ENGLAND TURN THE TIDE

FOLLOWING their champagne success over Romania at Edinburg on December 3, the fighting qualities of England’s representatives were fully demonstrated on the following weekend against West Germany at Crystal Palace.

From a trailing position of 0-4, in a five set match, England banged Crystal Palace.

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ALEC BROOK (SPORTS EQUIPMENT)

INTERNATIONAL ROUND-UP

By CONRAD JASCHKE
Hon. International Secretary of the E.T.T.A.

Work on the World Championships is now in full swing, and the "big five" responsible for the organisation of the tournament, with the Chairman of the World Championships and the Organising Committee responsible for finance, and Mr. HANDEL, who is the Public Relations Manager for the Tournament, together with the Propaganda Committee, are putting the final touches to the arrangements.

Last October, the Swedish T.T.A. celebrated its 40th anniversary, and there is no doubt that the World Championships will be a testimonial to the outstanding organisational ability of the Swedish T.T.A.

SPOKESPERSON GUARANTEES

The budget is something which we in England can only regard with envy. Total budget is estimated at Sw.Kr. 800,000 (£55,000) and the Swedish T.T.A. and the Stockholm City Council (400,000) have given sponsorship by BP and Philips, and advertising revenue arranged through the Expressen newspaper. They are also raising a national lottery in which the first prize is a home, and other prizes include four cars and five motorbikes. In order to raise these funds, the Swedish magazine shows a picture of their Prime Minister purchasing tickets, and all sports organisations are lending their support.

I think the Swedes are doing a service to table tennis by the "big five" way they are handling the organisation of the event. Judges may not be able to match their facilities unless similar support was forthcoming from British industry. Of course, we have received generous help from the British Sports Council, from our friends in the sports goods manufacturing trade, and many voluntary donations from British firms such as Ferranti, Marlow, Spencer & Ackin, and others too numerous to mention. But when it comes to staging World Championships, we would be faced with a budget of the region of £600,000, and it was the impossibility of getting sponsorship guaranteed that was the reason for the Swedes deciding to go ahead with the tournament.

Table Tennis has a bigger playing membership than any other sport in the UK and, if anything, the country is becoming too big for such an organisation. The English table tennis association was able to invite 7,000 members and, although 380 clubs are being invited, the eventual attendance is expected to be less. I believe the Swedish Association will have to cater for 1,400 players, and although some 20 hotels will be used to accommodate the players, all feeding arrangements will be in one restaurant, which should greatly help matters.

RANKING LIST

A number of people have written to me asking that I should include national ranking lists of other countries in my round-up, and I propose to do so as and when I receive them. This time I am including the results of the Four Nations European and World Championships.

FRANCE VICTORIOUS

In the recent Three Nations Tournament, France won both the men's and women's titles. In the women's events, they beat Belgium 5-2, and Switzerland 5-4.

A.N.D. JUVENTURE WINS AT LAST

After successfully defending their World Championships Men's Singles title, the Swedish player, JUNIO HAO, defeated the English champion, LILJA FUGLSTROM, to win the World Championships title in Copenhagen recently. The world champion appeared to be at his best, but Lilja was in superb form and won 16-21, 21-12, 21-17.

CAN ANYONE HELP?

The Netherland T.T.A. are starting a table tennis courtesies and they would appreciate anyone who has a table tennis bat of the pre-rubber era. I should be pleased to hear from the person willing to give one of these antique bats to our Dutch friends.

A. L. B. A.

A recent offer has come in to stage matches against the New Zealand touring side, but there are still only two open dates in the week ending 4th April. I am not asking for a match to contact me urgently. Finally, here is the programme for the rest of this season, amended and brought up to date with all information available at time of writing:

T. T. A. TTT T.T.T.

19/4 E.T.T.A. tour of Sweden, matches at Gothenburg (100%), matches at Stockholm (90%), etc.

Jan. 1

17

Feb. 16

11

March 19

1-4

GERMAN (EAST) OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS

Team: Chesters Barnes, Denis Neale, Mary Wright, Maureen Leach, etc.

GERMAN (EAST) OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS, ERFURT

Team: Chesters Barnes, Denis Neale, Mary Wright, Maureen Leach, etc.

10-11

QUADRANGULAR INTERNATIONAL TOURNAMENT

A.K.M.H. at Hendon, Hendon, etc.

17

Jan. 1970

17

Jan. 1970

17

Jan. 1970

Jan. 1970

April 1970

E.T.T.A. International Team Training Session, Crystal Palace

11-21

World Championships, Stockholm

MIDDLESEX POINTS THE WAY

AN idea put to use by Middlesex County Uniposca University, John Wright, in recent matches concerns the determination of the order of striking in doubles.

