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'THANKS'

Table Tennis News

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EDITED BY GEORGE YATES

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Tempus Fugit

Another season is another reason for again spotlighting the ever-diminishing gap separating the present day from the 1977 World Championships and the constantly changing financial element which, with the insistence of an incoming tide, continues to rise.

Last season's World Championships' Raffle proved wholly abortive for the E.T.T.A., whose books disclose no profit after defraying the cost of prizes, meeting administrative expenses and returning 50% of the gross receipts of £9,500 to member organisations.

Although affording the participants a sum of £4,750, this was hardly the point of the exercise, which was to raise funds on a voluntary, yet rewarding, basis for the said Championships.

In these days of spiralling inflation, the salvation of sponsorship is in recession, and if we are to proceed with our avowed intent of bringing the world to England next season, then it is up to the rank and file—yes, each and every player—to make a worthwhile contribution.

It therefore becomes imperative to again consider the question of a compulsory levy, for clearly, the voluntary method is not the answer.

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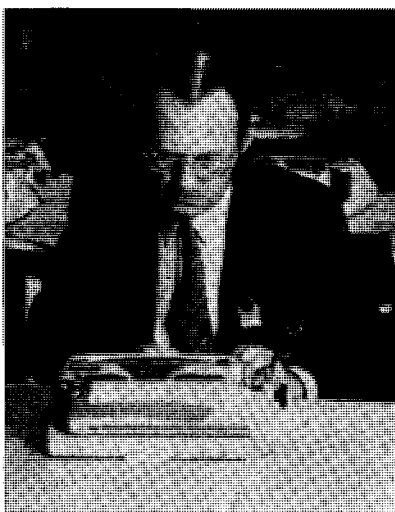
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ON THE INTERNATIONAL FRONT



by The Editor

POLAND PROMOTED

Overcoming a 2-0 lead established by Austria's Heinz Schlüter and Rudolf Weinmann in Frydek-Mistek, Czechoslovakia, on May 31, Poland ran out 5-2 winners in the Second Division play-off for promotion to the Premier Division of the European League.

Individual scores between the champions of Division 2A and B were:—

H. Schlüter bt W. Woznica -18, 19, 14.
R. Weinmann bt S. Fraczyk 15, -13, 12.
Dolores Fetter lost to Czeslawa Noworyta -13, -15.

Schlüter/Weinmann lost to Fraczyk/Woznica -18, 11, -22.

Rottenberg/Fetter lost to Woznica/Noworyta -16, -5.

Schlüter lost to Fraczyk -18, -8.
Weinmann lost to Woznica -15, -20.

Revised Premier Division fixtures for the 1975-76 season now reads, with Sweden defending their title:—

October 16
Sweden v France
Soviet Union v Yugoslavia
Poland v Czechoslovakia

November 12
Hungary v France
Yugoslavia v Sweden
Poland v Soviet Union

December 11
Hungary v Yugoslavia
Sweden v Poland
Soviet Union v Czechoslovakia

January 21
Poland v Hungary
Czechoslovakia v Sweden
France v Yugoslavia

February 25
Czechoslovakia v Hungary
Sweden v Soviet Union
France v Poland

March 4
Soviet Union v Hungary
Czechoslovakia v France
Yugoslavia v Poland

April 14
Hungary v Sweden
France v Soviet Union
Yugoslavia v Czechoslovakia

Bulgaria, as champions of the Mediterranean Group, had a handsome 6-1 win over Norway, the West European Group winners, to secure promotion to the **Second Division**. The match took place in Burgas, Bulgaria, on June 7 with former English Junior international, Paul Guttormsen, securing the visitors' only win in the final set against G. Damianov. Scores:—
B. Gentchev bt P. Guttormsen 11, 7.

G. Damianov bt H. Meland 15, 14.
Emilia Neikova bt Bente Paulsen 15, 12.
Damianov/Gentchev bt Guttormsen/ Meland 13, 12.

P. Mitev/Neikova bt Guttormsen/Paulsen 23, 15.

Gentchev bt Meland 12, 16.
Damianov lost to Guttormsen 12, -15, -20.

Second division fixtures for the new season, which are still subject to alteration of date, are:—

GROUP A

October 16
Luxembourg v Netherlands
*England v Denmark
Ireland v Belgium
* Subject to new date.

November 12
Denmark v Luxembourg
Belgium v England

December 11
Luxembourg v Belgium
England v Ireland
Netherlands v Denmark

January 21
Ireland v Luxembourg
Belgium v Netherlands

February 24
Luxembourg v England
February 25
Denmark v Belgium
Netherlands v Ireland

March 4
England v Netherlands
Ireland v Denmark

GROUP B

October 16
Bulgaria v Austria
Federal Germany v Greece
Italy v Switzerland

November 12
Greece v Bulgaria
Switzerland v Federal Germany

December 11
Bulgaria v Switzerland
Italy v Federal Germany
Austria v Greece

January 21
Bulgaria v Italy
Switzerland v Austria

February 25
Federal Germany v Bulgaria
Greece v Switzerland
Austria v Italy

March 4
Austria v Federal Germany
Italy v Greece

EUROPEAN CLUB CUP

Ormesby T.T.C. and Gatley Y.M.C.A. are England's representative club sides in this season's Europe Club Cup competitions.

Draws:—
Men

Sparta Praha (Czecho) v D.T. Schifflange (Lux) or 7 a 9 Barcelona (Spain)
SV. Kuchel (Austria) v Molndals B.T.H. (Sweden).

Central T.T.C., Glasgow (Scot) v Borussia Dusseldorf (D.T.T.B).

Ormesby T.T.C. (England) v Wlokniartz (Poland).

Kremlin Bicetre (France) v Panathinaicos Ao. (Greece).

Tempo (Netherlands) v Bp Vasutas (Hungary).
P.T.S. Stiga (Finland) v Banik Havirov (Czechoslovakia).

C.U.S. Firenze (Italy) or Akademic (Bulgaria) v G.S.T.K. Vjesnik (Yugoslavia).

Women

Sparta Praha (Czechoslovakia) v Ballerup (Denmark) or Polizei S.V. (Austria).

Panellinos S.C. (Greece) v Pochtenetz Sofia (Bulgaria).

Proleter Coka (Yugoslavia) v Spojnia Warsaw (Poland).

D.T. Echternach (Luxembourg) v Bologne Billancourt (France).
 Berne T.T.C. (Switzerland) or Statistika (Hungary) v G.B.C. Bari (Italy).
 Tempo (Netherlands) v Nord Harrislee (D.T.T.B.).
 7 a 9 Barcelona (Spain) v Spartak Vlasin (Czechoslovakia).
 Palette Stave (Belgium) or Gatley Y.M.C.A. (England) v Varbergs B.T.K. (Sweden).

Relevant dates for completion are October 25 (Round 2 as foregoing), November (Rd. 3), January 17 (Rd. 4) and February 28 (Finals).

FAIRS CITIES MESSE CUP

In the finals of the **Fairs Cities Cup**, promoted by the European Table Tennis Union, in Reykjavik, Iceland, on June 20-22, Vasutas S.C. (Hungary) beat Boo B.F.U.M. (Sweden) 5-4 in the men's competition and, in the counterpart women's event, Epiťok (Hungary) beat Sparta Praha (Czechoslovakia) 5-1.

Fellows Cranleigh represent England in this season's competitions both in the men's and women's section. In the preliminary round of the men's section, the Essex club side have already been eliminated, beaten 5-0 at home by VfB Pirmasens (D.T.T.B.). Away to Royal Pantheon Brussels (Belgium) the Milngavie Club, of Glasgow, went under by a similar score.

In the women's competition Fellows Cranleigh have been drawn away to D.S.C. Duisburg-Kaiserberg (D.T.T.B.) in the first round, scheduled for completion by October 15.

INTERNATIONAL OPENS

Major international open championships for the 1975-76 season are:—

- Oct. 10-12—Spanish Open (Valladolid).
- Oct. 24-26—Polish Open (Warsaw).
- Nov. 14-16—Hungarian Open (Szegedin).
- Nov. 21-23—Yugoslavian Open (Ljubljana).
- Nov. 27-30—Scandinavian Open (Kalmar).
- Jan. 23-25—Rumanian Open (Bucharest/Ploesti).
- Feb. 20-22—Swiss Open (Zurich).
- Apr. 16-18—French Junior Open (Vichy).

NEW I.T.T.F. CLASSIFICATIONS

On June 11 the International Table Tennis Federation issued a new classification list which includes Englishmen Trevor Taylor, Denis Neale and Nicky Jarvis together with Jill Hammersley on the distaff side.

Both sections take in 40 players with Taylor coming in at No. 20 and Jarvis at No. 34. Neale, previously at No. 29 is elevated four places to No. 25 but Jill Hammersley, as in the E.T.T.U. rankings (featured in the June issue) is again demoted from No. 14 to No. 17.

Istvan Jonyer and Pak Yung Sun (Yung Sun Kim) of Korea D.P.R., the singles victors in Calcutta, head the respective sections which read (previous positions in brackets):—

Men

1. I. Jonyer (Hungary) (9)
2. A. Stipancic (Yugoslavia) (7)
3. D. Surbek (Yugoslavia) (2)
4. M. Kohno (Japan) (10)
5. K. Johansson (Sweden) (3)
5. N. Takashima (Japan) (24)
7. Hsu Shao-fa (China) (11)
8. Liang Ko-liang (China) (8)
9. Hsi En-tinh (China) (1)
10. S. Bengtsson (Sweden) (5)
11. Li Cheng-shi (China) (4)
12. G. Gergely (Hungary) (13)
13. S. Sarkhojan (USSR) (14)
14. J. Secretin (France) (15)
15. M. Orłowski (Czechoslovakia) (6)
16. Li Peng (China) (17)
17. J. Leiss (Federal Germany) (—)
18. K. Abe (Japan) (18)
19. Lu Yuang-sheng (China) (—)
20. T. Taylor (England) (—)
21. J. Kunz (Czechoslovakia) (25)
22. S. Gomozkov (USSR) (16)
23. Li Ching-kuang (China) (23)
23. A. Strokotov (USSR) (27)
25. D. Neale (England) (29)
26. M. Karakasevic (Yugoslavia) (30)
27. J. Börzsei (Hungary) (28)
28. T. Furukawa (Japan) (—)
29. Shang Shing Hing (Hong Kong) (—)

30. Chul Yun (Korea (P.D.R.) (—)
30. Tiao Wen-Yuang (China) (20)
32. F. Timar (Hungary) (—)
33. M. Savnik (Yugoslavia) (—)
34. N. Jarvis (England) (—)
35. S. Itoh (Japan) (—)
35. P. Stellwag (Federal Germany) (—)
35. U. Thorsell (Sweden) (—)
38. I. Wikström (Sweden) (26)
39. P. Sandström (Sweden) (—)
40. B. Burnazian (USSR) (—)
40. Choi Sunk-kuk (Korea D.P.R.) (—)
40. J. Turai (Czechoslovakia) (—)

Missing from the previous list are Nobuiko Hasegawa (Japan) (12), Y. Imano (Japan) (19), T. Klampar (Hungary) (21), T. Tasaka (Japan) (22), W. Lieck (Federal Germany) (31) and Z. Cordas (Yugoslavia) (32).



Ulf Thorsell, now No. 3 in the Swedish team and =35 in the I.T.T.F. rankings.
 Photo by Tommy Andersson, Sweden.



Chung-Hyun Sook, of Korea D.P.R., rated by Swedish photographer Tommy Andersson, as the best defensive woman player in the world.

Cover Picture

From left to right, North Acton's Susan Dove, Marilyn Sangster and Jill Campion who, at Belper on June 8, defeated Bournemouth's Janet New, Julie Reading and Sarah Gilson to win the L.M. Bromfield Trophy when the Ascot/Butterfly National Leagues Championships were concluded for season 1974-75.

Women

1. Pak Yung Sun (Korea P.D.R.) (9)
2. Chang Li (China) (2)
3. Ke Hsian-Ai (China) (—)
4. Chung Hyun Sook (Korea D.P.R.) (6)
5. T. Ferdmann (USSR) (—)
6. M. Alexandru (Rumania) (12)
7. Chu Hsiang-yun (China) (—)
8. Y. Ohzeki (Japan) (4)
9. E. Antonian (USSR) (20)
10. A.-C. Hellman (Sweden) (15)
11. Huang Hsi-ping (China) (10)
12. S. Yokota (Japan) (13)
13. E. Palatinus (Yugoslavia) (—)
13. J. Magos-Havas (Hungary) (5)
15. Cheng Huai-ying (China) (11)
16. Hu Yu-lan (China) (1)
17. J. Hammersley (England) (14)
18. Lee Ailesa (Korea D.P.R.) (3)
19. H. Riedlova (Czechoslovakia) (22)
20. W. Hendriksen (Federal Germany) (32)
21. A. Grofova (Czechoslovakia) (17)
22. B. Kishazi (Hungary) (19)
23. H. Lotaller (Hungary) (—)
24. Z. Rudnova (USSR) (7)
25. T. Edano (Japan) (8)
26. S. Federova (USSR) (26)
27. A. Gedraitite (USSR) (27)
28. Yen Kuei-li (China) (—)
29. C. Bergeret (France) (—)
30. U. Hirschmüller (Federal Germany) (—)
31. Pak Yong-Ok (Korea D.P.R.) (21)
32. M. Lesay (Rumania) (—)
33. B. Thiriet (France) (—)
34. Pak Yong Sok (Korea D.P.R.) (—)
34. B. Silhanova (Czechoslovakia) (28)
36. C. Ono (Japan) (—)
37. E. Neykova (Bulgaria) (—)
37. A. Rangelova (Bulgaria) (—)
37. Sung Nak So (Korea D.P.R.) (—)
37. S. Takahashi (Japan) (—)

Park Mi Ra, of the Democratic Republic of Korea (16), Yu Chin-chia (China) (18), B. Radberg (Sweden) (23), Lin Mei-chun (China) (24), M. Hamada (Japan) (25), T. Abe (Japan) (29), Yang Min-chih (30), and Yang Chun (China) (31) are omitted from the previous classifications.

Obituary

MAX MARINKO

It is with deep regret that I write of the death of Max Marinko. To many of our younger enthusiasts he may not be so well known, but he will be remembered by Europeans who were on the scene before World War II and by many in Canada and the United States.

Max was a Yugoslav and played in the Yugoslav Swaythling Cup team in London in 1938. As a citizen of Slovakia he made a brief appearance for Czechoslovakia and was a member of their winning Swaythling Cup team in 1948, again in London, in the company of such giants as Ivan Andreadis, Bo Vana, Stipek and Tokar.

Making his home in Canada after the War, Max retained his skill and his authority to such an extent that he was at the top of the Canadian tree for a long time and also made his mark in United States Open tournaments. He actually won the Esquire Event in the recent U.S. Open at Houston!

He was a great competitor and a gentleman whose last years were marred by a serious illness which took him into hospital in Canada for treatment. Feeling well enough to journey home to Yugoslavia, he came to the European Youth Championships in Zagreb, where I had the opportunity to speak with him. He was returning to Canada for more treatment, but death swiftly overtook him and one of the characters of our early game has departed from us!

H. ROY EVANS,
 President, I.T.T.F.

I.T.T.F. SEEKS SECRETARY-GENERAL

The International Table Tennis Federation, with 120 National Associations in membership, has decided to appoint a Secretary-General. This is a new appointment as the I.T.T.F. has previously been served by honorary officers but owing to a considerable increase in membership during the past two years and the general development of the game throughout the world, it has become necessary to decide to employ professional staff.

A small office is to be set up in England in a place to be decided. The salary is to be negotiated depending on qualifications and experience and will be between £4,000 and £5,000 per annum.

Application form and further details may be obtained from the Hon. General Secretary of the I.T.T.F., 20 Havelock Road, Hastings, East Sussex, TN34 1BP. The closing date for application forms to be received is the 31st October, 1975.

COACHING IN NEW ZEALAND

by ALAN HYDES

An invitation to take charge of National coaching and training in New Zealand, of players and coaches coincided with the start of the 1974-5 season.

I was faced with the choice to play or to coach. After ten years of international play (seven years at senior level), which had taken me to 30 countries and three World and four European championships, I finally decided to play a greater role in the coaching field.

Here was an opportunity whereby I would be able to distribute a knowledge of coaching, obtained from world-class coaches by virtue of a Winston Churchill Scholarship. This scholarship afforded me a unique experience in spending several months in China and Japan for the sole purpose of gaining first-hand knowledge of training and coaching of players at all levels in Table Tennis.

Consequently, I cabled Ken Wilkinson, the long-serving and recently honoured New Zealand secretary, confirming acceptance.

I had previously met up with the three New Zealand dynamos, Alf Harding (chairman), Dick Rassie (president) and Ken Wilkinson, at various international tournaments in Japan, Singapore, Yugoslavia and Wales.

Additionally, having played against New Zealand, I knew that what they lacked in technique was compensated by a strong will to succeed. These two factors gave me the stimulus to go into the coaching venture, knowing that the New Zealand Association had the men and the desire to improve the country's standing in world table tennis, given the right lead in coaching.

I left London Heathrow airport on a cold January morning, flew via Hong Kong, and arrived at Auckland on a warm summer's day. Here, I was met by Ron Menchi, the coaching convenor, and Peter Robins, of Broadland Finance Ltd., the company responsible for financing the tour.

Though suffering from "jet lag", I recovered sufficiently to start coaching 48 hours later at Hamilton. My itinerary covered the associations of Hamilton, Auckland, Whangerei, South Taranaki, Frankland, Wanganui, Tauranga, Manawatu and Lower Hutt. Ron Menchi was admirable in arranging the itinerary, which although hectic, allowed me some splendid sight-seeing and soothing swimming in the Pacific.

On my arrival at coaching venue, the news

media showed keen interest. The press, radio and television covered a great part of the tour.

Players were responsive. Training, they found, was of a far greater intensity than they had previously known.

The young New Zealander is a healthy and multi-talented sportsman, thriving in the main on outdoor activities, which the climate encourages. This talent, if directed solely towards Table Tennis, would, I am convinced, reap a premium dividend.

Coaches were intent on gaining a deeper insight into Table Tennis. To this end I gave talks on beginners, intermediates and the practice required to reach a world class standard.

Even in this jumbo jet age, New Zealand is still geographically isolated. Being "off the beaten track" of the world tournament circuit has made the players vulnerable to ever-changing techniques.

However, the New Zealand director of coaching, Trevor Flint, does all in his power to transmit new ideas and theories to coaches.

My tour (the first one from an overseas coach since Ken Stanley toured in 1952), will bring, I hope, the New Zealand Association closer to the realisation of moving up through the world rankings.

My thanks and gratitude go to the officials of the New Zealand Association for their generous hospitality while on a very interesting coaching tour. A tour of many memories.



With N.Z. international Alan Tomlinson and daughter in Auckland.

Norwich Union English Championships

The Norwich Union English Championships on April 8-10, 1976, will be held at the Luton Regional Sports Centre (Stopsley), Luton.

This event has been successfully staged for many years at the Crystal Palace National Sports Centre, but it was felt that with the increasing establishment of sports and recreation centres, the opportunity should be given to followers of the sport in other parts of the country to attend the National Championships.

Stopsley is about 1½ miles from Luton centre and is easily accessible by road (M1) and rail. The Stopsley Sports Centre, an "elitist" centre, is due to be opened in November, 1975.

ALAN HYDES

- an appreciation

by ALF HARDING
(Chairman, N.Z.T.T.A.)

Former England player, Alan Hydes, did a three months' coaching stint in New Zealand early this year and he was "the talk of the country" insofar as table tennis is concerned.

On arrival in New Zealand in the heat of the summer, Alan was met by the President of the N.Z.T.T.A. (Mr. Dick Rassie) and the deputy chairman (Mr. Ron Menchi).

Alan's travel arrangements in New Zealand were made largely by Ron Menchi, and though Alan did not get to the South Island it was only because he worked himself into a state of exhaustion and took ill towards the concluding stages of the tour. Alan was the first coach in New Zealand since another Englishman, Ken Stanley, was here in 1951. It may surprise many to know that the pattern of game coached by Ken Stanley is still being advocated in parts of New Zealand and practised by men taught by Ken.

Without reflecting in any way on Ken Stanley's work—he did a magnificent job—the game has changed, and Alan Hydes was able to bring New Zealand up-to-date.

The grass is always greener "over the fence" and for that reason Alan had to be a success, despite the presence in N.Z. of Trevor Flinr, a man who has studied the modern game and coaching in Japan, and at world championships in Japan, Yugoslavia, and at the Commonwealth tournaments in Singapore, Wales and Australia.

Flint is the Director of Coaching to the N.Z. Association, but is not a full-time coach. He gives a lot of time to the sport, but can only scratch the surface.

The visit, therefore, of Alan Hydes, was of immense interest and value. With due respect to any other coach in England or elsewhere, New Zealanders believe they had top material in Alan—and they want him back.

It didn't take Alan long to discover that basically New Zealanders are social players and are not used to strenuous exercises, or training seriously. There are perhaps a few notable exceptions, not enough to push the really keen ones. Youngsters regarded in New Zealand as potential international material soon found the pace of Alan beyond them. They learnt that the hard training they thought they had done was child's play compared with what Alan was setting as a target.

The prime reason for the N.Z.T.T.A. for engaging Alan was to coach the coaches in a fond hope that they would carry on the gospel. But in too many instances emphasis was placed on coaching players. And, naturally, there were many dedicated players, as distinct from capable ones, or top ones, who wanted a "hit" with Alan.

This was to be expected. It was human nature.

Frankly, Alan did not have sufficient time in any one centre to achieve a great deal with players, but make no error, many of those he did coach are grateful for pearls of wisdom. He was able to help a number. But given more time he could perform even better.

The old saying "the impossible is done almost immediately . . . but miracles take a little longer" could be aptly applied to Alan's coaching. New Zealanders are prepared to say he can perform miracles. From Auckland to Wellington his coaching was lavishly praised. He was recognised as a man who was not afraid to work hard; a man with a thorough knowledge of modern techniques, and more important still, able to impart the knowledge in a way in which it was simply explained and understood.

In short, the man could not have been more impressive. He has the confidence of New Zealand.

The N.Z.T.T.A. has discussed terms with Alan for a return trip, and the outcome of negotiations should soon be known. The offer will depend on the extent the Government of New Zealand will help. If the Government approves the N.Z.T.T.A. application in full it is almost certain Alan Hydes will be offered a two-year contract, with possibly a third year hinging as a rider.

Furthermore, if the N.Z.T.T.A. enters into a long-term contract with Alan, it could be expected that the next N.Z. team to the Commonwealth Championships in 1977 could include Hydes.

Meantime, the N.Z.T.T.A. and the hundreds of Hydes fans in N.Z. are awaiting the outcome of negotiations between the N.Z.T.T.A. and the N.Z. Government.

New Zealand wants Alan Hydes back—and there is an air of confidence in the N.Z. Government to make it possible. That being so, it will be over to Alan. I am, along with other N.Z. administrators, hoping Alan will be back. We need him. But on the other side of the coin, let me hasten to assure all that Alan Hydes is a really good coach, as well as being a really nice guy. I know he liked the sunshine of New Zealand, the climate, the country, and one feels that Alan knows he has much to offer New Zealand; that he senses the grave need for a coach in this country.

The Winston Churchill Memorial Trust

As in previous years, Sport is again included in the categories for a Winston Churchill Travelling Fellowship, successful candidates in the past having been Alan Hydes and Ian Horsham.

Forms of application can now be had from the E.T.T.A. office, at 21 Claremont, Hastings, E. Sussex, TN34 1HA.

2nd ASIAN-AFRICAN-LATIN AMERICAN FRIENDSHIP INVITATIONAL TOURNAMENT

CHINA SUPREME IN LAGOS

China, with wins over Japan (men) and Korea D.P.R. (women) captured both team titles in the 2nd Asian-African-Latin American Friendship Invitational Tournament, played in Lagos, Nigeria, over the period July 12-26. And for good measure Liang Ko-liang and Chang Li took the main individual titles.

In the final of the men's singles, Liang Ko-liang beat Japan's Mitsuru Kohno after a pulsating 85 minutes struggle. Third place went to Babatunde Obisanya, of the host nation. Left-handed Chang Li, the beaten finalist in Calcutta, coasted to a 3-1 win in an all-Chinese W.S. final over her compatriot Chu Hsiang Yun. Team finals:—

Men: China 5, Japan 0.

Women: China 3 Vietnam D.P.R. 1.

Positions:—

Men

1. China
2. Japan
3. Korea D.P.R.
4. Indonesia
5. Nigeria
6. Vietnam D.R.
7. R. South Vietnam
8. Brazil
9. Ghana
10. Singapore
11. Trinidad and Tobago
12. Egypt
13. Malaysia
14. Colombia
15. Togo
16. Ecuador

Women

1. China
2. Korea D.P.R.
3. Japan
4. Vietnam D.R.
5. Malaysia
6. Nigeria
7. Cuba
8. Singapore
9. R. South Vietnam
10. Brazil
11. Egypt
12. Macao
13. Peru
14. Trinidad and Tobago
15. Ethiopia
16. Laos

Individual results:—

Men's Singles—Quarter-finals

M. Kohno (Japan) bt O. Song Sam (Korea D.P.R.) 17, 17, 20.

Hsi En-ting (China) bt Chung Wang (China) 13, 17, 16.

B. Obisanya (Nigeria) bt Lasisi (Nigeria) 20, -10, 15, -20, 7.

Liang Ko-liang (China) bt K. Abe (Japan) 16, 11, 19.

Semi-finals

Kohno bt Hsi En-ting 20, 18, -16, 11.

Liang Ko-liang bt Obisanya 8, 7, 9.

Final

LIANG KO-LIANG bt Kohno 11, 20, -19, 14.

Women's Singles

CHANG LI (China) bt Chu Hsiang-yun (China) 17, 20, -17, 17.

Mixed Doubles

ABE/KOHO bt Obisanya/Sunmola (Nigeria) 17, 16, -21, 12.

Women's Doubles

PAK YONG OK/CHA KYUNG MI (Korea D.P.R.) bt Chang Li/Huang Hsi-ping (China) 13, -19, 12, 19.

Mixed Doubles

KOHO/OHZEKI (Japan) bt Hsi En-ting/Chang Li -17, 19, 13, 16.

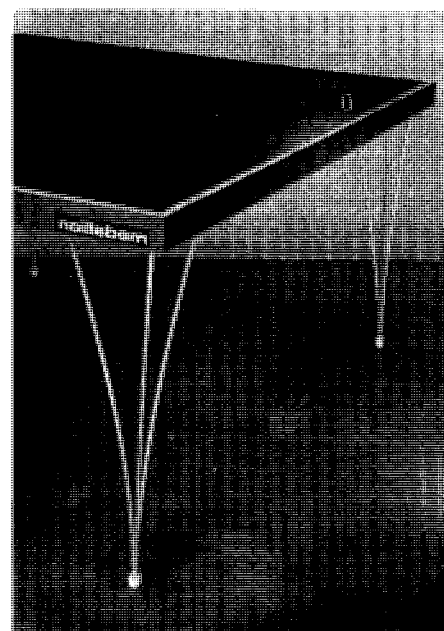
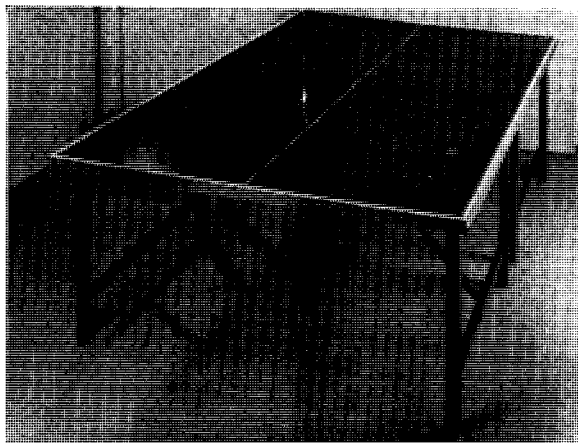
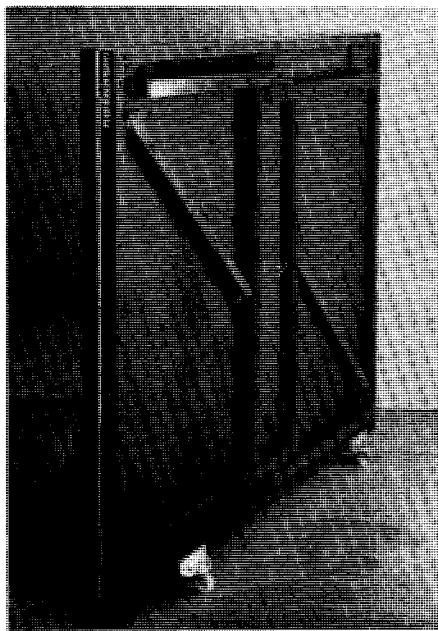


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Stiga Schools International Championships

by DAVID LOMAS



Mr. Brian Hearn, Export Marketing Manager of Stiga, presents England's John Kitchener with the Stiga Schools' International Championships trophy.

A new concept in international table tennis was born at Eston Sports Centre on the 5th and 6th July with the first Stiga Schools' International Championships played between England and Scotland.

The championships, sponsored by Stiga and Cleveland County Leisure and Amenities Department, were a resounding success with the new concept accepted by all and the facilities provided at Eston Sports Centre second to none. The concept was one of mass participation. In the first section—the international match—36 players from each country were divided into six teams of six, with each youngster playing all six of the opposing team so that a total of 216 sets were played.

