DESTINATION PEKING
YOUTH AT THE HELM

There can be no denying that the future of English table tennis has been greatly enhanced by the deeds of younger generation players whose skills and endurance, particularly in the far-flung corners of the world, constituted such a feature to the latter half of the 1972-73 season.

Two doubles titles in the English Junior Open at Worthing and the emergence of Judith Walker and Andrew Barden. If their respective singles events are worthy of mention, consider also the performances of a strong Swedish contingent in contention.

At the same time, late in 1972 in the People’s Republic of China, incorporating matches in the steamy heat of Singapore and Kuala Lumpur, a contract was undertaken, with the utmost credit, by the youngest of all our cadets in assembling for such an undertaking.

But the climax to the season came at the 16th European Youth Championships in Amsterdam where, in the awesomely hot heat of August, Desmond Douglas and Linda Howard took the Gold medal for England in the mixed doubles.

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20. Bo Persson (Sweden (-) 1973)

This depicted a lady player.

MEN

14. DENIS NEALE (England) (13)

15. J AROSLAV KUNZ (Czechoslovakia)

16. HENDRIETTE LOTALLER (Hungary)

17. Hana Riedlova (Czechoslovakia)

18. LILIANA KARAKASAVICH (18)

19. ALBERTINA H. ANGELOVA (Bulgaria)

20. KARENZA MATTHEWS (England (-))

SCOTTISH AFFAIRS

The Scottish Table Tennis Association have appointed Miss Lesley Barrie of 212 Kelvin Street, Glasgow as National Secretary, in succession to Mr. H. Parvis of Edinburgh. Further treasurer, Harry Baxter succeeds Mr. P. H. Candlin as President and Robert Mackay has become a Vice-President.

Mr. I. A. Dunbar retains his position as Hon. Treasurer and Mrs. Helen Hamilton (nee Elliott) of 6 Grove Street, Edinburgh continues as International Secretary.

New rankings lists, issued on June 24, 1973 read:

MEN


WOMEN


POSSIBLE COMMEMORATIVE

The success of the South Korean ladies in capturing the Corbillon Cup in Sarajevo in April was very quickly commemorated by their country's postal authorities, who issued an attractively designed stamp bearing the image of South Korean table tennis. The announcement by the Korea Table Tennis Association states that: "the gymnastics will be for the Korean Table Tennis players to further their technique and to promote table tennis matches among the people so that the nation may keep up to the present position in the world's table tennis arena."

The stamp, designed by Chun Hoe Han, has been issued in a printing of 1,00,000.

NATIONAL COUNCIL

At the first meeting of the newly-elected National Council of the E.T.T.A., held at the Hotel Russell in London on July 21, ten councillors were nominated for the four positions on the Management Committee. With all such persons willing to stand the subsequent election resulted:

ELECTED: K. Wates (South) 26 votes; M. Godden (Warsaw) 25 votes; L. B. Critcher (Harford) 17 votes; A. E. Upton (Lancs) 15 votes.

NOT ELECTED: L. F. Lawley (Cwmbran) 1 votes; L. A. Chalmers (Derbys) 8 votes; D. Schofield (Ches) 7 votes; F. Briggs (York) 5 votes; K. M. O. Punter (Devon) 6 votes; F. J. Ingham (Durham) 5 votes.

Differing in only one respect, therefore, Louis Hoffman was the only member to lose his seat as was inevitable with Middlesex having nominated John Wright as their National Councillor in succession to Lou Hoffman.

Other names were on the National Council comprise Derek Schofield (Ches) in place of John McKee, Miss Claire Rose (Cumberland) for Ron Ring, Mr. L. K. Pearce (Bos) for E. J. Dickenson, Alan Shepherd (Mer) for Pat Dolen, Lea. J. Smith (Gloucester) for Leslie Bower, Mr. A. R. E. Richens (Bos) for D. Pope, Trevor Channing (Notts) for John Zionist and Dong Sun (Wons) for Ian Crickmer, now the representative of newly affiliated Herfordshire, Nottinghamshire and Westmorland are without representation.

FAIR PLAY TROPHY

Accredited journalists at the 32nd World Championships in Sarajevo voted Stefan Bengtan, Sweden's former world men's singles champion, to succeed Japan's Shigeo Ishib, as holder of the "Richard Bergnas Fair Play Trophy", an annual award established by the Swanby Club.

Forty-one journalists took part. 20 of them voting for Brittifols, England's John Hammersley received 2 votes, Hangawa (Japan) 6 votes, Takashima (Japan) 3 votes and Sakurkin (USSR) 2 votes.

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ENGLISH JUNIOR OPEN

Swedish Domination

by The Editor

Taking five of the seven titles at stake, Sweden stamped their authority on the Sixth English Junior Open Championships played at Worthing Sports Centre, Sussex, over the weekend of May 19-20.

Sponsored by Worthing Corporation the championships attracted entries from Belgium, Guernsey, Holland, Sweden and Wales in addition to a strong home contingent lacking only one boy (David Alderson) and two girls (Diane St. Ledger and Brenda Williams) from the 28 nation-ally ranked juniors at that time.

Apart from capturing the title, both at England's final expense, Sweden's Ulf Thorsell and Anita Hellman laid claim to the two singles crowns as well as combining to take the mixed.

England came into their own when Desmond Douglas and Simon Heaps captured the boys' doubles title and Linda Howard and Anita Stevenson had a like success over a Swedish pair in the final of the contrasting girls' event.

Lucashin's Donald Parker provided the major shocks in the boys' singles event to dispel Sweden's Roger Lagerfeldt, in the 3rd round, England's No. 1 Douglas, in the quarters, and Christier Hafn, the No. 1 Swede in the semi.

And it was only by scores of 23-21, 25-21 that Sweden's top-seeded Thorsell put down the challenge of Thoniell in a gripping final encounter.

The scrapping of David Alderson, suffering from a leg injury, and the replacement of Hollins's Renny Bishop, by E. Vinger, helped pave the way for Thorsell and his companion, Per Sandstrom, to reach the semi-final stage and it was Sandstrom who took the only game from the eventual winner.

England's best men's singles finalists at Worthing, Sheffield's Judith Walker and Donald Parker of Preston,

-Courting home against Susan Dave in the quarters, the Sheffield foe met Paul Lea van Heybeeck of Belgium--

-competitor of Linda Howard--pulled off the shock of the tournament and it was only at 19 in the second that a Doctors' doubles, against Thorsell and Hafn, Miss Howard and Anita Stevenson followed suit in another straight-final finish over Heaps and Stromvall.

"Demon Dick" and Miss Howard faded in a hat-trick bid of English successes when losing to Sweden's top pair in the final of the mixed. Both teams in this event went the distance. Day and Elaine Tartten extending the winners and Parker and Mist Walker doing likewise when opposed by the losing finalists.

Consolation awards were won by Surrey's David Bangerter and Miss Wagenermans of the Netherlands.

RESULTS:

BOYS TEAM COMPETITION

ROUND 1

England 3, Guernsey 2.

Spain 1, M. Jones 15, 9.

Be:11

Day 17, 7.

B. van der Vliet 11, 15.

Douglas/Heaps bt Lagerfeldt/Sandstrom 11, 8.

Thorsell bt Parker 21, 17.

THORSELL/HELLMAN bt Douglas/Howard 20, 17.

B. Jones bt M. Jones 15, 9.

Day bt o. March 11, 11.

H. Doppler bt A. Thomas 14, 11.

Sweden 3, Guernsey 0.

Douglas bt Hafn 12, 21.

P. Sandstrom bt K. Richardson 17, 19, 16.

HELMAN/STRONVALL bt Tarten/Taylor 20, 19.


U. Thorsell bt Barden 16, 16.

HELMAN bt Walker 17, 19.

England 13, Essex 2.

THORSELL bt Parker 21, 17.

HELMAN bt Walker 17, 19.


U. Thorsell bt Parker 21, 17.

HELMAN bt Heaps 19, 17.

Sweden 1, England 0.

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JUNIOR RANKING LIST

JUDITH LEAPS HIGH

SUBSEQUENT to the English Junior Open, the National Selection Committee may now announce a final ranking list for the 1972-73 season.

JUDITH LEAPS HIGH

Perhaps the most successful of all. Let us say with seemingly without major incident, it was years, but only now attained. Security problems, irksome but necessary, above the problems of its own size and complexity, because it coped with all situations in which most of us arrived in Sarajevo.

Most organisations would have wilted under this added hazard and indeed there were more than a few worried and frustrated officials buzzing around in those early hours. But the organisation soon settled down to that high standard of efficiency one has grown to expect of the Yugoslavs and we were soon all immersed in our own activities, play, and meetings, to such an extent that earlier anxieties were soon forgotten.

And — following the pattern set in Yugoslavia — title winning was shared and honours went round, a fact of world success available to the greatest number of players.

There was a great deal of play of higher standard than we have ever seen, a tribute to the development of our game in all parts of the world and we must be particularly gratified to see the opportunity to world success affordable to the greatest number of players.

It may be that we shall find the opportunity to world success achievable in all parts of the world and we must be particularly gratified to see the development of our game in all parts of the world and we must be particularly gratified to see the opportunity to world success affordable to the greatest number of players.

But it was clear that our new system of playing the team matches devised to produce a fairer overall picture of team standards, has some unsatisfactory features. I will not labour them here, suffice it to say that enough criticisms were voiced to prompt me to set up a further examination of the whole structure of team play. It may be that we shall find some solutions in a combination of the old and new methods. Our World Championship Technical Committee has been charged with the responsibility to study the whole problem very carefully and come up with recommendations to the next Council Meeting in Dublin in 1974.

Let us hail the winners and commend the men who did less well than expected. But let us praise all for the very high standard of sportsmanship and friendliness displayed during the whole meeting. A number of new members were elected into membership in Sarajevo. We greet them with warmth and do sincerely hope that their membership of our Federation will bring great reward both to them and to us.

The new members are:—

Southern Africa—Alvih, Barbados, Cyprus, Ethiopia, Egypt, France, Greece, Hong Kong, India, Sri Lanka, Malaysia, Pakistan, and Pakistan.

Indo-China—Alvih, Barbados, Cyprus, Ethiopia, Egypt, France, Greece, Hong Kong, India, Sri Lanka, Malaysia, Pakistan, and Pakistan.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

AND COUNCIL

President: H. Roy Evans, O.B.E. (Wales)
Deputy Presidents: F. R. Hall (Sydney, Australia); Mrs. Nancy Evans (Brighton, England)
Vice-Presidents:

AFRICA—Alvih, Barbados, Cyprus, Ethiopia, Egypt, France, Greece, Hong Kong, India, Sri Lanka, Malaysia, Pakistan, and Pakistan.

ASIA—Alvih, Barbados, Cyprus, Ethiopia, Egypt, France, Greece, Hong Kong, India, Sri Lanka, Malaysia, Pakistan, and Pakistan.

EUROPE—Alvih, Barbados, Cyprus, Ethiopia, Egypt, France, Greece, Hong Kong, India, Sri Lanka, Malaysia, Pakistan, and Pakistan.

NORTH AMERICA—Alvih, Barbados, Cyprus, Ethiopia, Egypt, France, Greece, Hong Kong, India, Sri Lanka, Malaysia, Pakistan, and Pakistan.

SOUTHERN AMERICA—Alvih, Barbados, Cyprus, Ethiopia, Egypt, France, Greece, Hong Kong, India, Sri Lanka, Malaysia, Pakistan, and Pakistan.

