Top: The Singles Champions: CHUANG TSE-TUNG and KIMIYO MATSUZAKI. Bottom: CHANG SHIH-LIN and WANG CHIH-LIANG, Men's doubles champions and DIANE ROWE and MARY SHANNON, Women's doubles runners-up.
CHINA and JAPAN SWEEP THE BOARD
by LAURIE LANDRY

CHUANG TSE-TUNG retained his singles title in the World Championships in Prague to ensure that he will carry the world champion tag until 1965. In a repeat of the Peking final, he beat fellow countryman, Li Fu-ju in four games.

It was, yet again, a double triumph for the Chinese and Japanese, who swept the board in the men's and women's events respectively. In addition to Chuang Tse-tung's success in the singles, China took the Swaythling Cup, and the men's doubles with CHANG SHIH-LIN and WANG CHIH-LIANG, while Japan retained the Corbillon Cup and carried off the women's singles with KIMIYO MATSUZAKI, the women's doubles with MATSUZAKI and MASAKO SEKI, and the mixed doubles with Koji KIMURA and KAZUKO ITO.

When the Chinese provided six quarter finalists for the men's singles in Peking everyone was amazed, but a partial explanation was that as the home country they had more entries. Here in Prague, China had 17 men and 12 women and to halve eight in the last 16 and 6 in the last eight, apart from all four semi-finalists in the men's singles emphasises the great strides this country has made.

Chuang Tse-tung was supremely fit, as were most of the Chinese and he has developed a penhold backhand smash which leaves opponents standing. He ended European hopes with a quarter final win over Alser, of Sweden, who had come through a section which included Jung Kuo-tuan, the 1959 champion, who fell to Svab, of Czechoslovakia, over four games. Svab followed this by beating Foldi Ovser the full distance of five games, before going out to Alser, who showed his fitness against Chuang Tse-tung by holding the champion at bay with his high top-spin defence. Chuang Tse-tung won his three games at 18, losing the third at 19.

The two brilliant defensive Chinese orthodox grip players WANG CHIH-LIN and CHANG SHIH-LIN both reached the semi-final. Chang Shih-lin had dropped a game earlier to Arndt, of West Germany, and was taken to five by the intelligent play of Markovic, of Yugoslavia. A wonderful quarter final game with Ogimura, the fantastic Japanese former champion, went to Chang Shih-lin at 14 in the fifth.

Fahazi Thrashed
Ogimura had some hard matches and at 30 he still produces that wonderful play which has thrilled us since Wembley 1954. He beat Berczik from two games down and after wins over Miles (U.S.A.) and Kuo Chung-kung, came near to defeat against WANG CHIH-sheng, after being two games up.

Wang Chih-liang thrashed Fahazi (Hungary), and also beat Negelescu (Rumania) (conqueror of Ian Harrison), before winning a brilliant match against Kimura (Japan) at 19 in the fifth for a place in the quarter finals, where he overcame Yu Chang-chun.

YU CHANG-chun had narrowly survived at 19 in the fifth against the North Korean KIL HWA, who in the previous round had beaten one of China's chief hopes, Hsu Yin-sheng in a superb match. The Chinese player was given an "edge" for a "side" and held a match point, before the Korean eventually won 25-23 in the fifth game. Yu Chang-chun also beat the local hero ANDREASIS, to whom he dropped a game.

The two semi-finals went to the hitters fairly com-
fortably, Chuang Tse-tung beating Chang Shih-lin 18, 13, 22, and Li Fu-jung disposing of Wang Chih-liang 18, 10, 15. Chuang Tse-tung then beat Li Fu-jung 16, 15, -10, 18, by simply looking the better player.

The English players did not fare very well. None of our 12 qualifiers won through, although Chapman and Konaka, down 15, 9, 18 to Konaka, one of the Japanese who later went out to the new champion.

Chester Barnes, of whom so much was expected, made very hard work of veteran Ehrlich, who was three times a world finalist before Chester was born. In the next round he went quite the same fight in the individual to the Czech Vyhnanovsky 7, 19, 8. He does not appear to produce his best form until he meets a world finalist before Chester was born. In the next round he went quite the same fight in the individual to the Czech Vyhnanovsky 7, 19, 8. He does not appear to produce his best form.

David Creamer had a bye, then lost to the Czech Vyhanansovsky 7, 19, 8. He does not appear to produce quite the same fight in the individual events that he shows in the team matches.

Does Not Pay

Brian Wright beat the Nigerian Akamnu in four games then disappointed against Miko, the Czech No. 1, beating beaten 8, 9, 14. Brian Merritt, after a walk-over, lost to the Russian Brodsky over four games, which once again proved that defence only does not pay off in the really top class.

Ian Harrison looked our best all the time. He beat the Canadian Germain 6, 10, 17, and walk-over brought him the next round. Nigel. Harrison recovered from the loss of the first two games to lead 16-12 in the fifth, but, just when we were wondering how he would fare against the orthodox Chinese defender Wang, he cracked and won only one further point.

The men's doubles interested us in that there was an all-Chinese final. Never before had a Chinese pair reached this stage, but the favourites Chuang Tse-tung and Hsu Yin-sheng got through comfortably against Miki and Konaka in the semi-final, after having previous wins over Harrison and Creamer, and the Anglo-Czech partnership of Leach and Stipek.

The other finalists were the defensive experts Chang Shih-lin and Wang Chih-liang, losing semi-finalists in the singles. Their victims included Oirimura and Kimura, Klein and Miles, and Li Fu-jung and Wang Chih-sheng (semi-final) and they went on to take the title with the remarkable record of not dropping a game throughout.

They played wonderfully well together, a perfect team controlling the game completely.

The top European pair, Andreadis and Miko, fell to Li Fu-jung and Wang Chia-sheng at 18 in the fifth, a most exciting match, while the Hungarians Berczik and Fahazi also lost at 18 in the fifth to Hu Tao-pen and Su Kuo-hsi.

The English pairs made a slightly better showing than in the singles. Landry and Gunston, after qualifying, lost to the Danes Thirstein and Lindwall at 19 in the fifth, Barnes and Merrett fought back from 2-1 down to beat the Czechs, Kokes and Kudnac at 19 in the fifth, and followed with a win over another Czech pair, Stepans and Svab (18, 16, 16) before falling to the Rumanians Corbirzan and Giurgiuca (20, 16, 16).

Wright and the New Zealander Tomlinson, lost in the first round to the Czech qualifiers Simik and Nvc, who proved much too good at -18, 16, 18, 18. Our top pair, Harrison and Creamer, beat the Austrians Sedelmayer and Morth 16, 16, 16, then Gomez (W. Germany) and Johansson (Sweden) -14, -12, 16, 11, 19 before losing to Chuang Tse-tung and Hsu Yin-sheng 12, 18, 10.

Leach, partnered by Stipek of Czechoslovakia, had the best run of the English players reaching the last 16 before going down to Chuang Tse-tung and Hsu Yin-sheng at 19, 17, 20.

First Since 1957

The outstanding English performance once again goes to the girls, with Diane Rowe and Mary Shannon taking the runners-up prize in the women's doubles. What a joy it was to see them in the final, the first English players to achieve such a distinction since the 1957 championships at Stockholm.

Comfortable wins over Austrians, Chinese and Hungarians, took our pair to the quarters where brilliant play gave them a 3-1 win over the defending champion Alexandru and Petica at 20, -16, 17, 16. Careful pushing play and the hit when the opening came, clinched a great victory.

They gained another superb win in the semi-final, beating the Japanese pair Ito and Yamana, mainly on defence by picking out the odd hits to show what a fine all-round partner they are. The match appeared to go with the order, until the fourth game, with our girls coming through at 8, -21, 10, 19.

In the final they came up against the top Japanese pair of Matsuzaki and Seki, to be beaten 16, -15, 15, 16, after an extremely good game in which the champions were just that little too good.