The second day saw the Individual Championships organised on a group system which gave each player a further six sets on a 4 x 4 to 4 x 4 system, so producing a final order in each event of 1 to 16.

The international team event itself, between England and Scotland, was very one-sided, as one would expect in view of the tremendous strength and depth of the England line-up. The final score was a victory for England 6-0 in the matches and 202-14 in sets.

Several players were unbeaten for England. In the senior boys' match unbeaten were John Kitchener (Suffolk), Devinder Sehmbi (Essex Metro), Ian Girdler (Inner London) and Martin Kinsella (Notts). In the senior girls' match England won 36-0 with Karen Rogers (Leics), Mandy Mellor (Derbyshire), Julie Reading (Hampshire), Jayne Mitchell (Surrey County), Janet Carr (West Midlands), and Karen Groves (West Midlands) all unbeaten.

The England intermediate boys won likewise, 36-0, with maximum wins from Douglas Johnson (West Midlands), Chris Rogers (Leics), David Newman (Essex County), Michael Harrison (Humberside), Keith Richardson (Cambs), and Keith Paxton (Tyne & Wear), as did the intermediate girls' team

of Melody Ludi (West Yorks), Suzanne Hunt (Lincs), Angela Tierney (Cleveland), Sandra Sutton (Essex Metro), Julie McLean (Humberside) and Helen Gore (Essex County). Graham Sandley (Middlesex) and Stephen Woodgate (Surrey County) scored maximum wins for England in the junior boys' event whilst Mandy Smith (Berkshire), Helen Robinson (Cleveland), Maxine Abbott (Essex Metro) and Jill Purslow (Berkshire) were unbeaten in the junior girls' match.

The players who performed well for Scotland were Alan Matthew (Grampian) and John Moir (Grampian) who each won two sets in the senior boys' match. Charles Rodger (Lothian) won no less than four sets in the junior boys' match and Carol Dalrymple won twice in the junior girls' match.

The most exciting play was in the individual events in which the English stars met each other in the latter stages. The biggest surprise came in the senior boys' event where Ian Girdler (Inner London) beat John Kitchener (Suffolk) to take the top spot. David Newman (Essex County) ousted three Northern boys, Michael Harrison (Humberside), Keith Paxton (Tyne & Wear) and Chris Reed (Cumbria) to win the intermediate boys' title.

The junior boys' event saw a three-way tie for the top place between Michael Owens (Hereford & Worcester), Graham Sandley (Middlesex) and Michael Laird (Cleveland). Despite his loss to Laird, Owens beat Sandley and won on a points count.

As could be anticipated, Karen Rogers was a convincing winner in the senior girls' event, whilst Julie Reading, Jane Skipp (Cleveland) and Janet Carr all beat each other for the 2nd-4th positions and this was decided on sets average.

Angela Tierney turned in one of her best performances in beating Melody Ludi, Suzanne Hunt and Sandra Sutton to win the intermediate girls' event, whilst the Berkshire trio

of Alison Gordon, Mandy Smith and Jill Purslow won the medals in the junior girls' event.

The championships were attended by a number of leading table tennis officials from both countries and several members of the Cleveland County Council and Langbaugh Borough Council. Mr. Brian Hearn, Stiga Export Marketing Manager, presented the team trophy to John Kitchener, whose last appearance it was after several seasons' participation in E.S.T.T.A. events, including two wins for Northgate Grammar School, Ipswich in the National School Team Championships. Medals and trophies were presented by Councillor Morgan (Mayor of Langbaugh), Mrs. Keenan (Chairman of the Cleveland County Leisure and Amenities Committee), Charles Wyles, O.B.E. (Chairman of the English Table Tennis Association), Councillor Fulton (Chairman of Cleveland Education Committee), Councillor Herlingshaw (Chairman of Langbaugh Recreation and Amenities Committee), and Mr. T. Matthews (Chairman of the English Schools' Table Tennis Association).

A return match has been provisionally arranged for 26th and 27th June, 1976, to be held at the Meadowbank Sports Centre, in Edinburgh.

RESULTS

Team Championships—England 6, Scotland 0.

Senior Boys

England 29 (J. Kitchener 6, D. Sehmbi 6, I. Girdler 6, M. Kinsella 6, M. Sofaer 3, J. Evans 2), Scotland 7 (J. Moir 2, A. Matthew 2, C. Harkins, M. Stuart, W. Loch).

Senior Girls

England 36 (K. Rogers 6, M. Mellor 6, J. Reading 6, J. Mitchell 6, J. Carr 6, K. Groves 6), Scotland 0.

Intermediate Boys

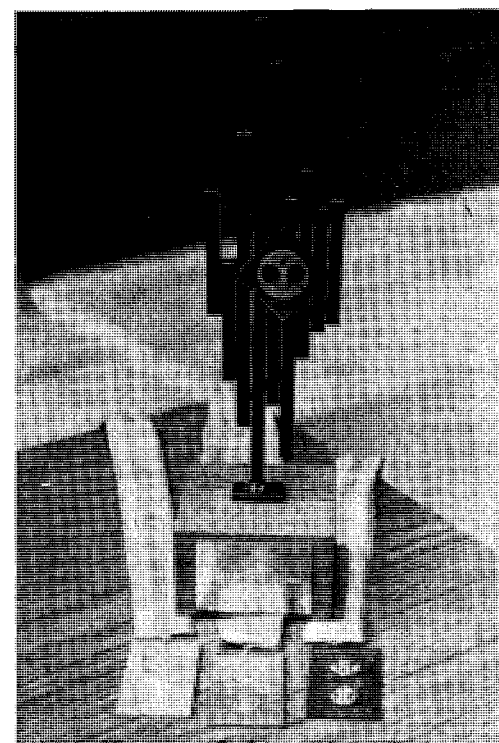
England 36 (D. Johnson 6, C. Rogers 6, D. Newman 6, M. Harrison 6, K. Richardson 6, K. Paxton 6), Scotland 0.

Intermediate Girls

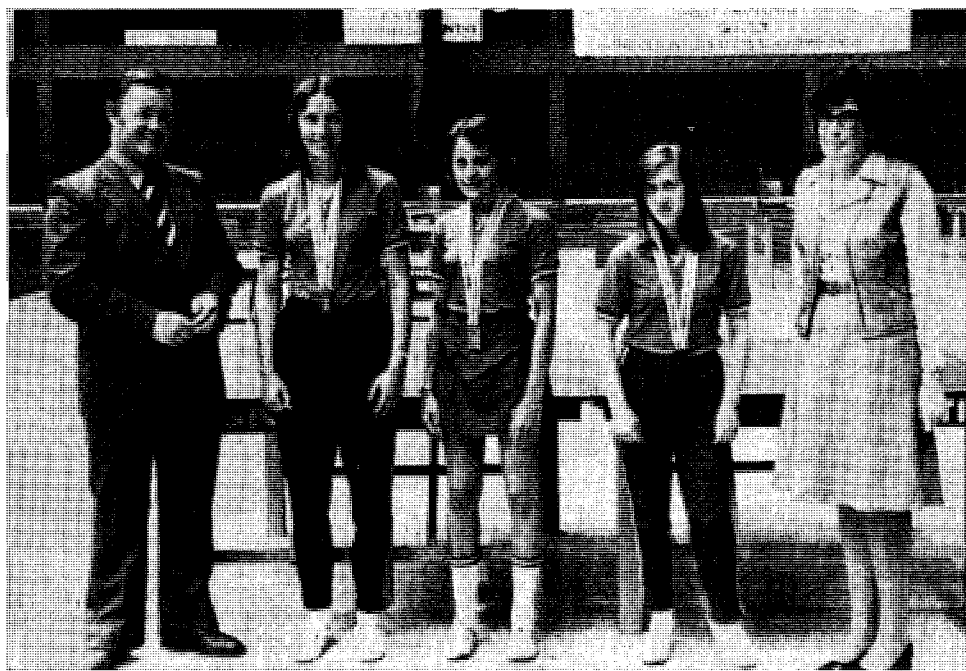
England 36 (M. Ludi 6, S. Hunt 6, A. Tierney 6, S. Sutton 6, J. McLean 6, H. Gore 6), Scotland 0.

Junior Boys

England 31 (G. Sandley 6, S. Woodgate 6, M. Owens 5, G. Black 5, B. Johnson 5, M. Laird 4), Scotland 5 (K. Rodger 4, C. Rodger).



A close-up of the Stiga Schools' International Championships trophy, with the individual event medals.



Pictured are the medal winners in the U-19 girls' singles. Karen Rogers, Julie Reading and Jane Skipp are flanked by Mr. Bernard Gill, Marketing Director of Mitre Sports, Stiga agents for Great Britain, and Councillor Mrs. Elizabeth Keenan, Chairman of the Cleveland County Council Leisure and Amenities Committee.

Intermediate

1. Angela Tierney (Cleveland)
2. Melody Ludi (W. Yorkshire)
3. Suzanne Hunt (Lincs)
4. Sandra Sutton (Essex Metro)
5. Julie McLean (Humberside)
6. Stephanie Jones (W. Midlands)
7. Helen Gore (Essex County)
8. Elaine Starr (Surrey Metro)
9. Lindsay Booth (Herts)
10. Linda Slack (Lothian)
11. Wendy Pullen (Lothian)
12. Wendy Smith (Grampian)
13. Kay McKay (Central)
14. Caroline Hearn (Central)
15. Belinda Petherick (Lothian)
16. Ann Moncur (Central)

Junior

1. Alison Gordon (Berkshire)
2. Mandy Smith (Berkshire)
3. Jill Purslow (Berkshire)
4. Helen Robinson (Cleveland)
5. Maxine Abbott (Essex Metro)
6. Gillian Heath (Berkshire)
7. Carol Dalrymple (Central)
8. Pauline Townsend (Wiltshire)
9. Julie Dowsett (Essex County)
10. Lorraine Garbet (Surrey)
11. Abigail Harress (Central)
12. Linda Fegan (Lothian)
13. Eleanor Hardy (Central)
14. Fiona Rae (Lothian)
15. Shauna Campbell (Central)
16. Maureen Thomson (Grampian)

Junior Girls

England 34 (M. Smith 6, H. Robinson 6, M. Abbott 6, J. Purslow 6, A. Gordon 5, P. Townsend 5), Scotland 2 (C. Dalrymple 2).

BOYS' FINAL PLACINGS

Senior

1. Ian Girdler (Inner London)
2. John Kitchener (Suffolk)
3. Devinder Sehmbi (Essex Metro)
4. Martin Kinsella (Notts)
5. Stephen Hazelwood (W. Yorks)
6. Ian Plummer (Cleveland)
7. John Moir (Grampian)
8. Colin Harkins (Central)
9. Keith Williams (Merseyside)
10. Meyer Sofaer (Middlesex)
11. Michael Stuart (Grampian)
12. Willie Loch (Lothian)
13. Simon Douglas (Berkshire)
14. Alan Matthew (Grampian)
15. Robert Motherwell (Lothian)
16. John Evans (Cheshire)

Intermediate

1. David Newman (Essex County)
2. Michael Harrison (Humberside)
3. Keith Paxton (Tyne & Wear)
4. Chris Reed (Cumbria)
5. Chris Rogers (Leics)
6. Richard Mountford (W. Midlands)
7. Douglas Johnson (W. Midlands)
8. Simon Claxton (Hereford & Worcs.)
9. Earl Black (Lothian)
10. Kenneth McLean (Strathclyde)
11. Walter Clarkson (Central)
12. Anwar Majid (Lothian)
13. Keith Richardson (Cams)
14. Ronald Stenhouse (Lothian)
15. Donald Watt (Lothian)

Junior

1. Michael Owen (Hereford & Worcs)
2. Graham Sandley (Middlesex)
3. Michael Laird (Cleveland)
4. Keith Rodger (Lothian)
5. Brian Johnson (Berkshire)
6. Ian Reed (Cumbria)
7. John Souter (Middlesex)
8. Graeme Black (Merseyside)
9. Stephen Woodgate (Surrey)
10. Alistair Davidson (Grampian)
11. Michael Aitken (Grampian)
12. Philip Matthew (Grampian)
13. Diccon Gray (Cumbria)
14. Paul Christie (Strathclyde)
15. Alex McLean (Lothian)
16. Charles Rodger (Lothian)

GIRLS' FINAL PLACINGS

Senior

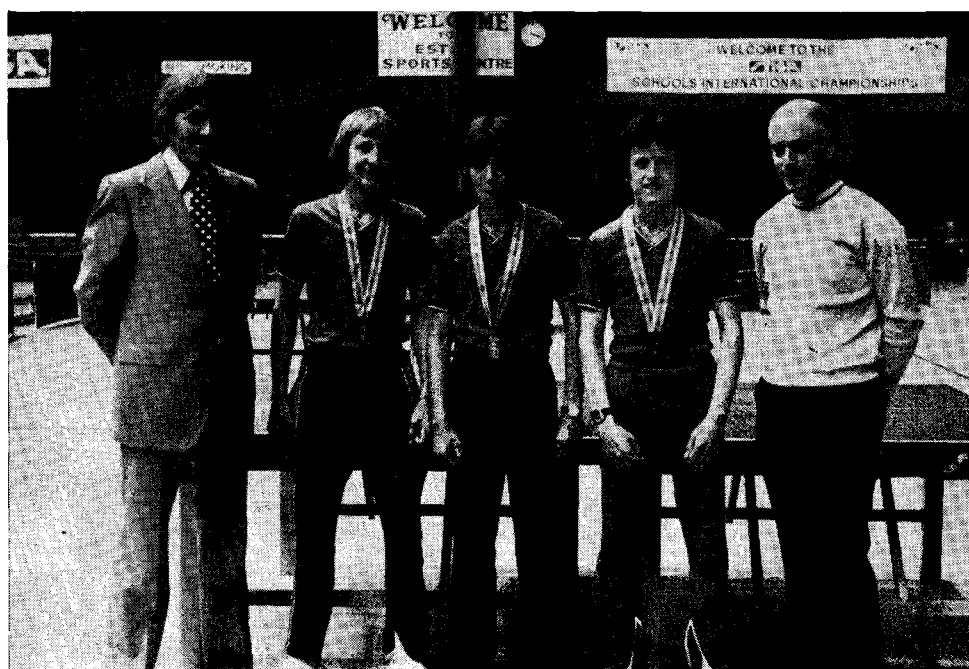
1. Karen Rogers (Leics)
2. Julie Reading (Hants)
3. Jane Skipp (Cleveland)
4. Janet Carr (W. Midlands)
5. Mandy Mellor (Derbyshire)
6. Jayne Mitchell (Surrey County)
7. Karen Groves (W. Midlands)
8. Linda Towler (Beds)
9. Judith Langridge (Suffolk)
10. Margaret Cuthbertson (Central)
11. Sheila Fergusson (Strathclyde)
12. Margaret Dunbar (Grampian)
13. Ann Simpson (Strathclyde)
14. Lesley Lawrence (Grampian)
15. Caroline Byres (Grampian)
16. Jeannie Stewart (Lothian)

PHOTOGRAPHIC COVERAGE BY TONY ROSS, OF HESSLE.

Hon. Life Membership

At the A.G.M. of the E.T.T.A. in London, on July 12, Tom Blunn proposed, on behalf of the National Council, two new Life Members. These were Harry Walker, who had served Essex in the capacity of Secretary for many years, and his service included long periods on the National Executive Committee and the National Council, and in later years he had rendered invaluable assistance within the E.T.T.A. offices.

The second nominee for Life Membership was Ron J. Crayden, who had served as Chairman of our Equipment and Selection Committees but would perhaps be best remembered for his Captaincy of the English Women's team at the time of capturing the World and European honours. These proposals were seconded and carried with acclaim.



Under-16 boys' medal winners, David Newman, Michael Harrison and Keith Paxton, with Brian Hearn of the Stiga Company, and Councillor P. Fulton, Chairman of Cleveland County Council Education Committee.

DEVON'S GRAND CANYON

by Brian T. Worts

Devon, noted for a vast expanse of moorland, now boasts the equivalent of a Grand Canyon. This is my description of the size of the gap that divides the superior quality of play of Plymouth School players from the rest of the County.

The Devon Schools' Individual Championships, held in the heat of July, at Braunton School, offered a total of 24 medals for the eight singles events. It seemed as if Plymouth players had squatters' rights to the Olympic-style rostrum as they collared twenty of them. A further three were taken by Tavistock players, who happen also to play in the Plymouth League. One bronze went to an Exmouth boy. Plymouth, with fifteen out of a possible 16 gold and silver, beat their previous best of nine and beat Exmouth's record of eleven set five years ago.

With an effective ban on coaching during sets, the young players both played and thought for themselves with the result that trophies returned home to display cabinets with the special distinction of having been won entirely by the player.

Terry Fairbanks produced a performance which carried a maturity which enabled him to thrice break away from the psychological setback of dropping a big lead at critical times. Having twice been runner-up in the Under-19 event, Devon County Junior Champion, Stephen Murphy, had his heart set on the title but found the shrewd Fairbanks too difficult in the semi-final.

Whilst Plymouth players, led by far-sighted coaches and helpful parents, move out of the County in search of fame, the rest of Devon's school players have to consider whether they have the facilities, know-how and determination to bridge the Canyon. It's worth studying the Plymouth success story from its outset in 1972 when they first began to make an impact on the Schools' Championships. The pieces that pave Plymouth's progressive path include facilities for regular practice, a blend of good coaches for the "open house" to the single-minded ambitious type, the Plymouth Schools' Association, a League that has ten sets to a match (less yawns and more "A" levels at school = tolerant parents), seniors willing to help players into higher divisions and a fostered determination which has now become instinctive. In short, Plymouth now have what it takes to make an impact at National level.

Results:—

UNDER-19

Boys' Singles—Semi-finals

Fairbanks bt Murphy 11, 20.

M. Birrell bt M. Shearman 21, 18.

Final

FAIRBANKS bt Birrell -17, 10, 13.

Girls' Singles—Semi-finals

E. Lamb bt N. Pine 14, 10.

F. Blake bt S. Yorke -22, 19, 21.

Final

LAMB bt Blake 12, 15.

UNDER-16

Boys' Singles—Semi-finals

Fairbanks bt Shearman 13, -16, 20.

P. Whiting bt G. Worts 15, 11.

Final

FAIRBANKS bt Whiting 19, 19.

Girls' Singles—Semi-finals

Lamb bt Yorke 13, 14.

Pine bt Blake 11, -19, 10.

Final

LAMB bt Pine 18, 18.

U-13 Boys' Singles—Final

WHITING bt A. Brokenshire 19, 18.

U-13 Girls' Singles—Final

PINE bt T. Sugden 19, 14.

U-11 Boys' Singles—Round Robin

Winner: M. Roseveare; Runner-up: G. Buckley.

U-11 Girls' Singles—Round Robin

Winner: C. Butler; Runner-up: T. Ho.

First-timers Event—Final

Ph. Yolland bt P. Merchant 14, 21.

FOOTNOTE.—The Devon Schools' Association would like to hear from any Schools' Association outside of the South West who would be interested in a weekend challenge match in age groups, both team and individual. Please contact Brian Worts, Exmouth 74301.

NORTHANTS NOTES

by Dennis Millman

NOT SURPRISING

Only the real enthusiast remains involved in the delights and despairs of table tennis throughout a close season, particularly this year, with such perfect weather for outdoor activities. It is not surprising therefore, that finding replacements for retiring officials has once again proved difficult.

Don Perkins, Wellingborough's Chairman since 1966, was one who maintained his enthusiasm and work-rate through the long hot summer, having once again accepted his customary unopposed re-election. But, with the start of his forty-second season close at hand, he suddenly decided to terminate his long association with the game.

Don, as a player, was something of a late developer, for he first played locally in 1934, but it was not until 1961 that he became Wellingborough Men's Singles Champion at the same time taking the Men's Doubles with Roy Catling, a success they repeated the following year. Additionally, Wellingborough's late entry into representative play coincided with Don's installation as Chairman, and since that time he has notched up almost a half century of appearances at Inter-League level.

In 1967, he was instrumental in re-forming the Northants County Association, and was its chairman from that date until 1971—a period of time in which Northants went from strength to strength and County Table Tennis flourished. Perhaps the present low ebb of County fortunes—despite the efforts of Tom Tye and Ken Marchant, and his own league's luke warm reception to Peter Edwards' attempts to revive the County League, hastened Don's departure, for his standards were high and his contribution to local table tennis is unlikely to be surpassed. The Wellingborough League will have difficulty in replacing an outstanding Chairman, who had the rare ability of treating players of all standards with equal respect.

Dick Cole first came into prominence in the Kettering League some 25 years ago, taking his first title in 1955, and following it with 18 others. In 1963 and 1964 he achieved consecutive trebles, taking the Men's Singles, Men's Doubles and Mixed Doubles events. He is also the longest-serving member of the Kettering & District League Committee, and for the last four seasons he has organised Junior Coaching on behalf of the League. Again this summer he was to be found each Monday evening surrounded by crowds of enthusiastic youngsters at the local Recreation Centre. Perhaps it is no coincidence that a majority of recent County Junior players came under his influence at an early age, before consolidating their beginnings elsewhere.

Don Perkins and Dick Cole possess the enthusiasm and necessary qualities essential to the development and continuation of any game, and it is fortunate that they devoted their expertise to table tennis. Let us hope that their example may continue to influence some of the brash youngsters who flirt briefly with success, before reverting to less worthy pursuits.

Meanwhile, pressure of work has forced County Secretary Connie Bane to resign, and to date, she has not been found a successor. Connie took over in one crisis, adding a new

dimension to her table tennis activities as she steered the County Association out of trouble, and now her departure has precipitated further problems. Fortunately Tom Tye's diligence has ensured a continuation of County Championship play and he has conducted his usual thorough pre-season training sessions, although at times attendance has been unrewarding.

Changes in the South East Midlands League set-up have enabled Northampton to enter a Men's Second Team, while elsewhere entries remain as before, except at Kettering, where one of the two surviving founder members finds it necessary to withdraw both Men's and Veterans' sides, to concentrate on the newly-formed County League. In this Kettering will be joined by Northampton, Towcester and Daventry, who enter two sides in confident support of Chairman Peter Edwards' enthusiastic approach—an approach not always apparent in the County in recent years.

Dutch Treat

Mr. Cor J. Vos, Editor of the Dutch T.T. magazine, "Tafeltennis", is again anxious to have an English club team (2 men, 2 women) competing in his forthcoming Trofeo Caballero tournament to be held in The Hague, on December 20, 1975.

Players' age is immaterial but must be members of the same club. Hospitality includes two nights at a good hotel from Friday evening, December 19 (Reception in the evening between 8 and 9 p.m.) depart Sunday, December 21, after breakfast.

Grove/St. Chad's competed last year but were not strong enough. Prizes this year are fl. 1,000 for the winners, fl. 750 for the runners-up, fl. 500 for the third placed team and fl. 250 for the team finishing fourth. Travel expenses (by boat from Gt. Yarmouth to Scheveningen) will be borne by the Wibats club.

Interested clubs should contact Mr. Vos at Maarsbergenstraat 368, Den Haag, Netherlands, without delay. Although invited, the Ormesby Club, of Cleveland, have had to decline. The Dutch club, Tempo, were last year's winners.

HOME DRAW FOR ORMESBY

Ormesby have been seeded equal third in this year's Europe Club Cup competition, their highest ranking for the last three seasons.

The English champions, who won the national title for the seventh consecutive year last May, are given a bye in Round 1 and a home draw against the Polish champions, Lodz, in Round 2.

The match is likely to be played midweek in October. Ormesby played Lodz in the European Cup 2 years ago and won 5-2 at home.

Should the Clevelanders beat the Poles, they are then likely to face tough opposition away from home in Federal Germany and Czechoslovakia in the subsequent rounds.

Ormesby will be fielding the same players as last season, Denis Neale, Nicky Jarvis, Jimmy Walker and Dave Alderson.

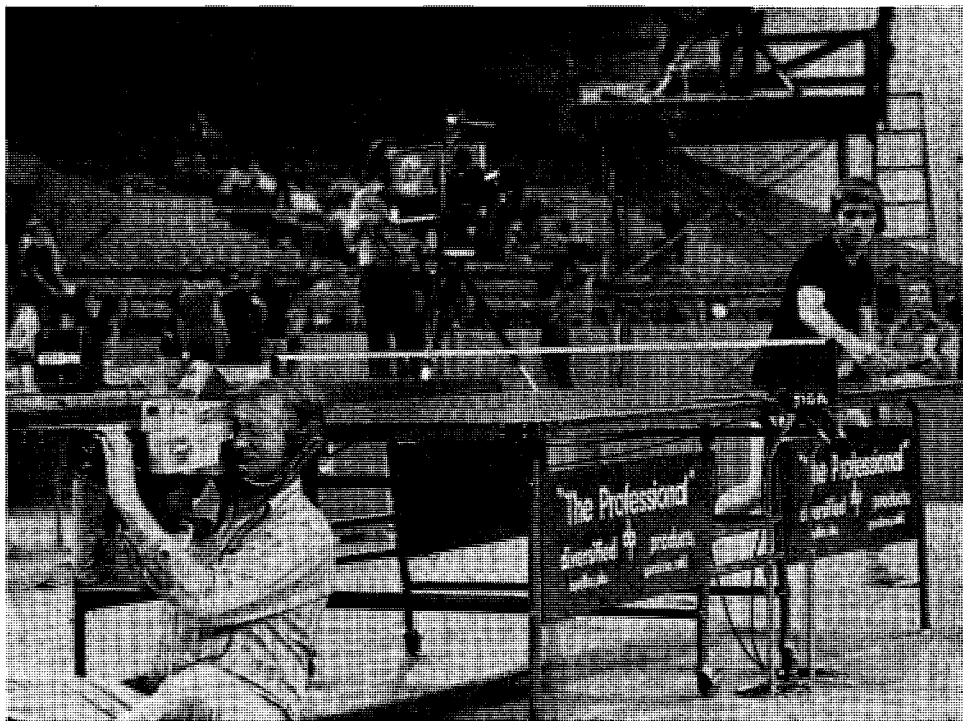
Malcolm Scott Award

E.T.T.A. President, Maurice Goldstein, displayed to the A.G.M. of the E.T.T.A., a silver salver presented by the Staffordshire County T.T.A., to be presented as an award in memory of the late Malcolm Scott. The Terms of Reference for the presentation were simply for distinguished service to table tennis at the discretion of the President of the E.T.T.A.

Maurice Goldstein expressed difficulty in making a choice from the many people who qualified under this category, but he felt that the person most deserving of being the first recipient of the award was the Hon. Treasurer of the E.T.T.A., Tom Blunn. The presentation was then made and greeted with acclaim, Mr. Blunn replying to say he was greatly honoured to receive the award, especially in view of his long friendship with Malcolm Scott.

45th United States Open

by KEN MITCHELL



110 tables were in use at Houston; this is one of them with A.B.C. Wide World Sport working with Stellan Bengtsson.

TABLES GALORE

By self-made repute everything is bigger and better in Texas and so it was for the 45th Annual United States National Championships held in Houston, May 22nd-25th, 1975.

43 events, 900 competitors, 110 tables—with room for at least another 250—and this was only in the Astrodome—the Astrodome is far too big for our sport!

The main team events were played on 9 tables in a magnificent arena with tiered seating for 6,600 spectators, the remaining 101 tables were in an adjacent hall which really buzzed with activity.

I must congratulate the U.S. Association on their modern approach in giving every competitor an individually printed, computerised schedule of event, table number and time they had to play; this was no mean achievement in view of the number of events, tables and competitors. Perhaps not all players would agree, but the system appeared to work and it was the responsibility of the player to be in the right place at the right time—this kept the amount of public address announcements to the minimum.

With the entry of the national teams of Hungary (including world champion Istvan Jonyer), Sweden, Yugoslavia and South Korea, the competition was to be keen, and so it was, but sadly the world champion failed to live up to his reputation and failed in both the individual and team events. Jonyer never looked a world champion. Is this reaction or is he in a false position because the choice of venue for the world championships affected the fitness of many of his fellow competitors?

The day temperature in Houston during the Championships was a humid 90° in the shade, but superb air conditioning made for a reasonable playing temperature. During the final stages, however, the players complained that the power of the input and extractor fans was affecting the flight of the ball and the air conditioning was cut to the minimum and that made it hot even for the spectators, particularly in the higher levels.

COLOURFUL

In more ways than one there were many colourful characters of the Championships, one being quite outstanding — green shirt, green shorts, green socks, green hair — his name: GREEN! Not a very good table tennis player — but he was noticed!

It was great to see Laszlo Bellak play again; he appears to have lost none of his old skill despite his years—he won the over-60's event. Laszlo made a special request of his friends in England. Can anyone help him find an old, no doubt very old, Slazenger bat. This is the bat with a flared neck, i.e. not cut away where

the handle joins the blade. If anyone has such a bat will he please contact the Editor. (The state of the rubber does not matter). Between us we will see that Laszlo gets his bat. I am sure it would be suitably acknowledged. Perhaps Slazenger may even help for sadly, the only surviving "musketeer"?

Enough of the background, let's get down to the "ping-pong"—regrettably this is a term still used in the States.

The team events were divided into two groups and with Sweden and Yugoslavia being the main contenders in Group A and Hungary and South Korea being the strongest participants in Group B, results went as expected and in the Group A play-off Sweden beat Yugoslavia 5-4 in a most exciting match. Hungary beat South Korea 5-1 and on to the final which proved to be a non-event as Hungary's only success was a 19 in-the-third win by Jonyer over young Ulf Thorsall.

Thorsall had a great tournament record, beating Gabor Gergely in the team final, only losing to Jonyer in the men's singles 19, 12, 9, 15, 18, and, paired with another European Junior Champion, Miran Savnik, of Yugoslavia, only lost in the final of the doubles to World Champions Surbek and Stipanac. A fine performance by these two young players.

