Mrs. ANN [HAYDON] JONES, a former holder, presents the WOMEN'S Doubles Trophy to DIANE ROWE and MARY SHANNON at the English Open
SPORT should be entirely non-political, but, as much as the various governing bodies would like this, the matter appears to be out of their hands.

Governments will have their say, and, as ordinary citizens, the sportsmen and women of the world must abide. We all know too well the colour bar situation that exists in South Africa, where because of government decree Black must not meet White in public.

Now comes another political move, which is having harsh repercussions in the brotherhood of sport. It is the attitude of N.A.T.O. countries refusing visas to East Germans. Last month the British Government refused visas to the East German swimming team, who were to come here for an international in the Summer.

If this attitude persists, then it may mean England will have to lose the European Table Tennis Championships which are due here next season as the curtain raiser at the L.C.C.’s new £2 million pounds National Recreation Centre at Crystal Palace.

Discrimination against East Germany could well lead to the Iron Curtain countries joining forces to form a block and boycott the championships, as they did at West Berlin in 1962. The Europeans without the likes of Hungary, Rumania and Czechoslovakia, would be nothing but a farce.

Tricky Situation

It is a tricky situation and the position of Peter Lowen, the E.T.T.A. secretary, is not to be envied when the whole of this matter is thrashed out at the European Union Committee meeting in Prague. His hands are tied, for the English Table Tennis association can do nothing on its own against the Government.

We are inclined to look at this purely from England’s point of view, but while N.A.T.O. enforces such a position, the effects could be more far reaching. They could bring an end to the championships altogether for France, who were due for the Europeans in 1966, and Greece in 1968, are both members of N.A.T.O. and are similarly involved.

It would probably have to be left to an Iron Curtain country to stage the championships and, although there is no confirmation at this stage, it has been suggested that Poland may be willing to take over. Be that as it may, will Iron Curtain countries always be willing to grant visas to the other nations, or will it only create a widening of the breach?

Olympic Lead

Fortunately the sportsmen of the world are not prepared to take this lying down and the Olympic Committee have already taken a lead in this matter. They called a meeting in Lausanne last February of representatives of all the affiliated sports federations and adopted a resolution calling on them to have no world or continental games anywhere to which all entitled countries were not admitted. They adopted this principle for the Olympic Games themselves.

Sportsmen, as a whole, are not interested in international politics. They want to get on with their game. Through sport there could be a far greater understanding between the nations of the world, but it would appear that the governments of too many countries wield sporting prestige in the wrong direction.

Hitherto England has not been guilty in this respect but we must be alive to such danger and try to set an example to the rest of the world.

We don’t want to play merely in our own back garden, but meet the other nations without interference.
BEVERLEY and GLORIA SAYE R, who made medical history by being the first twins to undergo the miracle hole-in-the-heart operation, made a triumphant return to table tennis at the Sussex Junior Open at Worthing on March 17.

They carried off the Under 17's Doubles with Gloria also winning the mixed with Chester Barnes, and Bevery reaching the final of the singles.

They are not as yet back to their best, particularly in singles, where Gloria lost to the young Maureen Heppell of Northumberland, and Beverley could make little impression on Jackie Canham in the final, but their performances at Worthing speak well of their future.

Jackie Canham played very solidly to win the girls' singles without loss of a game.

Chester Barnes took yet another junior singles title and made it a triple success when he also won the boys' doubles with Graham French and the mixed with Gloria Sayer.

French, who had hard pressed by Alan Pounder of Cambridgeshire over the long day.

Three games in the semi-final, and also had a close match with Alan Ransome of Essex.

Heppell, of Northumberland, and the final of the under 15's, where triple success when he also won the boys' doubles with Graham French and the mixed with Gloria Sayer.

French, who was hard pressed by Alan Pounder of Cambridgeshire over the long day.

Three games in the semi-final, and also had a close match with Alan Ransome of Essex.

Hemings, of Northumberland, and the final of the singles then they

Northern England need have no worries. Both won their titles without loss of a game.


UNDER 12's


Final: HARMER bt Thomas 21-14, 21-9.


Final: HEPPELL bt Thompson 21-14, 21-12.

WELSH CORNER

AUSTRALIAN TOUR A BIG SUCCESS

The Australian tour in Wales proved highly successful from all points of view. The Welsh results against them, and the three crushing defeats indicate how far we have fallen and how much we have improved since last we met.

At Abergavenny, Barry and Milford Haven, organisation went well and the venues provided adequate opportunity for first class play. Throughout their stay, the Australians were accorded civic reception and entertainment, and proved themselves to be agreeable and appreciative visitors.

The fact remains, however, that they ought never to have been allowed to impose such heavy defeats upon us. Although they are very young and obviously destined for improvement, neither Murray Thomson nor Sid Morgan is yet in anything like world class, and we should certainly have taken matches from them on every occasion. As it was, they did better than the Aussies first and second players, Michael Wilcox and Cliff McDonald, who are certainly much better.

Lost First Five

At Abergavenny, the first five results went diametrically against us. George Evans slumping after taking a game from Wilcox, and John Mansfield recovering from a bad start against Thomson but then losing easily. Ron Davies and Alan Thomas were just not with it, and their losses were followed by an equally poor doubles effort by Ron and George.

Mansfield then raised our spirits with a brave effort against Morgan and Alan Thomas suddenly found some form to beat Wilcox. After Ron Davies had lost to Thomson, George Evans came into the picture with a good win over McDonald.

At Barry, Phil Bevan came into the side instead of Mansfield, and in his first international appearance against Thomson was encouraging. Ron Davies was again out of touch, although more spirited, and Alan Thomas allowed McDonald to get away from him. George Evans lost a hard-fighting game to Wilcox, and then we had a most entertaining doubles in which George and Ron made two great recoveries to thrill the crowd, but not, alas, to clinch victory.

Silenced Critics

Phil Bevan effectively silenced his critics by turning in a great performance to hit through Sid Morgan, but after that it was anticlimax with Ron Davies, George Evans and Alan Thomas never looking like winning.

At Milford, we made three changes, Bernard Dimascio, Alan Morris and Stan Jones coming to join Alan Thomas. Unfortunately both Morris and Jones showed themselves to be now well below international standard, while Thomas, instead of improving his result against the Aussies finished on a very poor note.

It was left to Bernard Dimascio to provide a brilliant highlight, his victory over McDonald showing his attacking backhand at its best. Rarely has Bernard played such a scintillating game.

It is to be hoped the Welsh players will have learned some lessons. The Australians have only seen the loop since their short stay in Britain, yet they have (Continued on page 26)
A unique picture of all the BARNA AWARD winners together on the occasion of this season’s presentation to BOBBY STEVENS. Left to right: IAN HARRISON, BRYAN MERRETT, BOBBY STEVENS, ROSALIND (ROWE) CORNETT, AUBREY SIMONS, VICTOR BARNA, JOHNNY LEACH, ANN (HAYDON) JONES and DIANE ROWE.

THIS (TABLE TENNIS) ENGLAND

by JOHN F. JACKSON

(Manager 1963 Australian T.T. Team)

THE 1963 men's Australian table tennis team arrived in England on February 16. I joined them on March 8 and by that time they had defeated Ireland 7-2 in a test match, and Bedfordshire 9-0 in their first encounter with an English county team.

On March 13 we hired a car and set out from Notting Hill Gate for Oxford. After 50 minutes driving, we were horrified to see a sign "Notting Hill Gate 1½ miles." At this stage, the driver was asked to let one of the team become the navigator and the rest of the trip proceeded smoothly with two stops for movie films of Windsor Castle and Henley-on-Thames.

We caught up with our Oxford reception committee at the Cowley factory, where we were duly impressed with the organisation but disappointed at the lack of samples.

That evening our team (Wilcox, Donald and Morgan) had an 8-1 win over Oxfordshire. The outstanding player was adjudged to be Thomson for his sterling effort of producing the number held by our manager when asked to draw the winning ticket in a raffle.

The next three days were spent in Wales where we won the three test matches 7-2, 8-1, 8-1. This part of our trip in being covered by another writer, but I would say (at the risk of displeasing the English) that Welsh hospitality may be equalled but could not be bettered.

On March 17 we were driven from Milford Haven to Cardiff, from where we set out for Leamington Spa. In transit we travelled to Stratford-on-Avon to see the famous theatre and were most disappointed that it was not open for inspection. We retaliated by asking two of the local inhabitants whether or not Francis Bacon was buried under the theatre.

At Leamington we were beaten 5-4 by Warwickshire. But what a match! Even I, an old hand at watching games, had to turn away at one stage to allow my heart rate to settle down. The final ovation was incredible. We congratulate Ralph Gunnion on his match winning performance and Maurice Billington for the part he played.

March 21 saw our team have its host win ever. We beat England's champion county, Middlesex, 6-3, each of our players (Wilcox, Donald, Thomson) defeating Alan Rhodes and Brian Wright. I don't think anyone would have begrudged us the celebration party that followed.

Digesting for a moment I now know why England won the war. Any people who will voluntarily continue to live in a climate such as this, must be impossible to encounter.

Two matches to go and our spirits running very high. We had a 9-0 win against Hertfordshire, then in the final match played the crack Surrey team, winning a wonderful match 6-4, after being 1-4 down at the interval.

We leave this amazing England on March 29 to play in the Scottish championships then off to Prague on April 1 (what an unfortunate date) for the World Championships.

At the risk of sounding like an American movie press agent, we sum up our English tour as follows:

Hospitality . . . fantastic (as good as the Welsh). Transport . . . unbelievable good. Weather . . . shocking. Press liaison . . . excellent. Food . . . too much pastry for Australians (but, of course, our climate is a little warmer).

THE ENGLISH PEOPLE . . . WONDERFUL. "May we all come back again."
“OPERATION STAFFS”
By JACK CARRINGTON
THANKS to perfect co-operation between the E.T.T.A., the Staffordshire County T.T.A., and the Staffordshire Service of Youth, the largest-ever Coaching Rally went off without a hitch on Saturday and Sunday, 9th and 10th June, 1963.
With 38 coaches working with the

DIRECTOR OF COACHING

(Tetley Gymnasium of the Army School of Physical Training, Aldershot. Nine tables were used and all credit must go to Mr. De-La-Haye, the Hon. County Secretary and his Aldershot committee for efficient organisation.

It proved a wise decision to hold the championships in the north of the county for the first time, for entries were increased by fifty per cent.


HANTS COACHES MEET
By TEDDY GRANT
HAMPSHIRE coaches met for the second time this season at the Mount Pleasant Table Tennis Centre, Southampton, under the expert eye of Jack Carrington, the E.T.T.A. national coach.

He took them through a refresher course linking up the national basic coaching scheme.

Twenty coaches, coming from Aldershot, Bournemouth, Basingstoke, Portsmouth, Southampton and the Isle of Wight, were in attendance, including county players Mrs. D. Gray and Roy Henderson.

Further rallies are envisaged at Aldershot and in the Isle of Wight. Congratulations to twins Christine and Pauline Holes on retaining the English girls’ doubles title at Brighton. Their enterprising junior career has certainly brightened table tennis in Hampshire.

WINCHESTER PAY TRIBUTE
A plaque to the memory of Arthur Richards, former chairman of the Winchester League and of the county was unveiled at the Winchester Guildhall Sports Centre by the Mayor, Councillor G. T. Hutchins, who referred to the great amount of work Mr. Richards had so faithfully rendered to the local league and the game in Hampshire.

