARRISON GETS REVENGE

**I**N HARRISON came back to form with a bang in the Essex Open at Southend on January 18-19, capturing the men's singles and avenging two previous defeats by Wright in the final. He went through the singles without loss of a game, from a field which included seven nationally ranked players.

Harrison, who had warmed up with a hard-hitting semi-final against Denis Neale, took no chances against Wright, getting on top from the start with a 15-5 lead in the first game which he won 21-14. In the second, Wright tightened his game and had the chance to level when he led 20-19, but Harrison, thirsting for revenge, hit back to get it at 23-21.

The big shock of the singles was the giant killing of junior Stuart Gibbs when he beat first Vic Ireland then Bobby Stevens, only to fall to David Creamer, who in turn, lost to Wright in the semi-final.

Wright had a tough section, with wins over Arun Khanna, Ralph Gunnion and Stan Jacobson.

Alan Lindsay had a hard quarter

and went down to Neale, who had a tough fight with Connie Warren in the fourth round.

Chester Barnes, England's No. 1, did not enter on the grounds the tables were too slow.

Lesley Bell, the other young Essex star, wanted to scratch from the women's singles because she was included in the group. Eventually she was persuaded to play and won the title at a canter, beating Judy Williams in the final 21-18, 21-14.

Jackie Canham, who had been seeded to meet Miss Bell in the final, went down 21-19, 15-21, 19-21 to Miss Williams in a tough semi-final.

## MAJOR SHOCK

The major shock of this event was provided by Beverley Sayer, with a first round win over Betty Cassell, the No. 4 seed. Beverley then lost to Pauline Martin, semi-final victim of Miss Bell.

Johnny Leach and David Creamer, the English Closed champions, took the men's doubles, which featured an abundance of good games.

After a semi-final win over Har-

ison and George Muranyi, Leach and Creamer beat Gunnion and Warren, who got the better of Stevens and Bobbie Raybould in their semi.

Elsie Carrington returned to champion status by winning the women's doubles with Jackie Canham, beating Lesley Bell and Pauline Martin. Miss Bell took a second title by winning the mixed with Gunnion, against Maurice Billington and Miss Canham. She then completed the "hat-trick" with the girls' singles.

The boys' singles went to Alan Ransome, of Middlesbrough, who upset the national junior rankings, beating Tony Robinson in the semi-final and Stuart Gibbs in the final.

Due to a record entry and an error of judgment in the time schedule, the finals were over two hours late and were played on two tables.

**Men's Singles: Semi-Finals:** I. HARRISON (Glos.) bt D. Neale (Yorks.) 21-19, 21-18. B. WRIGHT (Midxx.) bt D. Creamer (Midxx.) 21-19, 14-21, 21-19. **Final:** HARRISON bt Wright 21-14, 23-21.

**Women's Singles: Semi-Finals:** L. BELL (Essex) bt P. Martin (Essex) 21-7, 23-21. J. WILLIAMS (Herts.) bt J. Canham (Herts.) 19-21, 21-15, 21-19. **Final:** BELL bt Williams 21-18, 21-14.

**Men's Doubles: Semi-Finals:** R. GUNNION (Warw.)/C. WARREN (Surrey) bt R. Raybould/R. Stevens (Essex) 20-22, 21-17. J. LEACH (Essex)/CREAMER bt Harrison/G. Muranyi (Surrey) 20-22, 21-19, 21-11. **Final:** LEACH/CREAMER bt Gunnion/Warren 21-13, 21-14.

**Women's Doubles: Semi-Finals:** CANHAM/E. CARRINGTON (Essex) bt B. Sayer (Essex)/P. Venus (Midxx.) 21-8, 21-16. BELL/P. MARTIN (Essex) bt E. Canham/P. Hemmings (Herts.) 21-15, 21-8. **Final:** CANHAM/CARRINGTON bt Bell/Martin 18-21, 21-12, 21-14.