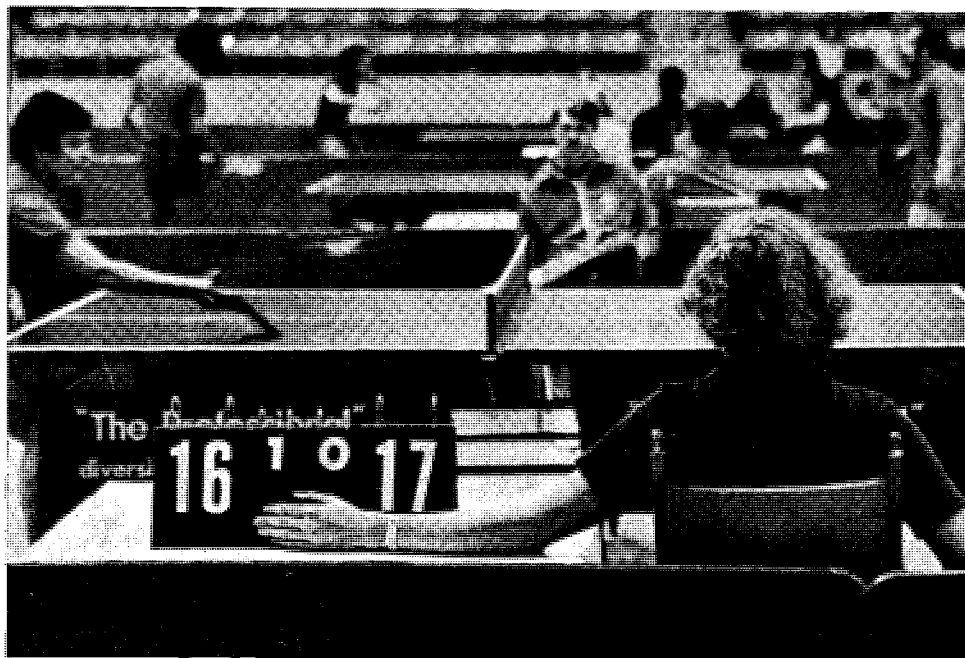
The Women's team event was a one-horse race with the very strong South Korean team beating Sweden 5-0 in the final. Only one set was lost by the Koreans in the whole competition and this was won by In Sook Na, now a resident in the U.S.A., who was captain of the Korean Women's Team in the 1973 World Championships.

In the men's singles the number 1 and 2 seeds, Jonyer and Surbek, were defeated in the semi-finals by Bengtsson and Johansson respectively, Jonyer offering very little resistance. The match between Johansson and Surbek provided a lot of the excitement and the power hitting one expects in the meeting of these two players, Johansson being the better on the day.

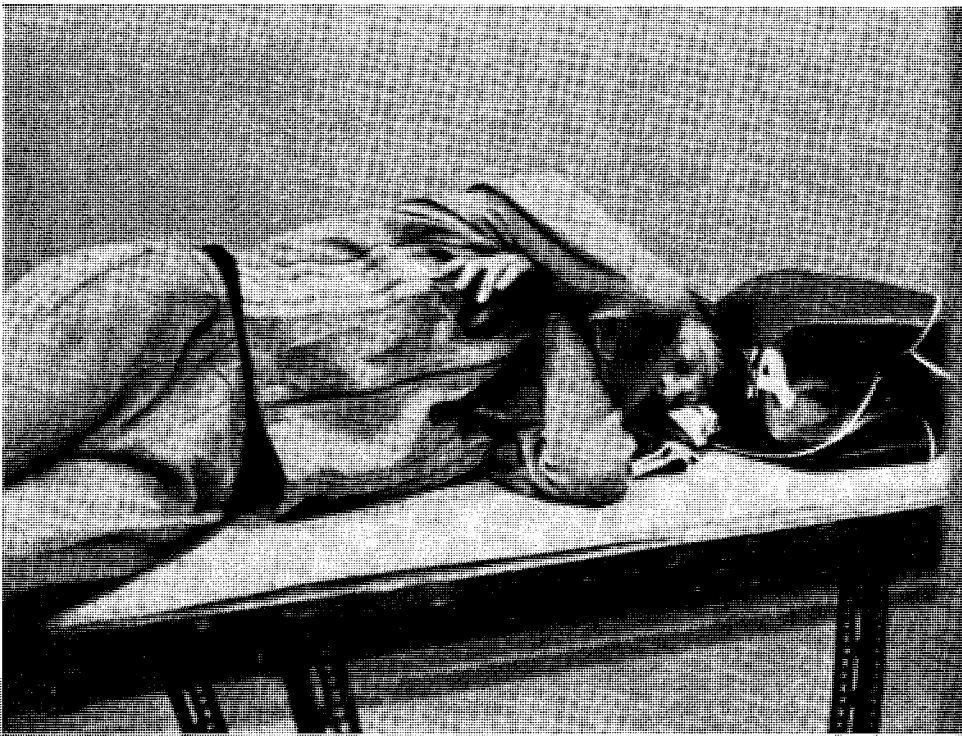
Prior to this the event had provided no surprises, the European players providing seven of the quarter-finalists, the odd man out being Lee Sang Kook, of South Korea.

BRILLIANT

The men's final was brilliant, one could almost call it an exhibition, which delighted the large audience. Power hitting from both players, terrific speed of movement, lob defence, retrieving of almost impossible shots—everything was in including two points which brought the whole of the arena to their feet in wild applause — these points were



Not easy to be an umpire in the U.S.A. Why this system?



Even a champion can be tired. Kjell Johansson sleeping.

Photos by Tommy Andersson, Lund, Sweden.

almost equal in spectacle to the famous Secretin-Strokatov point in the Norwich Union International Championships final.

After losing the first game -15, Johansson's powerful forearm gradually took charge and, taking the next three games, came out a worthy winner.

It was late, with 6 of the 8 air conditioning blowers cut off—it was hot, but what a wonderful final the two Swedes provided.

In the women's singles Sweden were not as successful, Ann-Christin Hellman losing to Chung Hyun Sook, of South Korea, in four games. After losing 21-11 in the first, Hellman went back to defensive play and expedite was brought in during the second game which the Swedish girl won 21-19. After this her game went to pieces and she only managed 18 points in the next two games. It is only fair to say that her singles final followed very closely on a five game women's doubles match, nevertheless, all credit to the great play of the Korean girl.

Results:—

Men's Team Final: SWEDEN 5, Hungary 1
U. Thorsell bt G. Gergely 14, 10.
S. Bengtsson bt J. Börzsei 18, 10.
K. Johansson bt I. Jonyer 20, 12.
Bengtsson bt Gergely 18, -17, 19.
Thorsell lost to Jonyer -15, 14, -19.
Johansson bt Börzsei -17, 15, 12.

Women's Team Final: S. KOREA 3, Sweden 0
Kim Soon Ok bt A.-C. Hellman 14, 18.
Chung Hyun Sook bt E. Strömvall 7, 7.
Ok/Sook bt Hellman/Strömvall 18, 16.

Men's Singles—Quarter-finals

Jonyer bt Lee Sank Kuk (S. Korea) 22, 12, 12.
Bengtsson bt A. Stipancic (Yugo) 13, -16, 6, -17, 19.

Johansson bt Gergely 17, 14, 13.
D. Surbek (Yugo) bt Börzsei 11, 13, 15.

Semi-finals

Bengtsson bt Jonyer 16, 16, 16.
Johansson bt Surbek -13, 18, 18, 12.

Final
JOHANSSON bt Bengtsson -15, 15, 12, 10.

Women's Singles—Semi-finals

Chung Hyun Sook bt I. Cordas (Canada) 9, 10, 14.
Hellman bt Son Hye Soon (S. Korea) 19, -18, 11, -24, 21.

Final

CHUNG HYUN SOOK bt Hellman 11, -19, 7, 11.

Men's Doubles—Final

STIPANCIC/SURBEK bt M. Savnik (Yugo)/

Thorsell 20, 10, 14.

Women's Doubles—Final

HELLMAN/STROMVALL bt Kim Soon Ok/
Sung Nak So (S. Korea) 19, -18, -18, 13, 12.

EPILOGUE

After offering congratulations on the general organisation of the Championships, regrettably I must criticise the staging of the finals. Admittedly the organisers were playing to the whims of the television producer by having spectators sitting and standing four or five deep round the table. This was distracting for the large number of spectators in the tiered seating who were also distracted by about a dozen small kids running wild in the arena, particularly during the women's final.

If the arena had been completely clear except for the officials, if all the spectators had been in the bank of tiered seating opposite the T.V. cameras, the appearance of a full house could have been given, a perfect view would have been had by everybody and the overall presentation would have been far more professional.

Ken Mitchell, the writer, is the father of former English Junior international, Brian, now Dr. B. H. Mitchell, working for Argonne National Laboratories, Applied Physics Division, at 9730 South Cass Avenue, Argonne, Illinois 60439. Pa and Ma Mitchell were on a visit.—Ed.

MIDDLESEX NOTES

by Laurie Landry

TED CONNELL RETIRES

With the retirement of Ted Connell as the Chairman of the County, Geoff James was elected to replace him. Two new members were elected to the Executive Committee and these were Don Kenny (Barnets) and Dave Groombridge (Acton). This is pleasing because it is a number of years since either of these leagues was represented on the committee.

The County has been fairly active during the summer with the coaching groups. The main group has been meeting once a week whilst there were regular sessions for the follow-up group and the U-14's. The County are pleased that Andrew Barden and Angela Mitchell, Sue Dove and Jill Campion all appear in the National Junior Rankings, whilst Mandy Reeves and Graham Sandley are in the Cadet (U-14) lists.

LANCASHIRE NOTES

by George Yates

BELLE VUE BONANZA

Istvan Jonyer, Hungary's reigning world champion, and Milan Orłowski, of Czechoslovakia, current holder of the European title, are two of the star players to have been invited to Manchester in December.

The invitations have been issued by the E.T.T.A. on behalf of Greater Manchester Council, whose Recreation Committee are behind the venture to run a Masters' Tournament at the Kings Hall, Belle Vue, on Dec. 6.

Also to have been invited are French ace Jacques Secretin, and Anatoly Strokatov, of the Soviet Union, who figured in last season's memorable men's singles final of the Norwich Union International Championships at Brighton.

Former world champion, Stellan Bengtsson, of Sweden, and former European champion, Dragutin Surbek, of Yugoslavia, are two other invitees.

Two Englishmen, yet to be announced, will make up an octet which will be split into two groups of four with the best pair from each going into the semi-finals. The eventual winner will pocket £500 with highlights of the day's play (morning and afternoon sessions) being shown on the B.B.C's "Grandstand" programme.

Both Strokatov and Surbek will be remembered by local enthusiasts as participants in the Lancashire Open at Lostock, near Bolton. The Yugoslav was the popular winner of the M.S. title in 1970, as too was Strokatov two years later when partnered by his compatriot, Svetlana Federova in the X.D. event.

Following trials at Bolton's Institute of Technology, the Lancashire Selection Committee, under the chairmanship of Arthur Upton, have come up with the following rankings:—

Men

1 D. Parker (Preston), P. Bowen (Manchester), 3 N. Hallows (Bolton), 4 J. Marshall (Liverpool), 5 G. Hoy (Bury), 6 C. Heap (Farnworth), 7 M. Foulkes (Blackpool), 8 I. Smith (Preston), 9 J. Clegg (Preston), and 10 A. Whittle (Preston).

Women

1 B. Williams (Liverpool), 2 B. Kirkman (Liverpool), 3 J. Dixon (Bolton), 4 J. Black (Liverpool), 5 J. Turner (Liverpool), and 6 J. Evans (Warrington).

Boys

1 I. Smith (Preston), 2 S. Cowley (Bolton), 3 C. Strettle (Liverpool), 4 A. O'Connor (Liverpool), 5 S. Turner (Preston), 6 N. Gledhill (Blackpool), 7 P. Rainford (Preston), 8 J. Green (Wigan), 9 S. Taylor (Burnley), and 10. M. Shonick (Bury).

Girls

1 J. Black, 2 J. Turner, 3 J. Evans, 4 C. Bladen (Bury), and 5 M. Gaul (Liverpool).

Congratulations to Preston's Ian Smith on his No. 9 Junior ranking and to Liverpool's Tony O'Connor, who has been placed No. 4 in the Cadet list. Young Tony did well to win the Cadet event in the Cleveland Junior Open with final victory over Graham Sandley (Middx) who is nationally ranked at No. 2.

Lancashire's Junior North match at home to Cheshire will take place at Briarcroft Youth Centre, Atherton, at 2.30 p.m. on Saturday, October 11. Team:—Ian Smith, Stephen Cowley, Clive Strettle, Julie Black and Julie Turner.

Away to Essex in the senior Premier division, Red Rose colours will be carried by Donald Parker, Phil Bowen, Nigel Hallows and Brenda Williams, the latter taking over from Barbara Kirkman. The match will be played at Maldon Youth Centre.

CANCELLATIONS

The Durham County 1-Star, scheduled for November 16th, and the Merseyside 2-Star Open, listed for November 21-22 have been cancelled.



Former European champion, Hans Alser, receiving a cheque on behalf of the Swedish men's team in Quebec.

Canadian titles to OK and Bengtsson

by DOUG STEWART, of Australia

Stellan Bengtsson, of Sweden, and Kim Soon Ok, of South Korea, were the winners of the singles titles at the 1975 Canadian Open played in Quebec from May 29—June 1. Defeated finalists were team-mates of the winners and were the winners of the U.S. Open titles, namely Kjell Johansson and Chung Hyun Sook.

England sent Nicky Jarvis and Desmond Douglas, who reached the semi-finals of the team events, losing 0-3 to Yugoslavia's Anton Stipanovic and Dragutin Surbek. Jarvis had a good match (4 games) with Bengtsson in the individuals, and Douglas went down in three to Johansson.

Jill Hammersley lost a good match to Sook in a semi-final but Nicky and Jill took the mixed doubles title. Even though some of the top players did not appear in the mixed, this was a good result over Ferenc Timar, of Hungary, and Marianne Domonkos, of Canada, in the final. They had previously beaten Istvan Jonyer and Christine Forgo (Canada) in a semi.

Kim Soon Ok won her final by the narrowest possible of margins, against an opponent who must be used to losing deuce in the 5th (Chung Hyun Sook also lost 21-23 in the 5th to the eventual winner in this year's world championships).

Jonyer again failed to live up to his world No. 1 rating with losses to Bengtsson in the team events and to South Korea's Choi Sun Kuk in the individuals.

The men's doubles final brought together the 1973 world champions, Bengtsson and Johansson, and the 1975 world runners-up, Stipanovic and Surbek, with the Yugoslavs winning at 21-18 in the fifth. Results:—

Men's Team—Semi-finals

Sweden bt Hungary 3-0 (Johansson bt Timar -18, 19, 9; Bengtsson bt Jonyer 15, 11; Bengtsson/Johansson bt Jonyer/Timar 19, 15).

Yugoslavia bt England 3-0 (Stipanovic bt Jarvis 11, 13; Surbek bt Douglas 18, 16; Stipanovic/Surbek bt Douglas/Jarvis 11, 10).

Final

Sweden bt Yugoslavia 3-1 (Stipanovic bt Bengtsson 16, 15; Johansson bt Surbek 9, 19; Bengtsson/Johansson bt Stipanovic/Surbek 11, -25, 20; Bengtsson bt Surbek 12, 14).

Women's Team Final

South Korea bt Sweden 3-0 (Chung Hyun Sook bt A.-C. Hellman 13, 5; Kim Soon Ok bt E. Strömvall 14, 19; Sook/Ok bt Hellman/Strömvall 10, 11).

Men's Singles—Quarter-finals

Choi Sun Kuk (S. Korea) bt Jonyer 18, 16, 12.

Bengtsson bt Jarvis -14, 9, 18, 13.

Johansson bt F. Timer (Hu) 12, 19, 14.

U. Thorsell (Swe) bt Surbek 19, -14, 13, 22.

Semi-finals

Bengtsson bt Choi Sun Kuk 16, -14, 18, 12.

Johansson bt Thorsell -18, 16, 5, 19.

Final

BENGTSSON bt Johansson 11, 14, -19, 22.

Women's Singles—Final

KIM SOON OK bt Chung Hyun Sook -19, -17, 19, 18, 21.

Men's Doubles—Final

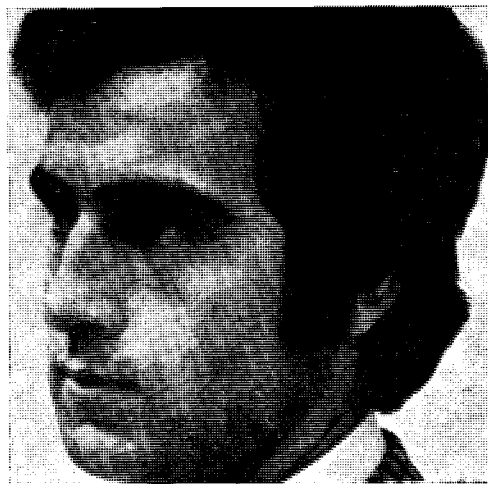
STIPANOVIC/SURBEK bt Bengtsson/Johansson 14, 20, -20, -21, 18.

Women's Doubles—Final

KIM SOON OK/SUNG NAK SO (S. Korea) bt I. Cordas (Canada)/Hammersley 9, 17, 15.

Mixed Doubles—Final

JARVIS/HAMMERSLEY bt Timar/Domonkos 10, 19, 6.



Rudolf Jurcik, Hotel Director of the Quebec Hilton, who wants to run an invitation tournament in December for the 10 best players with a first prize of 10,000 Canadian dollars!

Photos by Tommy Andersson, Lund, Sweden.

Belief Dispelled

by ALBERT W. SHIPLEY,
E.T.T.A. Administrative Secretary

An interesting document has just come to light from the E.T.T.A. archives, it being a printer's proof of the Handbook for The Table Tennis Association for the season 1901-2, which seems to dispel the widely-held belief that in 1902 it was known as the Ping Pong Association.

In a foreword to the Handbook, reference is made to a meeting held on the 12th December, 1901, at which The Table Tennis Association was formally instituted. Reference is also made to a catalogue of a sports goods manufacturer in 1886 advertising materials for the game of "Table Tennis". The foreword goes on:—

"On the introduction of celluloid balls, first coloured, then white, and of parchment-covered rackets, the game took a new lease of life. The noise made by the stroke and bounce of the ball soon secured for the game the name of "Ping Pong".

A smart trading firm, foreseeing the possibilities before it, registered the title, and in September, 1900, at least one club using the new name received a solicitor's letter cautioning them against the use of the title except under certain conditions which need not be here entered into."

The "smart trading firm" is still with us today as John Jaques and Son Ltd.

Page four of the Handbook proof lists 39 affiliated clubs, the vast majority of them in London, but including Coventry, Kenilworth, Lowestoft and Loughborough.

The Constitution also contains some interesting facts. Associations (Leagues?), were allowed to send numbers of representatives to the Annual General Meeting according to the number of clubs in membership on the following scale:—

- (a) 5 to 24 clubs—2 representatives.
- (b) 25 to 40 clubs—4 representatives.
- (c) Over 40 clubs—6 representatives.
- (d) Directly Affiliated Clubs—2 representatives.

The scale of affiliation fees was aligned to these degrees of representation as follows:—

- (a) 10s. 6d.; (b) 21s.; (c) 31s. 6d.; (d) 5s.

If these fees of 1901 had been scaled up over the years to present-day values, the E.T.T.A. Treasurer's Report would have been a joy to give and not one of concern over the future of the Association.

The Handbook also contains the laws of the game and, as to be expected, the wording is a little quaint, but most of today's basic laws are there, even to the extent of a section entitled, "Knotty Points", an expression which is still in use seventy years later.

In 1977, the English Table Tennis Association is fifty years old and, amongst the items to mark this occasion, it is intended to publish a souvenir book which is almost certain to contain references to the development of the game prior to 1927, and, if any reader has any item which can shed some light on the origins of our game, we should be pleased to hear from him. Even the period from 1927-1935 is sparsely documented in our archives, mainly due to the loss of all papers by enemy action during the last war. Those early years of the E.T.T.A. are still just within living memory and it is hoped that contact can be made with all those who were involved in the administration of the game at this time. How about it, old-timers?

THE ASCOT/BUTTERFLY NATIONAL LEAGUES CHAMPIONSHIPS

Ormesby equal Manchester record
by Keith Ponting

Another season of Team Competitions was successfully concluded on Sunday, June 8, when the Finals of the Ascot/Butterfly National Leagues' Championships were held at the Sports Centre, Belper, Derbyshire. This really is a superb venue and the people who live in the area are most fortunate in having such facilities available to them.

The two Senior events, the Wilmott Cup for men, and the Rose Bowl for women, were a triumph for the Ormesby League, who equalled the record set by Manchester way back in the 1948/49 season.

In the Wilmott Cup Ormesby were challenged by North Middlesex, who had a great start when Richard Aldrich scored a fine win over Jimmy Walker. Denis Neale quickly pulled one back but Mark Mitchell (what a fine sporting player this lad is) got the better of David Alderson. Neale again levelled the scores by beating Aldrich and Walker found his form to beat Mitchell in three games to put the Yorkshire side into the lead for the first time in the match. Further wins by Neale and Alderson made sure of the trophy for Ormesby.

The Rose Bowl final between Ormesby and Guildford was a real nail-biter, with the result in doubt until the final set. The lead changed hands several times and with the scores level at 3-3 came the clash of the number 1's in Linda Howard for Guildford, and Carole Knight for Ormesby. These two highly-ranked players gave a superb exhibition of table tennis and one felt sorry that one of them had to end up the loser. Miss Knight won the first game at 16, but then Miss Howard fought and just got home in the second 23-21. Both girls used their skill to the utmost in the final game and after the lead went one way and the other, Miss Knight came out on top 22-20 to give the Yorkshire team a 4-3 lead. Susan Henderson won against Barbara Kearney but Angela Tierney won in straight games against Ruth Miles. This was the closest Rose Bowl final for many years and whilst heartily congratulating Ormesby on their success, which was richly deserved, our thoughts must go to Guildford, whose team of local girls have reached numerous semi-finals and who just failed at their first attempt at the final hurdle.

JUNIORS

The morning session began with the two Junior Finals. In the Carter Cup North Middlesex took on Leicester and quickly went into a 2-0 lead with wins by Mark Mitchell and David Iszatt over Grahame Hall and Philip Smith. Chris Rogers had the better of Colin Williams but David and Mark continued their winning way and although Philip and Chris won one more set each the Londoners ran out comfortable winners by 5-3. Alan Shepherd is always full of praise for his youngsters and there can be no doubt that they are a fine team, but full marks to the Leicester lads who fought all the way, and I was particularly impressed by the play of Chris Rogers.

The Bromfield Trophy final brought together Bournemouth and North Acton and the youngsters certainly gave full value in a thrilling match. After Susan Dove gave the Londoners an early lead, Bournemouth had the better of things and seemed to be heading for victory when they lead 4-3. The next set was vital for Bournemouth and Janet New knew that if she won the trophy was theirs. Susan Dove, however, had other ideas and played with tremendous courage. She won the first game, lost the second and seemed to be all-in as Janet built up a big lead in the final game. Everyone loves a fighter and Susan did

herself and her league proud by the way she fought back into the game and eventually won 22-20. Marilyn Sangster won the 9th set to take the trophy to London. Julie Reading was outstanding for Bournemouth and Jill Campion for North Acton and Sarah Gilson for Bournemouth also played well in a fine match which was a great credit to all the players.

The presentations were made by E.T.T.A. President, Maurice Goldstein, and representatives of the Ascot Sports Company, and afterwards a reception was held for players and officials, to end a most successful day.

Tony Chatwin, from Derby, did a first class job as the Referee and many congratulations to him and his team of Umpires from Warwickshire and London.

MIDLAND NOTES

by Richard Habgood

Despite fears that the League would suffer drastically this year with severe cutbacks by members, due to economic circumstances, when the final tally was made the net result was a drop of only one team for the forthcoming season.

The most pleasing thing about the new season is that we were able to find two new members—the Potteries League and the Lichfield League—Potteries having been members before and it is always good to see old friends again, but Lichfield have entered for the first time. It is good to see a new League venturing out as it were; let us all wish them well for the new season.

If you are looking for predictions this season—forget it. I was proved wrong so many times last season that I've learnt my lesson. All I will say is, and it is something that I've said before, will you please remember to fill in christian names on the score sheets—it certainly makes my task simpler when compiling these notes.

By the time the next issue of these notes appear most of you will have had two matches under your belts so good luck to you all and may the best team win.

STOP PRESS

European League

ENGLAND v DENMARK

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NORTHUMBERLAND NOTES

by Pauline Jackson

SUMMER LEAGUE CHAMPS

The Tyneside Summer T.T. League have just completed yet another very successful season, and the winners and runners-up of the four divisions were:—

Div. 1—North Shields B.C. and National Carriers.

Div. 2—Delaval C.C. "A" and Arden House.

Div. 3—Postal Clerks and Byker C.C. "B".

Div. 4—Watson Norie and Byker C.C. "C".

The Knock-out Cup, run on a handicap basis, was won by Delaval C.C. "A", who beat Wills S.R.C. in the final. Thanks are again due to Aubrey Drapkin, who organised the League and Cup competitions with his usual efficiency, and was rewarded by his own club, Delaval C.C. taking both the Div. 2 title and the K.O. Cup.

With the Northumberland League season scheduled to have started on September 22, great interest is centred on the newly-revived Premier Division, which was last operated during the 1963-64 season. This has also had the effect of adjusting the level of the new Div. 1, Div. 2A and Div. 2B, so an interesting season appears to be in store.

All Northumberland County Senior and Junior teams will take part in the County fixtures and Cup games as in previous seasons, which means that the second team has not after all been withdrawn as was threatened earlier, but has been given a reprieve in the hope that last season's performances will improve.

Teams will therefore participate in the 2nd Division North, Northern Division and Junior Division North, with entries in the Wilmott Cup, J.M. Rose Bowl and Carter Cup.

STOP PRESS.—I have just received the first Junior ranking lists of the new season issued by the National Selection Committee, and Northumberland players and officials will be delighted to learn that Andrew Clark has been included in the boys' list at No. 15. Hearty congratulations go to Andrew on this achievement, which was based on his results obtained at assessment camps during the summer, and in the Junior Select tournament held at Harlow early in September.

CHANGES OF ADDRESS

Laurie Landry, Hon. Sec. of the International Table Tennis Club of England, is now living at Flat One, 29 Ravenshaw Street, London, NW6 1NP. (Phone: 01-794 6753).

Bill and Ivy Evans now reside at 14 Beechwood Road, West Moors, Dorset. (Phone: Ferndown 77869) Bill being the Hon. Sec. of the Swaythling Club.

Brian and Mary Wright have moved to "Thana", Orchard Drive, Ashted, Surrey. (Phone: Ashted 76969).



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HEAVEN SENT THANKS TO COR

by IVOR MONTAGU

You have been kind enough to say that I may trespass on the hospitality of our magazine's pages to discharge a moral debt I owe to our old friend and one-time Netherlands T.T. International, COR DU BUY, presently the genial supplier to the international market of A1 table tennis equipment.

This debt—of ancient standing—came about in the following way. Years ago—it seems now—Mr. Tremayne wrote me from the E.T.T.A. office, asking if I would undertake the Table Tennis entries in a great work, "The Oxford Companion to Sports and Games", in preparation by the Oxford University Press.

The reason for this election I do not know. The O.U.P. explained to me that what was wanted was (a) a description of the game (rather than a precis of the rules); (b) a history, from its origins, not centred on Britain particularly, but covering the areas of the globe where it was chiefly played; (c) alphabetically arranged entries of those most outstandingly associated with it during its history and development (i.e., including originators of styles and strokes and organisation, as well as champion players—NOT just the leading players of the day or of our own country such as one would find in an annual). With this mandate I suppose it was thought proper to call on our oldest inhabitants. Of course, all had to be compressed into the least possible number of words.

It so happened that just about the time this giant problem arose, I received a copy of Cor Du Buy's catalogue—which had (maybe still has?) a wizard diagram exactly and clearly portraying the difference between sandwich and reverse rackets, a gift from heaven, enabling me, if I employed the principle, to save plenty of space in attempting definition. I asked Cor's permission to copy it, he naturally enough asked for an acknowledgement; back came O.U.P.'s answer—they would have no space to credit the source of illustrations. I suggested to Cor then that, instead of one in the book, which despite its hoped-for permanence and omnipresence in libraries,

would probably be put out of court by price (£8.50) from reaching the ken of most T.T. players, I should, when the time came, either by advert., or, if the editor would allow it, a letter, write the appropriate acknowledgement, plus thanks, in our magazine where all our players would see it.

So, here we are. Thanks, Cor, very much. Your originals were damn good diagrams, highly ingenious and, indeed, clearer in execution than those eventually appearing in my "Companion".

I add, too, apology (though it is not my fault) for the passage of the year since my contribution was written and the promise was made. The lapsed time may be judged from the fact that the most recent T.T. player whose mini-biography made it was Stellan Bengtsson (Victor, Johnny Leach and Ron Crayden all advised me on this choice) which, incidentally, was not wrong, I think, as historically the first Westerner to break the Far East monopoly, but one which we would not have expressed in the phrase "undoubtedly the strongest player today", or something like it, not quite, now in 1975.

