PALACE TRENDSETTER

Photo by Tony Ross of Hassle

best buy jacques of course
**LOST DIVIDEND**

It would seem a pity that a little of the gloss attaching to the British Universities' Sports Federation 2-day Quadrangular International event at Sheffield University, on April 13-14, was tarnished by a lack of umpires.

Such was the state of affairs at Sheffield, on the Sunday at least, that the Hon. Referee had to lend a hand, not to mention the Guest of Honour, who felt obliged to render assistance also.

Only one other qualified umpire put in an appearance, which hardly did justice to an event of this nature, most seriously contested by student players from Great Britain, Federal Germany, Belgium and the Netherlands.

One cannot imagine the Deutscher Tisch-Tennis Bund being found guilty of such shortcomings were their Universities to have hosted the event, and it reflects adversely on the E.T.T.A., who are endeavouring to establish a courtship of umpires with such establishments as they are with the teacher-training colleges.

Not only should it be the aim of the national association to encourage educational authorities to an awareness of the sport in the coaching sphere, but practical assistance in other fields, suitably backed by county bodies, might well pay further dividends.

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**ENGLISH TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION**

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**NORWICH UNION ENGLISH CHAMPIONSHIPS**

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**DENIS NEAL on his way to taking his fifth men's singles title to equal the record of Chester Barnes.**

**SALUTE TO YOUTH**

_by JOHN WOODFORD_

Denis Neale and Jill Hammersley, England's top players, will be wearing their crowns for the next year, but the 1975 Norwich Union English Championships will be remembered as the year when our young players made the greatest surge forward for at least five years!

Players of vast experience were swept aside at regular intervals by youngsters like Paul Chester Barnes sharing the spoils. This time, Chester Barnes.

No quarter was given in the Neale-Jarvis, the fittest of our top players, looked as though he might take the title through sheer physical strength when he led 13-11. Neither man really varied his tactics. Neale levelled at 14-all then to 18-15 and finally 21-17, claiming the title with complete dividends.

Jill's ranking of No. 4 in Europe was achieved after similar fights-back. The scores of the last three games—21-15, 21-14, 21-11—reveal the true picture of Jill's battling qualities. The Ormesby lass slid slowly downhill until she hit the bottom—she still had the timidity to win exactly, Carole Knight done enough to make the No. 2 spot? I think she has.
Nicky Jarvis, who fought every inch of the way in a memorable men's singles final.

Karenza, as she said, "... would have liked to have gone out 'winning," but it was the improving Janet Hellaby who piled on the pressure to win at 22-20 in the fifth. In Round 2, however, Miss Hellaby's progress was brought to an abrupt conclusion by England's No.1 junior, Miss Mellody Ludi.

Bearing in mind that most supporters have already been impressed by the potential of Carole Knight and Paul Day, Miss Ludi's game has been elevated on my list of future champions to a high position.

Digressing for a moment on the serving of these rising stars—one of the main topics of the tournament was the question of Paul Day's serving. On the Thursday night there was the rumpus when umpire Bob Bridges faulted him. On Friday there was a much shorter hold-up in the mixed doubles when Carole Knight stopped the game demanding that "he served properly." Ace services should not be a means of scoring in table tennis, but, of course, all services should be executed to make the return as difficult as possible for the receiver and as loose as possible for the server.

It's now up to our worthy hand of umpires to give their verdicts. One has done so, but apparently, only because he could not see what was going on. There were also spectators, a little unhappy over several of the services being employed by the leading juniors, including the three girls, Anita Stevenson, Melody Ludi and Carole Knight. This routine of dropping the ball holding the ball almost to the floor before bringing it up to table level is apparently legal, but also an annoying and unnecessary lad.

SEEDS PERISH

Welcome changes to the programme brought forward Rounds 1-3 of the men's singles into the Thursday evening programme. Previously, only preliminary rounds were played on Thursday night.

On that evening, the top four seeds went through to the quarters, but the other four perished. Out went Jimmy Walker (5), Andy Barden (6), Ian Horsham (7) and Donald Parker (8). Top-of-the-form in the shock category was a stunning show by Les Eadie (Essex) who beat Keith Summerfield (Hants) and then halted the recently rampant Barden 12, 14, 18, 23. Eadie even took Peter Taylor to a juncture only two points from defeat but Taylor struggled home 21-19.

Walker's defeat by Day included an 8-minute hold-up when the Cambridge lad asked for the replacement of the umpire, Bob Bridges, who was not happy with Day's service, or his ability to see what was going on. Referee Les Poldrich was called to the scene. He rapidly rejected the request. Despite the upset, it was Day who played better table tennis in the resumption.

Donald Parker's downfall to John Kitchener was the first shock for North-West supporters. The Suffolk lad, moving fast and counter-hitting splendidly, eventually went through at 19 in the fourth, although he nearly made it 3-straight as Parker survived a match-point in the third.

Clayton's battle with Ian Horsham provided the only five-gamer of Round 3. There was so little to choose between them as they snatched alternate games. Bitzerly disappointed, Horsham was taken out 24-22 in a brilliant decider.

Guildford's Sue Henderson, another player alleged to be on the "soon to retire" list, was the lady who impressed most in Round 2 of the women's singles. The North-West supporters were silenced again as Mrs. Henderson's skill to defend and attack proved too much for the No. 3 seed, Susan Lisle. Sue Henderson may change her mind on retiring after this sort of victory.

An England No. 3 ranking takes a lot of living up to and on this occasion it was too much for Miss Lisle. The Cheshire lass's loop is in the older class, high and slow. This gives a class defensive player plenty of time. Mrs. Henderson took advantage of this to record a fine win 20, 14, 18 and earned a battle with Shelagh Hession's dour defence in the quarters.

JOURNEYS END

Round 1 of the women's singles proved to be the end of the road in two senses for Karenza Mathews, who has now retired from the competitive arena in favour of table tennis coaching and possibly squash. 231 appearances for England is an amazing record (thanks to the man who counted—Bryan Merrett) and one that must gain great respect, especially from coaching pupils.

"Put me amongst the girls" could well be the title of this shot of John McDowell, Public Relations Manager of the Norwich Union Insurance Group, with (1 to r): Karenza Mathews, Carole Knight, Linda Howard and Jill Hammersley.

