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THE OTHER POINT OF VIEW

THE January issue of TABLE TENNIS DIGEST, the official magazine of the Liverpool and District League, has come out with a strong attack on the proposed alterations to the fee structure of the E.T.T.A.

We quote from their article: "We oppose this because we feel that the benefits we get at present from our affiliation to the E.T.T.A. are negligible, and we do not seriously consider that any further cash rolling into the E.T.T.A. will bring any further considerations to us in the North."

The same article goes on to say that the new constitution of the E.T.T.A. will act to the detriment of the North by putting control of table tennis even further into the hands of the South, because the numerous small counties in the South will in future each have one vote.

This point of view expresses the feeling of certain affiliated members and is to be respected. On the other hand it is contrary to the policy aims and actions of the association, and, as such, is to be deplored.

The opportunity is taken, therefore, to discuss the three fundamental issues to which the article gives rise: the benefits available to affiliated members of the E.T.T.A.; the need for additional income for the Association; and a North v. South controversy.

ACTS FOR ALL

Let us take the last point first. It is to state the obvious to say that the E.T.T.A. exists and acts in the interests of all parts of the country, north, south, east, and west. Rivalry and parochial allegiance in sporting competition between leagues, counties, and areas, is one thing, and, indeed, is to be encouraged for the good of the game. Such rivalry and competition in administration of the game cannot be deprecated too strongly, however, because it is in the worst interests of our sport.

It may be that others think as the Liverpool League on this matter, but it is to be hoped not. Indeed in this connection it is interesting to recall that only one league—and a southern one at that—raised any voice at all against the new constitution proposed at the Special General Meeting.

At times area rivalries have crept into other sports: there is no room for them in table tennis.

The objectives of the E.T.T.A. are designed and sought for the good of the game throughout the country and the benefits of application are available to all irrespective of geography.

On the second point, these benefits are hardly negligible. The logical conclusion to thought on the lines put forward by the Liverpool League is that a national table tennis association is not needed. Would anyone seriously argue this? If so, why table tennis alone? It would follow that the existence of a national governing body for any sport was a doubtful need.

AFFILIATION BENEFITS

For a start, the E.T.T.A. is affiliated to the International Table Tennis Federation which gives us a say in world councils and, in practice, gives us a considerable influence in world-wide organisation of the game. As a result, for example, a standardization of equipment is possible and in its turn the E.T.T.A. is able to insist on a standard of manufacture and use throughout this country which is to the advantage of all players and ensures that English players are not at a disadvantage when playing in international competition.

At this juncture it is interesting to recall that before the formation of the E.T.T.A. (then the Table Tennis Association) in 1922 scoring was 50-up in Bristol where wooden rackets only were permitted and nets were 6½ inches high. In Sunderland the game was 100-up with 6-inch nets and at Cambridge University lawn tennis scoring was used.

A national association is needed to allow English players to participate in international competition, including the European and World Championships.

COVER CAPTION
A fine action study of Brian Weight when beating Martin Ness in the International against West Germany. Photo: Denis Offer
Surely no one would suggest that we should not take part.

The E.T.T.A. organises the English Open and Closed Championships; it co-ordinates the organisation of Open Tournaments held all over the country, performing functions which are invaluable to the organisers. The Association is the only body with which Government Departments will negotiate for the supply of grants from public funds to assist in development and extension of the game. By the same token the services of a full-time Director of Coaching are available. The national governing body organises international matches, facilitates as far as possible the development of junior players, organises centrally schemes for improving and maintaining umpiring standards, advises and helps in a multitude of ways with the organisation of table tennis play throughout the country, advertises the game in the national press and by obtaining television contracts.

EXAMPLES OF SERVICE

These are but examples of the service the E.T.T.A. gives its members. And every member benefits either directly or indirectly. At the extreme ends, the star player from his foreign travel and the local player from the facilities (in the widest sense of the word) which are available to him. It is not the facilities or benefits of affiliation which are negligible, but the cost of them.

But, indeed, are these facilities sufficient? And this leads to the second issue raised in the article: Why does the E.T.T.A. require extra money? There is, of course, the need for additional income to meet rising costs and to pay for the new National Council, but there is more to it than that. It is as true of table tennis as of any other sport—and indeed any other competitive organisation—that to stand still is to step backwards.

If table tennis is to develop and expand, and aim to be in the forefront of English sporting achievement and success, there is much to be done.

Of primary importance is the need to extend interest in the game within the schools and with school-leavers for that is where the future of the game lies.

Improved facilities must be made available in every way to enable today's junior star to progress through to be tomorrow's world champion.

SPONSORSHIP NEEDED

The E.T.T.A. must follow other sports in seeking sponsorship for its activities and to do so it must first sell itself as a go-ahead organisation by its actions and its publicity. Professional backers do not back obvious losers.

If the Association is to progress by these and a dozen other means—as it must if it is to be worth its name—a larger income is essential. The cost per player is negligible and surely no player, if the case is put to him, would complain at paying just a few extra coppers per season for the benefit of the game.

And be sure that as the national association prospers so will the local leagues for, after all, the local leagues form the E.T.T.A. Central and national organisation benefits local organisation and vice versa. And this whatever the compass location of either.

LEICESTERSHIRE

MARKET HARBOROUGH FEELERS

THE Rose Johnson Bowl Competition is now down to the last eight teams from an original entry of 75. The eventual winner is still very much in doubt—no one team looks a 'cert'. Minatins had a close match with Knighthorpe Park III, eventually winning 538-532. Nick Smith had a brilliant maximum for the Victors. Alan Moon and Ken Sefton were the stars of Walsall Victoria. Steve Coliun and Colin Bell lost 8-2 to Westcommon for 8-2 victory. Leicester 'A'—still with maximum points—look certain to finish champions.

There is a possibility the Market Harborough League will affiliate to the Leicestershire Table Tennis Association. Feelers have been put out in this direction and we shall now have to see what materialises.

Leicester second team dropped a valuable point against Derby in their quest for the Midland League (North) second division championship and this could prove decisive.

Leicestershire juniors lost 8-2 to Staffordshire in a Midland (Junior) county fixture. John Wells played brilliantly for the losers and with two further seasons as a junior, could be a good prospect.

Leicester have entered a team in the National Best Trained Youth Group Competition. The education authorities have placed a room with three tables at our disposal and the group are tackling the various drills most enthusiastically.

In the Leicester and District League Ron Joyner, the Loughborough skipper, from an original entry of 75. The eventual winner is still very much in doubt. The extreme ends, the star player from his foreign travel and the local player from the facilities (in the widest sense of the word) which are available to him. It is not the facilities or benefits of affiliation which are negligible, but the cost of them.

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MIDLAND OPEN

HARRISON CONQUERS BARNES

HELD in its wonderful new venue, the Rover Car Co's canteen, the Men's Singles provided a magnificent final in the Midland Open. Amid roars from the crowd, Ian Harrison, after losing the first game, triumphed over Chester Barnes 22-20 in the third. Far from being the usual attacking player versus defensive player, this provided some really exceptional bouts of counter hitting.

Barnes was the only player to drop a game in reaching the semi-finals. A big surprise in the men's singles was the performance of young Ron Hampson of Stockport in reaching the quarter-finals, beating Derek Backhouse 18 and 20 and George Evans 13 and 16, also Derek Wall 21-11 in the third. His fine performance was ended by Ian Harrison in the semi-final.

ALL QUIET

Ralph Gunnion came through to the semi-final again fairly easily, mainly due to the fact that the seed in his quarter, Dennis Neale, failed to turn up. Tony Robinson, the Middlesex junior, gave him a good game in the last 16. Barnes's only game dropped was to Dave Lowe, Middlesex, whom he beat 21-16 in the third. The expected fireworks between him and Warren in the quarter-final, did not materialise.

The junior boys' singles was won by Tony Robinson, who had a fantastically easy win in the semi-final against Alan Ransome, 21-18, 21-12. This was a taste of his own medicine, for Ransome had won earlier against Alan Ransome, 21-13, 21-2. In the other half of the draw the surprises were numerous. First of all Glen Warwick was unable to play and the second seed, Mike Jones, crashed in the 2nd round to Keith Lawrence 21-19 in the third. Lawrence promptly lost to McLeod who then lost to his friend Brian Burn in the semi-final.

This was the first open mixed doubles title for Maurice Billington and Jackie Canham and they played extremely well throughout the tournament. Indeed, the figures in the semi-final and final have shown what a good combination they have now become.

The men's doubles provided a fairly placid draw to the semi-finals and in the women's doubles Cynthia Blackshaw had some consolation for her singles exit when they beat their Lancashire rivals in the final.

MIDLAND OPEN

by ROGER MORRIS

HARRISON CONQUERS BARNES


Miss Bell accounted for Miss Fitzgerald 17 and 5 and Connie Moore 12 and 13 on her way to the semi-finals.

The big shock, however, was the very much improved form of Lesley Proudlock who beat the two seeds in her half of the draw, Jackie Canham 20 and 18, Judy Williams, as well as Beverley Sayer, on her way to the final. She backed a good winner in the second against Lesley Bell, only to fall away and lose the third rather easily.

