INTERNATIONAL Table tennis comes to Eastbourne for the first time on Tuesday, March 4, when England take on the Soviet Union in a European League, premier division match at the Winter Garden.

The E.T.T.A. Organiser for the match is Charles M. Wyles of 48, Eversfield Place, St. Leonards-on-Sea, Sussex. An attendance in the region of 800 is anticipated with 80% tiered seating.

All enquiries for seats should be made to the Winter Garden Box Office (Phone Eastbourne 25252).

For the E.T.T.A. reason why not consult the Wilted agents European League, premier division match at the Winter Garden.

The Soviet Federation have waived their right to stage the match in Russia-they played England in Birmingham last season-because their players are desirous of defending their English Open titles in Brighton in February 27–Mar. 1.

Office ('Phone Eastbourne 25252).

Nine hundred is anticipated with 80% tiered seating.

Of all your holiday or leisure travel for London E.C. 01 24 4488.

In addition to Gomozkov, the Soviet No. 2 Anatoliy Smirnov is here seen in jovial mood, can also be expected to defend it at Brighton.

Hopes Dashed

England's slender hopes of contesting the Premier Division title of the European League-held by the U.S.S.R. -were dashed in Dunajnska Streda on Jan. 29 when beaten 4-3 by Czechoslovakia.

Leading 3-2 at the conclusion of the Mixed Doubles, third Denis Neale and, finally, Chester Barnes succumbed in straight games to Smetak and Kollarovits respectively.

Individual scores—

C. C. Barnes lost to J. Staneck -20, 21-10.
D. Neale bt S. Kollarovits 18, 19.
Mrs. K. Mathews lost to Miss 1.
Vostova -9, -10.
Neale/Barnes bt Staneck/V. Miko -17, 13, 20.
Barnes/Mathews bt Staneck/Vostova -9, -11, 18.
Neale lost to Staneck -14, -12.
Barnes lost to Kollarovits -9, -10.

A full report will appear in the March issue which, because of the date of the English Open, may be subject to a slight delay in publication.

STOP PRESS

Mr. Five by Five

Maurice Billington which went to the Yorkshireman 23-21 in the opener.

Play halted on adjacent tables when Billington, retrieving in the manner of Bergman at his peak, evidently counterhit a seeming winner from Hydes to equate the third game score at 1-1. A reflex "screamer", the shot took everyone by surprise, not least Hydes, but alas it was not enough.

Rightly complaining at the lack of top-ranking opposition in the Lancashire Open, Maryanne Hepple travelled the length of the country to appear on the Kent coast.

By concentration and steady hitting she brought about the defeat of English Closed champion Judy Williams but was unable to repeat the performance in final opposition to Karenza Mathews.

Trevor Taylor won the counterpart event after beating Ian Robertson in the semis but the long journey down must have seemed worthwhile for the Tynemouth boy, after his win over Barry Hill (Surrey), in the men's event.

English Open men's singles title holder, Stanislav Gumacov, is here seen in jovial mood when partnered by a smiling Svetlana Gorchigo. Miss Grozberg and Zoya Rudnova are the holders of the women's doubles title and can be expected to defend it at Eastbourne from February 27–Mar. 1.

Still game for more, on her return, from Yugoslavia, Jill Shirley, accustomed to Karenza in the semis but won't be enough. Rightly complaining at the lack of top-ranking opposition in the Lancashire Open, Maryanne Hepple travelled the length of the country to appear on the Kent coast.

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INTERNATIONAL ROUND-UP

by Conrad Jaschke

CHAIRMAN OF THE ENGLISH TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION

TABLE TENNIS NEWS
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CAPTAIN'S CHOICE

VERY shortly now, England's teams to compete in the 30th World Championships in the Expositionhall, Munich from April 17-27, will be announced.

In a Press Release issued last month, team manager Johnny Leach stated that the players chosen would comprise those he personally considered would achieve the best results.

From this statement one can deduce, as a yardstick, the revised Seeding List which was released subsequent to the English Closed Championships and which has evoked a certain amount of criticism.

The only certainty appertaining to seeding is that it appears to be the case, this will be made from the ten men and nine women who make up the National Squad.

Membership of this elite group apart, further consideration will rest with the National Selection Committee, under the chairmanship of Tom Blunn, but the final choice will be the prerogative of Johnny Leach.

Such onerous responsibility should be deserving of further state recognition for it is to be doubted if the efforts which merit his M.B.E. are commensurate with the task confronting him now.

Partial omission of this set task could well be afforded by a decision of the National Council in deciding to amend a full complement of players to Munich which was not the case, in less affluent times, for the previous championships held in Stockholm, Sweden.

It is always difficult to utilise a full complement effectively and the National Council may well consider it more beneficial to send an adequate team with one or two very young players to attend and participate purely for experience.

ENGLISH TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION

Patron: Her Majesty the Queen.
President: T. Austin Harrison.
Chairman: Conrad Jaschke.
Hon. Treasurer: Tom Blunn
Secretary: P. Cameron
Management Committee: Maurice Goldstein, Malcolm E. Scott, Keith Watts and George R. Yates.

BOYS
1. D. Barc
2. D. George
3. D. Sharriton
4. R. Partyka
5. A. Strohman

GIRLS
1. E. Smith
2. M. Neilas
3. Ch. McBeth
4. E. Laird

SWEDEN'S 'JOHNNY LEACH'

In the same way as the E.T.T.A. have appointed Johnny Leach as Team Manager and sole selector this season, the Swedish T.T.A. now have named Lotta Harmaroch a similar position in Sweden. He has the task of selecting teams and team captains when he himself is not able to travel.

IRISH CORNER

Pursuing the recent 'Round Robin' tournament held among Ireland's top players for the purpose of making the following list has been issued (writes Kevin Drum).

MEN
1. J. Langan
2. T. Coffey
3. C. Thompson
4. T. Langton
5. S. Neill
6. N. Sloan

WOMEN
1. J. Fitzsimons
2. B. Warwick
3. J. Geary
4. J. Mahony
5. C. McKenna
6. S. Finkner

The newly reformed branch of the Munster Association were first in the field with their team for this month's (Feb.) interprovincial at Bangor. Only new cap is C. Crowe from Limerick. The team is—J. Christie, K. Mckadden, D. Foley, C. Cross, Mrs. B. Cody and Miss F. Dawkins.

Czechoslovakia's top players Mantov and Kollbrich, as well as Marta Laza-Hejmova, Stuart Gibbs and exiled Hungarian George Moranyi will be the star attractions at the Irish Open to be held in Dublin on February 13/14. It is hoped that the Carlsbad may also play two international matches against Ireland during their visit.
SEEDING LIST

TAYLOR ON THE UP-AND-UP
TREVOR Taylor at Hitchin, Herts., is the seconding star in the new Seeding List issued by the E.T.T.A. for the benefit of tournament organisers subsequent to the English Closed Championships.

From being 10th in the previous list, the 16-year-old No. 1 English junior moves up to No. 3 in the senior list directly behind Denis Neale and Chester Barnes.

Lists: (former positions in brackets):

MEN
1. D. Neale (Yorks.) (1)
2. G. C. Barnes (Essex) (3)
3. J. Shirley (Bucks.) (6)
4. I. D. Neale (Yorks.) (4)
5. F. J. Wright (Surrey) (9)
6. J. Williams (Sussex) (11)
7. O. B. Haslam (Middx.) (7)
8. D. Brown (Essex) (6)
9. A. Heaps (Nthln.) (3)
10. A. Hydes (Yorks.) (9)

JUNIORS
1. P. Williams (Sussex) (11)
2. G. C. Barnes (Essex) (3)
3. J. Shirley (Bucks.) (6)
4. I. D. Neale (Yorks.) (4)
5. P. Pidcock (Kent) (4)
6. J. Williams (Sussex) (11)
7. O. B. Haslam (Middx.) (7)
8. D. Brown (Essex) (6)
9. A. Heaps (Nthln.) (3)
10. A. Hydes (Yorks.) (9)

INTERNATIONAL SEEDING LIST

The Selection Committee also reviewed the composition of the International Seedings and have named the top ten men and the top nine women on the Seeding Lists. This means that Diane Simpson of Essex joins the Squad and that Stuart Gibbs and Susan Howard.