Page 3
New look attire as worn by Jill Hammersley, winner for the third successive season, of the women’s singles title.

THE FALLERS
Appropriate to Grand National weekend, which must have kept the crowds down to around 200, these were a few of the fallers in the first three rounds of the men’s singles: Steve Lyons (Surrey) lost 5-9, 9-2 to Neale; Chris Sewell (Glos) almost took Horsham to 5; Gordon Chapman out 0, 47-21 to Dan Douglas; Laurie Landry out to a shocker by Mike Harrison, of Yorkshire—closer match of the tournament 21, 20, 20, 19, 24; David Brown down to Walker 22, -18, -13; Alan Ransome tanned by David Tan 17, 22, 9. At the next hurdle Parker took out Eckersley, Trevor Taylor hammerd David Alderson 13, 11, 2:1, Eadie stopped Barden and Jarvis halted Tan 18, 12, 13.

JUNIOR TRIUMPH
For the first time in the history of this tournament the men’s doubles was won by a junior pairing, Paul Day and Andy Barden. This was a wonderful achievement.

The lads were in the top half of the draw with an easy start, coming past Campbell-Richardson and Summerfield-Brown. First sign of powerful opposition came in the quarters when they stopped Chris Sewell and Mark Mitchell 9, 15, 17. Then, of course, they had to face the two best pairs in England to win. Faltering slightly in the semi-final by losing the first game to Neale and Douglas, they scraped the second 23-21 and then absolutely swept past the giants 13, 13.

In the bottom half, Nicky Jarvis and Jimmy Walker progressed, as expected, to the final, but Mike Johns, chairman of the new Players’ Association, partnered by John Hilton, caught a lot of attention with a dice victory over the No.3 seeds, Trevor Taylor and Donald Parker, at 16 in the fifth.

Even in the final Day and Barden continued to combine as well as they really slaughtered Jarvis and Walker 12 and 9. The Cleveland pair began a fight-back in the third but the lads held on in great style to win 23-21.

A last look at the remaining draw-sheets shows a very low entry in the women’s events—only 16 pairs in the doubles is an appalling entry for the Championship of England. In that event both seeded pairs—Hammersley-Howard and Matthews-Knight—reached the final. It was fitting that Karenna Matthews won 23-21 on her own when partnered by Caroline Knight. They broke through the No. 1 seeds 17, 19, 15.

Juniors Paul Day and Melody Ludi led the competitors in the top half of the mixed doubles a fine dance! They waited past Ian Horsham and Sue Lisle but only at 16 in the fifth and then whirled through the Walker-Knight combo in four. So it was tough all the way—in the semi another cracking contest at 19 in the fourth over top seeds Denis Neale and Karenna Mathews. Meanwhile in the other half, predictably, Jill Hammersley and Nicky Jarvis (surprisingly seeded No. 2) came through but not before another 19 in the fifth battle with Andy Barden and Angela Mitchell. But, in the final, class told once more, and it was almost total victory for Nicky and Jill, winning the last three comfortably after losing the first.

DESMOND EXPRESS
I think the senior player who promised most during the tournament and came away with precious little, was Desmond Douglas. Having seen him on a few of his best days, notably his classic win over Johansson at Belper, I thought Desmond was almost playing well enough to win the title. The sheer speed of his attack against Neale in the singles semi-finals left one wondering how soon he will come out on top. An injection of Neale’s control and it must come.

MEN’S AND WOMEN’S CONSOLATION EVENTS
Nearly 60 men contested the consolation singles with David Welman and Paul Randell contesting the final. Randell proved far too strong at that late stage to win 13, 5. But Welman’s scalps included Gordon Chapman 19, 9, and Nigel Eckersley 25, -14, 18. Randell’s scalp included Ian Kenyon (Kent) at 22, -20 in the third, and Keith Richardson, of Cambridge-shire, in the semi.

The women’s consolation event was held for only seven players. Final victory went to the evergreen Jean Williams', 'who chopped her way to the trophy over Belinda Chambers.

LAST SCANNING
Nicky Jarvis and Jill Hammersley further combine with a smile after their mixed doubles success over Paul Day and Melody Ludi.
Results

Men's Singles—Round 3

D. Neale (Cleve) bt J. Hilton (Ches) -16, 4, 17, II.

J. Kitchener (S-Flk) bt D. Parker (Lanes) 14, 20, -21, 19.

A. Clayton (Yks) bt I. Horsham (Essex) 14, -17, II, -5, 22.

D. Douglas (Warwks) bt G. Blomtield (Essex) 15, 5, 12.

T. Taylor (Beds) bt B. Johnson (Warwks) 21, 13, 10.

P. Day (Cambs) bt I. Robertson (Nthld) 10,20,15.

P. Taylor (Beds) bt L. Eadie (Essex) IS, 12, -18, 19.

N. Jarvis (Cleve) bt M. Mitchell (Middx) 18.. 12, 13.

Quarter-finals

Neale bt Kitehener 19, 14, 12.

Douglas bt Clayton 14, 20, -21, 19.

Day bt T. Taylor 21, 14, 14.

Jarvis bt P. Taylor 13, 12, 16.

Semi-finals

Neale bt Douglas 16, -10, 19, -19, 12.

Jarvis bt Day 12, 19, -11, -18, 17.

Final

NEALLE bt Jarvis 12, 19, -11, -18, 17.

Women's Singles—Round 2

J. Hammersley (Bucks) bt J. New (Hants) 9, 13, 7.

M. Ludi (Yorks) bt J. Hellaoy (Essex) 16, 20, -13, 15.

S. Hession (Essex) bt S. Hamilton (IVliddx) 6, 12, 9.

S. Henderson (Surrey) bt S. Lisle (Ches) 20, 14, -16, 16.

C. Knight (Cleve) bt M. Walker (Middx) 8, 18, 12.

K. Rogers (Leics) bt J. Livesey (Essex) 9,20, 17.

A. Stevenson (Leics) bt S. Sutton (Essex) -18, -16, 17, 18, 10.

L. Howard (Surrey) bt K. Greenough (Surrey) 12, 8, 10.

Quarter-finals

Hammersley bt Ludi 8, 10, 13.

Henderson bt Hession 18, 16, -16, 14.