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MIDLAND OPEN

by ROGER MORRIS

HARRISON CONQUERS BARNES

BRIAN WRIGHT and MARY SHANNON toast each other when they announced their engagement at a small gathering of relatives and friends at Mary's home on February 8. It was a double celebration for Mary whose birthday came four days later.

Mary and Brian are both 20 years old and are busy with studies and examinations as well as top-flight table tennis, so they do not plan to marry for at least two years.

They first met as juniors and are now regular mixed doubles partners.
MARCH 1964

SOUTH OF ENGLAND OPEN

MEN’S DOUBLES SURPRISE

The South of England Open at Croydon on February 14-16 looked strange with the new lay-out for the six tables but the hard work put in to make the arrangement vastly improved the playing conditions, although they were still fairly slow (writes Laurie Landry).

The biggest surprise was the appearance in the men’s doubles final of Len Moore and Michael Barratt. Barratt enjoys a game of table tennis but is better known as the international cross-country runner. They got to the semi without difficulty and then beat National runners-up Michael Creamer and Terry Densham after being 6-13 behind in the second game and 10-16 down in the third.

Moore and Barratt rely mainly on steadiness coupled with excellent retrieving. They won the first game in the final against Lowe and Morley but afterwards found their opponents just too strong.

The men’s singles went as expected with the four seeds reaching the semi-finals. Lindsay was the luckiest for he lost the first game against Ken Baker from Bromley and had to survive seven match points against him before winning the second 29-27. He won the decider much more comfortably. Michael Creamer also took the third but not quite so dramatically.

Brian Wright beat Connie Warren, far more subdued than usual, in an unexciting semi-final. Lindsay won the other semi-final against Peter Shead.

The final was quick and excellent and either could have won. Lindsay got revenge for his Kent, Open defeat, at 19 in the third.

The other events did not provide the same interest. Mary Shannon, unable to go to Romania because of visa trouble, won the women’s singles but on the slow conditions Peggy Piper was able to stand up to her and Jackie Canham really made a game of it in the final.

Beeverly Sayer had a good tournament for apart from winning the girls’ singles, she reached the semi-final of the women’s event, and also the final of the mixed doubles in a scratch partnership with Terry Densham. Peggy Piper partnered Tony Piddock to win the mixed after having already won the women’s doubles with Jean Head.

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Page Seven
ENGLAND GET THEIR REVENGE
by Ron Crayden

HAVING been mauled by a German team at Preston recently, England's top ranked players geared themselves for the return, and at the Municipal Hall, Tottenham, on January 25, tasted the sweetness of revenge. They beat a strong West German side 5-3.

Although one would not in any way detract from the sterling performances of the English team, one had to feel a little sorry for the Germans. They had been adrift for several hours because of fog and no sooner were they in the hall than they were hurried to the table to play.

Brian Wright, who had been recalled to the international side, gave a good account of himself, outfighting the formidable Ness and narrowly losing to the still dangerous Freundorfer. It was heartening, however, to see him fight back against Freundorfer after a disastrous spell in the third. Wright actually won eight points on the trot, before going under at 18-21.

Harrison played with something like his old skill and control, but was still not completely match tight. The annoyances he showed during the course of his two matches was a reliable guide to the dissatisfaction he felt with his form.

Chester Barnes opened with a mature performance against the experienced and difficult Arndt, winning in straight games.

I doubt whether there is a player, no matter how poorly he played, who, with a little luck and some self-discipline, could not write a story of progress. Arndt, however, was simply not in the mood for a change of form, and clearly, had the game been a little tighter, he would have lost.

Mary Shannon demonstrated to all doubting Thomases" what a great performer she is against the resolute defenders of Europe, dealing severely with the German star, Inge Harst.

Young Lesley Bell tried hard against the agile defender Edith Buchholz, but although improving as the game proceeded, Lesley could not hit with any speed against the controlled chop.

Mary and Diane, as expected, waltzed through their doubles and we were home and happy.

Table of Results:

England 5, West Germany 3. Women's Singles: P. Holes bt Miss H. Buchholz 21-16, 21-19; Miss Bell bt Miss Buchholz 21-15, 21-18. Mixed Doubles: Edwardwarles/Miss P. Holes bt Davies/Miss C. Holes 21-19, 21-17; Miss H. Buchholz/Miss H. Buchholz bt P. Holes/Miss C. Holes 21-8, 21-10.

FORTUNATE SURREY WIN

With a somewhat fortunate win over Gloucester, Ian Harrison being at the Irish Open, Surrey breathe a little more freely the atmosphere of the Premier Division. Heartening to see that this, as previous win, was a team effort with all playing a part in the five games taken.

In the "Bernard Crouch" Surrey are in the position of having literally crushed the opposition in their first four of the six match series. Gordon Chapman takes honours with an unbeaten record, having played in all matches. A most encouraging note was the singles wins by Hilda Lambert and Maureen Beglan over Mary Hicks and Irene Opus after our pair had taken the doubles against these two in the last match against Middlesex.

Welcome naes for these County stand-by players is that it is almost certain that we shall, next season, be returning to the Second Division as well as retaining the Premier Division. At the moment it is hoped this can be done whilst still maintaining a side in this popular Bernard Crouch.

The South of England Open proved a happy hunting ground for the home county. Mary Shannon, prevented by visa trouble in reaching Rumania took the singles title—the only one she entered. Peggy Piper, a point behind, and Head, gained the ladies' doubles trophy, then joined Kent's Tony Piddock to whisk away with a fine rose bowl for the mixed doubles.

HAMPSHIRE NOTES

SOUTHAMPTON TITLES CHANGE HANDS

Despite a disappointing entry—less than ten per cent, of total registrations—the once popular Southampton Closed, brought surprising titles for members of the Bitterne Park Club. They won six of the eight events.

Fonda the singles with D. Davies, riding on the wave of county selection, beating his clubmate C. Edwardwards 2-1 in an exhilarating men's singles final. Davies also retained the men's doubles with A. Ward, but lost the mixed doubles where he was partnered by Christine Holes.


Congratulatios to John Waterhouse who, after over two years faithful services at the Mount Pleasant Coaching Centre, has been awarded the E.T.T.A. Basic Coaching Diploma. Alan Walters, of Basingstoke, has been awarded the same diploma, bringing Hampshire's qualified coaching strength to nine.

Linda Thompson continues to keep the county flag flying in the Eagle-Girl competition, by winning the under 13's area final in London on February 1. Already a junior county star, Linda, member of the Triangle Club, Havant, is one of the brightest prospects before the selection committee since the advent of the Holes twins.

Teddy Grant.

COURSE RESIGNS

After 34 years continuous service to the game, Ken Course, hon. secretary/treasurer of the Basingstoke League, is to retire at the end of the season to make way for a younger man.

Course, who is also the Hampshire County president, helped to found the Basingstoke League in 1930.

For a number of years he was in Andover where he helped to form the King's Institute Club, and was chairman of the Civil Defence League, which after the war, when Course returned to Basingstoke, was replaced by the Andover League.

Page Eight
DENNIS OFFER and his camera look in on the international in which England beat West Germany 5-3.

Top: An unusual shot by FREUNDORFER against Harrison; NESS in play against Wright; and ARNDT uses top spin against Harrison.

Centre: EDITH BUCHHOLZ chops one back against Lesley Bell; INGE HARST watches EDITH BUCHHOLZ make a return against Diane Rowe and Mary Shannon; LESLEY BELL in action against Miss Buchholz.

Bottom: MARY SHANNON, with DIANE ROWE ready for the return, in their doubles with Miss Harst and Miss Buchholz.
MORE TABLE TENNIS MEMORIES

by CHARLES E. DAVIES

WHEN you have been in, on, and around the table tennis scene for a number of years the mention of names evokes memories. Memories of wonderful games, incidents and moments enjoyed.

Ivor Montagu, Harry Venner, Ferenc Sido, Ken Craigie, Ron Etheridge, Gordon Chapman, Peter Bexley, Mike Westerby and Marta Luzova are some of the names which for me conjure forth bright memories.

Ivor Montagu, President of the I.T.T.F. and E.T.T.A., is a genial and approachable gentleman. He is also a skilful and an adroit arbitrator.

I talked with him at the 1963 Prague World Championships and recalled a typical instance I had seen of his skill as an arbiter.

It was at the 1959 W.Gam Championships held in Dortmund's vast Westfalenhalle. The exciting Swaythling Cup clash between Japan and Vietnam had come to a full stop. Ogimura was 20-17 up apparently he moved the table in smashing home in Dortmund's vast Westfalenhalle. Too exciting.

Memories of wonderful games, incidents and moments enjoyed.

I am indebted for another memory of Ken Craigie to former Surrey and England player, Jack Head, with whom I often times play league matches.

Ken, it seems, had a masterful counter to tactical interruptions — or gamesmanship as some known it.