Lesley Bell teamed with Gomolla of West Germany, but they did not combine and lost in their first match to Kunz and Kalweit of East Germany 13, 15, 16.

Of the leading Europeans Simon and Harst (W. Germany) and Foldi and Hierits (Hungary) fell to Chiu Chung-hui and Wang Chen, and Matsuzaki and Seki respectively.

Foldi and Hierits eliminated Elsie Carrington and Doreen Spooner, while the other English pair Judy Williams and Pam Venus beat the Czechs Crylikova and Muchova at 17 in the fifth then lost to the Canadians Hinnius and Adminas at 18 in the fifth.

Title Regained

Matsuzaki regained the women's singles, which she had previously won at Dortmund in 1959, with a final win over Alexandra of Rumania of 14, 13, -20, -15, 17.

This was a thriller, with Alexandru fighting back from the loss of the first two games 16-19 down in the third. She clung on tenaciously and it was not until near the end of the fifth games that Matsuzaki managed to force the issue.

Matsuzaki very nearly went to the second round to the young Chinese girl Hu Ke-,, reint, recovering from 2-1 down to win 22, 13, -20, 13, 19.

She beat another Chinese player Li Li-chen in the quarters, then Constantinescu (Rumania) in the semi-final.

The big surprise of this half of the draw was the first round defeat of Eva Foldi, the Peking runner-up, by Li Ho-nan. Also in this section Lesley Bell lost to Liang Li-chen 15, 15, 13, and Mary Shannon disappointed by being beaten by Karlkova at -19, 11, 13, -18, 22, after holding two match points.

On her way to the final Alexandra beat Lukacs (Hungary), Yamanaka (Japan) — conqueror of defending champion Chiu Chung-hui — and Sun Mei-ying.

Diane Rowe reached the last 16 only to find a determined Hierits of Hungary far too steady for her, Elsie Carrington lost to Gunthe of Sweden, while Judy Williams fell in
WORLD'S PICTURE PARADE
by DENNIS OFFER

LIANG LI-CHEN (China)
HU KE-MING (China)
LI FU-JUNG (China)
WANG CHIEN (China)

KIMIYO MATSUZAKI (Japan) proudly holds her women's singles trophy aloft.

MARIA ALEXANDRU (Rumania) the losing women's singles finalist shows her attack.

JAPAN WITH THE CORBILLON CUP

KOJI KIMURA
Mixed Doubles winner.

ICHIRO OGIMURA
still going strong.

MATSUZAKI
on attack.

LIANG LI-CHEN
beating Agnes Simon.
WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS SPECIALS

The mixed doubles was a Japanese triumph, but not for their top pair. The favourites Ogimura and Matsuzo lost to Chang Shih-lin and Cheng Min-chih, who in turn lost to Fahazi and Foldi.

The Hungarians were then beaten by Kimura and Ito who moved on to the all-Japanese final against Miki and Seki, who had come through with wins over European champions Alser (Sweden) and Harst (W. Germany). In the quarters, and the two Chinese world champions Tsai and Chui Chung-hui in the semi-finals. The final was a disappointment, Kimura and Ito looking by far the stronger to win 18, 14, 13.

Of the English pairs Creamer and Shankland lost 16 to 15 in the fifth to Scholer and Simon of W. Germany; Merrett and Carrington, after beating the French pair Chergui and Albert, lost. The two Rumanians Nelegescu and Alexandru.

Wright and Williams went out to the Chinese Wang Chih-liang and Lin Hui-shou, who beat and Rowe beat the East Germans Viebig and Kunz only to lose to the finalists Miki and Seki. Barnes and Bell appeared in depth in losing to the East Germans Pleuse and Kalweit.

CONSIDERATIONS

Lesley Bell made up for early disappointments by reaching the final of the women's consolation singles where she lost to Schwarzova 15 and 10 - a very good performance. In the semi-final Bell beat Rudnova, the promising young Russian girl, who had previously eliminated Mary Shannon, Judy Williams, after a win over Klukova, lost to Pajersky.

Ralph Gunnion lost to Vora (India), Barnes and Sandor (Hungary), Wright to Lippert (East Germany), Chapman to Szentivana (Rumania), Walker to Dow (Scotland), and Taylor to Johansson (Sweden), Creamer had wins over Landry (Canada) and Dubus (France) but found Kovacs (Hungary) too strong.

For the old-timers, beating Stipek in the final.

RESULTS IN FULL

MEN'S SINGLES


WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

SPECIAL

TABLE TENNIS

PAGE SEVEN
More Shots from the "WORLDS"  
by DENNIS OFFER

R. NEGELESCU  
(Rumania)

EVA FOLDI and  
ERZSBET HIERITS (Hungary)

EVA POOR and  
SAROLTA LUKACS (Hungary)

FERENC SIDO  
Jubilee Cup winner.

IAN HARRISON  
retrieving against  
Negulescu

CHINA ON PARADE with the ENGLAND BANNER following.

ZOYA RUDNOVA  
Russia's brilliant 16-year-old.

O. HAWKINS and  
P. ROBERTSON (Scotland)

MARY SHANNON  
in play against INGE HARST of  
W. Germany.

JOHNNY LEACH and L. STIPEK,  
an Anglo-Czech pairing.

ANN O'BRIEN and  
CLIFF McDONALD (Australia)
TABLE TENNIS

Kimura bt Christodoulatos/3

Kimura bt Christodoulatos/Glannakopoulos

Merrell/Carrington bt Cheri/Final 10

Matser/Alber 12, 16, 15

Rua-Meret 12, 16

Morgan/Sheb 21

Vincenzi/Ke-

Vincenzi/Ke-

Vincenzi/Ke-

Vincenzi/Ke-
CHINA retained the Swaythling Cup in Prague and Japan maintained their domination up by marking up their sixth win, the last four in succession.

China, after sweeping through their group without loss, dropped a game to West Germany in the semi-final and another to Japan in the final, the Japanese supremacy in the women's title was unimpeachable for they went through without loss. Japan had a clean sheet in their group of the Swaythling Cup. the Herbantines for Ohina against West Germany and Japan in the semi-final and another to Japan in the final.

The main excitement of the groups was reserved for that between Hungary and West Germany. Sweden dropped one to Austria and another to Czechoslovakia.

The semi-finals looked to be a little more than for China against West Germany and Japan against Sweden. Japan would not have faced some tough opposition before getting home at 5-1.

The semi-finals had proved a trump card for the Chinese pushing aside Miki and Kimura with his fantastic defense. His variation of chop and speed of movement had to be seen to be believed. He always looked the complete master of the situation. Hsu Yin-sheng, who many considered the best of the Chinese, looked almost casual as he won his matches against Ogimura and Miki.

The Japanese women went through all their group matches 3-0, and marked up the same score against Hungary in the semi-final and Romania in the final.

Rumania dropped only one game to Poland in their group, while China dropped one to the U.S.S.R. The
remaining group produced a triple tie between Hungary, England and West Germany, Hungary beat the Germans 3-0; while England lost to Germany 3-2. This left everything depending on the match between England and Hungary, with England needing a 3-0 win to top the list.

Mary Shannon set us off on the right foot with a surprisingly easy win over Eva Foldi, but Diane Rowe just failed against Hierits, losing a 19 in the third. This meant England were out and that Hungary were through after a crushing first game win against Foldi lost the next two just as easily.

Mary then found Hierits just too solid in the first game but steady in the second, and England won the last two convincingly and give England a 3-2 win. It was a great match for Mary and help to lessen the disappointment of the defeat at the hands of West Germany.

The semi-finals produced an easy 3-0 win for Japan over Hungary, while Rumania won just as easily against China. Constantinescu (the former Ella Zeller) paved the way for Rumania’s 3-2 win by winning both her singles.

The final was rather one-sided but Constantinescu did make Matsuzaki to 17 and 15.

