MAUREEN HEPPELL of Northumberland, at 16 the baby of the English European Championships team.
WITH the European Championships only a few weeks away the organisational machine is swinging into top gear. The original planning of the Honorary Organiser, Conrad Jaschke, has proved to be brilliantly conceived, and the organisation set up by him has shown itself equal to all requirements.

Problems have been dealt with without fuss, and tremendous team spirit has overcome all obstacles including the inevitable frayed nerves which have to be expected when people are working themselves almost to a standstill.

Jaschke and some of his chief lieutenants have been giving as much as 25 hours each of their spare time every week, and Jaschke himself will have given more than 1,000 hours of his time to organisational work by the time the European is over.

George White and his expert committee are well ahead in the intricate planning of playing schedules, and the Draw at Shell-Mex House will be attended by the top European officers, including Jupp Schlaf (E.T.T.U. President), Vaclav Vebr (Deputy President) and Nancy Evans (Secretary/Treasurer).

100 UMPIRES

Colin Clemett and Iris Moss have assembled a team of nearly 100 umpires and stewards. Colin is arranging the installation of telecommunications at Wembley and has also managed to obtain walkie-talkie equipment for key officials. Mrs. Ena Phillips will be assisting him on the communications side.

Jack and Elsie Carrington have had the enormous task of arranging hospitality for several hundred people, and indications are that we shall be able to provide facilities far superior to anything possible in the past. Their helpers include Walter Mitton (Transport), Norman Cook (Catering), Joan Williamson, Phil Reid, Gerry Boxer and Mrs. Frances Jarvis.

EVEN A SCHOOL

Meals will be taken partly at the hotels, partly at Wembley arena, and partly at a nearby school —the only possibility of coping with the numbers. Everything has been planned to the most minute detail. A fleet of coaches has been hired for rapid transport between all points.

All international contact matters are in the experienced hands of Bill Vint, whose calm counsel and vast knowledge have proved invaluable to the whole operation. The language problem has been overcome by obtaining voluntary interpreters and translators from the Institute of Linguists, and simultaneous translation equipment for the European Congress.

Leslie Woollard is editor of the 48-page souvenir programme and promises to produce something quite out of the ordinary. He works in close liaison with Vint and the Organiser.

Publicity and Administration are now at full stretch, with Norman Reeve directing operations. He has the help of George Yates as Northern Press Officer, and of his wife Alma Reeve, and Harry Walker for the day by day work, helped also by the E.T.T.A. office staff when the pace gets too hot.

Edgar and Jean Reay are on call for the Information and Sales Kiosk at Wembley.

The Championships Secretariat presents a major headache, and an exceptionally strong team has been assembled to deal with the countless results and communications which have to be churned out day and night. E.T.T.A. chairman Ivor Eyles personally takes responsibility, with Maurice Goldstein as his deputy, Charles Wyles as
manager, and Margaret Fry as secretary—some team!

Livewire Wyles is already engaged in a hundred and one tasks, helped by Keith Watts on the spot. Many extra helpers will be needed during the championships in this department, including linguists.

B.C.C. television coverage has been arranged by Peter Lowen, who also negotiated the sponsorship agreement with the DAILY MAIL, and who acts as Bill Vint’s right hand man on the international contacts side.

Sidney Hoddy has the difficult task of planning the various receptions, while Godfrey Decker looks after the lighting and equipment side as always.

Albert Shipley and Brian Hartley have proved themselves as highly competent assistants of the Organiser, whose task would have been virtually impossible without their help. Shipley has also taken on production of the official bulletins, while Hartley directs money raising operations.

Undoubtedly the most nerve racking task next to that of the Organiser is that of the E.T.T.A. treasurer Tom Blunn, in charge of financial planning. He has kept his hands free for policy matters by delegating the Box Office operation to Kent treasurer Don Mitchell.

Blunn, Jaschke and Eyles have had numerous conferences to face the hard facts of what can and what cannot be done within a budget which cannot be less than £17,000 and which must not be allowed to rise above £20,000.

Blunn’s clear thinking, Jaschke’s and Lowen’s success in raising money from manufacturers and sponsors, have made the financial picture look a lot healthier than it did when the job was started.

Good finals gates seem now assured, but it still needs a big attendance at the rounds to balance the budget.

So, as the big day draws near, the finishing touches are put. Daily meetings, buzzing telephones, hard thinking, weighing up of facts—and decisions . . . what happens now decides success or failure at the Championships.

Co-ordination has been perfect throughout. Morale is high amongst all the European officials. And ticket orders are streaming in. So all seems set fair for the first ever European Championships to be staged in the home of table tennis.

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**TABLE TENNIS**

**MARCH 1966**

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**ENGLAND WIN SEVENTH QUADRANGULAR**

by RON CRAYDEN

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**THE** seventh in the series of International matches between the four home counties at the Glasgow Sports Centre on February 11-12 resulted in another convincing victory for the strong English team.

Although England won as expected, the host country stole much of the thunder. Not only did they stage the event with commendable efficiency but inspired by the occasion they mashed both Ireland and Wales, their deadly rivals.

**FRIDAY SESSION**

The tournament opened on Friday evening with England opposed to Wales in one court and Scotland against Ireland in the other.

The Welsh team who are usually, so full of fight seemed resigned to a beating and lost quickly in straight games. At the other end of the hall a blood match ensued and the Scottish team encouraged by home support took an early lead, which led had the effect of a pep pill and they romped away to an 8-2 victory.

**SATURDAY SESSIONS**

Play was resumed in the afternoon and the matches themselves were somewhat mixed. The green-shirted Irish fought spiritedly against England and had the satisfaction of winning a men’s singles, when young Jimmy Langan beat Ralph Gunnion in a game of hit and counter hit.

Scotland encouraged by their previous night’s success pressurised the dispirited Welsh team and notched up a 9-1 victory.

The Saturday evening scene therefore, brought the two undefeated teams in opposition and Ireland against Wales for the wooden spoon.

It was indeed a sad weekend for Pauline Martin it was a particularly exciting weekend as this was her first international appearance and deservedly she came away with a clean slate.

All players and officials were comfortably accommodated in the Steppes Hotel and at the end of the tournament a first-class reception was held there.

**SUMMING UP**

The standard of table tennis, if not up to the highest order was at times most exhilarating and the improvement in play of the Scottish team was noticeable. Malcolm Sugden played many scintillating shots and both the Scots girls showed marked progress in their overall performances.

Perhaps Scotland’s greatest delight came in their final classification as they finished in second position. They entered the tournament as wooden spoonists.

For Pauline Martin it was a particularly exciting weekend as this was her first international appearance and deservedly she came away with a clean slate.

All players and officials were comfortably accommodated in the Steppes Hotel and at the end of the tournament a first-class reception was held there.

England b Wales 10-0: R. GUNNION b P. Bevan 10, 9; b J. Morgan 8, 17. B. WRIGHT b R. Davies 17, 12; b Bevan 12, 6. C. BARNES b Morgan 15, 16; b Davies 15, 19. MISS F. MARTIN b Mrs. E. Gray 17, 7. MRS. W. WRIGHT b Miss S. Morgan 12, 6. MRS. WRIGHT/MISS MARTIN b Miss S. Morgan/Mrs. E. Gray 16, 10. BARNES/GUNNION b Davies/Morgan 8, 18.

England b Ireland 9-1: GUNNION b C. Thompson 12, 10; lost to J. Langan —19, 11, —10. BARNES b Langan —15, 15, 15; b Caffrey 13, —20, 6. WRIGHT b Caffrey —20, 12, 17; b Thompson 17, 16. MISS MARTIN b Mrs. V. Quinn 4, 18.

**Continued on page 5**
Welsh Corner

The Worst Performance Yet

It would be refreshing to have something really bright to report about Welsh table tennis, but our visit to Glasgow for the Quadrangular brought such depressing results that it is difficult to feel otherwise pessimistic.

Frequently in the past the Welsh selectors have invoked criticism by selecting for European or World championships players who show promise for the future, and have not yet necessarily "arrived in the present." Too often, unfortunately, these players are beaten at home by the older and more experienced players who have been discarded for international representation. On can have sympathy for the latter. They are, after all, entitled to say that the youngsters ought to be beating the "old 'uns" if they are good enough for Wales, and there would appear to be some justification for this view.

On the other hand, if we have to wait for the youngsters to be able to account for all their opponents at home before they are capped, we shall quite obviously never have any new blood.

This has been highlighted this season. The selectors worked on a policy of picking the best available, so that the team for Glasgow was a blend of experienced players and two newcomers. The result was the most miserable we have had it this season.

We have had the wooden spoon before; we've lost to Ireland and Scotland before, but never as badly as this! To pick up only two events in thirty is nothing but bad, especially when one realises that the Irish and Scottish sides were basically the same as we have beaten before.

Why? The two newcomers — Jeff Morgan and Elizabeth Gray (the latter was in the Quadrangular at Milford Haven, but only played against England) — did not take their chances.

ONE GOOD WIN

Elizabeth was way below her best in singles and doubles, and rarely, if ever, proved the athlete which she is capable. Jeff Morgan had one very good win against the wily Bertie Kerr, but generally the Aberdare youngster lacked fight and determination, apparently disturbed to find his opponent much better than he expected.

Let it not be thought that the causes for defeat can be laid at the doors of these two. Ron Davies played at his best, and indeed raised his game to beat Caʃrey, but Ron's best is just not good enough for this class, and while he fought every inch of the way, he had no weapon to bring to bear.

Phil Bevan, difficult to beat at home with his pimpled rubber chop defence, was much too slow in reaction against harder hitting than he gets in Welsh circles. Admittedly he had one or two close fights, but we expected him to be as difficult for some of the Irish and Scottish as he is in Wales.

Sandra Morgan played very well at times, particularly in doubles, but her opponents in the Irish and Scottish sides are no great shakes themselves and Sandra ought to have the experience to win.

So the series is over for another season, and once again we've accomplished nothing. Will the nundulum swing again to a policy of picking new players whatever the immediate result? One can hardly blame the selectors if they do this. At least we can lose with a prospect of the losers improving.

The Glamorgan Open gave Les Haslam the chance to add to his squad of Wooden Spoons, to add to the Aberdare Singles. But it was not an impressive performance.