HONOURARY SECRETARY: A. E. V. WILSON (England)
Hon. Treasurer: Jean Mercier (France)
Hon. General Secretary: A. A. Murphy (France)
Hon. Proprietor: A. A. Murphy (France)
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Hon. Proprietor: A. A. Murphy (France)
The same Wall but a different group.

SINGAPORE Airlines Flight SQ 323, bound via Zurich, Athens, Bahrain and Colombo, duly set down a youthful E.T.T.A. playing party on the tarmac of Singapore Airport in the late afternoon of Thursday, May 31.

It was the first leg of a round trip to the People's Republic of China covering thousands of miles and bringing in its wake a state of mental and physical exhaustion which one needed considerable time to overcome.

Picking up tour leader Charles Wyles, and his daughter Debbie, from the sauna-like atmosphere of Bahrain Airport lounge, the party to leave Heathrow depicted itself as deport leader, Staff Coach Peter Sampson and players Karen Mathews, Anita Stevenson, Nicky Jarvis, Desmond Douglas, Paul Day, Donald Parker (a late substitute for David Alderson, injured), Andrew Barden and David Fraser, a lone Scot from Glasgow.

Forced by officials and players of the Singapore TT Association, both on the eve and subsequently to a representative match, frustrated to no small degree the bonds of friendship which had been forged at the 1st Commonwealth Championships in March, 1971.

Indeed it was in the very same Badminton Hall where those epic championship took place that an entirely different visiting team found themselves a down and grappling, as had their predecessors, with the tropical heat together with a home team vastly improved from two years previously.

HEROIC DEEDS

We were certainly given a fright when Singapore's Kai Kok and the talented Chang Boon Boon paid in Parker, in a marathon set, and Parker resiply for their shock look.

But their heroic deeds proved to be in vain as the tourists won the remaining five sets with Jarvis, Douglas and Karen Mathews contributing a set each. But it was the mighty midges, Day and Barden, who spilled the recovery by winning their doubles set to equate the match score, and Anita Stevenson played well to come from behind and account for SEAP Games silver medalist Tan Gek Hiang. Scores:

- D. Fraser lost to Tan Kai Kok 15, 12.
- D. Douglas bt Tan Khoon Hong -16, 12, 8.
- N. Jarvis bt Tan Yong Hong 19, 16, 10.
- A. Stevenson bt Tan Gek Hiang 18, 19, 15.
- K. Mathews bt Peck Noi Hwoy 19, 18.

Inevitably the stay in Singapore was all too short and although much was accomplished and many sights seen, including a launch tour of the harbour, it was on Saturday, June 2, that we again took to the air for this time, via Bangkok, to meet up with England's Trainer/Coach, Les Greenwell, who met us in at Kai Tak Airport, Hong Kong, having arrived there himself the previous day from a short holiday in Japan.

DOWN TO EARTH

An overnight stay at the fabulous Hong Kong Hotel - ranked third in the elite bracket behind the Mandarin and Hilton - certainly made considerable inroads into the tour funds but what an experience it was to partake of a tenaciously breakfast in such sumptuous surroundings while gazing out over the magnificent harbour. This indeed was living!

But it was down to earth soon afterwards as we humped our bags and walked our way to the station adjacent to the Star Ferry pier on the Kwowoon side of the harbour. There we entained for the Chinese border, just one hour's journey time away.

Only Charles Wyles, leader of the pioneer English party in April, 1971 - following the 1st World Championships in Nagoya, Japan - had prior knowledge of such a trip. For the rest of us it was towards the unknown that we proceeded through the New Territories of mainland Hong Kong.

This short section of rail, a mere 22 miles long, is the first link in a railway system capable of transporting passengers all the way to Europe via Peking and Moscow.

The Government-owned railway begins its journey from Kowloon with Lo Wu, which cannot be reached without the necessary permit, the last station on the Hong Kong side of the border. On leaving the Kwowoon area, the line goes into the 1.75 mile long Beautil Tunnel ending at Shatin in the New Territories.

From Shatin the tracks run along the southeast of Tolo Harbour, stopping at Shatin, The Chinese University and Tai Po Kau.

THREE CLASSES

At Tai Po Market the train turns...
island and proceeds to Fanling and then a short distance to Shing Shui. There are three classes of cars for passengers to ride in, each class being marked on the green cars by yellow marks.

During busy times these cars are packed to the brim with passengers forced to stand on the platforms over the car couplings. Second class has little more to offer, while the first class has an arrangement similar to booths in a cafe with benches facing each other and a small table between.

Before World War II, and the Japanese occupation of Canton and Hong Kong there was a good and fast train service between the two cities. The 111 mile distance was covered in approximately two hours and 50 minutes. Today, and ever since 1955 and the change in the government of Mainland China, there has been no direct link between Hong Kong and Canton.

Travellers bound for the People's Republic of China alight at Lo Wu and proceed along the tracks by foot, crossing the bridge spanning the Shau Chau river to reach the station platform on the Chinese side of the border.

Curiously, the appearance of our party was directed to a waiting room in the adjacent cremation building there to meet the acquaintance of a Chinese Sport Association member. He was who conducted us into the dining room for a substantial mid-day meal which, by any standards, was good fare.

Eventually we took our seats in the Pullman-type coaches which were expressed with cars which were met up with Wu Chung-yuan, an official who was to be with us throughout our entire stay in China, as were Chen Pu-tung, an interpreter, and a smiling female member of the reception committee who was to be our guide throughout our visit.

SIGHT TO BEHO LD

Seven million souls inhabit Peking and it would not surprise me in the least if all laid claim to the ownership of a bicycle. Never, in all my life, have I seen so many and less impressions of this with all our city began with the cacophony of sound provided by motor horns and bicycle bells forming a discordant and endless symphony.

With shuttered windows a respite afternoon preceded the first match staged in the Capital Gymnasium, a stadium which, with noon spectators inside, was a sight to behold.

So too was the Chinese line-up of players for the impressive opening ceremony with four world champions — Hu Yu-lan, Hu Yu-ian, Tung Wen-yuan and Wang Wen-hua — in their ranks.

Mercifully China also fielded four younger and less experienced players one of whom, Hsu Ching-ming by name, but the opening set to Jarvis in a men's match consisting of five singles and two doubles. The women's match, played in an adjoining court, was on Cariboum Cup lines.

But that initial success in the men's match proved to be the one swallow that did not make a summer for, apart from Baden and Day forcing a deciding game in a doubles encounter, nothing more could be extracted from a contest which ended 6-1 in China's favour.

Scores: —

Jarvis lost to Hsu Ching-ming 19, 15, 17.
Fraser lost to Tung Wen-yuan 19, 17.
Parker lost to Huang Liang 19, 14.
Jarvis lost to Hu Yu-king 19, 16.
Douglas lost to Wang Wen-hua 19, 17.
Day/Barden lost to Hsu Ching-ming/Hua Wei-chun 19, 19, 10.

NO GIVE-AWAYS

Friendship on this occasion was confined to off-the-table activities. There were no give-aways as all credits to Kerena Mathews and Anina Stevenson who registered a win over world champion Hu Yu-lan, partnered by Huang Hsi-ping, in the women's match which China won 9-1.

Scores: —

Stevenson lost to Hu Yu-lan 19, 8.
Mathews lost to Huang Hsi-ping 19, 17.
Mathews/Stevenson lost to Hu Yu-lan/Huang Hsi-ping 19, 19.
Mathews lost to Hu Yu-lan 19, 10.

Again quoting from the Hsinhua News Bulletin, 'A warm atmosphere of friendship prevailed at the stadium. The exciting matches drew repeated applause from the spectators.'

Apart from the vast audience inside the stadium, a much bigger one, estimated at 15,000 watched the contests on T.V.
On Wednesday, June 6, we set forth by the usual transportation for the customary visit to the Great Wall followed by a visit to the Ming Tombs with a picnic-style lunch between events. Hundreds of people lined the roadside on our outward journey but not, we were to discover, to wave at our small convoy but to witness a cycle race between China and Albania won, incredibly, by the latter!

That evening found us back in the Capital Gymnasium as guests of the Chinese Badminton Association who were playing Sri Lanka, formerly known as Ceylon.

More sightseeing on Thursday, June 7 was followed by afternoon rest and back, once more, to the Gymnasium which was packed yet again for our meeting with Chinese Youth teams.

A solitary doubles success for Douglas and Jarvis in the men’s match and a hard-won singles encounter for Karenza was the sum total of our achievements the final scores being in no way different from the first engagements, 6-1 and 3-1 to China.

Scores:

**MEN**
- Fraser lost to Wang Jia-lin -10, -11.
- Mary lost to Kuo Yao-hua -17, -5.
- Parker lost to Yao Kuo-chai -10, -13.
- Barden lost to Li-Peng -11, -14.
- Douglas lost to Lu Yuan-chang -13, -16.
- Barden/Day lost to Lu Yuan-chang/Wang Chun -12, -16.

**WOMEN**
- Mathews bt Li Ming 24, -12, 11.
- Stevenson lost to Liu Hsing-yen -16, -19.
- Mathews/Stevenson lost to Li Ming/Liu Hsing-yen -8, 18, -10.
- Mathews lost to Liu Hsing-yen -20, -17.

**WONDERS**
- Fraser/Parker lost to Tien Choo-yuan -6, -9.
- Stevenson lost to Wang Piling -11, -12.
- Mathews/Stevenson lost to Liu Shu-hou/Wang Piling -8, -11.
- It was in the early hours of Saturday, June 9, that we took our departure of Peking to fly south for a 5-day sojourn in Hangchow. The story will be continued in the November issue.

**VICE-PRESIDENT**

At the A.G.M. of the E.T.T.A. held at the Regent Centre Hotel, Carburton Street, London, on July 7, Mr. Tom Blunn the Association’s Hon. Treasurer proposed the name of Mr. Paul Marks, of Halex Table Tennis Limited, as a Vice-President of the E.T.T.A. The proposal was duly seconded and unanimously carried.

**CHANGE OF ADDRESS**

Alan Hydes, the left-handed Yorkshire international has forsaken his native Barnsley to take up residence at 2 St. Catherine’s Cottage, Irvine Road, Littlehampton, Sussex.

**TIE AND BADGE SPECIALISTS**

TIES: Woven or Silk Screen Printed to your own design.

BADGES: Embroidered, Printed Fabric, Gold and Silver Wire, Enamel Lapel Badges, Tie Tacks and Cuff Links.

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O.B.E. for Table Tennis

INCLUDED in the Queen’s Birthday Honours List, published on June 2, 1973, was the name of C. M. Miles of Exeter, staff on Sec.-Seas, C.T.T.

It was, of course, Charles Mutton Wyles, Chairman of the English Table Tennis Association, who, following the 31st World Championships in Nagoya, Japan, led an English table tennis team into the People’s Republic of China.

This epic tour proved the fore-runner of the many inter-change visits that have since taken place and could well result in a trend from the People’s Republic of participating in this season’s Norweigian Union International Championships, formerly the English Open, to be staged in the Dome and Corn Exchange, Brighton from February 26 to March 2, 1974.

At the AGM of the ETTA in July, the retiring President, Mr. A. K. “Bill” Vint, O.B.E., paid tribute to the work of Charles Wyles and congratulated him on behalf of the Association on his award. Mr. Wyles thanked everyone who had sent him their good wishes and said that he accepted it on behalf of Table Tennis.

NATIONAL CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS

by JOHN PIKE

WITH this competition going under the Stag banner this season, it now means a financial reward for those teams taking part in the final, and very welcome it is.