Knight bt Rogers 18, 21, 20.

Stevenson bt Howard 19, -19, -19, 14, 19.

Semi-finals

Hammersley bt Henderson 18, 13, 14.

Knight bt Stevenson 12, 13, -19, 17.

Final

HAMMERSLEY bt Knight 17, -19, 13, 14.

Men's Doubles—Quarter-finals

Douglas/Neale bt Kitchener/D. Tan (Middx) 15, 17, 18.

A. Barden (Middx)/Oay bt Mitchell/C. Sewell (Gloucs) 9,19,7.

Hilton/M. Johns (Ches) bt Parker/Taylor 18, 19, -11, -6,16.

Jarvis/J. Walker (Cleve) bt D. Brown (Essex)/Horsham 15, 19, -7, 20.

Semi-finals


Final

BARDEN/DAY bt Jarvis/Walker 12, 9, 21.

Women's Doubles—Quarter-finals

Hammersley/Howard bt A. Mitchell (Middx) /Sutton 14, 18, 21.

Lisle/Stevenson bt J. Coop/J. Reading (Hants) 15, 13, 20.

Henderson/Hession bt L. Barrow (Essex)/Walker 13, -15, -15, 10, II.

KnightiK. Mathews (Middx) bt Greenhough/Ludi 22, 17, -20, 14.

Semi-finals

Hammersley/ Howard bt Lisle/Stevenson 13, -19, 13, II.

Knight/Mathews bt Henderson/Hession 19, 17, 22.

Final

KNIGHT/MATHEWS bt Hammersley/Hession 19, 17, 22.

Mixed Doubles—Quarter-finals

Neale/Mathews bt Hilton/Hession 19, 13, -15.

Day/Ludi bt Walker/Knight 12, 17, 17, 14.


Barden/Mitchell bt Douglas/Howard 17, -17, 19, 17.

Semi-finals

Day/Ludi bt Neale/Mathews 17, -17, 19.

Jarvis/Hammersley bt Barden/Mitchell 17, 10, 19.

Final

JARVIS/HAMMERSLEY bt Day/Ludi 15, 16, 13.

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PHOTOGRAPHIC COVERAGE of the Championships is by PETER MADGE

Cleveland's Carole Knight, described as the "wonder girl of the championships."
to remove possible anomalies, the racket law

will take up the option and so relieve specta

culars, this rule does not achieve its object we might

allow players, by mutual agreement, to play

present,

list of items for which approval is needed

the LTTF Equipment Committee will be

positions such as Open International Champions

was changed by the addition of a clause

but it remains to be seen how many players will take up the option and so relieve spectators of minutes boredom. Perhaps if this rule does not achieve its object we might suggest a variant in which the audience decide when the Expedite System should be introduced.

Apart from some minor changes of wording to permit possible alterations, the ball rule was changed by the addition of a clause making illegal the use of white, yellow or brightly reflecting material as binding or trimming round the edge of the blade. It was decided also to discontinue, at least for the present, the experimental rule that had been in force since 1973, allowing materials other than wood to be used as the blade material. This is not, however, the end of the matter, as the ITTF Equipment Committee will be studying the whole question of blade and covering materials and may well have proposals to put to a future Congress. This Committee is now concerned with a wider range of equipment approval, following the decision by Congress to add tables and nets to the list of items for which approval is needed before use in certain international competitions, such as the Open International Championships, and to have the list of items to which approval is granted by the Federation now may be used in any tournament played under ITTF regulations, a restriction applied previously only to top-grade competitions in the United Kingdom.

There were several changes to the clothing regulations, including the abandonment of an earlier lettering regulation in addition to numbers and the elimination of white on the face of the ball. A further restriction was the new restriction of the use of white in the disc on the back of the ball.

Most of the other amendments were improvements on the existing rules, in preparation for the publication of a new edition of the ITTF Handbook. This edition, which will be the first major revision since 1961, will attempt, among other things, to make clear what is and is not permitted in the game, to outline all the proposals to put to a future Congress. It is hoped that Congress will endorse these proposals and make them a part of the regulations.

In the same league the Railway Club team performed more regularly and consistently than their trains, and collected a hat-trick of titles in the form of the Victoria Cup Championship, the knock-out cup and the round the season on by trowing the Handicap Trophy also. Congratulations go to Messrs. Mole, Mole, Boardman, Clements, Nixon and chief whip, Mike Gardner.

The two major titles in the Manchester Schools' Championships were won by a team that, not only could honor our gracious city in future years, but who had the reputation of being a team to look out for and always win. The final was played by the team of David Madden and Kevin Hayes.

The Romanian match was heard at the recent Scottish Open, in Edinburgh, where we were greeted by the visit of Vladimir, and who could honor our gracious city in future years. David Madden and Kevin Hayes.

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LEICESTERSHIRE NOTES
by Phil Reid

DISAPPOINTING NOTE

The 1974-5 season finished on a disappointing note for the County having lost by default to Derbyshire in circumstances which were unfortunate, to say the least. Topping the 2nd Division (Midland) for the second consecutive season would not, of course, guarantee a place in the Premier Division, but the team would have welcomed the chance. My sympathies go to the Leicestershire team who would almost certainly have won the match easily, had it have been played, wherever it had been.

The Junior 1st team have, not surprisingly, been relegated, having collected only one point the whole season. Without Anita Stevenson and Karen Rogers, this team really never had a chance of staying up, particularly as only Chris Rogers and Graham Hall were available regularly. There were, however, encouraging signs for the Junior 2nd team which were available .regularly. With Julie Revill and Yvonne Hall likely to play, this team could be one to watch.

The Veterans had another good season, ably led by Bryan Hall, aided and abetted by Charlie Jacques, Phil Overend and Glynys Osanna. Midland League wise, Leicester had mixed results. Congratulations are in order to the 1st Division team, led by Bryan Hall, aided and abetted by Charlie Jacques, Phil Overend and Glynys Osanna.

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Butlinland is freedomland
ENGLAND DEMOTED WITH FEDERAL GERMANY

Beaten 4-3 by Yugoslavia in their final European League match of the season at Hull, the closest of the defeat gave England an expectancy of retaining their Premier Division status, based on having a superior sets analysis to that of the Soviet Union.