He dropped a game to John Rowles, had little trouble with Wayne Smith and Alan Thomas, then against Graham Gear in the semi-final was held to 19 in the third. The final against George Evans was comfortable.

Graham had had a fright in the quarters where he only beat Jeff Morgan 19 in the third, a net cord coming at the right time to break up Jeff's fight back from 16/19 down.

Margaret Phillips won the women's title, beating Elizabeth Gray in the third. Margaret triumphed over Sandra Morgan in three games in her semi-final, while Elizabeth Gray did well to beat Betty Gray.

Alan Thomas and Phil Bevan had a good win in the men's doubles. They beat Anderson and Coghill in the semi-final, then narrowly pipped George Evans and Graham Gear in the third game of their final. The latter had accounted for Haslam and Cooklin.

John Spencer and Elizabeth Gray won another mixed title, beating Ron Davies and Dorothy Attenborough 14 in the third. The winners did well to beat George Evans and Stella Jones in the semi-final.

Sandra Morgan and Margaret Phillips beat their rivals Elizabeth Gray and Stella Jones fairly comfortably in the doubles, while Shan Morgan revealed a recent decision when she beat Helen Price in the girls' event. Dennis Samuel beat Jeff Morgan closely in the boys' event.

In a top Ten tournament which followed on Sunday, Ron Davies came out top. John Mansfield was second, with Phil Bevan and Fraser Anderson tying for third place followed by Wayne Smith and Jeff Spencer.

Haydn Thomas and Keith Morris shared top place in the boys' event, followed by Chris Evans, Robert Bishop and Tony Roberts.

Lincolnshire

B. Hill Regains Title

On Home Ground

Brian Hill of Boston regained his Men's Singles title, at the Lincolnshire Closed on February 13th, at a new venue held in Boston. He beat M. Shepherd (Grimsby) 21-17 22-20 in the final. Last year's winner, P. Scarratt, did not compete.

The Men's Doubles was the only final to go to three, with the scratch pair of M. Shepherd and K. James (Louth) coming out on top. This was the only final. M. Shepherd won, although he was in three finals.

The Ladies Singles went to Mrs. C. Morgan of Grimby, who outwitted with B. Hill to take the Mixed Doubles title.

Singles: B. HILL (Boston) b M. SHEPHERD (Grimsby) 21, 17, 20.

Women's Singles: C. MORGAN (Grimsby) b P. CHADWICK (Grimsby) 19, 15, 19.

Junior Singles: R. GOOD (Scunthorpe) b T. Bruce (Louth) 19, 9.

Men's Doubles: M. SHEPHERD / K. JAMES b B. HILL / G. Stanley 15, 13, 18.

Women's Doubles: P. CHADWICK / P. HALE b C. MORGAN / P. LAMMIN 12, 18.

PAULINE'S HIGHEST HONOUR

COUNTRY congratulations to the 20-year-old, Woolwich star, Pauline Martin on her selection for England in the Midwest Division Tournament. Pauline has richly deserved this honour with her determination to reach the top.

After leading the N.C.C. from the commencement of the season, the Surrey set-back, after a narrow 5-4 defeat, has only deepened the enthusiasm of the County supporters. A complete sell-out is expected for the Essex clash, in aid of the Cancer Funds at Sittingbourne on March 5.

A men's team from the Province of Normandy, visits Dover on April 23 for the second round tie of the Belgium Invitation Tournament. If the home side is successful they will have a chance of travelling to Brussels in May for the Finals.

The clash between Woolwich A and N.W. Kent with a superior games average, should decide the Kent League Championships. Both sides field strong teams. Woolwich—Derek Basden, Barry Meisel and Mike Weston. N.W. Kent—Ken Baker, Henry Baust and Dennis Whitaker.

Woolwich Ladies have regained the Ladies' title after their narrow defeat last season.

Pauline Martin, Christine Carter and Julie Pilling have enabled Woolwich to regain the Women's title they narrowly lost last season.

It looks as if Ashford will have both their Men's and Ladies' teams promoted to the top division for the first time next season. Bromley have dominated the Junior Division.

After the record entry for the Kent Open, the County attention turns to the Closed at the Crystal Palace on April 3 when no less than 20 tables will be in use. Entry forms can be obtained from the organiser: Chas. M. Wyles, 48 Eversfield Place, St. Leonards-on-Sea, Sussex.

Arrangements are well under way for the Kent Dinner and Dance at the Cons-

LEICESTERSHIRE

WHITE IS YMCA CHAMPION

LEICESTERSHIRE turned in their best performance in the season in the Midland Junior Division when they beat Oxfordshire 9-1.

In the YMCA Open Championships, Steve White won the men's singles by beating both Charlie Jacques and Ernest McLeish 22-20. It was, however, a well merited victory, pulling back a big deficit in the third to win in the final against McLeish. Rita Beith won the Ladies' singles without ever looking in trouble and John Corral took the Junior singles with equal ease.

White took a second title when he partnered José Rogers to win the mixed doubles. The men's doubles was won by the Bristol Hat-trick.

BARRY BRADY won the men's singles for the third successive year in the Bristol Closed at the Wills Recreation Hall, Bedminster, on February 18th-19th. Joan Collier, like Brady a member of the Bristol Club, won the women's singles, and partnered Jill Golding, the singles runner-up to win the Women's Doubles. Mrs. Golding retained the mixed doubles title in the Mixed Doubles with her husband.


Men's Doubles: R. BUTLER/J. WISE (Bristol) b J. Evans (Bristol)/C. Feltham (Allies) 12-10, 12. Women's Doubles: R. BUTLER/J. WISE (Bristol) b J. Evans (Bristol)/C. Feltham (Allies) 12-10, 12. Junior Doubles: R. BUTLER/J. WISE (Bristol) b J. Evans (Bristol)/C. Feltham (Allies) 12-10, 12.

Prisingly, but deservedly, won by Phil Powell and Graham Elston, another surprise was in the junior doubles where Bob Phillips and David Randall triumphed. Bob Spring won the under 15 singles in fine style.

The semi-final stage of the Rose Johnson Bowl has now been reached. Barwell Constitutional provide two of the four contestants.

Leicester 'B' have now emerged favourites to win the Leicestershire Towns League following their 8-2 win over last season's champions, Melton. Their star has been 'pusher' Malcolm Hassett. He has been unbeaten since the opening match of the season.

The first division of the Leicestershire and District League swung smartly in Barwell's favour when the only other team with a chance were defeated by YMCA 11, lost to Bentley Engineering.

The Saracen Cup has now reached the final stage with Nizarras playing Bentley Engineering. It should be a close match.

Northampton Favourites

THE present positions in the South-East Midlands League indicates that Northampton will be in a position to regain the Men's titles they lost to Bedford last season. Victories over Bedford and Cambridge at this stage stand them in good stead (wrote Leslie Constable).

Northants and Bedford are doing well in the Ladies' Section and the final outcome will almost certainly be between these two teams, although Cambridge City are still in with a chance.

The Junior Section sees Cambridge City striding ahead and only Peterborough have a hope of catching them. This must be a third championship for Cambridge City.

The South-East Midlands League championships will be held at the Corn Exchange, Cambridge, on April 17 at 10 a.m.
SALUTE THE SELECTORS

By PHILIP REID

ALTHOUGH I am not in the habit of singing praises of selection committees, I feel a word of praise must be given to them for three selections in particular for the European Championships.

CONNIE WARREN

I first met Connie (officially Cornelius Joseph) at a tournament at Scarborough, and his victory over me was not the shock of the day. Subsequently I met him at the Y.M.C.A. at Hornsey demonstrating “Circuit Training.” The following week I was at Crystal Palace coaching—he came and helped coach the youngsters at table tennis and he was great.

If there is a player more popular with the kids then I just don’t know him.

He is one of the quickest wits in the game and when he makes a friend he does it in style. If they are his friend then they are “in.” As a result he is rarely seen alone at tournaments and in fact he is usually the centre of attraction.

His game is based largely on the “loop”—one of the best in the game—a sound defence and a devastating forehand smash. And perhaps most important of all— a “Never say die” spirit.

As Surrey number one he shoulders his responsibilities better than a lot of people give him credit for. As a thinker he has few superiors. There is not much about any of the top dozen players that Connie doesn’t know. When he plays them he has a good mental picture of their strengths and weaknesses.

He is one of the personalities of the game. The selectors have shown wisdom in selecting a player who has shown outstanding form this season and he will be all out to justify their confidence in him.

STUART GIBBS

My first impressions of Stuart Gibbs were formed at the East of England Championships two seasons ago. As England number one junior it was expected that he would beat third-ranked Mike Johns, but instead he lost in straight games, walked straight round to shake hands with Mike, shook hands with the umpire and came off smiling. Such exemplary behaviour has become a hallmark of Gibbs’ game.


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CONNie Warren

One of his outstanding feats was to win the Scottish Men’s Singles title when he still had eighteen months to go as a junior.

He has a fine all-round game with the emphasis on attack. And he has unlimited enthusiasm. He has needed it.

Last September he had fifteen stitches in his thumb when his hand slipped against a window.

Although a long lay-off was prescribed he was back a few days later at the “East of England.” He could not enter but he was on the table at every opportunity for a knock-up.

His spectacular counter-hitting and magnificent forehand drive have made him popular wherever table tennis is played.

Stuart likes to be with a crowd but not the centre. He has a deep loyalty to his county, Essex.

His inclusion in the European team shows sound progressive thinking on the part of the selection committee, because I think he will always stay what he is now. A sincere, dedicated unspoilt player who takes no more out of the game than he puts into it. A credit to the game.

MAUREEN HEPELL

Maureen seems to have been around so long that it comes as a shock to realise she is still only sixteen. Last season she created a record number of Open Tournament wins for a junior. The travelling Maureen has to do is fantastic.

Her home is in Hexham, Northumberland. And you cannot get much more away from things than that!

Nevertheless she hardly misses a tournament. Her enthusiasm is shared by father Len (himself no mean performer). She has a good all-round game and a splendid temperament. She could cause some shocks. But whatever happens, good luck to all three of them, to the rest of the team and to the Selection Committee.
A Legend Called Diane Rowe
by RON CRAYDEN

Once in a while there bursts upon the scene someone whose talents in a particular field appear to surpass all contemporaries. To them the tag of SUPER can be pinned without a trace of embarrassment.

Such a person is Diane Rowe, whose achievements in the World's sporting arenas have earned her the plaudits of the crowds and respect of opponents from Putney to Peking.

