Victor - A Smile to Remember

This month’s Star Feature

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by JOHN WOODFORD and PHILIP REID
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CAUSE APPARENT

SOMWHERE along the line, lies the blame for our continued inept performance against top continental opposition.

Relegation, should it occur, from the Premier Division of the European League would be bad enough — a saving grace could possibly be an enlargement of the division — but to have, as the summit of our achievements in the English Open the lowest four semi-final losers in five major individual events can only be interpreted as a second-class performance.

What is apparent from this sad state of affairs is that the Coaching Scheme is functioning; it is simply a lack of time and of improving the general standard of play, when what is manifestly lacking is a higher strata of coaching and training for those players now in so much need of it.

It is no secret that the Sports Council and the Ford Foundation have been successful in improving the general standard of play, when what is manifestly lacking is a higher strata of coaching and training for those players now in so much need of it.

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In Memoriam
VICTOR the Nonpareil
by Hon. Ivor Montagu

Victor Barna was the greatest table tennis player who ever lived, the most complete and in movement, possessing the most intelligence in strategy, the most masterful in his approach to the game, the game the most able and single-minded in his devotion to its problems and their solution after the best of his playing days were over.

Add to this his qualities as a person: a happy husband, a man of very humorous nature who mellowed as he grew older, a good friend. Truly a victim, a friend and his peerless record.

In sport it is always difficult to convey to succeeding generation the qualities of the champions it has never seen. Who was the finest batsman: W. G. Grace, Hobbs or Willey? The greatest for his time and on the whole he was better than any other world. He passed away at the end of the world.

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Dominated

We first saw the future nonpareil at the World Championships in Budapest in the spring of 1929 when he was not yet 18-years-old. The situation should be imagined. In these days — the earliest of World table tennis — Hungarians dominated as their rivals. But back home, their new-won laurels fresh upon them, the seniors had become used to in this epoch turned most sophisticated in Central Europe to realise the impossible.

With its feudal basis, Hungarian society in those days was also rigidly anti-Semitic, and it was strange to those who knew the circumstances in which to see a Hungarian on the supreme tables of the world, Jewish in origin.

But the keen and influential sportmen of the favoured clubs knew how to have their cake and eat it. They wanted the most promising talent in their hands and also knew how to square the racial chauvinists who banded national teams from including Jewish players.

They included the recruits but hid them under grand Hungarian names. Thus Muller was made to play as “Magyar,” Klein can only slightly less brilliant contemporary of Victor— was an English Open as “Klein,” and Victor himself, born Braun, became known to the world as “Barna.” (His first name, Victor, was just a straight pronunciation of his given name Stein, necessary because no Englishman can pronounce that Hungarian a sur-

One often sees really great players who impose their will with a limited repertoire by qualities of character and persistence, or who throw away caution and take chances, conquering the heights by courage. But Barna at his best had everything. He could adjust to any opposition, and his matches were so memorable because whereas many victors win by exploiting the weak points of their opponents, Victor’s treasures were so inexhaustible that often he seemed to delight in coping with and overcoming his opponents’ strengths.

In the first year, the older generation prevailed, veterans from the years before the first world war were all the titans, but back home, their new-won laurels fresh upon them, the seniors immediately out-distanced by younger, more fit teams. Barna in the brilliancy of their play.

Then in 1929, the third season, yet younger talents swept those latter aside to reign from that time onward. Barna and his more small and run-of-the-mill partner Miklos Sébados in their van. Between them, in seven successive seasons, these two now won six World Singles Championships, shared six Mr’s Doubles (Barna won the seventh also but with another partner one year that Sébados was temperamentally), and also took five Mixed.

-Barna’s personal tally, as everyone knows, can never be rivalled: in the World’s five Singles (four in Budapest, and one recent-up), eight Men’s Doubles (with three different partners), three Mixed, seven times more with three different partners, eight Mixed (with four different partners), four with a different partner, one with two other of such clubs to gain advantage over its rivals to a winning Sweeps against its.

SOCIETY

To follow Barna’s life-story one should also understand the social situation in the Hungary of those days. The Hungary of before the first world war, prolonged in the 20’s by a successful counter-revolution, was a feudal country, run by great landowners and the rich. There could be, and was, most popular participation in sport.

Sport was confined in the main to a few aristocratic clubs in the capital, and gifted youth outside these circles found its only sporting opportunity in the chance of being picked up and taken under the wing of one or other of such clubs to gain advantage over its rivals.

With its feudal basis, Hungarian society of those days was also rigidly anti-Semitic, and it was strange to those who knew the circumstances in which to see a Hungarian on the supreme tables of the world, Jewish in origin.

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A group of international players took at Buxton, Derbyshire on Feb. 29, 1953 prior to competing in the English Open Championships at Liver­pool on the following day. From left to right: G. Hagis (Hungary), R. Verger (France), F. Liebster (Austria), L. Finberg (Latvia), Adrian Haydon, Fred Perry, Victor Barna, Don Foulis, H. C. Cooke, A. G. Miller (all England), I. Kelsen (Hungary) and S. Koler (Czechoslovakia).

free of such constriction in their home­land, as the more extensive oppor­tunities provided by the wider countries. The talented Hungarian table tennis youngsters were no exception.

Thus of their crop Glotla and Bellak found themselves in America, Australia in Australia, Barna first, for a time, in France and then in Britain, where, eventually, he took up British nationality. Here he and his wife Suzy were to live amongst us and benefit us for more than thirty years. In this role Victor became a shining light in English table tennis, an always loyal and willing helper and counsellor to the Association, as well as an extraordinarily successful ambassador and propagandist for the game everywhere abroad. It was a second, quite different, but no less illustrious life.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

It could not have been an easier matter for Victor Barna to make the change. Firstly, the better players in the world, who raised table tennis not only to a sport but even above—to an art—merely by his grace and skill. Secondly, he was a talker about a Game which was life itself. At all times a provocative and entertaining talker, he was at all times a provocative and entertaining talker. Dunlop's is not the only firm in the world that makes good equipment, but nonetheless the fact that so big a firm, with such worldwide connec­tions, made and sold everywhere equipment of such quality was not only a source of profit and maybe, in a small way, prestige to the firm, it was a source of undoubted advantage to the spread of the game, the establish­ment and raising of standards in all parts of the World.

APPRECIATED

This success is Dunlop's, as well as to the lucky partnership between themselves and Barna, to his immensity, his experience, his unrivalled global acquaintance. A man they appreciated this. But it became odd to realise that, at the last, the handsome remaining who still knew the great Barna as the incomparable player, there were literally millions younger to whom this was a big legend and who know only Barna the businessman. As a Briton, Barna became perhaps even more world-famous in this capacity than he had been as a Hun­garian, in the days of his beginnings. But he never forgot or forsook his roots. He remained an honoured guest in his birthland and often visited there the two sisters who survived the war.

I have said that the later Victor Barna as a player, was given a magnificent and envied in the youthful days of high competition, he grew unaccus-

early modest, increasingly placid, now, humorous. Highly opinionated and thorough­ly stubborn, he and I both, would in middle days often find ourselves arguing vigorously and even quarrelling hourly, before we quieted down enough to find that we were both agreed. Increasingly, in the later years, we would find that we did agree nearly always, with each other, if not with no-one else.

We became ancient relics together. In the end there was no-one at all, whose opinions on technique, of strategy and everything relating to this side of things I more respected. It is not sad to go quickly. What is sad is for those who are left. All others of long married partnership must feel tender now towards Suzy, for they can understand. But to-day, there is a big hole in table tennis for all of us. We are all, in a certain sense, bereft. The friend who shed lustre on what we loved is gone. There is only the legend.

Obituary to an Immortal

by H. ROY EVANS,
President I.T.T.F.

As we thumb through the pages of any World Book of Sport for the future, we shall come to 'Table Tennis' and there emblazoned at its head will be the name Victor Barna—one of Life's immortals! The record will tell us that he was born in Hungary, that he won 15 World Titles, that he became a naturalized Briton and more personally, that he took upon himself a wife, Susie, lived in Pinner, and was Export Sales Manager for Dunlop Sport Co. Ltd.

But these prædicts convey nothing of the personality which was Victor Barna. Because as he himself used to say, "A player is finished at the age of 42", Victor Barna as a player has not been seen by the vast majority of the players in our World scene today. He won his first singles title in 1928 and his last in 1939. He was still good enough in 1950 to surpass the late Richard Bengtson in success in the Men's Doubles Cham­pionship of the World, and it is perhaps fitting that these two great players now both departed, should have been together in the last great Doubles Competition for either of them to win. It was in the immediate pre-war years that Victor wrote the pages of his life which have established him as immortal. This was the time when enthusiastic and enterprising fans all over the world were struggling to convince a sceptical public that Table Tennis was a Major Sport. With his two companions, Michael Szabados and Laci Bellak, Victor travelled the World playing exhibitions in all sorts of unlikely places, Church Halls, Town Halls, Dance Halls and Variety Halls, and became the heroes for a sight of Table Tennis most of the World had never seen. Here the famous Barna backhand flick became the wonder of all the thousands who came to see the "Three Musketeers" of Table Tennis. All over the World this crusade went on and Organisers frustrated before in their efforts to woo the Public, now found it no longer necessary to excite their Game.

Viceroy had brought Table Tennis to a disbelieving World and never after that was there a person who did not say 'Victor Barna' when 'Ping Pong' really became translated into Table Tennis. Officials in the immediate Pre and Post war years, had just come to be grateful and eagerly many an Associa­tion now a member of the I.T.T.F. owes its growth, even its birth, to the crusading of this man and his friends.

Others, too, whose only sight of Table Tennis was as a stage act between Victor and his histrionics, suddenly have become aware of the art and skill of this game. Victor remained deeply involved in the playing of the Game after his skill had diminished. Although maybe not ready to upset the valley of any modern player with his own in his time, he was at all times a provocative talker about a Game which was life itself for him.

He became deeply involved in some cities, seeing only black or white in a situation and so impatient with the Establishment which seemed too often to proselytise. He had no indulgence for those who seemed reluctant to adopt a solution which was blatantly clear to him.

Somewhere in Holland. Victor (left) and his famous compatriot Michael Szabados.
Victor trod again those same paths to Table Tennis Federation, to remind some Association vaguely contemplatively believed in, all corners of the World that he had to know if there was anything he could do for me for the International Sports Con1pany in 1946. He was a stamina sapping experience, and suffered and his death occurred in prestigious board but Victor had a high-developed sense of humour and during the most tense sessions could relieve the tension by a joke or two of which, he had an extensive and hilarious repertoire.

Although to the end he received a very marked Central European accent, he wore extremely good English. He would often ask you to read over an article he had written to check for errors of grammar or syntax, but you would be lost in admiration of his command of the language and his manner of expressing it. He was intensely proud of his English nation after. It was a great disappointment to me that the Super ball, a British invention, was receiving lots of approval in this country than elsewhere in the world.

He had great loyalty to his colleagues and to the Company, for which he worked so diligently and conscientiously. I had the privilege of being with him at many World and European Championships and it was an education to observe his methods. His usual and lost were ever active in the interest of the game he loved and admired and the Company for which he was so proud to work. At the great Championships of the world he would stay up to all hours discussing problems and events with players, officials and business men and would be particularly cooperative with the gentleman of the press. He seemed to know everyone in the Sporting world, and indeed in many walks of life. Joe Lewis was a friend and so was Ernest Maples. He knew Sir Stanley Ross and the late Bob Hanagan. There was hardly a public figure he didn't know or one who didn't know him.

In the last two or three years, two changes dominated his mind—the new Super ball and the Swaythling Club. He strove through our research and technical experts to perfect the Super ball which bely must be the half of the future and he never underestimated the difficulties. As a good business man he never displayed this to the outside world but internally he constantly kept everyone on their toes in order to achieve the highest standard of quality.

The Swaythling Club was the object of his special affection. He was its first and only President and he worked ceaselessly to make it the organization he had set out to achieve. To keep together players from all parts of the world who had represented their countries in Swatthling or Cotifhel Cup matches at World Championships was the central theme. In particular he strove to make it possible for such players, who would otherwise not have been able, to attend World Championships as guests of the Swaythling Club. Anyone who had seen Vic Varaidzo, Trudi Priess, Angelica Roseanu and many others in such circumstances, will know how successfully he achieved his great wish. The Club will go on as a memorial to Victor Barna.

The traveller arrives in South Africa.