How is it, then, that I have had to wait so long to make myself (by your courtesy) an honest man again toward Cor? The "Times" records of the volume that "comprising 1,143 pages from 100 contributors, over 5,000 alphabetic entries, details of more than 200 active world-wide sports and games and spiced with 400 action photographs, there is a year or two of absorbing reading from cover to cover." Do not let us blame its editor, John Arlott. Anyone who has attempted to herd his flock of table tennis players as a team match in time will know that, however few and well-intentioned the assemblage, there are always goats that stray among the well-conducted sheep. However punctual and punctilious your representative in this case and, also at least some other of his co-contributors, it cannot have been easy to get so many participating kittle-kattle to the finishing line before the hairs of the rest grew grey.

To conclude—modesty does not forbid since it does not mention the T.T. entries and, besides, I don't get royalties—with another quotation from the "Times" review: "Even Solomon in all his glory might have learned something new from these pages . . . We do not take a trip, a trip takes us . . . We are taken from A to Z and made to feel humble

by our ignorance. An encyclopedia of reference and a volume of reading for pleasure was the aim. It has reached its goal". I am perfectly well aware that my selection of individuals named (not, of course, made without consultation, though I will blame no one else) is there simply to be torn by the vultures. After all, is not tearing to pieces our bits of "all-time bests" at any sport, itself the greatest sport of all? But I hope that if any reader of this magazine should ever frequent a library and notice this majestic compilation (possibly through someone else dropping it on his toe), he will acquit me, at least in respect to the "description" and "history" articles, of having let our own side down amidst the august company.

Again, thank you, COR DU BUY.

Hangover Tournament

SEDGEFIELD 2-STAR OPEN

by Alan Ransome

A good performance by Peter Taylor to beat David Alderson, John Hilton and Jimmy Walker, saw the Bedfordshire player take the men's singles title at Newton Aycliffe on May 31. The counterpart women's event proved a one-horse race with Carole Knight taking the title with a final win over Julie McLean.

Nigel Hallows was a good winner of the B.S. title with a final convincing game win over Michael Harrison, who had two close calls when opposed by Kevin Calden and Kevin Beadsley. Angela Tierney won the G.S. with Julie McLean again a loser. Results:—

Men's Singles—Quarter-finals

J. Walker (Cleve) bt I. Smith (Lancs) 10, 15.
N. Hallows (Lancs) bt N. Eckersley (Ches) 21, -13, 18.

J. Hilton (Ches) bt P. Bowen (Lancs) 15, 11.
P. Taylor (Beds) bt D. Alderson (Cleve) -12, 12, 13.

Semi-finals

Walker bt Hallows 19, 20.
Taylor bt Hilton 20, 17.

Final

TAYLOR bt Walker 15, -17, 14.

Women's Singles—Quarter-finals

C. Knight (Cleve) bt S. Dove (Middx) 19, 12.
J. Skipp (Cleve) bt B. Kearney (Nthld) -12, 18, 9.

A. Tierney (Cleve) bt J. Walker (Yorks) -18, 20, 24.

J. McLean (Yorks) bt J. Hellaby (Essex) 20, 19.

Semi-finals

Knight bt Tierney 10, 11.
McLean bt Skipp 8, 12.

Final

KNIGHT bt McLean 19, 10.

Boys' Singles—Quarter-finals

Hallows bt A. Clark (Nthld) -19, 11, 11.
B. Baxter (Yorks) bt R. Brown (Scot) 14, 21.
I. Smith (Lancs) bt I. Collins (Kent) 19, 14.
M. Harrison (Yorks) bt K. Beadsley (Yorks) -18, 12, 19.

Semi-finals

Hallows bt Baxter 15, -16, 10.
Harrison bt Smith 17, 16.

Final

HALLOWS bt Harrison 17, -11, 7.

Girls' Singles—Semi-finals

Tierney bt N. Carne (Cleve) 12, 12.
McLean bt Dove 17, 13.

Final

TIERNEY bt McLean 9, 7.

Mixed Doubles—Final

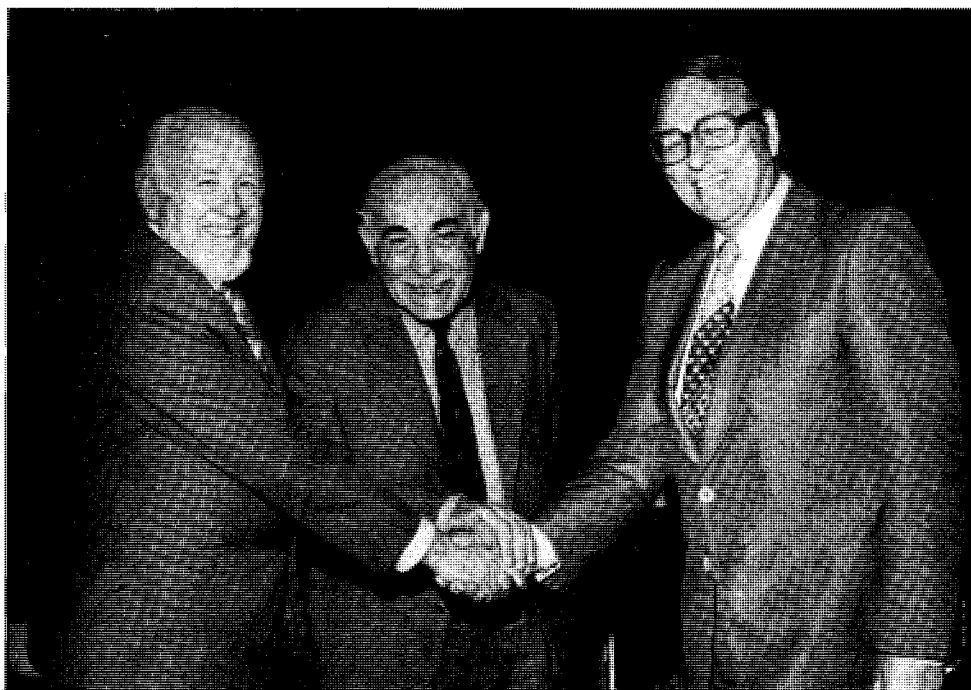
ALDERSON/WALKER bt Hallows/Smith 13, 15.

Women's Doubles—Final

KNIGHT/TIERNEY bt B. Murtagh/C. Waite (Dur) 14, 15.

Mixed Doubles—Final

WALKER/KNIGHT bt Hilton/Hellaby -15, 22, 15.



Cor Du Buy (right) shakes hands with E.T.T.A. Chairman, Charles M. Wyles, at the National Under-13 Championships, sponsored by Cor Du Buy/Alfred Reader, in Reading last May. Maurice Goldstein, the E.T.T.A. President (centre) completes the pyramid of hands.

CONTROVERSY

JOHN WOODFORD

Deputy Table Tennis Correspondent
'The Daily Telegraph'

starts the season with a local league
problem . . .

"Which points scoring system should we adopt?" is the question raised frequently at annual league meetings. It is also a controversial subject that seems to rage intermittently in the clubrooms from Teesside to Penzance.

I am no expert on the subject but I am sure there are many readers who have positive views which might help leagues who are experimenting this season, or who think a change might be a good thing.

Let's get a debate going in print that might help those old-fashioned leagues who still use the out-dated and archaic football system of two points for a win and one for a draw! From that statement you know which side of the house I am on.

Every system has its snags, or at least every system I have come across has drawbacks. It's a question of looking for the best one with the least snags.

It seems to me the biggest trap of all lies with the old system where, as you all know, to win 6 sets out of 10 sets means the two points are in the bag. This means that the remaining sets are of only academic interest, its anticlimax, the play often deteriorates, spare players adjourn to the bar.

Now that situation is, in my view, the one to be avoided most of all and therefore presents a mighty strong case for a change to one of the several new systems. At a recent league meeting I heard the case against the football scoring put so well that I wish I had recorded the delegate's speech. One of the main points was that the football system was designed for football, a team game of eleven men against eleven. This bears no relation at all to three table tennis players playing another three.

Another example is league snooker, one of table tennis's greatest rivals on winter evenings. There, each time a player beats his man he gets a point—identical to one of the new ideas in table tennis where a point is scored every time a set is won—ten points a match, if you lose 6-4 you get four points. Now, what is fairer than that? How often have you felt robbed as your team loses 6-4 with two sets won on net-cords or edge-balls and you lose out? Much better if you leave the hall with four points!

The other systems involve such schemes as 4 points for a 10-0 win, 3 points for 9-1 and 8-2, etc. Many leagues use this form of scoring and I believe, very successfully.

One of the main arguments in favour of the football point tally is that you can carry a lesser player and still gain full points, so teams will be less inclined to field reserves because he cannot be sheltered by two giants. It's a valid point, no doubt, but I believe that to provide a direct incentive each time a player goes on court and so keep the match alive to the end is the best way of approaching the problem.

Anyone is welcome to write to us on this subject; please keep it reasonably brief so that the Editor has room to print a selection of the letters. Here's a direct challenge to an expert on the subject—Ken Beeching is the Mastermind in the Hastings & District T.T.A. when it comes to league records. Hastings is a league that is far better organised than most, but they still have the football scoring scheme for their league matches—who better then to start the ball rolling with the conservative argument than Ken Beeching?



VAN ALLAN ARE BACKING BRITAIN

VAN ALLAN, the giant Retail Fashion Chain who have shops in London and throughout the United Kingdom, are backing Britain and putting their money where their mouth is—they are sponsoring two lovely young ladies who play first-class Table Tennis for England.

Melody Ludi is only sixteen years old and is ranked No. 1 Junior Girl in England. Melody comes from Bradford, Yorkshire.

Suzanne Hunt is only fifteen years old and is the English Junior Championship holder. Suzanne comes from Grantham, Lincolnshire.

How have Van Allan helped these young ladies to "battle for England"?

To help them look the part both here and abroad, Van Allan have given them each travelling wear, which consists of a smashing tee shirt and trousers, together with super printed shirt dresses for leisure times. But to really assist them in the actual game of Table Tennis, Van Allan paid all expenses to send Melody and Suzanne to Frankfurt for special training by a leading exponent of the Table Tennis game—Mr. Nishimura, Director of the Table Tennis Section of the Fuji University in Tokyo, Japan. Melody and Suzanne left for Frankfurt on the 21st August, 1975, to begin their training at the "Sporthalle em Zehnberg" in Erlenbach (near Frankfurt, Germany).

ON TOP OF THE WORLD—and why not? Two young ladies with the opportunity of a lifetime.

From left to right: Melody (ranked No. 1 Junior Table Tennis Girl in England) wears a jersey shirt dress, beautifully printed with random flowers.

FROM ALL VAN ALLAN SHOPS in sizes 10 — 16 at £9.95. Melody chose her dress in green, but there are also blue and grey/beige shades.

Suzanne (English Table Tennis Junior Championship holder) wears a pretty shirt dress with contrasting collar and cuffs and wide, elasticated belt.

FROM ALL VAN ALLAN SHOPS in sizes 10 — 16 at £9.95. The dress is made of Polyester/Viscose and the collar and cuffs in brushed cotton.

Suzanne chose a green dress splashed with black and trimmed in cream but you can also get this dress in black and Airforce blue.

For further details please contact:

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COUNTY NOTES SUPPLEMENT

THE CAMBRIDGESHIRE SCENE



by Leslie Constable

OPPOSITION STRONGER

Last year's re-organisation of County boundaries has almost certainly cost the Cambridgeshire senior team a place in the Premier Division of the County Championships this season. The formation of Cleveland, which included many former Yorkshire stars, forced Cambs into third place in last season's promotion challenge matches and so the County will again be competing in Division II East.

Although they were last season's champions in the second division, the opposition this season appears to be much stronger. After one season in the Premier Division, Bedfordshire are back again, as are Buckinghamshire, who did not compete last season. These two teams should strengthen the division and, with the addition of Berkshire and Hertfordshire, Cambs will really be put to the test to retain their title. The team will again be led by Paul Day, now ranked No. 5 in England, with Mick Harper and Keith Richardson giving valuable support. The women's places will probably go to Sally Hirst and Valerie Scripps, with Ruth Newman in reserve.

The second senior team, who have not won a match since January, 1972, will be all out to end this appalling record. They will compete in Division III East, which will only be changed by the addition of relegated Suffolk, who replace Hertfordshire II, who are transferred to Division III South. Some of last season's successful junior second team will be challenging for places in the senior team this year. Tony Holmes and Geoff Davies both reached the semi-final of the Men's Singles at the Closed Championships last season and also did well in their one County appearance at senior level, so look likely candidates for a regular place.

Cambridgeshire juniors are in the happy position of having all last season's first team available again and, for the first time since they gained promotion to the Premier Division, should not have the fear of relegation hanging over their heads. Day, who is now virtually unbeatable at junior level, should get plenty of support from the rest of the team. Richardson, like Day, will be playing his fourth season in the Premier Division and should improve on his previous best performance of seven wins in a season. Geoff Davies, of Wisbech, who won three of his eight singles last season when brought into the team at the half-way stage, should give the County excellent support in the No. 3 position, something that they have not previously had. Ruth Newman and Susan Ellis gave the best-ever performances from the girls last season, with eight wins between them, and a repeat performance this

season would lift the County to a healthy position in the League.

The junior second team have lost more than half their squad this season as Holmes, Mike Crowson and Derek Kiddle are all over age, so that last season's successful team will have to be rebuilt. Likely candidates appear to be Terry Ward, Andrew Hubble and Stuart Calvert, all of Wisbech, and Andy Withers, of Haverhill. Fortunately, last season's girls, Vivienne Rowell and Pat Tingey, are still available, together with up-and-coming Joanne Palmer, of Soham. This team, which will play in the newly-formed Junior II Midland Division, will encounter strong opposition from the first teams of Glamorgan, Hertfordshire, Leicestershire and Warwickshire. This will indeed be a testing time for them, although our juniors now appear to be in a higher class than of previous years—thanks to the efforts of Ian Marshall, of Wisbech, and Gerald Cote-man and Pat O'Bryne, of Cambridge.

There will be 96 teams competing in the Cambs League this season, with eight divisions. Once again Tony Brotchie is League Secretary, after having a very successful season last year. Soham I, who were last season's champions, will be all out to retain their title, but may find the going a bit harder with such teams as New Chesterton Institute and Y.M.C.A. Telephones I and Torchbearers I gained promotion from Division II and the former team, who had an excellent record last season, should do well in this higher sphere.

The following officials were elected at the A.G.M. of the Cambridge League:—

President—Bill Rogerson; Chairman—Geoff Waters; General Secretary—Leslie Constable; League Secretary and Treasurer—Tony Brotchie; Match Secretary—Bob Pettitt; Coaching Secretary—Pat O'Bryne; Vice-Chairman—F. W. Pettitt.

The Cambridge League will be entering all the National competitions, also teams in the South East Midlands League and the East Anglian League.

The final of the Summer League play-off was won by Haverhill I, who beat Torchbearers I. The other semi-finalists were Impington I and Impington II.

As I reported in the June issue of last season's magazine, Margaret Cornwall has retired as Cambs County Secretary, after 23 years' service. A cheque was presented to her from the various affiliated leagues at a special meeting, when warm thanks were extended to her for the excellent way in which she had served the County. She will not, however, be lost to the County completely, as she will be acting as Treasurer and also will run the Closed Tournament. The County were fortunate in obtaining a new Secretary, Ruth Puddick, who has had considerable experience in the table tennis world and also works in a bank! Her husband, Keith, is a notable player for University Press in the Cambs League.

At the present time the Cambridge League teams who participate in the South East Midlands League and other competitions are undergoing a very lean time, which is a sad fact bearing in mind that Cambridge was once the centre of the County's table tennis scene. As Cambridge rank a very poor third behind Ely and Wisbech, coaching sessions are being held every Saturday afternoon at Cambridge Y.M.C.A. under Pat O'Bryne and David Jarvis, in a bid to find new talent to restore some of Cambridge's former glories.

Keith Rudland, of Wisbech, has been appointed the new County Chairman in place of Peter Silk, who has resigned.

CLEVELAND VIEW

by Alan Ransome

"THUMBS UP"

Thanks to a grant from the Cleveland County Council and the membership giving "thumbs up" to a fee increase to 30 p per team place, the County can undertake a full and progressive programme for the new season.

With both the Junior and Senior County teams winning promotion to the Premier Division last season, Cleveland are able to enter 3 senior and 3 junior teams in the County Championships. Our aims are to win the Senior Premier, avoid relegation in the Junior Premier and give our young players as much County experience as possible in the lower teams.

The County coaching scheme is getting off the ground again with sessions running regularly in several areas of the County at least once a week and regular sessions organised in addition for the better players.

On the tournament front the County Council are again sponsoring the Cleveland 3-Star Open and the Cleveland Junior. We are hoping again to attract foreign participation to the 3-Star in January for which a record prize fund of £750, including £150 for the Men's Singles first prize, has been allocated.

A new innovation within the tournaments is the sponsored closed. Langbaugh District Council sponsored the Langbaugh Table Tennis Championships with a prize fund of £100. It is hoped by the County Committee that the other three district councils, Middlesbrough, Stockton and Hartlepool can be encouraged to promote similar ventures.

LANGBAUGH TABLE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS

Nicky Jarvis won the first Langbaugh Championships at Guisborough Sports Centre on Aug. 31, beating his Ormesby clubmate, Jimmy Walker, in the final of the Men's Singles.

Jarvis began the final tamely, allowing Walker to dominate the play with his quick hitting, losing the first game -9. The second was even in the early stages until Jarvis, improving the timing of his loop drive, pulled away to win at 14.

Walker took an early lead in the decider, but Jarvis levelled before the change and ran out a comfortable winner.

In the semi-final Jarvis beat Stephen Souter in two good games. Walker won his semi-final over three close games with Stockton's No. 1, Malcolm Corking, who produced an excellent performance.

Jarvis and Walker combined to win the M.D. event, beating Tony Martin and Carole Knight in the final.

Carole Knight won the Women's Singles comfortably beating Angela Tierney in the final.

The Boys' Singles was won by Ian Plummer who beat Stephen Roland in two close games in the final, while Angela Tierney was an easy winner in the Girls' Singles, beating 12-year-old Helen Robinson. Helen did well to reach the final, beating Norma Carne in the semis.

The main prizes were presented by Councillor Jack Morgan, Mayor of Langbaugh.

RESULTS

M.S. s-f's: N. Jarvis bt S. Souter 17, 16; J. Walker bt M. Corking 19, -18, 16.
Final: Jarvis bt Walker -9, 14, 10.
W.S. Final: C. Knight bt A. Tierney 15, 15.
Doubles Final: Jarvis/Walker bt Knight/A. Martin 19, 18.
B.S. Final: I. Plummer bt S. Rowland 20, 23.
G.S. Final: Tierney bt H. Robinson 17, 14.

LEICESTERSHIRE NOTES

by Phil Reid

"TOWN AND COUNTRY" PLANNING

Sponsorship has come to the aid of Leicestershire in the form of £100 from the Town and Country Building Society. Formerly the Hinckley and Country and Luton Building Societies, the "Town and Country" has its headquarters in Hinckley with branches in Leicester, Loughborough, Melton Mowbray and Oakham.

All these towns, with the exception of Oakham, have flourishing leagues and it is hoped

the advent of the "Town and Country" sponsorship will bring interest to the small market town which was formerly part of Rutland. £50 of the sponsorship is towards the costs of the County Closed Championships and the other half for running costs of the County 1st team. Thanks are due to both the "Town and Country Building Society" and to Ian McKelvey, who was our negotiator in this sponsorship.

The relegation of the Junior 1st team has meant the County will now only be fielding three teams instead of four, but with only Chris Rogers of our present crop of juniors up to Premier Division standard, this will give our juniors a chance to show their paces in the Junior (Midland) Division. Now that Brian Mayfield has moved home to Loughborough it seems likely daughter Karen will be playing for Leicestershire, if selected. Hopes are high that this team will do well and non-playing captain, Harry Ward, has been putting them through their paces throughout the summer.

The Senior team have recovered from their "Technical Knockout" last season against Derbyshire (incidentally incorrectly reported by Derek Oldman in last season's "T.T. News" and who wasn't present anyway) and are hopeful of finishing first, at the same time appreciating it will be far from easy to gain this spot. There are no new names here but the availability of Anita Stevenson and Karen Rogers—who were occasionally on International duty last term—could make a difference.

In the Midland League the big news is that Paul Randell has transferred his allegiance to Hinckley. This will be a big blow to Leicester, but since he plays for Barwell—virtually on Hinckley's doorstep—and many of his friends live there, it will not be too great a shock. It will, however, give Grahame Hall the opportunity to play in the first division of the Midland League and he has told me he is determined to take full advantage of this opportunity.

At the County A.G.M. there were no new officers but thirteen Hon. Life Members were appointed—Reg Billson, John Burraston, Cyril Frith, John Grimley, John Iliffe, Charlie Jacques, Ernest McLeish, Barry Randell, Philip Reid, Jose Rogers, David Sugden, Gwynne Thomas and Colin Truman.

HUNTINGDONSHIRE NOTES

by David Deller

PLANS PASSED

I am pleased to start these notes for the new season from a local angle, with the news that the St. Neots Club have had their plans for a purpose-built table tennis building passed. The building, in which it is hoped to house 8 tables, could be in use by the early part of next year. A rich reward for the hard-working committee who had the foresight to see the need for such premises within the area.

Belated congratulations to Peterborough's Jean Allinson, who put up a super performance at the South East Midland tournament, taking the junior girls' title. In the final she overpowered another local girl, Belinda Chamberlain (St. Neots) in straight games. This was Jean's last tournament as a junior but she will undoubtedly be a great asset to the senior ranks.

On that same day another of our girls, 11-years-old Melanie Ringrose, from St. Ives, took the Under-13 title for this region, later to finish 11th in the National Championships at Reading.

In June, Barry Norman (St. Ives), a player who plays locally in Div. 3 of the Central League with more than a little success, despite being confined to a wheelchair, was victorious in the Pairs Competition at the National Games played at Stoke Mandeville. Barry also figured in the singles where he reached the semi-finals.

Steven Fisher, also from the St. Ives club, won the Eastern Region section of the N.A.Y.C. Competition, so earning a place in the national

finals at Nottingham.

A Festival of Sport was held during the first week of September at the Elm Sports Centre at St. Ives. Table tennis figured prominently throughout the week under the generous sponsorship of Jack L. Baldry Ltd., of Cambridge. Chester Barnes and Trevor Taylor re-visited the town to give another first-class exhibition on the Friday evening.

Also on that same evening the final stages of the St. Ives invitation tournament were played. This had brought some fine play throughout the week from 16 players invited from the region. Richard Jermyn (Nth Herts) proved a worthy winner, beating Mick Harper in the final. Results:—

Quarter-finals:

R. Jermyn bt D. Rawlinson (Beds) 10, 18.
G. Davies (Cambs) bt M. Palmer (Hunts) 13, -16, 19.
M. Harper (Cambs) bt T. Speller (Hunts) 15, -15, 14.
K. Richardson (Cambs) bt J. Palmer (Nthts) 15, 26.

Semi-Finals:

Jermyn bt Richardson 15, 16; Harper bt Davies 17, 19.

Final: Jermyn bt Harper 13, 8.

The County will again be running three teams in the County Championships. The Seniors, Juniors and Veterans will undoubtedly be out to improve on last season's final placings. The first of this season's "Opens", the Essex Junior "Select", brought little in the way of success, with Melanie Ringrose the only player to reach as far as the semis stage.

STAFFORDSHIRE NOTES

by Jack Chalkley

RESHUFFLE ACCEPTED

Firstly, may I offer my apologies to readers of these notes for the lack of contributions to the April and May issues last season. My fault entirely, but I hope there will be no interruptions this year.

Congratulations to Wolverhampton "A", winners of the 1st Division of the Staffs. County League, with an unbeaten record, and to Stafford "A" and Stone "A" for gaining promotion to the top division. Their appearance will add interest and broaden involvement from the County in the premier competition. All divisional winners were unbeaten, Stone "B" performing very creditably in Division 3 whilst Leek completed a successful first season in the league by finishing clear winners of Division 4.

Final positions for the 1974-75 season were:

Division 1—Wolverhampton "A" 12 points, Potteries "A" 10, West Bromwich 6, Walsall "A" 6, Potteries "B" 4, Wolverhampton "B" 2, Potteries "C" 2.

Division 2—Stafford "A" 12 points, Stone "A" 10, Wolverhampton "D" 8, Cannock "A" 4, Wolverhampton "C" 4, Walsall "C" 2, Potteries Vets. 2.

Division 3—Stone "B" 14 points, Lichfield "A" 11, Cannock "B" and Walsall "C" 8, Darlaston "A" 7, Stafford "B" 6, Stone "C" 2, Lichfield "B" 0.

Division 4—Leek 15 points, Wolverhampton Vets. 13, Cannock "C" 12, Bridgnorth "A" 12, Stafford Vets. 8, Stone "D" 4, Lichfield "C" 3, Darlaston "B" 3, Bridgnorth "B" 2.

A further increase in entries to the League has prompted a change from 4 divisions to 5 and the resultant reshuffle appears to be generally acceptable. Wolverhampton, who would in any case have had three teams in the 2nd Division, have decided to withdraw one team, leaving the League with a total of 32.

At the County A.G.M. in June, the main talking point was? not unexpectedly—finance! Treasurer John Brittle reported a loss of £27 on the season and with no County Rebate this year, the meeting reluctantly agreed that affiliation fees would have to be raised from 25p to 40p per member league team. The playing season was generally successful with

the "A" team just missing the top position in their division of the County Championships by the narrow 6-4 defeat at Derby. Highlight of the season was the performance of Highfields and Etheridge School teams from Wolverhampton in the English National Schools' Championships, fully reported in the April issue last year.

Congratulations to Janet Carr for her "best performance" award. Many of us would not object to seeing her picture again brightening up the pages of "Table Tennis News". Editor, please note!

Other points from the A.G.M.—Wilf Hadley, the Stafford Coach, takes over the captaincy of the County junior side—a captain is still required for the "A" side—green/grey remains the colours of the County playing strip despite a wide variety of expressed opinions—shortage of County Umpires is still causing concern—retiring Officers and Officials were re-elected en bloc.

Main items on the Staffordshire calendar for 1975-76 are:—

Malcolm E. Scott Tournament—November 2, at Woodfield Club (closing date for entries—October 18).

Staffs. Closed—Mar. 7, 1976, at Northwood, S-on-T (Feb. 21).

County Championship dates—Nov. 1 and 29, Jan. 17 (A, B and Vets. teams only), Feb. 14, Mar. 13 and Apr. 3 (Vets. only).

County League dates—Oct. 25, Nov. 15, Dec. 13, Jan. 10, Feb. 7, Mar. 6 and 27.

Coaching at Lilleshall—Apr. 2/4 and Oct. 1/3, 1976.

Next A.G.M.—Sunday, June 27, 1976, 3-30 p.m. at Burton Manor, Stafford.

Finally, I would like to refer to the Malcolm Scott Memorial Award, presented annually for outstanding services to table tennis during the year. We all applaud the President's nomination of Mr. Tom Blunn, a worthy first winner of the silver salver which forms a memorial to the highly respected founder member of the Staffordshire Association. Our congratulations to you, Tom!

NEW GLOUCESTER GEN

by John Cooper

HAIL AND FAREWELL

Hello new Gloucestershire and goodbye to our "Bristol" friends with whom we hope to keep in contact.

Gloucestershire were 3rd in Junior Div. West and are therefore a bit surprised to be placed in Div. III! and sorry to see Somerset withdraw, presumably due to the introduction of Avon!

The new Gloucestershire cover the leagues of Cheltenham, Gloucester and Stroud, and this helped joint junior training sessions. These have been held during the summer at Chosen Hill School gyms, Churchdown, mainly with Peter Cruwys, plus yours truly looking after the up-and-coming young girls with help from Ray Phillips, Kathy Robb's dad and Roger Spry.

Cheltenham's Julie Mortimer gets her man and now becomes a Mrs. Cheltenham's summer league continues to be successful and Gloucester lads joined in and did well. A Cheltenham Colts Club has been formed.

In Gloucester, St. Mark's lads did well in the final stages of the Youth Club events and it is rumoured that D. Beaven is to join Gordon League.

Stroud have shown they have plenty of good young girls and are sorting out their teams, etc. (as we all are) for the coming season. Stroud are continuing their Saturday a.m. junior coaching and Stroud generally is likely to be strengthened by the import of John Wise from Bristol and a Mr. Spencer, an ex-Welsh No. 1.

Dave Foulser, Clive Little and Norman Preece can now sport Gold Award badges and the latter his Club Coach badge following a useful week at Lilleshall.

LINCOLNSHIRE NOTES

by Joan Robinson

NO PRAISE TOO HIGH

The new season brings several administration changes in the County, the most notable being the election of a new president due to the passing away of the father figure and a founder of Lincs. Table Tennis, Mr. Sidney Haigh. No praise is too high for the work put into the County by Mr. Haigh and his death creates a void that will be hard to fill.

The person unanimously elected as President is Mr. Alan J. Biggadike (Spalding), a man who has given many valuable hours and support to Lincs. Table Tennis. At the A.G.M. held at Lincoln during May, his first duty as President was to present the annual awards and trophies to the winners of the inter-town competitions, for last season. The Haigh Cup was won by Wyberton, Butlin Cup by Spalding and Boston won the Butcher Cup.

The resignation of the Match Secretary, Alan Birks, owing to other commitments, left another vacancy. No nominations were forthcoming for this position, which included that of Press Officer and a member of the Selection Committee. After discussion the General Secretary, Mrs. Joan Robinson, offered to undertake both positions and this was accepted by the Management Committee.

On the playing side the Association welcome a new League, "Stamford", into the fold. Everyone hopes they have an enjoyable and successful season with their players challenging for some of the honours.