For 16 long years this attractive girl has graced International table tennis with magical skill and the richness of her personality. She has adorned the game often so much in need of adornment with an effervescent charm and an inherent determination to succeed.

Success had indeed become synonymous with her name.

The Formative Years

Diane's early life gave no indication of the sporting fame that was to come. She was born an identical twin into a large family and lived the normal life of a suburban schoolgirl.

At 14 she and twin sister Rosalind received a table tennis set as a present. Less than three years later, they achieved lasting fame by winning the first of their world titles.

Full of youthful exuberance and imbued with a spirit of adventure, Diane directed her energies into thumping the tiny celluloid ball and attack became her first line of defence. In quick time she developed a powerhouse forehand drive that appeared to take the corners off the table.

As a left hander she was able to pressurise her opponent's backhand wing and then despatch any loose returns wide on the forehand. It was soon to be established that she was one of the most stylish and determined hitters the game has produced.

Encouraged by the incomparable Victor Barna, Diane later mastered the fascinating art of chop. At first the subtleties of pace changes foxtod and bemused her, but with a resolve and single mindedness, that is such an essential part of her character, Di practised for long hours until complete control was obtained.

It is perhaps difficult to make a comparison between the resourceful player she is today and the dashih Diane of yesteryear, but if a comparison need be made then I should say that today she is a little more dependable and more difficult to beat. On the other hand she is less likely to rise to the heights of breathtaking brilliance.

Like most true artists she is level-headed and unspoiled, with unfailing zeal and an indomitable courage. I can remember on one occasion her telling me of a tyre burst she had when driving home late at night on roads of snow and ice.

"What did you do?" I asked. And back came the reply: "Got out and changed the wheel, of course."

To Di it was rather a foolish question, for she merely looked upon the incident as a challenge to be faced and overcome.

In her presence, hypocrisy and all forms of pretence appear to crumble into ruins.

She is a girl of quick humour, with a line in conversation that is neither boastful nor overbearingly modest. She is sincere, practical, generous and a true friend.

The Fabulous Fifties

To catalogue a list of Di's fantastic success would, I feel, be an easy way to measure her greatness. Yet at the same time it would also be a form of injustice. For however eye-popping they may seem I am convinced that the cold clinical printing of results could never fully describe the qualities of "Our Di."

It was in the fifties when British sport was receiving so many disastrous set-backs that Diane Rowe set her seal on greatness by winning World and European titles. In a decade of changing standards she often stood alone like an oak in a storm and her performances did much to give us back our self-respect.

I have been fortunate in that I have witnessed most of her great successes and the path I have followed has run strangely parallel with hers . . . rather like a footpath digging a main arterial road.

I remember well her international debut at Cheltenham in February 1950. She was a radiant 15 at the time, yet played with the authority of a mature champion.

I never needed no prophetic gifts to know that she was destined for greater honours.

Even so, no one of us present would have predicted that Di and twin sister Rosalind would become World Doubles champion within the space of 14 months.

I shall never forget that nerve tingling final in Vienna 1951 when the twins won the championship; the whole building seemed to erupt and vibrate with unsuppressed excitement. It is not difficult to imagine the assortment of invitations that flooded in for these remarkable girls. Europe clamoured for them; Sweden invited them to Stockholm to play an exhibition before their Royal Family and later they set off on a dream tour of Australasia.

Di and Ros took it all in their stride and what is even more remarkable, never once did they lose their natural ebullience or captivating charm.

To be concluded next month
TEAM BEFORE INDIVIDUAL HONOURS

IT is often said that individuals put themselves before Club and Country. Let me dispel that idea from the English table tennis world straight away. Having watched the performances of our teams in Prague recently they certainly lived up to the tradition of “never knowing when they are beaten and always fighting to the bitter end.”

Once again it was our ladies who carried off the honours and by fighting so hard to win the team event in this rehearsal for the European Championships (every country of any standing was represented) they forfeited their chances for the individual events.

The men, too, fought like tigers in the team event but were overcome by Sweden.

The performance by our ladies was fantastic—and I use this word deliberately. As I have said before anyone of any consequence in European table tennis was there. To hold such a high class tournament over the short period of three days required extreme physical fitness.

On the first day our ladies played Yugoslavia. It took some little time for them to get into their stride and indeed Mary Shannon-Wright was not playing at all well. However, Di Rowe-Scholer pulled out all the stops and assisted Mary admirably in the first difficult period and especially in the doubles where she completely dominated the set.

MAGNIFICENT WIN

They scored a magnificent 3-0 win against Czechoslovakia in front of a very partisan crowd. The climax was reached in the doubles event when they beat Miko and Luzova 20-22, 21-16, 21-19 after trailing 9-16 in the third.

With several individual singles matches between the Czech match and the final against Hungary on the second day it was a very tired English team which took to the table. Di had already played two expedite sets and Mary had blisters on her feet. The only consolation now, however, was that the Czech crowd wore on the English side.

The first game between Di Rowe and Jurik promptly went into expedite and it was a very tired Di who lost 18-19. Mary, however, was now playing a lot better and with continual loopying attack beat Koczian 22-20, 21-15 in another long set. In the doubles, tiredness seemed to prevail and after an all-out effort to win a game they were never really in the set.

Once again Mary came to the rescue with a brilliant all-out attack and great determination to beat Jurik 21-18, 21-19 and so squared the match. Everything now depended on Di Rowe against Koczian. The atmosphere was electric.

Di has played many great matches for England but this must have been one of her greatest. She was so tired that she must have been playing by instinct. Trailing 8-12 in the first game the expedite rule was imposed and then the match really exploded. The first game was lost 15-21. The second won 21-20 and the third game won 22-20 after changing ends 4-10 down. Di had to be virtually helped away from the table and received a great ovation from the crowd.

This effort cost both Mary and Di individual honours on the next day. Mary, with more blisters than ever on her feet, lost to Luzova in the semi-final while Di, who was feeling the effect of the previous day so badly, withdrew from the ladies’ singles semi-final to save herself for the doubles semi-final, where they were only a shadow of their normal selves and lost 1-3 to Buchholz and Simon.

GAVE ALL

Harrison and Barnes gave their all but were never really in the same category as the top men players. In the team event they beat Austria 3-1, surprisingly losing the doubles by slack play, then went out to Sweden.

We got off to a good start when Barnes beat the ailing Alser 21-17, 21-19 but Johansson made short work of Harrison. Sweden then won the doubles 2-1 and Johansson clinched against Barnes 23-21, 21-16.

Barnes played well, producing form which he seldom shows at home.

Barnes had little difficulty in beating Fulin (Czech) in the singles but...
CHESTER and MARY MAKE A FORMIDABLE PAIR

ENGLAND have a formidable mixed doubles partnership to challenge for the European title in Chester Barnes and Mary Shannon. This was the morale booster from the East German Open. Playing as a pair for the fourth time in international competition they claimed their third title with a win over the powerful Romanian combination of Dorin Giurgiuca and Maria Alexandru.

Barnes and Mrs. Wright showed that they have the temperament, skill and staying power to win 23-21, 21-14, 17-21, 21-15. They played brilliantly throughout, being sharpened up with a long five set opening match against Velikov and Hristova.

On this form Mary and Chester should qualify for a high seeding, possibly at No. 2 to the Czechs Miko and Luzova, the only pair to have beaten them this season. That was in the semi-final of the Czech Open the previous week.

Mary Wright and Diane Rowe returned to winning form after their shock defeat by the Russians Grinberg and Rudnova in the women's team and scored a straight games win over the Russian in the doubles semi-final before going on to take the title at the expense of Alexandru and Mihalca.

The team set back was in the nature of a hang-over after the arduous Czech Open. They were still feeling the effects of that hectic programme and were in consequence somewhat slow.

However, once the team events were behind them the English pair got down to some fine play and at one time there were prospects they would fight out the singles final.

STOPPED AT SEMI-FINALS

This, however, was stopped at the semi-final stage when Mary lost narrowly to Alexandru over five see-saw games, and Di was eliminated by European champion Eva Koczan at 18 in the fifth.

Barnes scored a great win over Giurgiuca in the team event but lacked the backing from Harrison and England went down 1-3. Harrison, much too defensive, lost both his singles and England also lost the doubles.

In the singles Barnes played well until he came up against Korpa in the quarter finals and lost three straight, despite leading 11-8 in each of the first two sets. Harrison had a good win over Kollarovits, but had to be content with just one game against Johansson. The Barnes-Harrison pairing again failed to come up in the men's doubles, where they were oustayed by the Yugoslavs Vecko and Korpa.

ENGLISH RESULTS EAST GERMAN CHAMPIONSHIPS

Men's Team: b Bulgaria 3-0; b East Germany II 3-0; b Poland 3-1; lost to U.S.R. 0-3.

Women's Team: b East Germany II 3-0; b Poland 3-1; lost to U.S.S.R. 0-3.

Men's Singles: I. HARRISON b V. Stein 20-13, 15, 15; b Kollarovits -17, 14, -16, 14, 16; lost to K. Johansson -5, -18, 18, -11.

Women's Singles: M. WRIGHT b R. Plink -21, 14, 13; b Kudrinac 12, 14, -15, 15; b Bernardt 13, 19, 15; lost to Korpa -13, -14, -16 (Quarter-Final).

Mixed Doubles: BARNES/WRIGHT b Gjorgiuca/Alexandru -17, 14, -12 (Semi-Final).
THE REFEREE'S JOB

by George White
(Referee for the European Championships)

THE first question which faced the Referee of the European Championships was: How many days shall we need for play? It was asked during the day the Referee was press-ganged into taking on the job—and the answer was needed urgently, because the whole finance of the undertaking depended on the answer, so great is the total cost of Wembley plus hotels, meals and transport for our visitors.

It was not an easy matter to decide. We had never run European Championships here before—and, in any case, the time needed was affected by changes in the regulations decided during the last European at Malmo. The number of entries here was likely to be more than for any previous European, creating new problems. The playing space for each table at an event like this had changed, too, since we staged the World's in 1954, and the table layout we used at Wembley then was not likely to be acceptable now.