**Victor Barna as a Colleague**

by W. "Bill" Evans

**VICTOR BARNAN** joined Dunlop Sports Company in 1936. He was the man with that special spirit of warmth and friendship. Without Barna, there would have been no Professional Tour. Victor Barna was the central figure of the professional movement. His attitude to table tennis products was also revealing. There was no question of a perfunctory approval of bats, balls, tables, etc, with a view to securing royalties with all speed. We began with bats and balls and the world was so impressed with the work of the Boys, Victor, and adopted the idea in a way that would have thrilled the world. Dunlop had not been involved in table tennis before and we had won knowledge of the game and its players. We knew that Victor was a player with all the outstanding personality in the sport. He was always ready to supply any information that was required on his world reputation. It did not take us long to see that his main interest was the image. In fact, the most used business acumen and even less of his special affection for the outside world but internally he constantly kept everyone on their toes in order to achieve the highest standard of quality.

**Victor Barna** as Captain of England's team in 1958, poses with (l) Dr. Rowe and Ann Haydon.

**Farwell to Victor**

by STEPHEN KELEN

former Hungarian Swatthling Cup player

IN my mind's eye I tried to see Victor Barna in Peru's capital, Lima, where he met his sudden and untimely death - to say a farewell to my old friend and team mate.

But instead I saw him in another famous place called Budapest, way back in time almost half a century ago, in short pants, carrying a large, specially polished wooden bat worn and dirty on the forehand and backhand side where he used to hit the ball.

He came to one of the three table tennis centres we frequented, feeling that precious shifting in his pocket, to play a 'lucky-pairs' game with other young kids whose names were Valibnay, Belfon, Glance, David to remember a few of the future Hungarian team that became famous for years to come in the table tennis world.

Would anyone have told Victor that, one day, at the age of sixty, with one of the most distinguished careers a sportsman could achieve behind him, he would see his last day high up in the mountain air of the Andean Mountains and millions of people all over the world mourn his death, he would have smiled his quiet smile, felt the chilling in his pocket and thought, "If I play well and my luck's in I can go through the day and keep my money for tomorrow...."

But his rivals who liked to play close and hard as he was all keenly determined and this was the way we all learned to fight for every point in every set.

Victor had a touch go for the first three years of his game, and many a famous player was humbled by his formidable halfarm backhand, which eventually became part of his strike arm. He was a formidable halfarm backhand, which eventually became part of his strike arm. He was a

Page 4
The Hungarian had to face up to a formidable crowd that had urged on to win the Swaythling Cup, but could not hinder Bara from regaining the title he had lost in 1932 in Budapest. The finals were played at The Larue, a huge hall which could comfortably accommodate some two thousand spectators but three times that number came to see the finals.

There, for the first time, politics and fanaticism raised their ugly heads in sport. The singles went to Victor, so did the doubles, but we lost the Swaythling Cup to Czechoslovakia. The Hungarians were at the height of their form with five world team titles behind them, when the totally unexpected occurred.

The end result was 3 to 4. The Czechos were mad with joy.

We grouped together in the dressing room. I looked at Victor and saw his eyes moist. Embarrassed, he said: “I’d have rather lost the singles, if only we could have defended the team title. It should never have happened. We did not concentrate, we did not try. All you must see is the half as it leaves your opponent’s bat, and then return it, place it so that it is out of his reach. It is all very simple, you have to keep the ball in play.”

As simple as that. And for a great many years to come, there was not a single word to carry out this “trick” better than any other one.

In his early table tennis career Victor managed to turn his large backhand into one of the best backhand table tennis player ever had, and so, all our opponents, he tried to increase his power of concentration. The result was that for the following three world championships he won the singles title, the men’s doubles, and helped the Hungarians to regain the cup in place in the team events.

BROKEN ARM

Victor achieved his greatest triumph before a cheering crowd of thousands in London’s Wembley Stadium in 1939, when he won the singles, the men’s and mixed doubles world titles. When the Hungarian team regained the Swaythling Cup.

Talk about determination.

In a car accident Victor broke his right arm, and for a while it seemed he would never play again. The best doctors in Budapest consulted, and the operated, placing a piece of metal to hold together and give strength to the fractured bones.

Was this then the end of Victor’s table tennis career? When he retired, his record would have been: five world team titles, three world championships he won.

IMAGINE

“Imagine,” he said, “he won the Hungarian title, he followed in my footsteps, he had a great future in table tennis, and they killed him.”

He spoke with deep emotion, but without hatred.

“I wish,” he went on, “the people could have saved him, and not my trophies.”

He then told me a fantastic story. I don’t recall what illustrated just how people disliked him in Hungary, as they did in all parts of the world where table tennis is played.

When the Hungarian Nazis took over Budapest, Victor’s injuries (and he had a fabulous and valuable collection) were buried by his neighbours and unearthed after peace came to his torned-out country. They turned up in London, taken there by a deputation. A gesture of great devotion he so deserved.

He reminded me of his splendid past he cherished in many ways. He expressed this with the formation of the Swaythling Club, whose founder he was and president he remained till his death.

The Swaythling Club meant a great deal to old veterans, like Maria Mednyesy, Jenda Kohler, who were invited to holiday resorts, world championships — a practical way to express the sentiment; you are not forgotten.

Bara was a teacher through his strokes, and attitude to the sport he taught not only his contemporaries but those who play now and the thousands who will compete in the future.

It would not be right to say that distance and time divided him from the old flagship, those who made the first steps to make table tennis into one of the most popular sports in the world.

You may not have heard of him directly, but there was always that feeling that he was here or there, in Tokyo, in Spain, in India, Lebanon or wherever table tennis was played. We lived with him, we travelled with him right to that final crisis, and now that I will not be able to welcome him again together with my wife and sons we shall remember him and that wonderful club he spent in the circle of our family.

VICTOR - Real Person

The passing of Victor Barna will possibly affect more people than would the death of almost any other famous person. To know Victor was almost like being in the presence of a great player, as he was known to anyone as a county first-waver, and then retain the county championships.

In fact whoever he was or remains in the same hall on the night before a match, and away to the hand-topped, he was always asking how he could help the team in the same hall on the night before a match, and away to the hand-topped, he was always asking how he would put in practice in the same hall on the night before a match. And always, victory was always that other members of the team to produce results of such magnitude that the county championships were again retained.

No one who really knew Victor will be surprised by his action. He was far more than a great player, he was a great man, and will never be replaced.

STAFFORDSHIRE NOTES

by John Pike

THANKS FOR THE MEMORY, DOROTHY DEELEY

By Keith Ponting

In Round 3 of the National Club Championships (men's section), holders Ormesby travelled to Leeds to play Moor Allerton emerging 3-1 winners. Alan Jones got the home team off on the right foot by beating Jimmy Walker but from then on it was all Ormesby with two wins each for Denis Nigle and Alan Ramsay and a solo from Walker.

Penrarn made the long journey down from North Herts. to take on Norwich Ladies Club in East Anglia and made their trip worthwhile with a 6-3 victory. From Mill Hill and Mick East each contributed a treble.

DEREK MUNT was in great form for Birmingham Central Y.M.C.A. in their 5-2 win over the Luton Central Y.M.C.A. team. Dick Cooper also won two sets against G. Hooper and P. Randell in the first round.

Once again, Barry White saw his team East Herts. (College) home with three wins against Bromwade (High Wycombe), with one added to the visitors' score. M. Shirley and G. Leith scored for Bromwade.

Fellows Cranleigh (East London) had it easy against Ilminster (North Middlesex) but that was as far as they got against St. Anne (Staines) represented by A. Wheeler, P. Shirley and B. Welman.

To be completed by April 9th, the quarter-final draw is:

Ormesby (Middlesex) v. Boston, Penrarn (Bromwich)
Central Y.M.C.A. (Birmingham) v. Manchester Y.M.C.A. (Manchester)
East Herts., College (Cheshunt) v. Fellows Cranleigh (E. London)
St. Anne (Staines) v. John Keble (Willesden).

Both Manchester Y.M.C.A. and John Keble had third round walkovers against Deepdale / Villa (Preston) and North Mundham (E.W. Sussex).

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Cover Photograph

It was all smiles at this gathering of the Swashbuckling Club, taken at Brighton on the occasion of the 44th English Open. Pictured with Victor Barna (centre) is Ivan Andrei of Czecho-Slovakia and Elvis Constantineau of Romania. John Leach and Ron Croydon are in the background.
ENGLAND DOWN 2-5 TO CZECHO

by J. S. Penny

At Norwich Lads' Club on Mar. 9, 600 spectators watched England make a great effort against the unbeaten Czechoslovakian team to obtain that vital point which would lift them from the relegation spot in the Premier Division of the European League.

But despite this, they were soon 0-3 down, Neale losing to Orlowski, after leading 2-2 in the third game. Barnes falling to Kollarovits at 17 in the decider and Hill Harmsley falling against World No. 3 Jonas Vostova, after beating her 21-12 in the second game.

Then came a tremendous recovery with Neale and Barnes sparkling against Orlowski and Kulu. The score of 24-all in the decider, they then took the next two points to a roar of applause.

Once more Neale returned to the table, this time with Karma Matthews against Orlowski and Miss Vostova. Again the set went to three with Denis and Karma playing brilliantly to clinch the issue at 22-19.

For the third successive time it was Neale's turn for action. Could he save the match against Kollarovits? Despite the handicap of playing a
terfering player it did seem, at one time, that he might.

He took the first at 18, lost the second at 17, but took a 16-10 lead in the decider only for Kollarovits to level at 17-all, after which Denis was a spent force. But what a great effort it was.

The last set of the evening saw Chester Barnes and Milan Orlowski give, what was to all intents, an exhibition match which, despite honouring the crowd, still went to the Czech.

Individual scores:

D. Neale lost to M. Orlowski -15, 14, -15
N. Jarvis lost to S. Kollarovits -14, -15, -15
J. Taylor lost to J. Vesely/Grifo -15, -15, -15
N. Jarvis lost to Kollarovits -17, -17, -17
B. Howard lost to Orlowski -16, -16

Prior to the European League match at Norwich, England had engaged the Czechs in two friendly encounters at Bracknell, on Monday, Mar. 6 and on the following night at Leicester.

At Bracknell, England were given an 8-1 drubbing, the one ray of sunshine being provided by Linda Howard when she beat Alicia Grofova after the Czechs had taken a 5-0 lead.

Score:

A. Hydes lost to Kollarovits 12, -19
V. Jarvis lost to Kulu 17, 11, -19
B. Neale lost to Orlowski 19, 14, -17
N. Jarvis lost to Kollarovits 15, -10
J. Taylor lost to Kollarovits 16, -16, -16
B. Howard lost to Orlowski 11, -15, -15

After the Czechs had taken a 5-0 lead, it was Neale's turn for action. Could he save the match against Kollarovits? But despite this, they were soon 0-3 down, Neale losing to Orlowski, after leading 2-2 in the third game. Barnes falling to Kollarovits at 17 in the decider and Hill Harmsley falling against World No. 3 Jonas Vostova, after beating her 21-12 in the second game.

Then came a tremendous recovery with Neale and Barnes sparkling against Orlowski and Kulu. The score of 24-all in the decider, they then took the next two points to a roar of applause.

Once more Neale returned to the table, this time with Karma Matthews against Orlowski and Miss Vostova. Again the set went to three with Denis and Karma playing brilliantly to clinch the issue at 22-19.

For the third successive time it was Neale's turn for action. Could he save the match against Kollarovits? Despite the handicap of playing a

ENGLISH JUNIOR OPEN

The T.E.T.A. has been pleased to announce that Alan Hyde of Yorkshire has received news of a continuation of his Winston Churchill Travelling Fellowship which took him to Japan in the autumn of 1971.

This will enable him to visit China in September for two to three months to study the training and coaching methods used by the Chinese teams.

The news was recently conveyed to the E.T.T.A. through the Chinese Embassy in London. It will be the first visit of a Winston Churchill Fellow to the People's Republic of China and further cements the relationship between the Table Tennis Associations of the two countries.

On receiving the information Alan Hyde said: 'This is the news I have been waiting for ever since I returned from Japan in December. It will give me the opportunity to learn a great deal about the training methods of the Chinese players and use this information to help develop the game when I return to England'.

UNE-13 CHAMPIONSHIPS

The national finals of these championships will be held at Northfield, 10 M.T.C.A., Reesbury Road, Birmingham 11, on Sunday, May 3, 1970 commencing at 1 p.m.
THE University teams were among the guests of the R.A.F. at Stanmore, Middlesex. In a close and exciting match, the men's team beat the Air Force 5-3 with Brian Mitchell and Mervyn Lewis of Birmingham University winning maximum sets. The highlight of the match was between Dick Corder and Tony Clayton with Corder coming out the winner, 17 to 13 in the third.