Payring further tribute the Rev. J. Tweedley said of Mr. Richards that he was a man admired and loved by all.

He learned to play the game for the sake of Mr. Richards, widow was among the large number who attended the unveiling ceremony.


NEW HANTS SINGLES CHAMPIONS
TREVOR SMITH, of Bournemouth, one of the county’s more progressive young players, and Christine Holes, of junior international fame, emerged from an interesting tournament of over 100 entries to become the new singles champions of Hampshire.

Miss Holes, whose native heath in the senior final, also won the junior singles and the mixed doubles with D. Davis.

Smith beat Tony Ward of Southampton 21-12, 15-21, 21-13, and always appeared in command, dominating the final game by tricky variations of speed and loop drive to oust the more stylish Ward.

The venue, by courtesy of the Army, was the attractive and spacious Ward-Telley Gymnasium of the Army School of Physical Training, Aldershot. Nine tables were used and all credit must go to Mr. De-La-Haye, the Hon. County Secretary and his Aldershot committee for efficient organisation.

It proved a wise decision to hold the championships in the north of the county for the first time, for entries were increased by fifty per cent.


**TABLE TENNIS**

**EAGLE/GIRL TOURNAMENT**

by KENNETH WHEELER

**Shocks for Former Finalists**

BEATEN finalists in the EAGLE/GIRL Championship of Great Britain often fight back to win the following season. This time, however, so intense was the battle involving over 14,000 competitors, that many favoured heads rolled at a comparatively early stage, and only Pat Dainty, defeated in the 1962 final by Lesley Bell, lived through to the penultimate match to fight again for top honours.

OUT went John Reilly, the tall Glaswegian who was last year's runner-up to Chester Barnes. OUT due to illness and Anthony Robinson London on January 26 Ellis Corbett 13 finalists, Linda Henwood and Margaret Cole. And OUT went Willie Gibbs scarcely before anyone could feel the draught from his swishing forehand.

In the South Regional finals in London on January 26 Ellis Corbett (Midlands) was unfortunately absent that many favoured heads rolled at a comparatively early stage, and only Pat Dainty, defeated in the 1962 final by Lesley Bell, lived through to the penultimate match to fight again for top honours.

OUT went John Reilly, the tall Glaswegian who was last year's runner-up to Chester Barnes. OUT due to illness and Anthony Robinson London on January 26 Ellis Corbett 13 finalists, Linda Henwood and Margaret Cole. And OUT went Willie Gibbs scarcely before anyone could feel the draught from his swishing forehand.

Pat Dainty was second to Hull Schools in the Midland competition. Raymond Heath smashed his way to a 21-19, 21-16 victory over Keith Lawrence (South), while Ingrid Sykes came through with surprising ease, 9 and 5, in her final against Margaret Brown, the Southern champion.

The Northern Regional finals at Leeds on March 9 had a somewhat tidier outcome. First the Scottish contingent, three of whom represented the Dundee club, dismissed the four Irish champions, and this was the first occasion on which the Republic of Ireland has been represented in our tournament.

Then along came the four North of England champions to beat their Scottish rivals, two straight in each case. Three of the Northerners hail from Yorkshire—Paul Canham (under 15), Philip Rowe (under 13) and Pat Dainty (under 15). The fourth, Maureen Heppell, whose style appears to have been modelled on that of Diane Rowe, is from Newcastle.

Paul represents Hull Schools who, with 260 points, have finished Top Team in Britain and qualified for the award of a match table presented by the sponsors.

Using a mixed bag of loops, intricate spin shots, drives and smashes outside and her vital Newcastle train already approaching Leeds station, she was left unannually became rattled and nearly lost both her train and her grip on the match. But ultimately she was a worthy winner. "Too good for me!" confessed Marjory cheerfully. "But I'll do better next year."

And that just about sums up the attitude of all our 13,992 losers. They all tried their very, very best, and when it proved not quite good enough wished the victor well with a sporting handshake, at the same time vowing to themselves: "Just you wait until next time." That's the spirit we like to see: don't you?

**LEICESTERSHIRE NOTES**

**SAD LOSS FOR LOUGHBOROUGH**

THE untimely death of Loughborough League Secretary, Don Counsell, will come as a shock to his many friends. Don was involved in a collision with a lorry. He had been secretary of the Loughborough League since its inception. Although not an active player, he was a tremendous enthusiast, and it was largely due to his efforts that Loughborough has a league at all.

The county team knock-out Handicap Cup, the Rose Johnson Bowl, has now reached the semi-final stage. Two first division clubs, Leicester T.T.C. and Leicester Y.M.C.A play each other. Viaduct play Wild/Mellor Bromley II.

Leicester Y.O.C. singles champion is John Cooper (Ailexton Youth Club) who beat Tony Sperry 21-11, 22-20 in the final. In the Saracen Cup, the final stage has been reached. Knighton Park (E. Jackson, B. Clark and R. Emerson) play Wild/Mellor Bromley II.

Rita Beith won the ladies handicap cup, the Rose Johnson Memorial Trophy, when she defeated Anne Jenkins in a thrilling final.

In the Leicester and District League, promotion battles continue. Soccer Pools III look certain of the 7A Championship. With such a consistent team as Ron Tunks, Rod White and Colin Greathead this is hardly surprising. In 7B A.E.I. (Leicester) continue to make good progress with M. Pridmore hitting well.

Next season will see a new league affiliating to the Leicestershire Association—the Melton Mowbray League. This is due largely to the efforts of live-wire Dennis Smith. League fixtures in Leicestershire are due to end at Easter but there will be an extensive summer coaching programme and if any clubs in the county are interested in this side of the game and they will write to me, c/o Leicester Y.M.C.A. I will be pleased to include them in our arrangements.

Philip Reid.
BARNSLEY'S SUCCESS

BARNSLEY is this season's inter-league success story. Brilliant 6-4 victories over the strong Sheffield and Doncaster sides have brought them the men's title for the first time in a generation.

And the women's team, strengthened by the return of Flo Rolling and the transfer of Pat Dainty from Doncaster, are invincible in the county.

It is the same men's team which finished in mid-table last season. One of the reasons behind their surprise rise is the improvement of Peter Kenyon, now a far steadier player who has dropped only two sets at No. 3. The line-up is completed by Doug McGarry, Brian Starkie (who has lost only three) and Brian Biggar. McGarry and Starkie have been unbeaten in seven doubles.

Both men's and women's teams reached the quarter-finals of the national team competitions before falling to Manchester.

CLOSED TITLE FOR BEVAN

DAVID BEVAN, Gloucester's gift to Yorkshire, won the Yorkshire Closed at Beverley and was creating a sensation in the county.

Clive Pollard (York) was a surprised finalist. Only a week earlier he left hospital after an operation for the removal of a cyst over the eye. Then the next day the tournament he went to bed feeling feverish.

He felt better next day, however, and his opponent as he knocked out Doug McGarry, the county player, and Peter Duncombe, the top seed, in his best ever performance before falling to the impecunious Bevan.

Lewis Broadhead (Dewsbury) won the veterans' title for the third year running after narrow victories over Arthur Bowers (Bradford) and Norman Lusher (Harrogate) on his way to the final.

John Keyes surprised David Stanley in the youth's final and Cynthia Blackshaw reversed last year's women's singles result against Lesley Proudlock.


THE NEW JAUQUES TABLE TENNIS BATS

Jap Rubber Bats at 25s. 6d. each and Table Tennis Equipment.
MORE HELPERS NEEDED

BEING one of the overworked helpers at the English Open Championships at Brighton on February 28-March 2, I am writing to express my regrets to the poor response for help at what is the showpiece of table tennis in this country. It is essential for efficient management of these championships that each table should have a squad of six officials so that umpire, timekeeper, score apparatus operators and line judges can operate, and that these officials can take periods of rest in turn when a singles event is allocated to their table. During the 1961-62 championships at the same venue this scheme was maintained, and the control had no worries on this score, but this year the paucity of the response was such that after a match had been allocated a hurried search was necessary to find one or two, and sometimes three, for each event. On the Saturday morning and afternoon many matches were played with only an umpire as the solitary official, and this with quite a good gathering of spectators present, is poor presentation.

The Brighton supply of helpers, although deficient in qualified umpires, was about the same number as last year, and they operated often in the capacity of umpires, although unqualified, in the emergency that existed. The deficit must therefore have been caused by the normal outside help, mainly from the London area.

I do not know the reason for this shortage. A wipesness must occur amongst the regulars from year to year, and this is understood and appreciated, and one wonders if sufficient thought and effort was given for an appeal for reinforcements. This is a problem that must be overcome for future championships as even a willing horse dies if worked too hard, and a good presentation is essential for the image of table tennis to be maintained and improved from year to year.

The play itself provided a great improvement on last year, mainly I fear, by the increased foreign entry. The men's singles final provided a new conception of the game, and illustrated that the English progress is failing to grow. I feel that a lot of rethinking is necessary by the top players and coaches if we are to make any serious effort to reach world class. If we can provide play such as witnessed in these finals there is little doubt that the lost legion of spectators could be regained and that instead of the Dome, Brighton, being filled to its limited capacity, we could once again attract a full house to the Wembley Pool.

BERT G. FRETWELL
(Chairman—Brighton & District T.T.L.

Exhibitions More Pleasing

HEREWITH a few observations on returning from the E.T.T.A. finals at Brighton.

Firstly, congratulations on the venue, the Play itself provided a great spectacle are these. Leave out the women's doubles and mixed doubles and include the men's semi-finals. In between every real event, or in the interval if you must have one, let's have some table tennis in a lighter vein from Barns, Leech, etc., or Fahazi could obviously delight us with his antics.

Finally, in view of the dear events—backhand and half-volley, serious thinking should be given to changing the rules, possibly in favour of the defender—perhaps the inclusion of the volley in some form would be a good idea. Also, the sandwich bat has made the game too quiet. Let's hope it doesn't spread to cricket—imagine a 6 hit from Dexter using a sandwich bat.

E. G. EGERTON.
(Southampton)

Are Spectators Wanted?

WITH a packed house on Finals Night and the finest men's singles final for at least 10 years the 1963 English Open will no doubt be considered an unqualified success, so before the Championship Committee becomes too complacent I, as a paying spectator, would like to air a few moans:

1. No pass-outs during the day-time sessions and no lunches available in the hall.

2. Few seats available for the semi-finals and finals of the team events—only 16 courtside seats were provided in the afternoon of which 11 were occupied by players and officials. When a few paying spectators showed some enterprise and put seats at one end of the courts they were promptly moved by an official, but the Belgian team who moved in at the other end were allowed to remain.

3. I paid 10s. for a Finals Night circle stalls seat and from it could see precisely nothing—not only was I blinded by a battery of five naked arc lamps but the staggering of the tiered seating was so shallow that it was not possible to see over the head of the person in front of me. Am I expecting too much after paying for a second best seat to want to see the table—not two players darting in and out behind somebody's head? Surely for 10s. one is entitled to a clear view of the play?

Incidentally, after the first match I stood at the back of the hall—shaded from the lights—and had a good view. It's a 4s. gallery seat for me next year!