In the middle of a game with Kent's Ron Etheridge, the Kent player tried it on a bit. He said, "Excuse me," and then adjusted his shorts, dried his hands, blew his nose, executed a few physical jerks and at last took up position again.

Ken, who had been calmly waiting, said, "Excuse me," and then adjusted his shorts, retied his laces, dried his hands, blew his nose, executed a few physical jerks and then moved position with a "beat that" grin.

Gordon Chapman's tournament turnout is unexceptional. He is always immaculate. This serves him well. It creates an aura of confidence about him. And indeed, he usually looks quietly, determinedly confident.

I recall one occasion, however, when this aplomb of his was shattered.

He was playing Peter Bexley in a Putney Club tournament. He carried a water bottle in those days and just before the start of the game he painstakingly watered his face, Peter won service and said in his cheeky way, "I'll have that end." Gordon's expression of conflicting emotions was a joy to behold.

RECORD HOLDER

Mike Westerby is not a world beater at table tennis. He is rather, a talented league player, and as such represents the Bromley League. Nonetheless he is a table tennis world record holder.

I saw him achieve his record last year in the English Closed Championships when he beat John Martin.

Continued on page 11
JUNIOR SPOTLIGHT

MARCH • 1964

THE English Open junior singles and Wales. Many and England occupied the first four places in the European Tournament in the summer.

Indications were that Kjell Johansson (Sweden) and Chester Barnes would contest the final, with Surbeck, the brilliant Yugoslav chick the danger man. Although there were three challengers from West Germany for the

THREE NEW JUNIOR CAPS

by LAURIE LANDRY

The English Open junior singles has its best entry for a number of years, with players from Sweden, Yugoslavia, West Germany, Ireland and Wales.

Yugoslavia, Sweden, West Germany and England occupied the first four places in the European Tournament in the summer.

Indications were that Kjell Johansson (Sweden) and Chester Barnes would contest the final, with Surbeck, the brilliant Yugoslav chick the danger man. Although there were three challengers from West Germany for the

THE T.T. MEMORIES

(Continued from page 10)

3-1 in the third round. Nothing remarkable in that? Quite so. What was remarkable was the third game score, 38-36, a world record for deuce points in an Open.

Reminiscences of table tennis would be incomplete without mentioning at least one of the many attractive ladies who bring colour and charm to the game. Selecting from those I have seen and known over the years is difficult. But there is one who I think is an absolute pip.

She is the young and delightful Marta Luzova, of Czechoslovakia. Her limpid eyes, mischievous smile and urchin hair style make her a photographer’s delight, and indeed she is often featured on magazine covers in Czechoslovakia.

I first saw her at the English Open in Brighton last year where she charmed spectators with her complete naturalness of manner.

I saw her again in Prague and met her at the Closing Ceremony of the World Championships which was held in an establishment imposingly named the House of Culture and Communications.

To this monument of a bygone era Miss Luzova brought modern culture, and communicated to everyone an infectious gaiety when, with a bouncy, zestful abandon she danced the twist.

Marta, and the others mentioned here, have provided heightened table tennis moments. It is the memory of these that inspires the wish that they may all long continue to be in, on, and around the table tennis scene.

	

T.P. DISTINCTION


He went on to make a clean sweep of titles, by winning the men's doubles with Buist and the mixed doubles with Mrs. Know. The mixed final in which they beat Cornish and Barbara Carless was the high spot of the evening.

Mrs. Carless, an infrequent visitor, made a successful foray from Birmingham to collect two titles, the singles and the women’s doubles with Mrs. P. Rainberg.


Women’s Singles: H. J. CARLESS bt M. P. Know 21-5, 21-12.


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A FINE display of competitive table tennis in the Boys' under-17 final was provided on Friday, March 20, as 41 competitors played in strict rotation at the Gloucestershire Junior Open at Gloucester on January 25. A. Ransome (Yorkshire) had an easy passage into the semi-final and then successfully overcame the top seed, M. Johns (Cheshire), in a closely fought game, only to lose in the final of the Girls' Doubles, being beaten by J. Ransome and P. McCarthy (Surrey) 21-14, 21-19, 21-15.

Linda Henwood were the unsuccessful semi-finalists in this event, but Linda Henwood and Miss Sykes were one of the stars of the day, reaching the final in all three of the other Girls' events.

Both the Boys' and Girls' under-15 holders lost their titles. W. Silto of Swindon losing to G. Salter of Surrey, and Pauline Hemmings (Herts.) losing to Penelope Bonner (Somerset). Miss Bonner went on to lose to Miss Sykes in the final of the Girls', and Miss Henwood was again a losing semi-finalist in this event.

The entry of 54 in the Boys' under-15 led to close competition in the final rounds, the losing semi-finalists, D. Samuel and H. Thomas, both being from Wales. Wales has a knack of producing players small in stature but great in talent, and Hadyn Thomas, following the steps of John Mansfield, gave a lot of pleasure to the spectators.

Honours in the Doubles events were well shared. Cocks and Piddock (Herts.) did well to extend Ransome and D. Samuel to five games in the Boys' Doubles, and Miss Hemmings and Miss Canham were also taken to the full distance against Miss Sykes.

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GERMAN CHAMPIONSHIPS

INGRID KRIEGELSTEIN HANDS OUT SHOCKS

OVER 1,500 spectators attended the 32nd German National Titles in Siegen on January 18 and 19. Main interest centred on the duel between Ness and Scholer in the men's singles. In the quarters Michalek disposed of Arndt 3-1, Forster beat Siegman 3-1 and Scholer just managed to pip former champion Freundorfer 3-2. In the semi finals Michalek won a five set battle over Forster and Scholer also went the full distance against Ness. The final was an anti-climax with Scholer always the master to beat. The past championships showed that the basis of German table tennis has broadened considerably which augurs well for the future.

U.S.S.R. Championships

LAIMA BALAISITE, a schoolgirl from Vilnius (Lithuania), has regained the U.S.S.R. women's table tennis title, beating Zoya Rudanova of Moscow in the 14th Soviet championships which have just ended in Kaunas. The 17-year-old Muscovite Anatoly Amelin for the first time won the men's singles. Paisiayr and Kabrits (Tallin, Estonia), won the women's doubles, Novikov and Amelin (Moscow) - the men's doubles, and Rudanova and Amelin - the mixed doubles.
BELGIUM OPEN

DIANE HAS NEVER PLAYED BETTER

says JOHNNY LEACH

(News of the World Correspondent)

FOURTEEN years ago, as playing captain of the England team, I took the now world famous Rowe twins to Belgium to compete in their first international championship.

Since then I have watched the left-handed Diane Rowe play some great matches to win a countless number of World, European and National tournaments. But never have I seen Diane play better than she did in beating Marta Luzova 3-2 in the final of the Belgian International Championships at the Centre National Des Sports National Sportscenium last February 8 and 9.

The women’s singles final was certainly the highlight of this tournament and, in my book, the match of the season. Seldom have I seen such spectacular play from two girls. It made the men’s singles final, contested by Conny Freundorfer and Eberhard Scholer, look like pat ball.

Diane reached a stage when she was leading 2-4 in sets, and by 15 points to 8 in the third and it seemed all over bar the shouting. Luzova was nearly in tears, and at her wits’ end to know what to do in order to outwit the English No. 1.

Luzova’s lightning drives, normally lethal, were all returned with apparent ease and perfect control, while a change of tactics such as a drop-shot, or slow push return by the young Czech star was met by a well-placed backhand or forehand “kill” by Diane.

DI FALTERED

Then suddenly Di faltered, snatch­ ing one backhand drive after another to send the ball off the table edge. At once her impish, and likeable, 15-year-old schoolgirl opponent from Prague pounced like a tiger. A stream of forehand “kills” flowed from her bat to bring the score to 16-all.

Di recovered, and pulled away to a 20-17 lead, but it was by no means over. Luzova fought back to 20-19, then left us all breathless as a fierce backhand drive against service to make it deuce, followed by two unstoppable forehand “kills” to take the set 22-20.

From then on it was cut-and­thrust all the way, with the result in the balance right up to the end. With the score 19-20, and match point against her, Di staged one of her greatest rallies to emerge the winner at 24-22.

What a great final it was between a great champion and a great champion-to-be. Unfortunately Luzova was unable to compete in the English Open, but I am willing to predict that this gay and spectacular young lady will win European honours before she is much older.

After drawing a bye in the singles, David Creamer put up a good fight before losing 3-2 in the second round to Gerard Chergui. In the doubles, however, David and I were right out of touch, losing in the first round to Fellen and Kreeker of Luxembourg by 1-3.

In the mixed doubles, Diane Rowe and I fared rather better, reaching the final. But Germany 3-1, 21-18. To pair of Stanek and Luzova were too strong and won 3-1.

The England-Switzerland partnership of Rowe and Jacquet contested the women’s doubles final with Stul­ emyre and Wynia of Holland and put up a good fight before losing 2-1.