Results:
A. Clayton bt G. Wilson 12, 15; lost to D. Corder 17, 16, 17.
B. Mitchell bt Corder 12, 12.
C. Brewer lost to B. Collins 10, 18; lost to E. Bradshaw 15, 14, 13.
M. Lewis bt Bradshaw 14, 12, 10.
B. Collins lost to C. Brewer 18, 14, 16.
B. Brewer bt C. Claridge bt B. Wilson 11, 18, 19.
D. Corder lost to M. Lewis/Mitchell bt C. Collins/Claridge 18, 11, 18.

Meanwhile, the women's team were beaten by the W.R.A.F. despite having the British U.S.F. women's finalist and, just to do well to beat Birmingham University. The 'well to win his three sets including a

From the Editor's Postbag

SOUTH YORKS OPEN
Our League Committee were very concerned to read the criticisms contained in last month's Open Tournament notes about the South Yorkshire Open and I would like to make the following points in reply:-
1. Although complaints were said to be "numerous" not one has been received by myself or by any member of the organising committee, nor have I been informed of any such complaints.
2. The claims that entries received well before the closing date were refused is utterly untrue as every entry received two days before the closing date was accepted, and the entries received were strictly treated on the "last received, first out" basis.
3. It is admitted that five players were allowed into the draw on the day of the tournament to take the place of players who had scratched. This was done with the full knowledge of the Referee, the feeling being that players who had travelled considerable distances in the hope of playing should be accommodated if at all possible.
4. The two semi-final Men's Singles.
5. The two semi-final Men's Doubles.
6. The semi-final Men's Singles.

One comment I have heard was that the Friday evening was too good, with too many matches of quality that the watch was varied at the gap; this comment was coupled with dis­appointment that the Sunday morning consisted of Mixed Doubles and to no other Server wanted. May I invite your readers to let me know their views on this?

Through the columns of your magazine I would like to thank all those who contributed to making this one of the most successful Championships of recent years. This thanks includes not only my own Committee but also the Umpires without whose help as ambitious a programme as that carried out could not even have been contemplated.

John M. Wright, Hon. Referee.
English Open T.T. Champs.
124 Rusthall Avenue, Tunbridge Wells, Kent.

SOON FORGOTTEN
On reading through the Chairman's Welcoming Message in the English Open programme this year I noticed that he states "It is ten years since England produced a winner of a Singles event although Team and Doubles events have been won on a number of occasions since that time." I would like to point out that I was the Ladies' Singles event at Brighton in 1967, which was only 5 years ago.

I feel that all too often the English players are criticised for their efforts, and it is sad to note that, when we do in fact win something important, it appears to be forgotten all too quickly.

Mary Wright.
20 Burghfield, Epson, Surrey.

NULL-NULL AT HAGEN
In the Federal German Open at Hagen, the English team equalled in addition to three days of almost non-stop umpiring, were honoured to be given the Women's Team final and two of the individual finals - the men's singles and doubles.

With very few exceptions, all matches were conducted and won in German, an achievement of which they can be justifiably proud.

The members of the squad wish to record, via this magazine, their appreciation of the excellence of the hospitality and friendliness shown to them by the German hosts. and umpires, during the championships and at the Ball and Prizegiving afterwards.

Many useful exchanges of views about the Laws and other aspects of the game were made, between the French, Dutch, German and English umpires, of much interest and benefit to all, helping to prove the value of these exchanges of umpires.

JIM SYKES.
Squad Leader.
58 Evesham Park Road, Solihull, Warwick.

English Open Championships - 1972
I was instructed by the Association to prepare a more attractive Friday evening programme for this season's English Open, and would be interested to hear comments on the programme produced. For the benefit of those not at Brighton, this was:
(1) two quarter-final Men's Singles.
(2) two quarter-final Men's Singles.

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England Abroad
by The Editor

At the invitation of the Dutch Association, an international tournament was held on the Netherlands in the European Championships, comprising English players, Nicky Jarvis, Adrian Alderson and Simon Heaps, undertook an exhausting four-match tour over the period Mar. 13-17.

That they returned to these shores untroubled and Jarvis was unbeaten in fourteen sets speaks volumes for the manner in which we, in addition to the Dutch, placed a serious intent on performance.

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124 Euston Road,
After the “three ring circus” at Brighton’s Dome and Coom Exchange, the more mundane domestic scene got underway on May 18 with the Northumberland 2-Star Open at the Ministry of Social Security’s No. 1 canteen at Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

Lacking the ‘big’ names, possibly due to a clash with the Electric Open, a men’s singles entry of 141 and a women’s entry of 63 plus 45 in the boys’ singles, was well up to standard numerically.

Brian John, Chesham’s fifth-ranked England Junior, was the player to ‘steal’ the show by finishing not only the men’s singles title, but also the doubles with R. Hill, and the mixed with Jenny Heaps, offering only token resistance in the final.

- Results -

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**Northumberland 2-Star**

- Men’s Singles Final: R. JOHNS (Ches.) bt P. White (Nthld.), 18-16, 14-7, 16-14.
- Women’s Singles Final: J. WHITE (Lincs.) bt L. Bates (Scotland), 13, 19, 16.
- Men’s Doubles Final: P. DAY bt C. Rogers (Leics.), 11, 14, 19.
- Women’s Doubles Final: A. STEVENSON (Lincs.) bt J. Walker (Yorks.), 19, 12, 16.

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**Lancashire 2-Star Junior**

- Under-14 Boys: Final: W. MELLOR (Derbys.) bt S. WALTERS (Derbys.), 19, 17, 19.
- Under-14 Girls: Final: S. WALTERS (Derbys.) bt J. White (Lincs.), 16, 14, 10.

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**East of England 2-Star**

- Men’s Singles Final: B. JOHNS (N’ham) bt P. Ward (Yorks.), 19, 13, 19.
- Women’s Singles Final: J. WHITE (Yorks.) bt S. Selby (Lincoln), 19, 12, 14.
- Boys’ Doubles: Final: B. ROGERS (Leics.) bt C. Williams (Sussex), 13, 11, 11.

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Further tournament survey as collated by the Editor from details supplied by Laurie Landry, Alan Morpeth and Derek Schofield.
Men’s Doubles: Semi-Finals: J. BAXTER (Herts.) bt A. Shepherd (Essex) simplify the work of the organisers.

Basic Principles of Tournament Scheduling

The inclusion of questions on tournament scheduling in the Henley qualifying examination has prompted a number of requests for the N.U.R.C. to provide guidance on the subject. While there can be no hard and fast rules on a subject which depends so much on the judgment and preference of individuals, there are some basic principles which are a general application.

Scheduling means the preparation of a time-table for the events in a tournament and for the matches in these events, so as to fit the programme to time and the number of tables available, and to ensure that entries are not accepted for events which cannot be played before any matches of the next event have been completed. The aim should be to enable players to complete their commitments in an event and have a reasonable rest period before starting play in another event, to avoid the all too common problem of finding, towards the end of the tournament, that the same few players are required to play in later rounds of a singles event and one or two doubles.

Basic Principles

1. So that all players can complete their commitments in an event and have a reasonable rest period before starting play in another event.
2. To avoid the all too common problem of finding, towards the end of the tournament, that the same few players are required to play in later rounds of a singles event and one or two doubles.
3. To have no hard and fast rules on a subject which depends so much on the judgment and preference of individuals.
4. To ensure that all players can complete their commitments in an event and have a reasonable rest period before starting play in another event.


IN THE COACHING FIELD

with John O'Sullivan

I T did not take me long to discover the difficulties that can arise when one takes the first faltering steps to journalism. Take, for example, information that is relevant at the time of writing which, by the time it reaches the reader, is not only out of date but also untrue!

I made reference to the National Finals of the English Schools' T.T.A. team championships due to have been played on March 19. Since then, I have learned that they were postponed and will now take place at Northwood Sports Centre, Stoke-on-Trent on Saturday, May 7.

Having, in the March issue, given some indication as to how the National Coaching Scheme works, I hope that it is a little more obvious to the bulk of readers that at least one man is doing his best to see that coaching in this area is not neglected.

I refer to D. J. Barrett who has been coaching for over a decade and counting his list of activities, which, unlike a telephone directory, he would appear to be like a one-man army, holding down positions from National Councilor to Junior Development Chairman, in his native Suffolk.

The one point in his career that fascinates me is that, in 1962, he was coaching a in convent. I wonder if we will ever see a Nun in the ranking list! The information I have on Mr. Barrett would warrant an article in itself but, for now, suffice it for me to say that Suffolk owe a debt of gratitude.

Not that I am suggesting that there is nobody else in this area worthy of mention, I am learning all the time.

LEA GREEN

Over the weekend of March 10-12, a second course organized for student coaches at Lea Green in Derbyshire. The course organizers were Staff Coach Peter Simpson and Northern Coaching Panel Chairman, Harry Dignam.

The students came mainly from Birmingham and comprised, in the main, of the Warwickshire County Junior squad. It was most encouraging to note the attendance of leading senior players as well but Derek Munt.

Derek is especially noted on these occasions as he makes a more efficient ' Maher' and thus catches the coaches to let certain exercises without having to worry about the ball not being returned.

During the day, which was hard work for all, Derek never seemed to lose patience and it was only towards evening that he showed any sign of fatigue. No wonder he appears so fit and this pleased me to no end. I hope to see more good table tennis at the National Schools' finals which are always worth watching. Can I join me?

Northern Coaching Panel Chairman Harry Dignam, in command at one of the typical poses. photo by John O'Sullivan.
I WILL pledge wholehearted support to Charlie Davies' story in last month's issue "Shake Up the Boardroom Menace". I will go further and say that I agree basically with Charlie's two main points, (a) a concerted thousand-letter attack on the national newspaper offices is a good (but not a new) idea and (b) E.T.T.A. officials cannot expect splash publicity if they lock up all the material.

Not wishing nowadays to count the number of years I have worked for newspapers, my experience over the years has been that the Press always have jumped on to any sort of bandwagon and as far as I can see they always will! Rightly or wrongly this is journalism. I see no hope of trying to persuade editors throughout the country that their policy of, for example, jumping on the Chinese wagon and as far as I am concerned is coincidental. They will have some task! But before we laugh too loud, we have to disagree on the Publicity Committee.

All affiliated leagues will need to be contacted in setting with an appeal to persuade at least five players to write to the national newspaper offices. Fortunately, the actual letters written by the players need not be short, crisp and to the point asking for more table tennis news and especially the major tournaments results.

If this could be achieved, the leagues reporting back so that we know things are happening, I will join Charlie Davies in forecasting success.

There is a snag of course — I don't want without saying that the editors and sports editors are not gallant enough to imagine that the arrival of these players is coincidental. They will know that they are being subjected to an organised campaign, but fortunately, so many readers seem to think nothing of writing about their complaint, that the effect should be dramatic but harmless.

In this month's CONTROVERSY
John Woodford pursues Charlie's Theme...

The facts which have to be hammered home, how many thousands of table tennis fans look in vain for tournament results etc., can easily be highlighted by the Publicity Committee. This target paper as I see it will be the Daily Mirror, Daily Express, Daily Mail, The Sun, The Times, The Guardian, The Observer and perhaps one or two others. Newspapers usually like to reply to such letters — they will have some tick! But before we laugh too loud, we have to disagree on the Publicity Committee.

All we would ask of you players and supporters is say 15 minutes of your time and a slip stamp. I am willing if required to play a major part in the organisation of this project. Accept the paper and put on the official's headgear, I have often seen the danger of saying something that is strictly off the record, especially if I had to answer to the National Council, with the greatest respect to that body, of course. All sections of the Press can create embarrassment but sometimes, that is the price that has to be paid for publicity. We cannot have it both ways.

All affiliated leagues will need to be contacted in writing with an appeal to persuade at least five players to write to the national newspaper offices. "For publicity, we cannot have it both ways.

When uncovering the whole country, both Mr. Thornhill and Mr. Evans will be involved and both will accept the forthcoming European Championships.

DUNLOP SPORTS COMPANY

Dunlop Sports Company Limited announce that usually, Michael Thornhill will deal with the overseas aspect of table tennis promotion and W. "Bill" Evans will perform the same function in regard to the United Kingdom.