B. D. GEORGE.
(Lee-on-Solent).

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(SPORTS EQUIPMENT) LIMITED.
REFLECTIONS ON COACHING

It appears unjust to criticise the hard working officials who have done so much to improve coaching facilities in this country in the last few years; but after watching the English Open it appears imperative that some reflections be made on present coaching methods.

During the match in which Miss Rowe lost her title I heard this comment: "How on earth did her strokes look compared with the other girls?"

I am not stating one style is better than the other. It is clear that there are two main styles of play. There is what can be called the classic "English" style and there is the new array of strokes, including the loop, used by the majority of Continental players.

I do say, however, without fear of contradiction, that many players in this country could get better results if they had coaching in these new strokes. The real trouble, if we are honest, is that we are a nation that does not like change, and in official quarters new ideas are still considered dirty words, not to be spoken in public.

The official coaching policy is still to teach a person to play his strokes using a rubber bat and then later—if he keeps on asking—allow him to convert to a sponge.

It is ridiculous. Cannot it be seen how different are the new strokes being used by the Continental players compared with the old style? After a few lessons it can be seen that some players are a "natural" for sponge bats, influenced by our continental players, are clearly informed that sponge and the quicker they are correctly taught to use it the better it will be.

A lot has been said about how great a change there has been in the last few years; but it is clear that the quicker they are really taught to use it the better it will be.

Many have told me that on doubles finals when both the singles finalists were given a lesson in tactics and then annihilated by Andreadis. If he, the most orthodox of players, changes to inverted sponge and uses the loop, it does appear we must also be more flexible in our approach to the game.

There are an experienced coaches of these new strokes in the country? If, the quicker they can start giving lessons to all official coaches, the quicker the English table tennis will rise in world ranking.

Finally, but perhaps even more important, is the fact that only lip service is paid at present in training a person to have the right mental approach. If you think this is unfair comment I would refer you to the boys' final between a British and a German boy. We have no idea what the official coaching in this country has given the top English boy. The German boy has had all the top official coaching available, but although he had the strokes the coach had failed to get him in the right mental state for this match.

This all his mental efforts were concentrated on a private war with himself, and little was left for the game in hand. It is very much for his skill that he almost won.

The contrast with the German concentrating a hundred per cent on the correct object of winning the game was indeed a sad comparison.

E. A. R. GIBBS (Rickmansworth).
SUGDEN WINS FIRST TITLE

MALCOLM SUGDEN annexed his first singles title and his third successive doubles title at the East of Scotland's Open. Shock-semi-finalist was Eddie Latham of Glasgow who disposed of Tommy McMichael and then was narrowly beaten by Ally Laidlaw, who is back to form again.

Altogether the men's was upset upon upset and it is good to see so many competing for the top honours as the standard is bound to improve. The same cannot be said for the ladies. On results Mrs. Hawkins and Miss Barrie, whom she beat in the final, are well ahead of the rest. Miss Barrie had by far the harder draw, having to dispose of surprisingly unseeded Doreen Robertson (joint 3 ranked) 11, 12 and 15.

Having featured in the final of every men's singles event so far this season, Ian Barclay, at the age of 22, is now Scottish No. 1. His consistency is undeniable. With a brilliant attacking game, to which he has just added the loop, and a sound defensive play he is an all-round player.

He is the only Scottish player who has won an English junior title—the boys' doubles in 1958-9—and then he narrowly missed winning the singles. His senior successes have also been impressive and this year with Bertie Kerr he reached the final of the Yorkshire Open men's doubles.

Ian has represented his country many times since he was 16 and his plans for the future include the World Championships in Prague. He has been travelling around the British Isles, and devoting time to training and practice in his efforts to improve his game.

by LESLEY BARRIE

Doreen Donaldson (also ranked 3) 7, 15 to reach the final.

The ladies' doubles was won by the scratch pairing of Greta Shields and Margaret Terrass and the mixed doubles by Jimmy Coyne and Doreen Robertson.

The junior singles provided yet another win for John Reilly with Billy Gibbs a disappointed but gallant loser. Billy seems always to take a set from John but fails to sustain his challenge in the final set.

Unofficial Ranking List

To promote interest, I have compiled these ranking lists from tournament performances up to the present moment. The tournaments taken into account are: the North, Midlands and West Opens and the Scottish Closed. Awarding 6 points for a winning finalist, 4 points for a losing semi-finalist and 2 points for the losing semi-finalists, the lists are as follows.

MEN
1. IAN BARCLAY, 18 pts.
2. Bertie Kerr, 18 pts.
4. Tommy McMichael, 10 pts.
5. Ally Laidlaw, 6 pts.
J. Dow, 2 pts.
J. Coynes, 2 pts.

WOMEN
1. OLIVE HAWKINS, 28 pts.
2. Lesley Barrie, 18 pts.
4. D. Robertson, 6 pts.
5. S. Stewart, 6 pts.
6. S. Forbes, 6 pts.
8. D. Robertson, 2 pts.
9. D. Robertson, 2 pts.

CLUB NEWS

Gambit Club of Edinburgh gained a clear victory over Central in their cup tie. But the West players fought well, Bertie Kerr being impressed both by Eddie Latham and Jimmy Weatherston, while Ian Barclay was taken all the way by John Campbell.

A good win by George Anderson of Springburn was his victory over Gordon Fraser of Hamilton. Gordon was No. 1 in the averages last season and is one of the most feared players in the West. He uses a deadly backhand flick and coupled with a strong all-round game.

Over to the Continent at league matches Central have dropped James Dow from their A team and have replaced him with Eddie Cameron. Dow is not playing at all in league matches and is losing valuable experience. It is to be hoped that he will soon find a permanent place again.

The only all-women team in the West is now no more. Ella Brown owing to ill health is now a spectator and a male player is filling the gap. We hope that she is soon back in health again.

KERR BACK TO FORM

Bertie Kerr, recovering from his recent loss of form, played better than ever to win the David Adams tournament without loss of a game. He beat Tommy McMichael in the final, after a hard fought semi-final against George Anderson.

Eddie Latham was once again an unexpected semi-finalist after beating Ian Barclay in a tough three-setter, and John Reilly, but met his match in the semi-final where McMichael gained revenge in a thrilling five-setter for his East of Scotland defeat.

Pairings for the doubles were made by drawing names from a hat this proved a thoroughly enjoyable event. Due to a rather kind draw Lesley Barrie and Pat Kerr, who excel in doubles play, reached the semi-final only to go down to the eventual winners Ian Cochrane and John Reilly, who went on to beat Bertie Kerr and Andy Stewart in the fifth set of an entertaining final.

Miss Barrie won the women's singles, her final victim being Maxime Julius, whose temperament caused the audience some mirth.

It was fitting that the victorious Bertie Kerr should propose the thanks of all players to the enterprising organisers, and it is hoped that more tournaments of this nature will be organised next season to fill out the lamentably thin calendar in Scotland.

E.T.T.A. VISIT TO JERSEY

by K. A. Le BRUN

The visit of the E.T.T.A. team of Diane Rowe, Mary Shannon, Chester Barnes and David Stanley, plus Ron Crayden, as non-playing captain, Johnny Leach and Peter Lowen, the E.T.T.A. secretary, to Jersey in February did much to stimulate the interest of the game in the island.

They played two matches against island teams and won both quite easily. The only home win was recorded by Kenny Eloury, who beat Miss Rowe in straight games. He was also just beaten at 18 in the third by Miss Shannon.

Johnny Leach helped to entertain the large audience on both evenings with some splendid exhibitions, in which he was helped by other members of the visiting team.

It was indeed a hectic three days with numerous occasions to recall, including the tour of the clubs that form the leagues in the island.

We look forward to further such visits as this which has helped the Jersey T.T.A. to keep a friendly and negotiable understanding with the E.T.T.A.
The Girls Save The Day

MARY and DI THE SPECTACULAR MEN'S
BEST IN EUROPE SINGLES FINAL

By Harrison Edwards

THANK goodness for the girls. They alone salvaged some prestige from the English Open Championships at Brighton from February 28th to March 2 and prevented a complete overseas monopoly of our title.

Diane Rowe and Mary Shannon won the women's doubles; Lesley Bell the girls' singles; twins Christine and Pauline Holes the girls' doubles; and Mrs. Doreen Crosby, the veteran women's singles. The rest of the titles went overseas.

Perhaps this was not surprising for the championships attracted the biggest foreign entry for years and were almost a European Championships in miniature.

The titles being well shared around. Hungary collected the men's singles with Zoltan Berczik and the mixed doubles with Janos Fahazi and Eva Foldi; Rumania provided the women's singles winner with Maria Alexandru; and Czechoslovakia won the men's doubles with Ivan Andreadis and Vladimir Miko.

West Germany had her turn in the junior events where Walter Dahlman gained a triple crown in winning the boys' singles, the boys' doubles with Willi Grobe, and the mixed doubles with Jutta Kruger.

Then for good measure G. Delabarre, of Belgium, won the veteran men's singles.

Whatever the disappointment at seeing so many of our titles leaving the country this was a feast of good table tennis and the finals, before a capacity crowd at the Dome on the Saturday night, were some of the best seen for years.

The big thrill, from the home point of view, was the doubles victory of Miss Rowe and Miss Shannon over the Hungarians Eva Foldi and Erzsabet Herits, but for sheer spectacle the all Hungarian men's singles final, in which Berczik fought off the strong challenge of Janos Fahazi, was the real high spot.

Fahazi is the best personality produced for years and his tremendous counter hitting from sometimes as far back as 20 feet brought back memories of the boom years of the sport, when it used to attract a 10,000 crowd to Wembley.

Play like this would once again captivate a big audience and the pity was that this match could not have been televised. As it was, it did more good than anything we have seen in recent years for that capacity crowd at Brighton went away thirsting for more...

Fahazi is a showman. He plays to the crowd and they just loved his spectacular antics as he leaped high into the air making almost impossible returns. He had them roaring with applause and he loved it. But it could be this what cost him the title, for there were times when a little more steadiness would...
have paid better dividends. Berczik was by far the steadiest player, but compared to his countryman was somewhat dour. Nevertheless, he showed superb control as he concentrated his whole efforts on winning. Repeatedly he fought his way back from critical situations and retrieved splendidly. It was one of those matches when it was a pity there had to be a loser. But Berczik deserved his success. The solidness of his play can be judged by the fact that he dropped only two games in the championship, one to Hruby, of Yugoslavia, in the quarter final, and the other to Fahazi in the final, which he eventually won 18-21, 21-18, 21-19, 22-20. Fahazi’s progress to the final was far more adventurous for he was taken to five games by Allan Rhodes in the quarter finals, and four by Markovic in the semi-final, which was another highly entertaining match, before he got home at 21-17, 21-18, 21-16.

Pilots, of Czechoslovakia, whom many had regarded as the dark horse of the championship, met his match when he came up against Markovic in the quarter final and was narrowly beaten 21-23, 21-14, 21-9, 21-23, 21-18. Andreadis, the other Greek, also went down at this stage to another Yugoslav, Teran. Of the home players, closed champion Chester Barnes went out to Stanok, of Czechoslovakia, in the second round, and Harrison lost in the third round to Teran while Merrett lost to Miko at the same stage. Miss Rowe and Miss Shannon confirmed that they are the best women’s doubles pair in Europe when they retained the title they won last year by fighting off the challenge of the Hungarians, Eva Foldi and Erzsabet Hierits. In the semi-final they had beaten the Hungarian-Romanian partnership of Sarohta Lukaas and Ella Constanlucescu, while in the team championships they accounted for the Romanian women champions, Geta Pitica and Maria Alexandru.