The most spectacular, and certainly the least fortunate competitor in the men’s singles was Frans School’s of Holland. He won a great quarter final battle against Stanek of Czechoslovakia, only to go down at 22-24 in the fifth game of the semi-final against Conny Freundorfer, who put me out at the quarter final stage in three straight sets.

Schools seems to me to improve with each game he plays, and he is still young enough to capture top European honours before he is finished.

BELGIUM OPEN RESULTS

Men’s Singles: SCHOULER (W. Germany) bt Creamer (W. Germany) 3-1; bt Leach (W. Germany) 3-2; bt創 (W. Germany) 3-2 (final).


Men’s Doubles: SCHOULER/FRED­ FORFER (W. Germany) bt Offergeld/Gomilla (W. Germany) 17-21, 21-22, 17-21, 21-12, 21-17.

Women’s Doubles: STULEMEYER/ WYNIA (Holland) bt Rowe/Jacquet (Switz.) 21-10, 21-14, 21-16, 21-12, 21-9.

ENGLISH RESULTS

Women’s Singles: ROWE bt Wiene (Belgium) 3-0; bt Jacquet 3-1; bt Wynia (Holland) 3-4; bt Luzova 3-2 (final).

Men’s Singles: D. CREAMER lost to Czereau (France) 21-19, 19-21, 21-14, 21-11, 21-21. J. LEACH bt Berlet (Belgium) 3-0; bt Dihus (France) 3-4; bt Stavr (Czech.) 3-1; lost to Freundorfer (W. Germany) 17-21, 17-21, 19-21 (quarter­final).

Men’s Doubles: CREAMER/LEACH lost to Fellen/Kreeker (Luxembourg) 21-10, 16-21, 16-21, 21-10, 19-21.

Women’s Doubles: ROWE/JACQUET bt Brokken (Belgium)/Wegner (Luxembourg) 3-0; bt Star/Bag (Belgium) 3-0; lost to Stulemeier/Wynia (Holland) 2-3 (final).

Mixed Doubles: ROWE/LEACH bt Cornelius/Detaille (Belgium) 3-0; bt Collinom (Belgium)/Schoeler (Germany) 3-2; bt Orevon/Post (Belgium)/Offe (Germany) 3-1; lost to Stanek/Luzova 1-3 (final).

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LADIES FIRST

ALTHOUGH there are over 350 male members of the Bournemouth and District Table Tennis Association it has fallen to a woman to qualify first for the E.T.T.A. Master’s certificate in the E.T.T.A. Master Points scheme.

She is Miss Joyce Coop, popularly known as "Joy". She was the winner of the Bournemouth and District Table Tennis Association’s Women’s singles championship. She has been selected to compete in the Elbridge and District Women’s singles championship for the third time in as many years.

Joyce was born in Bridport and won her first title in the county championship. She then won the Dorset Closed Championship twice before going on to win the Bournemouth and District title. She also won the county championship in 1959 and 1960.

Joyce is the Dorset No. 1 for Longley’s in the County League. She has a number of local league successes to her name and has won the Dorset Closed twice. She has also won the Bournemouth and District Women’s singles championship three times.

In the E.T.T.A. Master Points scheme, Joyce has won four titles, three of which have been in the Dorset Closed Championship. She has also won the Bournemouth and District Women’s singles championship twice.

The Bournemouth and District Table Tennis Association is a fully-fledged member of the E.T.T.A. and Joyce has been selected to represent the association in the national championships. She is the first Dorset player to be selected for the national championships and is the first woman to be selected for the Dorset Closed Championship.

In conclusion, it can be said that Joyce has achieved a great deal in her career and is a true inspiration to all young table tennis players.

SUSSEX

SHED IN CRAWLEY FACE

ALTHOUGH appearing spasmodically in Bournemouth columnists, there have been recent developments in the Sussex County Table Tennis League. The League recently finished the season with an exciting finale.

In the Junior Division (South) whilst the County Oak comment, whilst the Bowls fell to a woman to qualify first for the County Master status.

Brian Wright is the First League Master.

Brian Wright, who has been a very successful competitor, after an absence of 10 years, returned to the Bournemouth and District Table Tennis Association and played in the Junior Division (South) whilst the County Oak comment, whilst the Bowls fell to a woman to qualify first for the County Master status.

He is the first Dorset player to be selected for the national championships and is the first woman to be selected for the Dorset Closed Championship.

In conclusion, it can be said that Joyce has achieved a great deal in her career and is a true inspiration to all young table tennis players.

Page Fourteen
GLOUCESTERSHIRE were the shock team last month, defeating Middlesex one week and losing to Surrey the next. Middlesex were without their No. 1 Brian Wright and were not quite strong enough to hold off the Gloucester side, who for the first time this season were at full strength.

David Creamer and DI Rowe were outstanding for Middlesex, securing all their matches, but both Alan Lindsay and Alan Rhodes were below their usual form.

Without Ian Harrison, Gloucester did not expect to beat Surrey, but had Barry Brady been anything like in true form they could have won, for he might have beaten Tony Miller. Bryan Merrett was outstanding and is probably playing better than ever. Pat Taylor caused quite a lot of trouble and nearly won the second game.

Essex beat Yorkshire fairly comfortably 7-2, although Bobby Stevens was not at his best and lost to David Bevan, whilst Denis Neale accounted for Bobbie Raybold. It was interesting to note that Yorkshire played Pat Dainty in the singles — in previous matches it has been either Cynthia Blackshaw or Lesley Proudlock. Pat always plays well against Lesley and took the second game, only to fade in the third.

Hemfordshire, who appear booked for relegation, travelled to Nuneaton only to be beaten 8-1 by Warwickshire. Judy Williams beat Doreen Griffiths in the women’s singles to record the visitors’ only success.

The Second Division (Midland) battle of the roses played at Bolton was a classic. Excitement was maintained to the very last set, in which George Livesey beat the opposing captain, David Bartlett, 16, 21 to grab a 5-5 draw. The big shock was Connie Moore’s defeat of Lesley Proudlock, and the double defeat of Bryn Farnworth.

Lancashire’s débutante Jack Keogh played well but the man — or rather boy — of the match was young Alan Hydes, of Barnsely.

In the Second Division (Midland) Oxford beat Glamorgan for the first time. Stan Hahn was again in fine form, ably supported by newcomers E. Wilkins and C. Jackson. Oxford unexpectedly won the women’s doubles, being just too good for the experienced Glamorgan pair.

Worcestershire staged their match against Monmouth in an approved school and had the rare experience of playing before a large and enthusiastic audience. The Welsh county who won 7-3 were clearly the better side, gaining their first senior win since entering the championships in 1962. Worcestershire hero was John Bell, newly promoted to No. 1, who was the only man of either team to win both singles.

In the Second Division (South) Kent beat Hampshire 9-1. The women’s doubles was a splendid fight, Joyce Ellis and Betty Bird beating the Hole twins 16 in the third. David Davies and Christine Holes paired up to win the mixed doubles against David Whitaker and Betty Bird. David is playing well at the moment and may well represent his county in the singles before long.

Bedfordshire, for whom Norman Parker was in excellent form, had a good match against Sussex, the 8-2
score being rather flattering to the visitors.

Warwickshire beat Cornwall 6-4 in Second Division (West) and are making an all-out effort for Divisional honours this season. With Wilshire and Glamorganshire missing from their ranks, it was as far as they could have been from the West Country. B. Fifield lost the first set to Pape 15-21, and was trailing 16-20 in the second, only to fight back and win at 25-23 and to go on to a convincing 21-13 win in the third. This was Wilts’ first win over Cornwall in four seasons. Cornwall then travelled to Dorset and again lost a thrilling match 6-4. The Dorset committee expect their players to develop an all-round game. David Meech set the example by hitting and defending, previously he was only a defensive player.

The official attendance was 117 when Notts beat Derbyshire at Mansfield. Derek Bell staged an impressive debut for the home county, winning both his singles. Mary Saunders continued her unbeaten run against Derbyshire’s champion, Eileen Pickock.

Huntingdon drew 5-5 with Cambridgeshire in the Southern Division, both counties gaining their first point of the season. There was distinct superiority in the women’s matches, which was all-important to Cambridgeshire.

In Junior Division (Midlands) Leicester lost 8-2 to Stafs, but they are showing signs of improvement and can hope for better things next season. Match of the evening was the best when J. Wells thoroughly extended M. Lockley.

Results:

PREMIER DIVISION

Lancashire 1, Warwickshire 2


Miss D. Fitzgerald bt Mrs. D. Grimms 15, 17, 15.

Ingraver/Crumlin lost to Gunson/Haddeley -15, 15. Symonds/Miss Fitzgerald bt Haddeley/Mrs. Grimms 18, 16.

B. Raymond bt D. Deacon 11, 8; lost to D. Deacon -11, -18; bt C. Barnes bt Deacon 11, 12; bt D. Bevan 16, 10. R. Stevens lost to Bevan 18, 16; bt Deacon 21, -19, 21.

Miss L. Hall bt Miss F. Dainty 13, 19, 7.

Raybird/Steven bt Bevan/Neale 17, 15.