So the rules had to be mastered; and a new layout for the Wembley arena to be devised—we shall have a double row of tables for the first time—and trial schedules for various numbers of entries were worked out. These schedules had to be reasonable for the players (and had to cater for the fact that a table tennis match is not a fixed-length affair like a game of football) and to offer assurance of completion within the period allowed, without being extravagant in safety-margin and so adding to the enormous costs.

TEAMWORK FOR KEYSTONE

This all-important initial task completed, the next job was to create the vital team set-up essential to success in an undertaking of this kind. For the ordinary Open Tournament, an experienced and hard-working Referee can almost carry things on his own shoulders—and table tennis is indebted to a number of dedicated officials who do just this. But for a major international meeting, a genius could work himself to death and would still fail if he lacked the all-important surrounding team-work.

Although the Referee inevitably makes a number of big decisions personally, and tends therefore to come into the limelight as an individual, it would perhaps be more accurate to look at him as a key figure in three inter-locking teams—the national organising group; the international officials; and his own Referee's Committee.

THE NATIONAL TEAM

The Referee's plan affects in some way the affairs of each department of the Organising Committee. A good plan must recognise the problems of all those departments, for its success will depend on each of them meeting effectively the demands imposed by the playing plan.

The link with finance has already been indicated. From the initial outline of the playing programme, information had to be provided for Associations who might enter, and entry forms had to be printed to go out with this bulletin. The days of play, the session times, and when finals would be decided, gave the information for ticket prices and printing.

Similarly, other elements of the playing outline indicated needs for hospitality, meals, and transport; for the European Congress meeting; for parts of the Tournament Programme to be sold at Wembley; for the great number of umpires and stewards who will be wanted; and for ceremonial at the opening and finals sessions. And, of course, most of the major decisions about the playing arrangements are likely to have an influence on those important subjects, Box Office sales and Press publicity.

INTERNATIONAL LIAISON

The E.T.T.A. is staging the European on behalf of the European Table Tennis Union. The arrangements must conform with their rules and must satisfy their Committee. This concerns the whole national team, of course; but none more than the Referee. Working through the Hon. Organiser and the E.T.T.A. Secretary in the early stages, an admirable liaison has already been established and we can confidently expect to develop this at the Draw and to consolidate it during the Championships themselves.

THE REFEREE'S COMMITTEE

The work of the Referee's Committee builds up from the day when entries close, through the draw and the detailed scheduling period which follows, to the tournament itself. The essential always is that the decisions must be sound and fair to all. During the tournament itself, in addition, they must be taken at the right moment. If the tournament is to run to time, wasting a table for five minutes can be a major blunder.

Because of this, foreseeable problems should be catered for before the tournament begins, so as to limit effort during play to what must be done then.

For example, we remember past trouble over tossing-up for choice of team order ("heads or tails" does not translate easily)—so we have invented a system for this choice which eliminates language problems. Then we shall want instant copies of results—our own follow-up action, for home and foreign press, for international officials, and for marking up spectators' information sheets. Here we have been able to enlist generous aid from the well-known business forms specialists Messrs. Twinlock Ltd., who are supplying their Scribe Portable Registers with specially printed score-sheets; these will give us the four copies we need at once and without need to manipulate carbons.

When everything possible has been done beforehand, there is still a tremendous and difficult job during the tournament itself. For this, it is important that each member of the team should know exactly the part he has to play and how it fits in with all the others; and that the organisation should be sufficiently flexible to cope with any emergency.

I count myself fortunate indeed to have such an excellent team working with me. Colin Clemett, painstaking, clear-thinking and with considerable experience, as Deputy Referee. Frank Milligan and Percy Hyde, specialists in preparing and progressing a playing schedule; their continuous experience at major events goes back at least to the 1938 World's when I first worked with them. Harold Pearce, whose speciality is the draw arrangements and who was also in the 1954 World's team.

Strong support comes from

Contd. on Page 13
BACK ROOM BOYS

COLIN CLEMETT

ONE of the busiest backroom boys of the European Championships at Wembley next month will be Colin Clemett, 37-year-old electronics engineer from Hampshire, but of Surrey by loyalty.

Colin, secretary of the Umpire Committee since 1959, is Deputy Referee of the championships and Chairman of the Stewards and Umpires Committee. That at least should keep him out of mischief, but no doubt given him plenty of problems to solve.

At any rate he knows the umpiring side from both ends . . . as an umpire ("I've been cursed and occasionally thanked in practically every language") and from the organising of umpires.

Clemett has umpired at international events since the 1954 World's Championships, but it is his work behind the scenes for which he is perhaps best known.

He drafted the rules of the Wilmott Cup and Rose Bowl, the two National Team Competitions, and produced the current Umpires' Handbook.

His administration activities have earned him far more respect than his ability as a player, even though it was back in 1939 that he took up the game. "I'm still waiting for my talent to mature," he quips.

FAMILY AFFAIR

Like all keen table tennis fanatics he was not prepared to let home life interfere too much with his activities so he spent considerable time persuading his wife to play. He has regretted it ever since he discovered that she was the better player. Now, with his eldest daughter taking a lively interest and making occasional league appearances, he is wondering how long it will be before he is the wooden-spoonist of the family.

Maybe this accounts for his keenness on the administration side.

Clemett was elected to the National Executive Committee in 1957 and has served more or less continuously ever since. His way to the top was via the Croydon League Council to which he was elected in 1952. So he can boast a long innings.

He describes his main interests as: cars, cricket, and (through necessity) studying for his daughter's 11-plus. Pet hate: gardening.

There are few harder workers in the cause of table tennis in the country and he is a big asset to the organisation.

EUROPEAN TOUR

THE entry of Spain and Switzerland brings an entry for the European Championships at Wembley on April 13-20 to an all-time record of 28 out of 30 possible countries. Only a few have as yet sent in the names of their players, but old favourites such as Maria Alexandru, Hans Alser, Ella Constantinescu, Dorin Giurgiuca, Kjell Johansson, Eva Koczian, Eberhard Scholer, are already certain to be taking part.

New faces and friends

Interest also centres upon the entries of friends we rarely have the pleasure of seeing such as Greece and Switzerland who are sending parties of twelve each, Guernsey with ten and Norway with seven.

Far and wide

Every post brings an enquiry from someone new in Europe who wants to attend as a private visitor or who is one of the vast array of press representatives being accredited by the various countries. Orders for souvenirs continue to come from far and wide, including such places as South Africa and the U.S.A.

There will be no shortage of interest, personalities or thrills at the Championships. The table tennis world of Europe and his wife will be there. And anyone who counts himself as having any interest in the game, however slight, can hardly afford not to miss the opportunity offered.

Great Hopes for England

The most important aspect is that on this occasion England has excellent chances of capturing titles in front of the home audience. Our girls will be defending the women's team title they won at Malmo and also the women's doubles. On their day our men can beat the best in Europe and the mixed partnership of Chester Barnes and Mary Shannon-Wright, winners of three European Open Championships this season, must have great chances. All eyes will be on the outcome of the Draw on March 14, 1966.

Even greater still, perhaps, is the hope that one of our own players—Mary Shannon-Wright—might win the women's singles title. Ranked joint No. 1 with Eva Koczian, Mary is in with a great chance and thousands of supporters will be at Wembley cheering on all the England players.

Book now—don't delay

And in case YOU haven't yet booked your seat, applications should be made without delay to the Box Office, Wembley Empire Pool and Sports Arena, Wembley, Middlesex (Wembley 1234). Prices are as follows:

FINALS NIGHTS:
Saturday, April 16, 1966, at 7 p.m.
Wednesday, April 20, 1966, at 7 p.m.
Reserved Seats: 30s., 21s., 15s., 10s., 6d., 6s.

OTHER TIMES:
Daily from 9.30 a.m. (except April 16 from 1.30 p.m.)
Daily Rover Tickets: 7s. 6d. (Grand Tiers) and 5s. (Upper Tiers).

Special arrangements for schools.

School parties may book 5s. Rover seat tickets at a specially reduced price of 2s. each and many have already taken advantage of the offer. Enquiries and orders should be addressed to Mr. Don Mitchell, 21a, Hayne Road, Beckenham, Kent.

You can win a finals night table

Clubs are eligible to take part in a restricted draw in which the prizes are the two finals nights tables generously donated by John Jaques & Son Ltd. Your Club could be the proud owner of one of these, suitably inscribed with a special plaque. The Secretary of the winning club will be the guest of the E.T.T.A. for part of the championships. Look out for the information which is being circulated.

Further information

If you require further information about the souvenirs on sale, accommodation, souvenirs programmes by post, or if you wish to volunteer to help (especially bi-lingual and multi-lingual typists) please write or telephone as follows:


Thirteen
WITH the Fifth European Championships only a few weeks away the time has come to introduce some of the leading contenders. And who better to start such a series than the reigning singles champion Kjell Johansson, of Sweden, and Eva Koczian, of Hungary. Both will be defending their titles at the Empire Pool, Wembley, from April 13 to 20.

Eva Koczian, a redoubtable fighter and defensive expert, needs little introduction in this country for she has been a regular visitor over the years and has four English Open—one singles and three mixed doubles—to her credit.

She won her title at Malina, Sweden, in 1964 after coming through a difficult draw to beat her compatriot and doubles partner Erzsbert Jurik 3-0 in the final. There was little surprise about this result to close followers of European performances for Eva has an amazing record in these championships.

Of the four meetings since the inception Eva has been champion three times. She did not compete in 1962.

This is a unique record when you consider that the championships are biennial and it is one that may never be equalled.

So far this season she does not appear in such dominating form but following her win in the recent East German Open she must start as one of the favourites at Wembley.

Eva is the current joint No. 1 in Europe and No. 9 in the world but her greatest performance was to reach the final of the World's women's singles championship in Peking, 1961. After beating the hot favourite Matsuzaki (Japan) 3-2 in the semi-final she lost to Chui Chung Hui (China) in the final 21-19 in the 5th game, after a highly controversial session of "floor wiping" by the officials distracted her when in an apparent winning position (she led 17-14 in the deciding game when this incident occurred).

A good sport who is one of the most popular women players in the game Eva is a worthy champion and one who will be fighting with all her might to try and keep her virtual monopoly of the women's singles title.

With the 4th European Championships held in Sweden it was perhaps fitting that a Swede should win one of the major titles. Kjell Johansson was the player who fulfilled the crowd's wishes with a brilliant 3-1 victory in the final of the men's singles over the 1958 and 1960 winner Zoltan Berecz (Hungary).