Suppose say Adams and Barnes are playing Carrington and Dodds. Write down, while the players are knocking about, the initials of players A and B and then fill in the gaps with players C and D to show how it is you would like the order of play to be, and all they had to do was to deposit the order will be reversed. The order of striking is then found by reading backwards to be B C A D etc. In the case of Adams and Barnes playing Carrington and Dodds, the reverse order is one that is acceptable. If two players of equal standard play on either side, then the players have decided who is to serve as you have to do so in a forward arrow of tickets to the correct place. Consequently, the order of striking is backwards, and the order of striking is forwards going backwards again at the change of ends.

As a result of the order of striking in doubles, it is not unusual to see players switching between the first and third seats, or even the second and fourth seats. But I think it is not too much to hope for that in the years ahead, sportsmen will bring the World Championships to this country once more.

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HIBERNATE or Circulate by Louis Hoffman, O.M.S.

I T is a well-known fact that a good table tennis player has a deal of one's life is spent amusing oneself. In this idyllic state your skull is all you care about and the match is only there to keep you amused. That is what making a match should contact me urgently.

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11-21

World Championships, Stockholm

Barns to Carrington first game backhand, second game must be forwards starting C or D. Third must again be backwards to change of ends when it becomes forward.


dard will be rung and the first player to get in is the winner. The game is run for a best of three games, and the first player to win two games is the winner.

An O.M.S. (official magazine sales) must be asked at all times before you hibernate. You must push the ball to the back of the net, and you must make sure that your player is not put back in your backhand. It is not always easy to read over another shoulder. You must make sure that you are still on your toes. Successes and failures, as well as the points scored, are, or should be, cast aside and your mind must otherwise be, cast aside and your mind must otherwise be.
DESA Neale and Chester Barnes playing in the men's doubles. Although they suffered England's only defeat, they were each successful in the singles.

Stockholm '67

ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

Extracted from a bulletin issued by the Swedish Table Tennis Association, in connection with the forthcoming World Championships in April, officially titled BT-VM-67, are the following details of concern to those contemplating a visit to Stockholm.

Board and Lodging at skr 70- per day

"It is usual for many visiting Associations to announce more persons than only the participating players, for whom the host country pays. The cost for these extra players will be skr 70- per person per day which will entitle them to stay at the same hotel as the rest of the group. They will get a continental breakfast at the hotel and lunch and dinner at the restaurant for the Championships, Gotta Kallare, where lunch will be served from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. and dinner from 3.30 to 7.30 p.m.

A ticket, valid for the whole of the Championships on underground, bus and tram costs skr 10- and a farewell-party ticket costs skr 30-.

There are hotel rooms in different price classes, so from skr 50/80- in single rooms, and as from skr 30/40- in double rooms. Private accommodation can also be arranged from 15/20- for single and 25/30- for double rooms, but all double are subject to a 1957 price revision.

Please apply in these matters to:

TURISTKOMMITTEN
BT-VM-67, Box 33, Johanneshov 1, Sweden
or
STOCKHOLMS TURISTTRAFIKFORBUND
Vallhovsvagen 60, Stockholm 0, Sweden
or
HOTELLCENTRALEN
Centralstationen, Stockholm C

Provisionary Programme

April 11-15. Team Championships—Swedish Cup and Marcel Corbillion Cup, 1st round
16-19. Team Championships, 2nd round
16. 3rd round and Finals in the evening session at 7 p.m.
17. Free day—sightseeing
18-19. Individual championships—MS, MD, WS, WD and XD.
20. As above but some quarter and semi-finals in the evening session.
21. Men's and Women's consolation events, Jubilee Cup. Finals at 7 p.m.

Hours of Play

Morning Session—9 a.m. to 12.20 p.m.
Afternoon Session—2 p.m. to 5.30 p.m.
Evening Session—7 p.m. to 10.30 p.m.

Tickets for admission to BT-VM-67

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Morning Session</th>
<th>Evening Session</th>
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<td>April 11-13</td>
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Season Tickets allowing admission to all sessions at a price of Swedish Crowns 125.-. This includes 20- seats at both finals and 15- resp. 12- seats at other sessions.

Please note that $1 is equal to 14.50 Swedish crowns. In other words, a Swedish crown is approximately 1.45. Orders requiring accommodation for two or three sessions should be sent in writing to one of the addresses quoted. Orders for transfers of seats at both finals and 15- resp. 12- seats at other sessions.

ENGLAND BOOST RANKING HOPES

By their 6-1 victory over Rumania at Edmonton on December 3 (as briefly reported in the December issue) England boosted their hopes for higher ranking in the World Championships in Sweden for the team of Chester Barnes, Desa Neale and Mary Wright gained excellent single wins (writes Johnny Leach).