When uncovering the whole country, both Mr. Thornhill and Mr. Evans will be involved and both will accept the forthcoming European Championships.}

SALES SERVICE

The latest addition to the range of goods available are E.T.T.A. Call Links. Attractive in design with the three lions in gold on a blue background, they are priced at £3 per pair.

TRAINING CAMPS

Two national training camps will be held this month, one at Crystal Palace N.S.C., for junior and one at Middleton St. George, Darlington for seniors.

The camp at Crystal Palace will be an Anglo-French venture and provides further evidence of the support given by Coca-Cola for our junior training programme. Five boys and five girls from each country will train and practice together, from April 4th.

The camp at Middleton St. George, from April 4th, will be for the team selected to represent England at the European Championships in Rotterdam which commence on April 15.

HANDBOOK ERRATA

Please note that the telephone number of Mr. Arthur Upton, Councillor for Lancashire, should read 515-498-5059.

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E.T.T.A. Lincoln Lottery

May I, through the columns of our magazine, express my thanks to those associates who took part in the E.T.T.A. Lincoln Lottery this year. The gross sales of tickets reached the record sum of £4,500 which means that £2,250 will be given back to the Counties, Leagues and Clubs who took part.

The Lottery provides a no-risk method for associations to raise funds by reason of the 50% rebate on ticket sales and I would ask all Leagues and County Committees to consider taking part next year even if only to offset the increase in E.T.T.A. fees.

Special thanks are due to the main supporters of the Lottery such as Middlesex, Warwickshire, Yorkshire, Wales and Reading but pride of place this year must go to the Pomeroy Club with almost £2,000 worth of tickets, thereby earning over £100 for Club funds!

WINNERS

First prize of £250 was won by W. Waltham, 32 Reeves Avenue, Kingsbury, London NW9 8LP whose winning ticket was numbered 325835 and drew him the house Sovereign Bill.

Second prize of £50 was won by E. H. Hood, 51 Novi Lane, Lesk, Staffs, with ticket 11805 which drew the horse Dowstown Charley and the third prize of £25 was won by T. Williams, Tylers, Upper Chapel, Brenchin with ticket 1056 and third-placed Medicinal Compound.

£3 goes to all other runners.

County Notes Supplement

SUSSEX NOTES

by ROBIN PIERCE

SUNDAY, March 19, 1972, will be a day that Brighton's Sam Ogundipe will always remember. On that day, after ten years of trying, popular Sam won the men's singles in the Sussex 'Closed' championships.

To win the crown Sam defeated two men who have had their hands in the air thrashing over the years, Crawley's John Clarke, much improved since he came down to Sussex from Bolton, and Roger Chandler, now No. 13 on the English ranking list.

Those who are keen followers of the game will remember that it is only a few months since Sam was getting champions from everyone in sight. Now he has got used to the anti-Topspin bat he is another player.

In the semi-final Ogundipe's acrobatic defence must have seemed like a brick wall to Chandler. I have not seen Sam so reeled-footed for years. Roger was the box favourite, having thrashed Sam at the recent Chelmsford Open, but the Nigerian international came through 13-20, 16.

Once Clarke was some way down in the first game of the final he went for expelitive. Why Chandler did not try the same tactics we shall never know. The rule was invoked at 18-15 in Ogundipe's favour and he hung on to go one up.

Most people thought Sam would be unable to hold his lead several times in Sam went across the second game 21-13 and established a commanding 15-8 lead in the decision.

Of Sam's wins on, that's enough capital. After all, in two or two it was 13-15. John's confidence began to wane away.

At 18-11 Ogundipe took the lead with one, 9, a backhand mean that most of us dream about. But it was a nightmarish, maddening game for Clarke. To a great band of cheering Sam won the point that matters to go home at 21-15.

No major upset, unless the defeat of No. 5 seed, Linda Woodcock, by Hastings' Susan Franklin can be counted as such, in the women's 'Closed'.

Judy Williams won in a canter and it was rather disappointing to see her final opponent, young Suzanne Kavallierou, left bordering so often by Judy's positional play.

One young man, 14-year-old Gerald Pugh of Crawley, caught the eye of many players and officials. He reached the quarters in the men's singles, defeating the top junior, Stephen Marley, on the way, and won the Intermediate title. A great result for Sam Ogundipe kept him out of the Sussex v. Middlesex Premier County clash. The side was well beaten at 12-1.

Women's Int., Miss A. Terry (Crawley) bt Miss C. Randall (Brighton) 20-14.

Women's Fin.: Mrs. H. Rawden (Brighton) bt Mrs. J. Brennan (Brighton) 21-15.

Gerald Pugh's maximum, he beat England-ranked junior Kenny Reev and Keith James, was a great help to Crawley when they took on Plymouth in the Coca-Cola Carter Cup semi-final. Crawley went through by 3-1.

Linda Woodcock shocked Susan Howard into a 14-2, 17-12 defeat when Eastsourchies challenged Guildford in the inter-county final of the Rose Bowl. She almost had Linda Howard as well. making the England No. 1 save four match points in the third game.

Guildford won 6-3 but knew they had been in a match.

Not such a sweet goodbye for Worthing who were well beaten. By the same score against the Wilmslow. Mike Melanor won one and sickness worked its other tie.

A hard injury to Ogundipe kept him out of the Sussex v. Middlesex Premier County clash. The side was well beaten at 11-2. Looks like relegation for the and South side who lost to Middlesex II after enjoying a 4-3 lead.

There were two reserves in the Andy Meads (Crawley) and Angela Meads (Eastbourne) Andy did pick up a win but Angela, hard as she tried, could not quite make up for the loss of Linda Woodcock.

Hard-working Renee Osborne and John Murrey are full of the joys of spring now that the juniors are graduated. They have every hope that their teams of Stephen Marley, John Aver, Gerald Pugh, Alison Terry and Christine Randall are way out in front in Junior South

Hampshire Notes

by David Cosway

DESPITE their fine win over Surrey H. Hampshire's match against Bucks could only decide not only who goes through to the Premier play-off, but who is relegated from the intermediate division.

For this vital match the Country chose Chris Pickard, Chris Shetler and last season's Veterans' Cup holding for the past two seasons Phil Green, to play for the third game while Mike Woodcock was certain of the championship.

In the inner-town league, Bourne- mouth "A" virtually clinched the retention of the mixed Division A title with a 2-5 win over their closest rivals Basingstoke. Wins by Joe Coop and Jean Smith provide the mainstay of Bournemouth's win although Trevor Smith, Brian Pickard and Phil Clark each gained one success. For Basingstoke, Bob Thompson maintained his unbeaten record.

Likely relegation candidates are Portsmouth "B" and the Isle of Wight, Bournemouth "B" and Alder. They are both unbeaten in the second division and almost certain of promotion, although the championship will not be decided until these two teams meet.

The first Junior Division is headed by Southampton "A" with 11 points from 6 matches, followed by Gosport with 9 points. It is unfortunate that this championship could be decided by a disputed match between Southhampton and Bournemouth, with Bournemouth's last minute cancellation leaving Southampton in a somewhat embarrassing position which should not have been forced upon them.

Bournemouth "B" and last season's champions Basingstoke "A" are almost certain to be the Southern champions "B" having won all 8 of their matches are certain of the championship and promotion from the second division should not have been forced upon them.

Bournemouth "B" and last season's champions Basingstoke "A" are almost certain to be the Southern champions "B" having won all 8 of their matches are certain of the championship and promotion from the second division should not have been forced upon them.

Bournemouth "B" and last season's champions Basingstoke "A" are almost certain to be the Southern champions "B" having won all 8 of their matches are certain of the championship and promotion from the second division should not have been forced upon them.
NORFOLK NOTES by J. S. Penny

The great event in Norfolk during the past month was, of course, the vital European League match between England and Czechoslovakia at the Lads Club, King Street, Norwich, on Thursday, Mar. 9. It was a sparkling Table Tennis occasion. All the leading E.T.T.A. officials from Charlie Turner, Mr. Charles Wyles, downwards, seemed to be there. Secretary Derek Tompsett acted as a superb and informed Announcer, greatly adding to the pleasure of the match.

The audience of about 600 was not quite as great as the 750 in the European League match against Sweden on Dec. 3, 1960, but it was greater than, at one time, with the power cuts, we had feared.

The arrangements made by Norwich League, who stepped on the match on behalf of E.T.T.A., seemed admirable. Congratulations to Les Miller, the Norwich Secretary, and his band of helpers. Ken gave a television interview before the match, and also acted as an umpire during it.

It was especially pleasing that the E.T.T.A. had appointed Ken Turner, Norfolk's National Umpire, as a Referee for this occasion, the first time a Norfolk man had been appointed.

The teams were presented to the Lord Mayor of Norwich, Alderman Frank Pratt, and to the President of Norfolk League, Mr. Tom Stevenson, by the attractive young lady who led the English team into the arena.

E.T.T.A. had appointed television cameras and lights also at attractive young lady who led the Waylen's Div. 1 title from Stockport English team into the arena.

Norfolk's National Umpire, as a replacement for Len Saywell in three games.

Earlier Albon had scored his usual men's doubles where Albon/Hasl’op against Charlton/Obee to repeat their men’s semi whilst Cockram had won over Paul Char...
MANDY MELLOR

A native 4-5 defeat at the hands of Kent means the first team go into their last match at home to Lancs, having to secure two points to avoid the big drop. Thus an identical situation has developed from this time last season when a 3-4 win over Sussex preserved everyone's dignity. "Connie" Warren has served the team well from the No. 1 spot but has suffered from a lack of backing.

The 2nd team are having a very successful season in maroon and blue. Their partnership with Paul Bishop has produced some notable scalps and they are right up to the Premier Division, although some problems have kept Mick Kercher fully employed.

The County League are holding their final evening at Dave Dinner & Dance on Thursday, May 18 at Grants (6.30-7.30). Tickets priced at £2.75 are limited and will be on sale at Court Avenue, Old Coulsdon.

Worcestershire's interest in the Premier Division will be open during the summer when Malcolm Bagdon will be supervising fitness classes on Wednesday evenings.

DURHAM NOTES

Two young men from the same club, namely HarriPee St. Joseph’s of the Munro League, have recently won the men’s singles championships at their separate universities.

Michael Wright was triumphant at Bath University and Paul Freeman followed suit at Durham University, indeed, Paul was a triple champion, for he also won the men’s doubles (with Allen Ferry of Durham) and the mixed with Miss Linda Hewison.

With Durham seniors firmly entrenched at the foot of Division 2 (North) of the County Championships and the junior having been plugged by Lancashire, for a crack at the promotion play-off for the Junior Premier, the season draws to a close. The hope for next season that this team will not again have such severe luck and that the juniors will eventually gain Premier status.

Stockton have championed both the Men’s and Junior Divisions of the County League competition with considerable taking the Men’s and Division and the Women’s.

BERKSHIRE NOTES

Having beaten Oxfordshire, Herts. 3 and Hants. II, the winners find that the top 2 will, take one point from Bucks. II to gain promotion to Division 2. On Saturday, Feb. 26, the match took place at the Berkshire College of Education, Kedington, and Berks. duly gained the requisite point—not without a few palpitations, however! With only a few minutes to go before the match Arthur Chilvers, the Bucks. II, had failed to put up an appearance!

The playing order was reversed and reserve Duncan Campbell moved in behind No. 3, with Gary Harding moving up to No. 2.

The tie was then played and Berkshire succeeded by 9 sets to 1. Preaching the only set to John Leckie. Mention must be made of the Bucks, No. 1, Jethro, who took both Harding and Bob Thorston (Bucks. No. 1) to deciding games. Don't tell Paddy about the finishing 10 and J1 Joyce and Caroline Reeves easily won the women’s doubles.

The Berkshire team and officials have been assembled in a local hostelry to ‘toast’ their success. The unforgettably Arthur Chilvers, who had got lost on his way to the match, cheered comically by the side of the celebra- tion, officials’ note—Berkshire had 2 National and 4 County Umpires ‘doing their stunts’ at this tie.

Berkshire juniors, who lost to Sussex in the first match of the season and then improved to beat Hants. and then with Jeff, proved that these latter results were no flukes by beating Oxfordshire, Diverts, II 7-3. The Oxfordshire tie took place at A.E.E.C. Hurst and Tony Stevens opened the account with a clean 12-10, 13-20, 23. The only other game for Oxfordshire was gained by T. Smith when losing 20 -14, -16 to Brian Sweetser. Gary Harding, Steve Mawson and Chris Whittingham were the other Berkshire representatives. The match against Herts II, which took place at the College on the same day at the mens’ singles against Bucks. II, was kept alive by the energetic and sturdy play of 11-year-old R. Jermy, the Herts No. 2, who beat Stevens 19,-10, 10, and then combined with Mr. Indianberry to win, 10, 20, in the mixed who lost the final set 18, -18 to H. Roseberry. Harding defeated Caroline Reeves and Sweetser all played well—especially Brian, who beat M. Wals 10, 8, 1.