SWAYTHLING CUP

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SWAYTHLING CUP—ENGLISH RESULTS

Beat India 5-0. Merrett bt Dylv 6, 15; bt Vora 12, 13.
Creeamer bt Vora —18, 17, 12; Harrison bt Chairod 9, 10; bt Dylv 16, 18.
Beat Poland 5-3. Cramer bt Chininki 17, 26; lost to Kunsiki —18, 19, 16; bt Graenika 11, 20, Barnes lost to Kusiki —18, 19, 16; bt Gruanka 11, 9; bt Kusici 15, 16; bt Kusiki 15, 16.
Creeamer bt Huy 14, 29; bt Huy 12, 20; Barnes lost to Phan 22, 14, 11; bt Huy 12, 19, 15.
Lost to U.S.A. 5-3. Cramer bt Van der Walle 17, 17, 6; lost to Boul 15, 16; lost to Klein —18, 17, 16. Barnes lost to Phan 22, 14, 11; bt Huy 12, 19, 15.
Lost to U.S.A. 5-3. Cramer bt Van der Walle 17, 17, 6; lost to Boul 15, 16; lost to Klein —18, 17, 16. Barnes lost to Phan 22, 14, 11; bt Huy 12, 19, 15.
Beat Holland 5-4. Merrett lost to Schoofs —18, 14; bt Ones

FINISH


World Champion: CHINA

Runners-up: JAPAN
SWAYTHLING CUP—WELSH RESULTS

Qualifying Competition
Beehan

Lo -19, 19, -13.
-10; bt Choi 12, 21.

-11, -9; lost to Kong

Davies lost to Lo 17, -15; bt John 20, -18, 20; lost to Bowen 15, -15.

-lost to Harris -17, -16. Harrison lost to Sugden -17, -16.
-21, -7; lost to Fung 17, -8, -11; lost to Legarda -17, -16.


-14, 16; bt Garcia 15, 16. Davies lost to Garcia 16, -11.

-20; lost to Harst 20, -17, -8. Rowe bt Harst 14, 18; lost to Foldi -12, 16, -19.

14, 16. Rowe/Shannon bt Simon/Harst 12, -18, 23.

-20. Evans bt John 20, -16, 20; lost to Please -14, 15. Davies lost to Lenke -6, -9; lost to John -17, -15.

SWAYTHLING CUP—SCOTTISH RESULTS

Qualifying Competition
Beattie

-lost to Austria 0-5. Evans lost to Zezula 19, -6, -13; lost to Brown -15, -21; bt


MAY 1963

WORLD TEAM RANKINGS

SWAYTHLING CUP 1st CATEGORY

1. Japan.

2. Germany (West) and Sweden.

3. Yugosasvia.


5. Hungary.

6. Czechoslovakia.

7. Romania.

8. U.S.A.

9. Germany (West).

10. U.S.S.R.

11. Finland.

12. Israel.


14. Brazil.

15. Bulgaria.


17. France.


19. U.A.R.


21. Wales.

22. Korea.

23. Portugal.


25. Germany (East).

26. West Germany.

27. Poland.

28. Czechoslovakia.

29. Rumania.


32. Portugal.

33. Sweden.

34. Belgium.

35. U.S.A.

36. Spain.

37. Bulgaria.

38. Poland.

39. South Korea.

40. Israel.

41. Hungary.

42. U.S.S.R.

43. Czechoslovakia.

44. Rumania.

45. Germany (West).

46. England.

47. Sweden.

48. Poland.

49. Hungary.

50. Germany.

51. Portugal.

52. U.S.S.R.

53. Czechoslovakia.

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100. Hungary.

101. Germany.

102. Portugal.

103. Sweden.

104. Poland.

105. Hungary.

106. Germany.

107. Portugal.

108. Sweden.

109. Poland.

110. Hungary.
Although Wales had beaten both Lebanon and Luxembourg on previous occasions, we didn't feel all that sure of winning a qualifying group that contained these two and "dark horse" Peru.

In the event we beat all three, but it was touch and go against Peru, and both Alan Thomas, who won three, and George Evans with two wins, came through with sufficient fighting spirit to lead us in to the competition proper.

Against Lebanon we won 5-0, Alan and Ron Davies winning two each and George one. Against Luxembourg George won two, Alan won one and lost one, and Ron won two and lost one.

When we met Peru on the first evening, we had to win, or if we had lost 4-5, there would have been a triple tie, and Luxembourg would have gone through with a better average.

As it was, we came through with sufficient fight to suggest a reasonable performance in the higher society of the competition proper. Although we promised well on two occasions, we failed to win another match.

Maybe the shock of playing Czechoslovakia first, after the previous day's string of wins, was too much, but we went down 0-3, then lost 2-5 to Portugal and 3-5 to Switzerland.

Both matches should have gone more our way, even to the point of victory. We lost 0-5 to Austria, a side that never looks to be all that much better than us, but has twice proved it in recent years in no uncertain manner; then a disappointing 2-5 loss to Egypt, whom we used to beat but are now much more determined and capable than we are, despite Alan and George winning one each.

EVANS THE BEST

The East Germans seem to have gone back, but are still too strong for us, although Evans played well to beat John. The last match, against a Swedish team playing better than ever, was a final 5-0 hammering, with little for us to show.

George Evans, who picked his knee practicing on the first day and had to have pain-killing injections, was our most impressive player, and showed that he has the basis of a game to do well in this company if only he could hit. He won 11 matches and lost 10.

Alan Thomas won eight and lost 12. Although his rubber bat defence is still effective, he is far less mobile now than hitherto and hits far less. Ron Davies, with four wins against 19 losses, seems to be at the cross roads of his career, with a game that has the Versatile, a surprising agility, but lacks any plan of attack or defence.

Our women's team, overawed and completely outplayed in the European Championships in Berlin last year, showed improves improvement this time in fighting spirit and to a great extent in ability.

After the initial baptism of fire on the first morning against China, we recovered enough to register a good win over Canada, with Margaret Phillips winning two singles, and Sandra Morgan one, the doubles going against us. We were three straight against Luxembourg but lost by the same margin to East Germany, then disappointed against New Zealand, where both Margaret and Sandra were within an ace of beating the second string. We lost 2-3.

The match against Switzerland was frustrating for Margaret was twice proved heavy in the extreme, and lost both her matches against players she had the ability to beat. In the last match, against U.S.S.R., we found the opposition much too good, and lost 0-3.

Margaret was the more successful of the two, with four wins to her credit against 6 losses. Last summer's training certainly quickened her up and brought out her attack more, but it still needs to be more decisive to succeed in world class. Sandra, with two wins and 6 losses, plays well on occasions, seems to have the right temperament for the game and has the basic strokes. But her whole game must be more concentrated and more accurate.

In the singles, Alan Thomas had a good but unsuccessful game with West German Gornolla, while George Evans beat a Peruvian, but was then unfortunate enough to meet Markovic in the third round. Ron Davies went out in the qualifying round to a Finnish player, Tommy.

BEAT SCOTTISH PAIR

Margaret Phillips lost in Round 2 to the Czech Karlikova, who had surprisingly beaten Mary Shannon in Round 1. Sandra Morgan lost, as one would expect, to Luckacs, but, with Margaret, beat the Scottish pair in the first round of the doubles and took a game from the Koreans before losing in Round 3.

Davies and Evans had no chance against Roszas and Foldi, whilst Thomas and Cookin lost to Juliens and Cussac, of Belgium.

Thomas and Miss Morgan had the privilege, if not the pleasure, of playing the Chinese world champions in the Mixed, whilst Evans and Miss Phillips lost to a Czech qualifying pair, Moudry and Chytilkova.
IT is well worth repeating one sentence from the excellent article written by Johnny Leach in the March issue of Table Tennis. "For these players are raw because we failed to provide them with the top competition needed to give their play a knife-edge."

In general that statement applies to all our players including Diane Rowe and Ian Harrison. Experience gained over the years is invaluable, but no substitute for current play against the world's leading players.