But the Russians, away to Sweden, the new champions, also obtained three wins to equal England's tally of sets won and lost, the tie breaking being effected by the ratio of games which went in favour of the Soviet Union, whose 60-60 was much superior to the 57-67 of England's performance at Horwich, whereas Federal Germany, beaten 4-3 by Czechoslovakia, in the descent to Division 2.

England, in their Hampstead encounter, put up a gallant display to the extent of leading 5-2 after being 0-2 in arrears. Dents Neale might well have saved the day in the penultimate set but he let slip a golden opportunity to capitalise on an opening gain by losing to Orbowski in a gripping final. At 20-19, Jacky Hendriksen got the better of Kjell Bengtsson, and, in a gripping final, the world champion, and Gabor Onyer, the European champion, in Jesenik, and partnered Wibke Hendriksen to a mixed doubles success over Miroslav Schenk and Ludmila Smidova. Miss Hendriksen had earlier beaten Miloslava Zizkova in the women's singles. Scores:—


FINAL TABLE

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Individual scores in matches played on April 10 on which grey date France beat Federal Germany 4-3 at Hurwich were:—

Germany 2, Hungary 5 (at Eisenfeld)

LEADING AVERAGES

Men

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Both Denis Neale and Nick Jarvis finished with a 25% average playing 12 sets, winning 3 and losing 9. Competing the men's doubles throughout, Neale and Douglas won 5 and lost 2 for an average of 71.4%, whilst Douglas, with Linda Howard, succeeded on 4 occasions, losing to Orbowski/Riedlova (Cs), Gergely/Magos-Havas (Fr) and Secretin/Berger (Fr).

PLAY-OFF

Beating Denmark 5-2 in Holtebro on April 12, Poland became the outright winners of Division 2A, qualifying to meet Austria, the champions of Division 2B who, in their final match, lost 4-3 to Italy but, by virtue of a better set average, denied their conquerors, whose 5-2 defeat by Greece must still smart.

Slovakia 4, Austria 3 (at Bari)
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in the Mediterranean Group play-off Bulgaria will be played in Czechoslovakia on a five-day period. Four countries—Poland, Yugoslavia, Greece and Turkey—will be represented in the event. An additional team, the host nation's Engelbert Engel, a former world champion, will also compete.

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**EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS**

Advance information about the 8th European Championships, to be held in Prague, Czechoslovakia, is that Congress will be held on March 28, for the first time in the history of the event, and final entries must be made by Jan. 20, 1976. The draw will be made on Feb. 18, 1976.

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Mixed Doubles
Day 16, 15.
S.D.
M. Graf/Lehr (F.G.) bt Nolten/Schroder 18, -16, 6.

TEAM EVENTS
After beating Austria 3-0 in the boys' team event, Barden were disappointedly beaten 3-2 by Federal Germany's second string team of Michael Graf and Frank Klitsch.

Boys' Singles
The Boys' Singles event saw a strong performance by Michael Graf and Frank Klitsch. They defeated Federal Germany's second string 3-2.

Scores:
M. Graf/B. Lehr (F.G.) bt Nolten/Schroder 18, -16, 6.

Girls' Doubles
Girls' Doubles saw a thrilling match between Suzanne Hunt and Angela Tierney, who were able to defeat Bulgaria 3-2, but were defeated 3-2 by the second string.

Scores:
Suzanne Hunt/Tierney bt Jansen/Lund (De) 8, -12, 17;
Suzanne Hunt/Tierney bt Schmitz/ISchroder 16, -16, 19.

Open, in Dillengen, England's juniors engaged in a significant event, Day and Barden were disappointedly beaten 3-2 by the Federal German second team in the men's event. Day and Barden were disappointedly beaten 3-2 by the Federal German second team in the men's event.

Day lost to Hiiging -18, -19.

Baranc lost to Hiiging 12, -13, -15.

Hunt/Tierney lost to Graf/Klitsch 4, -9.

M. GRAF/ B. LEHR (F.G.) bt Nolten/Schroder 18, -16, 6.

ESSEX NOTES
by Geoff Newman
SOME PERFORMANCE!
Congratulations to our County teams that have carried off no less than four County Championship titles this season, namely the Senior Premier, Junior Premier, Junior South-East, and the Veterans' South, quite some performance. It was a breathtaking finale with three of these titles being won on games average, but nevertheless a tremendous achievement and one of which we are justly proud.

I have no doubt all our players will be receiving their accolades at county functions in the near future and at this juncture I wish to put on the record my big thank you to the team secretaries, who have made this season such a memorable one.

Named Seniors: Mike Watts and Peter Reden; Veterans: Phyllis Leander, and Juniors: Alan Batten and Alan Shepherd, without whose wholehearted endorsement none of this would have been possible.

A number of our leagues have been holding their closed championships and the roll of champions this month is as follows:

Barking
M.S.: Laurie Fountain.
W.S.: Pat Anker.
M.D.: Jack Anker/ Ronnie Herber.
W.D.: Alison May/Eileen Sayer.
X.D.: J. Fountain/Lyn Chamberlain.
V.S.: E. Herber.

Billericay
M.S.: Trevor Levens.
X.D.: Clinton Heath/Brenda Lafferty.
V.S.: Fred Lockwood.

Braintree
Girls' Singles
W.D.: Rob Milne.
W.S.: Muriel Buck.
M.D.: Alan Haynes/B. Milne.
W.S.: M. Buck/Celina Fowler.
V.S.: Ivan Palmer.

Chelmsford
M.S.: Sue Whiteley.
W.S.: Linda Barnew.
M.D.: David and Steven Newman.
W.D.: J. Barrow/Glenn Hamilton.
X.D.: S. Whiteley/Paula Grant.
V.S.: Joe Lewington.

Chingford
W.S.: Jane Livesey.
X.D.: Feisal Mautihoor/Marie Know.
V.S.: Ken Beauchamp.

Walthamstow
M.S.: Joe Andrews.
W.S.: Elaine Tarten.
M.D.: M. and D. Web.
W.D.: Alan Candy/E. Tarten.
X.D.: M. Longstaff.
V.S.: Percy Curtis.