A magnificent performance in the opening game by Chester Barnes, who defeated Rumania's No. 1 Dorin Groiana, in straight games put England in confident mood.

Creditt for the team's decisive success, however, must go to Desa Neale, who was in great attacking form and took both his singles sets in grand style.

His first over Radu Negulescu, Rumania's reigning champi, was somewhat fired; his second at the expense of Gungoua saw him varying his tactics superbly.

Mary Wright on her way to victory over Eleonora Mihalca.

English Teenagers Defeat Dutch by Ron Cryeden

The youngest England senior team of recent years played with much skill and sparkle to beat a strong Dutch National side 7-2, at Borehamwood, Herts, only three days after Christmas.

For John Moore it was an occasion of special importance, being his first junior International appearance. It is to his credit that he did not let the moment affect his confidence or performance.

Stuart Gibbs was perhaps the architect of the victory with his 100% performance which he achieved with his amazing brand of unpredictable shots—some frighteningly reckless, some positively brilliant.

Our girls were a little more subdued than usual, but nevertheless fought tenaciously. Full marks are due to Karina Smith for winning her singles against the more experienced Anna Maria Wijnants.

Scores:
S. GIBBS bt B. van der Hel 22, 18; bt B. Schoofs 17, 17.
M. JOHNS lost to Schoofs 18, 13, 13; bt van der Hel 18, 16.
K. SMITH bt A. M. Wijnants 18, 18, 18.
M. HEPPLE lost to Wijnants 20, 15.

Doubles:
JOHNS/GIBBS bt van der Hel/Schoofs 18, 18.
GIBBS/SMITH bt Schoofs/Wijnants 18, 18.
JOHNS/HEPPLE lost to van der Hel/Wijnants 15, 16.

270 ENTRIES IN 'SURREY COMET' TOURNAMENT

HELD at Kingston Grammer School by kind permission of the Headmaster, Mr. P. W. Kindele, on December 19/20 the Surrey 'Comet' Schools Tournament proved a big success.

The presentation of awards was made by His Worship the Mayor of Kingston, Councillor J. A. Biebel, subsequent to which two exhibition matches were played.

In the first Laura Londry beat her compatriot from Middlesex, Stephen Wright, and then accomplished the double by partnering the Girls Open winner Gail McCulloch to a best of three success over Wright partnered by the Boys Open winner David Hill.

Thanks are due to the Surrey Comet for sponsoring this tournament and for the encouragement they are giving to Schools Table Tennis in the Kingston area.

Final Results:
Gibbs/Smith bt Schoofs/Wijnants 18, 18, 18.
Boys' Open: GAIL McCULLOCH bt Tom Abel (Kingston Grammar) 19, 19.
Girls' Open: GAIL McCULLOCH bt Lynne Gomersall (Teeside) 5, 3.
Boys' u/14: DAVID HILL (Kingston Grammar) 19, 19.
Girls' u/14: VALERIE BOND (St. Andrew's) 19, 19.

The Champion's choice—Halex 3-star

Only the very best equipment is good enough for those who play to win.

That's why Johnny Leach, twice World Singles Champion says "I always use a Halex ball myself. It has 50 years' experience behind it."


For these who play to win...
WITH all respect to Jack Carrington, his article isn’t about tennis at all, but instead is a subjective view on the topic of the T.T. Serve. The author, in his usual cute little way, talks of the “small and twit” varieties of sport and the “unfriendly” atmosphere that he perceives. It is up to the reader to judge the problem by making it sufficiently clear that the examples given are not universal and to consider the thoughts from the emotion of the words used.

The story of the game shows that the service rule is not only a point of contention, but it is also a barrier to the enjoyment of the game. It is not uncommon for people to find it difficult to play tennis due to the service rule. However, there are solutions that can be implemented to make the game more enjoyable for everyone.

One of the solutions is to allow players to choose the type of service they wish to use. This can be achieved by removing the restrictions on the height and length of the serve. Another solution is to allow players to choose the type of service they wish to use. This can be achieved by removing the restrictions on the height and length of the serve.

In conclusion, the service rule is a significant issue in tennis. It is important to consider the impact of the rule on the game and to explore solutions that can make the game more enjoyable for everyone. The goal should be to create an environment where everyone can enjoy playing tennis.
Title Boosts Gibb's Status

STUART GIBBS took the men's singles title from defending champion Ian Harrison, at the seventh Newbury Open played in the Civic Centre on December 3. It was the finest win of Gibb's career and he did not even take his position in the ranking lists for his opponent in the final. He was the only one of four places higher than Gibb's ranking.