M. Barnes bt Deacon/Miss C. Blackshaw 17, 15.

SECOND DIVISION MIDLAND

Worcestershire 3, Gloucestershire 8.

A. Rhodes lost to R. Morley -9, 16; -24; lost to H. Merrett -10, -14, 14, 14. A. Lindsay lost to Merrett -10, -12, -10; bt D. Taylor -11; bt D. Taylor 12. A. Harens lost to Deacon 11, 12; bt Bevan 18, 16; -24; lost to Deacon 21, 21, 21.

Miss L. Hall bt Miss F. Dainty 13, 19, 7.

Raybird/Steven bt Bevan/Neale 17, 15.

M. Barnes bt Deacon/Miss C. Blackshaw 17, 15.

SOUTHERN DIVISION

Norfolk 1, Devon 6.

A. Taylor bt Miss J. Williams 8, 16.

B. Brady lost to A. Miller -17, -14; lost to V. Ireland 7, 15, H. Merrett bt Ireland 10, 17; bt C. Warren 15, 9. R. Morley lost to Warren -15, 21, -14; bt Miller 15, 12, 13.

Miss P. Taylor lost to Miss M. Piper 14, 21.

Merrett/Morley bt Warren/G. Mutany 18, 12.

SECOND DIVISION SOUTH

Bedfordshire 2, Sussex 8.

Kent 5, Hampshire 1.

SECONO DIVISION NORTH

Lancashire 5, Yorks. 9.

SECOND DIVISION MIDLAND

Warwickshire 5, Cambridgeshire 5.

SECOND DIVISION WEST

Wiltshire 6, Cornwall 6.

FIRST DIVISION SOUTH

Nottinghamshire 6, Gloucestershire 8.

SOUTHERN DIVISION

Huntingdonshire 2, Cambridgeshire 5.

Berkshire 9, Norfolk 1.

JUNIOR DIVISION SOUTH

Berks, Sussex 9.

JUNIOR DIVISION MIDLAND

Leicestershire 2, Staffordshire 8.

Warwickshire 5, Nottinghamshire 5.

JUNIOR DIVISION SOUTH-WEST

Oxfordshire 2, Gloucestershire 8.


SELL THE GAME

MAY I, as a fifth-rate player who hopes to follow in Mr. Davies' footsteps through the medium of a first-class umpire's rating, make what I hope will be a few pertinent comments from the January TABLE TENNIS.

While agreeing wholeheartedly with the general aspects of the Development Commission's report and your editorial thereon I must take issue on one of your points.

Finance will be a dominant issue in the growth or otherwise of our game, but it is not a specious argument to suggest that the "parochial" outlook of players and officials might make the collection of any money needed by way of subscription a hard job. Sure it's only 2s. 6d. a head, but you tell that to the ordinary league player who is already paying for personal equipment, club subscription, league registration fees, travelling expenses, etc., etc., without telling him very explicitly why the money's needed anyway, and you might get a very "parochial" response.

Some time soon we shall have to break the vacuum in which table tennis exists by drastically revising our ideas of internal and external publicity—with a distinct emphasis on the external side. More and better publicity through press, radio and television will have to be organised well otherwise it will continue to be of the "Barnes" type—though sometimes I think that's better than none at all.

"Sell" our ideas and plans to the players and the public and we're laying a foundation for those ideas and plans to come to fruition.

Finally, a few words to Ian Harrison. I have always respected you both as player and sportsman, but I must retaliate against your "knock" at officialdom.

If players were to observe more regularly the spirit, as well as the letter, of what are admittedly the most ambiguous laws then maybe officials would have less occasion to appear out of step with each other.

I speak as one who metaphorically touched his forelock at the approach of a tournament referee, but who most certainly sympathises with that august—but still human—personage as he is trying to sort out laws, recommendations, conditions, players, officials, etc., etc., and still run a successful tournament.

So come off it, Ian—you know as well as I when something is near enough the mark to throw doubts on its light-coloured and/or light-reflecting legality; so why use it?"  

KEN TURNER, C.U.  (Fetcham, Surrey).

Building a star

In his apologia for the Chester Barnes campaign, Peter Madge refers to Elizabeth Taylor. Certainly Barnes and Taylor have one thing in common; each of them has become a first-class bore. All publicity is not necessarily good publicity. That belief was an invention of the publicists themselves. If it is, why are there such strenuous attempts to suppress items from time to time?

The Press cannot be blamed for giving prominence to true reports that are "sensational" if that is what readers want. But Peter Madge has, with apparent pride, admitted that the Barnes" serial is deliberate distortion. He tries to justify this by saying that if it is trying to make Barnes better known to the public. But Victor Barna and the Rowe sisters became well known in a fairly short time without relying on unsavoury items. Their talent was their publicity manager, and they managed to collect reputations for decent behaviour in the process of winning world championships.

Mr. Madge seems to imply that this campaign will help table tennis as well as Barnes. This I must dispute. We are trying to promote a sport and attract young people to it. We are trying to introduce it to his school, when most of what they read about us concerns petulant outbursts, unattractive egoism. They will decide that a game which produces such enmity between two angry young men that they fling the ball across the table (report in a popular Sunday newspaper) has little or no connection with sport, and table tennis will suffer.

We are in a genuinely competitive game, let us leave the make-believe world of goodies and baddies to all-in wrestling. Mr. Madge now asks us to believe that Chester Barnes is a likeable young man. Why should we believe him now?

Fortunate for Barnes but the reading public cannot be expected to turn just when it suits the publicity managers.

KEITH WATTS

A slur

JOHN WRIGHT mentions the shortage of umpires. If some of their many critics were able to umpire half as well as those they castigate, there could come a time when the umpires will complain of the shortage of games.

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

To say that the umpire apparently missed it, is a slur. If the umpire had seen it, he would have awarded the point to Wright. It is fair to add that none of the other officials concerned saw any movement, but in conversation with spectators afterwards I learned that several thought there was. However, there was some doubt as to whether the ball was dead when this happened.

The umpire was not aware that Mr. Edwards was available to make an arbitrary decision, especially as with Harrison's type of play it must be very difficult to move the table when going away from it.

K. A. LOW  (National Umpire).

HARRISON EDWARDS REPLIES: My observation that Harrison moved the table was confirmed by several leading officials who were watching from the stage. In my opinion the table moved at least a foot, but it is appreciated that the umpire could have been so engrossed in watching the ball that he might have missed the movement of the table. Even Wright was of the opinion that the table moved and raised this question with the umpire after the match.
KENT OPEN

by LAURIE LANDRY

WRIGHT’S

NEWLY ranked at equal two in the English ranking list, Brian Wright went a long way to confirming his position. When he won all three senior titles for the first time ever in a tournament, at the Kent Open at Folkestone on January 22-26, an awkward match with Ron Etheridge won a long way to confirm his opponent no chance at all. His position when he won all three senior titles for the first time ever in a tournament at the Kent Open at Folkestone on January 22-26. Alan Lindsay came through the

KEN F OPEN

Men’s Singles: Quarter-Finals B. Wright (Middlesex) bt D. Wall (Middlesex) 24-29, 21-15, 21-13; A. Piddock (Kent) bt H. Merrett (Gloucestershire) 15-21, 21-16, 21-19; A. Lindsay (Middlesex) bt D. Creamer (Middlesex) 21-9, 21-15; C. Warren (Surrey) bt A. Robinson (Middlesex) 21-12, 17-21, 21-7.


Final: WRIGHT bt Lindsay 22-29, 24-22, 21-19.

Semi-Finals: M. SHANNON (Surrey) bt P. Piper (Surrey) 18-21, 21-16, 21-10; L. BELL (Essex) bt J. Ellis (Kent) 21-8, 21-7.

Final: SHANNON bt Bell 21-12, 15-21, 21-14.


Women’s Doubles: Semi-Finals: B. HIRD / ELLIS (Kent) bt A. Hallett/B. Langham (Kent) 21-12, 21-14; CANHAM (Hertfordshire) / E. CARRINGTON (Essex) bt Bell/S. Henson (Essex) 21-16, 17-21, 21-11.

Final: BIRD / ELLIS bt Canham/Carrington 21-19, 21-17, 21-18.

Mixed Doubles: Semi-Finals: WRIGHT / SHANNON bt Muranyi/McCree (Essex) 21-17, 21-12; BARNES / TAFT (Middlesex) bt S. Jackson (Middlesex) / Bell 21-16, 27-25.

Final: WRIGHT / SHANNON bt Barnes/Taft 21-18, 21-17.

Boys’ Singles: Semi-Finals: ROBINSON bt S. Gibbs (Essex) 22-29, 21-16; HARNES bt J. Besley (Essex) 21-9, 21-18.

Final: BARNES bt Robinson 21-14, 21-14.


other half, in which Alan Rhodes was well beaten by rapidly improving Kent player Alan Cornish. Lindsay reached the semi by half-volleying Muranyi and exasperating David Creamer. Qualifying to meet Lindsay in the semi was Connie Warren, an improved player who makes a point of letting you know how the game’s going, which he did to good effect against Barnes. Warren also played very well indeed.