INTERNATIONAL SQUAD

The Selection Committee also reviewed the composition of the International Squad and have named the top ten men and the top nine women on the Seeding Lists. This means that Diane Simpson of Essex joins the Squad and that Stuart Gibbs and Susan Howard.

A member of England's Smethwick Cup team in Stockholm at the last World Championships, Stuart Gibbs is here seen sadly occupying a back seat. Photo by courtesy of Denton & Co Management Ltd.

SCOTLAND v. ENGLAND

ESSEX players Diane Simpson and David Brown will make their senior international debut against Scotland in a match to be played at Motherwell Town Hall on Saturday, February 15.

Due to the lack of time, the numbers entering and a rapidly thickening fog, the tournament was played on a one-game basis, with the exception of the finals, and four winners under and over 15 years of age will receive a voucher for their efforts.

The response must surely have convinced anyone with doubts that the day was worthwhile. Whilst, at the moment, I cannot report the formation of a league, I am pleased to expect the event for I consider it to be a great step forward in the history of Derbyshire Table Tennis.

MARY BACK

JOHNNY Leach announced the following team to represent England against Hungary at Bracknell on February 7 — Denis Neale (Yorks.), Chester Barnes (Essex) and Mary Wright (Surrey).

LEA GREEN SETS THE SCENE

by Walter Reeves

A meeting was held during November to decide whether or not to form a Derbyshire Schools' T.T. Association and at Lea Green Youth Training Centre, on December 15th. It came into being.

Invitations were sent out to all schools in the county inviting eight pupils from each, with an official in charge, and much was the overwhelming response that plans had to be hastily revised when 132 pupils turned up.

The general plan was that pupils should receive some fundamental instruction, watch an exhibition and then take part in a tournament.

Instruction was under the direction of Northern Staff Coach, Peter Simpson, assisted by Derbyshire Coaches Tony Chetwin, Malcolm Allopp and myself but because of time limitations this was only of a basic nature.

The Exhibition was given by England players Denis Neale and Alan Hydes which gave the youngsters some idea of the long road that lies ahead if they are to acquire a similar degree of skill.

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The response must surely have convinced anyone with doubts that the day was worthwhile. Whilst, at the moment, I cannot report the formation of a league, I am pleased to expect the event for I consider it to be a great step forward in the history of Derbyshire Table Tennis.

Party Travel to World Championships in Munich—£28 10s 0d

A quotation has been obtained for a party (subject to a minimum of ten passengers) travelling to Munich for the individual events of the World Championships. The sum of £28 10s. 0d. (NOT inclusive of admission tickets which would cost approximately £9) includes 2nd Class rail and steamer from London—Munich via Dover/Ostend, with Coach hire accommodation in each direction, and three nights bed/breakfast only at a moderate hotel, based on twin bedded rooms.

Departure would be at 12.00 hours on Wednesday, April 23, arriving in Munich at 09.26 on April 24, the first day of the individual events. The return journey will commence on Sunday, April 27, at 20.52 hours, arriving back in London at 16.00 hours on Monday, April 28.

The V-form amount for this trip is £27 0s. 0d. out of the £25 allowance, leaving £4 3s. 0d. personal spending allowance. In addition, £13 5s. in Sterling may be taken abroad.

Anyone wishing to take advantage of these arrangements should send a £5 deposit to A. W. Shipley, E.T.T.A., 26-29 Park Crescent, London W.1. Closing date for applications is Friday, Feb. 28, 1969.
OFFICIAL NEWS

TABLE TENNIS BROCHURE

In its attempts to secure sponsorship, the E.T.T.A. Sponsorship Committee found that many industrial and commercial concerns knew very little about the size and scope of our sport, and rather than quote cold facts and figures, it was decided to create an illustrated brochure, designed primarily to inform and attract sponsors. Copies of this brochure are being made available to all League and County, and it is hoped that Secretaries will not only find them of interest but that they could prove useful in many ways such as securing that ideal venue from a local organisation uncertain of the needs of our sport. We would certainly like to hear your views on the brochure and, of course, any ways in which it was of benefit to you. Ron is the Chairman of the E.T.T.A. Archive Sub-Committee.

HANDBOOK SUPPLEMENTS

QUANTITIES of Part II to the Official Handbook have now been sent to all Leagues, with the offer of further supply on request. It is realized that it has appeared later in the season than on previous occasions but the delay was caused by wishing to produce a Supplement with the maximum amount of up-to-date information. This was also the reason for those repeated requests for a return of the green affiliation forms. However, it would be pleasing to learn of your wishes in this respect, for although it is possible to publish a Supplement by early November, the degree of accuracy would depend on the information available at the time.

TABLE TENNIS NEWS

A copy of our magazine will by now have reached all League Secretaries in an attempt to widen the circulation. It was felt that some news did not know of the existence of a table tennis magazine and we hope that at least some of you will have been able to introduce some new readers. Please show the magazine to your Committee and take it with you to your local Championships.

ANY OLD RELICS?

As you may know, the E.T.T.A. was born in April 1927 and, therefore, is gradually moving out of the field of current interest, so any old relics will be very welcome as a return of the green affiliation forms. If you please contact Mr. J. R. Croxton, 11, Cypress Gardens, Bourne, Worcestershire—we will be delighted to hear from you. Ron is the Chairman of the E.T.T.A. Archive Sub-Committee.

E.T.T.A. RULES

LEAGUE and County Secretaries are reminded that under Rule 90(b) of the Association's regulations, proposals for the alteration of Rules must be submitted in writing, to reach the General Secretary of the E.T.T.A. not later than the last day in February.

FIT-FOR-TAT

It has been very interesting to read copies of newsletters issued by Leicester, Wiltshire and Essex County, and it would be pleasing to receive copies from other Leagues. This would give opportunity for an exchange of views and due note has been taken of items appearing in E.T.T.A. Bulletins being used in local productions, thus spreading information to that normally inaccessible person, the ordinary Club member.

RETURN THAT POT

On several occasions this season, Tournament Organisers have been embarrassed by not having a trophy to present to the winner of a tournament, due to the forgetfulness of the previous holder to return the trophy. All trophy holders are therefore reminded of this need, which is covered by E.T.T.A. Tournament Regulation No. 23.

"The Admin Wallah"

Here we see, out of uniform, is Albert Shipley the E.T.T.A.'s Administrative Secretary, and compiler of the Official Notes. Needless to say, the picture was not taken at the offices of the Association in Park Crescent, London, W.I. 1.

E.T.T.A. ELECTIONS 1967/68

by Tony Wickens

In the 1967/68 Elections, the electorate consisted of 36 County Associations and 310 Local Leagues, with a total voting strength of 958 (County Associations 1 vote each; 42 Leagues with 3 votes, 168 Leagues with 2 votes and 100 Leagues with 1 vote each). In the election of Chairman 26 Counties and 150 Leagues sent ballot papers, of which 10 had to be rejected, of Deputy Chairman 25 Counties and 508 Leagues, of which 12 had to be rejected, and therefore not included, from 2 Counties and 7 Local Leagues. The highest percentage of the electorate voting in any of the three elections was 37%.

The Scrutineers felt that it was unfortunate that of 375 papers scrutinised, 36, almost 10%, had to be rejected, after the persons concerned had taken the trouble to send papers in. The National Council have, therefore, agreed that the Members of the E.T.T.A. be given some idea of why papers had to be rejected. Papers were rejected for one of the following six reasons—

1. Organisation purporting to vote not on list of organisations eligible to vote, (3 papers)
2. Deliberate abstention, (5 papers)
3. Organisation voting not stated on paper, (7 papers)
4. Organisation voting not stated on paper and incorrect one inserted, (5 papers)
5. Second signature not that of a "responsible Officer", (12 papers)
6. "Responsible officer" held by second signature not stated, or not eligible, (4 papers)

E.T.T.A. COACHING SCHEME

by Derek R. Tremayne

COACHING COURSES

The following courses have been arranged by the Central Council of Physical Recreation for 1967/68, and the details are available at 26 Park Crescent, London W.I. April 19-26—Burton Hall, Torquay, Devon (course for personal performance). July 12-19—Llidenhall Hall, Newport, Shropshire (course for coaches and players in form of documents such as handbooks, match programmes etc., and pieces of equipment such as nets, bats and badges. Therefore, if anyone feels that he can add to the existing archives of the Association, would you please contact Mr. J. R. Croxton, 11, Cypress Gardens, Bourne, Worcestershire—we will be delighted to hear from you. Ron is the Chairman of the E.T.T.A. Archive Sub-Committee.