As an aside, however, should we not put in perspective Johnny's remark "to see our country climb back to the top of the international table tennis tree where it belongs." In the post-war era we had such magnificent players as Barna, Bergman, Leach and Simons, together with a host of ladies—Dace, Franks, Barnes, Beregi, Rowe Twins, Haydon and Best—and yet we won the Swaythling Cup once and the Corbillon Cup twice and they were before the Japanese/Chinese entry into world competition.

Without wishing to belittle their performances in any manner it could be suggested that if these results represent the top of the tree then, our performances in the last two European Championships and at Peking show that although we may have slipped from the top we are still stuck in the branches. Third place in both European Championships for the men and sixth place in Peking is not the usual idea of success but equally it is not a bad failure. And the girls have had more than a fair measure of success on numerous occasions.

**TABLE TENNIS**

**IF WE HAD THE MONEY**

by LEN ADAMS

It is well worth repeating one sentence from the excellent article written by Johnny Leach in the March issue of **Table Tennis**. "For these players are raw because we failed to provide them with the top competition needed to give their play a knife-edge."

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**Foreign Experience Wanted**

Nevertheless, there is no room for complacency but it would be unrealistic to hope for better results unless we can give our players opportunities of training and match experience abroad on the same scale as Russia, Hungary, Czechoslovakia, Roumania, Yugoslavia, Sweden, China and Japan provide.

**Suggested Programme**

Assuming money was not the primary consideration a programme could be sketched roughly in the following manner:

1. Acquire the full-time use of a building called E.T.T.A. H.Q., providing a minimum of four tables and the necessary ancillary equipment. (According to the Press the Amateur Fencing Association received a grant of £4,000 from the Ministry of Education towards their London H.Q. fund.)
2. Choose a squad.
3. Bring the squad to the highest level of physical fitness by stages.
4. Train the squad in match play with particular emphasis on tactics.
5. Invite from time to time, a leading world class player to practise with the squad at H.Q.
6. Send a team of three men and three women with a non-playing captain to the Championships of Russia, Hungary, Germany, Czechoslovakia, Sweden, Yugoslavia, Roumania and Poland. (Changes would be made in the team composition to give experience to players on the fringe.)
7. Detailed post mortem examination of match results with individual players.

Anyone can dream up a programme like this. Some will even argue it is neither necessary nor desirable, whilst no one would be prepared to pay for it even for one year. How then do other countries approach the problem? State aid is of course the easy way out for some but the Swedish Association for instance proved by their fanatical fitness tests that their table tennis players represented a sport which could stand on the same level as any other athletic sport in Sweden. They thus qualified for income from a National football pool, from which all sports benefit, but in addition every single manufactured item which bears the approval of the Swedish Association, be it bat, ball, table, shirt, track suit etc., attracts a small levy to the Association.

The West German Association benefits indirectly from a National Golden Plan, which, apart from making the nation sport minded, estimates expenditure on providing sports centres, youth clubs, swimming pools, sports halls and, for a period over a 15-year period to be almost £70 million pounds—and directly from state run football pools. Of the Western European countries only three—France, Belgium and Great Britain are apparently without some form of state control over football pools, whose profits are ploughed back to sport. Belgium licenses private firms to run various forms of gambling and part of the tax on turnover comes back to sport. France will find from ordinary budgetary funds £102 million pounds in the five-year period 1961-1965 to assist sport in general.

£40,000 from TV

According to the Press the Welsh Swimming Association were recently negotiating a six-year Television contract worth £40,000. This is the kind of figure—£7,000 per year—which we must think of any time there is a call for a realistic programme to raise the level of English table tennis. And £5,000 of that would be on travelling expenses!

The secretary of the E.T.T.A. has many irons in the fire, from which he hopes for further revenue, but until a fairy godmother comes along—or until the bulk of table tennis players in all the leagues in the country decide it is right and proper that we should provide these facilities for our budding stars and moreover are prepared to vote this money specifically at an Annual General Meeting—we shall have to carry on as the poor relations of European table tennis.


TENS of millions of youngsters and grown-ups in China take to table tennis today.

But in the old days this sport was not so popular among the masses. It was only after liberation in 1949 when the People's Government took vigorous measures to promote sports and physical culture that table tennis began to have such a large following.

At the 26th World Table Tennis Championships held in Peking in 1961, Chinese players scored many successes. They were a great inspiration and encouragement to the people. Since then, an increasing number of youngsters have taken to the sport.

Today there are large numbers of table tennis fans in the universities and colleges, in secondary and primary schools, and in factories and government offices.

In China, table tennis is as popular a game in the remote border provinces and regions as it is in the larger cities and towns. In Tibet, for instance, the people never played table tennis in the past. But in recent years, large numbers of youngsters there go in for this sport. In 1960, Tibet sent its own players to take part in the National Junior Table Tennis Championships. At last year's tournaments there were contenders for the national titles from Tibet too.

TALENTED PLAYERS TO THE FORE

With an ever greater number of people going in for table tennis, many promising players have come to the fore. In the two years since the 26th World Championships were held in Peking, quite many talented newcomers have made their appearance at the national tournaments. Among the 200 and more players taking part in the national competitions last year, over 40 were newcomers. Though most of them have not yet attained the high standard of the more experienced and better known "veterans" of world table tennis, there is every reason to believe that they have a promising future before them.

Twenty-eight Chinese men and women players participated in the 27th World Championships held in April in Prague, among them are such newcomers as Liu Wen-ting and Cheng Chung-kuo (men), Cheng Min-chih and Shih Feng-ling (women). They have come to the fore only in the last few years.

As far as technique and skill are concerned, those players who have richer experience and better known in world table tennis still have an extra edge over the newcomers. They include such players as Chuang Tse-tung, Hsu Ying-sheng, Li Fu-jung, Jing Kuo-tuan, Chuang Shih-ling and Yang Jui-hua (men), and Chuang Chung-hui, Wang Chien, Sun Mei-ying and Liang-Li-chen (women)—who won honours at the 25th or 26th World Championships.

With the exception of Sun Mei-ying, who is now over 30, most of them are around 18. Some players, like Chuang Tse-tang, Li Fu-jung and Wang Chien, are just over 20; others, like Liang Li-chen, are only 18. With the energy and vitality that go with youth, these players, as they gain more experience and skill, have high hopes of continually improving their technique and standard of play.

Many of China's participants in the 27th World Table Tennis Championships took part in the 26th World Championships two years ago. Such players as Hu Tao-pen, Wang Chia-sheng and Chou Lan-sun have to their credit several victories in the men's singles and doubles or in the mixed doubles at the 26th World Championships, while Ti Chiang-hua was the winner of the women's consolation matches.

STRONGER IN ATTACK

Some people will ask: What improvements have China's players made since the 26th World Championships in 1961?

The great majority of China's players, as is well known, use the pen-grip hold and concentrate mainly on attack rather than defence. Their lightning and powerful attacks won widespread acclaim at the 1961 World Championships. In the two years since then, they have become more hard-hitting than ever.

Many of them who have in the past trounced top-ranking players from other countries with their quick and devastating attacks are today faster in play and more accurate in smashing than before. To them the maxim is to launch their attacks the instant play starts. There is another type of Chinese players who are both proficient in attack and in outwitting their opponents by using the proper tactics. Though not as hard-hitting as the former, these players are tacticians with mastery of various kinds of strokes.

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EUSTON 3772/3/4
STAN JACOBSON and I were very pleased to be selected for this three week visit, and duly flew out full of enthusiasm from London Airport on March 4th.

On arrival at Idlewild Airport New York we were met by one of the U.S. officials, Mr. Marcel Monasterial, and spent the afternoon sight-seeing. In the evening, we were taken to the magnificent U.N. Buildings for some warming-up practice in preparation for our series of matches against the U.S.A.