WESTERN LEAGUE NOTES

It looks fairly certain that the Newbury league will win both the men’s and women’s sections of the Western League both having yet to taste defeat this season. Not least of the local teams is the Newbury men’s side which is sure to be well represented in the Berkshire tournament.
LEICESTERSHIRE NOTES
by Philip Reid

Paul Randell, as expected, retained his Leicestershire Closed Men's title. He defeated Graham Hughes, in the final. He went through without dropping a game and also retained his Intermediate Singles Trophy, won the Men's Doubles (with Hughes) and the Mixed (with new partner Pat Rixby). Not a bad performance for an 18-year-old!

Karen Rogers was hardly less successful. Without Anita Stevenson there—International club—she hardly extended. Karen took the Women's Singles, Girls' Singles and Women's Doubles (with another Joe). The 'committee' in this case was in memory of Karen's grandmother, a supporter of table tennis for ten years. The trophy was for Girls' Singles and it was just about right. Karen should be the first winner.

Chris Rogers won the Boys' Singles and the Under-15 Singles first shot, though deserved winners in the Junior Doubles were Paul Dawson and Brian Wright. Yet another Rogers figured on the winners list. John Rogers (father of Chris and Karen) took the Veterans' title after a fine set with Phil Overend.

Oddly, one of the best finals was the Consolation Singles in which junior Dave Barry narrowly defeated John Huyatt at 19 in the final. Sadly, both these players will be performing further up next season. Dave is in eminence title when he beat No. 2 seed and moved on business to Pontefract, where he is another winner.

Leicestershire completed their best-ever season when the seniors defeated Derbyshire 7-2. For once, the Skidworths were beaten. Stuart Haines has had an outing in the National Match—England v. Czechoslovakia. Whilst nothing is certain it would be pleasing feature here being that he is a boy wearing an England shirt.

Anchorage welcome notes. Hinckley's relegation dangers have now been dispelled, a Trophy went with a 5-4 defeat by Liverpool. Karen Rogers played effectively, except for a couple of overs. A further singles success, the match with Phil Overend was retrieved by Ken Muhr, who had two fine singles wins, and Rosemary Schofield the victor over Gatley colossus, in the semi-finals, and a very close final

In their match against Norfolc, the second team were the first Cambs. to take a point from the men from the Broads. In their 5-3 draw at Haversham Sports Centre, well, thereby hangs a tale. The match in good style by Philip Tye Churchill and his set with the electricity power cuts were, indeed, a further singles success, brought Brian Jones in opposition to Tony Hipperson, who won both his matches, but without struggle, Ken Muhr and Peter Hirst who suffered only one defeat in the 15

Brian Kean of the Carter Travelling Fellowship Award. He is the youngest recipient in the second time in three years.

It is on a black note that I refer to the Stockport teague and their power cuts to stage the tie at Ormesby on Sunday, Feb. 27. However, after overcoming these hazards, Stockport eventually conceded the match owing to them having transport problems. I feel it is a disgrace, and a blot on the England's National Match—England v. Czechoslovakia. Whilst nothing is certain it would be

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Midland League

by Philip Reid

Despite the power cuts, most teams made remarkable efforts to get matches played by changing the venue and, in at least one case, the town! First news is that the relegation battle in the Men’s 1st Division has now been settled. Wolverhampton—who were promoted only last season—are destined to make the drop. Oxford’s Jackson and C. Alcock they look far from

Three successive 6-4 defeats at the beginning of the season put them in a bad position, worsened when beaten 9-1 by both Gloucester and Birmingham. An 8-2 win against Nottingham will now have no bearing on the relegation fight.

Bristol, Derby and Worcester fighting it out for top place. Each have vital pointer here. Leamington and Nuneaton dropped two points. Clearly the Nottingham Intermediate Division, when they held Nuneaton to a draw. They led 5-3 and looked likely to secure two, but first A. Ellison beat S. Montgomery 21-19 in the third to conclude the match with the spoils shared.

Contrasting fortunes from the two Birmingham teams in the Junior first division. The ‘A’ team are riding high, having dropped only seven sets in six matches (Desmond Douglas still unbeaten) whilst the ‘B’ team have collected only two draws from seven matches and are in bottom spot.

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The three-cornered fight in the Men’s 3rd Division looks wide open—two points separate the bottom four teams. Gloucester (2 points), Birmingham (3) and Leicester (4) are at present in the relegation spots but either—or both—could overtake Walsall, who have completed their fixtures.

The Men’s 3rd Division looks almost ‘cut and dried’. Chesterfield need only to draw with Darlington to accompany Cheltenham to the second division.

Leamington collected a point in the final match of their programme in the Intermediate Division when they held Nuneaton to a draw. They led 3-3 and looked likely to secure two, but first M. Stade completed a fine maximum for the Warwickshire side and then A. Elliot beat S. Montgomery 21-19 in the third to conclude the match with the spoils shared.

Contra- ing fortunes from the two Birmingham teams in the Junior first division. The ‘A’ team are riding high, having dropped only seven sets in six matches (Desmond Douglas still unbeaten) whilst the ‘B’ team have collected only two draws from seven matches and are in bottom spot. Coventry ‘B’ promotion hopes in the Junior 2nd Division took a jolt when Nuneaton held them to a draw. Paul Dawson played well for Nuneaton to win two with R. G. and M. Burnham winning two for Coventry.

Whilst Oxford look to have the Veterans’ 1st Division cupboard with Brutual, Dysley and Wyndham assured three points, the Derby-Worcester match will be the vital pointer here. Leamington and Nottingham ‘B’ are at present in the danger zone.

Fine individual performance in the Veteran’s 2nd Division came from Darlington’s C. Hughes who beat all Nottingham ‘B’, only to see his team lose 7-2. Amongst Hughes’ wins was one against R. Thirkel—his first reverse of the season.

The Women’s Division has an unfamiliar look about it—in that Birmingham, who have only failed to win all 25 years before this season, will finish at least third, possibly lower. Surely this team are due to show some of their former glory before long?

E.T.T.A. ‘100 Club’

by Albert W. Shipley

It was pleasing to have 47 of our membership in attendance at the Luncheon held in Brighton’s Grand Hotel on Saturday, March 4. The total attendance, inclusive of guests, was 67, the century being topped for a second time.

Guest speaker was Bill Martin, a comedian whose vocation in the entertainment world has included the TV show, and he most certainly warmed his Brighton audience up with his quick-fire patter. He also led the “warming-up” of an audience before the Club’s 10th Annual Open Championships.

The hat for the £100 was that of Mr. R. E. Ramsden, father of Alan, who brought his total winnings to a total of £280 to make him the Club’s leading money winner. The £50 was won by Audrey Hill, of Coleshill, Slaney and the £20 to Bill Rogerson, the Cambridgeshire President.

Additional prizes of £5 each, from premiums bond winners, were won by David Wolstenholm, of Bolton, Margaret Hothers, the former Midlander player, and Johnny Leach himself!

On the subject of Premium Bond winnings, were won by David Wolstenholm, of Bolton, Margaret Hothers, the former Midlander player, and Johnny Leach himself!

Next date is on Saturday, July 1, at the House of Commons with details of a trip to Spain, in December, to be forthcoming shortly.

Premium Bonds held by ‘100 Club’

SoM 78901 - 78999 £100
429 09901 - 09999 £100
SWF 59001 - 59099 £100
CNS 16901 - 16999 £100
WNP 452441 - 452599 £100
QH 54261 - 542999 £100
PGP 57261 - 572899 £100
GHP 092055 - 092999 £100
SVB 592051 - 592059 £100
SPT 592060 - 592063 £100
8RB 592090 - 592099 £100
£1,800

Whatever you choose, with Dunlop, you know you get the best.

Barna Slater balls are being added more and more for Championships all over the world.

It all comes from caring enough about the game to put a little extra into everything we make. Caring enough to go out and discover something that makes it better. So you can get something more out of it.

Dunlop Table tennis is our game.
English Open Championships

Individual Events

by JOHN WOODFORD

Stellan Bengtsson receives the men's singles trophy from the hands of E.T.T.A. President, A. K. "Bill" Vint, at Brighton.

First Singles Title for Sweden

I WOULD imagine that the careers of STELLAN BENGTSSON'S school in Falkenberg, Sweden must have been altered at the time. In 1969, when informed that his young man was to become a professional table tennis player, Stellan then it appears that Bengtsson's decision was the right one although one, his capture of the world title in Nagoya last year was a major surprise.

Trevor Taylor is surely one of those who have noticed that being left-handed in world-class these days seems to be "out of style" as quickly as possible. In time for a double-quick return to the Premier Division of the European League, assuming of course that England is relegated.

The first game of the men's final was adjudged to be the best: both players clearly knew each other's game inside out with Johansson a set back in the world cup. Svetoslav Dragutin Surbek won at 18 in the fourth, 11, 9, 11, 11. To prove that this was no fluke, he went on to defeat the former European Champion, a new player again by the surprising score 9, 11, 11 only to lose to Roma Ventosa (17-9, 11-9) in the semi-finals on the finals day. Stipancic-Alexandru and Surbek spin backed up to that Surbek spin backed up by Carmen Cristea. The eventual winners Stipancic-Alexandru took a five-game semi-final to shake off Bengtsson and Karenza Mathews won her two defensive titles. Judy Williams and Sherlach Heinson at English tournaments so often that she cannot have put the wily Johansson in a wondrous five gameer. However, Karenza's top spin seems to cope fairly well with most problems presented by Slag and Judy and this time she disposed of both girls in four games to reach the quarters; there, however, she found the defense of Maria Alexandru once again in a game of its own and went down 10-16, 7.

In the final Maria Ventosa gained the most points that meant but with the Maranese ace triumphed 17, 15, 19, to win her fifth title at Brighton and the third in succession.

Wondrous

Neale and Barnes are perhaps the only pair of British players who have both reached the world Championship final, and now they have both been beaten by Birgitta Radberg in the return tour of Britain late last year. The Swedes had an unexpected role in the Top-spin does not play quite such a big role in the world of table tennis. The use of top spin is still increasing

to payoff-at least three of the last four. After watching play at Brighton for those who have noticed that being left-handed in world-class these days seems to be "out of style" as quickly as possible and in time for a double-quick return to the Premier Division of the European League, assuming of course that England is relegated.

The whole tournament lacked major surprises but it must try and mention several notable results. In the men's singles, "Les" Haslam put up a mighty fight before going down, in the fifth, to Trevor Taylor who won on the Bobbi Stevens, to win Detan Korpa at 18 in the fourth. Forty-eight hours later Taylor up-ended Korpa again at Ormesby in the final of the European Club Cups which suggest to see that Taylor will be the next England No. 1. STOUT RESISTANCE A Barnes-Langau meeting was expected but "Connie" Warren interfered by beating the Irishman and then losing to Barraclough...
In the men's, the best win seems to be by Michael Harper (Herts), a point recent for the Hales Super League. He stopped Mike Johns (Clerkenwell) 13, 17; Alan Griffiths (Worcestershire) had a good run to the finals beating Barry Hill, 14, 16 in the quarter and Harper, 15, 14 in the semi-finals. Both of all, was the performance of the winner Jimmy Walker (Yorkshire), aided by the elimination of Johns. He put out Webman (Orrery) 16, 5, J. L. Costanzo (France) in the semi and finished by up-ending Griffiths 9, 13 in the final.

The women's event was dominated by Linda and Susan Howard. Linda's victims included Marie Perri (Surrey), in the quarters, 17, 15; Elaine Turner (Yorkshire) in the semi and, in the final, sister Susan, 15, 14. Earlier, Susan accounted for Brigitte-Théret (France), 16, 15 and Jean Williams (Bucks), 16, 14 in the semi.