Kjell is extremely fit and active, plays the modern game of hit and counter hit and has the most powerful and destructive forehand in Europe. In fact many notable experts consider his forehand to be a par with the Chinese.

Popularly nicknamed "the hammer" (no explanation needed if you have seen him in action), Kjell is 19 years of age, ranked No. 1 in Sweden, No. 1 in Europe and No. 9 in the world. He was voted Swedish Sportman of the Year in 1965 and by his outstanding form in this year's continental tournaments must be the firm favourite to retain his title at Wembley.

This season Kjell has won the Scandinavian "Closed," the Dutch "Open," the Czechoslovakian "Open" and the East German "Open."

He has been a visitor to this country on many occasions and was the holder of the Boys' singles title in the English Open of 1964, and runner-up in the Men's singles to Glurghiea (Rumania) in the same tournament.

After touring Japan with the Swedish team before the last World Championships at Yugoslavia, Kjell was hampered by an arm injury and could only play in two team matches and had to withdraw from the individual events. This was a great blow not only to the Swedish team (who without him in most matches finished up being ranked No. 6) but also to the hopes of the Europeans who were relying on him to reduce the gap between the top Europeans and the Asians.

There is no doubt that on his day Johansson will equal any other player in the world. In fact in the recent Chinese tour of Sweden he did beat every member of the Chinese team, although admittedly it was without the leading Chinese players.

As with Eva Koczian, Kjell is a great sportman with perfect demeanor and temperament on the table and another who will be extremely hard to beat next April.
Highway Robbery by Schofield and Muranyi

TURPIN had nothing on the exploits of Derek Schofield and George Muranyi at York on Sunday, February 20, when, unmasked, these two robbed those endowed with rich potential in pursuit of more lucrative pickings on the London road to Wembley's Empire Pool for the European Championships.

Jarred to a halt were the coaches of Alan Ransome and Roger Hampson whilst that of Tony Piddock took a lower order on the rank as a result of the Kent man's loss to the Stoppelport plumber.

Muranyi, too, in the other half of the draw, waylaid the all-unsuspecting Alan Haydes and Roger Chandler as well as causing Brian Burn to battle anew for a position somewhat beneath that he undoubtedly expected.

Top seed Ralph Gunnion smote his way to the head of the qualifying queue with straight successes over Kent's Barry Meisel and Ken Baker, leaving himself with energy to spare for a repeat dosage into the gasping mouths of a spent Muranyi and Schofield.

Schofield's semi-final defeat of Kevin Forshaw was a set in the classic mould and halted the Lancastrian's surprise passage which left in his wake John Kedge, Peter Duncombe and Derek Basden.

Yorkshire's hopes were thus shattered as were those of a threesome from Sussex and a Forshaw-supporting Lancashire trio, who failed to progress through their first round.

Duncombe did, however, performing the feat of disposing of Mike Johns but to no avail.

Final qualifying positions: 1. R. E. Gunnion (Warwicks.); 2. D. Schofield (Cheshire); 3. K. Forshaw (Lancs.); 4. G. Muranyi (Surrey); 5. A. Piddock (Kent); 6. K. Baker (Kent); 7. B. Burn (N'land); 8. D. S. Basden (Kent).

Recipient of a first round bye and a second round walk-over, caused by the absence of Jackie Camham and John Williams, Kent's junior elect, Pauline Marten, cemented her reserve nomination with but two trips to the table.

In these she firstly stopped Alma Taft and finally struck down the Middlesex banner when she accounted for Karenza Smith.

Miss Smith, after narrowly confirming her national junior ranking in the fifth game of a fluctuating set with Judy Heaps next caused the major upset by defeating second seed Cynthia Duncombe who finished last of the seven qualifiers.

In her stead from Yorkshire and now awaiting the clarion call from Wembley is Pat Dainty, whose progress was accomplished to the chagrin of Diane Simpson and Beverley Sayer. Miss Taft took third position as a result of winning the play-off against Miss Dainty.

In the absence of a fourth losing quarter finalist Pauline Hemmings beat both Bev Sayer and Mrs. Duncombe for fifth place in the triangular battle.

STAFFORDSHIRE

Junior Wins Senior Title

By the time this is in print the great Midland promotion battle between Staffordshire and Warwickshire will have been decided. Both Counties have been going well all season but Staffordshire’s hopes of a play off for a place in the premier division were dashed at the end of January when Walsall’s Glenn Warwick went down with jaundice. This illness has also caused Glenn to miss the Walsall and Staffordshire closed championships.

West Bromwich have a strong claim to the top Midland town, that is as far as their women players are concerned. Just look at their performance so far this season. They have reached the quarter-final of the Rose Bowl while on the local front it is very much on the cards that they will finish on top of the strong Midland League.

TRIPLE CROWN

Dorothy Deeley won the triple crown in the Staffordshire championships but here young Peter Eaton stole the limelight when he became the first ever junior to win the men’s singles. To complete the West Bromwich success story Ann Baker and Stan Ward partnered Dorothy to win the women’s and mixed doubles.

What kind of man runs a table tennis tournament? In the case of Wolverhampton and Staffordshire it is A. H. McIlree, managing director for Firth Cleveland Tools. “Mac” runs these two tournaments with clockwork precision and I am sure there cannot be many associations in England who like Wolverhampton can boast about their chairman, V. Hulme and R. Foster both made a name for themselves by winning the first and second division titles respectively in the Darlaston and Wednesbury tournament. I am told that Hulme in particular, who is only 15, has a great future in the game.

If the interest shown so far is anything to go by Jack Carrington can expect a full house for his coaching rally at Wednesfield later this month.

JOHN PIKE

TABLE TENNIS MAGAZINE

West Bromwich 10 10

Bristol’s Firm Grip

BRISTOL maintained their unbeaten run in the men’s division, accounted for by 6-3 win against Swindon. Barry Brady secured a maximum while Tony Dinamico won two and Morley Mordecai one.

Tony Wooll did well to win his matches against Mordecai and Dinamico, while his father was also successful against Mordecai. Six of the matches went to three sets. Bristol are now the only unbeaten team in the division.

Bristol seconds lost their unbeaten record at Plymouth, going down narrowly 4-5. Previously Bristol 2nd had beaten Exeter 7-2. Ron Bowles won all three but was extended to a third set by both A. Heals and P. Oickle.

Weston with a 7-2 win over Cheltenham and an 8-1 win against Bath have moved into third place behind the two Bristol teams.

Plymouth maintained their unbeaten run in the women’s division, accounted for by 6-3 win over Morley. Pam Mortimer and Barbara Pearson each scored a maximum. Bristol missed Jean Golding.

Bristol also lost their home match with Exeter, who are in second place. For this match Bristol missed Joan Collier. There was however brighter fortune for Bristol’s visit to Swindon, where they won 9-0. It was not quite so clear cut as would first appear for seven matches went the full distance of three sets.

Swindon also lost 3-6 to Exeter.

Cheltenham are strongly losing the services of Tony Smith, who is taking up a new position in Runcorn. The new match secretary will be Bill Riley, 27, Clarence Square, Cheltenham.

MEN’S DIVISION

PRICES

Wednesday, March 23rd, from 2 p.m., Rover tickets, 7s. 6d.

Thursday, March 24th, from 3.30 p.m. Rover tickets, 8s. 6d.

Friday, March 25th, from 6 p.m., and Saturday, March 26th, from 2 p.m., 25s., 21s., 15s., 12s. 6d., 7s. 6d. and 6s.

Season tickets available covering all sessions, for 40s.

The World Comes to Wembley for the ALL-ENGLAND BADMINTON CHAMPIONSHIPS

23rd to 26th MARCH, 1966

It is hoped that readers will not think it strange that an announcement appears in the Table Tennis Magazine about the All-England Badminton Championships. There are, however, a very considerable number of both players and supporters who follow both sports. It may well be that there are others who would like to see first-class Badminton.

Unlike table tennis, there are no World Championships, and for a very long time the All-England Championships have been recognised as the unofficial championships of the world. They always attract the very best players, from all parts of the globe, and this season will be no exception.

Like table tennis, also, much of the best play is seen prior to the finals, and a visit on either the Wednesday or Thursday would enable you to see the cream of world talent playing on seven courts. On Friday evening the quarter- and semi-finals are staged, with the finals on Saturday afternoon.

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NOTES FROM THE WEST

A Plan for Table Tennis

SELECTIONS, championships and tournaments are dealt with in this month's instalment of "A PLAN FOR TABLE TENNIS."

The past few weeks have been relatively quiet, with most players getting some practice in before the various "Closed" championships later in the season. The Junior tournament at Exeter on February 26th attracted an even larger entry than usual, but there still seems an acute shortage of girls in the South-West.

Both this tournament and the Devon closed are being held at Exeter's new Y.M.C.A. which offers excellent conditions. On his present form, Doug Richardson, Devon champion for the past two years, seems unlikely to make it a hat-trick, and his successor may well be either Exeter stylist Albert Heals or Plymouth's aggressive penholder Adrian Wright.

Plymouth Ladies winning run came to an end in a Rose Bowl quarter final, when they lost at Southampton by the odd game in nine. Pam Mortimer, a recent 'flu victim, just dipping out at 17 in the third to Pauline Holes in the game that mattered.

7(a) National Selection Committee—Seniors:

Present Position:

Regular meetings for discussion, planning and team selection.

Supervision of training courses for top class international players usually at Crystal Palace or Shell Mex training Centre.

Organisation of ranking meetings at commencement and middle of each season.

Plan:

(i) To obtain centres in various parts of the country for training of top class players.

(ii) To employ training instructors at all centres.

(iii) To pay the expenses of top class players to the nearest training centre.

(iv) To nominate and sponsor individual players in certain worthwhile Open Tournaments abroad.

(v) To encourage the appointment of physical training instructors in the larger counties and to render all assistance possible.

8(a) National Championships—Open to all Members of the I.T.T.F.

Present Position:

Held annually outside London recently where sponsorship has been available (for past four years held at Brighton).

Held on a large scale and probably the best organised in Europe, with television coverage.

Both teams and individual events for seniors covering a period of four days.

Individual events for Juniors covering a period of two days.

Usually 12 to 16 National Associations take part with a total of up to 250 players.

(Continued on page 18)

ANOTHER SERVICE by ALEC BROOK

In response to many requests we are pleased to announce we can now undertake the resurfacing of a limited number of tables.