THE TABLE OF THE FUTURE TODAY

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"The Admin Wallah"
COACHING SCHEME continued

class coaching. The majority of those re­
questing free sessions have already
been dealt with but we hope that
more replies will be forthcoming from
those leagues who have not yet re­
pinned. The free sessions already
given appear to have been most
successful from reports received.

UNDER-13 COMPETITION

The National Coaching and Schools
Sub-Committee of the E.T.T.A. have
agreed to go ahead with the organisa­
tion of this new competition.

It was felt that in the first year of
this event, Leagues would be asked
to run a competition to discover their
boy and girl champions in the Under­
13 age group (i.e. Under 13 on June
30/68).

The names of their two champions
should be submitted to me at the
E.T.T.A. office by Thursday, April
30/69.

Players will then be allocated to
one of our Regional Finals to be
played, at venues to be decided, on
Saturday, May 31/69.

The National Finals will be held
at a venue, probably in the Midlands,
on Saturday, June 30/69. Two boys
and two girls from each of the
Regional Finals will go forward to the
National Finals.

Whilst the names of your League
champions are not required until
April 30, it would help in the adminis­
tration of the event if indication
could be given, on the tear-off slip
of the notices which have gone out
among League Secretaries, of your
interest in the competition.

SCHOOL CENTRE DATES

Malton—Feb. 15 and March 15.
Leith—Feb. 15, Mar. 1 and 29.
St. Austell—Feb. 22-23 and Mar.
Addled (Kent)—Feb. 22 and Mar.
Banff—Feb. 22 and Mar. 8.
Exmouth—Feb. 8 and Mar. 8.
Worle—Feb. 8 and 22, Mar. 8.

Both the Cheshire Schools Centre
and Valley Gardens, North Shields
are due to open at the end of Febru­
ary and details can be had from the
Northern Staff Coach, Peter Simpson.

REGIONAL CENTRE DATES

Bradford—Mar. 30, Apr. 27, May 18
Stockton—Mar. 16, Apr. 13, May 11
Crystal Palace—Feb. 16, Mar. 30,
Apr. 13, May 4 and June 8.
Luton—Mar. 16, Apr. 27, May 18
Norwich—Feb. 15, Mar. 15, Apr.
26 and May 24.

Further details of centres in the
North may be obtained from Peter
Simpson (30, Vesper Gate Mount,
Leeds 5) and of centres in the South
from Jack Carrington (24, Worcester
Gardens, Ilford, Essex).

JUNIOR PROFICIENCY AWARD

SCHEME

Details of the scheme in the form
of an illustrated brochure are now
available from Jack Carrington.

COACHING AWARD SCHEME

Enrolment forms and brochures
are now available from staff coaches
or the E.T.T.A. office.

An Announcement by
Johnny Leach

England’s Team Manager

AFTER his retirement as a player, I
invited Ian Harrison to become more
interested in the Captaincy and train­
sing side of the game, and during
early January he became involved in
training with members of the Inter­
national Squad, to assist in every
way possible and to become accepted
by the players as an official.

Ian has already been non-playing
Captain of the England team in
matches against Czechoslovakia,
Israel and the Netherlands. The vast
experience he has gained, in all parts
of the world; during his playing
career in which he appeared for Eng­
lond in the record number of 176 in­
ternational matches, and as a member
of England’s Squad in both six
successive World and European
Championships, can, I am sure, be of
great benefit to the Association in
general and the International Squad
in particular. Thus I intend to use
Ian more regularly as a non-playing
Captain of England teams.

As you are aware, the World
Championships are to be staged in
Munich from April 17-27 this year.
It will give the game in this country
a great boost. If, as has been my
endeavour throughout the season, we
can achieve a good result at Munich,

Unfortunately, the Hungarian team
were unable to stay in this country
as planned, for a training session after
their match at Bracknell on February
7, but the players who will represent
England at Munich, together with the
reserve players, will be chosen within
a week of that date.

From then on, the playing activi­
ties, tournament entries and doubles
partnerships of those players will be
strictly controlled throughout.

Finally, I must emphasise that the
teams chosen will be those players
who I personally consider will achieve
the best results in Munich.

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Mitre sports
dealer and
get him to
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bats.

Why settle
for less?

MITRE SPORTS, FITZWILLIAM STREET, HUDDERSFIELD

Page 5
by The Editor

DESPITE the absence of top seeds Bacon and Nick Night, the final stages of the Lancashire Open Championships, played at Hooley Siddick Dynamics, Lockett, Bolton on Jan. 16, were not devoid of excitement. Climax came when the fourth seed, Alan Hydes, won the men's singles title for the first time.

Set of the whole day, however, was the surprising semi-final meeting of Manchester's Kevin Forshaw and Midlands international Paul Hastein which the southerner won by the skin of his teeth 23-21 in the deciding game.

Major shock of the day also occurred in the men's singles when, in the 14th round, former international Mike Johns was ousted by Pat Glynn of Birmingham who, in the next round succeeded to local entrant Collin Long.

Maurice Hoppell reclaimed the women's singles title he lost in last year's final but not without trouble in dispatching of Lancashire's June Johnson, herself a winner—in Miss Wright of Chester—in seasons 1961 and 1962.

Over at Pottersact, on January 23, the entry was very much a localised one especially in the men's event which was dominated by the Wyke players.

Only Lancashire's Bob Kelly readily opposed Pat Glynn briefly, in opposition to Peter Hirst in the former England junior, Tony Clayton, crashed his way past Hull's Peter Broadbent to take the title.

His Hall colleague, Alan Fletcher, won the boys' singles event for the third successive year to keep all the title-winning honours within the county. Outstanding performance at the weekend in the women's events, the singles title being won by Kelly Patience but not after really hard labour against the stalwart defence of Eileen Starkie.

Participating in the ladies two ladies, on Sutton Road, Miss Perry collected a second successive year this time at the expense of British champion Joan M. Hall (Warwick), who, in turn, the Yorkshire pair remained to be met.

\[\text{Lancs. Open Results}\]

\text{Men's Singles: Quarters-
\begin{align*}
\text{K. Percival (Lancs.)} & \text{bt C. E. Long (Lancs.) 17, 18; O. B. Haslam (Midlands) bt R. K. Gomersall (Warwick) 16, 19; A. Hydes (Yorkshire) bt R. F. Barnes (Lincoln) 17, 17; J. Rudge (Yorkshire) bt A. L. Clayton (Yorkshire) 18, 15, 10.}
\end{align*}\]

\text{Semi-finals:}

\begin{align*}
\text{Haslam bt Hydes 15, 13, 25; Hydes bt Long 14, 17, 14; Hydes bt Long 15, 15, 15.}
\end{align*}\]

\text{Women's Singles: Quarters-
\begin{align*}
\text{D. Johnson (Lincoln) bt S. Lee (Yorkshire) 12, 17; M. Hoppell (Northumberland) bt C. Moen (Lincoln) 19, 12; F. Hoppell (Lincoln) bt Johnson 14, 18, 16.}
\end{align*}\]

\text{15th WINTON Y.M.C.A.}

\text{RESULTS Restrict ed OPEN by John Luther}

\text{Just under 100 players occupied 14 hours to get this tournament through.}

\text{Much high-standard play was witnessed and none more so, in the third round, than the meeting of 15-year-olds Audrey Hirst and Southampton's Trevor Smith. The young Warrington school-keeper gave Smith a hard time of it before the Hunts player won -22, 12, 15.}

\text{Youngest competitor was Miss J. New (Bourneemouth), aged 9, who appears to have a distinct future in the game ahead of her.}

\text{Final results:-}

\begin{align*}
\text{Men's Singles:}
\text{W. Moulding (Wiltshire) bt D. Davies (Shropshire) 17, 19, 19.}
\text{J. Cooper (Hants) bt B. Buckon (Wiltshire) 11, 13, 14.}
\text{C. Diffey (Herefordshire) bt T. Smith (Hants) bt E. Leventis (Cambridge) 16, 19.}
\text{Women's Singles:}
\text{J. Cooper (Hants) bt B. Buckon (Wiltshire) 11, 13, 14.}
\text{C. Diffey (Herefordshire) bt T. Smith (Hants) bt E. Leventis (Cambridge) 16, 19.}
\end{align*}\]