His match against Barnes was good practice for “our Con,” who was so talkative against Lindsay that someone, who was fed up, said, “Why don’t they play, I’m not interested in intellectual comment on shots as they are accomplished.”

This set the stage for the final, where Wright just got home after some wonderful rallies, hitting and counter-half-volleying from Lindsay. Lindsay did hold 20-18 and 20-17 leads in the two games only to let the confident young winner catch up and win each time.

Mary Shannon, who has recently become engaged to Brian Wright, also got into the act, by winning the women’s singles. But most encouraging from her point of view, was that in the final she at last got the measure of Lesley Bell, who has long been her “bogey” player.

Mary went for her opponent from the start and after winning the first fairly comfortably appeared unable to believe it, went back into her shell in the second and lost it, just as she did in the English Closed. However, this time Mary came right back to win the third.

Brian and Mary teamed up as usual to win the mixed doubles only going three against Muranyi/McCree.

Brian got his third title with Chester Barnes in the doubles. At last these two appear to have clicked, even though in Round 1 they had to save a few match points against those two “artists of defence,” Kerekes and Khanna. In the semi Piddock and Buist (still with a rubber bat) took them the full distance.

It was a local victory, Betty Bird and Joyce Ellis, in the women’s doubles. Jackie Canham and Elsie Carrington got to another final, which was well fought.

Tony Robinson lost to Barnes in the boys’ event after beating Stuart Gibbs on the way, a feat he also accomplished in the senior event. Lesley Bell won the girls’ title.
WELSH CORNER

JUNIOR POLICY PAYING OFF

NEITHER Glamorgan nor Monmouthshire look like being interested in promotion this season, and although at one stage Glamorgan had a chance to be second in the Second Division (Midlands), their unexpected defeat by Oxfordshire has probably cost them even then that chance. The truth is that the older players of both counties are no longer playing well, whilst the new blood has yet to make its presence felt.

But it's a different story in the junior division, where Monmouthshire lead the section with an impressive record, and Glamorgan are lying second. There are good boys in both sides and there are many more hard on their tails.

At the Youth Festival rally at Hereford, the 20 Welsh boys were almost all better boy for boy than similar players from Warwickshire, Worcestershire and the R.A.F. and in the two a side matches between Wales and Worcestershire and the R.A.F., Wales contributed more than two thirds of the final impressive score. Add to this the fact that the final rounds of the individual tests contained a high percentage of Welsh players, with Wayne Smith the eventual winner, and one can assume that at this level at any rate we are as good as a great deal of the boys across the border.

Transition Period

It's in the transition from Junior to Senior that we have failed, but the dedication of the present crop of youngsters, the best for many years, suggests that the possibility of our producing some really good seniors is at last showing up.

The policy of entering the best of the juniors in English Tournaments seems also to be paying off, leading one to hope that our showing against England in the Junior International at Aberdare on March 6 should be better than last year's dismal performance.

The second match between Glamorgan and Monmouthshire juniors resulted in a draw, and Monmouthshire must account themselves somewhat fortunate not to suffer a reverse of their early defeat of their Welsh rivals.

Improved form is not only confined to the juniors of East Wales. Down in Monmouth they are improving by leaps and bounds. The time and money devoted undeniably by Jack Ackroyd and his committee is being very well spent. Keenness is their driving force, and no tournament is too far, nor the problems of travel too acute, to keep them down. The future of table tennis in West Wales looks bright indeed. Up in North Wales, too, the new Northern Counties Association seems to be busy, and friendly matches with across-the-border English Counties are very much in their mind.

The need is for coaches of the modern game, and indeed this is something that all Wales needs. The Welsh Association is working on a scheme for coaching-courses for all parts of Wales, and will apply for a Ministry of Education grant.

Last season, we had frequent occasion to complain that few if any players in Wales were trying to master the modern techniques of the game. This season it is heartening to see so many of the youngsters learning if the benefits of proper modern coaching are to be reaped.

Meanwhile, the pattern of the Welsh League is changing, and teams like Cardiff pay the penalty for also being committed to Western Counties matches. So when weak teams are "helded," unexpected results happen, and following two shock defeats Cardiff lose their top place to Barry.

Positions in Division I are as follows: Barry played 8, won 7; Cardiff played 8, won 6; Aberdare played 9, won 5; Newport played 9, won 5; Cardiff "B" played 7, won 4; Swansea played 10, won 4; Eastern Valleys played 7, won 3; Abergrawenny played 9, won none. In Division II, Aberdare "A" played 12, won 11; Bridgend "A" played 12, won 10; Cardiff "C" played 13, won 9; Tredegar played 12, won 8; Swansea played 9, won 5; Eastern Valleys played 10, won 4; Merthyr played 12, won 3; Bridgend "B" played 9, won 1, and Millford Haven played 8, won none.

Aberdare, very advanced in their programme in the Junior Section, are way ahead with 11 wins from 12 matches, followed by Eastern Valley with 7 wins from 7 matches. Bridgend are next with 5 wins from 8, then Barry with 5 wins from 11 matches. Tredegar have 2 wins from 7, and Newport 2 wins from 9; Cardiff and Millford have one win each. Cardiff head the women's section undefeated, Swanssea next with one loss,

Individual records: Division I—G. Evans 95.23%, Graham Gear 87.5%, John Mansfield 83.3%, Brian Eversen 80%, Ken Bull 75%, Fraser Anderson 70.8%, Graham Cogbill 66.6%, Graham Williams 62.5%, Phil Bevan 61.9%, Brian Jenkins 55.2%. Division II—T. Smith 91.3%, Des Milton 90.9%, John Rowles 83.4%, Michael Prosser 80.5%, Ken Williams 76.6%, Howard Lloyd 73.3%, John Pipe 66%, Derek John 55.5%.

CARDFIFF OPEN

GEAR SPRINGS SURPRISE

ALTHOUGH lacking many entries from across the border, the Cardiff Open was highly successful, providing a newcomer to the winners in the person of Graham Gear. He played extremely well all through, the highlights being a crushing defeat of George Evans and triumph in a good final against Ron Davies.

Ron's semi-final victim was Jeff Spencer, who is doing well in tournaments lately. Jeff started off with a win over Alan Thomas, and then went on eventually to give Ron a hard struggle.

Bristol's Morley Mordecai found an experienced doubles player in Glyn Morgan, and together they reached eventual triumph over George Evans and Ron Davies. In the Men's Singles, Elizabeth Gray repeated her Welsh Open success against Audrey Bates, then beat Terry Spokes, and then found Joan Collier's steady game too much for her in the final. Margaret Phillips did not play and Sandra Morgan went out in the semi-final to Joan Collier.

CARDFIFF OPEN


SKEGNESS

HOLIDAY TRAINING WEEK

12-19 September, 1964.
(Priority to provincial players)

Enquiries to: Mrs. E. Carrington, Allensbridge Training Club, 24, Worcester Gardens, ILFORD, Essex.
Michael Maclaren's Glamour Choice

VALERIE GILLAM
of CAMBRIDGE

As I walked into the tournament hall at the Essex Open in Southend recently, I immediately spotted my third Glamour Girl of Table Tennis. There she was, out on the front table, playing in blue very-shorts, dealing out forehands to all directions.

Her name is Valerie Gillam, from Cambridge, and you can imagine my surprise when she told me she was married and had two sons . . . I nearly fell into my Pepsi-Cola, I can tell you.

Husband Fred also plays, but Valerie is the T.T. star of the family having won the Brighton and the Sussex Closed titles and played for Sussex County on many occasions in the past and now representing Cambridgeshire.

Valerie has won many Holiday Princess Beauty Competitions and was chosen as Miss Cambridgeshire on Anglia TV, which is one good reason to stay at home and watch the telly!

Valerie enjoys playing all sports, but is particularly keen on improving her table tennis having achieved a measurable degree of success in our sport, so I hope we see her at all the major tournaments.

My pocket tape-measure, which, by a strange chance, I happened to have with me, recorded her height at 67 shapely inches, with 35in., 24in., 36in. in the usual places.

I hope Fred approves of my photograph of his attractive wife.

WESTERN COUNTIES BULLETIN

by GROVE MOTLOW

One Hundred Per Cent

CARDIFF strengthened their hold of the Western Counties championship with a 9-0 win over Cheltenham. George Evans and Ron Davies, the Welsh internationals, and Graham Gear swept through without loss of a game for Cardiff to maintain their 100 per cent record.

Plymouth marked up two wins, beating West Wilts, who were without Cleveland and Clode, 7-2, and Bristol "seconds" 6-3. D. Richardson was in good form for Plymouth in both matches, and it was his narrow win over three games against clever "looping" of R. Bowden that turned the tide in the match with Bristol when the scores stood at two-all.