The Dagenham 2-Star Open is being sponsored by Mapson, of Tamworth, and Bernard Chatterley has a bumper programme in store. The entries include Ivon Kops, Richard Yale and Karen semantic from foreign fields, and it looks like being a fitting finale to the season. One player who will be missing the Dagenham Open is Gill Locke, who is to be married to Alen Dusaldison on May 20. Best wishes for the future, Gill.

The Clacton League, from our furthest out post, announce that Gordon Smith and Brian Rowse have just become International Umpires. Well done, both of you, a feather in the cap for both yourselves and Clacton.

Three of our Club teams reached the final stages of the Stiga National Club Championships, viz.:—Fellows Cranleigh, of the East London League, who had double representation in the men's team of Ian Horsham, David Brown and Robert Potton, and the women's of Janet Hallaby, Elaine Tarten and Sandra Sutton, whilst Chadwell Heath, of Ilford, had David Jennings, Graham Bloomfield and David Newman carrying their banner.

Page 12
Junior Singles. Ruth Newman and the Elhs-19 to Richardson in the semi-final of the M.S. credit is also due to Keith Richardson and can be well satisfied with their season's per·

This, of course, has been mainly due to Paul Leicestershire (8-2) and Lancashire (9·1) so wj.th ·a flourish. The first team had wins over the latter now being promoted to the first team. Tingey, have also done very well and have given the boys good support.

efforts of Ian Marshall, who must have spent many hours coaching these youngsters. His performance at Crystal Palace made many wonder if he does not appear in the top five. Surely Wales, winning the "News of the Wor,ld" "Boy Championship in 1977.

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Wales, winning the "News of the Wor,ld" "Boy Championship in 1977.
The Southampon closed tournament gave the Hampshire No. 1, Keith Summerfield (Alpha), his first singles title. Keith had a very narrow semi-final win over Phil Brown (Snows) while Kitcher (Four Ty's) accounted for the County champion, Chris Stekal (Snows). Although Keith lost the first game of the final at 10, he won the next two 19 and 18. A very disappointing entry in the women's events gave Christine Davies (Four Ty's) little trouble in coming out a triple winner. She beat Christine Westley, to win the doubles, and with Brown to win the mixed. Kevin Birt (Four Ty's) beat Steve White (Alpha) to win the junior, while Dan Carriage (Alpha) won the veterans'. What an amazing year! Thirteen years ago he won the junior; he has since then won two singles, one for his age group and once again shared between Chesterfield and Derby. Marcia Billington emerging as men's champion for the first time, whilst Sandra Walters regained the ladies' title which she last won some years ago. Mark Jenkins won the men's doubles when beating S. Dixon, but the highlight of the match was the ladies' third set, which saw Walters take the point she needed against the top seed Chris Garnet and Andrew Born, both of Leicestershire. The Chesterfield Closed Championships followed on the Sunday and competition was fierce. The men's singles was once again excelled to become dual champion, his match with Alan C. D. Tate, the only men's singles match played in the Chesterfield League, being the highlight of the tournament. Walters also emulated Maurice Billington in winning the ladies' singles, this time at the expense of Mark Jenkins. Sandra Walters reversed the result of the previous day by taking the girls' title from Alyson Marples. Paul Taylor became boys' singles champion for the second time, the favourite, Robert Allen, losing in the semis to Steve Crickmer. The boys' Under-15 match saw Shropshire gaining a resounding 9-1 win, though the home-counties took five singles into a deciding game. The highlights of the Minehead polite for their progress, in now enrolled as a tape recorder. This is the case would like to thank Ken both personally for the service he has given. He will be hard to replace.

KEITH SUMMERFIELD

DERBYSHIRE NOTES by Derek Oldman

PLAY-OFFS

Since my last report both the County senior and junior teams have qualified for the end of season play-offs for a place amongst the elite next season. The juniors did so by virtue of a 9-1 victory over Notts in the final match. The play-offs will be nothing new to some of the juniors because they reached a similar stage last year but failed to clear the final hurdle. It is possible without saying that this time we hope to go one better.

The seniors emerged as champions of their division in rather unfortunate circumstances. When the team arrived at Leiceston for the match the room to be used measured over three feet less than the minimum laid down in the rules. As the Derbyshire team included 3 defenders, the captain, David Smith, foresaw these players being at a decided disadvantage against their weaker singles and refused to play, at the same time giving Phil Reed ample opportunity to find another venue. I am informed that this offer was not taken up, so I must assume that the possibility remains to see whether this episode will affect future fixtures. I want to see a true table tennis relation, but hopefully, may, I say not.

The main problems facing the County Committee and the players are the necessity for_money to send two teams to the play-offs. It doesn't help trimming your own expenses because the cost is pooled between the competing teams.

The recent County Championships were held at the Chesterfield College of Technology Sports Centre on April 5, and the titles were once again shared between Chesterfield and Derby. Marcia Billington emerged as men's champion for the first time, whilst Sandra Walters regained the ladies' title which she last won some years ago. Mark Jenkins won the men's doubles when beating S. Dixon, but the highlight of the match was the ladies' third set, which saw Walters take the point she needed against the top seed Chris Garnet and Andrew Born, both of Leicestershire. The Chesterfield Closed Championships followed on the Sunday and competition was fierce. The men's singles was once again excelled to become dual champion, his match with Alan C. D. Tate, the only men's singles match played in the Chesterfield League, being the highlight of the tournament. Walters also emulated Maurice Billington in winning the ladies' singles, this time at the expense of Mark Jenkins. Sandra Walters reversed the result of the previous day by taking the girls' title from Alyson Marples. Paul Taylor became boys' singles champion for the second time, the favourite, Robert Allen, losing in the semis to Steve Crickmer.

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Heralding Herefordshire

by Ian R. Crackmer

No Surprises

The "run-in" of the six divisions of the Hereford League provided no surprises, and the 1974/75 titles were won by the teams which had in the main, led the challenge since last season. Leekw, with 11 points from 16 matches, finished top of Division One, two points ahead of Village Farm Robots with the Village Farm Challengers two further points behind in third position.