Individual Results

Men's Singles: Round 2:
- S. Gregory (Kent) bt M. May (Eng.) 13, 16, 17
- J. Williams (Bucks.) bt B. Hill (Surrey) 14, 18

Quarter-finals:
- M. Harpoer (Herts.) bt M. Johns (Ches.) 15, 13
- M. Prowen (Middx.) bt M. Harpoer (Herts.) 18, 10, 13, 10
- S. Howard (Sussex) bt Thiriet 16, 13, 12

Semi-finals:
- A. Griffiths (Wales) bt B. Hill (Surrey) 16, 14, 12

Final:
- J. Williams (Bucks.) bt B. Hill (Surrey) 18, 17

Women's Singles: Round 2:
- D. Schofield (Ches.) bt E. Tarten (Essex) 15, 20
- C. Kingston (Middx.) bt J. Williams (Bucks.) 15, 13

Quarter-finals:
- C. Kingston (Middx.) bt J. Williams (Bucks.) 18, 17
- J. Osborne (Essex) bt S. Jacobson (Middx.) 10, 13
- J. Williams (Bucks.) bt B. Hill (Surrey) 18, 17

Semi-finals:
- D. Schofield (Ches.) bt J. Williams (Bucks.) 18, 17

Final:
- J. Osborne (Essex) bt C. Kingston (Middx.) 18, 17

T.I.F.F. Treasurer, Jean Mercier of France poses with women's veteran winner Mrs. Daphne Gray of Hampshire. Photo by Peter Madge.

The women's doubles was the first event to go on at the last session to the tournament, which is a change for a women's final to go on at the last session to the tournament, which is another change for a women's final.

In a new way-

A smiling E.T.T.A. Chairman, Charles Wyles, stands between the men's doubles winners Dragan Surbek (left) and Anton Stipancic of Yugoslavia. Photo by Peter Madge.
Team Championships

by PHILIP REID

The team events in the English Open provided two excellent finals but disappointments in the earlier rounds for the English teams. In the Men’s event, England III played Hungary whilst on the distaff side England II were opposed to France. Both lost 3-1 but there were encouraging performances in both matches.

Disappointing Home Results

8-year-old Simon Heath brought off a great win against the left-handed Hungarian Peter Bezson, now possibly past his peak but a very useful player nonetheless. Indeed, England III came near to taking a lead only succumbing at 20-22 in the third game of doubles. It was Matsos Belzani who proved the biggest threat, winning both his singles.

Meanwhile, two tables away the youthful looking England II (Jenet Hoolah and Linda Howard) were playing the multi-improved French team of Claude Bergeret and Birgitta Thierry. England made the best possible start when Linda Howard gained a superb win over Bergeret—which has pre-empted them in the list of England in the recent European league match. Miss Howard’s play suggested her No. 4 ranking in the England list by no means flatters her. The doubles was very close but the Taylor-Barnes team of Claude Bergeret and Birgitta Thierry, won the doubles, partnered to keep it. It was a win (right against the fashion) but it was thoroughly deserved and gave Sweden the match.

The men beat Ireland and Scotland 3-0 and then recovered from the shock of Kjell Johansson losing to Stefan Kollmeyer to win 3-1 against Czechoslovakia. Yugoslavia’s path was not quite so simple. Scotland II gave them no trouble but Hungary proved much more difficult than anticipated. A 2-0 lead gave no indication of any shocks to follow but erstwhile Belzani took the doubles and Rosca showed superb form to beat Surbek. The accurate placing of the Hungarian left-hander had Surbek in unexpected trouble. When he took the second, it looked as though Surbek had weathered the storm but in fact it was only the signal for Rosca to leap and hit with renewed vigour. Surbek was hardly ever in and amusingly Hungary were level at 2-all. Yet again, Stipancic came to the rescue with a comfortable victory over Bohumil. The Yugoslav team’s victory over England put them into the final.

While this was happening, Romania were beating France 3-1. The Hungarians made a bad start when two of the most promising young players in the game were in opposition—Carmen Crisan (Romania) and Bergeret. The French girl, whose improvement has been one of the revelations of this season, played with an assurance borne of success but then the stage was set for the semi-final. Maria Alexandru to take over the match.

First she thoroughly demoralised Thierry, won the doubles partnered by Miss Crisan and then beat Bergeret. I have never seen Alexandru hitting as before. She is trying to hit a lot more because she feels she ought to—sometimes she misses and sometimes she doesn’t”—that’s according to her charming captain, Erika Constantinescu, who told me. Certainly against her opponents she hit it as though she had been doing it all her life. Few could have imagined Radberg would take the third but that is what happened. Moreover she took it in style, Pushing, hitting, clever flight variations, the set had happened by then. And having established a lead she showed she was the score would keep it. It was a win ‘right against the form book’ but it was thoroughly deserved and gave Sweden the match.

FINALs

Often the finals are disappointing affairs but this was not one such occasion. For both matches both teams were running in the full distance—3-2 and whilst this in itself is not a guarantee of exciting play, it is often a pretty good pointer. The Women’s final started 50 minutes before the Men’s

The Bill Stamp Cup is here held by Stipancic who, with Maria Alexandru, won the mixed doubles event, the presentation having been made by the E.T.T.A.’s Deputy Chairman, George R. Yates.
could win the title for the first time, or were Czachowski's
minutes, they had been hard fought, with
(19-5-13-12-10) and she had
in the third but it never materialised. She
the first set was Radberg v. Grofova. Grofova
law. She had looked like a champion, a
in the first game and made a very
defensive qualities to
was Astri Engel, the Swede's doubles partner, who
was playing carefully but looking hard for
the first straight and only missing one hand
of his forehand kills as hard as
in the final and when he moved in with
away, mostly cross court wide on
12. 16-A great hit by
singles. Johansson, with some
dominate the set from start to finish.
who would have looked a winner all the way in
spite of hitting strokes. Quite suddenly the
numbers show-Grofova misses an easy
the first set showed only too clearly
the high pressure tactics of Grofova, who
incredible speed, showing great defensive
quality only by
the most consistent doubles player and
exploded, played with both hands and
enjoyed by Cliff Darley.

to win the second set, Grofova
both players. At 20-all Radberg hit a
in position is just off-17-14-A good
Stipancic-16-14-A wide
the first game was lost when she
successive winners, this one didn't
had been very consistent and
impressed the few impartial supporters
not to live up to expectations. Surbek's
dominating the game and had
the world champion took it at 10.

Singles (He doesn't win many
tournaments, at least not Men's Singles events)"

Birgitta Radberg (Sweden)  'Photo by Tony Rossa.

The Czech girls took the vital
double play, which
took the first set against the Radbergs
took a big over as well. But the
Swedish girl would have none of it.
She kicked a winner all the way in
the second and only two tremendous
hits by Grofova saved her when she
was down 20-21 and 22-21. Radberg
gave great commitment which
made much more sense, completely
Alicia took the second and all depended on the
decider.

Could Sweden win the title for the first
time the match had run its course
least likely of the three.
The final set was Radberg v. Grofova. Grofova's
great consistency by the Czech
girl gave her the first game
but a rather scrappy second
was marked by too many mistakes
by both players. At 20-40 Grofova
hit a rash backhand kill and a
longer rally followed which culminated in
the Swedish girl pushing the ball
into the net. This was one
castle which had fallen and another was to follow.
Votolova seemed totally
bullied by the power of Anderson's
forehand drive, and although she
staged a partial recovery towards
the end of the second game there was
really only one player in it,

The first game involved Kjell
Johansson of Sweden and Stipancic of
Yugoslavia. The first game reached
a dead level. It was a
easy straightforward game with
both players

As one would expect from two such
athletic players, there were
even more amazing rallies, with both
players

Win. With some tremendous kills, notably
Stipancic's-14-10-A wide backhand
kill and the set had gone the full
distance. Most impartial supporters
thought he would win the Men's


A. Stipancic bt P. Forker 7, 12.
A. Johansson bt A. Griffiths 11, 16.

HUNGARY 3, ENGLAND II 0
M. Orlowski bt I. Korpa 16, -13. 17.
B. Ogilvy bt J. D. Constant 14, 18.
J. Kunz/Orlowski bt Karakasevic/Korpa 11. 19.

HUNGARY II 3, ENGLAND II 0
B. Ogilvy bt J. D. Constant 14, 18.
J. Kunz/Orlowski bt Karakasevic/Korpa 11. 19.

ENGLAND I 3, SWEDEN II 0
S. Bengtsson bt R. Yule 15, 12.
B. Obisanya bt S. Bengtsson 14, 15.

ENGLAND II 3, SWEDEN II 0
S. Bengtsson bt R. Yule 15, 12.
B. Obisanya bt S. Bengtsson 14, 15.

ENGLAND I 3, NIGERIA I 0
C. Barnes bt B. Obisanya 8, 13.
A. Griffiths bt C. Barnes 19, 16.

ENGLAND III 3, IVORY COAST II 0
C. Barnes bt B. Obisanya 8, 13.
A. Griffiths bt C. Barnes 19, 16.

YUGOSLAVIA II 3, SWEDEN II 0
S. Neale bt S. Bengtsson 12, 10.
B. Ogilvy bt T. Taylor 14, 10.

YUGOSLAVIA II 3, ENGLAND II 2
S. Neale bt S. Bengtsson 12, 10.
B. Ogilvy bt T. Taylor 14, 10.

YUGOSLAVIA I 3, HUNGARY I 2
S. Neale bt S. Bengtsson 12, 10.
B. Ogilvy bt T. Taylor 14, 10.

HUNGARY I 3, ENGLAND II 0
S. Neale bt S. Bengtsson 12, 10.
B. Ogilvy bt T. Taylor 14, 10.

HUNGARY I 3, IVORY COAST II 0
S. Neale bt S. Bengtsson 12, 10.
B. Ogilvy bt T. Taylor 14, 10.

S. Bengtsson bt R. Yule 15, 12.
B. Obisanya bt S. Bengtsson 14, 15.

S. Bengtsson bt R. Yule 15, 12.
B. Obisanya bt S. Bengtsson 14, 15.

S. Bengtsson bt R. Yule 15, 12.
B. Obisanya bt S. Bengtsson 14, 15.

S. Bengtsson bt R. Yule 15, 12.
B. Obisanya bt S. Bengtsson 14, 15.
J. Yates, a 2-star table tennis Coach, and from C.C.P.R., 5 St. Paul's Street, Leeds, L83 2NQ.

Vostova lost to Andersson 10, 16, lost to Andersson/Radberg bt Alexandru/Crisan 18, 15.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA 3, SWEDEN 2

Grofova/Vostova bt Andersson/Radberg 11, 18.

R. Waterworth, an E.T.T.A. Club Coach.

Staff in charge of table tennis will be interested in a sports coaching for both boys and girls from absolute beginners to advanced performers. The parents of these two girls will also be in the party and would offer hospitality in Sweden for a similar period of time in return.

Any Club or League interested in making contact with Langshyttan B.T.K. are requested to contact Mr. C. Antons Sol, Box 539, 770 70 Langshyttan, Sweden.

INTERNATIONAL MATCHES

This season's two remaining home international matches are against Hungary, the first on Monday, April 10 (European League) at the Cliffs Pavilion, Southend, Essex and the final one on Tuesday, April 25 at the 'Y' Sports Centre, Melrose Avenue, Maidstone, Kent, both commencing at 7.30 p.m.

Ticket enquiries in respect of the European League match to: Mr. M. D. Watts, 25 Church Green, Sycamore Way, Canewdon, Essex (Phone: Canewdon 49) and for the match at Maidstone to: Mr. R. H. Fuller, 48 Park Avenue, Maidstone, Kent (Phone Maidstone 57614).

HOLIDAY WITH A DIFFERENCE

Those who enjoy an active holiday with people their own age will doubtless be interested in a sports coaching week to be held at Scarborough from July 22-29.

The week's course includes table tennis, cricket, archery and trampoline. Those who enjoy an active holiday with people their own age will doubtless be interested in a sports coaching week to be held at Scarborough from July 22-29. The week's course includes table tennis, cricket, archery and trampoline.

Team Events: Apr. 15-18.

Individual Events: Apr. 20-22.


Finals: Tuesday, April 25 at the 'Y' Sports Centre, Melrose Avenue, Maidstone, Kent.

The parents of these two girls will also be in the party and would offer hospitality in Sweden for a similar period of time in return.

Any Club or League interested in making contact with Langshyttan B.T.K. are requested to contact Mr. C. Antons Sol, Box 539, 770 70 Langshyttan, Sweden.

The holiday offers the chance for beginners to learn a new sport whilst the more experienced can improve their skill in the sport of their choice.

Beginners to advanced performers. The parents of these two girls will also be in the party and would offer hospitality in Sweden for a similar period of time in return.

Any Club or League interested in making contact with Langshyttan B.T.K. are requested to contact Mr. C. Antons Sol, Box 539, 770 70 Langshyttan, Sweden.