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Page Seventeen
TREBLE FOR PAULINE

PAULINE HEMMINGS scored a notable treble in the Insurances Championships at Lloyds on February 4th, winning the women's and junior singles plus the women's doubles.

Another of England's junior internationals, Diane Simpson, who was runner-up for the Junior singles, won the Mixed Doubles with David Brown, junior men's singles winner.

INSURANCE OFFICES CHAMPIONSHIPS
February, 1966, held at Lloyds.

Men's Singles: D. BASDEN (Royal Ex.) b D. Brown (Lloyds) 19, -13, 19. Women's Singles: P. HEMMINGS (Provident Mutual) b A. Hewitt (Northern) 9, 8.

Men's Doubles: B. MEISEL (Co-op.) / M. WESTOBY b T. Eaton/M. Lake (Cornhill) 5, 15. Women's Doubles: P. HEMMINGS/C. BILSBORROW (Ibis) b M. Cuthbert/A. Leach (Unicity) 15, 16.

Mixed Doubles: D. BROWN/Miss D. SIMPSON (Sebrod) b D. Basden/Mrs. A. Hewitt 14, 11.

Veteran Men's Singles: E. PROWEN (Eagle Star) b G. Holder (Sun of Canada) 11, 13. Veteran Women's Singles: J. TRAVELLER (Lloyds) b S. Greive (Eagle Star) 15, 14.


EDITOR'S POSTBAG

UNFAIR TO LAWRENCE

CAN the England Junior Selectors justify the shameful treatment handed out to Keith Lawrence, this season?

Winner of all bar two Juniors Tournaments, unbeaten by any ranked junior (excluding Group A) since the East of England early this season, winner of all his games in the National Junior Trials and conqueror of many experienced and Senior County players, both in tournaments and Wilmott Cup matches, Lawrence has only confirmed the potential shown last season.

Yet he is still only ranked No. 2. I believe it is time for a radical shakeup of the National Junior Selection Committee, for it is obvious that they are not in full possession of the junior facts. Not really surprising, when you realise that only Mr. Landry is a regular attender of tournaments and County matches.

The Junior Affairs Committee should make it their business to acquaint themselves with the junior facts, and make objective decisions as a Committee, and not take the easy and damaging way out, of leaving it to the other man.

I only hope that Keith Lawrence will not lose heart at the failings of an inadequate National Junior Com-

MANAGERS NOT RECOGNISED

In case there should be any doubt as a result of recent publicity, TABLE TENNIS has been asked to state officially that the English Table Tennis Association does not recognise the so-called "managers of players. The Association will always deal with affiliated players direct and not through any third party, except as provided for specifically in the rules.
Now Essex Take Over

THERE has been yet another change in the leadership of the Premier Division with Essex, the defending champions taking over from Surrey on games aggregate following the 5-4 win over Middlesex.

Essex and Surrey are the only two unbeaten counties, so that their clash at Brookwood Hospital, Woking, on March 26 should decide the title. First, however, Surrey have to meet Middlesex at Reigate on March 19.

Relegation problems have virtually been settled with Cheshire’s fine win over Lancashire.

Essex have made further news in the past month, but in a different way. Their domination of the Junior East, challenged by Bucks, in October, has now been ended with a crushing defeat by Hertfordshire.

A number of matches were unfortunately omitted from the February report. These have now been included in this issue.

PREMIER DIVISION

Essex 5, Middlesex 4

C. Barnes bt B. Wright 12, 19; L. Haslam 14, 18; B. Gibbs lost to B. Wright 15, 10, 19; lost to D. Creame 21, 20, 19; R. Stevens lost to L. Haslam 11; lost to D. Creame 22; Miss L. Bell lost to Miss M. Johns 16, 18; C. Barnes/8. Gibbs lost to L. Haslam/D. Creame 10, 15; R. Stevens/Miss B. Wright/Miss Johns 15, 16.

Brian Wright’s first mixed defeat for Middlesex ended the visitors challenge for this season. Stuart Gibbs led Wright 10-4 in the 3rd only to lose, and then trailed David Creame (making a welcome return) 8-16 in the 3rd to lose at 19. Les Haslam, with weak backhand service return, disappointed against ebulliant Chester Barnes; then thrashed Bobby Stevens with the match dead. Leslie Bell impressive.

Lancashire 2, Cheshire 7

M. Symonds lost to D. Schofield 18, 14, 18; lost to R. Hampson 11-17; K. Forsaw lost to D. Schofield 10, 10; lost to M. Johns 18; 19; J. Ingber lost to R. Hampson 14, 17, 14; lost to M. Johns 22; Miss J. Heaps lost to Miss J. Heaps 11, 17; M. Symonds/K. Forsaw lost to R. Hampson/M. Johns 10, 18, 15.

An overwhelming defeat for the Red Rose, whose general play was not deserving of victory as the some players could not match the fighting spirit of Cheshire. Roger Hampson and Mike Johns fulfilled all that had been threatening, and Judy Heaps outplayed a docile Judy Crafter.

SECOND DIVISION

Bedfordshire 1, Hertfordshire 9

Five sets went full distance, but Beds could manage only the mixed...
slide rules in the West Country with games average involved.

Somerset 6, Dorset 4
A good fight-back by Dorset from 0-4 to 4-5 but Ron Bowles made no mistake in the last set. 17-year-old Barbara Bowles, making her debut for Somerset, showed much promise.

SOUTHERN DIVISION
Cambridgeshire 3, Hertfordshire 7
Little between these two teams, but Herts. were deservedly winners. Two wins by John Thurston for Cambs. and a fine win by Barbara Andrews (Herts.) over Valerie Gillam.

Hampshire v Cambridgeshire
Postponed—bad road conditions.

Norfolk 9, Huntingdonshire 1
A disappointing match—traffic mainly one-way in Norwich.

Suffolk 3, Buckinghamshire 7
Buckinghamshire II 5, Hampshire II 5
A poor match, with the Bucks. women losing all 3 sets for the second time. Hampshire's G. Clay emerged with credit with two singles wins and the mixed.

MIDLAND DIVISION
Warwickshire II 9, Denbighshire 1
A fairly easy victory with the only visiting success by Mrs. Halsall over Jenny Cornock on her debut. Ron Judd, also making senior debut, very impressive.

MIDLAND DIVISION
Denbighshire 3, Oxfordshire 7
If Denbigh can persuade Mrs. Halsall to play regularly (she won in both singles and mixed doubles) they will do much better next season.

Staffordshire 5, Worcestershire 5
Staffs. recovered from 15-20 in the 3rd to take the mixed, but a fair result. Harry Spiers and John Bell played well for Worcestershire, and J. Riley (making debut) put up a sound performance for Staffordshire.

JUNIOR DIVISION NORTH
Worcestershire 6, Durham 3
Unable to obtain the release of Margaret Cole from work, and apparently unable to find another girl player in the county, Durham have withdrawn leaving this division with five counties. The Durham results have been expunged.

Northumberland 7, Cumberland 1
A very creditable display by Cumberland for whom Alan Dixon recorded the first won set. Brian Burn for the home county was far too strong and was untroubled throughout.

Yorkshire 7, Cheshire 1
A good crowd saw first-class table tennis by both teams, with the two girls Linda Forks (Yorks.) and Wendy Higgins (Cheshire) particularly taking the eye.

JUNIOR DIVISION EAST
Hertfordshire 7, Middlesex 3
No Middlesex boy was able to trouble his Hertfordshire opposite number, but Karenza Smith again saved face for the visitors. Marjorie Walker combined well in both doubles.

Essex 8, Norfolk 2
With Neville Grower below peak form and flattered by double figures against Lawrence, Norfolk never really made a match of it except for a good doubles win by Grower and Martin Tidy. Christine Brewer did well as a late substitute for 'flu victim Linda Henwood.
Suffolk 2, Buckinghamshire 8

Bucks, not extended. The Youngs twins won the doubles for Suffolk, and Diane paired with Barry Marshall for a win in the mixed, but the rest was all Bucks.

Essex 3, Hertfordshire 7

First defeat for Essex since this division was formed in 1961. New international Keith Lawrence quite outplayed by Trevor Taylor.

JUNIOR DIVISION SOUTH
Surrey 8, Berkshire 2

Surrey sneaked six of the seven sets which went to a third game, and their other two came from Geoff Salter, who even so did not look match-tight.

Sussex 10, Hampshire 0

A one-sided match, with the whole Sussex team (much more experienced than Hants.) all playing well. The clash with Kent should be most interesting.

JUNIOR DIVISION MIDLAND
Worcestershire 1, Nottinghamshire 9

Alison Baker scored the only home victory, at 17 in the third, which is Worcestershire’s first ever girls’ singles win in the championships. The visiting boys were, however, too steady for the Worcestershire trio.

Oxfordshire 1, Leicestershire 0

Oxfordshire were simply not good enough for this Leicestershire side.

Warwickshire 10, Staffordshire 0

This clinched the division for Warwickshire, who have yet to concede a set this season.

JUNIOR DIVISION SOUTH-WEST
Monmouthshire 2, Glamorgan 8

Wiltshire 7, Gloucestershire 3

A good win by the visitors John Charles over England-ranked Ronnie Lloyd, and a rare doubles defeat for Lloyd and Silto.

NATIONAL CUPS

WEMBLEY LOSE ROSE BOWL

GLOUCESTER, with a convincing 5-1 win over Staines have moved into the quarter-finals in defence of the Wilmott Cup, but Wembley, the Rose Bowl holders, lost their title when they were beaten by East London in the fourth round.

East London, who beat Slough 8-1, and Birmingham, who dismissed Watford by the same margin, are the first finalists for the new Junior Girls event for the L. M. Bromfield Trophy. East London have also reached the semi-final stage of the Boys Carter Cup, and with their men having beaten Croydon they are still involved in a strong challenge for all four national team competitions.

Wilmott Cup

Acton’s David Creamer excelled himself when beating Brian Wright of Willesden but his side were beaten 6-3. It might well have been different had Creamer been able to achieve the same result against Les Haslam, who won a tight encounter at 18 in the third.

Denis Neale scored a maximum for Harrogate in their 6-3 win over Northumberland, for whom E. Burn won two.