It is bound to increase the entries, and one will be glad to see this in the women’s events, which last season was won by Stilton with a 6-0 win over Guelph M.C.A. in a good friendly played on January 28.

Two weeks later, Ormesby again proved their undaunted claim as the best Club side in England by beating fellow Cranleigh 5-3 in the men’s final.

As a result of this, it means the Ormesby Cup stays in Ormesby, and one will be glad to see this in the men’s final.

In the women’s final, Judy Williams and Shelagh Hession went through untrammelled, to give the Central League a considerable win over a Stockport team, good enough to come again.

MEN’S FINALS:
D. Bowles lost to J. Jarvis 15-14, 14-15, lost to D. Schofield 14-16.
I. Honhka lost to J. Walker 17-18, 19-17, 17-15.
J. Robertson lost to D. Neale 16-9, 12-17, lost to J. Walker 16-21, 21-18.

WOMEN’S FINAL:
J. Williams bt S. Lisle 19-9, 19-17, lost to J. Walker 21-19.
D. Johnson lost to D. Johnson 18-12, 19-17, lost to D. Schofield 17-19, lost to S. Lisle 13-15.

Halex Under-13 Singles Finals

by IAN R. CRICKMER

As reported in the May-June issue, both titles in this year’s under-13 championships went to the Greater London area, the successful players being ANGELA MITCHELL of Edmonston, representing North Middlesex League, and MARTIN SHUTTLE of New Malden, entrant for the Thames Valley League.

The only way that all finals should meet all other seven contests will be by excellent competition at the Abbey Stadium, Redhill, on Saturday, May 26. Angela Mitchell had an early shock when losing her opening game against another Angela, Tierney of Ormesby T.T.C. representing North Middlesex League, surviving to win 21-8 in the third, 21-14 in the fourth, and also defeating all other opponents in straight games to record the all-important’s 100 per cent. achievement.

A battle royal ensued however for the next placings, and places 2, 3 and 4 had to be determined on games average. Miss Tierney lost also to Belinda Chamberlain in the third game, but then gained five successive games to ensure good playing conditions and to assure Mitchell her third consecutive year of winning, and it was her fourth year in a row.

With six victories each, the decision came down to a tie-breaker in straight games versus Shuttle and himself. In the event, Rogers eliminated Newman in the best of seven games.

The trophies were presented by Paul Marks, representing Halex Table Tennis Limited who were sponsors of this event for the first time, and by George Yates, Deputy Chairman of the E.T.T.A.

FINAL POSITIONS:
GIRLS:
1- Angela Mitchell (North Middlesex)
Sets-6; Games-141.
2-Suzanne Hunt (Grantham)
Sets-5; Games-10-6.
3-Angela Tierney (North East
Sets-5; Games-141.
2-Ormesby T.T.C. representing
Suffolk
Sets-5; Games-10-6.
3-Jane Dewey (Gloucester)
Sets-16; Games-21-5.
4-Linda Holness (Derby)
Sets-17; Games-21-4.

BOYS:
1-Martin Shuttle (Thames Valley)
Sets-6; Games-141.
2-Christopher Rogers (Lewisham) Sets-6; Games-141.
3-David Neale (Cheshunt)
Sets-4; Games-15-5.
4-Michael Thirkettle (Hull)
Sets-5; Games-9-6.
5-Richard Jermy (North Hereford)
Sets-5; Games-9-5.
6-Christopher Reed (Bromley-in- Furness)
Sets-5; Games-9-5.
7-Richard Trim (Shiellahore)
Sets-15-5.
8-Andrew Smith (Birmingham)
Sets-17; Games-141.

NORTH MIDDLESEX THE GATE-CRASHERS

by KEITH PONTING

ANOTHER season of keen competition came to a successful conclusion on Sunday, May 27, when the four finals were played at Hertford Sports Centre.

The only trophy to change hands was the Carter Cup which went to

NORTH MIDDLESEX, justifying Alan Shipton’s high hopes as he had seen all along that his boys would be the winners. Andrew Barden, Mark Mitchell and David Tan were all superb and never gave the all-conquering Yorkshire team a chance after levelling the match score at 1-all.

Richard Walker and brothers Brian and David Alderson played their best but it was certainly the Londons’ day and they thoroughly deserved their win as Alan Ramsote was the first to agree.

The Broadfield Trophy was retained by the young ladies from GUILDFORD thanks to maximums by Linda Howard and Nicolette Leslie. The Cheshunt team had done remarkably well to reach the final and Jane Hartwell, Chris Hart and Angela Mitchell can all be pleased with their performances.

Stockport began the afternoon session by attempting to capture the J.M. Rose Bowl from the Rice CENTRAL LONDON team. They were handicapped by having two regular absentees, Diane Johnson on holiday and Donen Schofield 2 a victim. They brought in Myra Lystykov and Juin Tran to support Sheila Lisle but Diane Court, Shelagh Hession and Judy Williams won without conceding a game.

The last final to be played was the Wiselmes Cup and once again NORTH YORKSHIRE came out on top against their old rivals, East London, by 2-1. Denis Neale and Nicky Jarvis won 2 sets each and Jimmy Walker once. Very nearly, but not quite, a consolation win for his side with a convincing win over Walker.

The women’s event produced only 100 per cent. achievement, with one remaining set to play. David Alderson played his best but it was certainly the Londons’ day and they thoroughly deserved their win.

Scores:

CARTER CUP
North Middlesex 5, North Yorkshire 2
A. Bardon lost to R. Wiley 16-17, 16-14, 16-12. B. Alderson 19, 18, 16, Wiley 16, 19, 19.
BROMFIELD TROPHY
Guildford 6, Cheshunt 2
D. Elliott lost to J. Hatwell 12-13, 16-12, 16-12. E. Howard bt C. Hart 13, 10, 19, 17, 19, 17, 19.
D. Mitchell lost to M. Mitchell 17, 19.
N. Leslie bt Mitchell 12, 19, 19, 19, 19.
Hartwell 11, 10.
J.M. ROSE BOWL
Stockport 6, Central London 5
J. Shipton bt D. Court -13, 16, 13, 16. lost to J. Williams 16, 17, 16, 17, 16. S. Lisle lost to H. Leonard 12, 16, 17, 16.
M. Lystykov lost to Williams 16, 15.
WILMOTT CUP
East London 1, North Yorkshire 5
S. Gibbs lost to N. Jarvis 17, 16, 17, 12, 16. lost to D. Neale 15-17, 19, 19.
D. Johnson lost to N. Jarvis 15-19, 16.
J. Walker lost to Walker 17, 19.
In the May/June issue of this Magazine I gave you notice that the World Championships of 1977 would be held in Brighton. I also said that the E.T.T.A. would need anything in the region of £100,000 — £120,000 to stage this mammoth event. Subse-

quently I formed a committee of influ-

tial people and at a meeting we discussed how this money was to be raised.

Without exception the following idea was voted the easiest and most direct means of raising the necessary cash. Envisaged Required Members in the E.T.T.A. each paying a levy of £1 per person over the next 4 years would bring in £80,000 — simple arithmetic! In fact of this cold rec-

ognition by bonhomie, I was com-

pletely in agreement with them, but in my heart I felt this was not what I wanted. It was too cold. I wanted every League, every remo-

League. This covers point 2.

Next 4 prizes will be 26in. Golf Sets, 3-Piece Suites, Black/White Golf Sets, 3-Piece Suits, Black/White,
December

Mrs. Nancy Evans,
November Miss J. Evans,
October R. F. Cummings,
December T. Dunbar,
November D. Campbell,
October C. A Moore

Nov. 30/Dec. 1 Miss M. B. O’Boyle,
December 24/25 Kent Junior 2-Star, J. P. Heritage,
24/25 Woodfield I-Star, Mrs. J. McKenzie,
23/25 Merseyside 2-Star, J. C. McKinnon,
21/25 Merton I-Star, C. G. Fuggatt,
21/25 Hastings Tigers I-Star, J. F. Wyles,
18/19 Swansea Open.
198 Cyncoed Road, Cyncoed,
18/19 Hastings Tigers I-Star, J. F. Wyles,
18/19 East of Scotland (Edinburgh)
Mrs. J. McKenzie,
10/11 Halex Midland Counties 3-Star, Maurice Goldstein,
17/18 Southend 2-Star, M. D. Watts,
10/11 Halex Midland Counties 3-Star, Maurice Goldstein,
THE DEVALUATION OF JUNIOR TOURNAMENTS
is the view of ALAN RAMSOME

It is clear to me, both as an organiser and as a regular attendant, that junior tournaments in this country have taken a large backward step in the top standard of play over the last couple of years.

Last season, the leading ranked juniors were conspicuous by their absence at these events and going by the first two tournaments of the new season, the Essex and the Treadwell, it is obvious that this national trend has continued yet further.

This devaluation has been caused, in my opinion, by the fact that a junior player no longer needs to have good performances in the run-of-the-mill junior tournaments to obtain a national ranking. A reasonable performance at the Final Assessment Camp, in the English Junior Open or Closed and the odd good win at a senior tournament, coupled with an acceptable attitude of mind, is sufficient.

But where does this leave the junior tournament? With no entry of any class, with no players for the young seeds to copy and emulate, and a depleted tournament organiser who thinks twice about painting in the effort again, to repeat the event the next year.

In addition, the up-and-coming players’ chances of meeting the ranked players have dropped considerably. He now has to rely on the odd opponent if good enough to win a place in a junior Premier division county team, the odd piece of luck to be drawn against a junior at a senior tournament or at the occasional get-together of his Area Squash, if the ranked players turn up.

One possible answer might well be the introduction of 3-Star junior tournaments. Taking the five beat on a similar basis to the junior 3-star tournament, it is obvious that this national trend has continued yet further.

They would run on either a free weekend or to coincide only with a senior 3-star Open which runs no junior events, situated at the opposite end of the country.

For example, the Middlesex 3-star Junior could clash with the Lancashire senior Junior and the Yorkshire junior Junior with the Essex senior Junior.

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CAMBRIDGESHIRE NOTES
by LESLIE CONSTABLE

Once again the County League has an entry of junior teams competing in 3 divisions. Several new teams have entered this season and League Secretary Tony Bressel has again the unenviable task of keeping things under control.

The League’s finances are in a healthy state and this is mainly due to the efforts of Gerald Constable who ran the Cambridge Junior Star Open last May with such success that profit of £250 was obtained.

In addition to entering four teams in the South East Midlands League and one in the East Anglian League, Cambridge will have representative sides in all four of the E.T.A.’s national team competitions. Playing in the East Anglian League for the first time last season Cambridge finished in 3rd place.

At the A.G.M. of the County, E.T.A. Margaret Connell was re-elected to the Executive, Gen. Sec. and Tony Bressel as League Sec. Treasurer. Bill Reissig continues as President, with Geoff Waters as Chairman and Ken Winterburn as Vice Chairman. Pat O’Byrne was elected Coaching and Match Secretary.

Ken Martin, who is leaving the district, will be greatly missed for his coaching ability and general activity in the administrative sphere. Doubtless we shall see him from time to time for London is not that distant.

March League have affiliated to the County on that with Cambridge, Ely, Harpenden and Wisbech the Counties E.T.A. hopes to have four number one junior leagues.

In the final of the Cambs League Handicap, K.O. Trophy, Spirens defeated the Cambridge U21 squad spearheaded by Paul Brown. Honor Sceats was awarded for the winners including a victory dinner.