The Haigh Cup (Men) has 9 Leagues entered, the Butlin (Women) has a disappointing figure of 5, and the Butcher Cup 11 Leagues.

Now that Cleveland have been promoted the County side have hopes that with a big all-round effort they could be challenging for the top place. The Junior Team should again be led by the English Closed Junior Champion, Suzanne Hunt (Grantham), and hope that some of last season's close defeats can be swung the other way.

WESTERN LEAGUE NOTES

by Grove Motlow

STILL IN COMMAND

The A.G.M. of the League was held in Bristol, and after I had given my 27th annual report, the President, Mr. John Ford, of Bristol, said they were speaking on behalf of all members when they mentioned how pleased they were to know that I intended to still carry on as Sec./Treasurer.

And that, although I had lost my right eye, steady progress was being maintained with my left eye that the specialists still hoped to save it, or at least a reasonable proportion of vision. They were both delighted at yet another successful season both from the standard of play and also its social aspects. There was keen rivalry but great friendship among all member teams, and long may this continue.

I would like to thank all secretaries for having given me such wonderful co-operation in helping me to continue in the dual role. We were all sorry to learn that Bristol men's team would have to withdraw, temporarily we hope, as with the case of Exeter men and women and Plymouth women's team.

Since the A.G.M. Salisbury have also withdrawn, as they have now lost the services of Chris Shetler and Terry Bruce. Bill Moulding, their very popular secretary, has failed to find suitable replacements, especially as West Wilts have renewed their lapsed membership. Swindon are also welcomed back into the fold.

The President, in presenting awards to Newbury in the men's section and Bournemouth's women, congratulated both on their achievements. The latter had remained unbeaten while Newbury had just pipped Salisbury by 2 points, losing once.

This season the men's division will comprise:—Bournemouth, Exmouth, Newbury, Newport, Plymouth, Poole, Swindon, Weston and West Wilts. Operating in the women's section will be:—Bournemouth, Devizes, Newbury "A" and "B", Newport, Salisbury and Swindon.

All I now hope is that each and every league within the organisation will have an enjoyable season. And just one reminder—would captains of the home side please write a short note on result sheets regarding matches. Thanks.

S.E. MIDLAND LEAGUE CHATTER

by Leslie Constable

In the report of the S.E.M. League Tournament in the June issue, it would seem that some errors were made. Firstly, the Men's Singles runner-up should have read "Roderick Marchant" and not "Rodney"; secondly, it was Ann Wallis who won the Women's Singles title and not sister Mandy. (Incidentally Ann was the youngest winner of this title at 17). Her opponent in the final was not Connie Baines but Daphne Baines. I apologise most sincerely to all concerned. In this Tournament the Team Event resulted in a very fine win for Wellingborough against strong opposition. Wellingborough are a vastly improved team and should do well in this season's competition.

There are now two Men's Divisions in the League and also two Junior Divisions. The Divisions are as follows:—

Men's Division I: Bedford, Milton Keynes, Dunstable, Ely, Hunts Central, Northampton "A", North Herts, Wellingborough.

Men's Division II: Cambridge, Daventry, Northampton "B", Peterborough, R.A.F., St. Neots, Wisbech.

Junior Division I: Bedford, Aylesbury, Peterborough, Ely, Hunts Central "A", Northampton, North Herts "A", Wellingborough.

Junior Division II: Cambridge, Hunts Central "B", North Herts "B", Milton Keynes, Kettering, St. Neots, Wisbech.

Altogether there are sixteen leagues in the composition, which includes Men, Women, Junior, Veterans and Reserve Divisions. The League appears to be going from strength to strength, with high quality table tennis.

At the A.G.M. of the League in May, the following officers were elected:—

Chairman—M. H. Webb; Vice-Chairman—D. W. Millman; Hon. Sec./Treasurer—H. Fox; Hon. Tournament Sec.—Mrs. M. Cornwall; Hon. Press Officer—L. R. J. Constable; Hon. Score Card Sec.—D. Rawlinson.

The Tournament Committee were re-elected, with the exception of K. J. Marchant, who wished to stand down. R. Harper, North Herts, was elected to replace Mr. Marchant.

A new rule proposal by North Herts was carried and reads as follows:—

"Any division having twelve or more entrants shall be formed into two divisions called Division 1 and Division 2, an even number of teams where possible; when the number is odd the greater number going into Division 1. New entrants to the League to be placed into Division 2. A two up and two down promotion and relegation system will operate. Leagues having a team in Division 1 may enter a second team into Division 2. Players in the second team may play in the Division 1 team twice only per season. When teams tie on points the team winning the highest number of matches will take the higher position. Should the matches be equal the team with the most draws will take the higher position. Should this be equal the team winning the most legs during the season will take the higher position. A league may not have two teams in the same Division."

Mr. M. H. Webb made a very fine offer of a divisional trophy. This was allocated to the Reserve Division and Mr. Webb was warmly

thanked for his generosity.

It is hoped to stage the Annual Tournaments at the new St. Neots Table Tennis Club, and the 1976 A.G.M. will be held at St. Neots.

FINAL LEAGUE TABLES — 30th June, 1975

(Leading positions)

MEN	P	W	D	L	Pts
Ely	14	14	0	0	122
Dunstable	14	11	2	1	107
Bedford	14	8	3	3	84
Bletchley	14	9	2	3	84
WOMEN	P	W	D	L	Pts
North Herts	8	7	1	0	65
Dunstable	7	6	1	0	55
Cambridge	8	4	0	4	48
Wellingborough	8	4	1	3	42
JUNIORS	P	W	D	L	Pts
North Herts	11	10	1	0	93
Ely	11	9	1	1	81
Aylesbury	11	7	1	3	76
Hunts Central	11	8	0	3	74
VETERANS	P	W	D	L	Pts
Northampton	10	8	0	2	82
Cambridge	10	10	0	0	81
St. Neots	10	8	0	2	72
RESERVES	P	W	D	L	Pts
North Herts	8	7	0	1	63
Northampton	8	6	1	1	60
Daventry	8	5	1	2	54

SHROPSHIRE NOTES

by Alan J. Cavell

FULLY INFORMED

Although the County Association is still without a Press Officer, the extensive minutes of County meetings prepared and circulated by the Association's secretary, Peter Parkhurst, ensure that all leagues are fully informed of the County Association's activities.

The three coaching rallies organised by the County coaching secretary, Paddy Jackson, during the summer, were very well supported. The standard of play of the juniors in the County is gradually rising and 18 boys and 6 girls will be invited to attend County junior trials.

Owing to the loss of suitable playing venues Telford has had to withdraw from the Midland League. The Shrewsbury Association, however, has entered an additional team.

In Telford, new committee member, M. C. F. Jones, has become Inter-League secretary in place of Trevor Felton, who takes over from me as coaching secretary. One of the side effects of the increase in coaching that took place last year is the entry of 5 teams from four schools to the Telford League. The coaches were very well supported by the teaching staff at the schools attended and Mrs. G. R. Charnley has been responsible for the entry of one team from the New College and two from the Grammar/High School.

Plans have been made for the three coaches, Trevor Felton, David Siddle and myself, to coach this year at the New College, and the Grammar/High, Orleton Park, Phoenix, Park Junior and St. Mary's Primary Schools. A Stiga Robot will also be available.

ESSEX NOTES

by Geoff Newman

PAT DUKES' RETURN

The new season gets under way with a bang in Essex and the calendar of events scheduled is sure to tax the committee to its utmost. The only change from last season's officials is the return of former National Councillor Pat Dukes, who replaces Lock Mair as Vice-Chairman.

First event of the season was the Junior Open, which included an international match on the Friday evening, when the Netherlands' Junior team were our guests. This gave the whole weekend a complete International flavour but despite the heavy work load on

the committee it was felt that overall the Open weekend was a great success.

The results of the International will no doubt appear on another page of this journal, but our thanks are due to a number of organisations that assisted us so nobly. The Brentwood District Council, who assisted in the staging of the England v Holland match, and the Simco Station Garage, Brentwood, who provided gifts for both teams and to Mid-Essex Transport Ltd., who entertained the Dutch team.

Although all our committee worked extremely hard over the period, which virtually took 4 days, I must mention Ted Pritchard, Alan Shepherd and Ron Gore, who all worked like slaves, both at the tournaments and in the preparations.

Nearly all our leagues report expansion in one form or another and players look to be well catered for in our neck of the woods. Our own magazine, "Scimitar", goes from strength to strength in a vital bid to keep everyone well informed, and not only in Essex. Finally, our congratulations to Ron Gore on being the recipient of the Corti Woodcock Award this year, and to Harry Walker, on being elected a Life Member of the E.T.T.A.

NORFOLK NOTES

by J. S. Penny

The Norfolk County Table Tennis Association's A.G.M. was a lengthy affair this time round. Worthy of note was that a Vice-Chairman was appointed for the first time. He was Jack Fuller, Chairman of Gt. Yarmouth League and father of the Norfolk County player, John. Also, a Management Committee consisting of one representative from each league in membership was instituted. One point which caused concern was the state of the County finances. The Balance Sheet at 31/5/75 showed cash at bank of only £35.12, one debtor for £1.80, and the only other asset Trophies (as valued) £337.15. So fund-raising will be a pressing problem for the coming season. Despite this necessity, it was decided to play three teams once again in the County Championships. Norfolk first team will be in Div. 2 East, and their second team in the Eastern Division, both as last season, but in the coming session our Juniors will no longer be in Junior East, but in the Midland division. This means that Glamorgan, Warwicks, Leicester, Cambridgeshire, Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire will provide the opposition.

Norfolk Juniors, it will be remembered, reached the challenge round for entry into the Junior Premier Division last season. In this they finished last, but the experience for our young team was valuable. They were all only 14 against the age limit of 17. During the close season Ranking and Assessment trials were held by Norfolk Junior Coach, Vic Bennett. He hopes to obtain matches for a new Under-14 team. When I asked him where the money was coming from, I was greeted with the splendid news that 12 Norwich Juniors had held a sponsored walk at May & Baker's sports ground, and had raised no less than £87 for County funds! Congratulations, Juniors! You have shown your seniors the way!

At Norwich League's A.G.M. the new "Harold Betts Award for Secretarial Administration" (in memory of Harold Betts, Secretary 1938-70) was presented to Jack Cutmore, associated with the league since its inauguration in 1935.

WARWICKSHIRE NOTES

by Richard Habgood

The steady improvement shown by our top two juniors, Bev Green and Doug Johnson must take pride of place in these first notes for 1975-76.

At the final England trial, held at Loughborough in August, both Bev and Doug finished fifth in the Girls' and Boys' list respectively.

Even better news was that Doug was

selected for the Junior international match against the Netherlands on September 5.

Doug lost to Ysselstein in this match but nevertheless, well done Doug. The overall result was the right one, England won 7-3 and you were a member of the team.

The big question now is will Bev gain her first cap this season—only time will tell.

With the County trials being held on September 21, it will be interesting to see what the Selection Committee make of all the results. One thing is certain, that being that Warwickshire will be all out for the promotion of the Junior team hopefully not slipping up again like they did last season against Derbyshire.

The juniors will be coming under the wing of Bernard Yarnold this season and I, for one, wish him well in this new venture for him in County affairs.

I hope Des Douglas will be available more times this year for the 1st team—his presence is obviously our greatest asset, affecting the whole confidence of the team.

Desmond, in fact, has been far from idle this summer—two training camps; one in this country for a week and a second in Germany for three weeks, should mean that Des will start the season in the peak of physical fitness. Time, again, will see if this is to be!

One final piece of news is the sterling amount of work "Andy" Jones has put in with our Junior girls over the summer months. Her endeavours at the West Warwickshire Club, Solihull, should produce a glut of good girl players over the next few years.

SURREY NOTES

by Ted Simpkin

Surrey start the season with an almost new Management Committee which has for its principal objectives the return of the County to its old eminence in English table tennis and the return of its finances to a state of healthy solvency. Ron Craycen is the new Chairman, Trevor Channing has moved over to be Secretary, and Fred Joyce is now concentrating on the job of Treasurer. "Connie" Warren is the first team's captain; new to County administration is Peter Brennan in charge of the second team; Mick Kercher looks after the Junior "A" and Pete Corner has the "B" squad.

In a brave attempt to widen the interest in the game, Peter Brennan has arranged for the first match for the second team, against Hampshire, on October 11, to be staged in the brand new Leatherhead Sports Centre, where all users of the Centre will be invited to come down to the floor to see the match. A junior match, versus Kent, will be played at the same time and will also be open to spectators from the general public at no charge.

Not all the news is good. After many a year of keen competition for Inter-League trophies, conflicting interests, and the lack of volunteer administrators, has led to the suspension of these activities for at least one season. As an alternative a sub-committee is considering the running of an Inter-League knockout competition on a home and away basis; this would prevent the various leagues from complete self-isolation, and would give those better players who are below County standard, the opportunity of competition at a higher level than they would be meeting in their weekly club matches.

At the A.G.M. the accolade of Life Membership was conferred on Fred Joyce, the Committee's key man for so many years, and on Percy Lawes, now enjoying a well-earned retirement in the depths of Wiltshire. The two new Life Members join Stan Buchan and Colin Clemett as recipients of this signal honour.

Other good news is the award of International Umpires' Badges to Sid Morton and Phil Goacher.

On the Leagues front I have received information so far only from Guildford where, against the national trend (?) the interest in

the game continues to increase. The new season finds 151 teams competing over 13 divisions—a record in the history of the league and a tribute to the endeavours of the coaching schemes and to the stamina of the old stagers.

DEVON NOTES

by Keith Ponting

The Devon Junior Closed Championships were held at Devonport Guildhall, Plymouth, on May 31—June 1. The Saturday play was confined to the girls' events and mixed doubles and Devon's No. 1 girl, Elaine Lamb, had a triumphant day, winning all the events entered.

She was successful in the Under-15 and Under-17 singles, whilst partnered by Susan Yorke and Terry Fairbanks, she won the girls' and mixed doubles. Elaine is certainly one of the brightest stars to be produced by Devon for many years and great credit must go to her coaches and, not least, to her parents, who I know spend many hundreds of pounds to further their daughter's table tennis career.

In the Girls' U-13 event, Nicola Pine was the winner. But if Saturday belonged to Elaine Lamb, the Sunday was really Paul Whiting's day. This slight 12-year-old brought the house down with some superb play, kept up throughout a long day. He appeared in every final, winning the U-13 and U-15 singles, but losing out in the boys' doubles.

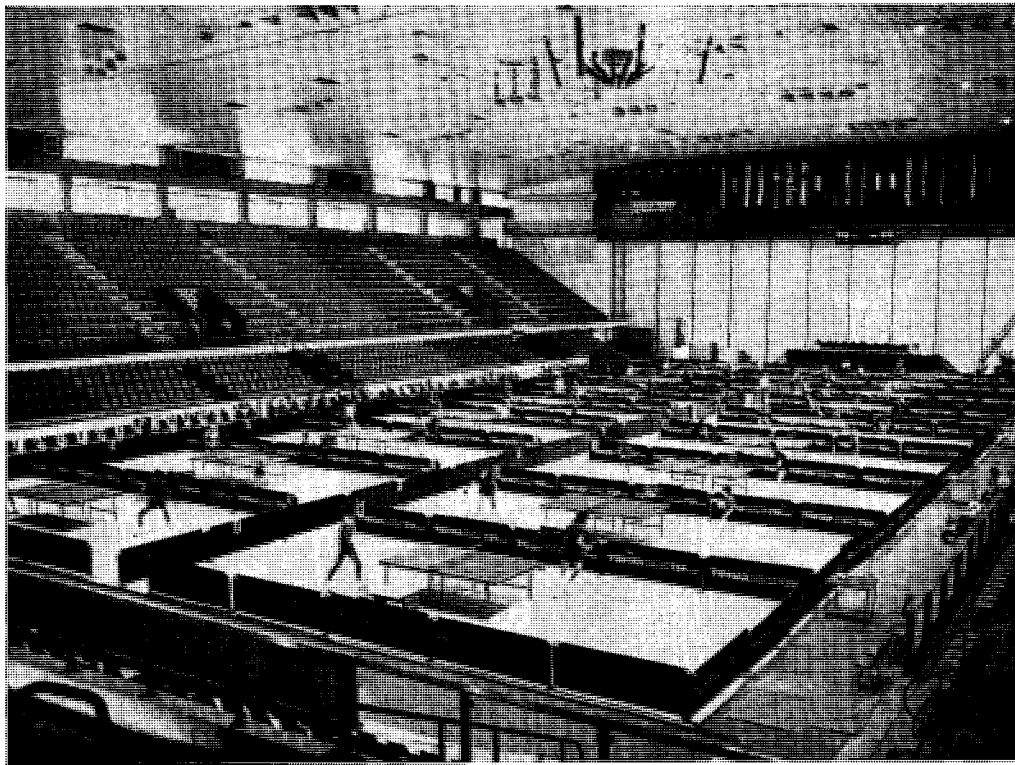
Paul Perry was the only Exeter success of the Championships, winning the U-11 singles. The event was well organised by the Plymouth League, and our thanks go to Referee Harry Pitts, Frank Hatton, Brian Rogers and Colin Mitchell, who did sterling work during the weekend.



Elaine Lamb in action.



Paul Whiting with his trophies.
Photos by Frank Hatton



Interior shot of the Dom Sportova, Zagreb, which is not unlike the National Sports Centre at Crystal Palace.

18th EUROPEAN YOUTH CHAMPIONSHIPS

RUSSIANS DOMINANT IN ZAGREB

by ALAN RANSOME

Communist countries dominated the 18th European Youth Table Tennis Championships held in the magnificent Dom Sportova, in Zagreb, Yugoslavia, from 2nd to 10th August, 1975.

Russia proved the most successful country, winning two team championships, two singles titles—the junior boys and cadet girls—and the girls' doubles, giving them 5 gold medals from a possible 11. Bagrat Burnazyan retained his junior boys' title while Tatiana Ferdman kept the girls' singles crown in the U.S.S.R. for another year.

Yugoslavia, the host nation, have made a great deal of progress in the junior field and this was apparent when they won the girls' team championship, finished third in the boys' and cadet girls' and fourth in the cadet boys'. On the distaff side they appear to be the strongest country in Europe, for in addition to winning the team championship, two of their players, Erzebet Palatinus and Dubravka Fabri, reached the semi-finals of the singles and Gordana Perkucin was champion in the cadet girls' singles.

From an England viewpoint results were mixed. The boys' team excelled to beat Federal Germany and Russia to win through to the second stage group, but they flattered to deceive by losing to Czechoslovakia in the semi-final and Yugoslavia in the 3rd and 4th play-off. Paul Day reached the quarter-final of the singles and lost very narrowly to the Czech No. 1, Miroslav Schenk.

The girls' team did very well considering all last season's team were over age, finishing 7th with Melody Ludi producing a number of first-class performances. The cadet results were a little disappointing. However, Johan James and Angela Tierney won most of their sets in the team championship and had good runs in the singles events.

Team Events

Despite losing 5-0 to England, Russia won the boys' team championship, beating Czechoslovakia 5-1 in the final. Burnazyan and Vladamir Schapiro were the mainstays of the Russian team with Schapiro's victory over Schenk particularly significant.

England began their campaign with two easy victories over Poland and Scotland both 5-0. The Polish victory was not as comfortable as the score suggests, Mark Mitchell being taken to three by both Leszek Kucharski and Stefan Drysel. Poland, in fact, proved to be the strongest in the second group countries, scoring a final finishing position of 9th. The Scotland game gave Bob Potton his first junior international. This match was as easy as the scoreline indicates.

In the second stage England began with a vital encounter against Federal Germany. The German side were strong contenders for the title and the 5-4 victory by England was their best for some time. The match began with Hans Nolten beating Mitchell 19 in the third. Paul Day wasted no time in levelling the score by beating Ralf Wosik, then came two classics. Barden beat Europe's top junior defender, Engelbert Hugging, 19 in the third, then Day followed up with a 23-21 in the third victory over Nolten.

Hugging pulled the lead back by comfortably taking Mitchell, but Barden, full of confidence, eliminated Wosik. Day, noticeably weak against defensive styles, had no answer to Hugging, and Barden wasted 4 match points against Nolten to allow the Germans to level at 4-all. It was here that Mitchell came into his own, beating Wosik in 2-straight with everything at stake.

Next morning, England's trio of Day, Barden and Mitchell, defeated Bulgaria 5-0 with a competent performance, leaving only the Russians between them and the group top spot. In this match everything went right for England. Mitchell opened by beating Schapiro 19 in the third. Day took the Russian No. 3, Mironas Kreeris, comfortably. Barden, in probably his best performance, beat

Burnazyan 23-21 in the third, and Day beat Schapiro 19 in the third. Mitchell finished the Russians off with a 3-game victory over the dejected Burnazyan.

NOTHING CLICKED

This victory put England into the semi-finals to play Czechoslovakia, who were the second placed team in the opposite group. Unlike the previous day, when everything went right, from 9 a.m. on August 5, nothing would click. Miroslav Cich beat Barden in straight games in the opener; Schenk beat Mitchell easily; Day tried to recover the position against Jaromir Zlamal and lost deuce in the third; Schenk beat Barden 17 in the third, and then Day fell tamely to Cich to turn the tables completely from the Russian match.

England finally played Yugoslavia for 3rd and 4th place, a match which was somewhat of an anti-climax. Day won two of his sets only losing to the defensive Jozef Juhas. Barden won his first set against Akos Feher but was unable to produce the same form against the left-handed pengrip player, Zoran Kalinic. Mitchell lost narrowly to Juhas and Feher. On the day the Yugoslavs were a better team and ran out 5-3 winners to take third position.

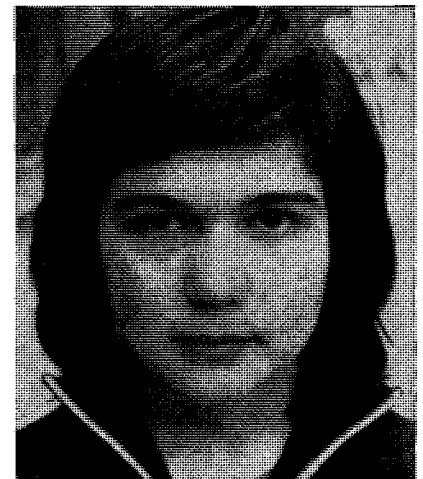
The junior girls' team event was won by Yugoslavia, who beat Russia in the final 3-0 and Czechoslovakia 3-2 in the semi-final. The Yugoslavs have a particularly strong junior girls' squad. Their victory over Czechoslovakia in the semi-final was impressive, for at one stage they trailed 0-2.

Melody Ludi played extremely well for England in this event, scoring a 70% average against some of the top senior-ranked players in Europe.

England won their opening group, beating Spain and Greece 3-0. The match against Greece gave Caroline Reeves her first international and in the singles she beat Ioanna Moraitou in straight games.

England's opener in their second stage group was against the extremely strong Czech pair of Ludmilla Smidova and Hana Reidlova, the same combination that played against England's senior team in Calcutta earlier this year. Melody turned in a creditable performance against Smidova, winning the middle game 21-19, but Czechoslovakia were in command throughout and ran out deserved 3-0 victors.

Having just been beaten so convincingly one would have expected the English pair to be apprehensive for their second match with Russia, but this was not the case. Both our girls, Melody and Angela Mitchell, fought well and came close to bringing off what would have been the surprise victory of the championships. Melody opened by beating the Russian No. 2, Nadejda Meshkova, 21-16, 27-25. Angela then played world No. 5, Ferdman, won the first 21-13 and was level at 18-all in the



The host nation's Gordana Perkucin, who gave a magnificent performance to win the Girls' Cadet singles title.



England's Paul Day, who reached the quarters of the boys' singles before falling to the beaten finalist, Miroslav Schenk, of Czechoslovakia.

Photo by Tony Ross.

second before the Russian scrambled home and took the decider easily. The Russians having once picked themselves up were not to give England a second chance. The doubles went in straight games to Ferdman and Meshkova and whilst Melody did all that she could to overcome the opposition No. 1, she went down -12, -20 to give the Russians their 3-1 victory.

STAR PERFORMER

England's last match in the second stage was against France, which they won 3-1, again with Melody the star performer. She opened the match by beating Catherine Moles, 16 in the third, won the doubles with Angela, 13 in the third, then beat Plombin 12 and 14 to clinch victory.

The third stage was against Belgium, whose team included Europe's top junior girl defender, Marie-France Germinat. The Yorkshire girl again gave England an excellent start, beating Veronique Germinat 7 in the third. Marie-France levelled the score for Belgium, having little difficulty with Angela. The Belgian sisters won the doubles and the defence of Marie-France proved too much for Melody to give Belgium a 3-1 win.

England were left to play against France again for 7/8 positions. Melody won both her singles and the doubles with Angela to produce a carbon copy of the previous 3-1 English victory.

The only team gold medal not to be won by an Iron Curtain country was the boys' cadet event which went to Sweden, who beat Hungary in the final. England finished 10th with Johan James a surprisingly outstanding player. The opening match, again Austria, was the most vital, which England lost 1-3. James took the opening set by beating Harald Koller, 15 in the third. Kevin Beadsley was beaten in a very close encounter with Kobitscha, -19, 21, -19. The doubles was taken by Austria and Beadsley was beaten for the second time, 21-13 in the third, to put England in the second group with no possibility of finishing in the first eight.

England went on to beat a weak Spanish team 3-0 to secure their placing from 9 to 16. In the second stage England beat Denmark 3-1 with two victories by James and one from Beadsley; Finland 3-2 with two more wins from James and a vital win from Beadsley with the match score poised at 2-all; and Ireland presented only token resistance with England winning 3-0. Next the Netherlands were beaten 3-0 to put England to play France for the 9/10th place. The French cadets proved too good and ran home 3-1 winners with England's only victory being the doubles.

The girls' cadet team event was also disappointing for England. Russia were by far the strongest team in the competition. They beat Rumania in the final with Yugoslavia taking third place and Hungary fourth.

England, who finished 10th last year, played Sweden in their opening match, the losing team having no chance of finishing in the top 8. Angela Tierney opened well for England, beating Marie Lindblad 19 in the third. Karen Witt, playing her first international, lost to Gudrun Fogelberg in straight games. As with the boys' cadet team, the doubles was a weakness for England, this vital set being lost in the third. Karen then played Lindblad but failed to make any impression.

DEMORALISING

This loss had a demoralising effect on the cadet girls, for they had hoped to improve on last year's ranking by several places. Their second match was against Ireland, which they won comfortably 3-0, but then a much-improved Greek team provided a shock, beating England 3-1, although all three Greek victories were 21-19 or 22-20 in the decider.

The Greeks played their best junior girl in this event, Fotina Galanou, who won both her singles and the doubles with Keterina Spanou. By winning three of the four singles England recovered to beat Switzerland 3-2 but lost to a strong French team 3-2 in their third stage match. This left a second match with Greece, which was an improvement, with England winning 3-1, again losing the doubles, to take a final placing of 11th.

INDIVIDUAL EVENTS

The Boys' Singles championship was retained by Russia's Burnazyan, who beat Schenk, of Czechoslovakia 23-21, 21-18 in a final that never really lived up to its possibilities. Burnazyan, in fact, won the championship without the loss of a game. He beat the Swedish defender, Jan Lexell, in the quarters and the Czech, Ivan Kavka, in the semi-final.

England's top hope, Paul Day, was seeded equal-fifth and reached his allotted position by beating Leonard Amizic, of Yugoslavia, and Ake Liljegren, of Sweden, in straight games. He found difficulty with the talented Austrian, Erich Amplatz, who had earlier defeated the seeded Hans Nolten, of Federal Germany, but the Soham boy scraped home 22-20 in the decider.

Day lost narrowly to Schenk in the quarter-finals, winning the first 21-16 but Schenk gained the upper hand in the second to win 21-13 and led all the way in the third with Day making a desperate come-back to reach 20-19 before the Czech boy played a winning loop with everything at stake.

Andrew Barden, unseeded, struggled in the first round with Stefan Moraru, of Rumania, playing nervously to scrape home 21-18 in the decider. He then met the equal-fifth seed, Zolt Tot Horgosi, of Yugoslavia, in the second round. Barden played magnificently to thrash the home player 12 and 8. In the third round he ousted Mihaly Potari, of Hungary, 18 and 16, but was unable to read the spin variation from the anti-loop Sriver bat of Sweden's Lexell to lose amazingly easily at the last 16 stage.

Mark Mitchell beat Heinz Hiegelsberger, of Austria, in the opening round and Dane Sarlah, of Yugoslavia in the second before losing to the left-handed Hungarian looper, Janos Molnar.

Robert Potton won an exciting set with Palle Rud, of Denmark, 14 and 22 in the first round, but found the Hungarian defender, Tibor Kreiszs, too strong in Round 2.

The Girls' Singles produced a number of good matches, the winner being the world No. 5, Tatiana Ferdman, of Russia. She beat the determined Marie-France Germinat, of Belgium, over three in the final.

Ferdman's greatest test came in the semi-final against Dubravka Fabri, of Yugoslavia. The Russian won the first, narrowly, but never looked back in the second.

Ferdman's closest contest came in the second round with England's Melody Ludi. Melody led most of the way throughout the first but eventually drifted and lost -17. The Yorkshire girl was in command throughout the second, winning 21-16, and held the Russian half-way through the decider.

One of the best sets of the championships came in the semi-final of the Girls' Singles when Marie-France Germiot beat Erzebet Palatinus, of Yugoslavia. Palatinus won the first 21-15; Germiot the second 21-16, and the third was a cliff-hanger with the expedite rule introduced midway. The set climaxed with Germiot winning 20-19 with the expedite rule against her.