Fourth Round

Northumberland 5, Harrogate 6; Bolton 5, Harrogate 4; Manchester 9, Chesterfield 0; Humei Hempstead 5, Birmingham 4; Luton 5, Cambridge 3; Croydon 6, East London 9; Acton 3, Willesden 6; Southampton 2, Brighton 5; Gloucester 5, Staines 1.

Rose Bowl

East London, represented by Elsie Carrington and the Sayer twins, dethroned Wembley, the defending champions, after an exciting match in which fortunes continually fluctuated. Irene Ogus lost to Beverley Sayer at the critical 3-3 stage, while Gloria Sayer won the deciding set against Mrs. Barnes 21-11, 21-18.

Mary Wright won all three of her sets for Sutton but failed to save them from an exciting 3-4 defeat by Romford, for whom young Linda Henwood won the vital first game against Mrs. Rose.

BEDFORD LEAGUE

BEDFORD Ladies, still unbeaten in the South-East Midlands League, have only two more matches to complete their programme. These are against Bletchley, former winners, and North Herts, who are also unbeaten.

Three former Bedford Inter League stars have made a welcome reappearance in the lower divisions to help out during illness and injuries. Keith Barby and Ivor Twidgen for Riverside in Division II, and Sid Lawson for BETA in Division IV.

The League’s annual tournament will be at the Badminton Hall, Bradgate Road, Bedford, on April 23rd-25th.

R. A. Cox

MARY SHANNON-WRIGHT & BRIAN WRIGHT

are in training for the EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS in April.

For a taste of the thrills in store at Wembley, have these two world famous players give an exhibition of World Class Table Tennis at your club or league.

Contact:
KEN MATTHEWS, 11 South Norwood Hill, London, S.E.25 LIV 1918
Gunnion Wins Singles After Seeds Tumble

MOST of the Nationally ranked players were among the record entry for the Kent Open at Folkestone where the seeds soon started to fall faster than the skittles in the Bowling alley.

The first shocks came in the Men’s singles, with the first round defeat of Mike Symonds by Roy Morley, who in turn was soon beaten by the finalist David Creamer.

David, on the way to challenge Ralph Gunnion for the title, knocked out Barry Meisel, Tony Piddock and Stuart Gibbs. Gunnion’s path was comparatively easy, his only real challenge coming from Alan Lindsay in the semi-finals.

David put up a spirited claim for the title, and with it a ‘comeback’ to National ranking, but just failed to conquer the Midland challenge.

Two more big upsets were the victory of Kent player Ken Baker over O. Haslam, and Roger Chandler’s elimination of Brian Wright to reach the quarters.

The Ladies’ singles provided the most falling stars. Two seeded players even failed to win their Groups when Mrs. Duncombe and Beverley Sayer fell to Karenza Smith and Judy Williams respectively.

Lesley Bell was the only seed to reach the semi-finals where she had to struggle against Judy Williams before going on to beat Alma Taft, who had defeated the new International Pauline Martin in the first round.

The Men’s doubles final between Roger Chandler/Roy Morley and Brian Wright/Connie Warren was played to an exciting finish, the former partnership again claiming further success.

Both the Youth finals were impressive. Geoffrey Salter defeated Dennis Holland while Maureen Heppell provided Northern success by beating Pauline Hemmings.

Pat Dainty Shows The Way

SUCCESS is following Pat Dainty from Barnsley to Bradford.

Having helped Barnsley women to a hat-trick of Yorkshire League titles with a personal score of 36 wins out of 40, she moved to Bradford last summer. Now Bradford are leaders—with Pat their unbeaten No. 1.

Bradford players are going flat out along the prize-winning path with three inter-league teams heading their sections and two sides in the men’s inter-club semi-finals.

The new men’s third team are 100 per centers in Division Four and the youth team of Philip Rowe, Peter Machin, Andy Holdsworth and Jimmy Goldsborough, with a sets average of 57-3 after six matches, are poised to establish a new sets record.

Best since the section was extended to ten teams is Hull’s 80-10 in 1962-63. Previously the youth competition fell into two sections and again Hull did best with 48-2 in 1955-6.

Philip Rowe is a keen boy who has been making the 60-mile round trip from Barnsley to play in the Bradford League every week since the age of 12.

When Jim Yeats was injured he came into Hemm’s team for the inter-club quartefinal against holders Albion, overwhelmed Doug McGarry 21-12, 21-10 and shipped Brian Broadhurst 25-23 in the third.

Albion missed Symonds and went out 5-3. Metal Box (Pats, Sooza, Sugden) defeated Harrow Reeders without Hull 5-4, Transkeetown (Pollard, Jackson, Beetle) knocked out Barnsley North 6-2 and employed YMCA (First, Kedge, Meak), now firm favourites, disposed of Hull YPI 9-1.

Acc (Barnsley) and Hull YPI are women’s finalists and Hull YPI meet Harrogate Wanderers in the youth final.

In the drawn Doncaster-Sheffield clash Mike Symonds was unbested for Sheffield but Mack Dainty and Ray Swain took all four bottom half singles for Doncaster.

Billy Hulmes, who has been unbeaten in helping York’s second team to a Division Four pace-making pledge, stepped up to the first team against Huddersfield “B” in Division Two and was still invincible. York won 7-3 after losing the first three.

When Hull’s youth teams met the first string won 7-3 but Tony Clayton, second team No. 1, cornered both his singles and his doubles with Jeff Lill.

David Jordan, 17-year-old son of Yorkshire Closed veteran Ken Jordan, was recently given a chance in the second team. Both play for Blackheath’s, in the Hull League, Dad in the Division One side and David for the second team in Division Two.

With Yorkshire junior David Shaw away London, Harrogate brought in for youth inter-league coach his cousin of the same name who is registered and appeared on the scoreboard as “David Shaw No. 2”.

Well played at Sheffield but must still meet rivals Albion and the title could be decided on sets average.

After 56 Doncaster League matches without defeat dealer’s case was unfastened against Plant’s through the fine play of Peter Duncombe and Peter Roomo.

Coaching secretary Donald Leach has formed a pool of qualified coaches and manual workers coach 60 a night to any club at a cost of expenses only.

Malcolm Hartley.
WHATEVER slender threads held Mike Symonds to both the Bolton S.S.S. League and his native Lancashire have been snapped by his decision to quit the competitive game.

Henceforward he intends to devote himself to studies relative to obtaining a teaching certificate at the Swinton Training College, Yorkshire, where he began a 3-year course early in January.

Since that time, and even from the season's outset it has become increasingly obvious that his former appetite for the game had been on the wane.

Now, with the diagnosis made, one can only wish him success in his new endeavour, aimed primarily at physical education, and recollect the occasions on which he has afforded pleasure to the sport's following especially in Bolton and district.

This decision following on Lancashire's demoralizing thrashing by Cheshire at Warrington on February 11 could well have the blight on the Red Rose but, like Harry Wheatley, I would hope not.

TALENT THIN

Admittedly talent within the county palatine is thin but if ever the incentive was there to "top the midden" such is now the case.

How different from 1921 when there was a general depression in the North and almost three million people were out of work.

Of the times J. B. Priestley wrote that he found the unemployed playing table tennis in their clubs and that by the time the North of England was an industrial ruin they would be able to beat the world at table tennis.

Thankfully no such decay set in, nor would one wish for such dubious salvation but nonetheless such talent as there is must be nurtured in conjunction with today's affluence.

Cheshire continue to go from strength to strength and having now stabilised their premier division status are to hold a county closed at the Bredbury Steel Works, Woodley, Stockport, on Saturday, April 2nd for which entries— to Norman Cook please—close on March 19.

Many, I know, will join me in wishing Manchester's genial inter-league secretary, Merton Firestone, a full recovery from the heart condition that put him on the critical list at Crumpsall Hospital. Now back home we say get well soon Mert.

Two others of the fraternity who recently shared the same ward in Blackpool's Victoria Hospital are David Frohlick and Derek Hill. Playing in a Lancs and Cheshire League match at Liverpool, Derek almost severed a hamstring muscle which has put paid to his playing career for this season. Again get well soon boys, meantime grapes and the like c/o Blackpool's chairman, Stanley Parr.

In the absence of Dave Frohlick, holder of the men's singles title in the Blackpool League, Gordon Beardsworth won the undefended trophy beating Jack Frankland in the final.

A new winner of the women's trophy is that of Mrs. Deirdre Burnett who beat Mrs. Marjorie Wade and is due to make her debut for Lancs II against Yorks.

The junior singles title was won by David Murry who beat Barry Lowther. Another junior within the county, Alan Hicks, will not be contesting his league's closed championships for Burnley have banned him for the rest of the season for misconduct during an inter-league match.

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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<td>WELSH OPEN</td>
<td>All Snr.</td>
<td>Miss Nancy Evans,</td>
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<td>Dukemires Place Drill Hall, Cardiff</td>
<td>Events best of 5</td>
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<td>GWENT OPEN</td>
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<td>Standard Telephones</td>
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<td>29, Carisbrooke Road, Newport, Mon</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>Corporation Road</td>
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<td>(Closing date: March 19)</td>
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<td>9-11</td>
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<td>Bedford Closed</td>
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<td>23-24</td>
<td>Community Centre, Slough, Bucks</td>
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<td>241, Mile End Road, London, E1</td>
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<td>May</td>
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<td>F. G. Mannoch,</td>
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<td>May</td>
<td>The Old Boys' Club</td>
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<td>London, E1</td>
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<td>13-14</td>
<td>Crescent Junior Girls' Open</td>
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ST. BRIDES
TABLE TENNIS CLUB
Bride Lane, Fleet Street, E.C.4
has some vacancies. The Club meets at 6 p.m. on Wednesdays and Fridays.
Write to Hon. Secretary, Mr. A. W. Hill, 31, Byron Avenue, Coulsdon, Surrey.

Page Twenty-three
THE HALF WAY AVERAGES

DENIS FENTON, the Cambridgeshire League secretary has been busy compiling averages for the half-way stage of the season. Such is the keenness of competition in the top sections that it is not until the fourth division that there is anyone with a 100 per cent. This record is shared by J. Hunter and C. Wright in Division IVA; K. Hall in Division IVB; and J. Brooks, M. Pratt, G. Hazlewood and N. Scott in Division IVC.

John Thurston and Alan Ponder make the pace in the First Division with 96.4% and they are closely followed by B. Cullis, Bryan Jones, Keith Chapman and Tony Littlechild.