Bowden, winning all three of his games, was the key to Bristol II's 5-4 win over Newport. He scraped home over three games against both Everson and Evans. Smith won the other (Continued on Page 22)

BERNARD CROUCH TROPHY

SURREY SHOW THE WAY

A 7-3 win by Middlesex over Essex left the way clear for Surrey to take the lead in the Bernard Crouch Trophy, where they are unbeaten in three matches and have a games average of 22-5.

Surrey would now appear almost certain of taking the title.

Results of matches as at February 17, 1964: Kent 2, Essex 0; Surrey 6, Middlesex 1: Essex 2, Surrey 7; Middlesex 6, Kent 3; Middlesex 2, Surrey 7; Middlesex 6, Essex 3.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TABLE</th>
<th>P. W. L. F. A. P.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Surrey</td>
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<tr>
<td>Middlesex</td>
<td>4 2 1 16 21 4 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Essex</td>
<td>3 1 21 18 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kent</td>
<td>2 0 2 15 15 0</td>
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</table>

Page Twenty-one
WILTSHIRE WANDERINGS
by DON HILLIER

S.E. MIDLAND LEAGUE

SET BACKS FOR CAMBRIDGE

Cambridge, who have for many weeks headed the men's division of the South East Midlands League, suffered set backs against Northampton, last season's champions, and St. Neots and will now have to fight hard to win the title.

The Women's Section continues to provide a keen tussle for leadership, between Kettering and Bletchley, and a photo-finish is expected.

Cambridge ladies, who hold third place narrowly lost to both the teams above them.

Cambridge Juniors had a weakened team when losing to both St. Neots and Northampton, but should still win this section.

BALANCED TEAMS

Belford have balanced teams in all divisions but are not quite good enough to make the grade of leadership.

Players like Holroyd, Twidgen, Saywell, Hozz, Numm, Chiswall, Jackson and Fox are keeping the league up to a high standard, which is also being maintained in both the ladies and junior sections.

SOUTH-EAST MIDLANDS

LEAGUE

League Tables

Junior Section

Cambridge City A ... 9 7 0 2 58 32 58
Northampton ....... 7 5 0 2 43 27 43
Kettering .......... 5 6 0 5 51 41 51
Bedford 'A' ....... 5 2 0 3 24 26 24
Hunts. Central .... 6 1 1 4 41 19 41

St. Neots ......... 9 6 0 3 56 22 56
Bedford 'B' ....... 4 1 0 3 21 19 21
Hunts. Central .... 6 1 0 5 52 8 52

Junior Section

Cambridge City ....... 9 7 0 2 47 28 47
Northampton ...... 7 5 0 2 31 29 31
Northampton ....... 6 1 0 4 23 16 23
Bedford 'A' ....... 5 1 0 4 42 8 42
Cambridge City .... 6 1 0 5 40 20 40
Hunts. Central .... 6 1 0 5 50 8 50

Junior Section

Cambridge City 6, Kettering 4; Kettering 3, Cambridge City 4; Northampton 6, Cambridge City 4.

Junior Section

Bedford 5, Bletchley 5; Cambridge City 4, Kettering 6; Hunts. Central 6, Bletchley 7; Cambridge City 6, St. Neots 5, Cambridge City 4.

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**Bucks.**

**INTER-LEAGUE CHANGES**

The Buckinghamshire Inter-Leagues Championship, currently contested in "A" and "B" Divisions, may undergo drastic changes next season. Plans are afoot to run three divisions—Premier, First and Second—and at the same time restricting to top two divisions to one team per league.

Under the present set-up, some leagues have two teams in the "A" Division. It is felt that the change of divisions, with promotion and relegation operating between all three, will offer greater incentive and thereby stimulate a wider interest.

Slough "B" and Slough "A" lead the Wycombe Division in that order, both being unbeaten.


**BIG FESTIVAL IN WEST**

R.A.F. Hereford acted as hosts over a long week-end (February 14-16). The Friday and Saturday were taken up with Swaythling Cup style matches between four Command teams, plus a guest team of E.T.T.A. Diplomatic Coaches—Phil Reid (Leicester), Mike Watts (Birmingham), Stuart Wintle (Staffordshire) and Doreen Henderson (Worcestershire).

The E.T.T.A. Coaches came out top, but only by games average over Technical Training Command, who won their particular match against the coaches.


The Welsh boys provided the best results of the day.

**Duke of Edinburgh’s Award:** Many youngsters have enquired recently for the E.T.T.A. list of recommended tests. A reprint of these is now available (stamped addressed envelope, please!)

**Fenland Coaching Meetings:** A series of Sundays will be reserved in the new Peterborough Coaching Centre, within the next three months.

Anybody interested, please write for enrolment form to Director of Coaching.

**Special for School Ages:** Some 24 places are available for the E.T.T.A. Course at Crystal Palace August 22-28. No doubt we shall have to ration these—if you are keen, write now to Director of Coaching.

**Special for Intermediates (1 or 2 years over Junior age):** Note the new venture at Stevenage—Pressure Training, as cheerfully undertaken by Germans, Swedes, Australians—and Englishmen?

**Intermediates—this will be tough. Are you tough enough to try it?** Only 12 will be accepted, with 4 reserves.

**BOLTON TOPPLE MANCHESTER**

Bolton created history on February 21. They reached the semi-final of the Wilmot Cup, storming home 5-4 against Manchester, 11 times winners.

The tightly-packed crowd at Montague Burton’s Hurtlehalle, Preston, was kept on tenterhooks to the end. With Manchester leading 3-2, before Gary Farnworth beat Roy Crusham, and Mike Symonds, who had previously accounted for Jeff Inger and Crusham, overcame Kevin Fowshall. Symonds’ score (Bolton first): Symonds 19, 19, 17; bt Inger -18, -13. Farnworth lost to Crusham 10, -17, -16; bt Ingber -11, -10. Farnworth beat Crusham 17, 13.

**COACHING DIARY**

(Director in attendance except where marked *)

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<th>6/7</th>
<th>Lowestoft</th>
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<td>Newbury</td>
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<td>Peterborough</td>
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<td>Torquay</td>
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**BUCKS. NATIONAL COACHING BULLETIN**

**by JACK CARRINGTON**

**TABLE TENNIS**

**MARCH • 1964**

**Page Twenty-three**
AROUND EAST ANGLIA

KING'S LYNN ARE BACK

THE third leg of the Suffolk Top Ten found David Mann with an increased lead. Mann, Brian Gile, and the margin of nine points means that his position is virtually unassailable. Both players evidently were feeling the strain of the long journey to the Midland Open on the previous day and were well below form.

Mann won his group for a total of nineteen points. Buckle having a similar score in fine fashion taking the first game 41-32. Buckle 32, H. Fleck 26, K. Perry 25, and County Championships, next season.

The above news was given to me by Betty Cassell at the Hertfordshire match at Norwich. She mentioned in passing that she had reached the last eight in the English Closed, when Jean McCree once again proved too strong for her.

Perhaps the reaction after this splendid effort which contributed to her defeat by Miss P. Hemmings that evening, but Herts were good value for their 8-2 win. The last tie, when D. Grant beat A. Coby in 25, was in the third, was a thriller. In the women's doubles, Barbara Andrews hit hard and true. Congratulations to Alan Coby, Tony Cooper and Chris Fields, who were presented with their County colours after the match—certainly the youngest trio to receive them at any one time.

Oxford sent a strong side in Hahn, Judson and Junction to beat Norwich 9-0 in the Inter-County final. Perry started the campaign with a fine performance, dominating the game from the start.

Nottingham players would benefit from more practice against hard-hitting opposition. Both players evidenced by being fair opponents. "I think we'll have a good game and it'll be a real beauty."

It was largely due to the ladies that Norwich players would benefit from more practice against hard-hitting opposition. Both players evidenced by being fair opponents. "I think we'll have a good game and it'll be a real beauty."

The divisional leaders in the Norwich League are as follows: C.E.Y.M.S.: First; Heartsease, Railways: Third; Y.M.C.A. I and Impington I are unbeaten. Y.M.C.A. II and Impington I are unbeaten.

The women's section has never been as strong in the Open Championship, but it was largely due to the ladies that they were able to take a point from Huntingdonshire. Valerie Gillman was successful in the singles and won the doubles with Margaret Cornwall, who was also on the winning side with Fred Mann in the mixed doubles.

The other two wins were marked up nicely in the Second Division, but what is most encouraging is the play-off between Wymondham S.M. and Cromer S.M. 128. Both teams have shown good form and will be well matched.

The transition from rubber to sandboats appears to be causing the Cambridge players plenty of trouble, but once they have overcome this they should once again become a menace to visiting sides.

University Press, who have been leading the First Division of the Cambridge League for most of the season, suffered two setbacks when they lost to both New Chesterham Institute, last year's champions, and Y.M.C.A. II. Press also lost to Y.M.C.A. III in the quarter-final of the knock-out handicap. Y.M.C.A. III, represented by Alan Pointer, Paul Chisnall and Brian Wilkins, now meet Y.M.C.A. in the semi-final.

The Divisional Knock-Out, introduced last season, is again included in the Cambridge Closed Championship at the Cambridge Corn Exchange from March 9 to 12.