We both immediately discovered a difference in playing conditions, which we had great difficulty in getting accustomed to throughout the whole tour. U.S. tables have only thin, thick playing surfaces, giving a lower bounce and flight trajectory than our own English tables.

This probably accounts for the predominance of defensive players and half-volley exponents in the U.S.A., as it is extremely difficult to mount a fast attacking game under these circumstances.

Our first match took place in Philadelphia on March 6th, where we were opposed by Bobby Fields, No. 2 on the U.S. World Championship team, and Mike Ralston, also high on the U.S. ranking list. Both proved to be very competent defensive players, and Mike Ralston had encountered the “loop-drive” before, so that we were able to run out comfortable winners, to the astonishment of the large crowd, for whom this technique was also completely new.

Quick to Learn

Our next visit was to Washington D.C., the beautiful and impressive Capital, where we stayed for four days, practising with the top U.S. players, and playing two more matches, one of them in nearby Baltimore.

Here we met Erwin Klein, No. 1 on the U.S. World’s Team, and quickly learned to respect his smooth all-round game. Although having never played against the loop-drive before, after a few practice sessions this intelligent player was soon returning it extremely well, and was able to prevent us using it to any great extent by virtue of his consistent two-wing hitting.

In the series of ten matches played we were beaten 6-4, after being four each. Apart from the players already mentioned, most of the other leading U.S. players including Richard Miles, Bob Guiskoff and Beynard Bukiet, competed against us during the series, matches being played Davis Cup style, two players in each team—four singles and one double in all.

The only player to come through the tour unbeaten was Bernard Bukiet, whose close to the table smooth half-volley and counter hitting game proved to be most troublesome for our style of play.

All Matches were extremely well attended and organised, some of them with full ceremony, including both National Anthems, introduction of players, and team trophies and awards.

Detailed results were as follows:

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We were due to play our first-round matches on the evening of Friday, March 22nd, and were at the Hall early in order to practice. However, it soon became apparent that trouble was brewing when some of the leading players complained to officials about the “seeding” in certain sections of the draw.

An announcement was made over the loudspeaker shortly after this that the whole of the men’s singles “seedings” would be revised, and chaos reigned as players argued and shouted with officials, most of the top players threatened to default “en bloc” if the original draw was not adhered to.

A U.S. Association executive committee meeting was immediately convened in a separate room, and after much argument and discussion, announced their decision to allow the original draw, made and published by the Michigan Association before official examination by the U.S. association, to stand.

The time was now midnight, so play was suspended until 8 a.m. Saturday. Stan Jacobson was probably the hardest hit by the draw, opposing Marty Reisman, styled the “Clown Prince” of Table Tennis, and a former winner of the English Open Championship, in the second round on Saturday afternoon.

Reisman Amuses

A huge crowd packed the show arena and were amused to see Reisman live up to his reputation by spreading an amazing collection of bats out on the table, finally selecting one by the process of “ENY, MEENY, MINY, MO” and brandishing it aloft with the rapturous cry, “This is the one.” During the pre-match warm-up, he also demonstrated his ability to hit the ball from behind his back, under his leg, and with the sole of his shoe! Unfortunately, all this had an adverse effect on Stan, who became tense and nervous, and after snatching the first game at 22-20 was beaten 3-1.

On Sunday, play commenced at 1 p.m. and a number of interesting matches in the last 32 and last 16 of the men’s singles were staged in the show arena. Max Marinko, former Czech Swaythling cup star now
resident in Canada, was upset in straight games by National Junior Champion Danny Pecora, and Marty Reisman, who was winning so easily in the third game that he started hitting the ball from behind his back! Reisman, not liking the crowd, remarked to the crowd, "He should be able to do it—I coached him enough!"

Most sensational upset was the defeat of defending champion Dick Miles by unranked Gerry Kruskie, of New York, in a long drawn out 5 game match, three games going under expert rule. In the same round I managed to defeat U.S. No. 8 Veteran "Chuck" Burns by 3-1.

The Quarter finals produced some tense matches, watched by an enthralled crowd of approximately 2,000. Bob Guisikoff, who had earlier counter hit with tremendous speed to defeat the eager Pecora 3-0, cruised to take the next three points over the slightest chance to deliver a worthy winner 3-1.

In the men's doubles, Stan Jacobson and Fred Fields, who was winning so easily in the second game at 22-20 was always on top.

In the other semi-final, Guisikoff displayed great control in a probing fashion with Martin Doss, to availing of a worthy winner 3-1.

The Best Rallies

The semi-finals between Bukiet and Klein provided some of the best rallies of the Tournament, with Klein sweeping through the first game by lighting two wing hitting. But "Bernie" was just getting his touch, and after edging the second game at 22-20 was always on top.

In the other semi-final, Guisikoffwhipped in forehands in a close, and entertaining semi-final with Martin Doss, to availing of a worthy winner 3-1.

The diminutive "Bernie" staggering under the weight of the colossal men's singles trophy as it was presented to him, and vainly trying to shake hands at the same time!

I would like to thank the U.S. Association for making this trip possible, and also the many friends who entertained and looked after us during our stay.


Final: BUKIET bt Guisikoff 12-21, 17-21, 21-11, 21-19, 21-4.

Women's Singles: Semi-Finals: B. CHO­


Final: CHO­


vald (Canada) 21-12, 21-13, 21-17.

Final: BUKIET/KLEIN bt Van der Walle/Mills 21-15, 21-14, 21-17.

Women's Doubles: B. KAMINSKY/ SMITH bt Chotras/Y. Kronlage (Washington) 21-12, 17-21, 21-17, 21-12.


Boys' Singles: R. CHILDS (Detroit) bt H. Johnson (Newport) 23-21, 14-21, 21-17.

Junior Women's Singles: D. Chan­

stein (Washington) bt G. Space (Grand Rapids) 17-21, 21-13, 21-13, 21-14.


Old Boys' Titles for Rhodes

The Old Boys' Tournament was run for the second time at the Old Boys' Club, Mile End and E.T.T.A. secretary, Peter Lowen, was there to present the prizes.

Unfortunately Ian Harrison, the holder, who was sick and George Murany of Surrey, who had other commitments, were unable to come. These factors were not known until later in the evening and therefore a rather disjointed tournament was held.

Alan Rhodes was in very good form beating Thornhill and David Creamer in straight games. Rhodes then won a good game with Brunwell to qualify to play Raybould in the final. Raybould was playing exceptionally well at the end of Stevens in straight games. The match between Rhodes and Raybould was an awkward one mainly because both are left-handers. Rhodes just scraped the first and scored a good win by taking the second.

RESULTS


Final: RODERES bt Raybould 23-21, 18-17.

Bernard Bukiet

Bernard Bukiet completed the hat-trick with Mrs. Barbara Kaminsky in the mixed doubles final, beating Mrs. Yvonne Kronlage and myself 3-1.

And so we left for home, our last memory being the comical sight of...
Crystal Palace National Recreation Centre

by EMLYN JONES

THE Crystal Palace National Recreation Centre has had a good measure of publicity in the tennis world—much of it through this magazine. It will open in the early weeks of next year, and one of the first events to be housed at this Centre will be the European Table Tennis Championships.

Since the days when 'Full House' notices were posted at Wembley and ticket touts paraded outside the doors, table tennis has gone through a lean period. The reasons for the decline in spectator interest may be many and varied, but some of the play in this year's English Open Championships at Brighton indicated that there is now a breakaway from the somewhat stereotyped tactics of the last few years. Notably, the Markovic-Miko quarter-final and the Berckiz-Fahazi final proved that there are colourful characters as well as sparkling entertainers on the European circuit. Even if they fail to break the Asian dominance in Prague, Crystal Palace can be assured of an attractive table tennis baptism next year. It is hoped that the political problems which threaten to mar these Championships will be satisfactorily solved so that this country can welcome its most attractive table tennis event since the 1954 World Championships.