The final developed into a tense struggle of swaying fortunes over the full distance of five games before the English girls emerged triumphant at 21-18, 17-21, 21-18, 12-21, 21-15.

**Playing Superbly**

The Hungarians were away to a 9-5 lead in the opening game, and after being caught at 10-all were again ahead at 16-15. Rowe and Shannon, playing superbly, then scored off five successive points, but had a slight lapse before edging home at 21-18. In the second game the Hungarians got home at 21-17 after Rowe and Shannon had been 15-14 up, while in the third the home pair took six successive points from 14-15 to win at 21-18. Rowe and Shannon suffered their worst spell in the fourth, where the English girls enlarged their lead to 21-12 and level at two games-all.

The atmosphere was electric as they came up for the fifth and deciding game and there was little in it when they changed ends with Rowe and Shannon leading 10-8. With Miss Shannon hitting well, the home pair increased their lead to 17-11 but became uncertain when the Hungarians took the next three points. They appeared to be catching up fast when Mrs. Foldi made three errors and the crisis was over. Amidst a storm of applause Rowe and Shannon were able to take the game at 21-15 when Miss Hierits hit off. It was indeed a great victory to set the right note for the finals night. Foldi and Hierits had beaten the world champions Pitica and Alexandru in the semi-final at 21-17, 21-18, 18-21, 21-17. Defeat in the doubles final appeared to have a demoralising effect on Mrs. Foldi when she turned out in the singles final against Maria Alexandru and was crushed 21-13, 21-16, 21-9. It was a terribly disappointing match and was all over in quick time, the third game being completely one-sided. Miss Alexandru with her solid defence left no doubt as to her right to the title for she had beaten Miss Hierits in the quarter final and de-throned Miss Rowe in the semi-final. Miss Rowe, whose game had been

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PICTURE PARADE
by MICHAEL MACLAREN and PETER MADGE

TOP: A Champion's smile from MARIA ALEXANDRU as she holds her singles trophy. Right: VLADIMIR MIKO and IVAN ANDREADIS, winners of the men's doubles and the team title for Czechoslovakia. BOTTOM: EVA FOLDI and JANOS FAHAZI receive their cup from Johnny Leach. Right: "What's the matter with you?" says ZOLTAN BERCZIK. The cup is the clue. He had just beaten team mate FAHAZI in the singles final.
steadily improving throughout the championship, did not play badly in the semi-final but was worn down by the Rumanian, whose match against Miss Hierits took 90 minutes with the expeditious rule being brought in for all four of the games, the score being 19-21, 21-16, 21-16, 1-21. In the second game they appeared to have reached stalemate when they took ten minutes over just four points.

Miss Rowe fought her way through three overseas players, the 16-year-old Luzova, of Czechoslovakia, Maria Sias, of Belgium, and Sarolta Lukacs, of Hungary, to reach the semi-final. Miss Sias extended her to five games, but this served to improve her play, for shortly afterwards against Mrs. Lukacs Miss Rowe was in such good form that in the second game she was able to recover from a 9-0 deficit.

Mary Shannon, the English closed champion, promised well when she beat Geta Pitica of Romania, co­holder of the world doubles title, in the second round at 19-21, 21-9, 19-21, 21-14, 21-16. She played exceptionally well, and refused to have her concentration disturbed by an incident in which the Rumanian girl, exulting over a point, kicked the ball against the wall. Shannon followed this with a win over Mrs. Oonolitescu 21-12, 21-11, 21-9, 18-21, 21-11, 21-13, 21-19, 21-15, 13-15; and Alma Ilaft went out in the next round to Mrs. Oonolitescu and Miss Shannon. The third round was also the semifinal but was won by Miss Alexandru; and Alma Ilaft went out in the semi-final but was worn down by Miss Shannon's play, for shortly afterwards against Mrs. Lukacs Miss Rowe was in such good form that in the second game she was able to recover from a 9-0 deficit.

Big Disappointment

Miss Shannon followed this with an easy win over the Dutch girl Vischer at 21-10, 21-11, 21-12, only to lose in the quarter-final to Edith Buchholz, of Germany, a last minute substitute for the injured Agnes Simon. This was a big disappointment for Miss Shannon won the first two games only to lose her rhythm when the German closed up the game, and refused to hit. Lesley Bell made a second round exit to Miss Hierits of Hungary (9, 13, 18), Mrs. Jean McCr,ee fell at the same stage to Mrs. Foldi (9, 14, 12, 15); and Alma Tafa went out in the next round to Mrs. Constantinescu (12, 18, 15). The third round was also the end for Judy Williams, beaten 8, 17, 19, 20) by Miss Alexandru; Peggy Pizer, who lost 6, 13, 14, to Miss Hierits; and Lesley Proudlock who was Mrs. Foldi's victim at 11, 17, 17.

Andreadis and Miko proved much too good for Berczik and Fahazi in the men's doubles final winning in straight games 21-11, 21-13, 21-16, to take the title for the second successive year.

Only in the semi-final, where they recovered from the loss of the first two games to beat Bobbie Raybould and Bobby Stevens, the English closed champions, at 19-21, 16-21, 21-12, 21-12, 21-15, were they in any real danger. They won the other rounds in straight games, including a quarter final over Stan Jacobson and Alan Lindsay at 21-18, 21-7, 21-11.

Tony Piddock, playing with Stanek, of Czechoslovakia, had a good run to reach the semi-final where they lost to Berczik and Fahazi 21-17, 21-14, 16-21, 21-19.

Fahazi and Mrs. Foldi had their consolation for the singles and doubles finals, when they won the mixed doubles beating Berczik and Fahazi 21-15, 21-11, 21-16, 21-13 in another all Hungarian final.

Home players had a rough passage in this event, for only three, Brian Wright and Mary Shannon, the English closed champions, and Pam Mortimer, playing with the New Zealander Alan Tomkinson, got as far as the quarter-finals.

Wright and Shannon put up a great fight against Fahazi and Foldi, leveling at 2-2, after losing the first two games, then being beaten 21-17, 21-19, 21-21, 21-23, 21-11. Miss Mortimer and Tomkinson lost out to Berczik and Hierits, who also beat Ian Harrison and Diane Rowe in the third round.

This was indeed a great championships meeting, with table tennis taking on a new attacking look. The pure defensive play that has been so prevalent in recent years is, in its own way and the game is once again becoming a brighter spectacle.

Let us hope this is only a fore­ taste of the future.

FULL RESULTS

MEN'S SINGLES

First Round: Z. Berczik (Hungary) bt T. Densham (Herts.) 12, 17, 14.
B. Wright (Sussex) bt A. Miller (Surrey) 13, 15, 18.
M. Stas (Belgium) bt M. Fry 15, 13, 16.
G. Golding (Essex) bt T. Densham (Herts.) 12, 17, 14.
M. Shannon (Surrey) bt T. Densham (Herts.) 12, 17, 14.

Second Round: M. Alexandru (Rumania) bt G. Delabarre (Teran (Yugosl.) bt P. Bertrand (Belgium) 16, 18, 19. D. Michalek bt Brumwell 15, 9, 17.
M. Stas (Belgium) bt M. Symonds (Lancs.) -17, 15, 14.
D. Wall (Middx.) bt C. Mc­

Third Round: Berczik bt Stevens 8, 12, 10.
D. C. Holes (Hants.) bt D. Barontini (Italy) 14, 10, 12.
T. Densham (Herts.) 12, 17, 14.
M. Shannon (Surrey) bt T. Densham (Herts.) 12, 17, 14.

Fahazi bt Markovic 15, 18, 19.

Women's Singles

First Round: C. Moore (Lancs.) bt D. Creft (Worcs.) 7, 15, 20.
J. Williams (Herts.) bt G. Roland (Belgium) 9, 12, 17.
L. Bell 7, 9, 18.
M. C. Holes (Warw.) bt M. Piper (Surrey) 19, 20. 19.
M. Shannon (Surrey) bt T. Densham (Herts.) 12, 17, 14.

Second Round: M. Alexandru (Rumania) bt G. Delabarre (Teran (Yugosl.) bt P. Bertrand (Belgium) 16, 18, 19. D. Michalek bt Brumwell 15, 9, 17.
M. Shannon (Surrey) bt T. Densham (Herts.) 12, 17, 14.

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Women's Singles

First Round: C. Moore (Lancs.) bt D. Creft (Worcs.) 7, 15, 20.
J. Williams (Herts.) bt G. Roland (Belgium) 9, 12, 17.
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Second Round: M. Alexandru (Rumania) bt G. Delabarre (Teran (Yugosl.) bt P. Bertrand (Belgium) 16, 18, 19. D. Michalek bt Brumwell 15, 9, 17.
M. Shannon (Surrey) bt T. Densham (Herts.) 12, 17, 14.

Fahazi bt Markovic 15, 18, 19.

PICKTURE PARADE ... 2

Photos by: Michael Macfarlan and Peter Mudge

TOP: ANNE HAYDON with EVA FOLDI and ERBERT HIRITTS, doubles runners-up, A

BOTTOM: FA!HAZ! looks as though he has a football touch to deal with a high one. IAN

HARRISON surveys the fine array of trophies.
### Men's Doubles

#### First Round
- J. Chadderton (Australia) / P. Cassell (Norfolk) vs J. Brown/Ph. M. Whitehouse (Essex) 17, 15, 21, 18.
- D. Rowe (Middx.) / M. Rogers (W. Germany) vs M. Morgan/M. Thomson (Australia) 17, 13, 18.
- D. Rowe / M. Rogers vs H. Collins/P. Walton (Middx.) 15, 16, 17, 18.
- D. Rowe vs B. Taylor (Kent) 15, 16, 17, 18.

#### Second Round
- J. Chadderton / P. Cassell vs D. Rowe/M. Rogers 15, 16, 17, 18.
- D. Rowe vs B. Taylor 15, 16, 17, 18.

#### Third Round
- J. Chadderton / P. Cassell vs D. Rowe/M. Rogers 15, 16, 17, 18.
- D. Rowe vs B. Taylor 15, 16, 17, 18.

#### Fourth Round
- J. Chadderton / P. Cassell vs D. Rowe/M. Rogers 15, 16, 17, 18.
- D. Rowe vs B. Taylor 15, 16, 17, 18.

#### Semi-Finals
- J. Chadderton / P. Cassell vs D. Rowe/M. Rogers 15, 16, 17, 18.
- D. Rowe vs B. Taylor 15, 16, 17, 18.

#### Final
- J. Chadderton / P. Cassell vs D. Rowe/M. Rogers 15, 16, 17, 18.
- D. Rowe vs B. Taylor 15, 16, 17, 18.

### Women's Doubles

#### First Round
- J. Berridge (Australia) / P. Cassell (Norfolk) vs J. Brown/Ph. M. Whitehouse (Essex) 17, 15, 21, 18.
- D. Rowe (Middx.) / M. Rogers (W. Germany) vs H. Collins/P. Walton (Middx.) 17, 15, 21, 18.
- D. Rowe vs B. Taylor (Kent) 17, 15, 21, 18.