The week's course includes table tennis, cricket, archery and trampoline.

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Those who enjoy an active holiday with people their own age will doubtless be interested in a sports coaching week to be held at Scarborough from July 22-29.
I offer my condolences.

League occurred on Wednesday, March 29 and to all those people who were excited. I will be giving a full report in the next issue of the magazine but, as I have no ideas in mind, I am going to keep you waiting.

It has been obvious from this pilot scheme that the Super League is a success. The only difficulty encountered has been the lack of spectators. Your full consideration and you are hereby welcomed. Any ideas would be given a hearing before they are presented.

In all my years of playing and watching, I have never seen players and spectators become so involved and excited. I will be giving a full report on the next occasion that I attend. I offer my condolences.

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continued on next page

The International Front

EUROPEAN LEAGUE

NOTE: Until the Czechs have travelled to the U.S.S.R. to take on Russia, and England have lined up to Hungary, at Wembley on April 24, either the championships or the relegation issues will be resolved in the Premier Division of the European League.

Following their 5-2 win over England at Norwich (reported elsewhere) and a 4-3 victory over Federal Germany, in Remscheid, Czechoslovakia still boast an undefeated record from five matches. But, coming up on the rails, the Soviet Union have, within the same period, also beaten Federal Germany, in Frankfurt (5-1) as well as Sweden (4-3) in Moscow.

In this latter engagement, Russia's success was accomplished despite the fact that Zoya Rudnova, was beaten by Anne Christine Hellman, winner of last season's English Junior Open at Catterbury, and Natalia Gromko had gone under to Karl-Johan Bernhardt.

By beating the Czechs 6-1, Russia could win the title outright, or by games average should a win of 5-2 result. Similarly, England have the task of accounting for the Hungarians, in the same period, also beaten Sweden (4-3) in Moscow.

In this latter engagement, Russia's success was accomplished despite the fact that Zoya Rudnova, was beaten by Anne Christine Hellman, winner of last season's English Junior Open at Catterbury, and Natalia Gromko had gone under to Karl-Johan Bernhardt.

SOuth & EAST REGION

FRoM THE SCHOOL PAPER

NATIONAL FINALS DATE

The National Finals of the 4-a-side School Team Championships, which were postponed from March 19 because of the effects of the electricity crisis on two of the three Regional Finals, will now take place on Saturday, May 12, at Northwood Sports Centre, Stoke-on-Trent, Stafford, commencing at 11 a.m.

Schools in the North Region and the Midlands & West are due to compete in the Regional Finals on Sunday, April 30 but the South & East Region Finals were unaffected by power cuts and went ahead as arranged on February 7.

RESULTS:

Boys' U-15:

1. EMANUELI (Surrey)
2. Plaistow G.S., Newham (Essex Met.)
3. Southall G.T. School (Middlesex)
4. Perse Girls (Cambs.)

Girls' U-15:

1. Plaistow G.S., Newham (Essex Met.)
2. Tiffin Boys (Surrey)
3. Notting Hill G.S., Islington (Suffolk)
4. Ingredients

Boys' U-13:

1. Plaistow G.S., Newham (Essex Met.)
2. E. J. Biggadike (Suffolk)
3. St. Michael's Convent (Essex Met.)
4. Southend G.S., Southend (Essex Met.)
5. Girls' U-13:

1. Plaistow G.S., Newham (Essex Met.)
2. St. Michael's Convent (Essex Met.)
3. Southend G.S., Southend (Essex Met.)
4. Girls' U-13:

1. WESTLANDS G., Sissinghurme
2. F. Scholer (Kent)
3. Plaistow G.S., Newham (Essex Met.)
4. Manor (Cambs.)

Boys' U-11:

1. BARROW HILLS (Surrey)
2. Ormskirk (Suffolk)
3. Pulford, Old Buckenham (Norfolk)
4. Lieck lost to Orlowski -14, -16.

Please noted:

The Competition Secretary, E. Biggadike, of The Schoolhouse, Godalming, Alvechurch, Worcestershire, is in the phone at Ashton Bank 3568.

The General Secretary, D. A. Lomas has now moved to 45, Shirley Wharf, Shirley, Croydon, Surrey.
Section 1: European Club Championships

The European Club Championships was contested in the final of the European Club Championships, in a two-legged affair with Sweden's Falkenberg BTF. Denmark's team of Bent Nielsen, Trevor Taylor, and Nicky Jarvis traveled to Sweden on April 27, the home leg being scheduled for Thursday, May 10, on Tongeborough.

Further details can be had from Orlovsky (overseas supremacy, Alan Rosenthal, at 24 Church Lane, Ormskirk, Middlesbrough. Phone: Middlesbrough 22434 (home). Specialized by world champion, Stefan Bengtsson, Falkenberg's team is otherwise likely to comprise Anders Johansson and Tommy Anderson.

European Ranking List

A revised ranking list has recently been released by the European Table Tennis Union in which Denis Neale, Scotland's 5-2 away victory over Hungary's Tibor Klanpar drops from No.2 to No.5. Hungary's Judit Magos, up from No.9, and Ilona Vostova who moves down to No.5. The Italian leader fourteen by the Nigerians, Philip Santos and Lawrey Wilson, who had a great run to the final of the men's doubles. Had they been able to play in the same flight as their quarter-final win over Taylor and Alan Hay, they would have given Orlovsky and Kane a better run.

Section 2: Welsh Open

Czechoslovakia dominated all events at the Welsh Open, held for the first time at the National Sports Centre for Wales (writes Nancy Roy Evans) which provided a magnificent venue, enthusiastically approved by the Czechs, Nigerians, and Peruvians, and by the usual English contingent. Trevor Taylor looked at one time as if he might get into the final for a crack at the £5 First Prize, and leaf Orlovsky by two games and was playing well in the third, when suddenly the positions began to run away from him, and the Czech emerged a comfortable winner.

Section 3: Scottish Open

Undoubtedly this season's Scottish Open played at the Meadowbank Stadium, Edinburgh over the weekend of Mar 16-19, belonged to Elaine Smith (writes Heres Hamilton). The young Scottish girl must be congratulated on her splendid performance.

P W L F A Pts

WOMEN

1. Z. Rudnova (Soviet Union) (1)
2. B. Kishin (Hungary) (4)
3. M. Alexandra (Rumania) (5)
4. V. Voskelova (Czechoslovakia) (1)
5. J. Majoc (Hungary) (15)
6. D. Scholler (Fed. Germany) (6)
7. A. Potemsova (Slovak Union) (6)
8. A. Grofova (Czechoslovakia) (2)
9. A. Niime (Fed. Germany) (6)
10. M. Resler (Yugoslavia) (1)
11. R. Balba (Slovakia) (2)
12. J. Baerman (England) (1)
13. R. Anderson (Switzerland) (6)

MEN

1. S. Bengtsson (Sweden) (1)
2. K. Johansson (Sweden) (2)
3. J. Jurdy (Hungary) (3)
4. T. Klanpar (Hungary) (4)
5. J. Kunz bt S. Kollarovits (Czechoslovakia)
6. I. Orlovsky bt T. Taylor (England)
7. Z. Orlovsky bt J. Grofova (Slovakia)
8. M. Orlowski (Czechoslovakia)
9. I. Vostova (Czechoslovakia)
10. M. Resler (Yugoslavia) (1)
11. R. Balba (Slovakia) (2)
12. J. Baerman (England) (1)
13. R. Anderson (Switzerland) (6)

The International Front

Indonesia have lodged a protest.
J. Walker (Yorks.) bt T. Taylor (Essex)

S..F.: M..S.: Q ..F.: Final:


A.	 Ransome (Yorks.) bt D. Parker (Lanes.)

G.S.: S..F.: D. Alderson (Yorks.) bt R. Bhalla (Scot.)

B.S.: S..F.: Final:

M ..D.:

Smith bt Hellaby -19, 18, 18, 18.

Neale:/Taylolr bt

L.	 Browninq (Yorks.) bt T. Donlon (Ches,)

J.	 Hellaby (Essex) bt J. Green (Ches.)

R.	 Yule (Scot.)/Smith bt B. Johns (Ches.)/

D Neale (Yorks.) bt P. Forket (Scot.) 10.

JUNIOR

w.e.s. Final:

V.S.: Fi.nal:

A. Warents (Nthld.) bt Browning 18, 15.

X.D.: Final:

D. Quin (Scot.) bt M. Neish (Scot.) 18, 13.

Parker bt Alderson 19, 15.

Final:

D. Alderson bt B. Johns 14, 18.

Final:

W.O.: Final:

D. Quin (Scot.) bt M. Neish (Scot.) 18, 13.

Results:­

Walker -12, 18, 13, 17.

D. Quin (Scot.) bt M. Neish (Scot.) 18, 13.

D. Alderson bt B. Johns 14, 18.

Final:

W.O.: Final:

D. Quin (Scot.) bt M. Neish (Scot.) 18, 13.

Results:­

Walker -12, 18, 13, 17.

D. Quin (Scot.) bt M. Neish (Scot.) 18, 13.

D. Alderson bt B. Johns 14, 18.

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D. Alderson bt B. Johns 14, 18.

Final:

W.O.: Final:

D. Quin (Scot.) bt M. Neish (Scot.) 18, 13.
F'rance and the Netherlands, who were opportunity for us all to get to under­
interpretation of the second paragraph three days. The official briefing was
second official sitting in the centre on the English Open Championships the
on Wednesday, 23rd February. After
obstructs the umpire's view of the
ho'tel just before noon. In addition
to judge if a service is good on any
the early hours of Thursday morning
be our colleagues for the next
shopping we had our evening meal
to the four umpires our party also
the first round matches of the ladies'
 ISCHeLSP'ORTHALL, Hagen.
A most interesting discussion on the
found no response from Sid Francis.
After spending the first afternoon
had been paid to every aspect so that
the first two matches of the ladies' Team
that our Dutch and French counter­
parts were calling their matches in
A great attention

However with only a couple of exceptions, at the player's request that English was preferred, we called throughout in German. At our briefing the previous evening we had been instructed to ensure that all players served strictly according to the letter of the law. Before all the early matches we instructed players "Korrekte Aufschlage Bitte!" and this later stages of the tournament, the warning in German was accompanied by a hit open hand demonstration.
During play on the first day we were surprised that the individual
knockout was completed. However the on the occasion that the servers body
the official prestige programme.

Our first day concluded with the
in good time for the

During the play on Saturday our
to the four umpires our party also
our two matches were the main
features of the long table tennis item
in their television sport's programme with many good shots of players and
effects.

No report of these championships would be complete without a word of
grace for the wonderful and generous hospitals which we received and
to that in this turn will be to the benefit of table tennis back home. Similar exchanges can only be

to the overall improvement of table tennis universal.

ENGLISH RESULTS

MEN'S TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP

ENGLAND bt HOLLAND 4-1.
1st Round: B. Hall (Eng.) bt A. Hagedoorn (Hol.) 16, 10, 21, 21, 17.
2nd Round: E. Wetzel (Eng.) bt A. Grof (Cz.) 17, 15, 21, 18, 14.
3rd Round: J. Mathews bt S. Kove (Hun.) 18, 20, 14, 21.
Final: A. Grof bt J. Mathews 17, 19, 21, 19.

MEN'S SINGLES

Barnes bt Taylor 21, 13, 15.
Taylor bt Hoffmann 13, 9.
Barnes bt Taylor 14, 20, 17.

MIXED DOUBLES

Barnes/Taylor bt Schoofs/V. Slobbe (Holland) 18, 13, 17.
Taylor bt Wiikstrom (Sweden) 16, 20, 15.
Mathews/Howard bt Hejma/Simon -19, 17, 17.
Mathews lost to Scholer -9, 11, 16, 19.

WOMEN'S TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP

ENGLAND bt BELGIUM 3-0.
1st Round: J. Jonyer (Eng.) bt E. Vlaicov (Rum.) 16, 13, 17.
2nd Round: K. Johansson bt I. Jonyer 16, 9, 12.

WOMEN'S SINGLES

Barnes bt Taylor 16, 13, 17.
Howard bt Scholer -9, 11, 16, 19.
J. Jonyer bt E. Vlaicov (Rum.) 16, 13, 17.

WOMEN'S DOUBLES

Matthes/Howard bt Hejma/Simon 21, 13, 17.
Taylor bt Wiikstrom (Sweden) 16, 20, 15.