At the invitation of the President of the Guernsey E.T.A., Gerald Constable (Cambridge County Coach and Regional Coach) under Peter Hirst supervised the County选拔 both body and junior national teams from July 1-31st. Gerald Constable coached the Island’s young players including beginners, with the accent on Modern Coaching and Training Techniques with the insistent impression of going well for the Island’s future.

SOUTH-EAST MIDLANDS LEAGUE
by LESLIE CONSTABLE

At the A.G.M. of the S.E.M.L. the new Executive Committee as elected were M. H. Webb (Chairman) and Leslie Constable (Press Officer).

Margaret Connell was re-elected Hon. Tournament Sec. and Miss P. This was retained for another season as Hon. Tour Sec.

Mr. Wells, in his chairman’s report, commented on the number of matches which had been played during the past season and voiced his opinion that some leagues did not attract sufficient importance to representative matches and that a few of the postponed quarters were quite unnecessary.

Mr. Fox reported that 24 had been sent to Men’s Division, North Herts, the Women’s and Reserve Divisions, Longleat and the Junior Division and N. Notts the Veteran Division. Fifty teams had participated from 14 leagues.

It was resolved that a new side be put on the fixture book to return the Hon. Sec. for a postponed match at the same time drawing two dates for the match to be played. Failure to play as directed could result in the team losing its importance.

Applications from Hertford and Harpenden for entry into the League were accepted. The Closed Tournament will be staged at Cambridge this season and the Notts at Bedford. The next A.G.M. will be held at Notts.

STAFFORDSHIRE NOTES
by JOHN PIKE

WOLVERHAMPTON teams top the 100 mark...bridgethwaite switch counties...A team and Veterans have new captains. Ken Weston moves north, N.G.S. No Press Secretary.

All that and more too in Staffordshire prepare for another season which promises to keep players and officials busy until next April.

Webberthorpe secretary, Mike Leach, was delighted with the increase in the number of teams taking part in the local league, and it was good to see some of the old names back in the fray, like the Y.M.C.A. and Gary Muses.

As far as the Staffs. County League and the Midland League Wolves will be entering the same number of teams as last season.

In an effort to improve their standard of play, Bridgwater have left the small attendances of Somerset to join their rivals in Staffordshire. We wish them well in their first season.

Alvin Dickery, who over the years has done a sterling job in guiding the county ‘A’ team, has now handed over the captaincy to John Pugh. Another change comes in the Veterans team where Ernie Grogan takes over from Dean Prichard, Ray Division and Colin Prichard will continue in charge of the ‘B’ team and juniors.

With Ken Weston leaving the area soon, Lichford’s Geoff Williamson steps in at the new County League secretary. Good luck in your new life up North. Ken. Yours truly will continue in the Staffordshire News in the T.T. News each month, but the county can any urgently looking for a new Press Secretary to cover the local press scene.

During the summer holidays, the Wolverhampton Schools organised a course for the youngsters under-14 and this was well attended thanks to the hard work of Ann Duvald, County coach, Jim Hayward, who has had no break from coaching during the close season, reports new seasons starting at the Highfield Centre and Joseph Lacle at the end of September.

To the tournament from and it is the Woodford tournament on Sat. 12th, which makes the early news. Earlier this year the tragic death of Ken Hodges left this tournament with an organisat., but news has reached me that his wife Jean will win this year’s event. This is surely a fitting with a capital C. and I hope all the top players in the Midlands will make a special effort to enter this tournament, which our player has found so much for charity.

September 25 saw the senior county trials at the Woodford club, while on the same day in another part of the county, the juniors held their trials in the form of a rally. No fewer than five junior girls were called up for the senior trials. The full ranking list will appear in next month’s news.

Finally, everyone in Staffordshire congratulates Maurice Golbeide on becoming the new President of the E.T.A. The past could not have been filled in a better man.

KENT NOTES
by BRIAN A. JORDAN

The late finish to the 1973-74 Kent League season meant that the full tournament was not known.

MEN’S SECTION
Div. 1—Ashtonby “A”; Beckenham “A”;
Div. 2—Bromley “C”; Tunbridge Wells “B”;
Div. 3—Maidstone; Becketon “B”;
Div. 4—Ashtead “B”; Folkestone “C”
WOMEN’S SECTION
Div. 1—Maidstone Maidstone
Div. 2—Folkestone “A”;
Div. 3—Camberley “R”; Thanet “C”;
DIV. 4—Gravesend; Bromley “C”

COLORS SECTION
Throughout the three divisions only five players gained the full three matches and they were: Henry Bass (W. Kent “A”); Dave Close (Bexley “B”); phil Wyke (Croydon “C”); and 2 young players. The small numbers meant that the maximum number of matches were not played, and frequently this resulted in the non-playing matches being dropped.

Most distinguished feature of the season was the number of unplayed matches, 9 out of 13, and fairly the management committee took steps to reduce this number in the present season.

Worsted, who not only withdrew their side without playing a fixture in the present season, had four other matches declared void and contested. With the exception of several others, some of the decisions made by management committee concerning unplayed matches did not meet with general approval, and at least one instance an Association arranged a home fixture for a scheduled date.
ESSEX NOTES

by ALAN SHEPHERD

It is all change on the Essex Com- mittee for the new season, the most important change being the office of Chairman, which has gone to Ted Proctor of the Regency League. Over the last few years Ted has, as Treasurer, transferred the County finances, which were very much in the red at the end of the 1971/2 season, to the healthy position of to-day. He has also managed to put Essex as member of the Tournament Committee, which has enabled some Essex points and players all over England. And still he finds a hobby for his own League. Congratulations and good luck wish one use in order. Meanwhile former Chairman Bob Glinn steps down and his work has been rewarded by a Life Membership of the County.

Other Committee changes see Wally Kemp, our longest serving National Umpire, take over as Umpire Secretary vice Sidney Beard, who can now enjoy an honorary retirement after many years in the post, although remaining on the Tournament Committee as representative of the Referees League. Former Tournament Secretary Jimy Gannon comes back as Senior Match Secretary in place of the turbulent Bernard Cartwright and Charles Baker, who have moved to David Lons of the West Essex League. Meanwhile National Secretary Pat Dudz has returned after several years, and has been instrumental in introducing some changes to the newly formed Essex Table Tennis League. Meanwhile Senior Match Secretary Terry Wakefield has been appointed as his deputy, and the Essex Tournament Committee has had to make some adjustments to accommodate the increasing number of matches. The Essex Junior Team had a successful season, finishing in second place in the National Championships and winning the Junior Boys' Cup. The Essex Open Tournament will be held in September, and the Essex County Championships are due to take place in October.

NORTHANTS NOTES

by DENNIS MILLMAN

FIRST of all, thanks are due to one of our former columnist, Gwyn Powell, for whom many years has kept Northants up to date, and who even now has laid down only one of his many pens to announce that the time thus saved, will be put to good use, preferably in the cause of table tennis.

The County Team finished last season in fine style, and for the first time achieved promotion. All matches convincingly, with the only exception against Hertfordshire, and the county had played a strong team in the National Championships. The Northants Team had a successful season, finishing in third place in the National Championships and winning the Junior Boys' Cup. The County Open Tournament will be held in August, and the County Championships are due to take place in September.

BUCKBINGHAMSHIRE NOTIONS

by MIKE RICHARDS

The County start the season with confidence following the convincing form shown by the senior team in the top flight.

The Promotion Challenge matches saw an unexpected result from the promotion leaders, Buckinghamshire, who were promoted to the top flight.

The Junior Team had a successful season, finishing in second place in the National Championships and winning the Junior Boys' Cup. The County Open Tournament will be held in August, and the County Championships are due to take place in September. The same players are available again and the County trials will show who is pushing for a place. Lancashire is a heavy weight and is expected to be formidable. Ranking lists will be drawn up after the trials and will appear next month.

Following an enforced absence last season there will again be a second team which may well provide an opportunity for some of the younger players. The County Secretary, Mr. G. R. Smith, has been appointed as the new coach and will be looking for promising players for the top flight.
Meehan, who has received the excellent news that the Secretaryship will now be held by Barry Barron, is the sole player still competing locally for the title who comprised Worester’s first ever representative team away to Northampton on October 9th.

A further subscription of offices over the barrier for the Worester, Doug Ross, under the second team. New managers have been appointed, the chairman, Doug Moss, under the second team. New managers will be the names for the junior.

As most Worester southern teams have a fixture until early November, it is possible to defer trials to a later stage than normal. Trials will be on September 20 and October 11, both commencing at 3:00 p.m. at the Abbey Stadium. The report which has been published in the Worcestershire Advertiser, the Redwood Director of Sports, is consistent with the need for early trials and the need to have all the teams ready by the beginning of the season. The_slow progress of the second team, under the management of Lea and Perrins Ltd., will be announced in due course.

The tournament of Worester University sports facilities is co-operating with the Abbey. The Abbey Stadium, the home of Worester United’s Old Trafford, the E.T.T.A. is now a football ground, the E.T.T.A. is an all-time greats’ Freddie Cromwell and Ted has been an active member of the Loughborough League, Reg has been a lifetime supporter for his League for the past few years and there is no doubt he will give the same interest and enthusiasm to his new post. There is a fine tradition of enthusiasm in all the junior trials.

LANCASHIRE NOTES

LANCASHIRE will have four teams and a junior section participating in this season’s County Championships. The first team will move into the Premier Division, thus facilitating a Junior and team in the Junior (Men) Division. Junior trials will be non-playing captain of the team and he has already arranged several practice matches. The team will have no league place, but if enthusiasm counts for anything, they can expect a good season.

There is plenty of enthusiasm in all the junior trials and at a very early date it will be possible to see the team's progress. The junior teams under the Management of Lea and Perrins Ltd. who have submitted junior ranking list reads:

1. S. Harrison (Manchester); 2. T. Lawrence (Manchester); 3. M. Morris (Manchester); 4. A. Morris (Manchester);

The first team, on promotion, will have the same interest and enthusiasm as the second team. New managers welcome visitor to Werester on July 5.

LEICESTERSHIRE NOTES

by PHILIP REID

One of the big talking points of the summer is the return of Gwynne Thomas, President of the Leicestershire Table Tennis Association. It is not for the President to be on the court, but as a player, his presence in the game has been missed. Gwynne Thomas was more than average and in fact played in the 1St. Division of the Leicester League but with the blonde and bespectacled stresses and strains of County matches. Our Juniors have worked hard al fortnightly training- in regular invitation tournaments held at Manchester Y.M.C.A.

At the present standard of Cheshire players is very close, with Enoch Whistle, Nigel Erenberg, Phil Mayman, John Hilton, Brian Jones and your author all bedding down each other's necks. Competition for county centre-places will be extremely high with Mike Johns also having a chance.

HONOURABLE MENTION SPOT

EDDIE BROWN

To those who have frequented the meritorious Southern End Turnip of Manchester United's Old Trafford, the E.T.T.A. slogan is an appeal to the Red's wayward genius George Best. Similarly, the E.T.T.A. is a hotch-potch for the A Squad being as per the initial ranking list involving the top two teams and the top five players in the County.

A further 14 boys and 6 girls, all under 15 on June 30, 1973 will form a "B" Squad with a further 24 boys and 8 girls, all under 15 on June 30, 1973 comprising a "C" Squad. Squad members will shortly be called upon to attend Legh C. of E. Secondary School, Leigh Road for a series of sessions on the following dates:

September 30-A and B; October 1-A and B; October 11-A and C; November 4-A and B; November 18-A and B; November 25-A and B; December 9-A and B; December 16-A and B.