#### Second Round
- J. Berridge / P. Cassell vs D. Rowe/M. Rogers 17, 15, 21, 18.
- D. Rowe vs B. Taylor 17, 15, 21, 18.

#### Third Round
- J. Berridge / P. Cassell vs D. Rowe/M. Rogers 17, 15, 21, 18.
- D. Rowe vs B. Taylor 17, 15, 21, 18.

#### Semi-Finals
- J. Berridge / P. Cassell vs D. Rowe/M. Rogers 17, 15, 21, 18.
- D. Rowe vs B. Taylor 17, 15, 21, 18.

#### Final
- J. Berridge / P. Cassell vs D. Rowe/M. Rogers 17, 15, 21, 18.
- D. Rowe vs B. Taylor 17, 15, 21, 18.

### Mixed Doubles

#### First Round
- J. Chadderton / P. Cassell vs D. Rowe/M. Rogers 17, 15, 21, 18.
- D. Rowe vs B. Taylor 17, 15, 21, 18.

#### Second Round
- J. Chadderton / P. Cassell vs D. Rowe/M. Rogers 17, 15, 21, 18.
- D. Rowe vs B. Taylor 17, 15, 21, 18.

#### Third Round
- J. Chadderton / P. Cassell vs D. Rowe/M. Rogers 17, 15, 21, 18.
- D. Rowe vs B. Taylor 17, 15, 21, 18.

#### Semi-Finals
- J. Chadderton / P. Cassell vs D. Rowe/M. Rogers 17, 15, 21, 18.
- D. Rowe vs B. Taylor 17, 15, 21, 18.

#### Final
- J. Chadderton / P. Cassell vs D. Rowe/M. Rogers 17, 15, 21, 18.
- D. Rowe vs B. Taylor 17, 15, 21, 18.

(Continued on page 21)
Miko Stars in Czech Team Win

by GEOFF HARROWER

(Whose articles appear regularly in THE DAILY TELEGRAPH)

WITH the might of Czechoslovakia, Hungary and Yugoslavia in the men's team competition, and with Hungary and Rumania competing in the women's event, from a playing point of view the new Team Competition at the English Open was bound to be a success. I must confess that, if I had the choice of only going on one day, I would have watched on the Thursday. Yet, to my astonishment, little or no effort had been made to "project" this to the public. For £6d. anyone could walk in and watch the best players in Europe battling out a major competition!

Mind you, the lack of success of the four English teams on view was perhaps justification for hiding the event away. Seriously, though, I do hope that, in future years, the team competitions are treated as major events, with properly staged finals.

Only a handful of people were thus present to see a magnificent effort by young Vladimir Miko. Last season I expressed doubt as to his ability, and was told by Ivan Andreadis that we had yet to see him at his best in England. Well, I for one now know what his best is. In hitting off both Berczik and Fahazi in the semi-final, and then again being undefeated in the final against Yugoslav, he attacked so ferociously that he actually displaced a bone in his neck. Hospital treatment and Cortisone injections had to be given before he was able to play in the individual events, and I seriously think that he may well have won the men's singles had he been fully fit. But, to the beginning, for that is where we parted company with three of the four English teams. The England men's team of Ian Harrison and David Creamer disappointingly lost 3-0 to West Germany. We could have won 3-0, all three matches being very close. Nevertheless it was a blow to go down without hitting a single point.

The England second team beat Australia soundly, and then played Hungary. Of course, we could not expect them to progress further, but it did afford the opportunity of seeing what young Chester Barnes could do against Berczik. At the start, he held a slight lead, and was hitting well, but when the Hungarian applied pressure, Barnes wilted, and could score only five points in the second game. Credit must be given to Bryan Merrett for obtaining 19 and 18 points against Fahazi.

England's second women's team, minus Lesley Bell, went down at their first hurdle to Hungary. The first team beat Belgium 3-0, but not before several match points had been saved against the Misses V. and M. Stas in the women's doubles, and went on to the semi-final against Rumania.

As so often is the case, the whole match revolved round the very first event, with Di Rowe playing Mrs. E. Constantinescu, the new disguise for our old friend Ella Zeller. Frankly, this could have gone either way, but Ella was the steady in the vital third game, and soon we were 0-2 down. The remorseless Maria Alexandru gave Mary Shannon no chance.

BEAT WORLD CHAMPIONS

Then came the only match in the team event where England shone. Praise be, Diane and Mary defeated world champions Alexandru and Pitica. I would like to say it was a wonderful match, but, truthfully, I remember Pitica's mistakes. An exciting match, certainly, with the Rumanians pulling back a huge deficit to take the second game. However, pleasure was short-lived, for Alexandru was just as merciless with Diane as she had been with Mary. more so if possible, and England's interest in both competitions had disappeared, before the finals.

The women's final did nothing to ease our pain, for we did not even have the consolation of losing to the winners. Surprisingly, Hungary won by 3-0, Alexandru and Pitica suffer-

(Continued on page 20)
TRIPLE CROWN FOR DAHLMAN

ONCE again the bulk of the English Junior open titles have gone to Germany. Walter DahLMAN, a thick-set hard hitting looper, won the boys' singles with a shock three set victory over somewhat temperamental Chester Barnes in the final.

DahLMAN won an extremely close counter-hitting match in the semifinal against Tony Robinson, of Midddesex, before edging out at 18 in the third. He also lost the first game of his quarter final at 21-9 against David Stanley, of Yorkshire, the No. 2 ranked English junior, before taking charge.

Among the earlier results was a great win for Graham Pressick over Willi Grobe of Germany, the player whom most people thought would give Barnes the most trouble. Graham lost in the quarter final to Dennis Hodge in three games. Holland had a great chance of reaching the final for he won the first game against Barnes and had a small lead in the second before falling behind.

Jim Langan, the 14 years old Irish boy whom I mentioned last month as one to watch, conquered the third German boy, W. Steinbeck, at 22-20 in the third game and also had a substantial lead at the change in the third game against Barnes.

Lesley Bell, for the second successive year, won the girls event. Most people including myself, that when Marta Luzova, of Czechoslovakia, was put into the draw on the day of the event this title would go abroad. Lesley, however, had different ideas and, with help from non playing captain Laurie Landry, gained a wonderful victory in the final.

Jackie Canham reached the semifinal after wins over Yorkshire rival Pat Dainty and Jutta Kruger, of West Germany, before going down to Miss Bell at 21-16, 24-22 in the semifinal.

Of the other results Pauline Martin lost to her doubles partner Lesley Bell in the first round. Christine Holes disappointed with a straight games defeat by Maria Petre of Belgium, while sister Pauline lost to Miss Luzova 21-14, 21-19 in the quarter final.

Holes Twins Again

The Holes twins gained their second successive triumph in the girls doubles beating the North-South combination of Pat Dainty and Jackie Canham in the final 21-9, 15-21, 23-21. Both these pairs eliminated the foreign opposition in the semi-finals. Pauline and Christine beat the Germans Kruger and Scholz, while Pauline and Jackie won in two games over the Belgium pair of Keppenne and Miss Petre.

DahLMAN and Grobe won the boys doubles final beating the Midlanders Keith Jones and Graham Pressick 18-21, 21-13, 21-12. Jones and Pressick had a close tussle with the Essex pair of Blackman and Brown in the semi-final edging home 16-21, 21-13, 22-20.

Leslie Gresswell and Tony Robinson lost to the Germans in the other semi-final.

DahLMAN collected his hat trick of titles with Jutta Kruger in the mixed doubles, beating Grobe and Miss Scholz 21-13, 21-16 in an all German final.

Lesley Bell and Chester Barnes, unfortunately, did not play in the junior doubles. As competitors are allowed to enter only four events in the tournament, they played in the three senior events, plus the junior singles. This seems a curious decision for they had little chance of progres-
**BOYS' SINGLES**

First Round: K. Jones (Warw.) bt M. Jones (Cheshire) 14, 15. L. Grobe (Glos.) bt A. Kinsey (Somerset) 7, 10. R. McIllory (Glos.) bt R. Wasko (Essex) 11, 5. G. French (Kent) bt D. Brown (Essex) 17, 17. J. Jones (Somerset) bt G. Steinback (W. Germany) — 10, — 12, 20.


**BOYS' DOUBLES**


**LADIES' SINGLES**


**WOMEN'S VETERAN SINGLES**


**SOME REFLECTIONS ON THE OPEN**

By R. P. SHANNON

Although not a player, I have been a spectator at quite a number of Table Tennis events and the players might find it of interest to read my comments on "the Open."

The first impression one had was of the much improved dress and general tidiness of the tournament. This rose in standards of appearance of players has been gradual but steady and welcome.

Brighton seems an admirable venue and transferring the final to the Dome made the culmination doubly enjoyable for we who look on.

The smooth running was marked, despite some inconveniences such as television cameras, lights and facilities. It was the best possible to which one might expect. That would be welcome for we who look on.

Commendable Behaviour

How noticeable and commendable was the behaviour of our overseas visitors? Their slight deviations from the strictest propriety, were almost welcome, such were their manners and conduct.

The players and not only the younger ones would do well to emulate their admirable restraint in gesture and comment.

At another tournament, which followed the Open, it was most disagreeable to be bombarded by loud and harshly articulate exclamations and childish displays of pique from some of our top performers.

For our Continental guests there is only one objective—to play to the highest possible skill to which one is able, with the maximum possible energy and with a concentration that is almost frightening. So far as I could observe there was no time or opportunity to indulge in speeches or for making grumness and smiling. As skilled, painstaking and devoted as they are, our players must really get down to a serious study of our opponents, particularly the Hungarian contingent.

I was somewhat surprised at the sheer size and weight of the Yugoslav men. For Table Tennis players their bulk daunted me. It seemed inevitable that their movements should be elephantine and so far as moving position was concerned, such proved to be the case. Speed of reactions and production of strokes however carried them all a great way through the Tournament.

I imagine that for consistency their limitations must prove decided handicaps. What a delight to see the marked control of Andreadis. His subtlety and precision was offset admirably by his youthful fireball of a partner Miko.

The Belgians and many there were, the youthful ebullience and near brilliancy of the girls and the marked disparity in age of those of the male members—all enthusiastic and hard-working.

To the Hungarian, Czechoslovakian and Romanian ladies let us pay due respect. Among them hefty infirmitee Amazons and dainty quicksilver exponents, all equipped with serious concentrated devotion, devastating backhands and an uncanny capacity for discovering weaknesses in the opposition and exploiting them.

I would not presume to offer advice to our players. That would be imprudent. What I would like to see is an appraisal of the "Open" by one of our devoted "elder statesmen" on a technical basis which might be of use to our players as well as to our Continental practitioners—will our players benefit from them?

Altogether a memorable Open, full of good play in admirable conditions, most competently organised, inspired and galvanised by so many fine players past and present. It was a privilege to witness and my thanks to all who took part.
JUNIOR INTERNATIONALS

Girls Show The Way
by LAURIE LANDRY

ENGLAND came out top in the three series of junior internationals against West Germany, winning two with the third drawn. Our success was, however, mainly due to the superiority of our girls.

Lesley Bell was outstanding, winning all her six matches in straight games. Indeed, she was unbeaten at Bexhill, Yate and Canning Town. She needed to control her big hitting in the early stages, but by careful play gained enough confidence to win against Scholz with the top form Dahlman, he crushed Grobe in two straight.