Rank Xerox, the Mitchellden side, which plays all its matches away from home, won 28 maximum points in winning Division Two, and finished 12 points ahead of Northfield, who had Service Hawks, in Division Three, Penbridge "B", on 33 points, had only a one-point advantage over Saunders Valves Night Owls, and the Fourth Division proved that the only one decided on sets record. Saunders Valves "B" just headed Past Office "A", both finishing on 28 points. M.E.B. "A" emulated the Rank Xerox feat when they went through Division Five with full points, finishing six points ahead of College Hill Youth Club "A", in Division Six it was again M.E.B., through their "B" team, who led with 22 points. College Hill's second team on 22 points, capturing the runners-up spoilt, shared this place with Past Office "B", who finished on the same points total.

In the return friendly match with Shrop­shire, the latter again emerged successful with a 7-3 scoreline. Richard Owens took the only man's singles when beating S. Dixon, but the highlight of the match was the ladies' singles, rated by all spectators at the best they had ever seen. Margie Naseby exchanged places with Mrs. Jones as 21-13 in the third, and the other Herefordshire success came in the men's doubles, taken 21-8. In the third by Mike Provost and Neville Meredith.

Honours were even in the two-team County school's matches, played on the same day. Herefordcastle drew with Mixed, 10 points to 10, in the semi-final. M.E.B. "A" won the other Herefordshire's ranks.

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Cambridgeshire Closed
by LESLIE CONSTABLE
FOUR TITLES FOR KEITH
Fifteen-year-old Keith Richardson swept the board at the Cambridgeshire Closed Championships held at Cambridge Corn Exchange, April 6. He won the Men’s Singles for the first time when he beat a former champion, Alan Ponder. The Solihull youngster took the first game at 15, but in the second Ponder, relying mainly on chop defence, got home at 18. Ponder started badly in the third, but was 16/7 up at the change, but Richardson went on to win.

In the M.D. Richardson partnered team-mate Brian Jones to his first Championship title against brothers Brian and Steve Palmer. He completed a hat-trick of senior titles when he won the Mixed with Ruth Newman against Derek Kiddie and Pat Tingey. Richardson’s fourth title came in the Boys’ Singles in which he beat Geoff Davies in two close games.

Valerie Scipio became the new W.S. champion in her first appearance in the Championships, when she beat last season’s winner, Ruth Newman, and then partnered her defeated opponent to win the W.D. against Vivian Rowell and Pat Tingey. The same Wibisch pair were surprise finalists in the Girls’ Singles the title going to Miss Tingey. The Boys’ U-14 Singles was an exciting affair, when A. Withers was beaten in three games by A. Hubble. Withers won the first but Hubble came back to win the next two at “deuce”. In the Girls’ U-14 Singles, J. Palmer beat J. Hunter in two and with John Thomson winning the Veterans’ Singles for the third time against Ron Nunn, so ended a most interesting tournament.

Paul Day, last season’s M.S. champion, did not defend his title as he was participating in the South East Union English Championships at Crystal Palace.

RESULTS —

Midland ‘CLOSED’ 1975
by RICHARD HABGOOD
 Held at the magnificent Derby Sports Centre on April 27, this year’s Midland Closed was the 21st time that the Midland Association, I.F.T.T.A., had organized the Closed and Open Championship. The entries were smaller this year than in previous years.

The boys’ singles was not without incident. As early as the second round top seed Chris Rogers crashed out in straight games to Paul Taylor, who then went on to contest the final against No. 2 seed, Mark Jenkins. In front of his home crowd Jenkins came through in fine style in a match which proved to be the best of all the finals.

Another upset, but a thoroughly deserved one, came in the girls’ singles final. Karen Groves was very impressive in defeating Beverley Green, with her attack and penetration undermining Bev’s suspect footwork.

In reflection sympathy must go to Alan Fletcher, who not only lost in the M.S. final, but also in the M.D. with Pat Glynn and X.D. with Bev Green. The tournament was refereed by Arthur Morgan, with the usual organangers, including Keith Holmes and Mike Valley. They, and everyone else who helped, proved an impressive team and no praise is too high for their efforts—well done the Derby League.

RESULTS —

PRICE UP
Blame inflation, but the over-spiralling costs of paper and printing, together with the astronomical increase in postal rates, which became operational on March 17, 1975, means the price of “Table Tennis News” next season must go up.

Accordingly the rates for next season will be £2.00 for the eight issues (October to May) which includes postage (2nd Class). Other subscription rates are—European addresses—£2.75; Air Mail to USA—£4.00; Sea Mail to overseas—£2.00.

The magazine (over the counter) will be priced at 15p and the rise is made for tolerance in trying circumstances. The magazine of the French Association, “France Tennis de Table” is currently selling at 4 francs, which is the equivalent of 26p!!
New Sporting History in Making

by GARY MATTHEWS

Two local girls made history last month when they became the first individuals ever to be sponsored in table tennis by a company not involved in sport.

Teenagers Gail Round and Janet Carr, ranked numbers one and two in Staffordshire respectively, will travel to most of the major tournaments in the Midlands with all of their equipment provided for them by KGJ, the Bilton insurance firm.

KGJ are already experienced sponsors. They provide similar amenities for a basketball team which plays in the West Midlands League premier division.

And now they plan an all-out attempt to dominate local table tennis tournaments by pitching in on behalf the two best girls players in the county.

Seventeen-year-old Gail, of Swancote Drive, Pen, has been playing table tennis for five years, and at the age of 13 was ranked number four in England at her age group.

She started playing at the same time as Gail, in 1972/73, and was best individual in the Wolverhampton League, Division Five, in which most of the players are men.

The girls' biggest thrill to date was at their most recent tournament - The Glamorgan Open Championship - at which they won the £100 worth of gear that KGJ have already provided includes a latest-style track suit with light blue top and dark blue bottoms; a pair of pumps; two skirts and two pairs of shorts each; a new bat and wrist band.

Mr. Humble has every right to feel confident that the girls would do his firm proud. At their age group, no girl in the county can boast the record of success of this pair, and they are obviously going to be a force to be reckoned with in local table tennis competitions.

After than, who knows? But one thing's for sure — they will certainly put the name of Wolverhampton and KGJ on the table tennis map.

CONFIDENT

In the past both girls have attended England assessment camps at Cheltenham and training sessions at Lilleshall.

The world's first foam rubber surface with a layer of 100% CauTchouC. Dispensing with synthetic rubber, this surface has an unexcelled gripping quality, elasticity and durability.