The rally was tense to the twelfth stroke and Palatinus placed the ball wide to Germiot's backhand, giving the Belgian girl almost no chance of winning the point on the all-important thirteenth ball. Germiot threw caution to the winds and ran round her backhand and hit her only forehead of the set to win a place in the final.

Angela Mitchell won her first round against Pamela Graham, of Ireland, 13 and 11, but fell to Marie-France Germiot, -12 in the decider, in Round 2.

Caroline Reeves lost her opening encounter to the Polish No. 1, Jolanta Szatko, 20-22 in a third game decider.

Italy won their first gold medal in the history of the championships when Giovanni Bisi, seeded second, beat the unseeded Hungarian, Zsolt Kriston, in straight games in the final.

Johan James was England's best player in this event, reaching the last 16 with good victories over Bernard Hogrel, of France, 15 and 11, and then a member of the winning Swedish cadet team, Anders Thunstrom, 18, -20, 13 in the second round. Johan lost to the winner, Bisi, -9, -17 at the third stage.

Kevin Beadsley fell at his first hurdle to Andre Louwen, of the Netherlands.

The Girls' Cadet Singles saw a magnificent performance from the fifth seed, Gordana Perkuin, of Yugoslavia. The home player produced some magnificent table tennis to beat the Russian defender, Lyudmilla Bakshutova, in the semi-final, and the Russian No. 1, Valentina Popova, in the final. Both Russians were well worth a place in the Soviet junior team so that the performance given by the young Yugoslav was exceptional to win the event.

NO ANSWER

England's top hope, Angela Tierney, reached the quarter-final by beating Carine Bellemans, of Belgium, comfortably in the second round, and Annie Landay, of France, after trailing 16-19 in the decider. Against Popova, the Ormesby girl had no answer to aggressive hits on both wings.

Karen Witt lost to top seed Carine Verachtert, of Belgium, in the second round although taking the middle game 21-19. One of the best performances of the championship, from an England viewpoint, came from Melody Ludi in the Consolation Singles. Melody reached the final with a number of good victories before losing to the Rumanian Ildico Gyongyosi -7, -18.

Melody's first win was against Serrat, the anti-loop player from Spain, -15, 18, 18. The Bradford girl had no difficulty in the second round with Ann Leonard, of Ireland or with Sonja Grefberg, of Finland. To win the quarter-final against Sona Huskova, of Czechoslovakia, in three, Melody produced some brilliant table tennis and again turned in a first-class performance against Zsuzsanna Olah, of Hungary, in the semi-final.

The doubles events for England did not produce any good performances. The boys' was won by the Swedes, Michael Nilsson and Ake Gronlund, who beat Nolten and Ralf Wosik comfortably in the final. Day and Barden, the English senior champions, were unable to find their rhythm in this event. They struggled against a Belgium/Luxembourg pair in the second round, winning 15 in the third, and then lost to Vladamir Schapiro, of U.S.S.R. and Efstrations Voulgaris, of Greece, -22, -19 in a set that could only be described as a nightmare.

The mixed justified the top seedings of Janos Molnar and Gabriella Szabo, of Hungary,

who, although judging by singles play could not compare with some pairs, were clearly the top combination when it came to doubles. In the final they beat Schenk and Hana Reidlova, of Czechoslovakia, 15 and 17 in a set that was as easy as the score suggests.

England's best pair in this event, Paul Day and Melody Ludi, reached the fourth round before losing to the Russians Mironas Kreeris and Nadejda Meshkova.

The Girls' Doubles was another victory for the Russians with Ferdman and Meshkova beating the Belgians, Marie-France and Veronique Germiot, comfortably in the final. The Russians did extremely well to beat the top pair, Reidlova and Smidova, in the semi-final, whilst Belgium really excelled, taking the team champions, Erzebet Palatinus and Dubravka Fabri, of Yugoslavia, in the quarter-finals and the seeded Czechoslovakians Anna Cikova and Dana Dubinova, in the semi-finals.

FINAL TEAM PLACINGS (Previous positions in brackets)

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

18th EUROPEAN YOUTH CHAMPIONSHIPS — RESULTS

TEAM EVENTS

JUNIOR BOYS—Stage 1

v Poland (won 5-0)
P. Day bt A. Gruba 12, 15; bt L. Kucharski 18, 6.
M. Mitchell bt Kucharski -21, 12, 14; bt S. Dryszel -16, 17, 12.
A. Barden bt Dryszel 18, 15.

v Scotland (won 5-0)
Barden bt J. Moir 7, 12; bt R. Brown 14, 8.
R. Potton bt Brown 15, 14; bt A. Matthew 5, 13.
Day bt Matthew 9, 11.

Stage 2
v Federal Germany (won 5-4)
Day bt R. Wosik 18, 12; bt H. J. Nolten -9, 18, 21; lost to E. Hugging -12, -14.
Barden bt Hugging -15, 13, 20; bt Wosik 16, -16, 15; lost to Nolten 16, -20, -13.
Mitchell lost to Nolten 17, -18, -19; lost to Hugging -13, -15; bt Wosik 16, 10.

v Bulgaria (won 5-0)
Day bt M. Loukov 15, -15, 28; bt S. Ribanschov 18, 12.
Barden bt Ribanschov 10, 20; bt D. Hassanov 12, 7.
Mitchell bt Hassanov 12, 14.

v U.S.S.R. (won 5-0)
Day bt M. Kreeris 11, 14; bt v Schapiro -16, 14, 19.

Mitchell bt Schapiro 18, -12, 19; bt B. Burnazian -17, 20, 14.
Barden bt Burnazian 16, -16, 20.

Stage 3

v Czechoslovakia (lost 0-5)
Day lost to J. Zlmal 20, -17, -21; lost to M. Cich -11, -14.
Barden lost to Cich -18, -18; lost to M. Schenk -19, 16, -17.
Mitchell lost to Schenk -11, -9.
v Yugoslavia (lost 3-5)
Day bt Z. Kalinic 17, -19, 17; lost to J. Juhas 19, -14, -19;
bt A. Feher 10, -20, 10.
Barden bt Feher 17, 17; lost to Kalinic -24, -12.
Mitchell lost to Juhas 26, -16, -18; lost to Feher 20, -21, -20;
lost to Kalinic -8, -19.

AVERAGES

	P	W	L	P/C
R. Potton	2	2	0	100
P. Day	15	11	4	73
A. Barden	13	9	4	69
M. Mitchell	12	6	6	50

FINAL—U.S.S.R. v Czechoslovakia 5-1
Burnazian bt Zlmal 17, 22; bt Cich 12, 20.
Kreeris bt Cich 17, 11; lost to Schenk -18, -13.
Schapiro bt Schenk 15, 20; bt Zlmal -19, 19, 14.

JUNIOR GIRLS—Stage 1

v Spain (won 3-0)
M. Ludi bt P. Gargallo 13, 14.



Angela Tierney, of Cleveland, who also reached the quarters of the Girls' Cadet event, losing to the Russian, Valentina Popova, again the beaten finalist.

Photo by Tony Ross.

A. Mitchell bt M. Sanahuja -16, 13, 13.
Ludi/Mitchell bt Gargallo/Sanahuja 14, 21.

v Greece (won 3-0)
C. Reeves bt I. Moraitou 12, 18.
Mitchell bt A. Gourani 16, 8.
Ludi/Mitchell bt Gourani/Moraitou 10, 12.

Stage 2
v Czechoslovakia (lost 0-3)
Ludi lost to L. Smidlova -14, 19, -9.
Mitchell lost to H. Reidlova -13, -13.
Ludi/Mitchell lost to A. Cikova/D. Dubinova -16, -17.

v U.S.S.R. (lost 1-3)
Ludi bt N. Meshkova 16, 25; lost to T. Ferdman -12, -20.
Mitchell lost to Ferdman 13, -18, -6.
Ludi/Mitchell lost to Ferdman/Meshkova -12, -18.

v France (won 3-1)
Ludi bt C. Moles 14, -15, 16; bt S. Plombin 12, 14.
Mitchell lost to Plombin -14, -18.
Ludi/Mitchell bt Moles/Plombin 14, -15, 13.

Stage 3
v Belgium (lost 1-3)
Ludi bt V. Germinat -17, 11, 7; lost to M.-F. Germinat -12, -11.
Mitchell lost to M.-F. Germinat -15, -8.
Ludi/Mitchell lost to Germinat/Germinat -19, -8.

Stage 4
v France (won 3-1)
Ludi bt Moles 15, -16, 17; bt Plombin -18, 15, 14.
Mitchell lost to Plombin -18, 20, -17.
Ludi/Mitchell bt Moles/Plombin -16, 13, 12.

AVERAGES

	P	W	L	P/C
C. Reeves	1	1	0	100
M. Ludi	10	7	3	70
A. Mitchell	7	2	5	28

FINAL—Yugoslavia 3, U.S.S.R. 0
E. Palatinus bt Meshkova 8, 14.
D. Fabri bt Ferdman -16, 12, 17.
Fabri/Palatinus bt Ferdman/Meshkova -17, 19, 13.

CADET BOYS—Stage 1
v Austria (lost 1-3)
J. James bt H. Kollar 12, -18, 15.
K. Beadsley lost to J. Kubitschka 19, -21, -19; lost to Kollar 16, -17, -14.
Beadsley/James lost to Kollar/Kubitschka -13, -20.

v Spain (won 3-0)
James bt J. Pales 4, 17.
Beadsley bt V. Lillo 11, 11.
Beadsley/James bt Pales/V.C. Roig 11, -19, 19.

Stage 2
v Denmark (won 3-1)
Beadsley bt B. Holmsgard -16, 16, 21.
James bt P. Mejlstrom 17; bt Holmsgard 18, -15, 17.
Beadsley/James lost to J. Jansen/Holmsgard -18, -17.

v Finland (won 3-2)
James bt M. Nyssonen 14, 18; bt M. Kurvinen 18, 17.
Beadsley lost to Kurvinen -15, -14; bt Nyssonen -15, 12, 17.
Beadsley/James lost to Kurvinen/Nyssonen -18, -10.

v Ireland (won 3-0)
Beadsley bt C. Slevin 17, 14.
James bt T. Dolan 15, 10.
Beadsley/James bt Dolan/F. Glynn 14, -20, 16.

Stage 3
v Netherlands (won 3-0)
Beadsley bt T. Van Gasteren 21, -14, 17.
James bt A. Louwen 12, 15.
Beadsley/James bt W. De Bruin/Van Gasteren 13, 8.

Stage 4
v France (lost 1-3)
James lost to B. Parietti 20, -12, -14; lost to E. Hanonge 18, -14, -12.
Beadsley lost to Hanonge -16, -14.
Beadsley/James bt Hanonge/Parietti -14, 19, 19.

AVERAGES

	P	W	L	P/C
J. James	10	8	2	80
K. Beadsley	9	5	4	55
Doubles	7	4	3	57

FINAL—SWEDEN bt Hungary 3-0
A. Thunstrom bt Z. Kriston 18, 18.
B. Andersson bt G. Pekar -15, 17, 18.
Andersson/B. Eriksson bt Kriston/Pekar 19, 16.

CADET GIRLS—Stage 1
v Sweden (lost 1-3)
A. Tierney bt M. Lindblad -8, 18, 19.
K. Witt lost to G. Fogelberg -18, -13; lost to Lindblad -11, -17.
Tierney/Witt lost to Fogelberg/Lindblad -15, 16, -13.

Stage 2
v Ireland (won 3-0)
Tierney bt A. Leonard 9, 20.
Witt bt D. Kilpatrick 18, 10.
Tierney/Witt bt Kilpatrick/Leonard 18, 13.

v Greece (lost 1-3)
Tierney bt Spanou 13, -18, 6; lost to Galanou -10, 12, -19.
Witt lost to Galanou 19, -8, -19.
Tierney/Witt lost to Galanou/Spanou 14, -16, -20.

v Switzerland (won 3-2)
Witt lost to R. Wyder 20, -14, -18; bt F. Weibel 9, -14, 13.
Tierney bt Weibel 14, 16; bt Wyder 21, 13.
Tierney/Witt lost to Weibel/Wyder 12, -19, -16.

Stage 3
v France (lost 2-3)
Tierney lost to N. Daviaud 20, -13, -6; bt P. Germain 18, 14.
Witt lost to Germain -13, -18; lost to Daviaud -18, -16.
Tierney/Witt bt Germain/A. Landay 16, -13, 18.

Stage 4
v Greece (won 3-1)
Tierney bt Spanou 16, 11; bt Galanou -19, 17, 15.
Witt bt Galanou 14, -19, 12.
Tierney/Witt lost to Galanou/Spanou -19, 20, -19.

AVERAGES

	P	W	L	P/C
A. Tierney	10	8	2	80
K. Witt	9	3	6	33

FINAL—U.S.S.R. 3, Rumania 0
V. Popova bt G. Cadar 12, 17.
L. Bakshoutova bt E. Ferencz 19, 11.
Bakshoutova/Popova bt Cadar/Ferencz 16, 16.

INDIVIDUAL RESULTS

Boys' Singles—Semi-finals
B. Burnazian (USSR) bt I. Kavka (Czechoslovakia) 13, 20.
M. Schenk (Czechoslovakia) bt V. Schapiro (USSR) 15.
Final: BURNAZIAN bt Schenk 21, 18.

Girls' Singles—Semi-finals
T. Ferdman (USSR) bt D. Fabri (Yugoslavia) 20, 13.
M.-F. Germinat (Belgium) bt E. Palatinus (Yugo.) -15, 16, 19.
Final: FERDMAN bt Germinat -9, 13, 12.

Boys' Doubles—Final
A. GRONLUND/M. NILSSON (Sweden) bt H. J. Nolton/R. Wosik (Federal Germany) 11, 10.

Girls' Doubles—Final
T. FERDMAN/N. MESHKOVA (USSR) bt M.-F. Germinat/V. Germinat (Belgium) 20, 12.

Mixed Doubles—Final
J. MOLNAR/G. SZABO (Hungary) bt Schenk/H. Reidlova (Czech) 15, 17.

Cadet Boys' Singles—Final
G. BISI (Italy) bt Z. Kriston (Hungary) 14, 19.

Cadet Girls' Singles—Final
G. PERKUCIN (Yugoslavia) bt V. Popova (USSR) 17, 14.

Boys' Consolation Singles—Final
V. ALEKSANDIRISIDIS (Turkey) bt L. Franklin (Sweden) 18, 16.

Girls' Consolation Singles—Final
I. GYONGYOSI (Rumania) bt M. Ludi (England) 7, 18.

ENGLISH RESULTS

Boys' Singles
PAUL DAY—Rd. 1 Bye; Rd. 2 bt L. Amizic (Yu) 16, 11; Rd. 3 bt A. Liljegren (Swe) 16, 15; Rd. 4 bt E. Amplatz (Aus) -17, 10, 20; Q-F: lost to M. Schenk (Cz) 16, -13, -19.

ANDREW BARDEN—Rd. 1 bt S. Moraru (Ru) 16, -18 18; Rd. 2 bt Z. Tot Horgosi (Yu) 12, 8; Rd. 3 bt M. Potari (Hu) 18, 16; Rd. 4 lost to J. Lexell (Swe) -18, -5.

MARK MITCHELL—Rd. 1 bt H. Hiegelsberger (Aus) 14, 13; Rd. 2 bt D. Sarlah (Yu) -18, 10, 9; Rd. 3 lost to J. Molnar (Hu) -18, -16.

ROBERT POTTON—Rd. 1 bt P. Rud (Den) 14, 22; Rd. 2 lost to T. Kreisz (Hu) -13, -12.

Cadet Singles
KEVIN BEADSLEY—Rd. 1 lost to A. Louwen (Neth) -15, -20.
JOHAN JAMES—Rd. 1 bt B. Hogrel (Fr) 15, 11; Rd. 2 bt A. Thundstrom (Swe) 18, -20, 13; Rd. 3 lost to G. Bisi (It) -9, -17.

Boys' Doubles
BARDEN/DAY—Rd. 1 bt J. Roques/M. Saline (Fr) 15, 16; Rd. 2 bt T. Balthasar (Lux)/D. Surkol (Bel) -18, 9, 15; Rd. 3 lost to Schapiro (USSR)/E. Voulgaris (Gr) -22, -19.

MITCHELL/POTTON—Rd. 1 lost to M. Cich/M. Schenk (Cz) -9, -11.
BEADSLEY/JAMES—Rd. 1 w.o. E. Avcı (Tu)/B. Holmsgard (Den); Rd. 2 lost to M. Fischech/J. Rebel (F. Ger) -13, 15, -17.

Girls' Singles
MELODY LUDI—Rd. 1 bt M. Koblowska (Po) -17, 17, 16; Rd. 2 lost to T. Ferdman (USSR) -17, 16, -17.

ANGELA MITCHELL—Rd. 1 bt P. Graham (Ire) 13, 11; Rd. 2 lost to M.-F. Germinat (Bel) -12, 13, -12.

CAROLINA REEVES—Rd. 1 lost to J. Szlatko (Po) 12, -8, -20.
Cadet Singles
ANGELA TIERNEY—Rd. 1 Bye; Rd. 2 bt C. Bellemans (Bel)

8, 11; Rd. 3 bt A. Landay (Fr) 17, -17, 19; Q-F: lost to V. Popova (USSR) -16, -11.

KAREN WITT—Rd. 1 Bye; Rd. 2 lost to C. Verachttert (Bel) -14, 19, -9.

Girls' Doubles
LUDI/MITCHELL—Rd. 1 lost to I. Rukavina (Yu)/Z. Ruzsenszky (Hu) -18, 19, -17.

TIERNEY/WITT—Rd. 1 bt G. Brajdic/S. Danioth (Swi) -18, 11, 14; Rd. 2 lost to P. Germain/Landay (Fr) -19, 19, -4.

REEVES/V. KRISTOFFERSEN (Den)—Rd. 1 bt Bellemans (Bel)/L. Zeimet (Lux) 16, -14, 14; Rd. 2 lost to A. Cikova/D. Dubinova (Cz) -16, -10.

Mixed Doubles
DAY/LUDI—Rd 1 Bye; Rd. 2 bt M. Hoffstatter/M. Gourmelon (Fr) -20, 18, 16; Rd. 3 bt Z. Kalinic/L. Subotin (Yu) 11, 10; Rd. 4 lost to M. Kreeris/N. Meshkova (USSR) -18, -17.

BARDEN/A. MITCHELL—Rd. 1 bt D. Surkol/C. Verachttert (Bel) 14, 13; Rd. 2 lost to Schenk/H. Reidlova (Cz) -15, -15.

M. MITCHELL/REEVES—Rd. 1 bt J. Lefebvre/V. Germinat (Bel) 18, 14; Rd. 2 lost to J. Zlamal/L. Smidova (Cz) -17, 19, -13.

POTTON/WITT—Rd. 1 bt J. Roques/P. Germain (Fr) 15, -17, 12; Rd. 2 lost to D. Sarlah/E. Milevska (Yu) -16, -20.

BEADSLEY/TIERNEY—Rd. 1 Bye; Rd. 2 bt B. Horvat/I. Rukavina (Yu) 15, 10; Rd. 3 lost to M. Graf/B. Lehr (F. Ger) -11, -11.

Boys' Consolation Singles
POTTON—Rd. 1 bt V. Lillo (Sp) 15, 16; Rd. 2 bt L. Frank (Hu) -18, 16 10; Rd. 3 bt J. Ikonen (Fi) -10, 12, 12; Rd. 4 bt K. Rodger (Scot) 11, 14; Q-F: lost to J. Juhas (Yu) -22, -13.

BEADSLEY—Rd. 1 bt T. Balthasar (Lux) 21, 21; Rd. 2 bt M. Vainio (Fin) -18, 12, 16; Rd. 3 bt N. Glynn (Ire) 16, -16, 15; Rd. 4 lost to A. Feher (Yu) -16, -19.

Girls' Consolation Singles
K. WITT—Rd. 1 lost to L. Subotin (Yu) -16, -16.
A. MITCHELL—Rd. 1 lost to M. Norby (Den) 11, -18, -17.

C. REEVES—Qual.: bt D. Kilpatrick (Ire) 9, 8; Rd. 1 lost to B. Lehr (F. Ger) -18, -17.

M. LUDI—Rd. 1 bt Serra (Sp) -15, 18, 18; Rd. 2 bt A. Leonard (Ire) 9, 6; Rd. 3 bt Grefberg (Fin) 14, 21; Q-F: bt S. Huskova (Cz) -12, 13, 12; S-F: bt Z. Olah (Hu) 16, -12, 16; Final: lost to I. Gyongyosi (Rum) -7, -18.

NORWICH UNION INTERNATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

This season's Norwich Union International Championships are to be held at The Dome and Corn Exchange, Brighton, on January 8-10, 1976.

Entry forms can be had from the E.T.T.A. at 21 Claremont, Hastings, E. Sussex, TN34 1HA, the closing date for entries being Tuesday, December 2, 1975, to Mr. John M. Wright, 124 Russhall Avenue, Bedford Park, London, W4 1BS.

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Junior International

ENGLAND WIN AT SHENFIELD

by Geoff Newman

The England team made a fine start to the season at Shenfield Sports Hall, on September 5, with a handsome 7-3 win over the Netherlands. Chris Sewell was really on top of his game and gave an outstanding performance.

Always in control of his game, the young Bristolian was never in any trouble in either of his sets. Doug Johnson fought hard to outstay Hans Gootzen, but paid the penalty against Wim IJsselstein for not playing to his usual defensive pattern. IJsselstein was a difficult player to meet who gave the impression of either being brilliant or bad.

Angela Mitchell also gave a 5-star performance and played particularly well against the defence of the Dutch No. 1 girl, Yolande Noordam, who had no answer to her penetrating attack. Melody Ludi had a good win over Ina Willems, but fell away against Miss Noordam after appearing to have matters well in hand at one stage.

In the doubles it was the unlikely combinations that ended on top, the boys winning for England with the Dutch team taking the girls'. The match was excellently staged with the assistance of the Brentwood District Council, while gifts for the players were provided by Simco Station Garage, Brentwood. Scores:—

C. Sewell bt H. Gootzen 17, 10; bt W. IJsselstein 8, 13.
 D. Johnson lost to IJsselstein -18, -16; bt Gootzen 18, 18.
 M. Ludi bt I. Willems 12, 16; lost to Y. Noordam 15, -19, -12.
 A. Mitchell bt Noordam 9, 11; bt Willems 17, 13.
 Johnson/Sewell bt Gootzen/IJsselstein 18, 16.
 Ludi/Mitchell lost to Noordam/Willems -18, -16.

DUTCH REVENGE AT MALDON

At Maldon Youth and Adult Centre, on September 6, Holland atoned for their defeat at the hands of England by gaining a good 7-3 win over the Essex squad.

The Netherlands' team enjoyed the faster conditions at Maldon and their game was appreciably sharper. Kevin Caldron had a fine win over IJsselstein, the Dutch boy going under to a stream of killing forehands.

Dave Newman had a bad start against IJsselstein but recovered well to just go under to Gootzen in a fine attacking set. David and Kevin combined well to win a very entertaining boys' doubles, the Dutch pair going down under constant attacking pressure.

Penny Abbott proved to be the Essex side's surprise packet, playing well above herself. She gave a best ever performance when defeating Ina Willems in a very tense encounter. Penny deserves all the plaudits, coming back from "the dead", a game down and 14-20, and then on to victory.

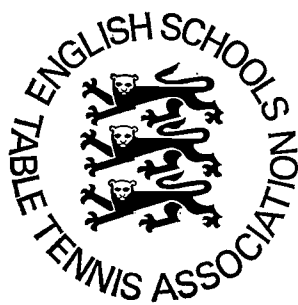
Sandra Sutton could not reproduce her last season's County Championship form and did not do herself justice. Maldon Youth and Adult Centre staged the match with the Directors of Mid-Essex Transport Ltd. entertaining the Dutch party during the evening. Scores:—

K. Caldron lost to Gootzen -17, 16, -12; bt. IJsselstein 11, 6.
 D. Newman lost to IJsselstein -10, -16; lost to Gootzen 17, -20, -19.
 S. Sutton lost to Willems -13, 14, -14; lost to Noordam -10, -13.
 P. Abbott bt Willems -15, 21, 22; lost to Noordam -13, -14.
 Caldron/Newman bt Gootzen/IJsselstein 15, -21, 11.
 Abbott/Sutton lost to Noordam/Willems -14, 22, -14.



Back row (l to r): Peter Orris (Managing Director, Mid-Essex Transport Ltd.), Theo Rieken (Dutch Boys' Capt.), Ellen van der Helm (Dutch Girls' Capt.) and Hans Gootzen. Front row: Ina Willems, Yolande Noordam and Wim IJsselstein.

Photo by Geoff Newman.



by David Lomas

This season sees the tenth Annual National School Team Championships which have grown steadily in size, scope and playing standards.

The finals, which last year moved to Lea Green Centre, Matlock, are again being staged at the pleasant Derbyshire venue and will take place on Saturday, March 20, 1976. But the preliminary stages of the championships are already under way in some counties. Preliminary nomination of events to be entered is required by October 31 with actual entries by December 17. The winning school teams from each of the fifty county areas take part in one of twelve area finals being staged on January 31-February 1, with the winners going forward to one of three regional finals on Sunday, February 15, and thence to the National Finals. A coaching course has been arranged for the finalists on the day following the finals at Lea Green.

The championships are open to teams of four players, girls and boys, in seven different age categories ranging from Under-11 to Under-19 on September 1 of this year.

Later in the season the Stiga-sponsored Individual Championships take place on Saturday, May 8, at a new venue—Stopsley Sports Centre, Luton. County winners in eight events compete in groups and with last season's entries almost 50% up on the first finals in 1974, there is every possibility of twenty tables being needed. Further incentive for success in the Individual Championships is the possibility

of selection for the International Championships to be held in Edinburgh at the end of June.

The new Official Handbook—also sponsored by Stiga—contains full details of the National School Team Championships, the Stiga Individual Championships, County Association Secretaries, past winners, photographs and the Laws of the Game, and this 56-page booklet is now available from the General Secretary, John Arnold, Headmaster, Sandal Endowed C.E. Middle School, Barnsley Road, Wakefield, West Yorkshire, WF2 6AS, at a cost of 15p including postage.

International Club

by Laurie Landry

The Club is to contact all the recent Junior Internationals hoping that they might join. If some do, the number of members, all present and past Internationals, could well top 150.

Perhaps the main event of the season, apart from the Hard Rubber Bat Open, will be a special challenge match against Cornwall to celebrate the 25th Anniversary of that County. It is pleasing to note that Betty (Blackbourn) Bennett, a member of England's Corbillon Cup-winning side just after the war, now lives in Cornwall and is taking an active interest in the game down there. The match will be on May 1st, 1976, at a venue to be decided.

The 5th Annual Hard Rubber Bat Open promises to be better than ever. Later in the season on April 11, 1976, at the Barnet T.T. Centre, it is hoped that some of the leading modern bat players will have a go and realise how much we used to enjoy our Table Tennis.

Wayfarers English Junior Championships

This season's Wayfarers English Junior Championships are to be held at The P.E. Centre, Loughborough College of Education, Ashby Road, Loughborough, Leicester, on December 14-15, 1975.

Entry forms can be had from the E.T.T.A. at 21 Claremont, Hastings, E. Sussex, TN34 1HA, the closing date for entries being Monday, November 10, 1975, to the E.T.T.A.

WHAT THE PAPERS SAY in Lincolnshire

ROTHMANS/LSG SPORTS AWARD

A woman who is still a leading competitor in her sport but has become increasingly involved in behind-the-scenes work is the latest and youngest Rothmans-LSG Sports Personality of the Month.

Twenty-nine-year-old Joan Robinson holds five positions on the Lincolnshire Table Tennis Association, and is a former County doubles champion.

She represents Lincolnshire on the National Council of the English Table Tennis Association and, for two years, was secretary of the "Sunday Times" Super League.

General Secretary of the L.T.T.A., this year she took on the extra work of match secretary, Press officer and a member of the selection committee.

INTERESTED

"I'm so interested in keeping the sport going, I'll do anything to help the County," she said.

Joan, of 13 Croppers Way, Freiston, Boston, also finds time to bring up two young children and run a home.

"I like to be organised. I know in advance what has got to be done and I plan ahead to get something out by a certain date.

"If I'm organising a tournament I'll be flat out for two or three weeks, but normally I work a couple of full days and have one or two weeks' rest."

Her husband, Alan, a sports enthusiast and fellow vice-president of Lincoln Table Tennis Association, gives her a great deal of encouragement.

A member of North Sea Camp football team, where he works, he sometimes changes shifts to look after the children while Joan is away at a match or meeting.

Joan learned the sport at her home in Saxilby, near Lincoln, where her parents had a table tennis table. She joined the Saxilby team at the age of 16 and, a year later, was in the Lincoln Table Tennis Association, where she was immediately made secretary.

Holder of a Lincoln and Boston town badge, she played doubles for the County on five occasions and is present holder of the Boston ladies' singles title.

SECRETARY

She was secretary of the Lincoln Association for eight years before moving to Boston in 1972 and her husband was on the committee.

The couple were made vice-presidents of the Lincoln Association when they left and were presented with a bureau.

"I keep my Lincolnshire table tennis notes in it," said Joan. "It is always there as a reminder of our time in Lincoln."

She was the club's top woman player and her husband was often third member of the men's team.

As Lincolnshire's representative on the National Council, she travels to London for meetings about five times a year.

"It's up to me to report back to the County everything that happens at the meetings," she said.