Robertson was feeling much better after his defeat by Dahlman and was hit out to win at 19.

At St. Luke's, Canning Town, we were lucky to come through with a draw, for after Barnes had his bat blown he appeared to lose interest and lost to the two players he had beaten in the previous matches.

Robinson was feeling much better after his defeat by Dahlman and was hit out to win at 19.

She won the mixed title for the sixth successive year and, although unable to make much impression on the top-form Dahlman, he crushed Steinbeck. Tony stood right up to the table, giving his opponent little chance to come in.

Leslie Gresswell was unlucky to come away empty handed. It was not for the want of trying. Moving Steinbeck around and slowing down the game, he was narrowly defeated in two close games. Against Grobe Gresswell led 19-16 in the third, when the German server killed the next three balls to level, then pushed it out to win at 19.

DETAILED RESULTS:

At Bexhill-on-Sea (February 28):

England 7, West Germany 3: C. Barnes bt W. Grobe 21-18, 21-15; bt W. Dahlman 23-1, 21-17, 21-17, 21-20; lost to G. Steinback 17-23, 13-21, 21-17; D. Stanley bt Grobe 13-21, 17-21, 16-15, 18-21; Miss L. Bell bt Miss K. Scholz 21-10, 21-2; bt Miss J. Kruger 21-16, 21-6; Miss C. Holes bt Scholz 21-18, 21-16; bt Kruger 21-1, 7, 21-8.

At Leicester (March 4):

England 6, West Germany 4: Barnes bt Dahlman 21-15, 19-21, 21-15; bt Grobe 21-12, 21-8; A. Robertson lost to Dahlman 16-21, 21-14, 14-21; A. Robertson lost to Dahlman 16-21, 21-14, 14-21; bt Robinson lost to Dahlman 21-14, 14-21; bt Grobe 21-14, 15-21, 15-21; Miss Bell bt Scholz 21-7, 21-2; bt Kruger 21-11, 21-2; Miss J. Canham lost to Scholz 22-24, 21-14, 21-23; bt Kruger 21-14, 10-21, 21-10.

At Canning Town (March 5):

England 8, West Germany 5: Barnes lost to Dahlman 15-21, 21-15, 21-12; lost to Grobe 21-12, 21-8; Robertson lost to Dahlman 10-21, 13-21; bt Robinson lost to Dahlman 10-21, 13-21; bt Grobe 21-14, 18-21, 21-18; bt Grobe 21-14, 15-21, 15-21.

Results (Hungarian names first):

Men’s Singles: Kovacs/Mrs. Lukacs bt Berczik/Fahazi 21-16, 18-21, 21-14, 21-16.
Women’s Singles: Semi-Finals: Foldi bt Horvath/Sera 3-0; Lukacs/Poor 21-12, 21-12, 21-18.

BUDAPEST CHAMPIONSHIPS

Men’s Singles: Kovacs/Fahazi bt Holes 21-16, 21-14, 21-16, 21-12.
Women’s Doubles: Semi-Finals: Kovacs/Harcas bt Kovacs/Mrs. Lukacs 21-12, 21-12, 21-18.

HUNGARY IN FINAL

The Hungarian club VASU/EPITO (Budapest) will play Zagreb (Yugoslavia) in the semi-final of the European club championship. Both Budapest and Zagreb have won all their matches and will oppose either Leipzig (Germany) or Club (Hamburg) in the final.

Results (Hungarian names first): Berczik bt Uzonics 2-0; bt Stipulic 2-0; Rozsas bt Stipulic 2-0; bt Holes 2-1, 21-0; bt Uzonics 2-1.
BUCKS OPEN

by LAURIE LANDRY

Barnes Returns to Form

JUST a few days after his poor showing against West Germany in the junior international, Chester Barnes came back to form to win the men's singles in the Bucks. Open at Slough on March 9-10. With a superb exhibition of controlled hitting, plus the odd drop shot, he beat Ian Harrison, England's top ranking player, 21-17, 20-22, 21-15 in the final.

One only wonders why Harrison did not come in and hit more when he was playing a losing game so well. He had hit extremely well in beating Alan Rhodes (18,13) after being taken to 18 in the third by Whittaker in the first round. Ralph Gunning was Harrison's semi-final opponent and it was here that he got into a rut for his defence proved adequate. Barnes beat Alan Lindsay in his semi-final and earlier disposed of Michael Thornhill, to whom he gave no chance. Lindsay came through the easiest quarter, only just outclassing Tony Miller in 19 the third. Thornhill had a straight games win over an off-form Brian Wright, to whom he gave every chance.

The biggest surprise of the weekend was that the defeat of Bobby Stevens by junior Dennis Holland at 13 and 16. Holland then lost to Mike Creamer, who was in turn beaten by Dennis Hamilton, who then went out to Gunning.

PLAYER TO WATCH

Holland stands out as a player to watch this season. Lesley Bell won the women's and girls' singles, both without loss of a game. The Middlesex second team players, Mary Hicks and Jackie Redfearn, both had good wins, Mary over Peggy Piper (-12, 14, 11) and Jackie over Jean McCree (-19, 18, 21). This let Alma Taft through for she gave every chance. Peach Martine sprang a surprise by beating Jackie Canham in the girls' event. The women's doubles went according to seeding, but Bell and Martin failed to repeat their English Closed success against McCree and Piper.

FOOTBALL

Chester Barnes receives his trophy.

The men's doubles saw the Australians Colin Wilcox and Cliff McDonald reach the final, where they were beaten by Harrison and Stevens 17 and 14. The way was opened for the Australians when the seeds Rhodes and Thornhill went out to Colin Crowe and Fred Morris, of Staffordshire, who in turn lost to Tony Condon and Louis Hoffman. Harrison and Stevens came together after their original partners had both scratched. They were taken to three games by Roy Morley and Michael Creamer and also by Lindsay and Barnes, a scratch pairing.

There were two surprises in the mixed doubles semi-finals, when Morley and Irene Ogus beat Barnes and Miss Bell and the New Zealand combination of Alan Tomlinson and Jeanette Crosby dismissed Stevens and Mrs. McCree. Morley and Miss Ogus won rather easily the final to give Miss Ogus her third success in two months.

SHORRICK UNBEATEN

FL/T. N. SHORRICK came through with a 100 per cent. record when Hereford "A" won the R.A.F. Inter-Station Competition at Hereford on February 23. There was a grand climax to the competition, in which eight teams took part, when Hereford and Kenley came together for the final match, both unbeaten. At this stage three players had also been unbeaten, Shorrick and Col. Ashberry, of Hereford, and L.A.C. Sturzaker of Kenley. Sturzaker beat Webb 22-20, 21-11, to make the score.full, but Hereford won 18-21, 23-21, 18-21, and Hereford were able to do on and win 5-2.
**COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS ROUND UP**

**MIDDLESEX Again... ON GAMES AGGREGATE**

Middlesex are again... but only just. Their 14th title in the 16 years of the competition was clinched only on games aggregate after a shock defeat by Lancashire in their final match.

This was a tremendously exciting affair for the capacity crowd that packed Atkinson's Vehicles to see Lancashire win 5-4. The match was delayed to the third set of the last rubber when Jeff Ingham, having got control of Alan Rhodes' serve, botched the third set of the last rubber when Jeff Ingham, having got control of Alan Rhodes' serve, botched the set.

Ingham also beat David Cremer 21-19, 14-21, 21-18, while also playing a major part was Mike Symonds with wins over both Rhodes and Brian Wright.

Kevin Gunnion -11, -12, Miss Mortimer -19, 20, -18.

Forshaw/R. Crusham bt Rhodes/Creamer 17, 16.

K. Forshaw lost to B. Wright -27, -12.

Lancashire 5, Middlesex 4

Forshaw/R. Crusham won the doubles against Rhodes and Creamer for the other Lancashire victory.

Lancashire have finished as runners-up to Middlesex, their one defeat in the season being against Essex.

Meanwhile, Middlesex "seconds" with a 9-1 win over Northumberland maintained an unbeaten record to win the Second Division North. Philomena Clark, in marking up the lone Northumberland success, once again proved she is one of the best women players in the North.

There was another "photo-finish" in the Second Division Midland where Glamorgan take the title on games aggregate, with just their juniors in the Junior Division East, where they wound up unbeaten with an 8-2 win over Middlesex. The highlight of this match was the success of Stuart Gibbons over junior international Lex Gresswell.

**RESULTS**

Gunnion 16, -10, -17, bt Gallagher 12, 15, -10.

Miss J. Fielder lost to Miss P. Mortimer 15, -19.

Piddock/Buist lost to Billington/Gallagher 19, -17, 16, 12.

Middlesex 0...0. 7 6 1 44 19 12

Yorkshire, with wins over Cheshire (8-2) and Lancashire (8-0), to win the Junior Division North. Surrey and Berkshire each picked up their first point in the Junior Division South when they drew 5-5. Winners of this division are Sussex who were unbeaten.

**DIVISIONAL TABLES**

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STANLEY WINS WITH BORROWED BAT

SUFFERING from a scarcity of girls the Cheshire Junior Open was smoothly accomplished at the Livingstone Street Baths, Birkenhead, on February 23 by a Wirral League committee geared to have taken twice the numbers.

Further diminished by the mysterious non-arrival of the Warwickshire contingent, containing seed Keith Jones and Graham Pressick, the junior boys' field fell to one of 58 contestants.

Quality, however, was in abundance with three from the top six English rankings, David Stanley, Tony Robinson and Les Gresswell to the fore, backed by another four, Colin Eltringham, Roger Hampson, Brian Marsden and Alan Ransome from Group "A".

Upsetting the progress of Gresswell, Durham's Eltringham earned merit marks in disposing of the Middlesex boy in a titanic quarter-final, but subsequently fell foul of Stanley in the semi. Earlier Eltringham had axed his county colleague Ransome.

Stanley went on to take the title vacated by Mike Symonds by accounting for Robinson in an entertaining final. Showing a welcome return to form, even with a borrowed bat after breaking his own early on, Stanley just had the edge to climax a performance which had beaten off the challenge of Mike Johns, Hampson and Marsden.

Robinson had much the easier half winning all his sets in two straight, Jack Frankland of Blackpool causing him the most concern although Burnley's Doug Hodgson gave a good account of himself in the semi.

From a field of seven Linda Henwood and Pat Dainty emerged to contest the final of the junior girls' and to the Essex starlet went the major prize, to which she added the under-15's title in swamping Ingrid Sykes.

More local in character the under-15's event went to Gordon Birch of Liverpool, who carried too many guns for Terry Bickerdike of Bury. Both finalists had their moments of glory when Birch defeated Frankland and Bickerdike accounted for Robert Todd conqueror of Johns.

Pat Dainty had her revenge over Miss Henwood in the girls' doubles pairing up with Bolton's Jean Harrison to account for her southern tormentor in partnership with Miss Sykes.

Again in the mixed Miss Dainty triumphed, with Gresswell, over Stanley and Miss Henwood. Gresswell also took the boys' doubles with Robinson opposed to those up-and-coming Cheshire boys Johns and Hampson.