Squad members on any date, will occupy the lobbies in two distinct sessions (10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.) with the higher ranked squad usually taking the afternoon period.

Thirty-five member leagues of the Lancashire and Cheshire Associations have continued to enter a record breaking 35 teams into the new independent Lancashire League, Lancashire's Junior Champion but the league's Junior Champion but the Northern Division. The first team, on promotion, will have the same interest and enthusiasm as the second team. New managers welcome visitor to Worester on July 5.

LANCASHIRE NOTES

by GEORGE YATES

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Such opening words may apply to the Lancashire Junior team, which in fact was abolished for the first time greats' Freddie Cromwell and Ted has been an active member of the Loughborough League, Reg has been a lifetime supporter for his League for the past few years and there is no doubt he will give the same interest and enthusiasm to his new post. There is a fine tradition of enthusiasm in all the junior trials and at a very early date it will be possible to see the team's progress. The junior teams under the Management of Lea and Perrins Ltd. who have submitted junior ranking list reads:

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The first team, on promotion, will have the same interest and enthusiasm as the second team. New managers welcome visitor to Worester on July 5.

As President, he always attended many functions and did his utmost to make every meeting of the County Association as far as he was practically every single. As a player, Gwynne Thomas was more than average and in fact played in the 1St. Division of the Leicester League but it was as an administrator that he had his big influence. Gwynne Thomas retired in 1960, a few days before his 50th birthday, to a life of leisure. He was a valued member of the Loughborough League, Reg has been a lifetime supporter for his League for the past few years and there is no doubt he will give the same interest and enthusiasm to his new post. There is a fine tradition of enthusiasm in all the junior trials and at a very early date it will be possible to see the team's progress. The junior teams under the Management of Lea and Perrins Ltd. who have submitted junior ranking list reads:

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The first team, on promotion, will have the same interest and enthusiasm as the second team. New managers welcome visitor to Worester on July 5.
**NORFOLK NOTES** by J. S. PENNY

Norfolk's season has been a very successful one, and tomorrow I shall be presenting a most entertaining evening at the Norfolk Equestrian Centre, at the conclusion of which I shall be presenting a special prize to one of the riders. It is always a pleasure to see the enthusiasm of the Norfolk riders, and I look forward to seeing many of them at the centre tomorrow evening.

The Norfolk Equestrian Centre is one of the most well-equipped centres in the country, and I am sure that everyone who attends will be impressed with the facilities available. The centre is now open for business, and I am sure that many riders will be taking advantage of the opportunities it offers.

I am looking forward to seeing many of you at the centre tomorrow evening, and I hope that you will enjoy the evening as much as I have enjoyed preparing it.

**HERALDING HEREFORDSHIRE** by IAN R. CRICKMER

JUNE 30, which was in the year 1974, is the longest day of the year, and it is the day on which the Herfordshire County Rugby Union celebrate their annual dinner.

The Herfordshire County Rugby Union is one of the oldest rugby unions in the country, and it is always a pleasure to see the enthusiasm of the players who take part in the games.

This year, the Herfordshire County Rugby Union is celebrating its 100th anniversary, and the dinner was held at the Herfordshire County Club, which is situated in the heart of the county. The dinner was attended by many of the county's most prominent individuals, and it was a great pleasure to see the enthusiasm of the players who were present.

The Herfordshire County Rugby Union is one of the most successful rugby unions in the country, and I am sure that it will continue to be successful in the future.

I hope that you will all enjoy the dinner and the games that take place on this special day.

**WARWICKSHIRE NOTES** by BERNARD YARNOLD

The English and Hungarian national teams will play each other on Saturday, October 11. This is the first European International match to be played by the two teams, and I am sure that it will be a great success.

The match is being played at Villa Park, and it is expected that a large crowd will attend. The match will be played in front of a large, enthusiastic crowd, and I am sure that it will be a great success.

I hope that you will all enjoy the match.
**16th EUROPEAN YOUTH CHAMPIONSHIPS**

PIRAEUS, ATHENS, GREECE — 6th to 12th AUGUST, 1973

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**GOLDEN SMILES IN GREECE**

Surrey’s Linda Howard and Desmond Douglas of Warwickshire, winners of the gold medals in the mixed doubles event in Piraeus.

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**HALF AWAKE**

In the earlier rounds, Douglas sailed past Vleng (Netherlands), Brichou (France), Constantini (Italy), and in the quarters, Federal German defender Hilgend, without the loss of a game. Played at 0840 Saturday morning, the match with Brochou could have been awkward, but the French boy seemed only half awake and Douglas won comfortably 13 and 12. The quarter-final against Hilgend was also initially a source of some concern, for Douglas had been sorely troubled by another defender, the Hungarian Kreves, in the team event. After a close first game, 22-20, Douglas put all that behind him with an emphatic 21-6 win in the second.

David Alderson was the next most successful English boy. An easy first round win over a Cypriot put him in opposition to Norway’s Paul Guttormsen, a one-time Kent junior who represented England in the cadet events in the 1970 Championships on Teeside, before returning to this native country in 1971. A great fighter and showman, Guttormsen, but inclined to moments of rashness. Having lost the first 20-22, Alderson kept his head and came through 17 and 13 to face Italy’s R. Rodella. This match was at 0900 Saturday morning, and like Brochou minutes earlier, Alderson never really put his game together and lost the first 14-21. In the second game, Rodella, essentially a blocker, had to delay to earn his points, but English hopes waned when Alderson fluffed 15-15 to 15-18. A fighting recovery earned David 5 points in succession to make it 20-18, but then a terrible backhand counter and missed loop levelled the scores again at 20-20.

Fortunately a good service and service return took the next two. In the third round Alderson stormed into a 9-1 lead, only to be pulled back 10-5, 12-8, 13-12, where the Ormesby boy staged another rally to go 14-14, 15-14, 15-15 up, eventually to win 21-17. It was exhausting watching!

Now Alderson had to play Burnazjan, He lost 16 and 18, but could have won, indeed, should he have. Very frustrating. More than equal to the Romanian’s silky touch, Alderson led 14-8 in the first, but then the deserved inconsistency crept back and it was 15-15, 16-16, 16-19 after 3 bad service returns, and Alderson led again in the second, 6-4, 9-6, 11-9, 13-12. Douglas levelled the score at 14-14, 15-18, but then the last two Swedish serves produced the same result as the first two, 15-20. Showing absolutely no sign of nerves, Douglas now used superb services to inflict on the Swede his punishment that he himself had to suffer the previous 4 points. Incredibly, the match points were saved one by one until, alas, at 19-20, Douglas missed his forehand drive and it was all over.

In the semi-finals, Douglas (seeded No. 3) had defeated the top seed, Federal Germany’s Peter Seelig, and Thorsell had ousted the dangerous Russian, Bagrat Burnazjan, Douglas won 21-13, 21-15, and was never really troubled except in the first game when trailing 6-9. Taking the next 7 points in succession, Douglas thereafter made too courageous a move for the German boy, whose un-doubted flair showed only in spasms. Douglas repeated his team event final win over Burnazjan, but it took two deuces.

Douglas levelled the score at 14-14, but then missed two successive forehands; 14-16. Now it was the Swede’s service and twice a staggering loop drive was the response to Douglas’s return of serve. A courageous Douglas still had Thorsell desperately and unsuccessfully retrieving to make it 15-18, but then the last two Swedish serves produced the same result as the first two, 15-20. Showing absolutely no sign of nerves, Douglas now used superb services to inflict on the Swede his punishment that he himself had to suffer the previous 4 points. Incredibly, the match points were saved one by one until, alas, at 19-20, Douglas missed his forehand drive and it was all over.

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SWEDEN'S Ulf Thorsell receives the boys' singles trophy from the hands of Federal Germany's Jogy Schäfer, President of the European Table Tennis Union. Awaiting his silver award, as runner-up, is England's Des Douglas.

The English (Howard/Stevenson) combine bowed out to Yugoslavia's Palladini/Fabri in Round 2, following a Round 1 byes. Judith Walker was paired with Claude Folet (France), but lost to Australia's Eva Bogner/Dandic in a preliminary round.

And so to the success story, the mixed doubles. Desmond and Linda combined really well, with Linda generally keeping the other side out to allow Desmond to get his shots in and also coming in with some telling blows on her own account. Their semi-final victims were Stellwag/Schmidt (Fed, Germany), who had earlier removed top seeds Pospöck/Franke (Romania), Apart from the final, the only other pair to take a game out on top combine was the second Swedish string Hafn/Stromwall - a wonderful performance!

INDIVIDUAL RESULTS:

Boys' Singles:
- Douglas bt B. Burnazjan (USSR) 20, 20;
- Douglas bt E. Huging (Fed. Ger) 13, 15;
- Burnazjan bt E. Huging (Fed. Ger) 14, 15;
- Boyce bt M. Smidova (Cz) 14, 16;
- Thorsell bt Stellwag/Stromwall 19, 20.

Girls' Singles:
- L. Hie bt E. Stromwall (Sw) 21, 11;
- L. Hie bt E. Stromwall (Sw) 12, 16;
- Hafn bt Thorsell/Hellman (Sw) 13, 15.

Boys' Doubles:
- Douglas/Park lost to B. Percy (Eng) 7, 12;
- Douglas/Park lost to J. V. Aleksandris (Tur) 12, 15;
- Douglas/Park lost to G. N. Busk (Sp) 12, 13;
- Douglas/Park lost to A. Vlieg (Neth) 13, 12.

Girls' Doubles:
- L. Hie/L. Lupu bt E. Antonjan/T. Ferdman (USSR) 20, 4, 12;
- L. Lupu/L. Hie bt E. Antonjan/T. Ferdman (USSR) 19, 17, 20;
- L. Lupu/L. Hie bt E. Antonjan/T. Ferdman (USSR) 20, 6, 12;
- L. Lupu/L. Hie bt E. Antonjan/T. Ferdman (USSR) 20, 4, 12.

Semi-finals:
- Douglas/Park lost to A. Vlieg (Neth) 13, 12;
- Douglas/Park lost to G. N. Busk (Sp) 12, 13;
- Douglas/Park lost to A. Vlieg (Neth) 11, 46.

The magic moment for Linda and Des on the top step of the rostrum after the presentation made by Mrs. Nancy Roy Evans, Hon. Sec. of the E.T.T.U.

SUCCESSES

Linda's earlier successes were over Spano-Maja (Spain), who took the second game 21-18 between 21-7, 21-11 wins by Linda, and a Bulgarian partner, Radashanov. The penalty grip caused problems at first for Linda, who dropped the first 20-22, but improved thereafter to win 12 and 17.

Amita Stevenson, following an easy win over Austria's Christina Bogner, went down two-straight to P'alatinus/Razsan (Yugoslavia), with Judith Walker going the same way in a first round match with Gabriella Ivancin (Hungary).

The boys' doubles was a triumph for the Swedish pair Thorsell/Hafn over the Russians Burnazjan and Baranov. In all three in the third, a tremendous counter-killng rally, won by the Russians, had the crowd applauding madly. Looking likely winners up to the last few points in the third, the Russians were dipped at the post when a couple of mistakes by Burnazjan sent the title Sweden's way.

Tennis Union. Awaiting his silver award, as runner-up, is England's Des Douglas.

Page 16

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- L. Lupu/L. Hie bt E. Antonjan/T. Ferdman (USSR) 20, 6, 12;
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continued on page 18

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EUROPEAN YOUTH CHAMPIONSHIPS CONT.