**Mixed Doubles: Semi-Finals:** M. BIL-LINGTON (Warw.)/J. CANHAM bt R. Morley (Glos.)/I. Ogu (Midxx.) 21-13, 21-10. GUNNION/BELL bt S. Gibbs/B. Sayer (Essex) 18-21, 21-15, 21-13. **Final:** GUNNION/BELL bt Billington/Canham 21-8, 18-21, 21-15.

**Boys' Singles: Semi-Finals:** GIBBS bt G. Warwick (Staffs.) 21-15, 21-18. A. RANSOME (Durham) bt A. Robinson (Midxx.) 21-18, 15-21, 21-16. **Final:** RANSOME bt Gibbs 21-17, 10-21, 21-19.

**Girls' Singles: Semi-Finals:** P. HEM-MINGS (Herts.) bt B. Sayer 21-18, 21-19. BELL bt L. Henwood (Essex) 21-11, 22-20. **Final:** BELL bt Hemmings 21-10, 21-10.

## SPOTLIGHT ON JUNIORS

by LAURIE LANDRY

## GIBBS BEATS STEVENS

**H**IGHLIGHT of junior play last month was the brilliant win of No. 2 Stuart Gibbs over No. 5 senior Bobby Stevens in the Essex Open at Southend. Gibbs came close to Stevens in the Middlesex Open in December which Stevens went on to win. Even this time Gibbs almost let it slip, for after holding a 20-16 lead in the third, he only scraped home at 22-20.

After this effort, Gibbs surprisingly lost in the junior final to Alan Ransome (No. 7), who made his long journey from Middlesbrough worth while. Ransome had earlier upset the ranking by beating Tony Robinson (No. 3).

Upsetting the ranking is not uncommon for juniors this season and unranked David Brown (Essex) carried on with his good performances by beating Mike Johns (No. 5), of Cheshire, in the Yorkshire Junior Open at Hull. However, he could make little impression on Alan Hyde (No. 4) in the final.

Hyde continues to make remarkable progress with his rubber bat, but he, too, was surprised at the Lancashire Open at 25-23 in the third by Staffordshire's Glen Warwick (No. 6), only to go down by a similar score to Johns.

Over to the girls, where Pat Dainty won the junior titles at both the Lancashire and Yorkshire Open events. At Bolton it was fairly comfortable, but at Hull she was taken to 22-20 in the third by Pauline Hemmings (Herts.). This was an excellent performance, for Pat was

playing with a borrowed bat.

Pauline is somewhat of an enigma, for at the Kent Junior earlier in the season she lost in the under 15's, but won the under 17's, while at Hull she went down to Ingrid Sykes (Warwick) in the under 15's yet reached the final of the under 17's at Southend, beating Beverley Sayer, the No. 3, before losing to Lesley Bell.

Gloria, the other half of the Sayer twins, was not at Southend. She was in hospital for an appendix operation. Remembering how the twins each had a "hole in the heart" operation a year ago, it was a matter of comment, that this is one illness they are not sharing.

## CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS

6d. per word prepaid (minimum 12 words).  
Box Number, including postage, 2s.

## GOODS FOR SALE

**CLOTH CLUB BADGES** made to your own design, any quantity. Low prices, quick delivery.—S. A. Cory & Company, 20, St. John's Hill, London, S.W.11.

"OFFICIAL RULES OF SPORTS AND GAMES 1964/65"—a new revised edition of this invaluable book is now available from booksellers or from Nicholas Kaye Ltd., 200 Bishopsgate, London, E.C.2. 32s. including postage.

## DRAW SHEETS

**DRAW SHEETS** for 64 entries—1/6 each. 20 for 27/6. Result Pads 3s. per pad of 100 leaves. Available from Walthamstow Press, Guardian House, Forest Road, London, E.17.

## PERSONAL

**WORLDWIDE FRIENDSHIPS/HOBBIES.** Christophers Correspondence Club, membership 10s. Details s.a.e.—103 Blacker Street, Burnley, Lancashire.