What can we offer our continental visitors? Both east and west of the Iron Curtain, Europe is fairly well endowed with sports centres but, even so, it is felt that they will not be displeased with the way in which the London County Council has spent £12 million to provide a national centre at Crystal Palace.

Hostel for 140

Visiting competitors will be housed in the eleven-storey hostel block which accommodates 140 in double and single rooms with a private bathroom to each combination of double and single room. Comfortable common rooms will be available and the dining room will offer a cafeteria service.

A walk of a couple of hundred yards will bring them to a unique and most impressive structure, the Sports Hall, with its wide concourse separating the swimming baths from the indoor arena. Also contained within this building are three training halls (one of which will be used by the competitors for warming-up), an indoor cricket school, six squash courts, and changing rooms for men and women, each with 400 lockers.

The Championships will be staged in the indoor arena, and in the early stages about twelve tables will be in use. The arena is fitted with telescopic seating which, when extended, can accommodate about 1,300 spectators, and the addition of temporary seating on the balconies will boost this capacity to over the 2,000 mark. To give some idea of size, one of these balconies will take a full-size lawn tennis court.

Easily Accessible

What about home competitors, officials and spectators? Londoners well know that Crystal Palace is easily accessible by road and rail. It is only about six miles from the Centre of the Capital and has a good bus and train service—the Centre, in fact, adjoins Crystal Palace station which can be reached in twenty minutes from Victoria or London Bridge. A licensed bar will be available, and competitors and officials can obtain meals in the terrace restaurant.

This, then, is the setting for what will be the first international event in the history of the new Crystal Palace Centre. The same conditions can hold good for many of the other competitive events in the table tennis calendar, which will raise the question in the minds of many officials—what will it cost to hire the indoor arena?

The Centre exists to offer a service to sports organisations and not as a commercial proposition. It will not, therefore, be a question of accepting only those events which will bring in a capacity gate. It must be recognised, however, that the estimated annual deficit costs will be in the region of £50,000, and for competitive events where spectator accommodation is required the C.C.P.R. will not be prepared to provide a subsidy and will want to cover, at the very least, the basic cost of the facility used.

The leaflet which has recently been published giving details of the facilities and amenities at the Centre, together with the residential charge and the cost of hiring facilities for non-residential use, does not, in fact, give a hire charge for events requiring spectator accommodation. The financial arrangements for each event will be negotiated, and in order to meet the circumstances of sports bodies which could not take on a heavy financial commitment, the arrangement will, in all probability, be divided into three parts—a basic hire charge; direct costs for any extra labour, material, etc. required by the organisers; and a percentage of the gate. As the hire charge goes up, so the percentage comes down—and vice-versa—and in this way the varying needs and circumstances of sports organisations can be met.

Housing competitive events is only one aspect of the service offered by Crystal Palace. There is, in any case, only a limited number of events in the table tennis calendar which would justify the use of the indoor arena. The bread and butter work of the Centre will be to provide facilities for training and it is hoped that the E.T.T.A. and its county associations will make extensive use of the Centre—on a residential and non-residential basis—for its courses for coaches and players.

25s. a Day

Bookings can be made for groups of coaches and players for a residential event at a cost of 25s. a day, which includes full board and accommodation and the use of table tennis facilities. Members of the course wishing to swim or play squash outside instructional hours would be required to pay for these facilities at the normal rate. Only under exceptional circumstances would groups be accepted into residence for a period less than a weekend booking from Friday/Sunday evening. Weekly bookings will in most cases extend from Saturday to Saturday.

The table tennis facilities can also be used on a non-residential basis by booking for one evening a week, for 6/8 weeks, a day or a weekend. In such cases the group would be given the use of a training hall (60ft. x 34ft) which could, for training purposes, take four tables, and

Continued on page 19
JUNIORS WIN FRENCH TEAM TITLE

TABLE TENNIS

Juniors win French team title

The English Juniors, playing in the French Championships, and remarkably well to take the International team title. This is decided on the basis of 4 for a win, 2 for a finalist and one each for semi-finalists. (Writs Laurie Landry).

Lesley Bell was on extremely good form for she beat the Belgium No. 1 senior and junior, Cornells, 21-14 in the 3rd. Jackie Canham also did well to take a game from Cornelis and combine with Bell to take the Girls' Doubles. In the Junior Mixed event, both pairings got to the semi-final stage. Both English pairs found the form for she beat the Belglium No. 1 senior players. Johansson went on to win. England were not represented in the later stages of the Boys' Doubles.

Tony Robinson reached the semi-final of the Boys' Singles and there he was not quite good enough for Johansson (Sweden) who is one of Europe's top senior players. Johnson went on to win. England were not represented in the Boys' Singles.

Also at Lyons was a party of juniors from Bedfordshire who went on a party ticket to the French Championships. Most successful of these was Graham French of Kent. He beat Roesch, one of the leading French boys but then lost to Robinson in the quarters. Of the others, young Stuart Gibbs performed very creditably in the Men's Singles. He won two rounds and then lost to the Peruvians.

Lesley Bell reached the semi-final of the Women's Singles where she lost to R. Gomolla (W. Germany) after 5 well-fought games.

Taking everything into consideration, the Juniors did very well indeed and played throughout as a team so it was not surprising that we came away with the team championship.

RESULTS

Juniors


Points: England 4, Belgium 2, France 1, Yugoslavia 1.


Points: England 4, France 4, Belgium 1, Yugoslavia 1, Switzerland 1.


Singles: J. England 12, 2 France 7, 3 Yugoslavia 7, 4 Sweden 6, 5 Belgium and U.R.A., 7, Portugal 1, Switzerland 1.

BEDFORD CLOSED

JENNIFER RACEY gained the triple crown for the second time in the Bedfordshire closed championships where Colin Crowe regained the men's singles after a period of six years.


YORKSHIRE NOTES

CHAMPION FOR ELEVENTH TIME

Bradford experimented with their closed championships as a Saturday tournament at Thirroul Barracks. Although some were unable to compete because of work the entry of 141 was only slightly down on last year, though nowhere near the 1958 record of 394.

Maurie Pfits won the singles for the 11th time, beating Terry Miller in the final for the third year running.

Leona Clough pipped Jean Jones to take the women's crown and 13-year-old Peter Macin won the girls' title. Les Forrest enjoyed his 15th doubles success in the mixed with Lorna Richardson.

Consolation singles for those knocked out the first round are popular; this year's winners were Steve Num and Joyce Brookes.

The Leeds Closed was won in the absence of David Bevan and Eric Johnson by young Eric Hall, whose final victim was Geoff Stead. Hall also pocketed the youth's title.

Marjorie Lightfoot, again women's champion, also took the doubles with Lillian Webster. The South Shields Closed was won in the women's doubles with Carol Jenkinson and Ronnie Wood.

At Doncaster Micky Dainty beat Pete Duncombe 21-8, 21-9 in the men's singles but lost 21-14, 21-18 in the Youths'. Pat Dainty won the women's handicap and D. Gibbs the men's.

Although the town did not realise their high inter-league hopes they are proud of supplying five players for Yorkshire competition. The Darlington, Blackshaws and John Keyes, the county youth champion who will still be a junior next season, Y.M. Boys won Division One, Tudor 'A' Division Two, and Doncaster Youth Division Three.

Rotherham have won the Division Three inter-league championship. Arnold Roebuck was unbeaten in ten sets and Brian Allison lost only one of 12.

Yorkshire's first hope to be back in the Premier Division next season: the second team have dropped away with the Midland Division; and the juniors have retained their northern championship.

The county's annual dinner will be held in Leeds on May 10 and the annual meeting at Doncaster on June 15.

Page Nineteen

Malcolm Harley.
CHINA MUCH TOO STRONG

CHINA, as to be expected of a nation that gained sweeping success in the world championships, proved much too strong for England during their short tour. They won all three of the internationals . . . 7-3 at Manchester; 7-1 at Melton Mowbray and 8-0 in London.