ROUND 3: Victoria B. Branum (Fr) 15, 12.
Jim H. O'Connell lost to M. Salata (Fr). 14, 10.
Chris A. G. Biscuiti (Gr) 14, 10.
Adrian lost to E. Beneke (USSR) 9, 6.
O'Connell lost to B. Beneke (USSR) 5, 4.

GROUP SIMPLE

GROUP SIMPLE

ROUND 2: M. Howard lost to L. M. Beneke (Fr) 15, 10.
Howard lost to E. Beneke (USSR) 9, 6.
Howard lost to G. Rodella (It) 15, 10.

ROUND 1: T. Mathews/Mackay lost to Horvath/Ruzsensky (USSR) 17, 12.
Howard lost to B. Balatsakouros (Gr) 20, 17.
O'Connell lost to B. Beneke (USSR) 5, 4.

ROUND 2: B. McCulloch/Mathew lost to Schreiner/Haas (Fr) 15, 10.
IBRAHIMLE, ROUND 1.
Mathew lost to, A. Buzescu (Ru).

ROUND 2: Douglas/Howard lost to Hafn/Stromwall (Sw).
Douglas/Howard bt Firanescu/Gyorgyosi.

Girls' Doubles:

GROUP SIMPLE

GROUP SIMPLE

ROUND 1: McCulloch/Mathew lost to A. Buzescu (Ru).

ROUND 1: G. Mackay bt E. Koen (Gr) 10, 12.

ROUND 3: Douglas/Heaps bt Hafn/Stromwall (Sw).
Douglas/Heaps bt Turner/O'Connell.

Douglas/Howard bt Petersen/Larsen (De).

Douglas/Howard bt: M. Sanahuja (Sp) 7, 5.

Douglas/Heaps bt: Thorsell/Hafn (Sw).
Douglas/Heaps bt: Tema/Schenk (Cz).

ROUND 2: Douglas/Howard bt: Rousopoulos/Popovici (Cz).

ROUND 2: Douglas/Heaps bt: Tema/Schenk (Cz).

ROUND 3: Douglas/Heaps bt: Tema/Schenk (Cz).

10, -18, 17.

-10, 15, -14.

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over Rumania, a score line which resulted in a 3-0 win by bringing success to Sweden. The girls’ Federal Germany, Linda Howard cheers, Swedish No.3 Per Sandstrom Czechoslovakia for whom the extra Smidova meant victory and sixth match, but went down 2-straight to winning her 2 singles sets comfortably be the only success. Gary, Judith took the first game from amidst cheers and counter Linda and Anita Stevenson were successful in the doubles, and a 1-3 defeat was the result. Against Hun- Federal Germany and Rumania. Both were unable to make headway against places, since Turkey, their second v. Rumania, (WOOl 5-.)

BOYS

FINAL POSTITIONS: (last year’s positions)

1. Sweden (3)
2. Czechoslovakia (2)
3. Federal Germany (5)
4. Russia, (4)
5. Italy
6. Spain (14)
7. Denmark (14)
8. Poland
9. Yugoslavia
10. Luxembourg (10)
11. Greece
12. Turkey (23)
13. Bulgaria, (.. )
14. Denmark
15. Spain (14)
16. Switzerland
17. Denmark (14)
18. Finland (17)
19. Poland
20. Switzerland (24)
21. Ireland (.. )
22. Belgium
23. Ireland
24. Belgium
25. Cyprus, (- )

FEDERATION RECORDS

P W L D S F A

1. Russia
2. Czechoslovakia
3. Federal Germany
4. Italy
5. Spain
6. Denmark
7. Poland
8. Yugoslavia
9. Greece
10. Turkey
11. Bulgaria, (.. )
12. Denmark
13. Bulgaria, (.. )
14. Denmark
15. Spain (14)
16. Switzerland
17. Denmark (14)
18. Finland (17)
19. Poland
20. Switzerland (24)
21. Ireland (.. )
22. Belgium
23. Ireland
24. Belgium
25. Cyprus, (- )

POSTSCRIPT

The Championships were played in a large sports hall called the National Sport Hall at Pizzaro. It is a town with a harbour and docks a few miles from Athens. For a national sports centre, it was sited in a strange locality, being surrounded by drab engineering and marine equipment workshops and yards. 10/15 minutes’ walk from the har- bour and town centre.

The players were accommodated in a school in Piraeus and the con- ditions were not good, with overcrowded sleeping accommodation and wearing facilities, poor food and a varied selection of insect life. How- ever, the moustachioed people and powdered black bag of John Myer, Eng- land’s No.1, seemed to keep players ill at bay. Most were happy to be away from the beat remarkably well, but it was plea- surably dry and humid.

The bomb attack on Athens air- port took place on the Sunday, the day after our return. We were arrived, but the unfortunate Netherlands team were in transit at the time, and were split up and stranded in various parts of Europe in a vain attempt to reach Athens in time for the team events because of the chaos which followed the closure of Athens airport.

Greece took advantage of the non- participation of the Netherlands team by switching their first and second teams (which the host country is allowed to enter), since Greece II were in the same first round group as the Netherlands. This is why Greece II finished higher than the "first" team in the final boys’ event position.

Photographic coverage of the 16th European Youth Championships was by Cliff Darley

After Athens

What Next? By Tony Ross

To his account of the European Youth Championships in Denmark last year, Philip Reed added a post- script: "What went wrong in Vejle?" This year in Athens, there was a measure of success just as there was in Vejle (two years ago with a bronze in the "boys’ team event), as a result of good performances by one or two players. What are so selective, of course, good performances from all the players at the same time.

Phil Reed picked out two points last year which are still relevant -- I felt that we would have done better with the right mental approach, and that our team rarely improved as the most nimble of success. I think that these points are better termed (a) application and (b) speed of movement. By "application" I mean the most effective use of a player’s skill at any particular moment -- so why does not play a shot with a 10 per cent chance of success at a vital stage in a game. "Speed of movement" is self-expla- natory, but the feet are these parts of the anatomy particularly lacking this quality. Often I believe that lack of skills (a) and (b) may give rise to false impression that there is a lack of fight or effort. Fitness obviously plays a part in (b), but even a super-fit player is not necessarily a good "center".

What’s to be done? Certainly training and coaching on these points helps, but match play must have an important contribution to make towards the development of these particular skills. I make the suggestion that too much of our match play is not making this contribution -- our players play too many matches in which they are not under pressure to work for a win, and these matches could be local league and inter-league matches, in addition to tournament matches. In the early rounds of tournaments, the difference in ability between 2 players is often such that the match is of little benefit to either player.

In Sweden, France and West Ger- many, for example, a player’s grade- ing system operates, and tournaments have "graded" singles events, the players of higher ability not being permitted to enter the lower graded singles events. Thus a junior, for example, is able to measure his/her progress in ability through the Class 1, Class 2 and Class 1 ranks, finally and hopefully to reach a top "Elite" Class, by winning "promotion" from the lower grades. The promotion is achieved by a points system based on tournament results and league matches.

The holding of junior tournaments only, with the extra under-15 and under-13 events, would then be almost unnecessary, because the criteria of the additional events would be ability, not age, and these young players would be gaining valuable experience against seniors, as well as judging of their own ability. Also those leaving the junior ranks should have had some personal goals towards which they would concentrate, and these goals have been "lost" in the big senior world.

The formation of a national league, based on clubs or local leagues, instead of our present knock-out com- petitions, would also provide the necessary "pressure" match play. The suggestion has been made before to forget junior tournaments and throw the juniors in at the deep end. My suggestion is to replace most of the junior tournaments with some- thing which I believe is more appro- priate for this purpose -- the staging of skills in match play situations.

The administration and operation of such a system would need a well- thought out system of pairing, certainly, and agreement that the pre- sent schedule needs to be speeded up. Some points for discussion which I will leave it to someone else to put the counter arguments.

SPREAD THE GOSPEL

Dh. A. M. Patwardhan and Miss A. Y. Manoji, Hon. Joint Editors of the Maharashtra State Table Tennis Association, have been instrumental in the spread of table tennis in India and abroad. The magazine will soon be published due to un- avoidable circumstances.

Its welcome revival now is due to the idea of achievement of a closer relationship between the Table Tennis Players and Associations in India and abroad. The magazine could not be published due to un- avoidable circumstances.

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TRAGIC DEATH OF AUDLEY HILL

Survey and English Table Tennis lost a stalwart supporter with the tragic death of Audley Hill, who was killed as a result of being hit by a motor cycle whilst acting as a marshal for a cycle race.
Stiga AB to Sponsor E.T.T.A. National Club Championship

Stiga AB, the Swedish table tennis equipment manufacturer announced on Monday, Sept. 24/73, that they are to sponsor the English Table Tennis Association's 'National Club Championship' for the next three seasons. The total value of the sponsorship is £6,000 which includes prize money and support towards the organisational costs.

Open to all English League Champions

The Stiga National Club Championship, as the competition will now be called, is open to all E.T.T.A. affiliated league championship winners and will be divided into men's and women's sections. Thus over 600 league championship teams will be eligible for the event. A new development for the coming season will be the admission into the women's section of 'league' selected teams, which will enable a larger number of ladies teams to take part.

This championship sponsorship is being undertaken by the Swedish firm in close co-operation with their United Kingdom distributor, Mitre Sports of Huddersfield, and is the first time that Stiga AB have supported a major E.T.T.A. championship.

Supporting the Grass Roots of the Game

Announcing the new sponsorship, Mr. Brian Hearn, the Export Marketing Manager of the Tranas Sweden based firm said, "It has always been our policy both here and throughout the world to support the game at its 'grass roots' level. Last season we started to support the English Schools' Championship and are continuing to do so this year."

"Thus for the coming season it is a logical move for us to sponsor a further basic championship—the Stiga National Club Championship. In undertaking this sponsorship my company has had two prime objectives in mind.

Into Europe and 1977

"First through the prize fund we intend that both the winning men's and women's teams will most easily be able to take part in the European Club Championship each season. Secondly the championship as a whole will enable more and more players to be brought forward as potential members of the English team for the 1977 World Championships."

"Mr. Hearn also stressed the importance of the championship as a proving ground for top flight competition. It would match all levels of clubs against each other and thus enable a wide number of ordinary players to meet national and international championship standard players."

Closing Draw

Closing date for the Stiga National Club Championship will be Monday, November 3/73 and the first round draw would be held in the following week with the Championship itself commencing early in December.

Giving these details, Mr. Derek Tennyson, the General Secretary of the English Table Tennis Association also said, "We expect to see the National Club Championship entry expand very considerably this year with the Stiga sponsorship. With this in mind we intend to have eight regional zones for the men. The women's section will also be on a regional basis with anticipated increased entry.

Combined Semi-Finals/Finals Day

Mr. Tennyson in addition pointed out that for the first time the semi-finals and finals of both the men's and women's sections would take place on the same day and at a neutral venue. The date for the last two rounds would be Saturday, June 8 and the expected venue—subject to final confirmation—would be at Loughborough, with the total league being responsible for the organisation.

Entry forms would be sent to all league secretaries by the E.T.T.A. early in October. In addition entry forms and associated items from the company's already established equipment 'circuit' would be used in all quarterly matches and subsequent rounds.

Commenting on the Stiga sponsorship, Mr. Charles Wyles, Chairman of the English Table Tennis Association said, "I very much welcome this major new sponsorship from one of the world's leading equipment manufacturers for the game. With the E.T.T.A. organising the 1977 World Championship this type of sponsorship will certainly be an excellent source for bringing new talent to the fore and will also assist the players of the winning clubs into top flight European competition."