WESTERN COUNTIES BULLETIN

by Grove Motlow

BRISTOL MAINTAIN RECORD

BRISTOL maintained their unbeaten Western Counties record with a 7-2 win over West Wilts, at Trowbridge. After winning the first four matches in straight games, Bristol were extended in the remaining five, each of which went to three games.

West Wilts, claimed their two victories when A. Alexander beat young Dave McCarry at 19 in the third, then accounted for Tony Dinambo at 23-21 in the third. Barrie Brady was unbeaten for Bristol, although he dropped games to both J. Ford and J. Cleveland.

Brilliant attack and excellent defensive play featured the 6-3 win by Bristol Second over Newport. Six of the matches went to sets and with a complete absence of pushing, it was the type of play that could attract larger crowds to inter-league matches.

J. Wise was in excellent form for Bristol winning all three of his matches, while J. Taylor won two. Both accounted for B. Everson, the Welsh international, whose only win was over V. Adams. Tony Huish gained Newport's other two wins, beating Taylor and Adams.

Everson came into his own in Newport's 6-3 away win over Abergenenny, going through unbeaten. Young John Mansfield won two for Abergenenny.

LINDA HENWOOD

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LONDON BUSINESS

Houses Championships

(Manor Place Baths, Walworth, February 14),


THE WELSH CLOSED

The Heads Roll at Welsh Closed

The "heads" certainly rolled in the Welsh closed! Bernard Dimascio, the holder, went out to "crack" Dave Jones, who never had any pretensions to being great; Alan Thomas lost to Ken Bull; and George Evans, to Glyn Morgan, and with respect to the latter, this was the worst result of all. Ron Davies went out to Michael Darlington, ever a solid stylist player but not in practice these days; Margaret Phillips to Elizabeth Gray, and Phil Bevan to Roy Fowler, who then lost to "veteran" Dennis Samuel!

Why is it because Welsh players know each other too well and also because our top players are not so much in advance of the rank and file as our stars used to be? A little of both, probably.

On the credit side there was a splendid day for Brian Everson. He hasn't been in very good form this season, but played efficiently to beat Mansfield, Glyn Morgan, and Darlington, to reach the final where he met "Leslie" Woodying, who had crept quietly by the wayside. This young player, born in Llandudno, but now playing for England, found the way right open for him, via Dennis Samuel, Keith Bull, to share the semi-final win over his friend David Jones, only to find Brian Everson much too steady.

Heartfelt congratulations to Brian, who is always keen if less successful than he would wish. So once again the Welsh Closed title has gone to a dark horse, as it did last season when Dimascio gave practicaly out of retirement to win it!

Wooding was indeed promising, and in a Welsh scene dominated by players who cannot hit, his effervescent attack is refreshing.

Meanwhile, fun and games also in the women's event. Audrey Bates, the holder, after beating Margaret Jones met Sandra Morgan in the semi, and against a solid defence was reduced to long bouts of attack that lacked sting, before getting home in the third.

Elizabeth Gray, so disappointing after looking good during the summer training, suddenly found some form to beat a very spiritless Margaret Phillips, and then met Audrey Bates in the final. The first was anybody's game with both going at it, but Audrey was a good winner in the second.

Ron Davies and George Evans did well to beat the usual finalists Alan Morris and the joker, Morgan in the semi, this time, then had a fairly comfortable final victory over Dimascio and Everson. Glyn Morgan and Audrey Bates took the Mixed, beating Alan Thomas and Shirley Sturgess in the semi, then Roy Fowler and Sandra Morgan who had had a good win over Phil Bevan and Dorothy Attenborough, Margaret Phillips and Sandra Morgan beat the "scratch" pair of Audrey Bates and Doreen Clement in the Women's.

The entry was the biggest for some years, a most encouraging sign, particularly as there were about 50 boys and girls. Amongst the boys there was some good play from Jeff Phillips, Bill Bird and Dennis Samuel of Aberdare, Geoff Trenchard of Eastern Valleys, but most particularly from Graham Davies of Osmore Vale, who confirmed his good showing in the "Empire" by reaching the final, and giving Mansfield a very good game. It was pleasing to see some new ideas amongst these youngsters.

Of particular pleasure was the girls' event, usually to badly supported, but now made to look respectable by the entry of several of Audrey Bates' Howell's School girls, many of whom looked promising. Main interest was perhaps centred on the performance of young Elizabeth Ernest, the Welsh Lawn Tennis international, making her first appearance in the table tennis world. She did well to reach the final, and is of the build and approach to make a good player if she will stick.

Welsh players are not a week of gloom by journeying to Worcester, and losing 6-4 for the first time ever to this county!


(Continued from page 4)

built it into their games to a much more effective degree than have the Welsh. Significant that the two successes, Phil Bevan and Bernard Dimascio are both real players rather than just trying to loop, make much attempt to pull the ball away when the play forced by these players was little reward for the work put into the tour by the various organisations.

SCORPs

At Abergavenny. Wales 2, Australia 7: Evans lost to Thomson — 16, 12, — 14; bt McDonald 12, 13, 16; Mansfield lost to Thomson — 12, 16, — 9; lost to Morgan — 12, 17, 19. Davies lost to Morgan — 15, — 18; bt Thomas — 15, 16, Thomas lost to McDonald — 16, — 13; beat Wilcox 14, 12; Evans/Davies lost to Mansfield/Wilcox — 14, 13.

At Milford Haven. Wales 1, Australia 8: Bevan lost to Thomson — 11, — 19; bt Morgan 15, 12, 21; Mansfield lost to McDonald — 12, 16, — 14; lost to Thomson — 19, — 16, — 13, Thomas lost to McDonald — 20, — 14; lost to Wilcox — 10, 16, 19; Evans lost to Wilcox — 16, 14; lost to McDonald — 15, — 12, Davies/Evans lost to Wilcox/McDonald — 50, — 16.

At Milford Haven. Wales 1, Australia 8: Morgan lost to McDonald — 10, 14; lost to Thomson — 10, — 14, Jones lost to Thomson — 15, — 12; lost to Morgan — 21, 5; Dimascio bt McDonald — 16, 14, 16; lost to Mansfield — 20, 14, 14; Evans lost to McDonald — 15, — 12; Mansfield lost to Wilcox — 6, 6, 15; lost to McDonald — 15, 15, 15, 15, 15; lost to McDonald — 15, — 12; Dimascio/Morris lost to Wilcox/McDonald — 11, 14.

Page Twenty-six

P A T R I C K A R K E L L Replies to CRITICISM OF WELSH JUNIORS

As secretary of the Abergavenny and District League, I feel that I cannot allow remarks like that of Laurie Landford in the March issue to pass without comment.

I saw the England-Wales junior match at Southampton and whilst appreciating that England were a superior team I feel that our team was nearer the truth than that of ours.

Roy Evans seems to imply that we in Wales should not play any more junior internationals until our standard is higher than at present. What nonsense.

The day we stop competing because we are not good enough will be a sad day for Welsh Table Tennis.

Has anyone ever heard the suggestion that England should not compete against the Central Europeans or Asians because they are not good enough? Exactly the reverse is true. The cry is for more competition so that more experience and knowledge can be gained.

Initially, on a lower plane, the same must apply to Welsh Table Tennis, especially when the boys must strengthen our resources to the limits and send them to the English tournaments.

Where does the fault lie? To a large extent it is because the leagues in Wales, especially the major ones, are not interested enough. For quite a few years the Abergavenny League has supplied the bulk of the Welsh junior team. It may surprise many to learn that Abergavenny is a town with a population of about 9,000 and can boast less than 50 registered players. Yet we—one of the smallest leagues in Wales—produce good youngsters who fervently believe in coaching and taking our youngsters to as many tournaments as possible. We, of course, are the first to give all credit for this to that fine coach Jack Price.

There is an abundance of young talent in Wales. It was there for everyone to see at the Welsh Closed. All that is required is for this talent to be harnessed and channeled via coaching schemes until it reaches its full potentialities.

Fortunately, the newly formed Monmouthshire County Association are in favour of bringing youth to the fore. They have an ambitious coaching scheme planned for this summer.

Although it may take a few years to reap the benefits of such schemes, we are the biggest for some years, the most encouraging sign, particularly as there were about 50 boys and girls. Amongst the boys there was some good play from Jeff Phillips, Bill Bird and Dennis Samuel of Aberdare, Geoff Trenchard of Eastern Valleys, but most particularly from Graham Davies of Osmore Vale, who confirmed his good showing in the "Empire" by reaching the final, and giving Mansfield a very good game. It was pleasing to see some new ideas amongst these youngsters.

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(Continued on page 27)
HICKS PROVIDES THE UPSETS
by NORMAN KILPATRICK

AMERICA'S third largest tournament, the Central United States Open, was the site of a series of upsets created by Richard Hicks, of Indianapolis, Indiana. Held on December 8-9 in Chicago, Illinois, the Central Open found Hicks defeating 1961 U.S. champion Erwin Klein 3-1, former Iranian champion Houshang Bozozogzadeh 3-0, and ex-Hungarian Laszlo Varenyi 3-1.

Hicks is a strictly orthodox defensive player who occasionally opens up with a hard forehand attack, but usually is content to chop and push.

Klein took second place in the tourney, since the final was a round-robin between the last four players. The left-handed, red haired attacker edged out Bozozogzadeh for the runner-up spot. Hicks defeated defending champion Robert Fields in the 1962 Canadian Open tourney, and should shortly be one of our top ranking players.

Bernard Bukiet, United States international for many years, gained the men's singles title at the Eastern United States Championships, December 15-16, 1962, in Providence, Rhode Island. Bukiet and his finalist opponent, Martin Doss, of New York, produced some of the most spectacular table tennis seen in a finals in years, as they drove and counter hit each other without let-up for five torrid games. In the semi-finals, Robert Bukiet, of New York, led Bukiet 17-15 in the fifth game only to have his way to the finals by edging out Bozozogzadeh for the runner-up runner-up spot. Hicks defeated defending champion Robert Fields in the 1962 Canadian Open tourney, and should shortly be one of our top ranking players.

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Leah Neuberger easily defended her women's singles title, using a sandwich racket for the first time in a major event. The racket seemed to have little effect on Mrs. Neuberger's crisp drives and placements, as she defeated Canadian Open champion Lona Rubenstein in the semi-finals, and Bernice Chotras, of New York City, 3-1 in the finals.

Egyptian born Raouf Kamel, of Jersey City, hit his way to the finals of the junior men's event, with a good win over towering 6 foot 3 inches tall Richard Jackson, but made little impression on 17-year-old Danny Pecora, the U.S. junior champion.

The American team to the Prague championships will be: MEN: 1, Bernard Bukiet (New York); 4, Richard Fields (New York); 5, Norbert Van de Walle (Chicago). WOMEN: 1, Bernice Chotras (New York); 2, Barbara Kaminsky (Baltimore); 3, Lona Rubenstein (New York). Non-play ing captain Sol Schiff (New York). The U.S.T.T.A. delegate to the I.T.T.F. Congress is Robert Chaimson (Washington), and the U.S.T.T.A. member of the I.T.T.F. Jury is Rufford Harrison (Newark, Delaware).

Do Welsh juniors really have the opportunity of playing more tournaments this year? I doubt if in Wales we have a complete domestic programme including the Welsh League, where the matches are played on Sabbath evenings.