\text{Boy's Singles:}

\begin{align*}
\text{W. Moulding (Wiltshire) bt D. Davies (Shropshire) 21, 19, 19.}
\text{J. Cooper (Hants) bt B. Buckon (Wiltshire) 21, 13, 14.}
\text{C. Diffey (Herefordshire) bt T. Smith (Hants) bt E. Leventis (Cambridge) 16, 18, 19.}
\end{align*}\]

\text{Girl's Singles:}

\begin{align*}
\text{I. Cooper (Hants) bt B. Buckon (Wiltshire) 11, 13, 21.}
\text{C. Diffey (Herefordshire) bt T. Smith (Hants) bt E. Leventis (Cambridge) 16, 18, 19.}
\end{align*}\]

\text{PONTEFRACT OPEN}

\text{Men's Singles: Quarters-
\begin{align*}
\text{A. Clayton (Yorkshire) bt N. Fletcher (Yorkshire) 12, 18, 18; B. R. Kelly (Yorkshire) bt A. Wright (Yorkshire) 12, 18, 18; S. Nunn (Yorkshire) bt B. R. Kelly (Yorkshire) 12, 18, 18; R. Kelly (Yorkshire) bt B. R. Kelly (Yorkshire) 12, 18, 18.}
\end{align*}\]

\text{Semi-finals:
\begin{align*}
\text{Clayton bt Nunn 11, 21, 15.}
\text{Clayton bt Kelly 18, 18.}
\text{Women's Singles: Semi-finals:
\begin{align*}
\text{E. Starkie (Yorkshire) bt L. Parker (Yorkshire) 12, 18, 18; R. Kelly (Yorkshire) bt B. R. Kelly (Yorkshire) 12, 18, 18.}
\end{align*}\]

\text{Final:}

\begin{align*}
\text{Clayton bt Kelly 18, 18.}
\text{Women's Doubles: Semi-finals:
\begin{align*}
\text{E. Starkie (Yorkshire) bt L. Parker (Yorkshire) 12, 18, 18; R. Kelly (Yorkshire) bt B. R. Kelly (Yorkshire) 12, 18, 18.}
\end{align*}\]

\text{Final:}

\begin{align*}
\text{Clayton bt Starkie 13, 17, 13.}
\end{align*}\]

\text{Boys' Singles: Semi-finals:
\begin{align*}
\text{A. Clayton (Yorkshire) bt N. Fletcher (Yorkshire) 12, 18, 18; S. Nunn (Yorkshire) bt B. R. Kelly (Yorkshire) 12, 18, 18; R. Kelly (Yorkshire) bt B. R. Kelly (Yorkshire) 12, 18, 18.}
\end{align*}\]

\text{Semi-final:
\begin{align*}
\text{Clayton bt Nunn 11, 21, 15.}
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\end{align*}\]

\text{Final:}

\begin{align*}
\text{Clayton bt Starkie 13, 17, 13.}
\end{align*}\]

\text{INTERNATIONAL MATCH}

\text{Congratulations to English international Connie J. Warren of Mitcham, Surrey and Irish Connolly Cup, player Joan Mckechnie, of Dublin, who have recently announced their engagement.

Wanted copies Table Tennis for 1956-1959 inclusive. State price to P. Smith, Chaver Down Road, Bracknell, Berks.
TOURNAMENT DIARY

Date Title and Venue Extra Events Organising Secretary
Feb. 22/23 Teesside Open, Team A. Ransome, Team A. Ransome, Championships 21a, Church Lane, Eston Sports Centre, Championships 21a, Church Lane, Middlesbrough, Yorks.


Mar. 9 Bedford Restricted Open, Mrs. E. W. Pacey, Badminton Hall, Bradgate Road, Bedford.

Mar. 9 Teesside Junior Open, U-17 BS, GS, U-13 BS, GS, A. Ransome, XG, XD, BD, GO, 21a, Church Lane, Middlesbrough.

Mar. 9 Teesside Junior Open, U-13 BS, GS, A. Ransome, XG, XD, BD, GO, 21a, Church Lane, Middlesbrough.

EXETER JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS by Bernard Snook

BIGGEST ENTRY YET

A total of 81 entries, the biggest entry to date, contested the Exeter Junior Championships at Exeter Y.M.C.A. on January 23.

This competition is increasing in popularity every year and those that took part included entries from Northampton, Bournemouth, Bristol and Somerset, to name a few. Youngest competitor was Janet New of Southampton, aged 9.

The Open Boys' singles title was won by David James of Plymouth, the other titles being shared by the Hampshire contingent.

Exeter's only success was in their own closed singles where Paul Stone won in straight legs over Alan Lewis who has been runner-up in this event more times than he cares to remember.

E.T.T.A. Organising Secretary, D. R. Tremayne presented prizes to the following winners:

BOYS' OPEN SINGLES:
D. James bt P. Rose 8, 18.

GIRLS' OPEN SINGLES:

BOYS' DOUBLES:

GIRLS' DOUBLES:

MIXED DOUBLES:

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CHESTER BARNES BAT
BARNES V COVERs and
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Page 7
The Swathling Club
by VICTOR BARNA

FOUNDED in 1967, the Swathling Club has many aims, some of the most important being to help old friends, find themselves in a less fortunate position than themselves. It is also concerned with arranging get-togethers, inviting friendly nations, and having fun.

The history of the Club is very short, and was founded by a bunch of people (21 to be exact) led by Zarko Dolinar. The first World Championships in Stockholm, a meeting held at which Offices and a committee were elected, and work begun immediately. I was, and still am, amazed at the enthusiasm concerning the Club. The players, especially those of the older generation, responded very quickly, national Associations immediately gave support, promising more help in the future.

Unfortunately, the number of letters received applying for membership from people who, unfortunately, were not eligible, is just unbelievable. Only players and captains who have represented their country in a World Championship are eligible by "invitation" only. Lots of people may think that this is an exclusive, snobbish Club. I can assure you that I am not one of these people who have the same ideal or shall I say idealistic members who help and are proud of the fact that they are members of a well meaning Club.

In due time everyone will receive invitations but at the moment some 70% of the membership is in contact with the older players of the pre-war generation.

GENERAL HELP

Sincere thanks are due to the German Federal and French Associations for their most generous help, given to the Club right from the start. The French Association, led by Mr. Mercier and Mr. Duclos, arranged free hospitality for the duration of the European Championships in Lyon for three of our members nominated by us.

Our good friends Mr. Maize and Mr. Schick of the Federal German Association, arranged a fantastic day's outing, free hospitality for fifteen Swathling Club members. Furthermore, they have already offered their hospitality for ten Swathling Club members for the World Championships in Lyon for three of our members nominated by us.

For the 1968 European Championship players, the Swathling Association were able to invite six ex-World Champions, 10 from Czechoslovakia, winner of the 1936 and 1947 World Singles, Standa Kolar, also from Chechenlovakia, World Champion in 1946 and Trudl Petrali from Austria, World Champion in 1937. Our three guests thoroughly enjoyed themselves and it was a happy occasion for all concerned.

AWARDS FOR SPORTSMANSHIP

In order to encourage the "fair play" and "sporting gestures", the Club decided to give an award to the best sportsman at each World Championship. In 1967 at Stockholm, the prize went to Kjell Johansson of Sweden who, at the most critical stage in his match against Gomozkov (USSR) rectified an error made by an umpire in his favour. The sporting gesture probably cost him the match!

For the next European Championships at Ewa Kocian of Hungary who, despite a severe leg injury, continued to play, in all events, rather than scratch, not wanting to let down her team and double partner.

So far it has not been decided whether an award will be presented every year or only at World Championships. The award for Munich has already been donated and is a replica of our emblem. Our good friend, committee member, Joe Voskay, is responsible and I am sure the recipient will like it.

DENMARK

The members of the Danish Swathling Club are offering a Cup to the Danish Association to be given annually to the player or official who has done the most for Danish table tennis. A very good idea and one doubt will stimulate affairs in Denmark.