The extremely compressed foam rubber layer makes the surface super fast. TURBO SUPER is an exclusive worldwide development for JOOLA table tennis.

Birmingham Closed

1975

by RICHARD HABGOOD

THREE-IN-A-ROW FOR DOUGLAS

With a comfortable two-straight 21-10, 21-8 victory over Derek Munt, Desmond Douglas made it three-in-a-row when capturing the Men's Singles title in the Birmingham Closed on Sunday, April 7th.

For the first time this tournament was sponsored by B.B.M.R. Commercial Radio, which is Birmingham's own station broadcasting twenty-four hours a day. Many thanks are extended to Sports Editor Tony Butler and the rest of his team for their grateful support.

The Women's Singles event was won by Wars. County player, Joyce Lloyd, defeating top-seeded Bev Green in the final.

Dougie Johnson took the Boys' Singles, defeating Simon Claxton and then combined with Richard Mountford and Karen Groves to take the Boys' and Mixed Doubles respectively.

Results —

Men's Singles — Semi-finals

D. Douglas bt P. Judd 14, 20, 14.
D. Munt bt A. Isaac 5, 16.

Final

DOUGLAS bt Munt 16, 8.

Women's Singles — Final

J. Lloyd bt B. Green 17, 11.

Boys' Singles — Under-17 — Final

D. Johnson bt S. Claxton 15, 14.

Girls' Singles — Under-14 — Final

A. Frain bt J. Airey 16, 7.

Boys' Singles — Under-14 — Final

B. Green bt K. Groves 10, 14.

Girls' Singles — Under-14 — Final

V. S. Hamming bt S. Beecly 12, 12.

Men's Doubles — Final

Douglas/Judd bt A. Fletcher/P. Glynn 17, 14, 12.

Women's Doubles — Final

D. Hazard/D. St. Ledger bt M. Rose/S. Eslon 10, 13.

Boys' Doubles — Final

D. Johnson/R. Mountford bt P. Russell/A. Berker 14, 16.

Veterans' Singles — Final

Continued from page 14.

of the Worcester Knockout competition, Ledbury could not hold Village Farm in the all-Herfordshire final. Neville Meredith beat Mark Owen and Ray Lee, but Brian Powell and Roger Capstick produced the performance of the tournament to prevent the Alliensmen from recording a third title.

Another win for Village Farm came in the Hereford League's Division 1 and 2 Handicap Tournament for the Wellington C Cup, when conceding 45 points to Pembroke, Challegers won the final by 24 points. In the "Herford Times" Open, tete to Division 3 and 4, Service Blackaries, receiving a start of 54 points, held on to beat Sawmills Valley 52-28 by a margin of 46, and so an M.E.R.F. trance saw the "A" side, conceding 72 points to their "B" team, nevertheless emerge triumphant by 34 points in the final of the Division 5 and 6 competition.

HUNTINGDONSHIRE NOTES

by David Deller

COCKRAM THE STAR

A good entry was received for this season's County Championships staged at St. Ivo Recreation Centre, on Mar. 23. After twelve hours of play, Gordon Cockram emerged as the winner of the day, taking both the Men's and Veterans' singles titles. In the semis of the Men's, Cockram, one of three St. Neots' representatives at this stage, had an easy win over Jim Sizer (Central) 9, 15. Alan Langrell, the top seed, then ended competition for the holder, Len Saywell, 13, 15. In a good final between two experienced players, Cockram won 13, 15, 15.

The Women's Singles final was played out by J. S. Penny, who beat Linda Dennis (Central), and Jean (Neots) and Jean Allinson (Pembroke), both 15-0. After receiving her third consecutive final, Senorita Chamberlain beat P. A. Stannard (3rd) to win the bronze medal. Jean Allinson then went out in the first round to E. B. Jones (3rd), but retained her Women's Doubles title by beating Folkestone's John Lawson in the final. Senorita Chamberlain, her brother, Mark, for the Junior crown. Gregg (St. Neots) won in its initial year by Tim Speller (St. Neots) 15, 12.

TUNER MAKES COMEBACK

Norwich League held their closed championships at the University of East Anglia. This time, it was John Turner's turn to come out on top. John, with his wooden bat and forward defensive style, followed by a left-handed smash, was last Norwich champion in 1962-63, and, as the tournament's top seed, he was no doubt feared. Despite this, John, who had beaten Bob T'hornton in a fine match in the semis, again led 18-16 in the decider before Barry Chapman and Roberts. At this point they took the next two sets to win 21-17 and retain their title. The Paul Charleston and Chapman partnership again led 18-16 in the decider before Barry Chapman and Roberts. At this point they took the next two sets to win 21-17 and retain their title.

In the deciding match in the Veterans' Division 1 the "A" team were second only on rubber average to Oxford. Needing to beat their closest rivals, they recovered from a 0-4 position to achieve a clean sweep. Ron Bolton, John Harriss and John Ellis have all proved too good for the majority of the teams entered in this division. All the other teams entered in the league have had moderate seasons, with no signs of relegation.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE NOTES

by Colin Hammond

LOW NOTE CONCLUSION

The County 1st team concluded their season (their worst for some years) with a 5-3 defeat at the hands of Gloucs. Unfortunately, two of the three doubles were won by Notts, the first doubles success of the season, unfortunately coinciding with the only occasion when all six men's singles were lost. Gloucs Stars continued their unbeaten run with a comfortable victory in the women's singles. This season has definitely been one of transition, but the omens do not look altogether promising.

The 2nd team finished the season on a low note also, losing 3-1 to Division 2 champions, Derby. 2nd, albeit with a somewhat experimental line-up. David Fairholm did well to gain a victory on his County debut for Notts.

In the deciding match, in the Veterans' league, Cheshire proved too strong for the home team, and Notts' former County juniors were destroyed by an 8-1 defeat. Ron Bolton, gaining the only success.

In the Midland League, Nottingham Men's "B" became Division 3 champions by beating Loughborough 100. Bob Corbett, Nicky Kirkland and Tom Ellis being the team's regular members. In the Veterans' Division 1 the "A" team were second only on rubber average to Oxford. Needing to beat their closest rivals, they recovered from a 0-4 position to achieve a clean sweep. Ron Bolton, John Harriss and John Ellis have all proved too good for the majority of the teams entered in this division. All the other teams entered in the league have had moderate seasons, with no signs of relegation.
Girls' U-15 and U-13 titles went to Jane 1/2: John Slade (Canterbury); Divisional 3/4: Joseph Chan (Canterbury) and Divisional 5/6: they left in Antwerp last year.