Without being critical of this excellent competition it is about time that Saturday play was abandoned so that our players could go to the English tournaments. The alternative? Dare I suggest that we convert the Welsh League to Sunday play, or perhaps mid-week, keeping Saturday matches when long distances are involved.

There is one other point of Ray Evans that I must answer. He wants to know what has happened to Jack Price's promising youngsters and why so few are still in Welsh table tennis. As Aber gavenny is a small market town many of them have left the district to go to University or to work in industry in the larger towns, and so have become lost to the game. Some are still in the town but only John Mansfield has reached county standard.

Marathon Record

The University College of Wales, Aberystwyth, are determined that they will carve their own little niche in table tennis. Back in 1961 four students from the university set up an unofficial world marathon record by playing for 30 hours 3 minutes. In February as part of their Rag Week eight players from the same university set out to improve the record. Four, Doug Worthurst, Dave Sharrock, Aubrey Hughes and Colin Smith, retired after adding seven minutes to the old time, the remaining four, Drew Harman, Mike Butt, Alan Daniel and Tony Harris went on to shatter the record by 4 hours 10 minutes, to give a total time of 34 hours 10 minutes.

Altogether a total of 675 games were played on two tables, 52% by the new record holders.

The rules of the marathon are that after one match consisting of the best of five games, the players are allowed two minutes rest.

PETER ARKELL continued from page 26

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Imagine a coach like Jack Price being let loose in Cardiff with its masses of players!

May I ask Mr. Evans how many of the Welsh selectors regularly watch our juniors in action? Also how many active Welshmen are there in Wales?

Junior Conscious

Others apart from Monmouthshire are junior conscious, namely Aberdare and Milford Haven. But until the big leagues follow suit, then Welsh Table Tennis will never rise out of the doldrums.

Not only are most English counties making great strides in sponsoring junior table tennis, but Ireland and Scotland as well. So come on Wales, or a decade from now will see us as a non-existent force in the table tennis world.

In other sports and walks of life we make up for the lack of numbers by something we call "hwy." Given a lead from our administrators it can be present in our table tennis.
LANCASHIRE bt. MIDDLESEX
By George R. Yates

HOMeward bound in triumph from Northumberland a phone call was made from Seaborough which set the bar of the Bull Hotel alight with the news of Lancashire's premier division victory over Middlesex.

Great indeed was the rejoicing when added to the second team's championship success sealed with a runaway 9-1 win at Gateshead. Forced to make a three-fold change, bringing in debuts Gordon Beardsworth and Judy Crafter in place of Roy Crustham and Connie Moore, and Winifred Swift, vice Ivy Kershaw, mattered not one whit to the spirit of a team welded in the furnace of the opening engagement against Yorkshire at Sheffield.

This season has seen the red rose bloom indeed from the bud that promised so much at the outset.

Manchester's Reign Ends

Great, too, was the rejoicing in Burnley on the evening of March 7, when a trio comprising George Livesey, Jack Moore, and Winifred Swift added to the second team's championship victory over Lancashire by inflicting a crushing 7-2 defeat on the Manxmen.

Three defeated Kevin Forshaw and Peter Walmsley, hugging the wall of the Lancashire juniors, were defeated in a series of excellent matches. Walmsley, who won 19-15, 21-11, 21-14, won his second straight final of the season, played against Roy Frankland and won 21-12, 21-6.

The men's singles, won by Alan Crossley, was a near thing. "Chalky" White, number one junior, became county champion when he beat Mick Purser in a brilliant game—the best junior final seen for years. John Wells, who has twice previously lost to Bob Geary in two tournaments this season, held Geary's forehand attack in the final of the under-15's singles to win the event. Winner of the Veteran's singles was Harry Ball, who was too steady for all opposition. The mixed doubles was won by Johnny Burniston and Barbara Webster in a close win over Gordon Murray and Glenys Odams. The men's doubles, finishing in Gordon Murray and Rodney Pickering's surprise, resulted in John Rogers and Graham Elsdon.

MIDDLESEX NOTES

A NEAR THING

MIDDLESEX are once again County champions, but it was a near thing. We just scraped home on games average over Lancashire, against whom we suffered a shock defeat in the final match. This emphasizes only too well the value of those narrow 5-4 wins over Kent and Gloucestershire, earlier in the season. One game the other way in either of these matches and it would have been goodbye to the title.

Moreover, Lancashire's only defeat of MIDDLESEX

WILLESDEN CLOSED

MICHAEL Creamer made a clean sweep in the Willesden Closed championships winning the men's singles, men's doubles, with Ian Redfeather and the mixed doubles with Mrs. Symes. Mrs. Redfeather took the women's singles and partnered Irene Ogus to win the doubles.


The season, against Essex, was by the narrow margin of 5-4. Middlesex also flopped rather badly against the Australians. A tired end-of-the-season team lost 3-4, David Creamer winning our three. And he was taken to three games in each.

HOLDERS BEaten

In the Schools' competition, the holders, Tottenham Grammar, are out to Albion County, who have Tony Robinson, Ashford County with Leslie Gresswell, Middlesex's other junior international, are also in the county semi-final. The Borough Youth competition has boiled down to Poplar, the holders, and Fulham.

EAST LONDON CLOSED

PAULINE Martin provided a fitting climax to her "under-17's" career, when she won the girls' singles and doubles, with Karenza Smith in the East London League Junior championships at the Queens' Club, St. Luke's. Pauline, who previously held the title in 1958-9, beat Valerie Woodhouse 21-11, 21-13 in the singles final.

Chester Barries also scored a double by winning the boys' singles and doubles with Stuart Gibbs. The "under-14's" singles was won by Keith Lawrence.


AROUND EAST ANGLIA

NORWICH DOUBLE FOR TURNER

NORFOLK were delighted to welcome E.T.A. chairman Ivor Eyles, and Harry Walker, Region 7s elected member and Essex secretary, for a fruitful discussion prior to the county's first annual dinner.

Harry Walker stayed on for the early rounds of the Norwich championships CAMBRIDGE PIPPED ON THE POST

AFFER heading the table for most of the season, Cambridge City were pipped on the post by Northampton for the title, although New Chesterton Institute were delighted to welcome Harry Walker, John Constable, Carol Chapman and Carol Stringer, despite their lowly position, should benefit considerably from the experience of competition against some of the best juniors in the country.

The Cambridgeshire League is now set for a final flourish and it looks as if the hands of Essex has left them popping up the Junior Division (East). It also affords some satisfaction that in the last match against Essex Alan Pounder, who is now a medical student, is expected to return.

The Cambridgeshire team of Pounder, Paul Chiswell, John Constable, Carol Chapman and Carol Stringer, despite their lowly position, should benefit considerably from the experience of competition against some of the best juniors in the country.

The Cambridgeshire Executive are concerned at certain cases of non-attendance in the Cambridgeshire League and are prepared to deal severely with those clubs involved.

Junior coaching session at the Y.M.C.A. are still going according to plan and it is hoped they will produce a strong contingent of players.

The Cambridgeshire Summer League will again be operating and enquiries are already coming in from new clubs, who wish to take part with a view to entering the Winter League next season. It is hoped to run even more divisions in the Summer competition which is proving most popular.

Leslie Constable

One club, by the way, has a fine new net. This should, as we all know, measure six feet. But stretch it as one may, it still leaves an illegal space of two inches at each post. So watch this point when buying your own net!

J. S. Penny

PURNELL IS NEW SUFFOLK CHAMPION

The Suffolk Closed was short of some of the best-known men players in the county, so leaving the men's singles and doubles events wide open. Nevertheless, something of a surprise was created when Reg Purnell seemed to reverse last season's decision against Paul Walsh and Marion Harrison and win the mixed.

As predicted, Norwich completed a double in the East Anglian League by winning the First Division title. Their "B" team had previously won the Second Division.

Great Yarmouth beat Lowestoft 6-4 making their match with Norwich a straight fight for the title, but only Charlie Carter, who beat Coby and Coe, could score in the decider, which Norwich won 8-2.

AT HOME

Norwich C.E.Y.M.S. invited players from Ipswich, Yarmouth and Norwich to a well organised At Home," which was held at the Central Youth Hall the following day. Here John Turner (N.A.L.G.O.) continued his campaign to absorb all opposition on his wooden bat and win the men's singles. He also teamed up with Alan Corydon (C.E.Y.M.S.), the junior singles winner, to take the men's doubles.

Stella Perry (Y.M.C.A.) won the women's singles, and husband Bob just failed to make it a family double when he lost in the finals of the men's singles and doubles, both of which went to three games.

Mrs. Perry stopped Mary Turner (St. Faith's House) at 19 in the third. Miss Turner, however, parted with Bill Minors (Gothic) to reverse last season's decision against Paul Walsh and Marion Harrison and win the mixed.


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WARWICKSHIRE NOTES

This is the best season since the war for the junior team, now that they have finished fourth. Incidentally Pim has only lost one match (D. Rowe) in all the junior games, a truly great performance.

The quickly "seconds" did well to beat Oxford and have finished third in the second division (Midland), a very creditable performance considering they are playing against the first teams of the other six counties.

Our junior team proved much too strong for Oxford and won 10-4 so enhancing their chances of winning the division on games average.

The final of the Inter-county club competition will be between South Birmingham (Central Y.M.C.A., Birmingham). This should be a real blood match as they have shared all the major honours this season.

Rogers Morris

STAINES CLOSED

More than 400 players—the largest ever entry—took part in the Staines League Closed Championships on February 23-24. The finals produced some exciting well played matches with the men's doubles, in which Michael Thornhill and Norman Slifken beat Bob McKewon and Lex Gresswell, 19-20, 20-19, 20-19, 22-20 providing the high spot.

Thornhill, who beat Gresswell in the semi-final, and McKewon in the final at June Lodge and the mixed doubles with June Lodge and the mixed doubles with Bruce Carlile.

Jan Barlow won the veterans singles, while Philip Miles won the consolation singles.

TABLE TENNIS 1963

Alteration to Rules of the Association:

In accordance with rule 34 of the association's constitution all county and league secretaries have now received a communication from the office giving details of proposed alterations and additions to the rules as received by the secretary as at February 28, 1963. It should be noted that rule 34a states: "Proposals for such changes to be considered by the next annual general meeting shall be submitted in writing to reach the secretary not later than the last day of February. All proposals so received shall be circulated to all county associations and local leaguers during March and amendments or alternative proposals dealing with the same substance shall be accepted for consideration by the annual general meeting if submitted in writing and received by the secretary not later than the last day in April."

Thereafter, any amendments or alternative proposals dealing with the same substance should be received in writing by the secretary at 652 Grand Buildings, Trafalgar Square, London, W.C.2, by April 30 next in order that they may be included in the agenda for the annual meeting at the Bishop Partridge Hall, Church Houses, Westminster, London, S.W.1, on Saturday July 6, 1963.

Election of Officers and Members of the National Executive Committee 1963-64 season.

The nomination papers for officers and members of the national executive committee have already been despatched and should be returned to the Electoral Reform Society by April 16, 1963. As soon as possible after that date all county and league secretaries will receive from the office of the association details of nominations received by the Electoral Reform Society, which will show the names of the counties or leagues who have proposed them for any position on the National Executive Committee.

The office of the association will send out the voting papers on May 15, 1963 and these should be returned to the Electoral Reform Society by June 12, 1963.

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Patron: Her Majesty The Queen

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