John Puddick, recently acquired by Exiles, heads the Second Division with 95.3%, followed by Ron Farrow and Denis Fenton. Bob Johnson with 90.6% and David Ash 90% head Divisions 3A and 3B respectively.

Former champions New Chesterton Institute are so far in their bid to recapture the First Division championships. Their chief rivals are Press and Y.M.C.A. Sohan Methodists still have three teams left in the Handicap Knock-out competition.

John and Marjaret Cornwell continue their good coaching work on Saturday afternoons at the Y.M.C.A. Four tables are in operation.

The Umpires situation is more stable though County and Junior Division matches are well handled by secretary Bob Stearn.

Ely and District are going strong in the Cambridgeshire League and steadily making their way towards the First Division. They have a well balanced side and some useful juniors coming along.

Cambridge City were knocked out of the Wilmott Cup by Luton in the Inter-Zone final.

MIDLAND LEAGUE

BIRMINGHAM DOING WELL

BIRMINGHAM are enjoying a successful season in the Midland League and look like carrying off the lion's share of the honours in the South sections. They have already won the Intermediates and Junior Division South and need only to win their remaining match to take Division I (South). The First Division (South) has already gone to Gloucester, who have gone through unbeaten.

Chesterfield and West Bromwich each have seven points behind Division I (North) while Chesterfield are also in with a great chance in Division II (North) where they are three points behind Nottingham but with two games in hand. Walsall and Derby are both unbeaten in the Intermediates (North), but the Junior section, although led by West Bromwich, is wide open.

Birmingham A and Nottingham A are respective South and North leaders in the Veteran Division, while in the combined South and North Women's Division, Birmingham, who dropped a point in the last match, are hotly challenged by the unbeaten West Bromwich who have a match in hand.

NORTHUMBERLAND

Maureen Heppell Wins European Place

THE intelligent selection of Hexham's Maureen Heppell for the European Championships has eclipsed all else. I am sure Maureen will fully justify the faith placed in her (writes Arnold Warents).

Maureen's 15-year-old cousin Theresa promises to maintain the Heppell tradition for producing five "sping" players. Theresa is blossoming under the experienced wing of her aunt Phil Clark.

Brian Burn and Stuart Lennie sent Northumberland's stock rocketing at Pontefract, when both reached the men's singles final. However, whereas Burn was selected for the European qualifying tournament, Lennie was unfortunately to be ignored.

Ex-County player Jim Nelson (Revac) rebounded into the big time by capturing the Tyne-side and District Closed Men's Singles. Newcastle University must be congratulated on organising this well-run tournament.

North Shields Y.M.C.A's grip on the North League 1st Division title tightened as a result of Miss Maureen Heppell, dropping a point at Gateshead Y.M.C.A in a 6-6 draw. Shields, who lead MPNI and Revac by one point, have vital matches against Revac (away) and Westmorland (home), while MPNI will entertain Revac.

HAPHAZARDLY

The Inter-Town League is running rather haphazardly because our top players are left little free time after tournaments, leagues, cup and County matches. Gateshead are in the worst plight, for at the time of writing they have yet to fulfil one fixture!

Division A of the Youth Association League is proving really hectic at the top. Six teams—Coxedge, Whalbeke Campus, Whalbeke Campus, Wallsend Central and Longbenton Y.A. are fighting for the Championship. In Division B, there is little among Guide Post, Morpeth Y.C. and Wansbeck Y.C., who have all lost one game.

Emigrating to East Africa is MPNI's Malcolm Lee, the ex-St Anthony's O.B. star. Malcolm quits England on March 21 to take up the post of High Court reporter for the Malawi Government. He expects to return in 2 or 3 years "as born as a piece of toast!"

Popular North Shields stalwart Ronnie Patterson had missed a mere 3 league matches since 1949 until a carthage troubled him this season. Hopefully Ron is really off peaks times and should soon be in action again.

Congratulations to Frank Mitchinson (Hexham) on his initial County selection against Yorkshire. I am sure he possesses the aggressive game which pays dividends in modern table tennis.
Pauline Hemmings Hits Back

PAULINE HEMMINGS revealed her great potential when, after nearly a week in bed with 'flu, she overcame an entry which included four higher ranked players to win the women's singles in the Yorkshire Open at York on February 19th.

Junior Diane Simpson gave Pauline a very good game in the quarters, while Alma Taft proved a steady retrieving opponent in the semi-final, but Pauline's power won through in the end.

In the final Cynthia Duncombe held her in the first two games, but fell away badly in the third.

An early surprise was the victory of Judy Heaps over Pauline Martin. Maureen Heppell, the youngest member of the European Championships team appeared to lack confidence and lost to Miss Taft in 19 in the third.

The men's singles went as expected to Denis Neale, without any great difficulty. The biggest surprise was when Hinchliffe from Hull outhit the defending champion Stevens by the narrowest of margins. Stuart Gibbs, last year's runner-up gained revenge for Essex but dropped a game in the semi-final.

Stuart had another excellent game when he proved too fast for Ralph Gunnion, then went on to score yet another win over Connie Warren. Gibbs had a spell of fantastic hitting into the far corner when winning the second game after trailing 14-19 and 16-20.

Neale was too good for Gibbs in the final, with his half volleys and counter hitting.

Neale partnered Peter Duncombe to win the men's doubles, where Roger Hamson and Geoff Salter were the losing finalists.

Gibbs had his turn for a title in the mixed with Beverley Sayer. They beat Ken Baker and Cynthia Duncombe in the final after having disposed of Neale and Ingrid Sykes in the semi. Alma Taft and Pauline Martin beat Miss Sykes and Miss Hemmings in the women's doubles final.

Maureen Heppell Takes Over

THE new ranking list for Juniors was the highlight of the past month. As far as the boys are concerned there was no change at the top, with Alan Hydes, of Yorkshire, still showing the way, but the girls position has altered with Maureen Heppell, of Northumberland, taking over the lead from Pauline Hemmings.

The only changes in the boys list are the introduction of Geoff Salter at No. 4 and the swopping of places between Peter Eaton, of Staffs, and Phillip Richardson, of Warwickshire. Group "A" remains unchanged.

Miss Heppell's promotion is not surprising for she had already overtaken Miss Hemmings in the senior list and been picked for the England team for the European championships. The only other major changes involve Miss Hydes/Duncombe in the women's doubles at York when she lost to Miss Martin.

Karenza Smith to 19 in the fifth in the European qualifying tournament. Karenza went on to reach the final where she lost to Miss Martin.

There was an all-junior semi-final in the women's doubles at York when Pauline Hemmings and Ingrid Sykes beat Diane Simpson and Karenza Smith.

Maureen Heppell Takes Over

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JUNIOR SPOTLIGHT

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Official News

ELECTION OF DEPUTY CHAIRMAN

Mr. N. K. Reeve has been elected Deputy Chairman of the English Table Tennis Association for the 1965-66 season.

Details of the poll are as follows: Mr. N. K. Reeve 142 votes, Mr. C. Jaschke 62 votes, Mr. K. Watts 27 votes.

EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS

The following teams have been selected to represent the Association at the European Championships at Wembley from 13th-20th April 1966:

MEN: G. C. Barnes (Essex), I. O. Harrison (Glos.), D. Neale (Yorks.), C. Warren (Surrey), B. D. Wright (Middx.), S. Gibbs (Essex), Non-playing Captain: J. A. Leach (Essex).

WOMEN: Mrs. M. Shannon-Wright (Surrey), Mrs. D. Rowe-Schofer (Middx.), Miss L. Bell (Essex), Miss M. Heppell (Northumberland), Non-playing Captain: R. J. Crayden (Surrey).

TEAM SELECTIONS:
v WALES (JUNIORS): Aberdare—26th February 1966 — A. Hydes (Yorks.), K. Lawrence (Essex), B. Burn (Northumberland), G. Salter (Surrey), Non-playing Captain: L. F. Landry (Middlesex).

SUCCESS AND DEFEAT

The best table tennis witnessed this season by a capacity crowd of over 60 supporters enabled Southampton’s Rose Bowl team of the Holes Twins and Mrs. June Williams to eliminate Eastbourne in the Zone Final by 5-3. Miss Judy Williams won 2 games for Eastbourne.

This same support was given to the men’s team of K. Hampson, D. Davies and C. Edwards against Brighton who with Roger Chandler at his best were too good by 5-2 for the Saints for whom Roger Hampson played extremely well to win two games.

T. W. GRANT.

Cheshunt Foster

Sportsmanship

R. G. WILBY, ex-chairman of the Cheshunt and District League has donated a new trophy to the league with the objective of fostering sportsmanship. And so that players will be encouraged to play the game from the start it goes to the juniors and will be awarded annually.

It takes the form of a silver salver and a sub-committee will make the award in accordance with the following conditions:

"The trophy will be held annually by the junior whom the sub-committee considers has the best approach in the form of aptitude, sportsmanship, progressive record and on the whole has been an asset to his or her club and the league."

Secretary A. W. Dale, writes in the Cheshunt and District News Letter:

"The above definition does not mean that only the top flight juniors stand a chance of holding this trophy. In this instance it means the players’ ability to be amenable when visiting other clubs, an asset to their own club by being a model by whose standards others, particularly many seniors, can endeavour to emulate, to win without belittling their opponents and to lose graciously, etc.

"Personally I congratulate Mr. Wilby on his ability to foresee and take action on what is becoming a national problem in sport today. The proof of this is emphasised in the editorial and subsequent article in the January issue of the TABLE TENNIS magazine.

"Mr. Wilby first spoke to me about the possibility of donating this trophy just before his retirement last season, some ten months prior to any published criticism by the National representatives of the sport.

"For all that, I am pleased to see an official publication and hope it has the desired effect, not only on table tennis, but on sport in general.

"This country has in the past always been renowned for its good sportsmanship on and off the field.

"Let us, the members of the Cheshunt and District League commending through the ability of our younger members, be well to the the fore in a great endeavour to repair the pedestal of honour and put back on it the two words that should be permanently cemented to it: British Sportsmanship."

English Table Tennis Association

Patron: Her Majesty The Queen.
President: Hon. I. G. S. Montagu.
Chairman: I. C. Eyles.
Deputy Chairman: N. K. Reeve.
Honorary Treasurer: T. Blunn.
Secretary: D. P. Lowen.

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