ENGLISH UMPIRES SQUAD TO THE FEDERAL GERMAN OPEN

by BRIAN WEBB

The invitation from the D.T.T.B. for the E.T.T.A. to send four National Umpires to their Open Championships resulted in the selected squad of J. Sykes (Team Leader—
Works), F. J. Groen and S. E. F. Stoker (both from B.F. Webb) and B. J. R. Webb (Middle England) 
receiving the on the 11-15 p.m. Harwich-Hook channel crossing on Wednesday, the 15th February. After a choppy seven hours we landed in the early hours of Thursday morning and proceeded, with one change, by train to Hagen reaching the TARGAN HOTEL just before noon. In addition to the four umpires our party also included Mrs. Helen Sykes and during the visit here from Germany was to prove a valuable asset.
After spending the first afternoon shopping we had our evening meal and then returned to our hotel for a 9 p.m. briefing which was led by one of the joint referees, René Geisser. Here we had a first opportunity to meet the other National Umpires from Germany, France and the Netherlands, who were to be our colleagues for the next three days. The official briefing was concluded with an informal discussion which proved to be an excellent opportunity for us all to get to understand other viewpoints on certain interpretations. We were informed that when the Germans use two umpires (timemaker and scorer) to control a match, the second official sits in the centre on the far side of the table is permitted to judge if a service is good on any occasion that the servers body

A continental breakfast we journeyed by coach to

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HOLDERS STILL IN HUNT

As another great season’s competition nears its end, after many months of hard and often exciting matches, we find the holders of all four competitions safely through to the semi-finals.

In the Wilmot Cup, North Yorkshire have to travel to take on Birmingham, whilst East London and Barking meet in the other semi which should provide a more closely contested match.

Central London, in the Rose Bowl, need to travel to Guildford and, again, it is difficult to see them being beaten. West Bromwich entertain northern favourites, Stockport, in the other semi and another close encounter might result.

The North Yorkshire youngboys who won the Carter Cup last year are at home to Preston, whilst the surprise team of this competition, Crawley, entertain the boys from Barking.

Barking have had an outstanding season, with three of their teams reaching the semi-finals. One of these, the girls, are now called upon to reach a further stage in their quest for victory, with an enthusiastic Hants. team.

Another easy win for the holders with David Brown were far too strong for the northern favourites, Stockport, in the other semi which saw the girls, are now called upon to reach a further stage in their quest for victory, with an enthusiastic Hants. team.

Another close match and Barking were grateful for Ian Horsham’s fine display, with David Bowles and Bob Hellaby scoring excellent wins over Tony Martin and Brian Alderson, plus one from Philip Ward clinched the issue for the Yorksiders. She won two sets with Susanne Manning one.

Central London, in East London 1—Once again, the holders seem to be heading for yet another final appearance. They were never in any trouble in this match with two wins each from Kenneth Kimm and Judy Williams and a solo from Shirlagh Henson who lost to Lesley Hardrud.

Guilford 6, Esher 3—The scoreboard suggests that this was a very close match indeed. Linda Howard was unbeaten for the home team, with her sister, Susan, winning two and Ruth Miles the other set.

Carter Cup

North Yorkshire 5, North Herts 4—A proposal from Geoff Harrower that the Club present a trophy to all the women’s singles in the Rubber-ball section of the National Trophy was accepted and approved by the Club at its recent meeting. The Club will play Middlesbrough in another Memorial match at the North Racing Sports Centre, Club team to be selected.

KATH PERRY WEIGHED IN WITH TWO SETS

A.G.M. AT BRIGHTON

The ninth annual general meeting of the Club took place at the Dome, Brighton on March 10/12 and the usual small attendance unanimously re-elected Ivor Montague as President. The meeting stood in silence in memory of Victor Barna, whose sudden death had been announced earlier in the week.

**QUARTER-FINALS**

Wilmot Cup

North Herts 5, North Yorkshire 4—Another close match and Barking scored excellent wins over Tony Martin and Brian Alderson, away in Holland on England duty, N. Yorks pulled off a small attendance unanimously re-elected Ivor Montague as President. The meeting stood in silence in memory of Victor Barna, whose sudden death had been announced earlier in the week.

Northants 4 3 0

Wilts 6 9 51

Gloucs. 5 4 0

Norfolk 5 0 1

Cambs. 5 4 0

Staffs 5 0 0

Hants. 5 0 0

Somerset 6 1 2 1 25 7

Monmouths 6 2 0 16 44 4

Worcs. 6 1 6 5 23 27 2

Wilt 6 0 0 6 9 51 0

VETERAN SOUTH

Essex 5 0 0 34 11 10

Kent 5 4 0 1 27 8 8

Oxford 6 5 1 0 49 11 11

Herts. 4 1 0 13 17 19 2

Northants 4 1 0 3 4 1 22 1

Hants. 5 0 0 5 26 0 2

VETERAN MIDLAND

Leics. 6 2 0 25 11 8

Notts. 4 3 0 1 23 1 16

Stuffs. 4 2 0 13 23 4

Leics. 4 1 0 3 18 18 2

Worcs. 5 0 0 4 11 25 6

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JUNIOR PREMIER

Cheshire 7, Surrey 4
Southampton 6, Warwickshire 4
Essex 6, Kent 2

JUNIOR EAST

Hertfordshire 1, Warwickshire 9
Essex 9, Kent 1

JUNIOR SOUTH

Surrey 6, Essex 4

JUNIOR WEST

Essex 6, Kent 2

PREMIER

Essex 6, Essex 6
Yorkshire 7, Derbyshire 4
Leicestershire 6, Nottinghamshire 5

SOUTHERN

Essex 6, Essex 6
Yorkshire 7, Derbyshire 4
Leicestershire 6, Nottinghamshire 5

NORTHERN

Essex 6, Essex 6
Yorkshire 7, Derbyshire 4
Leicestershire 6, Nottinghamshire 5

EASTERN

Essex 6, Essex 6
Yorkshire 7, Derbyshire 4
Leicestershire 6, Nottinghamshire 5

JUNIOR PREMIER

Cheshire 7, Surrey 4
Southampton 6, Warwickshire 4
Essex 6, Kent 2

JUNIOR EAST

Hertfordshire 1, Warwickshire 9
Essex 9, Kent 1

JUNIOR SOUTH

Surrey 6, Essex 4

JUNIOR WEST

Essex 6, Kent 2

PREMIER

Essex 6, Essex 6
Yorkshire 7, Derbyshire 4
Leicestershire 6, Nottinghamshire 5

SOUTHERN

Essex 6, Essex 6
Yorkshire 7, Derbyshire 4
Leicestershire 6, Nottinghamshire 5

NORTHERN

Essex 6, Essex 6
Yorkshire 7, Derbyshire 4
Leicestershire 6, Nottinghamshire 5

EASTERN

Essex 6, Essex 6
Yorkshire 7, Derbyshire 4
Leicestershire 6, Nottinghamshire 5

County Diary

Agr. 22/3 Junior Promotion Chal.

Apr. 22/23 Junior Promotion Chal.

Junioren High School, Nutsuman.

33 13-00, 30-00, 2-00.

29/30 Junior Promotion Chal.

Glebe Street, Woodbridge.

Cambridge 5

The Cambs. v. Suffolk match, set

Cheshire 7, Surrey 4

JUNIOR PREMIER

Cheshire 7, Surrey 4
Southampton 6, Warwickshire 4
Essex 6, Kent 2

JUNIOR EAST

Hertfordshire 1, Warwickshire 9
Essex 9, Kent 1

JUNIOR SOUTH

Surrey 6, Essex 4

JUNIOR WEST

Essex 6, Kent 2

PREMIER

Essex 6, Essex 6
Yorkshire 7, Derbyshire 4
Leicestershire 6, Nottinghamshire 5

SOUTHERN

Essex 6, Essex 6
Yorkshire 7, Derbyshire 4
Leicestershire 6, Nottinghamshire 5

NORTHERN

Essex 6, Essex 6
Yorkshire 7, Derbyshire 4
Leicestershire 6, Nottinghamshire 5

EASTERN

Essex 6, Essex 6
Yorkshire 7, Derbyshire 4
Leicestershire 6, Nottinghamshire 5

JUNIOR PREMIER

Cheshire 7, Surrey 4
Southampton 6, Warwickshire 4
Essex 6, Kent 2

JUNIOR EAST

Hertfordshire 1, Warwickshire 9
Essex 9, Kent 1

JUNIOR SOUTH

Surrey 6, Essex 4

JUNIOR WEST

Essex 6, Kent 2

PREMIER

Essex 6, Essex 6
Yorkshire 7, Derbyshire 4
Leicestershire 6, Nottinghamshire 5

SOUTHERN

Essex 6, Essex 6
Yorkshire 7, Derbyshire 4
Leicestershire 6, Nottinghamshire 5

NORTHERN

Essex 6, Essex 6
Yorkshire 7, Derbyshire 4
Leicestershire 6, Nottinghamshire 5

EASTERN

Essex 6, Essex 6
Yorkshire 7, Derbyshire 4
Leicestershire 6, Nottinghamshire 5

County Diary

Agr. 22/3 Junior Promotion Chal.

Apr. 22/23 Junior Promotion Chal.

Junioren High School, Nutsuman.

33 13-00, 30-00, 2-00.

29/30 Junior Promotion Chal.

Glebe Street, Woodbridge.

Cambridge 5

The Cambs. v. Suffolk match, set
of the match: he overwhelmed Piruz Nillan.

Yorkshire 4, Essex 5
B. Neale lost to Taylor, 15, 18; bt D. Brown, 17, 20.
A. Hyde lost to Taylor, 19, 11, 17; bt R. Stevens, 13, 15.
J. Jarvis lost to Brown, 18, 20; bt Stevens, 9, 16,
Hyde/Neale lost to Brown/Stevens, 17, 19.
Miss J. Walker lost to Miss S. Hession, 7, 15.
Jarvis/Miss B. Broadburst lost to Taylor/Miss Hession, 9, 9.
What can one say about this one? Oddly enough, the MD win for David Brown and Bobby Stevens was the best point for Yorks, to swallow although Brown's nail-biting success over Nicky Jarvis was not honey-coated either. Judy Walker was consoling herself with the fact that the match was a very much closer game in which to introduce a junior girl.

2nd SOUTH

Buckinghamshire 3, Kent 5
Surrey II 4, Hampshire 6
Middlesex II 6, Sussex II 4
Nottinghamshire II 6, Yorkshire II 4

One absolutely outstanding performance for Kent whose Joyce Ellis and Lynda Southern played magnificently. Joyce Ellis proved decisive. First time Kent have won this division.

2nd NORTH

Durham 2, Nottinghamshire 8
Far clearer than the score suggests, with 7 sets going the distance (3 of these to 15 or 15 in 3rd or closer).

Lincolnshire 3, Northumbrian 3
Unbeaten Cave Johnson played a big part in securing a fateful point for the Lincolnshires. He opened by beating Peter Hoyles 22, 19; comfortably took the ND with Tommy Moran, and at 8-1 saw off Paul Whiteman 22, 14 after hanging on in 1st game.

Durham 4, Lincolnshire 6
A repeat performance here by Johnson although Durham might have had a draw 18-18 leads in each game of WD but lost 20-18 and Mrs. B. Bird/Mrs. Scott/Mrs. Johnson 18-15 in 3rd of WS lost a vital point when the ball stuck to her hand in service.

Derbyshire 1, Yorkshire 7
Nottinghamshire 8, Northumbrian 2
A fine and comfortable victory for the Notts, the only exciting action being recorded in MS by Jojo Hassan from Ghana. Notts failed to get just getting the better of DI in the first and second but absolutely no lack and deserved at least a point) and "Jonathan Walker giving a lesson to Graham Bassett who fought back well from 7-17 to 16-17 in 2nd game.

Derbyshire 1, Yorkshire 7

Lincolnshire 4, Northumbrian 3
A. Griffiths lost to A. Piddock, -13, -15; lost to C. Morris, -16, -14.
G. Davies lost to Piddock, -13, -20; lost to A. Piddock, -11, -21.
R. Bishop lost to Morris, -12, -17; lost to E. Parker, -19, -14.
R. Stace lost to Piddock, -12, -10; lost to A. Piddock, -19, -18.
Chandler/Clarke lost to Coter/Jackson, -14, -20.
Miss J. Williams lost to Mrs. K. Matthews, -19, -14.
Miss/S. Misses Williams lost to Haslam/Mrs. Matthews, -15, -17, -17.
Miss J. Williams lost to Miss K. Matthews, -19, -14.
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