Mike Symonds gained a fine win over Chang Shih-lin before his home crowd in Manchester, where Diane Rowe figured in our other two wins beating Wang Chien in the singles and pairing with Mary Shannon to beat Wang Chien and Chui Chung-hui in the doubles.

Chester Barnes scored our other win of the tour when he beat Liao Wen-tsing at Melton Mowbray.

The tour was made possible by the generosity of the Sunday Mirror.

RESULTS


D. Rowe bt Wang Chien 21-14, 23-21, M. Shannon lost to Li Ho-nan 21-17, 11-21, 10-21.


At Melton Mowbray: England 1, China 3: M. Symonds lost to Liao Wen-tsing 8-21, 10-21, C. Harnes bt Li Ho-nan 13-21, 21-19, 21-14, Harrison lost to Liao Wen-tsing 12-21, 21-16, 21-21; lost to Chang Shih-ling 19-21, 8-21.

Shannon lost to Wang Chien 20-22, 11-21, Rowe lost to Li Ho-nan 14-21, 14-21.

Rowe/Shannon lost to Wang Chien/Li Ho-nan 21-17, 15-21, 21-16.


Shannon lost to Wang Chien 20-22, 11-21, Rowe lost to Li Ho-nan 14-21, 14-21.

Rowe/Shannon lost to Wang Chien/Li Ho-nan 21-23, 21-19, 15-21.

Bournemouth: England 1, China 0: M. Symonds lost to Hsu Yin-sheng 13-21, 10-21.

Bournemouth Juniors went through their section undefeated.

M. Basset (Bournemouth), in the first division, was the only player to achieve a hundred per cent record. The best average in the junior section was 92 per cent by Miss T. Winkworth (S.E. Hants) in the second division, while twins Christine and Pauline Holmes (Southampton) shared 88 per cent to top averages in that division.

R. Lee (Bournemouth) with 94 per cent was the best in the junior division.

FINAL LEAGUE TABLES

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TABLE TENNIS

McGARTER'S TREBLE

MARGARET CHERY collected the triple crown in ladies Closed championships, which attracted more than 200 entries, at Edmonton on March 4-9. Eddie Hudson won the men's singles, and doubles with Lew Hoffman.


LONDON BREWERS CHAMPIONSHIPS


Veterans' Singles: H. VAGG (Charrington's) bt W. Crocker (Guinness) 21-17, 21-15.
ALL six events produced new champions in the Gwent Open, staged under ideal conditions by the Newport table tennis club. The tournament was sponsored by the Lord Mayor of Newport and the phones and Cables canteen on April 6.

Vic Ireland, of Surrey, took the men's singles with a finals win over Gloucestershire's David Bevan at 21-16, 21-19, while Mary Hicks, of Middlesex, captured the women's singles title. She had previously defeated Terry Denham. Michael Creamer was a third round victim of Bevan, who, in the semi-final proved too good for Emil Emeez.

Denham and Creamer had their turn for success when they won the men's doubles title by beating Jones and Graham Pressick in the semi-final, and Ireland and C. Burman in the final, which produced one of the longest sets of the season. Denham and Creamer after losing the first set 16-21, got to terms by winning the next at 35-33, then the deciding set 21-17.

Mary Hicks played well to take the women's singles for she had beaten Peggy Piper in the semi-final. Miss Proudlock followed up her win over Miss Williams by beating Diana Fitzgerald, of Manchester, and looked well on the way to capturing the title when she won the first game of the final. Unfortunately she failed to maintain the same dominance and lost the remaining two games easily. Miss Hicks went on to gain a second title in the women's doubles with Irene Ogus when they beat Pauline Martin and Miss Piper. There was a second title, too, for Ireland when he paired with Miss Piper to win the mixed, their victims in the final being Creamer and Miss Fitzgerald.

The boys' singles provided a brilliant final with Dennis Holland of Cheltenham, who have so far dropped only one match, also in the running. Holland's opponent was Mansfield, surviving at 20-22, 21-19, 21-17, but as they have still to meet Cardiff so it is possible the championship is wide open, with both teams strong enough to win.

Abergavenny 6 1 5 15 39 2
Cheltenham 6 5 1 35 19 10
Cardiff 4 3 1 27 9 6
Newport 

Mens' Singles: Semi-Finals: M. CREAMER bt D. Bevan (Glos.), 9-21, 21-12, 21-19, 21-9
M. HICKS bt P. Dainty (Yorks.), 23-21, 21-15
Final: CREAMER bt Schofield 21-15, 21-14
Women's Singles: Semi-Finals: D. FITZGERALD bt L. PROUDLOCK (Yorks.), 24-22, 21-19, 21-15
Final: FITZGERALD bt Hicks 21-21, 21-19, 21-16
Mens' Doubles: Final: T. DENSHAM/P. Dainty (Birm.) bt D. Neale (Durham)/P. Dainty (Yorks.), 21-13, 21-18, 21-19
Women's Doubles: Final: BLACKSHAW/L. PROUDLOCK bt J. Ogus (Middx.)/Hicks 24-22, 21-19, 21-15
Mixed Doubles: Final: R. MORLEY/M. CREAMER bt J. Ogus (Middx.)/Hicks 21-14, 21-15, 21-19
Youth Singles: Final: M. SYMONDS bt C. Roberts (Yorks.), 21-19, 21-15, 21-17
Boys' Singles: Final: A. RANSOME bt W. Smith (Blaenavon) 21-16, 21-15, 21-14
Girls' Singles: Final: P. Dainty bt A. Hayes (Pontypool) 21-10, 21-16, 21-14
Victoria Whittaker (Chesh.) bt C. Roberts (Yorks.), 21-19, 21-15, 21-18.
COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS ROUND UP

TWENTY ACHIEVE 100

by FRANK BATEMAN

A record number of players went through the National County Championships unbeaten. They came equally from the men and women, although eight of the 100 per centers were from the junior division.

Ian Harrison (Glos.) and Diane Rowe (Middx.) as befits their status as England's No. 1's, were the only men's singles winners. The other befits, Stuart Gibb and Pauline Martin in the Junior Division, and D. Garner and Beverley Sayer in the Southern Division.

Running Essex close were Yorkshire with D. Bartlett, R. Oglesby and Miss L. Hamilton in the Midland Division, and Pat Dainty in the Junior Division (North), all with 100 per cent.

The other unbeaten were Terry Densham, Brian Barr (both G. Busb (Dorset) 6 2 75 season. Essex used six girls for their four

Pauline Martin, Linda Henwood and Susan Wain. In all their matches—singles, doubles and mixed—they never conceded more than 15 points in any one game.

JUNIOR DIVISION (MIDLAND)

JUNIOR DIVISION (NORTH)

Although Essex overshadowed this division, Stuart Sheader had a very good season, his only only defeat being by Chester Barnes in the first match of the season. Essex used six girls for their four matches—Lesley Bell, the Bayer twins, Pauline Martin, Linda Henwood and Susan Wain. In all their matches—singles, doubles and mixed—they never conceded more than 15 points in any one game.

JUNIOR DIVISION (NORTH)

JUNIOR DIVISION (SOUTH)

UNEARTHED LINKS IN COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS ROUND UP

Although Kent had both hundred per centers in this division, Sussex were the more balanced team—only the greatly improved Evelyn Wylyes just failing to get into the averages. Young John Beasley did particularly well—his only defeat 21-14 in the third game. Graham French, Kay Stokes' 21-17 21-13 win over Christine Holms should also be noted. The Holes' twins were unbeaten in the girls' doubles.

COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS ROUND UP

LESLEY FOREST MEMORIAL TROPHY

EDGAR REAY, of Durham, has been awarded the Leslie Forrest Memorial Trophy for 1963.