For two years she was secretary of the Super League, which involved going to five matches in the season between the country's top twelve men and six boys.

But this year the competition is not being held because of lack of sponsorship.

"Sponsorship in the E.T.T.A. is getting very tight," said Joan. "Sponsors aren't prepared just to have their name advertised any more—they want 'X' number of pounds as well".

In the County itself she organises the Lincolnshire Closed Championships, which will

be held at North Kesteven Sports Centre, North Hykeham, in November.

"There is not really a lot of work involved in that," she said. "I've got the entry forms printed and I have to order the trophies".

The East of England Championships, held in March, probably at Scunthorpe, take more organising.

"I start on that as soon as the previous year's event is over", she said.

"The number of entries grow every year and I have to acknowledge every one".

Last year there were 175 competitors from all over Britain, and Joan had to refuse 20 entry forms.

Sometimes foreigners take part in the competition and Joan finds them accommodation. Two years ago some Canadians entered and the year before that there was a group of New Zealanders.

"I do take part in some of the tournaments, but it would be impossible in the East of England because I have too much to do on the day.

"I feel that I shan't get any further with my playing because I don't get enough time to practice. This is mainly because I'm a bit tied to the house. I've got a daughter at school and the little boy at home.

"But I play every week in the Boston League and I'm not thinking about giving up for a few years yet".

Joan's husband said: "No one does more to promote the game in Lincolnshire, and by that I cast no reflection on the many people who unselfishly give their leisure time for the enjoyment of others.

Joan is not only our youngest Rothmans-LSG Sports Personality, she is the youngest member of the National Council and one of only four women representatives.

Westside Health Centre and Gymnasium

FREE WORK-OUT

Readers might be interested to know about the facilities available at the Westside Health Centre, which is often used by sportsmen and women to back up their training. It also makes a rendezvous for out-of-towners to shower, sauna, change and then meet up in the bar and restaurant, which is available to members and non-members alike.

The huge gymnasium is light, airy and well-equipped, with bars, rods, weights, boards, leg extension machines and sundry other devices; hard to explain but easy to use and no doubt familiar to anyone who has ever "kept fit". The Studio area is used for regular circuit classes lasting half an hour; both for men and women on the appropriate days. Readers may prefer to use the gym for their own work-out programme; if not, gym instructors will be glad to devise the most suitable programme to keep all the muscles equally developed and smoothly working. The gymnasium has helped to train rally drivers, yacht race crews, tennis players (including Ann Haydon-Jones in her hey-day) and the gym instructors include Oscar Heidenstam, Editor of "Health and Strength" and a pioneer of keeping fit and well.

Finnish Log Sauna, showers, massage and Solarium tanning finish the feel-fit, look-good story and for recovering there are rest rooms and the restaurant and bar. All Westside members are entitled to use the squash courts and swimming pool of the neighbouring Kensington Close Hotel.

To introduce readers to the Health Centre, at 201-207 Kensington High Street, London, W8, which may well please and surprise them, take along a current copy of "Table Tennis News" and claim a free work-out and sauna on the appropriate day—LADIES: Monday, Wednesday, Friday. GENTS: Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday.

North of England Open

Dropping but one game—to Keith Paxton, of Durham—Desmond Douglas took the £45 Men's Singles prize in the North of England Open at Manchester on September 27, with a final 21-12, 21-6 win over Lancashire's Donald Parker.

It followed a 21-18, 21-6 ousting of Nicky Jarvis, the defending champion, in the semis; Parker having put paid to the aspirations of the country's top juniors, Paul Day and Andrew Barden.

Repeating her success of twelve months previously, Susan Lisle retained her Women's title with Carole Knight again the defeated finalist.

(A full report and detailed scores will appear in the November issue).

FORTHCOMING DOMESTIC OPENS

October

- 12—Merton 1-Star (Bournemouth)
- 18-19—Sussex 2-Star (Hastings)
- 25—North of Scotland 2-Star (Aberdeen)
- 25-26—Humberside 3-Star (Hull)
- 26—Aberdare Open

November

- 1—Ulster Open and West of Scotland Junior and Youth (Glasgow)
- 8—Midlands 2-Star (Dundee)
- 8-9—Midland Counties 3-Star (Warley)
- 14-15—Limerick Open
- 15—Swansea Open
- 15-16—Southend 2-Star
- 16—Hastings Tigers 1-Star (Bexhill)
- 16—East of Scotland 2-Star (Edinburgh)
- 22-23—Kent 2-Star Junior (Folkstone)
- 22-23—Woodfield 1-Star

CLEVELAND JUNIOR OPEN

Seeded No. 3, Keith Paxton, of Durham, won the U-17 B.S. event in the Cleveland Junior Open, played at Thornaby, over the weekend of September 20-21.

Stephen Hazelwood (Yorks) was the beaten finalist who, in the semis, eliminated top seed Jonathan Proffitt (Herts).

Compensation for the White Rose county came in the U-17 G.S. won by top-seeded Melody Ludi, who had a tight 21-16, 25-23 victory over the host county's Angela Tierney.

Lancashire's Tony O'Connor, seeded 3, was the victor in the Cadets (U-14) B.S., beating top seed Graham Sandley (Middx) in the final. The counterpart girls' event was won by top seed Alison Gordon (Berks), who beat Jill Purslow (Berks) in the final. Full report (by Alan Ransome) in the November issue.

Stop Press

IRELAND'S SAD LOSS

It is with profound regret that we report the death, in a car accident, of Cliff Thompson, the former Irish Swaythling Cup player.

Returning home from junior trials in Northern Ireland in the company of Mr. N. L. Sloane, the Irish General Secretary, and three junior players, Cliff was occupying the front passenger seat when the crash occurred in the early evening of Sunday, September 21.

Cliff made up that famous triumvirate of Jim Langan, Tommy Caffrey and Thompson, who wore with distinction the green shirt of Ireland not only in the Emerald Isle, but in lands far removed. Deepest sympathy is extended to Cliff's widow and family in their tragic loss.

READER'S LETTERS

DIFFICULT TO BELIEVE

For some time I have heard rumours that Coaches have encouraged young players to try to gain advantage by deliberately using services which do not comply with the rules.

Recently first hand information has reached me that this is so. Admittedly the Coach concerned followed up with instructions not to argue if the umpire "pulls you up".

This information came to me from a father who was a spectator and found it difficult to believe his own ears. His approach to me was on the lines "What sort of a sport do you play which teaches its young players to cheat?"

I cannot give names to avoid possible embarrassment to the young player concerned; but perhaps the E.T.T.A. and/or the Director of Coaching, could tell me and everyone else, through the columns of the magazine, what instructions are given to Coaches on this subject.

Since articles started appearing in the magazine suggesting that the service should be a "weapon" rather than a means of getting the ball in play, I have feared that the above might result; and junior matches that I have watched in the last 12 months suggest that 90% of the players' efforts are designed to impart so much spin on the service that the rally will be a maximum of one more stroke.

In the June magazine I note with interest, the letter and article by Bernard Chatterley.

I agree with all he says, particularly with regard to the ever-increasing number of ways being discovered to cheat; and the need to teach young players to play "Table Tennis" instead of to play "Services".

Surely the boredom Bernard speaks of caused by the over-emphasis on the "Serve and wallop" game is the main reason for so many young players being lost to the game as they grow up. There just is not enough in the modern game to keep their interest, both as players and spectators.

Perhaps some of these points need to be taken up internationally — if so, surely the E.T.T.A. should take a vigorous lead.

R. F. BOWLES.

66 Flaxbourton Road,
Failand,
Bristol,
BS8 3UN.

FASHION FOR ROBOTS

I always enjoy and look forward to my next issue of "Table Tennis News" and have spent many happy hours looking through old and new copies. My one complaint concerns a certain lack of drama in your reports. Your issue on the World Championships, for instance, was full of dry statistics and match scores but almost totally lacking in excitement and descriptions. It was impossible to know any player's style as there was a complete absence of such basic information as whether he was defensive or attacking, back spin or top spin, or on what big shots he based his game.

On the other hand, the space you give to minority views is wholly admirable, as is the vast amount of information contained in each issue.

My main comments, however, are on the sad letter from Mrs. Pat Wales on the subject of her daughter, Linda, who was without question the best under-13-year-old in England and as far ahead of her contemporaries as Paul Day and Andy Barden who have, quite rightly, received massive encouragement in their time, while Linda received very little.

The answer does not lie in the fact that Linda lives in Sussex rather than London or Ormesby, but in the more abstract subject of English coaching theory. Linda is, and was, a graceful, fluent player of defensive incursions, particularly when the pressure was greatest, at a time when British coaches were looking for big loops and fierce kills—what at the time was called "the modern game", which itself is now old-fashioned and Defence is now making a big comeback as back spin players are coming within reach of major titles again. Would we in this country not be very happy if our players had achieved half, or a quarter, of what the despised Defenders of other nations achieved in the recent World Championships?

It was, of course, at all times possible for women defenders to reach the world rankings with a largely defensive game, as Jill Hammersley has shown. Linda was overlooked, in my view, because her particular game was out of fashion when she most needed encouragement, but the British coaching establishment itself was moving along the wrong lines, and there was a sad consistency in bringing many highly talented youngsters to the threshold of world honours where a total block occurred and they seemed unable to go any further.

The local fashion was for robots able to move their arms across an almost identical trajectory a thousand times, but players without flair, originality or magic. Variety and individuality were ruthlessly discouraged. Among coaches there was a total lack of motivational and inspirational qualities which could lift players beyond what would otherwise have been their limit. The march to the top is a hard and lonely one. It is easy to be a slob; hard to be a champion. No champion has ever got to the top on his own.

I hope Linda's decision to retire is not permanent, because I think she still has a big future, but if all else fails, there is a lot more to the Game than making the national rankings. Each match is a new beginning, and it is one of the charms of the Game that each match represents a completely new start.

JOHN PREAN.

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

When one includes statistics — which are considered a must — there remains precious little space for descriptive writing allowing for the space afforded to minority views.—Ed.

TIME FOR REVIEW

After my visit to the recent Essex Junior "Select", I am persuaded that the time has arrived for a review of the value of doubles events at junior tournaments.

At present, inexperienced players losing in first or second round singles matches often wait three or four hours to be put out of the initial rounds of the doubles. They then go home having played two or three sets.

The problem has been partially resolved at some tournaments by the introduction of the group system in singles involving three players. Surely it would be beneficial to the majority to extend the group to say five players. All participants would then be guaranteed four sets, with more equitable intervals between them.

The successful group winners having emerged, the tournament can be concluded fairly rapidly, and on a high note. No doubt a substantial number of players would stay to see the finals, knowing the precise order of matches to come.

Judging by the comments passed at Essex, reference will no doubt be made elsewhere in this magazine about the late finish of the tournament. There is no need for me to elaborate upon the detrimental effects of youngsters arriving home in the early hours of Monday morning. This state of affairs is often caused by the same players being involved in the final stages of the singles, boys'

(or girls') doubles, and mixed doubles events.

All that is surely needed is courage on the part of the organisers to make a radical change in tournament policy. It could be tactfully explained to donors of doubles trophies that the majority of players positively benefit from a singles only tournament.

My views are based on talking to the people who are most directly involved — i.e. the players and their parents and stewards. I sincerely hope the message gets through to the organisers.

BERNARD YARNOLD.

52 Mill Hill,
Baginton,
Coventry,
Warwickshire.

MEMORY AT ODDS

How nice to see a piece by Laszlo Bellak in your June issue—and a reference to the great World Championships in London in 1938, too. Readers may be interested in what the official magazine said about that match at the time:

"Her victory is the more remarkable since she was not considered good enough for the Corbillon Cup team. Wendy found her form when we most needed a tonic, after four titles had gone to foreign countries. It also brought Bellak his first world title.

"And, mark you, he has appeared in more world championship finals than any other player the game has known. Small wonder he nudged Wendy and danced round and round the ring . . ."

But Bellak's memory of the occasion is at odds with the printed programme, which records the last game as won 21-14, not 21-19. And they did meet again, Bellak and Wendy Woodhead—to play together in the January, 1939 English Championships, when they lost in the quarter-final to Barna and Margaret Osborne.

In between, the net had been lowered from 6½ inches to 6 inches—so Wendy Woodhead was the only English woman to win a world title with the higher net.

GEORGE WHITE.

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Purley,
Surrey,
CR2 2NH.

Champions Beaten

Standing in for Desmond Douglas at Southend on September 13, Nicky Jarvis suffered the only reverse for The Rest side which beat Essex, the Champion County, 8-1.

Ian Horsham was the player to place a feather in his cap with a 14, 18 victory over the England No. 2. Individual scores:—

D. Brown lost to N. Jarvis 12, -13, -16; lost to A. Barden -15, -17.

I. Horsham lost to P. Day -17, -10; bt Jarvis 14, 18.

R. Potton lost to Barden -12, -10; lost to Day -17, -17.

Miss S. Hession lost to Miss L. Howard -15, 19, -14.

Brown/Horsham lost to Barden/Day -17, 19, -19.

Potton/Hession lost to Jarvis/Howard -15, -17.

READING SELECTIONS

The England junior team chosen to meet Wales at Maiden Erlegh School, Reading, on October 3 was:—D. Johnson (Warwks), M. Shuttle (Surrey), Chris Rogers (Leics), Beverley Green (Warwks) and Karen Witt (Berks).

Selected for Wales were Jonathan Hardiker, Gary Owen, Jeffrey Morgan, Debbie Coulthard and Sandra Coulson. The non-playing captains were Brian Burn for England and Leonard Ellis for Wales.

UMPIRE QUALIFYING SCHEME

The E.T.T.A. has always been one of the leading exponents of the art of umpiring, and English umpires are rightly respected by the players of other nations. It was in the 1950-51 season that the E.T.T.A. began formal qualification of umpires and set a pattern which has since been copied by many Associations throughout the table tennis world.

In England, the umpires' organisation is supervised by the National Umpires' and Referees' Committee, one of the most active of the Association's sub-committees. This committee is responsible for establishing the qualifying standards for County and National Umpires and for advising the National Council and County Associations on all aspects of umpiring.

The qualification of County Umpires, using test papers and methods published by the N.U.R.C., is carried out by County Associations, the national body acting simply as the registry of successful candidates and issuing appropriate badges and handbooks. Thereafter, the administration and organisation of County Umpires within a county is entirely the province of the County Association, although the N.U.R.C. is always available for help and advice.

After a qualifying period of appropriate experience, normally three years, a County Umpire may be nominated by his County Association for the National Umpire examination. This consists of a written test and an interview and takes account of the candidate's knowledge, experience and practical ability. The examination is conducted by the N.U.R.C. once or twice each year, in various parts of the country according to the location of the majority of the candidates. The standard set is high and even to be accepted as a candidate an umpire must be among the best of County Umpires.

In 1973 the International Table Tennis Federation introduced the International Umpire qualification, for which an annual examination is held. The examination is open to experienced National Umpires of Associations affiliated to the I.T.T.F., and since the first examination the E.T.T.A. has had more successful candidates than any other national Association.

Umpiring is not an easy job and may often be a thankless one, but it has its rewards and opportunities. There is the satisfaction of controlling matches in a way which enables players to give of their best and spectators to appreciate their efforts; there is the satisfaction of making an important contribution to the game at all levels without necessarily having either the ability or the inclination to be a star player.

With increasing experience and ability come the opportunities to participate in events of the highest importance, both at home and abroad. At International Matches and Championships, one could hardly be closer to the action than the umpire, who has unrivalled opportunity to see top-class table tennis at short range. The scope of this opportunity has been extended in recent years by the growing practice of umpire exchange visits to International events staged by National Associations. The E.T.T.A. normally receive at least two or three such invitations each season and many umpires have been able to take advantage of "working" holidays at greatly reduced cost.

If you wish to qualify as an umpire, you should apply to your County Association for a County Umpire Test Paper, which you answer in your own time, using any reference books you choose. When completed, the paper should be returned to the County Umpires' Secretary for marking. If you reach the required pass mark you will be appointed a Probationary County Umpire and the County

Association will arrange a series of practical tests at staged events, such as County Championship matches. If you satisfy the examiners at these tests, you will become a full County Umpire and will be issued with a numbered lapel badge and registered by the N.U.R.C.; your further progress then depends on your interest and ability.

THE INDIAN SCENE AFTER CALCUTTA

Will prize money insure a good return?

Though India staged their first World Table Tennis Championship in Bombay in 1952, the country is still nowhere in world T.T. rankings. According to some critics this is because all their players are amateurs, as there is no money in the game. "Top Spinner" reports on the first-ever T.T. prize money tournament held in Bombay recently.

The trouble with this country is that, whatever you do, the rich are getting richer. Even when you hold a prize-money tournament. Thus said a wag when Niraj Bajaj won the top award of Rs 2,500 in the recently concluded Bombay Table Tennis Championships. He was right.

The first-ever prize-money tournament in the country seemed to have motivated the rich far more than those who could well do with the cash at stake. The surprising runner-up in the men's singles was the national junior champion, B. K. Arun Kumar. Though not in the Bajaj "class", he is quite affluent. He is the son of B. R. Kapinapathy, of tennis fame.

The runner-up in the women's singles was another well-to-do player, Nayereh Mowla, who was so inspired that she overcame in successive rounds two more fancied opponents. The lone exception was Usha Sunderraj, who bagged Rs 1,875 for winning the women's singles. But then she couldn't lose. She was a little too good for the rest.

Perhaps the rich appreciate the value of money more than the rest and pursue it with zeal. Even as plans for the Bombay Championships were announced, Bajaj told me: "This is one tournament worth winning." At once one could sense his determination. He coolly went about his job and displayed the stroke-power as well as the concentration and fighting spirit of a champion, as he successively demolished Vilas Menon, Manjit Dua and Kumar in the last three rounds. A nice guy really, Bajaj, indeed is a worthy champion.

The other strong contenders did not seem to have been as motivated as Bajaj, who today is neither the national champion nor the India number one. In fact, K. Jayant, the national champion, drew a blank. Those competing in the men's singles had to reach at least the quarter-final to be eligible for a cash award—the women had to reach at least the semi-final—and Jayant was beaten by an unranked youngster from his native Bangalore, Ramesh Babu. Jayant lost not so much because of his indifferent form, as because he made the fatal mistake of relaxing while being two games up and leading 10-4 in the third. N. V. Ashok, the India number seven, was guilty of the same offence against Manjit Dua. Ashok was in such dazzling form that he conceded barely six points to Manjit Dua, the India number

one, in the second game. A tally of the points at the end showed that Dua collected 70 to Ashok's 69 in the four games, yet won the match and was richer by Rs 625.

How far can prize-money tournaments change the face of Indian table tennis? This was the question debated by players and enthusiasts alike during the Bombay Championships and, on the basis of the evidence provided in the tournament, the inescapable conclusion was that cash awards cannot cure all the ills afflicting the game and the players. A competition with a total stake of Rs 15,000 ought to have been a deadly serious affair. Each point should have been bitterly contested. Yet Jayant and Ashok lost matches they had all but wrapped up.

And, incredible though it may sound, Sudhir Phadke slept off when he should have been wide awake. Thus he turned up at the venue 15 minutes after his semi-final against Kumar was announced and, not surprisingly, lost. To beat the redoubtable Jagannath one day and lose to junior champion Kumar the next day hardly speaks well of an experienced international. Call me a cynic if you like, but I wonder whether what the players need today is a cash award or a crack of the whip. Perhaps a bit of both!

As the first major event of a new season, the Bombay Championships were awaited with a lot of interest but none of the players who wore the India colours last year and at the World Championships early this year, showed any improvement. While their many trips abroad and the performances of such stalwarts as Surbek and Jonyer at the World's ought to have inspired them and given them fresh ideas, our players seem to have simply nung up their racquets. In the five months since the World Championships, Dua, for instance, could have worked on his backhand. It remains vulnerable and, as Bajaj showed, will continue to be exploited by his opponents.

The impact on our girls is even less. Nayereh Mowla, Nandini Kulkarni and Kiran Waekar are all young—the last two were in the team at Calcutta—but none of them seems keen on developing a match-winning stroke like the "loop". They are quite happy pushing their way to the semis and the finals.

Perhaps the lone exception is Arun Kumar. He has quickly risen to the stiffer challenge of the senior ranks and is bound to be a force to reckon with. Unless we have not one but at least ten players of the calibre of Bajaj and Arun Kumar, Indian table tennis will continue to wallow in mediocrity, cash prizes notwithstanding.

This article, by "Top Spinner," is reproduced by courtesy of the Indian publication "Onlooker" (September 1-14) sent by correspondent Bomi Amalsadvala, a veteran Bombay T.T. player, coach, critic and broadcaster. He has helped coach Niraj Bajaj and Nayereh Mowla.—Ed.

Team For Spain

The National Selection Committee have announced the following team to represent England at the Spanish International Championships in Valladolid on Oct. 10-12, 1975:—Paul Day (Cambs), Andy Barden (Middx) and Melody Ludi (Yorks). Brian Burn will be the Non-playing Captain.

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1975 Benson & Hedges 'Love Bird' Invitation

by DOUG STEWART,
"Table Tennis Newsletter",
Australian T.T. Association

Anton Stipanovic, the "unlucky man" of the last world championships in Calcutta—runner-up in the men's singles, men's doubles and men's team events—took the "Love Bird" invitational title in Kingston, Jamaica, over the period June 4—6.

Stipanovic recovered from being 3-9 down in the fifth to take his semi-final from Kjell Johansson and beat 1971 world champion, Stellan Bengtsson, in the final. Bengtsson had beaten Dragutin Surbek in another 5-game semi.

In Sook Na, formerly of South Korea and now of the United States, beat Sweden's Ann-Christin Hellman and Jill Hammersley, of England, to take the women's event. The final was played at expedite from towards the end of the second game, with Na finally out-pushing Jill.

In the first round of the men's singles (writes Tim Boggan, Editor, "Table Tennis Topics", U.S.A.) the sponsors were not too happy about a last-minute change in the draw which put the "Black Flash", Jamaican-born Desmond Douglas (never mind he left the island when he was 5 and that he doesn't speak like a Jamaican any more) against the defending champion, Danny Seemiller, of the U.S.A.

If the idea was to get thousands of spectators into hustling, hard-working J.T.T.F. President Roy Hylton and Tournament Director Ken McLachlan's "Love Bird" bower, it wouldn't do to have either of these two talked-about players get beat early. (As it happened, however, the sponsors needn't have worried. I've never seen anything like it. There were 4,000 wildly cheering fans there every night.

As it was Seemiller won, as did Stipanovic, against England's other male representative, Nicky Jarvis, avenging his defeat in the Canadian Open in Quebec. Results:—

Men's Singles—Quarter-finals

A. Stipanovic (Yugo) bt N. Jarvis (Eng) 19, 11, 17.

K. Johansson (Swe) bt E. Caetano (Can) 12, 19, 13.

D. Surbek (Yugo) bt D. Seemiller (USA) 14, 18, 16.

S. Bengtsson (Swe) bt Z. Cordas (Can) -19, 16, 17, -19, 12.

Semi-finals

Stipanovic bt Johansson -17, -19, 12, 9, 13.

Bengtsson bt Surbek -17, 17, -17, 17, 16.

Final

STIPANOVIC bt Bengtsson -14, -19, 12, 17, 10.

Women's Singles—Semi-finals

In Sook Na (USA) bt A.-C. Hellman (Swe) 20, 16, 13.

J. Hammersley (Eng) bt I. Cordas (Can) 10, 17, 12.

Final

IN SOOK NA bt Hammersley 17, 19, -19, 16.

Men's Doubles—Semi-finals

Bengtsson/Johansson bt Douglas/Jarvis 18, 11, 14.

Stipanovic/Surbek bt U. Thorsell (Swe)/M. Savnik (Yugo) 9, 15, 9.

Final

BENGTSSON/JOHANSSON bt Stipanovic/Surbek 19, -16, -16, 17, 18.

Mixed Doubles—Final

STIPANOVIC/CORDAS bt Jarvis/Hammersley 21, 17, 13.

CUMBRIA COMMENT

by John Taylor

NEW FACES

Following the well attended and keenly contested county trials held at Millom, on September 13, we have two new faces at the top of the men's ranking list in the persons of Chris Reed and Brian Towell. Contrasting stories behind the two here, the ever-improving Reed, ranked No. 6 last season, must have been most people's favourite to take over the No. 1 position; Towell, however, came back with a bang after an 18-months lay-off to go straight to the No. 2 position.

Last season's No. 1, John Willis, was hard pushed to hold on to a top three spot after facing some determined play from Alan Fay in particular. Top woman, Jennifer Pachul, had no real trouble in retaining last season's standing with No. 1 Junior, Gail Smith, being her nearest challenger.

The encouraging wealth of junior talent available means that two teams will be com-

peting in that class in the new season and form shown by Ian Reed, 13-years-old brother of Chris, during the recent Essex Junior "Select", when he reached the quarter-final of the U-15 class and took the Dutch No. 2 to 17-21 in the third in the 1st Round proper of the U-17 class, sets the pattern of things to come.

The inter-town league will be run again this season and another look at the men's ranking list suggests that last season's winners, Carlisle, will again have a major say in the outcome of the competition with chief opposition coming from Millom and Barrow. A few top-class youngsters have been lost through premature retirement in recent seasons and the one notable absentee this season being last season's No. 2 senior and top junior, Peter Polczynski.

Rankings:—

1. C. Reed (Millom)
2. B. Towell (Kendal)
3. J. Willis (Carlisle)
4. A. Fay (Barrow)
5. D. Kirkpatrick (Carlisle)
6. S. O'Neil (Carlisle)
7. N. Smith (Millom)
8. R. Bell (Carlisle)
9. N. Honeyman (Barrow)
10. S. Crosby (Whitehaven)

Women

1. J. Pachul (Millom)
2. G. Smith (Millom)
3. M. Gray (Millom)
4. K. Willis (Carlisle)
5. S. Studholme (Kendal)
6. E. Mathie (Millom)
7. C. Tyson (Millom)
8. K. Usher (Millom)
9. C. Rose (Kendal)

Boys

1. C. Reed
2. N. Smith
3. I. Reed (Millom)
4. D. Gray (Millom)
5. C. Mathie (Millom)
6. A. Pachul (Millom)
7. T. Harrison (Millom)
8. M. Hogarth (Carlisle)
9. S. Stamper (Millom)
10. P. Watson (Carlisle)

Girls

1. G. Smith
2. M. Gray
3. E. Mathie
4. C. Tyson
5. K. Usher



In Sook Na, victor over Jill Hammersley in the W.S. final in Kingston.

Photo by Tommy Andersson, Lund, Sweden.

Obituary

FRANK MILLIGAN, LIFE MEMBER (In Memoriam)

I first met Frank in the early 1930's and a few years later he and I were invited by Maurice Rose to become members of the E.T.T.A. Referees' Committee.

For some 35 years I was privileged to work with Frank on many and varied tournaments, including two World Championships, and his passing will leave a gap in Table Tennis circles which will be most difficult to fill.

He always did his utmost to ensure the smooth running of the tournaments with which we were concerned and, in this connection, the welfare of the players was always his first priority. In fact, he was a "players' man". Those of us who knew him well will always retain the memory of one who was firm but fair in his views, humorous, and completely calm whatever the circumstances.

PERCY HYDE,
Life Member E.T.T.A.

Our condolences go to Frank's wife, Elizabeth, at 20 Balmoral Gardens, West Ealing, London, W13 9UA, on her sad loss. May the good companionship that her late husband enjoyed within the game be ever extended to his widow.—Ed.



Lucky winner, Ian Perrett, of Devizes, Wilts, is sitting pretty with the keys to his newly-acquired Avenger 1600DL, handed over by Charles M. Wyles, Chairman of the E.T.T.A.

Photo by courtesy of the "Hastings Observer"

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS, 1977 LOTTERY

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 H 04339 Mrs. M. Oates, 39 Willesby Road, Spalding, Lincs.
 A 06135 W. Hassall, 1 Cannock Road, Shareshill, Wolverhampton.
 B 11174 R. Walker, 43 Medway Road, Sheerness, Sheppey, Kent.
 C 23031 G. Boughton-Leigh, 11 Oakleigh Close, Worthing, Sussex.
 B 04503 Mrs. S. B. Golamgouse, 11 Dunloe Avenue, London, N17 6LB.
 H 00839 Mrs. B. Keeble, 51 Wiltshire Avenue, Hornchurch, Essex.
 C 29178 K. R. Brown, 39 Tower House, Silverdale Road, Burgess Hill, Sussex.
 B 38167 C. Mooney, 600 Wood Lane, London, W.12.
 A 23794 E. Eyden, 118 Deans Way, Ash Green, Exhall, Coventry, CV7 9HF.
 D 33016 B. Dunkley, c/o Hillside, Akeley, Buckingham.
 B 32391 C. Brunt, 5 Romsey Road, Benfleet, Essex.
 H 01362 R. Hall, 34 Second Avenue, Aintree, Liverpool, L9.
 H 03606 S. Jones, 20 Price Street, Burslem, Stoke-on-Trent.
 A 30386 G. White, Metal Box, Chewmoor Lane, Westhoughton, Bolton, Lancs.
- £100**
 B 11463 M. Forrests, 1 Rookery Close, Bredger, Sittingbourne, Kent.
 B 04166 P. Lowe, 8 Windermere Road, High Lane, Cheshire.
 A 32296 G. Reeves, 8 Sexton Close, Daventry, Northants.
 A 15807 B. Critchlow, Cramlington Fire Station, Cramlington, Northumberland.
 A 05451 K. Westbury, 5 Hunter Road, Cannock, Staffs.
 C 14778 C. Hislop, c/o 76 Oxford Street, London, W.1.
 D 10970 E. L. Hensman, 5 Gardner Court, Kelvin Road, London, N5 2PG.
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WELSH CORNER

by H. Roy Evans

Despite the disappointing Welsh results at the European Youth Championships in Zagreb, plans to concentrate on the very young will continue to be the main plank in Welsh Association activities.