Mr. Wyles pointed out that this and other sponsorships of the game indicated that table tennis was increasingly becoming a major indoor sport in this country. He said that the E.T.T.A. already have over one hundred thousand regular players in its league and behind them he estimated there were at least another five to six hundred thousand players at school and youth club level. Thus the E.T.T.A. have a real pool of potential champions and future world class players. Sponsorship by firms like Stiga can only benefit the game be concluded.

Representatives of the 1972/73 women Club Championship winners—the Ormskirk Club in the women's section and London's Goldsmiths Club in the women's section—were at the announcement indicated that they were being entered again. However, both clubs expected that with the Stiga sponsorship the competition would be very much harder to win this season. The prize money for the European Cup entry would in both their views, mean a much greater entry and thus tougher matches in every round.

Claremont Bulletin

by ALBERT W. SHIPLEY
E.T.T.A. Administrative Secretary

Major changes in the Laws and Regulations made at the I.T.T.F. Congress in Sarajevo last March were:

Rackets

Each side of the blade, whether used for striking the ball or not, must be of a uniform, dark colour.

The two sides of the blade, whether covered or not, must not be of a similar colour.

As an experiment until 1975, the material of the blade may not be hard rubber or wood, e.g. plastic, metal, etc.

Continuous Play

An emergency suspension may not be granted for the breaking of a racket as a player is required to have a spare available at the playing area.

In addition to the European Cup period, any player or pair may request a one minute interval after each game.

Advice to Players

A player may receive advice from anyone during any authorised interval or suspension of the game.

A player may not receive advice from anyone during a game, such as during a pause for towelling, or at the change of ends in the last possible game of a match.

Clothing

While or light-coloured edging to playing shirts is permitted, provided it is not unduly obstructive.

The range of permissible colours is being reviewed, to relate it more closely to the colours now available and generally considered acceptable.

Disqualification

The Referee is empowered to disqualify a player who refuses to accept a ball chosen by the Referee, after the normal selection procedure.

The Referee is empowered to disqualify a player for persistent unsportsmanlike or offensive behaviour.

BARCLAYS BANK BOOKLETS

We have recently received a supply of these booklets, containing the up-to-date laws of table tennis available from the E.T.T.A. office. We will be pleased to supply League and Club secretaries with any reasonable quantity in return for the cost of postage. Please have your postage calculations on the fact that each copy weighs 1 lb., and 32 copies weigh 1 lb. Orders for 100 or over will be sent by parcel post.

APPROVED BALLS FOR 197/74

The following makes and grades of ball have been given E.T.T.A. approval for play in this country for the current season:

- Dunlop Harma Super 3 Crown and 2 Crown
- Halco 3 Star and 2 Star

continued on page 22
Claremont Bulletin cont.

NATIONAL TEAM COMPETITIONS

We regret that, owing to a change in Company policy, Coca-Cola have withdrawn sponsorship of table tennis. It is pleasing to note, however, that the withdrawal is not motivated by lack of success, but rather by a desire to support different initiatives and to the District Organisers who have done so much to ensure the competition’s success during the last three years.

TOURNAMENT DIARY

These diary contain dates of Open Tournaments, European League and other international matches, and are available from the E.T.T.A. office, price 20p plus 2p VAT and 4p for postage. For orders of 12 or more, the price is 20p per day, and for large orders a contribution towards postage would be appreciated.

CALLING ALL UMPIRES AND REFEREES

Anyone holding a copy of either i.T.F. Publications—"Handbook for Tumipire" or "Handbook for Referees and Competition Organisers", will be able to obtain copies of the amended slips which bring up-to-date the Laws and i.T.F. Regulations upon request to the E.T.T.A. office.

MISS SPORTSWORLD 1973

Page 22

Lancastrian officials on parade in the garden of Bolton's Summerhill Hotel following the wedding of the President's daughter, Barbara Yates, to Robert Hunter of Biddford-on-Avon on August 28. From (left to right)—Kenneth Mitchell (Hon. Sec, Bolton League), David R. Walterscroft (Executive Committee Lancs, TTA), George Yates (President, LTTA), Alan Porter (Umpire Sec, LTTA), Mrs. Mary Mitchell, Mrs. Kathleen Porter, Arthur E. Upton (Chairman, LTTA), Lil Upton and Mrs. Doreen Yates.

—Photo by Frank Davies, Bolton.
ESSEX 2 STAR OPEN TOURNAMENT
1st/2nd September, 1973
by JOHN SHEPHERD, T.R.

SOMETHING will definitely have to be done by Junior Tournament Organisers around the Country very quickly, as otherwise they might as well not bother to run their events. I am referring to the renewal of the incentive being given to the leading juniors by the E.T.T.A. not to enter Junior Tournaments. Despite this, 31 out of the top 64 did compete here but Paul Day was a notable absentee, he withdrew after entering and being done so in all events. Other juniors did not enter, presumably because of the direction they have received. I do not propose to argue the merits of the position here but I merely draw the attention of those concerned to what is happening.

Fortunately wiser counsels prevail on Teesside and a large group of juniors contingent turned up at the Hallow Sports Centre. Regrettably David Apartment had to withdraw owing to injury, but Robert Wiley led their challenge to No. 1 and John Kitchener. I would like to pay particular tribute to Judith Walker, who came all the way from Sheffield to lay her reputation on the line, although she did not feel at all well and was due to see a specialist on the following day. In fact Judith fared disastrously, but her courage cannot be praised too highly, contrasting with the lack of it shown by those who stayed away, and by those who caused them to do so.

On the Saturday the younger legions were on view. Two of the brightest hopes of the home Town won their events, namely David Newman and Tony Stonell. Neither David nor his final opponent Keith Richardson lost a game getting there but the Final itself was disappointing as both boys were too nervous of each other to play well really, and David went more on Keith's mistakes than on his own obvious ability. On the other hand Tony and his Final Opponent Doug Bennett had no such inhibitions, and their display was full of character. Had Doug won it would apparently have been the first Open win ever by a Norfolk player.

Linda Wales (Sussex) took over the under 15 girls event after Jill Campion (Middlesex) had to withdraw owing to injury, but Robert Wiley led their challenge to No. 1 and John Kitchener. I would like to pay particular tribute to Judith Walker, who came all the way from Sheffield to lay her reputation on the line, although she did not feel at all well and was due to see a specialist on the following day. In fact Judith fared disastrously, but her courage cannot be praised too highly, contrasting with the lack of it shown by those who stayed away, and by those who caused them to do so.

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TABLE tennis, the most popular game for tens of millions in China today, was introduced into China at the opening of this century. It was first played in Shanghai and then spread to Kwangtung (Canton) and Tientsin. But in old China the game was played by only a very limited number of people, in the cities.

Since the founding of New China in 1949 the living standards of the Chinese people, following the rapid growth of industry and agriculture, have risen steadily. Ever larger numbers of people have taken up sports and responded to Chairman Mao’s call: “Promote physical culture and sports and build up the people’s health!” Table tennis has become popular not only in cities but also in small towns and in most villages. In the city-wide tournament held in Shanghai in 1970, participants totalled more than 60,000. Li Tso-li, a semi-finalist in the girls’ singles at the Asian-African-Latin American Table Tennis Friendship Invitational Tournament held in Peking in 1971, was a student from a small town in the province of Heilungkiang. For many years, table tennis has been a popular sport in China’s northernmost forest area in the Lesser Khingan Mountains.

Spare-time sports schools including table tennis classes have been set up in many cities, factories, armed units, government departments, public recreation centres and rural people’s communes and villages.

Table tennis is a sport that can be played by both men and women, Chinese and rural people’s communes where they can learn from their superb skill and admirable sportsmanship. The table tennis players of different countries have contacts to deepen the understanding and friendship among people all over the world.

**Table Tennis in China**

By Li Pao-hua

Tibetan table tennis players learnt from a member of the Shanghai team during the 1972 national junior championships.

**Sunday Times' Super League**

by LOUIS HOFFMAN

The title tells you that the sponsor of the 75th Super League will be one of the most famous newspapers in the world: "The Sunday Times".

The benefits of having the Sunday Times as a sponsor go without saying, and I know that my committee is prepared to give a very nice prize to the winners of the competition.

Entries will be accepted up to the 28th of August. The first matches will be played on the 25th of September. The matches will be held in Hull and Teesside.

Entries for the first series of matches in Teesside will be sent to Mike John (3rd) of the North Teeside Table Tennis Club, who has charge of selecting the players.

**HUNGARIAN VISIT**

England’s first European League match of the new season will take place at the Midland Sports Centre, The Meadow, Tipton, on Wednesday, October 10/11, commencing at 7:15 p.m.

In conjunction with the E.T.T.A., the Midland and District Sports Centre is staging the event as a 50th Anniversary Celebration for which a special stadium seats, all giving an uninterrupted view, will be erected.

Tickets, priced at 2/6d, can be had by personal application to the Box Office, Midland Sports Centre (9 a.m. to 9 p.m.) or, post, from Mr. G. Kendall, 25 Castle Corner, Reading, Berks (Cheques and P.O.’s made payable to Reading and District T.T.A.). S.A.E. please.
TRAVELLING FELLOWSHIPS

THE WINSTON CHURCHILL MEMORIAL TRUST, established as a result of the National Appeal in 1965, is a unique form of memorial. It enables men and women who might never otherwise have the chance, to travel abroad, to widen their knowledge not only in their own field of activity, but also of other people's lives and work in different parts of the world, and as a result of the experience they gain, to contribute more effectively to their profession, commonwealth and country.

The distinctive features of these awards are that there are no age limits, and academic or professional qualifications are not needed. Candidates however, must be citizens of the United Kingdom and must be able to convince the selectors of the worth of their project and that they have the ability and initiative to make full use of the Fellowship both while they are abroad and when they come back.

The Grants cover all fellowship expenses, the average length of which is three months. Interviews will be held in London in January 1974 and successful candidates will be expected to start their travels during that year.

To apply, send your name and address only on a postcard IN SEPTEMBER to the Winston Churchill Memorial Trust, 10, Queen Street, Mayfair, London W.IX 7PD. You will receive an explanatory leaflet and a form to complete which must be returned before November 30th, 1973.

Both Alan Hydes and Ian Horsham have benefitted from Fellowship Awards and have made journeys to the Far East and it may be that other table tennis players, administrators, will be interested in making application for a fellowship.

From the Editor's Postbag

THANKS TO COACHES

WE would like to make known our appreciation for the work and co-operation of the active coaches in the Northern Counties.

In particular we would mention Area Panel Chairman Doug Foulds and Alan Ramsay with their respective Panel members and the teams of coaches who so willingly gave of their time and talents to make the area training camps so successful.

PETER SIMPSON,
ETTA Northern Staff Coach.
HARRY DIGNAN
Regional Coaching Advisor.

DEAR SIRS!

I WONDER if you could help me to get me a table tennis girl as a penfriend. I am a Swedish table tennis player and am playing in our 1st league. Last year I was playing in the Swedish junior boys' team, at 162 38 Vallingby, Sweden.

GUNNAR SODERSTROM
Strandviken 6 nb,
S. W. HANCOCK LTD. CLAPHAM LONDON ENGLAND 01-622-3345/6

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In the Coaching Field
with JOHN O’SULLIVAN

Each year, around September, the final Junior trials are held, putting on show the top juniors from all parts of the country. Their performances, together with past deeds in competitive play, will establish an initial ranking list.