SECOND DIVISION (NORTH)

SECOND DIVISION (WEST)

SECOND DIVISION (SOUTH)

SOUTHERN DIVISION

AuS.

by FRANK BATEMAN

JUNIOR DIVISION (SOUTH)

MONMOUTHSHIRE gained their first point of the season in Second Division (Midland) when they drew 5-5 with Bedfordshire in their final match. This has been their first season in the championship and, while it has been far from successful, the experience should be beneficial for next season. In any case they have plenty of young talent coming along for their juniors acquainted themselves.
quite well in their division, where Gloucestershire and Warwickshire finished above them. Gloucestershire staged a grand

**FINAL DIVISIONAL TABLES**

**PREMIER DIVISION**

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**JUNIOR DIVISION (MIDLAND)**

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**TABLE TENNIS**

A NIGHT TO REMEMBER

**ACTON WIN MIDDLESEX TITLE**

The Middlesex Inter-League Championships have been concluded with Acton, as expected, going top. Promotion came to Uxbridge, back after a very long time, and Ashford, Relegated were Staines and North Middlesex. North Middlesex are therefore promoted and relegated, which in effect leaves them as they were. The junior division was won by North Middlesex.

The Middlesex Inter-Schools competition has also been finished. In the semi-finals Albany County School beat Hasmonean Jewish Grammar School 8-1 and Ashford School beat Orange Hill Boys’ Grammar School 5-4. Thus Albany, with Tony Robinson, junior international, and Ashford with Leslie Greenswell, junior international, were to play in the final. Albany won 5-4, but Leslie beat Tony.

The Borough Youth competition also ended with a close final, Poplar, the holders, beat Fulham 5-4.

Page Twenty-three
THE five years sequence of Ewles-Archer finals in the Great Yarmouth AROUND EAST ANGLIA CAMBRIDGESHIRE NOTES

'the right' of taking the title. Edna Allen scored a fine treble, taking the women's singles, the women's doubles with Mrs. Poole and the mixed doubles with R. Needham.


Coaching classes will continue throughout the summer at the Y.M.C.A. and it is hoped that more junior talent will come to light.

Leslie Constable.

S. E. MIDLANDS LEAGUE

Northampton coming through with a late burst, just pipped Cambridge City "A", who had led for most of the season, to win the Second Division of the East Midlands League. Kettering won the women's section, with Bedford runners-up.

FINAL LEAGUE TABLES

Bedford .................................................................. 6 4 2 1 36 24 36
Cambridge ................................................................ 8 2 3 1 37 43 37
Kettering .................................................................. 6 6 0 0 55 55

The season ended with an individual tournament at St. Neots, the singles titles being won by I. Twidgen of Huntingdon and Miss Underwood of Bedford.

Men's Singles: I. TWIDGEN (Hunts) bt R. Nunn (Cambridge) 16-21, 21-14, 21-12. Women's Singles: Miss UNDERWOOD/Miss BARR (Bedford) bt Mrs. Lenton (Kettering) 21-12, 26-24.

Men's Doubles: TWIDGEN/L. SAYWELL (Hunts.) bt R. Nunn/R. Dean (Cambridge) 21-18, 21-16. Women's Doubles: Mrs. Lenton/Miss Nixon (Kettering) bt Miss Underwood/Miss Bars (Bedford) 5-21, 21-14, 21-19.

COMMONWEALTH
SHOW THEIR PACES
COSWAY TOWN HALL saw what
must be the finest ever Commonwealth Open. With players from as far away
as Australia and New Zealand, it was
fitting they should take the major titles. England's progress was supported by
Pamela Mortimer, who waltzed through
the ladies' singles with little effort. Her
play, players knocking each other out in
the second round.
It is important to note that the first
seed in the men's singles and doubles
did not turn up and that both seeds in
the bottom half of the ladies' singles were also absent, leaving the draw hope-
lessly unbalanced with the four top
players knocking each other out in the
ONE HALF.
Surely if the organisers are going to
see players who may be 'non starters' then, as Miss Mortimer suggested, there
should be some method of blowing al-
ternative top seeds to fill the blanks and balances, in some measure, the draw.
Miss Maureen Heppell a delightful
13 year old won the Junior girl's singles and teamed up with Pam to win the
ladies' doubles. Miss Mortimer featured
yet again in the mixed doubles partner-
ing Alan Tomlinson to beat Dow and Mrs. Hawkins, who put up a
spirited resistance, in the final.
The Men's Doubles was an all Aus-
tralian battle with Morgan and Thom-
son touting too was the brilliance
of Wilcox and McDonald.
The final of the men's singles can best
described by the fact that the only
noise, besides clamorous applause, to be
heard from the vast crowd was an
official's hissed remark "Oh if only we
had TV Cameras here.'
Sure enough it was one of the finest
displays ever seen or likely to be seen in
our lifetime. It was an object lesson in
the art of counter-hitting from all parts of the floor. The superb winner
was Alan Tomlinson and the magnificent loser was Cliff McDonald.

JAMES REPLIES TO CRITICS
YOUR April edition contains three letters critical of what I had thought
was generally accepted as the best English Open we have had for years, but perhaps this very criticism is a serious sign of the end of the
dreadful publicity which has afflicted our game for so long. Nevertheless some of the points raised cannot go unanswered.
Bert Freiwell, renowned for his years of work in the Brighton area, com-
plains that umpires and stewards from outside Brighton did not support the
tournament in the same numbers as the previous year, thus those that were
there, including a large contingent from Chichester, were so overworked
that they may be frightened off next time.
True, there was a very tight playing
schedule due to the very much increased
entry which had deteriorated so badly
last year, yet in spite of this there were
more people than before from outside
Brighton and, with the greatest respect
for Bert, these people all came at their
own expense—paying their own hotel
and travelling costs and receiving no
more than the gratuitous meals just the
same as the Brighton people. Incidentally, at no session were the 'outsiders' out-
numbered by the locals.
Putting it bluntly, until the E.T.T.A.
can afford to pay the expenses of
umpires and stewards none of us is in a
position to criticise those who pay their
own and take time off from work or
their holidays—we are far too grateful to
all of you from wherever you may come.
Mr. Egerton's criticism I cannot take
seriously. I am sure he has his
tongue in his cheek and he really en-
joyed his time at Brighton and does not
really want us to go back to the days
of exhibitions. After all we are supposed
to be a highly competitive sport and not
a music hall turn. But this does not
exclude the very long interval—surely not
quite as much as 35 minutes? Th's was
a mistake and will not occur again.
Finally I do hope we are not really ex-
pected to go back to the 'thirties by
leaving out the women's doubles final.
You yourself, Mr. Editor, have a head-
line 'The Girls save the day' and the
Prague achievements should be sufficient
vindication.
Reader George, of Lee-on-Solent,
raises a very serious point and I am
very concerned to hear of a spectator
buying an expensive seat and then be-
ing unable to see. If he will let us know
exactly where he was sitting the matter
will be fully investigated and a remedy
sought. The question of pass-outs for
the daytime sessions will certainly be
examined as it sounds very reasonable.
The whole question of the arrangements
for the team competitions have to be re-
examined. This year's events were
experimental and as they have been a
given success I am sure we can improve
considerably on their presentation next
year.

GEORGE JAMES,
(Hon. referee and chairman
English Open committee).

BARNES AND BELL
WERE CORRECT
IN his summary of the Junior titles of
the English Open, in last month's
magazine, Brian Wright refers to a
"curious decision" made by Chester
Barnes and Lesley Bell. Our top juniors
decided to play in the senior event, in
which, Brian states, they were unlikely
to win. As a result they were unable to
join the ranks of the 1963 world class they
must take every
time.
I was somewhat surprised at this view
for it would seem to me that if our top
young players are to succeed in reach-
ing world class, they must take every
opportunity of playing more experienced
players than themselves.
I am sure that they will improve and
learn more by losing to established stars
than by beating juniors who have less
talent than they. I applaud Lesley Bell
and Chester Barnes for their choice of
events.
T. D. COE
(Norwich).
TABLE TENNIS

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