September is a particularly busy month with a weekend course for twenty new coaches, two residential courses for young players, one in Cardiff and one at Lilleshall, and a refresher course for coaches at which the lessons of Zagreb will be passed down the line.

There are to be three weekly squad training sessions at the National Sports Centre, Cardiff, one for the senior squad and two for the juniors, and similar weekly sessions in the North, at Mold and Rhyl.

In addition, there will be more emphasis on sending juniors to tournaments "across the border".

The Welsh League programme starts on the last Saturday in September with a bigger entry than for many years, so big, in fact, that the second division has had to be split into two sections. In addition, the Junior Division is strong, but as ever we could do with more women's representative teams.

The Club Championship of Wales will again be held, but this time for teams of two, with some excusing of the strong teams until later, so that the weaker clubs can have more of a run. Separate sections will be run in the South and in the North, with the survivors coming together at the semi-final stages.

The First Welsh Open Tournament is at Aberdare on October 26, followed by the Swansea Open on November 15. Cardiff hold their Open Event on December 13, Glamorgan on January 24, and the Gwent on March 27. The Welsh Closed and the Finals of the Club Championship will be on March 20.

The Welsh Open is on February 6th to 8th. Throughout the season there are to be various sessions of the Ascot Sports Proficiency Award Course, Silver and Gold Divisions. The Bronze Tests are taken at club level by the certificated coaches, of which there are now 78 working in various parts of Wales.

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JOOLA
table tennis

In the Coaching Field

with JOHN O'SULLIVAN

At one time anybody starting to play table tennis considered winning the local league championship to be the ultimate goal.

It was possible that someone, in the past, had played for the county or, in the league handbook, mention was recorded of a vice-president, or a life member, who had actually played for England.

This, of course, did not affect the ordinary mortal who was fighting for his place in the 8th division. But now, with the Schools' Association running National Team Championships as well as individual events from U-19 to U-11, this has all changed.

The beginner is no longer satisfied with being restricted to local events and practically demands to have the opportunity to enter events countrywide.

Listening to the new juniors talking, the subject under discussion is quite often, "How many years have I left as a junior?" and "Will I make the national cadet or junior ranking list?"

I have raised this issue for at the National Coaches' Conference, held at Lilleshall over the weekend of May 24-26, Bryan Merritt gave a talk on the World Championships in India.

It was only after hearing about the conditions under which the competitors had to play that we realised that coaching will have to be more than just efficient stroke production.

HAZARDS

One of the most obvious hazards was the heat. Since attending this conference we have experienced a most un-English summer, with temperatures soaring into the upper 80's.

During this heat I attended many coaching sessions in which the pupils did very little work, complaining that they were too hot. Although this was understandable, it makes it very difficult for our players who attended the World Championships where the temperature was well into the 90's!

If players overcame the heat and produced something like their true form, they still had to contend with other difficulties such as dust, which had an adverse effect on throat and chest. Then again, there is the question of food in foreign parts, which the English, more than most, find difficult to adjust to. How do you train players to cope with such conditions?

Bryan went on to explain the different approach made to the game by the opposition, especially mental preparations. It was observed during the championships that our players did not appear to have as sound a basic game as the more successful participants.

This immediately shifts the onus to the coaches who start the players from the simple push. It was therefore thought that beginners will have to have a more thorough training at the start of their career, avoid the impatience to progress too rapidly, and perfect a strong base to their game.

SELECTIVE

There was also mention of being more selective in accepting pupils for coaching. I think the term used had something to do with silk purses and sows' ears!

National Trainer/Coach Brian Burn also spoke on playing abroad and introduced a statement that caused a great deal of controversy. This was on service, and the type of service our players are likely to come up against when playing overseas.

It almost amounted to "Do we teach our players to foul serve?" As I have said, this caused a great deal of debate with no clear

answer coming out.

It became more evident that playing at international level, especially with some of the foreign umpires, the game can greatly differ to that which we are accustomed to.

If our juniors are going to have any chance at all abroad, coaches are going to require much more information, such as came forth at Lilleshall. This can be obtained at coaches' refresher courses at which one of the National Coaches, or National Team Captains can be invited to enlarge on what is required of an international player. This, of course, now brings us to "How does a player attain international status?"

Also present at the conference was Ron Crayden, Chairman of the National Selection Committee. I didn't envy his task of facing the top coaches in the country and explaining why A and not B had been selected to represent England.

I expected to see Ron, if not torn to pieces, at least badly bruised. But he came through smiling, and with what must have required more than a little nerve. After a short talk on how the Selection Committee functioned and the policy they pursued, he devoted most of his time to answering questions from the floor.

Although he did not actually sidestep any issues, his answers did not always satisfy the questioner. Whether you agreed with how the Selection Committee arrived at its conclusions or not, we were not left in the dark as to why certain actions had been taken. I doubt if any selection committee will ever choose teams to the satisfaction of all concerned, but it is a great help if they appear to be consistent in their policy.

COMPARISON

One of the points raised earlier in the meeting by Brian Burn, was the fitness of our players in comparison with those from abroad. We did not come out very well in this regard. So the talk given by Mr. Bob Fairlie, from Bedford College, on the sort of training that should be carried out to be of the greatest advantage to our players, including the type of food they should eat, was very welcome.

He exploded a few myths about the various super drinks and tablets advertised for improving performance and his talk prompted such interest that a course dealing solely with

the subject was arranged to take place in Bedford later in the year. The date has yet to be confirmed.

But all the courses in the world, or even the most expert coaches, will be of little avail if the players are not convinced that a high standard of fitness is required for top level play, even on the English tournament circuit. A new mental attitude must be cultivated in the beginner that being fit is part of learning table tennis.

On the Sunday of the conference the rough copy of the proposed coaching manual was discussed. I call it a rough copy only because the contents had not been finalised. But the presentation was excellent considering the short time afforded the Sports Council to put it together. And I must pass on the thanks of the meeting for the efficient job they made of it.

CONTROVERSIAL

Although the time allotted for discussion on the manual was overrun, the meeting could have carried on many hours more. There was some quite controversial points discussed and a number of alterations to the text were recommended, although most of the contents were acceptable to the meeting.

Conference was chaired throughout by Gordon Steggall, Chairman of the National Coaching and Schools' Committee. He was very elastic on his timing and if a subject was proving of more interest than first anticipated adjustment was made accordingly.

Such was the success of the conference that it is proposed to hold another one the proposed dates being May 22-23, 1976. Disappointing was the absence of the E.T.T.A's Management Committee despite all having been invited.

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National Coaches' Conference at Lilleshall.

Junior Rankings

On September 16 the National Selection Committee issued the first Junior and Cadet ranking lists of the 1975-76 season. The lists have been produced on results obtained at assessment camps during the summer and in the Essex Junior "Select" tournament held at Harlow on September 6-7.

Paul Day and Andrew Barden continue to dominate the boys' section, as they did throughout last season. Departure from the junior ranks of a number of players, notably Mark Mitchell (Middlesex), has resulted in the remainder of the lists containing some unfamiliar names. One of these, Stephen Hazelwood, of Leeds, previously unranked, comes in at No. 10.

In the girls' list, Angela Mitchell, by virtue of her performances at assessment camps and at Harlow, where she beat Melody Ludi in the final, takes over the No. 1 spot from the Bradford girl.

Complete lists, with previous positions in parentheses, are:—

JUNIORS (U-17)

Boys

1. Paul Day (Cambs) (1)
2. Andrew Barden (Middx) (2)
3. Chris Sewell (Gloucs) (5)
4. Douglas Johnson (Warwks) (6)
5. Martin Shuttle (Surrey) (7)
6. Chris Rogers (Leics) (10)
7. Jonathan Proffitt (Herts) (A)
8. Kevin Caldon (Essex) (19)
9. Ian Smith (Lancs) (A)
10. Stephen Hazelwood (Yorks) (—)
11. Keith Paxton (Durham) (A)
12. David Newman (Essex) (A)
13. Ian Kenyon (Kent) (A)
14. Richard Jermyn (Herts) (—)
15. Andrew Clark (Nthld) (A)
16. Andrew Metcalfe (Yorks) (—)
17. Kevin Edwards (Wilts) (A)
18. Michael Harrison (Yorks) (17)
19. David Reeves (Berks) (15)
20. Chris Reed (Cumbria) (—)

Girls

1. Angela Mitchell (Middx) (2)
2. Melody Ludi (Yorks) (1)
3. Angela Tierney (Cleve) (5)
4. Karen Witt (Berks) (8)
5. Beverley Green (Warwks) (7)
6. Suzanne Hunt (Lincs) (4)
7. June Williams (Cleve) (A)
8. Jane Skipp (Cleve) (A)
9. Julie Reading (Hants) (9)
10. Elaine Lamb (Devon) (A)
11. Alison Gordon (Berks) (A)
12. Mandy Smith (Berks) (A)
13. Norma Carne (Cleve) (A)
14. Janet New (Dorset) (A)
15. Sandra Sutton (Essex) (6)
16. Julie McLean (Yorks) (11)
17. Jill Purslow (Berks) (A)
18. Susan Dove (Middx) (12)

Group "A" — Boys

- K. Beadsley (Yorks)
- S. Boxall (Surrey)
- D. Cammiade (Sussex)
- I. Collins (Kent)
- J. James (Middx)
- B. Metcalfe (Yorks)
- I. Plummer (Cleve)
- K. Seager (Surrey)
- G. Stewart (Surrey)
- C. Wilson (Hants)

Group "A" — Girls

- J. Campion (Middx)
- B. Chamberlain (Hunts)
- J. Douglas (Berks)
- H. Gore (Essex)
- L. Hryszko (Yorks)
- S. Jones (Staffs)
- J. Mitchell (Surrey)
- W. Parker (Wilts)
- S. Roebuck (Surrey)
- H. Robinson (Cleve)
- J. Thorpe (Berks)
- H. Robinson (Cleve)
- J. Thorpe (Berks)
- M. Wallis (Nthts)

CADETS (U-14)

Boys

1. C. Wilson (Hants) (8)
2. G. Sandley (Middx) (7)
3. A. Proffitt (Herts) (3)
- A. O'Connor (Lancs) (—)
5. M. Laird (Cleve) (11)
6. R. Bergemann (Hants) (12)
7. S. Harmer (Beds) (13)
8. M. Owens (Hereford) (—)

Girls

1. A. Gordon (Berks) (3)
2. M. Smith (Berks) (4)
3. J. Purslow (Berks) (6)
4. H. Robinson (Cleve) (5)
5. G. Heath (Berks) (—)
6. M. Reeves (Middx) (10)
7. M. Abbott (Essex) (—)
8. P. Townsend (Wilts) (—)



SCOTTISH NEWS

by Leslie Hamilton

GRAMPIAN TELEVISION INVITATION TOURNAMENT

History was made in Aberdeen on August 30 when the first ever table tennis tournament, staged specifically for television, took place. The idea was born early this year when Grampian Television Limited, the North of Scotland's television station based in Aberdeen, contacted me with the offer to arrange and run for them a table tennis tournament. I had complete freedom in the running of the tournament, the only stipulation being that all participants must be connected in some way with the Grampian T.V. Area.

Following a series of negotiations, twelve players were invited to take part, and were arranged to play initially in groups of three, the winner of each group proceeding to the semi-final.

As a result of discussions with Richard Yule, the firm "Halex Ltd." were contacted. Expressing a keen interest in the venture, "Halex" supplied two tables for the event, one with surrounds to form the playing arena, and the other as a practice table. This latter facility allowed players to arrive at the match table ready to start without "knock-up" delays.

Finally, on August 30, the tournament was held, all the sets being recorded for transmission, one per week, on Grampian T.V.'s new sports production, "Sportscall".

Since the tournament is aimed at the non-initiated, and not primarily towards those already active in the game, the details of the matches follow.

Group 1—Miss Elaine Smith (Perth) bt Brian Lynch (Dundee) 5, 15. Richard Yule (Aberdeen) bt Lynch 9, 10. Yule bt Miss Smith 17, 14.

Group 2—John Moir (Bucksburn) bt Alan Colliar (Edinburgh) 18, 20. Bert Kerr (Edinburgh) bt Colliar 16, 16. Kerr bt Moir 12, 19.

Group 3—Brian Morgan (Aberdeen) bt Don McIntosh (Dundee) 13, 8. Terry Forker (Edinburgh) bt McIntosh 14, 21. Forker bt Morgan 17, 16.

Group 4—Alan Matthew (Aberdeen) bt Gary Allan (Elgin) 13, 12. Alastair Taylor (Edinburgh) bt Allan 10, -18, 21. Matthew bt Taylor 16, 15.

Semi-finals—Yule bt Matthew 13, 15.

Forker bt Kerr 19, 15.

Final—YULE bt Forker 19, 15.

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TOURNAMENT DIARIES

These diaries contain dates of Open Tournaments, European League and other international matches and are available from the E.T.T.A. office price 25p plus 7p postage and packing. For orders of 12 or more, the price is £2.50 per dozen, and for multiple orders a contribution towards postage would be appreciated. For anyone who has a cover left from last season, the printed insert only will cost 20p each plus postage, or £2 per dozen.

TABLE HIRE SCHEME

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

B.R. RAIL CONCESSION

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

PERMIT MEMBERS

At the meeting of the National Council on July 26, it was agreed to increase the fee for Permit Membership from £2 to £4. May we remind you that all Permit Members are required to renew their membership on the 1st of September each year, and that any member earning money from his skill at table tennis, such as coaching or writing articles, must hold a permit to do so. Application forms are available on request.

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

At the first meeting of the E.T.T.A.'s National Council, held in London on July 26, eleven councillors were nominated for the Association's Management Committee.

All of last season's incumbents, with the exception of Ian Crickmer, who had resigned, were returned with newcomer Laurie Landry topping the poll. Voting resulted:—

Elected	votes
L. F. Landry (Cornwall)	31
K. Watts (Sussex)	28
M. Goldstein (Warwks)	24
A. E. Upton (Lancs)	24
Not elected	
A. E. Ransome (Cleve)	11
K. T. O. Ponting (Devon)	10
L. A. Chatwin (Derbys)	6
F. Briggs (Yorkshire)	5
P. Reid (Leics)	5
C. Burden (Kent)	4
T. Channing (Surrey)	4

NEW COUNCILLORS

Six new councillors took their seats at the first National Council Meeting of the 1975-76 season. They were:—Peter Charters replacing Ron Smith for Berkshire, Brian Webb (Leo Thompson) for Bucks., Ken Muhr (John Cornwall) for Cambs, Edgar Reay (Fred Inch) for Durham, Harold Taylor (Brian Mayfield) for Notts and David Ramsey (Doreen Henderson) for Somerset. Mrs. Henderson maintained her membership as councillor for the new-formed County of Avon.



Yorkshire and England international, Tony Clayton, with his bride, Gillian Rew, after their marriage in Cirencester on August 9. The couple met when both were students at Liverpool University. Tony and Gillian have taken up residence at 8 Southview, Clandown, Radstock, Bath, Avon. (Phone: Radstock 3721).

Photo by Tony Ross, Hessle.

Essex 2-Star Junior Select

CHRIS AND ANGELA TRIUMPH

by Geoff Newman

This season's opening tournament at Harlow Sports Centre over the weekend of September 6-7 attracted a record entry of nigh on 400 competitors and the organisers had to make a decision as to whether to accept all the entries and have an overloaded programme or restrict the number and return the last received entries.

The decision to accept all entries was taken mainly on the basis that being a "Select" tournament it was important for all the top-seeded juniors to be included. Had entries been restricted to a certain number a vast proportion of the top juniors would not have been on view.

Unfortunately events did get a little late but it was perhaps compensated by the overall high standard of play. Only notable absentees were Paul Day and Andy Barden.

The tournament had an international flavour with the English and Dutch sides at Shenfield entered. But our foreign guests found the going hard and only reached the semi-final stage of two events.

For the English team it was triumph and in particular for Chris Sewell and Angela Mitchell. Both had been outstanding in the international match and they followed it up with some fine play. Sewell in particular looked head and shoulders above the rest in the boys' events and quite the best this writer has seen him play.

Angela had a stern task to overcome in teammate Melody Ludi but knuckled down well to win with some very powerful play. The only U-17 event the English party did not figure in was the boys' doubles, when Dave Newman and Kevin Caldon from the home county got home comfortably.

In the boys' singles the Dutch No. 1, Hans Gootzen, was downed 2-straight by Newman, while G. Stewart ousted Wim IJsselstein in the

third. In the girls' singles Ina Willems and Yolande Noordam found the Ludi-Mitchell combination too hot to handle.

Jonathan Proffitt was in good form and showed his vast improvement by eliminating seeds Kevin Edwards and Chris Rogers before the quarters. Another boy to take the eye was Ian Plummer, who accounted for Martin Shuttle.

Mandy Smith had a fine win over Suzanne Hunt in the U-17 event following up an equally good win over Angela Tierney in the U-15 event. Alison Gordon, yet another Berkshire girl in top gear, had the final say in the U-15 event, as she also did in the U-14 event. Berkshire's young lady contingent doing well overall.

Colin Wilson, from Hants, won an excellent U-15 boys' final from Plummer in one of the Saturday's best sets. Middlesex's Graham Sandley gave a good performance in the Cadet Boys' event, overcoming Adam Proffitt, who had earlier accounted for Wilson. Results:—

UNDER-12
Boys' Singles—Semi-finals
B. Johnson (Berks) bt J. Souter (Middx) -19, 9, 18.
M. Oakley (Surrey) bt S. Edwards (Essex) 11, 6.
Final
OAKLEY bt Johnson 14, 13.
Girls' Singles—Semi-finals
P. Townsend (Wilts) bt M. Ringrose (Hunts) 14, 14.
H. Williams (Middx) bt L. Garbet (Surrey) 18, 16.
Final
TOWNSEND bt Williams 18, -19, 17.

UNDER-14
Boys' Singles—Semi-finals
A. Proffitt (Herts) bt C. Willson (Hants) 16, 15.
G. Sandley (Middx) bt A. O'Connor (Lancs) 16, 8.
Final
SANDLEY bt Proffitt 12, -16, 16.
Girls' Singles—Semi-finals
A. Gordon (Berks) bt J. Purslow (Berks) -17, 20, 10.
H. Robinson (Cleve) bt G. Heath (Berks) 16, 13.
Final
GORDON bt Robinson 13, 22.

UNDER-15
Boys' Singles—Semi-finals
Wilson bt A. Proffitt 9, 19.
I. Plummer (Cleve) bt D. Ward (Warwks) 12, 12.
Final
WILSON bt Plummer 15, 20.
Girls' Singles—Semi-finals
M. Smith (Berks) bt A. Tierney (Cleve) 6, -11, 19.
Gordon bt H. Gore (Essex) 15, 16.
Final
GORDON bt Smith 17, 17.
Boys' Doubles—Semi-finals
Sandley/B. Tyler (Middx) bt R. Albutt (Dbys)/Wilson 13, -15, 11.
S. McCarthy/S. Yallop (Dbys) bt S. Low/A. Stonell (Essex) 18, 19.

Final
SANDLEY/TYLER bt McCarthy/Yallop 16, -19, 11.
Girls' Doubles—Semi-finals
Gore/M. Wallis (Nths) bt Robinson/Tierney 12, 19.
Gordon/Purslow bt J. Douglas/Smith 19, 16.
Final
GORDON/PURSLOW bt Gore/Wallis 10, -19, 10.
UNDER-17
Boys' Singles—Quarter-finals
C. Sewell (Gloucs) bt D. Reeves (Berks) 10, -19, 16.
J. Proffitt (Herts) bt D. Newman (Essex) -18, 19, 17.
I. Smith (Lancs) bt G. Stewart (Surrey) 20, -14, 16.
D. Johnson (Warwks) bt M. Harrison (Yorks) -25, 7, 13.
Semi-finals
Sewell bt Proffitt 17, 17. Johnson bt Smith 14, 18.
Final
SEWELL bt Johnson 9, 10.
Girls' Singles—Quarter-finals
M. Ludi (Yorks) bt I. Willems (Neths) 8, 10.
Tierney bt Purslow 17, 8.
Y. Noordam (Neths) bt Smith 8, 13.
A. Mitchell (Middx) bt J. New (Dorset) 15, 19.
Semi-finals
Ludi bt Tierney 18, -18, 17; Mitchell bt Noordam 16, 18.
Final
MITCHELL bt Ludi 18, -17, 14.
Boys' Doubles—Semi-finals
Caldon/Newman bt G. Alden (Nths)/J. Proffitt 11, 19.
I. Collins (Kent)/K. Richardson (Cambs) bt M. Shuttle (Surrey) /C. Rogers (Leics) 19, -8, 17.
Final
CALDON/NEWMAN bt Collins/Richardson 17, 16.
Girls' Doubles—Semi-finals
New/J. Reading (Hants) bt Gordon/Purslow 12, 19.
Ludi/J. McLean (Yorks) bt S. Hunt (Lincs)/K. Witt (Berks) 16, 11.
Final
LUDI/McLEAN bt New/Reading 14, 15.
Mixed Doubles—Semi-finals
Johnson/Mitchell bt H. Gootzen (Neths)/Willems 8, 9.
Sewell/Ludi bt W. IJsselstein (Neths)/Noordam 12, 10.
Final
SEWELL/LUDI bt Johnson/Mitchell 11, 13.

SUSSEX NOTES

by John Woodford

STEVE AND CAROL ARE BACK

The Sussex scene will surely be enlivened this season by the return from Derby of Steve (formerly Arthur) Downer and Miss Carol Randall (formerly Mrs. Downer). Both players will appear in the County trials, but Carol has already been chosen to play for the Sussex first team in the opening clash against Kent in Division 2 (South).

Steve has chosen to appear in both the Brighton and Eastbourne leagues. His first matches, in Brighton especially, will be under the eyes of the selectors. Incidentally, the Sussex selectors are this time without the services of Robin Pierce, who has had to shelve a number of his table tennis activities including this column. The new chairman of selectors is the National Empire, Dennis Reed, of Hove.

Suzanna Kavallierou has flown away to Canada and may never be seen in Sussex again! Her place in the rankings for Sussex will certainly be taken by Miss Diane Gard, who is in great shape, in both senses, hitting harder than ever.

In Sussex table tennis circles, Crawley & Horsham League players are always prominent. Already Gerald Pugh and John Clarke have secured the Nos. 2 and 3 berths in the Sussex first team and another prominent umpire, Emile Emezc, has announced his fitness to return to the fray at the trials. Alan Hydes has again registered for Sussex and it is now a question of how many matches he will appear in before he returns to New Zealand in December. Before then he will be after the Sussex Open title once again.

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County Championships Round-up

by JOHN WRIGHT

PREVIEW

As expected, the County Table Tennis Championships, at its Annual General Meeting in June, passed the resolution to suspend activities, which means that the inter-County programme will, for the first time, be organised in the name of the English Table Tennis Association. No major change will result from the "new management" and it is likely that most players will be unaware that any change has taken place!

The Junior Division take on yet another very new look which is, however, not related to the change mentioned above. The well-established Premier (which stays spread throughout the season) of course continues, but instead of the six Regional Divisions which had existed last season, we now see three Second Divisions and five Third Divisions. The old Regionals, supposedly of equal strength but in practice not, used to produce one team each to compete in the Challenge matches; the new Second Divisions will each throw up two teams for the Challenge, which should be a fairer system as well as, hopefully, producing far better matches in the various Divisions. No change is contemplated for the Senior Divisions, although one County has been heard to mention that a similar set-up at Senior level would be supported by them.

Essex, Champion County for the seventh time, have revived the custom of a challenge match with the "Rest of England", and will, of course, be looking to retain their title. This is likely to be even more difficult than before as Cleveland will be expected to set the pace on their first appearance in the Premier. I do not know whether Ransomeshire will be able to call on Denis Neale, but even without the experienced England No. 1 they have a powerful squad and must be odds on for the title. The other promotion spot was occupied by Surrey, who have the unenviable task of taking on Cleveland on the opening day.

Second South looks much as last season, with Surrey II replacing Surrey and this could be an interesting group of matches as too could be 2nd Midland, which has relegated Glamorgan to replace Notts (transferred to 2nd North). The return of Bucks to senior play (will they have Jill Hammersley?) and their placing in 2nd East with Cambs, Herts, and demoted Beds, promises some fascinating matches, while 2nd North could be very even, with no team really outstanding on paper. Nice to see that, despite the creation of Avon, all the Somerset senior players are expected to retain their allegiance to their present county and Berkshire will again hope to do well in a grouping which produced some really close matches last season.

Cheshire II could do well in 3rd North if able to keep a settled team, although I would expect Lancs III to shine here. No real tips from the other four Divisions at this level, although I will be keeping a close eye on new Avon, who were rather disappointed to have to come in at the bottom.

The loss of so many of their top boys, who have served with such distinction for so long, will be a serious blow to the chances of Essex retaining the Junior Premier title. I have the feeling that this could be the best-ever competition in this division, and decline to name a possible winner this early. The changes outlined earlier mean that in the Junior 2nd Divisions there will be matches between counties not often in opposition and prediction here, too, could be a chancy business. I would, however, expect Warwicks to be occupying one of the top two places in Junior 2nd Midland, and Herts could possibly take the other place? The Junior 3rd Divisions are all very small, particularly 3rd West, where the withdrawal of Somerset reduces the group to a mere four teams. With so many vacant

dates for the counties competing at this level, I hope some friendly matches will be arranged.

The strength of the Essex veterans was clearly demonstrated last season when they filled the top two places in Veteran South. That they did not record a third overall success in four seasons was due to a sparkling performance in the Challenge by Cheshire from Midland, and one would expect these two counties again to set the pace. Oxfordshire revert to South, not having particularly enjoyed their season in Midland, and Herts pull out their side for reasons believed to be financial.

The complete formation is:—

Premier	2nd South
Cheshire	Essex II
Cleveland	Hampshire
Essex	Kent
Lancashire	Middlesex II
Middlesex	Surrey III
Surrey	Sussex
Warwick	
Yorkshire	
2nd North	2nd Midland
Cleveland II	Derbyshire
Durham	Glamorgan
Lincs	Gloucester
Northumberland	Leicester
Notts	Stafford
Yorkshire II	Warwick II
2nd East	2nd West
Bedford	Berkshire
Bucks	Cornwall
Cambs	Devon
Hertford	Gwent
Norfolk	Somerset
Northants	Wiltshire
	Worcester
3rd South	3rd North
Berkshire II	Cheshire II
Herts II	Cleveland III
Kent II	Cumbria
Oxfordshire	Lancs II
Sussex II	Northumberland II
3rd Midland	3rd East
Clwyd	Bedford II
Derby II	Cambs II
Northants II	Essex III
Notts II	Hunts
Stafford II	Norfolk II
Warwick III	Suffolk
3rd West	J Premier
Avon	Berkshire
Dorset	Cambs
Glamorgan III	Cleveland
Hereford	Essex
Shropshire	Kent
Worcester II	Middlesex
	Surrey
	Yorkshire
J 2 South	J 2 North
Dorset	Cheshire
Essex II	Cleveland II
Hampshire	Cumbria
Kent II	Derbyshire
Middlesex II	Durham
Surrey II	Lancashire
Sussex	Northumberland
	Yorkshire II
J 2 Midland	J 3 South
Cambs II	Berks II
Glamorgan	Bucks
Hertford	Hants II
Leicester	Sussex II
Norfolk	Wiltshire
Northants	
Warwick	

J 3 North
Cleveland III
Clwyd
Cumbria II
Lincs
Notts

J 3 East
Bedford
Essex III
Herts II
Hunts
Suffolk

Vet South
Essex
Essex II
Hampshire
Hunts
Oxford
Wiltshire
Kent

J 3 Midland
Gwent
Oxford
Shropshire
Stafford
Worcester

J 3 West
Avon
Cornwall
Devon
Gloucester

Vet Midlands
Cheshire
Clwyd
Leicester
Notts
Stafford
Warwick
Worcester

INTERNATIONAL SQUADS

The National Selection Committee have announced the international squads at three levels.

A big disappointment to followers of the sport, particularly those from the Midlands, will be the absence of Desmond Douglas. Douglas declined selection for The Rest versus the County on September 13 and also turned down an invitation to attend a training camp at Lea Green.

Although there is no doubt that in terms of ability Douglas would be included in the squad, his decisions not to participate in two important early season events without giving his reasons gave the selectors no alternative but to omit him from the squad until his availability for other events is known.

The top six boys and the top four girls in the Junior ranking list make up the Junior squad. Berkshire's strength in girls' table tennis is underlined by the fact that three of the four places in the Cadet squad are occupied by girls from that county. The complete squads are:—

Senior

Denis Neale (Cleveland), Nicky Jarvis (Cleveland), Paul Day (Cambs), Andrew Barden (Middx), Jill Hammersley (Bucks), Carole Knight (Cleveland) and Linda Howard (Surrey).

Junior

Day, Barden, Chris Sewell (Gloucs), Douglas Johnson (Warwks), Martin Shuttle (Surrey), Chris Rogers (Leics), Angela Mitchell (Middx), Melody Ludi (Yorks), Angela Tierney (Cleveland) and Karen Witt (Berks).

Cadet

Colin Wilson (Hants), Graham Sandley (Middx), Adam Proffitt (Herts), Tony O'Connor (Lancs), Alison Gordon (Berks), Mandy Smith (Berks), Jill Purslow (Berks) and Helen Robinson (Cleveland).

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