NOT SNOBBISH

Mr. Schlaf, of the Federal German and French Associations for their most generous help, and our good friends Dr. Mauritz and H. Haysom of Sweden who, unfortunately, were not eligible, is just unbelievable. Only players and captains who have represented their country in a World Championship are eligible by "invitation" only. Lots of people may think that this is an exclusive, snobbish Club. I can assure you that I am not one of these people who have the same ideal or shall I say idealistic members who help and are proud of the fact that they are members of a well meaning Club.

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From the Editor’s Postbag

GRADING SYSTEM

I was extremely interested to read in the December issue of Table Tennis News about ranking in general and gradings in particular.

Being a very keen amateur statistician I set about looking into various grading systems in 1962 looking for one which would serve a small league equally as well as it would if used on a National scale.

I finally settled on a system similar to that used in the chess world and this system is now mid-way through its initial official season in the Leicester and District League where every one of some 500 players are Graded (and consequently ranked) according to strength—right from the top player down to the raw beginner. Basically it works like this:

Each player has a Grading number which he keeps for the rest of that season and this is not altered until the beginning of the next season. The only concession is that a player beats another with a number more than 50 below his own then this result is not counted. Similarly for the player who loses to a player more than 50 above. The idea being that if the difference is more than 30 then the higher Graded player should always win.

If the lower player wins then this is counted for both players.

This system may at first sound complicated but it is extremely easy to apply and, the most important point, most accurate.

At the commencement of the season each player receives a number, based on the previous season’s results, which he keeps for the rest of that season and this is not altered until the beginning of the next season. However, for purposes of short term selection, etc., each player’s results over any period whatsoever can be easily grouped and analyzed by dividing number of games played between two players into points totalled giving a result for that particular period which, of course, is the whole idea of such a system.

I hope this letter is of some interest to someone, especially perhaps Tom Blunn, and you might note that this Grading System is easily adaptable to the whole of Britain.

I can supply more details if necessary.

JOHN BOWNESS
28, Trinidwume Road,
Leicester, LE5 5DH.
The match was unrestrained in its intensity and keenness, and the boys and girls did not disappoint the expectations. Miss Bashford and Miss Bashford/S. Howard lost to Miss Prell 19, 19; Jarvis played excellently to win his singles and doubles titles, followed by Susan the singles winner and the Mixed-went abroad, the girls took the Germans into a 4-1 lead. Jarvis went on to beat Holger Schlomm before going down to Melissa Waldman in the quarters. John Dabin gained his revenge over Manfred Weiss, who was Jarvis's victim in the quarters and Tony Sitzmann (No.1) won on the wrong end of a three-gameer with Sitzmann at the same stage.

The Yorkshir Junior Open was held at Hull Y.P.L's: new Sports Hall on January 5th, the Yorkshire Junior Open attracted an entry which included not only but four of the top twenty-four ranked juniors, but twelve more Group "A" and "B" players. In addition Federal Germany entered their full international side which had beaten an England team 5-3 at Bury, Lancs. on the previous night.

The Germans were not as dominant as usual, even though two of the five Under-17 titles—Stuart Smillie and the Mixed—went ahead, the former for the third successive year. 1969 winner was top-ranked Rudi Sitzmann, who got through with a 16, 18 win over local boy Alan Fletcher, who in no way disgraced himself in an entertaining battle.

Fletcher, in fact, recently deserved from No.5 to No.3 in the National Rankings, "thanked his stars" at the selection with straight wins over Federal Germany's No.2, Klaus Schellen and higher ranking England players Simon Heaps (No.7) and Nicky Jarvis (No.9). John Dabin, ranked No.2, fell to Manfred Weiss, who was Jarvis's victim in the quaters and Tony Sitzmann (No.1) won on the wrong end of a three-gameer with Sitzmann at the same stage.

The real shock of the event came in Round 1 where, in his first outing Ian Robertson, who has made a meteoric rise to No.4 in the rankings, fell to up-and-coming Sheffield boy David Rayner -11, 14, 10.

Robertson saw to it they were kept awake in the final encounter when, in the boys' doubles, but nothing could tarnish the glitter of England's successes in the final two sets.

Overall, Miss Cornock wholed her way past Siglinda Prell to stir the audience for the mixed doubles in part.

1. Robertson/Miss Cornock beat R. Sitzmann/Miss Prell -12, 15, 15; Bohasman/Heaps lost to Sitzmann/M. Weiss -15,17; Miss Cornock bt Miss Prell 16, 13; Robertson bt Sitzmann 14, 13, 10.

ENGLAND JUST LOSE AGAIN

by Laurie Landry


FEDERAL Germany again de­feated England by a close margin in the second junior international but, again, a 5-4 deficit at the half-way stage was no position from which to build a victory.

Whilst Nicky Jarvis only just lost in his first international, in the first set on, Melvyn Waldman just could not produce the form of the previous day when he went down to Sitzmann, the victory No.1.

John Dabin gained his revenge over Manfred Weiss to make it 1-2 but the loss of the girls' doubles—the one set we really expected to win—and the boys' took the Germans into a 4-1 lead.

Jarvis played excellently to win his other singles. So did Waldman and Dabin but they just could not win. Waldman led by a game and 13-7 and the boys defeated Waldman/Scheven 11, 14, 14.

The two Kent girls paired to win Local England girls, holders of the Under-17 titles-the Boys' Singles: Semi-finals: J. Geerts (Fed. Germany) bt N. Fulstow (Yorkshire) -20, 17, 19.

Girls' Singles Semi-finals: S. BECKWITH (Essex) bt S. Broad­burn (Yorkshire) -20, 17, 19.

Final: J. Dyer (Lancashire) bt N. Fulstow (Yorkshire) -20, 17, 19.


Final: J. Howard bt Diebold/S. Prell (Fed. Germany) 21, 19, CORNOCK/S. LISLE bt Mrs. Ipsley (Lancashire) 19, 17.

Boys' Doubles: Semi-finals: BOASMAN bt N. Fulstow (Yorkshire) -20, 17, 19.

Final: J. Howard bt Diebold/S. Prell (Fed. Germany) 21, 19, CORNOCK/S. LISLE bt Mrs. Ipsley (Lancashire) 19, 17.

U-17 Boys' Singles: Semi-finals: WINSTON bt C. Mann 19, 19; BOASMAN bt N. Fulstow (Yorkshire) -20, 17, 19.

Girls' Singles Semi-finals: S. BECKWITH (Essex) bt S. Broad­burn (Yorkshire) -20, 17, 19.

Final: J. Dyer (Lancashire) bt N. Fulstow (Yorkshire) -20, 17, 19.


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There's been a revolution in the six towns of Teesside. No lighting. Just a change of direction. Twelve months ago table tennis was represented nationally with an open tournament of no great significance. Other sports were similarly unimportant. Now everything has exploded this month of fulcrums of chimneys, cooling towers and cranes. And they echo to the clanging of steel girders, the hissing of welding equipment that upstages the whispering of scientists as the top brains of Britain contribute to the Industrial Connurbation. The locals have another name for it, but what home and they'll probably talk about the beer-heavy gravity ale measured in happiness six pints at a sociology students.

About 15 years ago, Billingham caught the hub of which is it's sports sections. They've all joined the bigger. This month, they'll get it.

Open. But events have turned it into a five-nation triple event with eight top county teams, and the extra top women's teams to compete. Even the left wing fighters turned up trumps. Last year's Open was won by Trevor Stevenson, Accommodation Manager of the Eagle Gardens, Blyth. This year, we've three international juniors to watch and to play table tennis. The world is coming to Teesside to watch and to play table tennis. The world will take home memories to pass on to its friends. You can do the same.

**TEESIDE OPEN TABLE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS**

**ENGLISH SCHOOLS' TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION**

1969 NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

by W. S. MACKENZIE

THE Semi-Finals and Finals of the National Event, which is being conducted for the first time wholly by the England Open Tennis Association, will be held on Saturday, 1st March, at the Strickland Sports Centre, Stockton-on-Tees. This is to a first come, first served basis. About 20 or so tables will be in use, with specially made tables for the finals. Play will start at 2 p.m. in 6 events which are open to all schools in England, and 30 counties will at some stage have taken part. The six events are Boys, under 15, 15 and 13 and Girls in the same age groups. Teams will consist of four players all from the same school, and matches will be of 5 sets, all singles.