This final assessment stems from regional and a series of intermediate camps which, in the past, have been organised by Staff Coach, Bryan Merrett, who has travelled to each venue and submitted his recommendations as to the composition of the final squad.

This year, all four intermediate camps have been held at one venue — Lillehall — and all three Staff Coaches spent some time at each Camp and collectively chose the final trials. At the time of writing, the final trials have yet to take place, but I will be interested to see if the change in the scheme has brought about any improvements.

The meeting of coaches, held in Birmingham on Sept. 9, was to introduce a change in the resident coaches' duties, aims and recommendations for final assessment.

There were so many ‘stars’ present that I think Patrick Moore should have been in the chair. As it was Gordon Suggall chaired the meeting which included six-year and seventeen-year Coach.

Gordon, whose voice of authority was occasionally seasoned with a touch of Irish, explained that due to the pressure if work experienced by the Staff coaches, it was often difficult for them to guarantee, having once started a tuition course for student coaches, that they would be in a position to complete it. The amount of travelling involved to cover all the centres before further into the all-important time factor.

It could be said that the large numbers of students could be left for unreasonable lengths of time without them having completed sufficient sessions to warrant assessment thus breaching a lack of enthusiasm where it is most sorely needed.

It was therefore explained that a number of star coaches would be appointed official instructors for student coaches with the ability to recommend to the Staff Coach when a student was ready for assessment.

Final documentation has yet to be completed, but courses for registered students can be arranged as from September 2. Such an arrangement should cure a problem that has existed for some time and help students to qualify for their Diplomas more rapidly than in the past. Guide lines should be drawn up and sent to the Editor expressing his recommendation to complete it. The amount of travelling involved to cover all the centres before further into the all-important time factor.

If the pupils make slow progress regarding strokes, they can still perform basic shots and elements of the game under the guidance of the Staff Coaches. I am hopeful that such ventures will lead to further exchange of ideas between the Panels. Ideas must be exchanged to improve the overall quality of Table Tennis.

Peter is hoping to arrange another seminar on the same lines. I don’t think a date has been arranged yet, but I wish him well.

MOBILITY — A PRIOR CLAIM?

by Lawrie Neville

MOBILITY exercises should be introduced as early as possible into a coaching class, even if the pupils are adults. Light exercises, increasing gradually to an accepted standard, can be brought in for all the classes. If the pupils are of school age, mobility can be started earlier, as it is taken for granted that they will have a certain amount of physical education in their schooling.

Exercises should be included as naturally as possible, the push shot or the ready position should not be added on as an afterthought. The pupils will come to accept mobility as a regular weekly event in their class. It dispels the idea of the casual approach to modern day table tennis play. They will become fitter, more alert to coaching, and realise the coach means business.

Even if the pupils make slow progress regarding strokes, they can still perform basic shots and elements of the game under the guidance of the Staff Coaches. I am hopeful that such ventures will lead to further exchange of ideas between the Panels. Ideas must be exchanged to improve the overall quality of Table Tennis.

Finally, as in coaching, variety helps increase interest; exercises should be varied and interesting in order to maintain the pupils interest. The coach should watch closely for any signs of over physical activity and discomfort.

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Finally, as in coaching, variety helps increase interest; exercises should be varied and interesting in order to maintain the pupils interest. The coach should watch closely for any signs of over physical activity and discomfort.

In addition, to increasing physical exercise (which also is beneficial to health), mobility helps the pupils to think faster by co-ordinating his mind with his physical movements and stroke play.

For adults, however, aged forty and over, there should be a working note. The coach should watch closely for any signs of over physical activity and discomfort.

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COCA-COLA AWARDS

DENIS NEALE and JILL HAMMERSLEY topped the charts in the 1972-73 Coca-Cola Awards. Neale led Freddie Taylor (last year’s winner) in the men’s table by 203 points. It is probable, however, that Taylor would have added further points to his total if he had not been ordered home before completion of the 50th World Championships in Yugoslavia last April. This caused him to miss the friendly matches against Japan held in this country in May.

Jill Hammersley (winner for the last three years) led Karenza Matthews by over 1,000 points largely by virtue of her outstanding results in international play. Jill became £100 the richer for her efforts while Karenza received £50.

The leading Junior Girl was Elaine Tatton who, like Douglas, was awarded a £100 scholarship. Elaine finished seventh overall in the women’s table one place above Linda Howard who now moves into the senior ranks.

Points were finally awarded to a total of 259 men and 75 women the leading positions were:

MEN:

1. B. Neale (Yorks) 2665
2. T. Taylor (Herts) 2462
3. N. Jarvis (Yorks) 2390
4. D. Douglas (Warwks) 2368
5. M. Johns (Ches) 2358
6. P. Taylor (Beds) 2358
7. E. Tarten (Essex) 2309
8. A. Howes (Ches) 2298
9. J. Heaps (Ches) 2298
10. J. White (Lincs) 2298
11. C. Warren (Surrey) 2298
12. D. Court (Middx) 2298
13. S. Lisle (Lancs) 2298
14. R. Chandler (Surrey) 2298
15. A. Clayton (Yorks) 2298
16. D. Neale (Yorks) 2298
17. D. Chandler (Surrey) 2298
18. C. Warren (Surrey) 2298
19. M. Ivan (Warwks) 2298
20. J. Scofield (Kent) 2298
21. D. Parker (Lancs) 2298
22. J. Vass (Surrey) 2298
23. K. Rogers (Leics) 2298
24. D. Douglas (Warwks) 2298
25. L. Sharratt (Leics) 2298
26. J. White (Lincs) 2298
27. J. Lewis (Ches) 2298
28. A. Howes (Ches) 2298
29. J. Heaps (Ches) 2298
30. J. White (Lincs) 2298

WOMEN:

1. J. Hammersley (Bucks) 1893
2. K. Mathews (Middx) 1874
3. L. Radford (Eves) 1865
4. V. Henning (Eves) 1865
5. J. Williams (Smoc) 1865
6. N. Howard (Yorks) 1865
7. T. Barrett (Eves) 1865
8. H. Howard (Surrey) 1865
9. C. Warren (Surrey) 1865
10. J. Heaps (Surrey) 1865
11. T. Walker (Yorks) 1865
12. R. Chandler (Surrey) 1865
13. C. Warren (Surrey) 1865
14. D. Parker (Lancs) 1865
15. D. Brown (Eves) 1865
16. D. Parker (Lancs) 1865
17. S. Opandie (Sues) 1865
18. J. Hammersley (Bucks) 1865
19. K. Mathews (Middx) 1865
20. L. Radford (Eves) 1865
21. V. Henning (Eves) 1865
22. J. Williams (Smoc) 1865
23. N. Howard (Yorks) 1865
24. T. Barrett (Eves) 1865
25. H. Howard (Surrey) 1865
26. C. Warren (Surrey) 1865
27. J. Heaps (Surrey) 1865
28. T. Walker (Yorks) 1865
29. R. Chandler (Surrey) 1865
30. C. Warren (Surrey) 1865

The prize draw produced the following results:

£100 - Ken Stanley, the former Lancashire international
£50 - Keith Ponting, Devon National Councilor, repairing his back of
£50 - Derrick Schofield, the active veteran from Cheshunt.

A number of £5 prizes from Premium Bond winnings were distributed

DISCIPLINARY

At the end of January 1973, a letter was received from Mike Symonds, the former Yorkshire player, requesting reimbursement of the suspension placed upon him by the E.T.T.A. in September, 1969. This request received the careful consideration of the members of the Disciplinary Committee and following a complete re-examination of correspondence it was agreed that the suspension be terminated as from July 1, 1973. The T.T.T.T. have been advised of this decision.

It has subsequently been established, however, that if Symonds returned to England he would be an unqualified player and would need the permission of the South African Association to play in this country.
NEW RECORD
An increase of 3 teams in each of the Senior and Junior sections of the Championships raises the total entry to a new record 112 teams competing in 18 divisions.

Yorkshire's powerful male squad should prove good enough to retain the Premier Division title, but considerable doubt must remain surrounding the remaining places. Warwickshire will be keen to repeat, or improve on, their exciting feat of last season. Following promotion, they won 5 matches to finish runners-up. And South looks the strongest of the Second Divisions with relegated Kent and Sussex both appearing here and Middlesex II transferred from East. Some fascinating struggles promise here, as they do in East and West where Essex II must start firm favourites.

North and Midland have 7 apiece and there will be much activity and good competition at this level. Little changes in the Veteran Section, where Wilshire replace Northants in the only alteration: 12 teams will bid to take the Veteran title from defending holders Hampshire.

SYSTEM RETAINED
Although not an unqualified success in its new, two-weekend, form last season, thesystem retains some of its attraction and in its new, two-weekend, form last season, the system retains some of its attraction and advantages and there will be keen interest in how it is applied at this level in 1973-74.

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LINE-UP for 1973-74:

PREMIER - Buckinghamshire, Cheshire, Essex, Lancashire, Middlesex, Surrey, Warwickshire and Yorkshire.

SOUTH - Berkshire, Hampshire, Kent, Middlesex II, Surrey II and Sussex.

NORTH - Cheshire II, Lincolnshire, Nottinghamshire and Warwickshire II.

SOUTHERN - Berkshire II, Buckinghamshire II, Hampshire II, Kent II, Oxfordshire and Sussex II.

NORTHERN - Cheshire III, Cumberland, Berkshire II, Durham II and Northumberland II.

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JUNIOR PREMIER - Buckinghamshire, Essex, Kent, Lincolnshire, Nottinghamshire, Shropshire, Staffordshire II and Warwickshire II.

SOUTHERN - Buckinghamshire II, Essex II, Hampshire, Hertfordshire, Norfolk and Northamptonshire.

JUNIOR SOUTH - Berkshire, Essex II, Hertfordshire, Norfolk and Northamptonshire.

JUNIOR WEST - Cornwall, Devon, Dorset, Glamorgan, Somerset, Wiltshire and Worcestershire.

JUNIOR EAST - Berkshire, Cambridgeshire, Essex II, Hampshire, Lincolnshire, Nottinghamshire and Warwickshire II.

JUNIOR NORTH - Cheshire, Cambridgeshire, Durham, Lancashire, Northumberland, Westmorland, Cumberland and Cumbria.

JUNIOR MIDLAND - Derbyshire, Gloucestershire, Leicestershire, Nottinghamshire, Staffordshire and Warwickshire II.

JUNIOR EAST - Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire, Essex II, Hertfordshire, Norfolk and Northamptonshire.

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JUNIOR WEST - Berkshire, Devon, Dorset, Glamorgan, Gloucestershire, Somerset, Wiltshire and Worcestershire.

VETERAN SOUTH - Essex, Hampshire, Hertfordshire, Huntingdonshire, Kent, Oxfordshire and Wilts.

VETERAN MIDLAND - Cheshire, Leicestershire, Nottinghamshire, Staffordshire, Warwickshire and Worcestershire.

CORDAS BEATEN IN TORONTO

This year's Canadian Open, played at the Canadian National Exhibition, Exhibition Park, Toronto from Aug. 30 - Sept. 2, 1973 was most successful with 277 competitors taking part (writes Ron Kerr 

No. 1 seed in the men's singles, Zlatko Cordan of Yugoslavia was defeated in the quarter-finals by John Tannenhill of the U.S. over 5 games. Tannenhill lost in the final to Dan Seemiller also from the U.S. and also in 5 games.

Violetta Nesukaitis lost her women's singles title in the final to 15-year-old Marianne Dominique of Quebec also in 5 games.

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