The Corn Exchange is also the venue for the new Cambridge Open Championships on April 16. County secretary Margaret Cornwall looks like the best early dark horse. She has a busy time with this new venture, and it is hoped that her efforts will be rewarded with a top-class entry.

Coaching classes are being held at the Cambridge Y.M.C.A., and also instructor courses at Swaylely Village College for Magie John and Margaret Cornwall in charge. Several promising young players are emerging from those classes.

CAMBRIDGESIRE

THANKS TO

THE LADIES

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Table: Twenty-four

by LESLIE CONSTABLE

Secretary Keith Motto kindly gives me the following figures of entrants:

Wymondham S.M. Boys' School 367; North Walsham S.M. 130 (including 36 girls); Cromer S.M. 128; Norwich Alderman Jex S.M. 128, and Norwich Henderson 64.

Wymondham S.M.B.S. have been receiving coaching from Courtris Coach Maurice Ewles. It was good to see six tables in action there. Several of those tables were won in the Eagle/Girl Competition.

Wymondham League beat Cromer 7-3 to give them some much-needed encouragement, but the new Cromer side have made an excellent impression wherever they have played.

Yarmouth League leaders at the time of this break for their divisional singles titles are: Premier: Caunter A; First: Baulch House A; Second: Post Office B. Third: Acle Fire Station A; Junior: Matthes.

Chis Fields is still unbeaten. Yarmouth are in the last four. Pembroke and St. John's are represented by David Mann with an increased

Main increase was largely due to the ladies that

were able to take a point from Huntingdonshire. Valerie Gillman was successful in the singles and won the doubles with Margaret Cornwall, who was also on the winning side with Fred Mann in the mixed doubles.

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McMICHAEL KEEPS SINGLES

TOMMY McMICHAEL, making his fourth appearance in the final, retained his singles title in the West of Scotland Open at Easterhouse, near Glasgow, on January 25. In the final he beat four times former winner Bertie Kerr 21-18, 21-17.

Olive Hawkins regained the women’s singles but had a hard fight over the first two games before beating Lesley Barrie 19-21, 22-20, 21-8. Mrs. Hawkins gained a further title in the women’s doubles with Doreen Robertson, but lost the mixed doubles which she held with Jim Dow, when they were beaten by John Reilly and Miss Barrie in the final.

Dow, however, kept his name on the winners’ list by partnering Ally Laidlaw to win the men’s doubles, beating Kerr and McMichael. Dow and Laidlaw were a scratch pairing, their original partners being absent. Dow had previously held the title with Malcolm Sugden, Scotland’s No. 1, whose absence from the singles left the draw somewhat lopsided.

Reilly won the boys’ singles, beating Charlie Vesco 21-12, 21-16 in a final that was better than the scores suggest.

**FIXTURE ENGAGEMENTS**

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

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<th>Title of Venue</th>
<th>Extra Events</th>
<th>Organising Secretary</th>
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<td>D. J. Moss, 4, Hillery Road, Red Hill, Worcester.</td>
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<td>North Middlesex Closed</td>
<td>Miss J. Williams, 27, Belview Road, Worthing, Sussex.</td>
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<td>7-8</td>
<td>Worcestershire Closed</td>
<td>G. A. Hawkins, 26, Montforth Avenue, Glasgow, S.W.2.</td>
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<td>Welsh Closed</td>
<td>G. W. Thompson, 268, Chertsey Rise, Stevenage.</td>
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<td>Irish North West Open</td>
<td>D. Stanger, Old Boys’ Club, 241-3, Mile End Road, E.1.</td>
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<td>Old Boys’ Invitation</td>
<td>W. Mitton, 16, The Whins, Newby, Scarborough, Yorks.</td>
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<td>J. G. W. Thompson, Stevenage, 268, Chertsey Rise, Stevenage.</td>
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<td>May</td>
<td>Crescent Invitation</td>
<td>Mrs. M. Cornwell, 241-3, Mile End Road, E.L.</td>
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**Date**

**Title of Venue**

**Extra Events**

**Organising Secretary**

MARCH - 1964

Table Tennis

West of Scotland

**M. C. McMICHAEL**

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**Semi-Finals**: McMICHAE.L bt Laidlaw 15, 18. KERR bt Hawkins 14, 15.

**Final**: McMICHAE.L bt Kerr 18, 17.


**Final**: DOW/LAI'DLA'W bt Kerr/McMICHAEL 19, 18, 18.

**Women’s Singles: Semi-Finals**: L. HAWKINS (Glas.) bt M. Anton (Glas.) 16, 4, 0. HAWKINS (Glas.) bt D. Robertson 13, 13, 17.

**Final**: HAWKINS bt Barrie 16, 20, 19.

**Women’s Doubles: Semi-Finals**: HAW'KINS/ROBERTSON (Glas.) bt Murray/Nixon 12, 15. COATS/SHIELDS bt Barrie/Shields 12, 18.

**Final**: HAWKINS/ROBERTSON bt CoATS/ShIELDS 15, 22.


**Final**: REILLY/BARRIE (Glas.) bt Dow/Hawkins 19, 20, 19.

**Junior Singles: Semi-Finals**: J. REILLY (Glas.) bt A. Stewart (Glas.) 19, 17, C. VESCO bt W. Gibbs 11, 17.

**Final**: REILLY bt Vesco 12, 16.

M. C. McMICHAEL, the Australian Champion, with the VICTOR BARNA AWARD, presented to Australia’s outstanding player of the year. Wilcox also won the award in 1963.
ESSEX

NEW YOUTH LEAGUE

The staging of the England versus Czechoslovakia match, on February 26, provided another milestone in Essex table tennis history as it was the first international match presented by the county. At quite short notice the Eton Manor Club provided a first-class venue, in spite of their already crowded programme. The same club will be the scene of the County Senior Closed Championships, which are being played on April 18/19. Entry forms are available from Harry Walker, 80 Denham Gardens, Upminster.

In the National County Championships, Premier Division, Essex supporters have gained new hope from the Gloucestershire win over Middlesex. The two key matches are both in March. On the seventh we play Gloucestershire, at G.U.S. Sports' Ground, Spring Hill, Clapton, E.5, and, on the twelfth, we entertain Lancashire, at Easil, Harold Hill, in the first leg of their three match programme.

The final match for the juniors, against Norfolk, in the Eastern Division, is being played on March 14, at Cheltenham, Witham. The choice of venue fulfils two objectives. First it keeps our opponents to a minimum and also gives people in the area one of their rare chances to see our top youngsters in action.

St. Michael's, the holders of the Essex Team Knock-Out Cup, lost all interest in this season's competition, when they crashed 5-1 to a strong Fellows Cranleigh, who book all set to win the trophy. The semi-final draw is: Fellows Cranleigh versus Fenford; North Ilford lst versus North Ilford 2nd.

For the first time we had the opportunity of running the Southern Region and semi-final stages of the "Eagle"/"Girl" competition. We had high hopes of doing well but, although Karenna Smith and Keith Lawrence won Southern titles, none of our youngsters qualified for the all-England finals.

There was a big turn-out at the Becontree Table Tennis Centre, in February, when Johnny Lench launched the Dagenham Youth League. This will provide organised table tennis for twenty teams, players of all grades, and the opportunity of playing tips. Les Sawyer has worked hard to get the league going and the project went through with the co-operation of local youth and education authorities.

In the Dagenham League Individual finals, Peter Radford collected four titles, including the Handicap Singles, with a nicely judged effort, in spite of giving sixteen points start in 21-up. Peter's improved form has been rewarded with a place in the county team in the Bernard Crouch Trophy competition.


The preliminary rounds of the East London Junior Championships are being played at St. Luke's Y.C., on March 2-3, with the finals at the same Club, on Monday, March 9.

EDINBURGH WIN

Edinburgh scored a magnificent 7-1 win over West of Scotland in the semi-final of the Scottish Inter-District tournament and now meet Aberdeen in the final.

This is the first time Edinburgh have beaten the West since the new team formation of three men, one junior and two ladies was introduced.

In a match full of surprises the most meritorious performance was that of young Charlie Vesco over John Hawkins, the new Scottish junior champion.

The surprise defeat of Scotland's doubles pair Brian Barrie and Margaret Terras by Margaret Terras and Ethel Milne, making the score 4-1 was the final blow to the West's hopes.

A much more confident Bertie Kerr ran out an easy winner against Jim Dow and in the last game Malcolm Smith proved much too good for John Reilly.

Edinburgh 7, West of Scotland 1: A. Laidlaw bt J. Carwell 10, 28, G. Vesco bt J. Hawkins 8, 15, Kerr bt Dow 19, 11, Sugden bt Reilly 9, 12, Miss M. Perrins lost to Miss L. Barrie 19, 20, Miss E. Milne/Miss Terras bt Mrs. O. Hawkins/Miss Barrie 7, 17, 19, Sugden/Kerr bt Dow/Reilly 19, 18, 21, Laidlaw/Vesco bt Carwell/Hawkins 19, 15.

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