The response to this competition has been tremendous. Schools who have been represented in the playing of organised table tennis, 15 new county associations have been formed in recent months which leaves a country of only 50 counties. Progress is being made, however, and it is confidently hoped that the 1970 Nationals will be complete.

Senior children are asked to do all they can to help the schools, for the champions of the future.

Page 11
MAUREEN HEPPELL
by Philip Reid

THE small market town of Hexham, situated as it is near to Hadrian's Wall, has a long and distinguished past. But until recent years it has had few claims to fame in the sporting line until an enthusiastic professional dancing teacher put a change to all that didn't get to the table quickly enough when she decided it was time she took up the game.

As could be imagined, the Hexham League had no players of top class so Maureen decided to undertake the whole task of getting his game up to the standard required.

Although, as he would be the first to admit, Len is far from being a distinguished past. But until recent years it has had few claims to fame in the sporting line until an enthusiastic professional dancing teacher put a change to all that didn't get to the table quickly enough when she decided it was time she took up the game.

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Champions at 'The Palace'

E.T.T.A. President, T. Austin Harrison, of Scarborough, is here seen presenting the award and replica to fellow Yorkshireman Denis Neale after his retention of the English Closed men’s singles title.

ENGLISH OPEN 1969

INFORMATION BULLETIN

Date:
27th February (10-00 a.m.)—Team Competitions and Qualifying Rounds.
(7-15 p.m.)—FINALS of Team Competitions.
28th February (9-30 a.m.)—Individual Competition with selected events in the evening.
1st March (9-30 a.m.)—SEMI-FINALS of Individual events.
(2-15 p.m.)—FINALS.

Venue:
The Dome and Corn Exchange—Brighton.

Draw:
Monday, 10th February, 1969.

Team Competition:
It is anticipated that teams from the following countries will participate:—Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Yugoslavia, Rumania, U.S.S.R., Federal Germany, Sweden, Belgium, Netherlands and the Home Counties.

Admission Charges:
27th February—all day—5/- (2/6d. children).
28th February—all day—5/- (2/6d. children).
1st March—morning only—5/- (2/6d. children).
Special Rover tickets allowing for admission at any time, except for the Saturday afternoon finals, will be available at a charge of 15/-. Tickets for the INDIVIDUAL FINALS (numbered and reserved) will be available from the Box Office at The Dome, Brighton, or the E.T.T.A. Office, at £1 and 10/- (no half-price tickets for children).

Publicity:
Crown Posters, Car Stickers and Hand-bills are available on request from the E.T.T.A. OFFICE.

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AROUND THE COUNTRIES

GRIEVOUS LOSS

OUR League suffered a grievous loss on January 3 when our League President, Mr. Len Gill, passed away. He had been ill for some time but fought bravely. Regrettably, he died at Walsall Hospital, near Bath.

Len, as he was affectionately known, was one of our founder members in 1954, and was a great stalwart since inception. He was appointed President 3 years ago and the game of Table Tennis has left a great servant.

His genial nature endeared him to all and he was a gentleman in every sense to his wife, his children and his friends.

Cheltenham were beaten in their home match against Swindon by the narrow score of 3-4. Tony Wold [Senior] whose tactics of slowly cutting the game down, and in consequence, bring the opponents to make mistakes, completely ‘fixed’ D. Harvey and A. Kirby of Cheltenham and it left to Martin White to beat him.

A. Wolf [Junior] played well for the visitors winning two including a good win over White whilst G. Turnbull beat Kirby. Harvey and White each had two ties for Cheltenham.

Taunton were beaten 6-3 in their home match with Exeter. They started off well with a 2-0 lead when R. Parkins beat M. Rattue, secured a 2-0 lead when C. West of Ely beat W. Maxfield, and Doreen Underwood (Taunton) defeated Doreen Henderson respectively. A different story however for their “B” team, when they were beaten 7-1 by the two County matches, against Beds. and Herts., through different difficulties.

In the Cambs. v. Beds. match, Cambridge, fell away after a promising start being handicapped by the inexperience of their two female players. Tony Kinsey was in brilliant form, scoring a 3-0 win over Harvey and a 3-0 win over Hull. Doreen Underwood and Shirley Hanbury won 2 and Ray Phliputt 1. For Plymouth, A. Wright won 2 and 2 and every number of our League team were without their No. 1 players, Community, were beaten 7-1.

Bradford “B” were beaten 6-3 by Leeds “B” and it is obvious that the inclusion of the old Leeds inter-league line-up was a great mistake whilst Weyburn won 2 and 2. In the Ladies Section, Doncaster, North Herts. and Northampton are all going strong. Bedfor had a close run with two more wins last month. They need to win against Shropshire and Derbyshire, I cannot see either of these sides stopping Staffs from taking the title.

With the tough fixture behind them, we may expect to see the juniors getting their first win soon. I hope to see Colin Poole’s name, for he has worked hard with these youngsters in his first season as captain.

Bedfordshire players, who have been the backbone of the county side for so long now, are again heading the first division of the Bedfordshire League. The first half of the season is now coming to an end, the results are shown below.

Bedfordshire 1 1 2 0 22 8 17

With Mary Wright not entering the Girls County Championships, her return to her home town every year until 1952, Since then, Chelford and Derby have administered their with Derby changing the event from a week of evening play to the present day tournament style.

THERE was a great win over White whilst G. Turnbull beat Kirby. Harvey and White each had two ties for Cheltenham.

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HUNTINGDON AND PETERBOROUGH NOTES by David Obee

TWO POINTS AWAY

The county team came within two points of recording its first ever championship win in its match with Cambridge at Soham on January 11th. In the final rubber of the evening Alan Albon faced home No. 2 Stephen Andrews and after a series of changing fortunes the score stood at 19-19 in the deciding game. The county were just two points from their first outright win, but Stephen, displaying ice-cool nerve, pulled out two superb kills to save a point for Cambridge. In the opening match of the evening the same player had come from 8-13 down in the deciding game against the county No. 1. David Obee to put his side 1-0 up.

Outstanding in this exciting match were Alan Ponder for the home side and for Hunts, once again the match- tied team. Mary gained her third consecutive win in championship matches this season and with her twin sister Mary pulled off the ladies doubles. Mary teamed up with Alan Albon for their third win in the mixed doubles.

In their county championship fixtures the juniors went down 6-4 to Northwich in a well-fought encounter.

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WILTSHIRE NOTES

by “Moonraker”

CONGRATULATIONS TO TONY, Sm.

LAST month it was 12-year-old Margaret Wolff (Swindon) who featured in my opening comment, now the spotlight switches to her father Tony (sen.) for its congratulations on his successful return to the inter-county scene with two singles victories for Wilts who were matching their first Division 2 (West) success of the season by 6-4 away to Cornwall.

Ironically Tony (jun.)—who first made his debut for Wilts, against Cornwall on October 16/17—lost his “come-back” chance through the unavailability of his son Tony (jun.).

Wilts’ teenage skipper Bill Moulding (Salisbury) continued his 100%; run of singles successes with two straight wins over Cornwall’s Perkins and Bassett.

Though the juniors were beaten 8-2 by Glamorgan, at Swindon, West Wilts. junior champion Richard Arney put up a great display when he put his opposite number Devizes’ counterpart Chick Chandler to the sword. Tony (sen.)_who first made his debut for Wilts, against Cornwall on October 16/17—lost his “come-back” chance through the unavailability of his son Tony (jun.).

Wilts’ CU’s secretary Arthur Catchpole has asked me to correct my remark in the December issue that Eric Scollard, a Wilts. CU’s secretary, had lost his place in the team. Arthur states that there were only two CU’s when he took over the Secretaryship while present registered CU’s are: A. Ward, T. Vance, N. George, A. Catchpole (Salisbury), J. V. Ford, J. Smith, G. Broome (West Wilts.), F. Jennings, A. King (Swindon) besides National Umpire Kathleen Waters (Salisbury). Glad to put the record straight!

There was a unique ‘inter chairman’ clash when Devizes Div. One defeated 3-5 with West Wilts Div. Two’s “A” drew 3-3.

The two County Divisions will again select their 12 for the Wilmott Cup a month earlier.