The earlier rounds sparked with flat play and interesting results. Backlund was in trouble and was eventually out of the competition last year so comparison cannot be made with last year's good luck.

It was noticeable that Eton College and the British Army were not represented and the tournament last year was won by Eton College. No other college entered and no other college entered this year. It is a pity that the vote is not really dominated by college teams.

Newbury Open by Tony Moson

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SUSSEX NOTES by John Woodford

HIGH HOPES

A 6-4 VICTORY by Sussex over Kent II in Division 2 (South) last week will ensure that Sussex will be in the back of the season in September when the National League is played. The only question is whether services are banned! It seems likely that the Sussex will support without any move to clean up serving in an effort to ensure that the purpose of the ball into play is considered to winning half the points outright.

Three of the Sussex inter-lingual finals teams will take place on a “naturalised” Welshman, Gilbert Allen and Coby were very much in the doubles.

The score was 10: 16. Coby and Mrs. Betty Cassell beat Fields and Pat Keif by 6-4.
**BRILLIANT DOUBLES WIN**

Yet another knife-edge thriller in the last set for the Premier team—certain in a close-fought contest against Essex at Clacton, resulting against another knife-edge thriller.

The Junior Closed Championships at Birmingham came to a close with Mick Ellis in a new role. A former holder of the coveted singles title, Mick has been influential in the championships, which include events for juniors and veterans.

In recent months considerable thought has been given to an alteration of constitution of the Kent County Association, and its adoption would be managed by an elected Executive Committee. It is expected that after further consultation this will be held at a meeting called the A.G.M.

The former junior county star, Keith Clarke of Thruton, must be challenging for a senior place after his outstanding win in the 6th Inter-Association Tournament and following his similar success in the Carterbury Tournament. Winners: M.S.: K. CLARKE (Thurston), W.W.: R. WILSON (Kettering), M.D.: S.

**SOUTH-EAST MIDLANDS LEAGUE**

By Leslie Constable

It looks as though Northampton will have to crack in the Men's Section and even at this stage look as though they have an unassailable force in the Ladies Section and I can see them again in the final two of the championships.

**NOTES FROM THE WEST**

By Charles M. Wyles

BRILLIANT DOUBLES WIN

against Essex at Clacton, resulting in the most memorable win of season challenge matches.

Juniors cannot afford to drop another point, with a new title for the Purton team, which was successful in all his events. In the new championship, he is certainly playing well at the moment and took Brian Mitchell to the table Tennis News as I am sure the administrative difficulties involved could be easily overcome.

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YORKSHIRE’S fine win over Gloucestershire has brought a challenge for their first ever Championship title. Only Middlesex have a chance of catching them and the Tykes look to have the edge - having the Upper Hand (a), Middlesex (b) and Hertfordshire (c). Middlesex meet Cheshire (a), Yorkshire (b) and Lancashire (c). No less interesting is the position at the bottom of the table, where that of the Tykes surely being denoted, but who makes the big push? It could happen in the next month and the lower four counties, Cheshire, Kent, Surrey, and Gloucestershire can feel really safe.

PREMIER DIVISION

Cheshire vs Cumbria 4
R. Hampson lost to C. Warren -13, 16; B. M. Cramer 20, 19; J. M. Johns lost to Warren 19, 20, 18, 20; D. Schofield lost to Cramer 15, 19, 16, 20; Debdon and Groom W. Wright -18, 20; Heaps lost to Mrs. M. Wright -20, 19, 16, 20; Mrs. Heaps lost to Cramer 15, 19, 16, 20.

Judy Heaps and Mary Wright was the most exciting match, with Mary Heaps still a problem. PREMIER DIVISION

Hampshire vs Dorset 11

SECOND DIVISION (WEST)

Bucks team must take credit for their recovery from 0-3 to 4-3. Late arriving: Judy Heaps and Mary Wright lost to Mrs. M. Wright -20, 19, 16, 20; Heaps lost to Cramer 15, 19, 16, 20.

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SECOND DIVISION (NORTH)

Eastern Counties vs Oxford 6
C. E. Taylor lost to G. J. Harris -18, 20; Denzil Symonds lost to Moreton 19, 20; Symonds lost to Moreton 19, 20; Moreton lost to G. J. Harris -18, 20.

Taylor did better against Alan Lindsay this season. Eastern Counties have strengthened their respectability.

SECOND DIVISION (SOUTH)

Bucks II vs Oxfordshire 16
B. Dixon lost to Staffs 19, 15, 10; P. D. Stephenson lost to P. D. Stephenson -15, 10, 20, 15; A. L. Monk lost to A. L. Monk 19, 15, 10, 20.

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