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LEICESTERSHIRE NOTES
by Philip Reid

**FIRST WIN FOR JANET**

LEICESTERSHIRE Senior side took a heavy defeat in their opening match against Staffordshire, which lacked good enough to top Division 2 (Midlands) on this form. The only Leicestershire singles player to show promise was Brian Aris, who had been playing well. Janet Hames won her first singles and looked a very promising player. With four wins out of four, the juniors are continuing their fine spell which started in March, 1967 when they won their first three ten county matches. It is not a coincidence that Hames won her first match and has played in every subsequent match. His technique and ability are beyond question. Only his temperament, when under pressure, is suspect.

**An even stronger team**

The Inter-County competition promises to be a very close finish, with the three teams in the three divisions with the advantage of matches in hand, and both have very good sets. The only team to lose a match was the Leicester second team, who beat Northampton ‘B’ 7-2 to finish in the close second and third place, whilst the strength of the three Seaholme entries will now be accepted.

**HERTFORDSHIRE NOTES**
by John M. Barnes

**TIME FOR REFLECTION**

Now that the season has progressed into the second half it is possible to assess the results and performances so far, and consider what must be done by the County and the individual leagues, clubs and players to maintain or improve on their respective positions and standards.

At the Inter-County level the position is perhaps at first sight a little discouraging but with better prospects for the future. Whilst heartened by Trevor Taylor's rapid progress in the national rankings the Senior Inter-County First Team seems unable to match his performances. In complete contrast, the Second Team retains its form and ability and this section of the County Junior team, following recent County Trials some ranking points have been produced covering the Senior Men, and the Junior Boys and Girls.

**SENIOR MEN**
1. T. Taylor, North Herts.
2. E. Coster, Watford
3. B. Barr, Watford
4. (Equal) -
5. D. Gillard, Watford
6. D. Seabole, Watford
7. B. White, Cheshunt.
8. (Equal) -
9. F. Nash, Cheshunt
10. S. Seabole, Watford
11. A. Hammond, Cheshunt
12. R. Brown, Cheshunt
13. J. Garland, Watford
14. A. Thomas, Watford

**JUNIOR BOYS (TOP FIVE)**
1. T. Taylor, North Herts.
5. M. Harris, Hornchurch

**JUNIOR GIRLS**
1. M. Carter, St. Albans
2. J. Hardwell, Watford
3. (Equal) -
4. L. Harding, North Herts.
5. (Equal) -
6. S. Hartwell, Cheshunt
7. J. Vaughan, North Herts.

The First Division of the Inter-League competition is open to the North Herts. top, Cheshunt First Team in second place with equal points, and Watford First Team, last season's championship winners, strongly challenging both and with the advantage of matches in hand. The lead in Division Two, held by Watford Second, with Welwyn’s First and Second Teams in second and third place, whilst Totteridge and Southgate, all with equal points, North Herts, and Cheshunt must be considered to be one of the best teams in the country.

**“ANY MORE FOR THE SKYLAB?”**

Charles Wyles of 48, Everfield Place, Cheshunt, registers this party to visit the World Champions in Manchester.

The journey will be made by Mini-bus, with every ninth 12 persons departing London on Friday evening, April 17, and continuing the visit to the second of the Mini-bus for travel as required.

Total cost of travel would not exceed £15 per person but members would have to make their own accommodation arrangements. Stay ing on the outskirts of Manchester is suggested and using the Mini-bus for travel as required.

**DEPARTURE FOR HOME**

Further information in Jesett format will be obtained from the Organiser of the L.E.A.T.A. office.
LANCASHIRE NOTES
by George R. Yates

KEVIN Forshaw made one of his rare appearances for Manchester in Division 1 of the Lancashire, and Chorley League on Jan. 29 but failed, in the company of Roy Crusham and Lawrence Chapman, to halt Bolton's gallop.

Forshaw, who figured in that epic encounter with 'Levi' Haslam in the Lancs. Open, lost his opening set to Wynn Forrester—a defeat from which the Mancunians never really recovered.

7-3 was the final verdict in favour of the 'Trotters' with Forshaw beating John Clarke and Bob Kelly and being successful with Crusham in the doubles. Leading positions—

Forshaw (A)........... 2 2 0 0 21 9 6
Chester (A)..... 2 2 0 0 15 5
Manchester........... 1 1 0 0 10 6 4
Blackpool............. 1 1 0 0 10 6 4

Again in Division 2 (North), Bolton have an unblemished record with their 'A' team out in front. Leading positions—

Bolton "A"........... 4 2 0 0 19 21 4
Liverpool (A).......... 3 2 0 0 20 10 5
Manchester......... 2 2 0 0 25 9 6

Blackpool are the "dark horses" in the Ladies Div. 1 with County players Connie Moore and Pat Eason to rely on. Only one result has been forthcoming from the second team and Stockport, the current champions, and Manchester have each played twice and shared the spoils in their meeting.

In the Junior Div. 1, Leaders—

Stockport........... 3 3 0 0 10 5
Manchester......... 2 2 0 0 7 12
Chester......... 1 1 0 0 12 12

Mid-Cheshire and Wirral are the pace setters in the Youth Division both with a 100% record as follows—

Mid-Cheshire........... 5 5 0 0 14 6 10
Wirral........ 3 3 0 0 14 6 10
Blackpool........... 2 2 0 0 12 12

In the national cup competitions, Bolton are Lancashire's sole survivors in the Wilmott Cup and next play Chesterfield at home on Saturday, Feb. 15 (3 p.m.).

In the Zone finals, Bolton beat Liverpool 6-1 and Barley were ousted by Stockport 6-5.

Bolton is in the Zone finals of the Rose Bowl and Manchester are called upon to travel to Northumberland and in the Carter Cup, Manchester's juniors also take to the road against Birmingham.

In the men's singles of the Manchester Closed Championships played at Manchester University's McDougall Centre on Jan. 28 holder Brian Knox was beaten 16, 17, 20 by John Hilton who lost to Kevin Forshaw in the final.

Benny Casebary won the veterans' title for the 10th successive year.

Results—

Men's Singles: Semi-finals—K. Forshaw bt J. Clarke 17, 17, 17; J. Hilton bt V. Hankey 18, 16.

Final: Forshaw bt Hilton 8, 11.


Final: Leigh bt Field 13, 7.

Men's Doubles:—D. Herry/Forshaw bt P. Eaton/Hilton 9, 11.

Women's Doubles:

Leigh/Field bt M. Dolby/Field 10, 19, 14.

Mixed Doubles: Forshaw/Field bt Clark/Fied 13, 18.

Junior Singles:

B. Casebary bt T. Denton 16, 18, 11.

WARRICKSHIRE NOTES
by Ralph Gunion

GOLDEN OPPORTUNITIES

HIGHLIGHTS of last month included our first Premier Division win, the continued success of the second team, Railt Perry dropping out of the County side and Pat Glynn's fine form over Mike Johns in the Lancashire Open.

By beating a weakened Gloucestershire side by 8-1, Numansfield will have a chance of staying in the Premier Division if we can win a couple more matches.

The 2nd team's 7-3 win over Derbyshire's first was a fine all-round performance and if they continue to play so well, winning their Division could be a real possibility.

It was heartening to see quite a few Birmingham players in the Lancashire Open. Glynn played exceptionally well and his success is just reward for all the hard work he has put in to improve his game.

Bob Brown also played well and with his awkward style will continue to trouble many of the better players.

The Birmingham management committee have decided to sponsor certain juniors in Open tournaments in the hope that we will get some of them into the England Junior ranking list next season.

It is to be hoped that all juniors will take advantage of this opportunity, because in the near future there could be some marvelous opportunities for good players.

Furthermore, it is also hoped that some coaching and practice sessions can be held for juniors during the summer. With the different coaching schemes being organised, we should have some good young players coming on to make Warwickshire one of the strongest counties in England.
The county senior team still occupy the top position in Division 2 (North) of the County Championships after a 10-0 win over Durham. If they want to beat main challengers Lancashire, however, they will have to greatly improve upon this performance as the urgency and fitness of some players was obviously lacking.

The junior team are improving with every match and it is to be hoped that David Armstrong and Chris Shepherd will break through into prominence next season like Ian Robertson has this. Congratulations on a brilliant defeat against Federal Germany at Bury.

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Hampshire Notes by David Cowsey

Final Match to Decide?

It now looks likely that Hamp­shire’s final match will come against Somerset. This will decide whether they go forward to the play-off for a place in the Premier Division. They ended Worcestershire’s 18-month unbeaten streak with a narrow 6-4 win, with the men’s pairs victors being Beverley and Stan Shaw. Roy Linds, now living back in Portsmouth, was available for these of Wars­worth’s sets against his old club, and had played well over both Derek Holman and Pete Smith.

SUSSEX NOTES by John Woodford

Anglo-Soviet Match for Eastbourne

Never have so many table tennis supporters from Sussex been glued to their television sets as on the after­noon of January 4th, 1969, when Sussex No. 1 Judy Wilson became the first woman to captain the County side. She set a sterling example by beat­­ing Lynda Clesen 21-16, 21-18 in her singles, and also won her doubles with Mrs. Edna Allen against Miss Clesen and Paula Allen. Unfortunately, these were the only two sets that Norfolk were able to win, and they are still seeking their first victory in Division 2 (South). Paul Gilbertson had the misfortune to pull a thigh muscle in his first match.

In the Rose Bowl, Great Yarmouth lost to Lowestoft 1-3. In the same final Linda Woodstock and Jaione and Diane Youngs proved too strong for Mrs. Allen, Tom Rodwell and Brenda Wright. Eden beat Ipswich to save a “whitewash”. However, Yar­mouth “A” have been doing well in Division I of the East Anglian League. They maintained their un­beaten record when they beat Ipswich 7-3. In the Junior Division, Yar­mouth “A” also remain unbeaten. They beat Beccles 8-1. But Yar­mouth “B” Juniors lost 4-3 to Norwich Juniors in the same division.

In the Yarmouth League’s Handicap singles, Terry Coghill (Norwich)不失纪录 when he beat It­tion 7-3. In the Junior Division, Yar­mouth “A” also remain unbeaten. They beat Beccles 8-1. But Yar­mouth “B” Juniors lost 4-3 to Norwich Juniors in the same division.

Norfolk Notes by J. S. Penny

Betty’s “Castle” Taken by Storm

Norfolk visited Kent at Dover when Betty Cashel became the first woman to captain the County side. She set a sterling example by beat­­ing Lynda Clesen 21-16, 21-18 in her singles, and also won her doubles with Mrs. Edna Allen against Miss Clesen and Paula Allen. Unfortunately, these were the only two sets that Norfolk were able to win, and they are still seeking their first victory in Division 2 (South). Paul Gilbertson had the misfortune to pull a thigh muscle in his first match.

In the Hose Bowl, Great Yarmouth lost to Lowestof f 1-3. In the same final Linda Woodstock and Jaione and Diane Youngs proved too strong for Mrs. Allen, Tom Rodwell and Brenda Wright. Eden beat Ipswich to save a “whitewash”. However, Yar­mouth “A” have been doing well in Division I of the East Anglian League. They maintained their un­beaten record when they beat Ipswich 7-3. In the Junior Division, Yar­mouth “A” also remain unbeaten. They beat Beccles 8-1. But Yar­mouth “B” Juniors lost 4-3 to Norwich Juniors in the same division.

In the Yarmouth League’s Handicap singles, Terry Coghill (Norwich) was the clash of the only two unbeaten players in the division. Chris­tine Davies to the singles, and also won her doubles with Mrs. Edna Allen against Miss Clesen and Paula Allen. Unfortunately, these were the only two sets that Norfolk were able to win, and they are still seeking their first victory in Division 2 (South). Paul Gilbertson had the misfortune to pull a thigh muscle in his first match.

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In the Yarmouth League’s Handicap singles, Terry Coghill (Norwich) won 7-3. Both Brian and Chris Bromfield were the best players of the day. Both Bromfield and Wilmott Cup pro­

COUNTY DIARY

Fixtures and Venues List for February/March 1969

FIRST DIVISION

PREMIER DIVISION

Sussex "A" v. Devon "A" (County), 7-30 p.m.

JUNIOR DIVISION

Wiltshire "A" v. Dorset "B", 7-00 p.m.

SOUTHERN DIVISION

Berkshire "A" v. Wiltshire "B", 7-00 p.m.

COUNTY TABLE-TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS

DIVISIONAL TABLES TO 25TH JANUARY, 1969

NORTH

Buckinghamshire 4 0 0 4 6 1

Norfolk 4 0 0 4 4 1

Gloucestershire 4 0 0 4 9 2

Leicestershire 4 4 0 0 30 10 8

Shropshire 3 1 0 2 10 20

TOTAL 14 14 10

EAST

Buckinghamshire 3 0 0 3 6 24 0

Norfolk 4 0 0 4 4 36 0

Oxfordshire 3 0 0 3 6 21 0

TOTAL 10 10 10

SOUTH

Buckinghamshire 3 0 0 3 6 24 0

Norfolk 4 0 0 4 4 36 0

Oxfordshire 3 0 0 3 6 21 0

TOTAL 10 10 10

XEROX

PREMIER DIVISION

Essex II v. Middlesex II, Gascoigne Youth Centre, Howard Road, 7-00 p.m.

Feb. 15

Suffolk v. Hertfordshire II, Mutford Institute, Nr. Lowestoft, 7-30 p.m.

Worcestershire v. Devon, The Corn Exchange, Kidderminster, 7-30 p.m.

Staffordshire II v. Cumberland II, G. Hall, Westgate Street, Castle, 7-15 p.m.

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COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS ROUND-UP

by JOHN WRIGHT

THIRD TIME LUCKY FOR SALOP

A new County usually has to wait some time for its first win in the Championships, but Shropshire have succeeded at the third attempt, following crushing defeats by Notts. and Essex. They finally visited Denbighs, on January 11th who in 3! seasons have only twice defeated them with Bert Beale and John Dean in the No. 1 partnerships for the visitors. Bob Goddard and Dai Wynn both scored 6-2, 5-10, 10-10, 10-8, 10-3 on the way to victory in the second rubber, which was won 4-0.

First time luckier for Shropshire? 3-0, 1-1, 1-1, 2-2, 0-0, 3-0.

Junior Division North

Cheshire 0 Yorkshire 10

Lancashire 8 Cumberland 2

Lancashire's Alan Clough replaced by Clive Taylor, who had two wins on debut. No. 1 Dave Bell beat for Cumberland, beating David Newton and narrowly taking XD with Sandra Mason over Newton and debutante Janet Hummels.

Durham 2 Northumberland 8

Junior Division Midlands

Leicestershire 8 Derbyshire 2

At 2 all it seemed anybody's match and the final score-line swung towards Derbyshires, Chris Busser turned in a fine display and was the only unbeaten player, for Derbyshires. Kevin Twyford the pick and unlucky to lose to Tony Brown.

Nottinghamshire 8 Derbyshire 2

Difficult to prove just how improved since last year and did well to beat Joe Campbell who showed his usual form. Yorks. right on top in BS and WD with only one set needed a deciding game.

Staffordshire 6 Warwickshire 10

Michael Stephenson and Helen Sosser had a chance to spoil Warwick's (1972) record when they led Fimbull and Stephen and Clark 18-17 in the 3rd. But this was the closest they could come, going down 19-15, 19-17.

Junior Division East

Hertfordshire 2 Bedfordshire 8

Junior Division West

Warwicks.2 6 Glamorgan 8

Richard Arney and Ken Harrison, both juniors next year, each took a set with the former beating Jimmy Beal in a fine battle and Harrison getting the better of the match. An excellent performance by P. Parker.

Lincolnshire 9 Somerset 1

G. Still, an debut, won both singles for Monmouths, and young Kim Allen narrowly went down to Susan Rower who also won both XD for the visitors.

Worcestershire 6 Gloucestershire 4

Worcestershire's first win since moving to the West Division in 1967. Three singles wins, one by each Worces' Harman, D. Basden and J. Rumjahn. Gloucester's Lewis Collacott had a victory on his debut, but lost in WD with Amy in both 3/2 and 3/3 doubles. The home side's 13-year-old, Di Simpson's task in WS proved too much on a slippery floor. For Cornwall, Sheila Newton and Angela St. John proved too strong for their Yorkshire opponents to meet in your first senior great fight) 5, -17, 18. Notts. right on top in BS and WD with only one set needing a deciding game.

Buckinghamshire 4 Essex II 6

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