Veterans' championship. Last season they were U-17 for the third successive year and both the failure O'f the ranked John Glass to retain his

Colon Hogg, who took the title without a break from 1957 to 1961, and who again was Marchant's main threat in 1975. Meeting in the Devon League. Their “A” team

Powmet: Miss Wilson/Christine Rogers. The very young Newbury side fought hard and Christine Rogers did manage to take a game off Julie Reading. This season’s experience in the League should be of valuable benefit to them next term.

Newbury’s men, at home to Exmouth, were much too strong for their visitors, who went under 90 to David Wite, Simon Hapas and David Reeves, who did their league proud.

Following up, Newbury next disposed of Bournemouth by hitting the same score, despite the game fight put up by Tony Brown, Paul Lewis and Brian Sturges, the latter taking both Reeves and Wise to a deciding point.

Newbury’s men, at home in Wisateured, had a good 7-2 win with Steve Wilson and Trevor Smith securing 3 with Wilson just losing to “everpresent” Ray Phillips, and Tony Hupke, who played well to win her set against Caroline Kesy, Margaret Alexander and Alison Bayes and, beating Mrs. Alexander. Alison Boyes (2) and Helen Kesy (1) scored for Devon.

Although beaten twice, Mandy Smith, of Newbury, gave a very promising display and should prove of great value to her league next season.

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These days, Handsworth Victoria eased their success when John Wallhead beat Mike Inns, and with this success, the players liked it, and with this margin, but Ralph Gunnion and Paul Judd saw to it that nothing else went their way. With Neale Jarvis and Jimmy Walker on parade, Ormesby quickly disposed of Gatley Y.M.C.A. 5-0 in the quarter-finals of the Stiga Ormesby Cup. The match opened on an exciting note with veteran Derek Schofield coming close to beating Nicky Jarvis. Nigel Eckersley and Brian Keen both did well in their games with Walker and Neale, but that, I am afraid, was that for the game Stockport side. Fellows Cranleigh beat Dunstable Vauxhall by the same margin but had a much easier passage to the final with David Brown, Ian Horsham and young Bob Potten all going well.

Despite Mike Johns carrying top weight these days, Handsworth Victoria eased their way into the semi with a 5-1 win over Sheepcote. The Chesterfield side gained their only success when John Wallhead beat Mike in the second but Ralph Gunnion and Paul Judd saw to it that nothing else went their way.

The closest quarter-final tie was that between Chadwell Heath and St. Anne's, and what a cliff-hanger this turned out to be. With the score at 4-4 it was left to Graham Bloomfield and R. Mason to settle the issue. Bloomfield won the day and so swallowed the Ilford lighthouse on a dark night. In their quarter-final tie with the Chesterfield Conservative Club, it was all too easy, with the holders coasting home 6-0. Let's be honest, Sandra Walters, Jackie Billington and Mandy Mellor are a good side, and yet some of the scores in this match only add to my argument that one or two rule changes are needed if teams like this Derbyshire trio are to get to the top in this competition.

The Stiga Weekend at Aston University last month was a great success, and at the end of the day, we still had Ormesby and Gainsford way out in front of the rest. This was no surprise, of course, but I think it would be good for Stiga, the competition as a whole, if more people know the names of the cups next season. Having two new names on the cups next season, having two new names on the cups next season, Ormesby and Gainsford both played like champions and again should do England proud in Europe.

Stiga, like all sponsors, are learning all the time, and their idea to hold a Disco in Birmingham after the quarter-final ties, was an untold success. The players liked it, and with this social side now being added to the National Club Championships, it must be good for next season's entries. With one or two minor adjustments to the rules, I am sure we shall see a record entry. The prize for the best supported team went to Fellows Cranleigh. If there was a black spot to the weekend it came with the news that Bisley could not raise a team for the trip to Birmingham. At this stage of a major competition this is just not good enough and I hope we do not get a repeat of this sort of thing next season. It is unfair, both to the sponsors and the team they were due to play, in this case it was the Martin Club from Bournemouth.

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The experience of Gatley Y.M.C.A. was too much for the young Ormesby side and so the Stockport eight went through 5-2. For the losers, Carole Knight accounted for Di Johnson and Ilse Hession before narrowly losing to Susan Lloyd. The other team to get an easy passage into the semi was Fellows Cranleigh, who made short work of a game but outclassed Letchworth Settlement side. 6-1. With Bisley not turning up, it meant that Merton went straight into the last four, but it must have seemed a long trip from Bournemouth for them when they crashed 5-1 against Gatley Y.M.C.A. Joyce Cope got their only win but fall marks to young Julie Reading for her fine performance against Di Johnson.

Gainsford's 6-0 win over Fellows Cranleigh in the other semi-final meant, like the men's, we had a repeat of last year's final, with the holders taking on Gatley Y.M.C.A. For this tie, Gainsford brought in Ilse Hession for Shelagh Hewson, but it made little difference to the final count, for the holders went back into Europe with a comfortable 5-1 win.
As at Loughborough last year, Brian Hearns, of Stiga, presented tankards to the officials involved with the year’s championships, which this season included the referee for the Stiga Weekend, John Devey, of Warwickshire.

The awards to the players were made by the E.T.T.A. President, Maurice Goldstein, and the deputy chairman, George Yates.

Yes, the Stiga Weekend has come to stay, and who knows, next year we might even have two new winners to write about. Above all, I hope we get a record entry.

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**Photographic Coverage by Ron Bennett**

**STIGA ORMSBURY CUP**

Final

Ormsbury 5, Gatley Y.M.C.A. 0

N. Jarvis bt D. Schofield 20, 9; bt N. Ekersley 16, 12.

J. Walker bt. N. Ekersley 13, 14, 16.

D. Neale bt A. Metcalfe 16, 14; 9; bt D. Schofield 14, 11.

Chadwell Heath 5, St. Annes 4

G. Blomfield lost to P. Shirley -19, -11; lost to D. Brown -14, -19.

D. Brown bt G. Mason 8, 19; bt P. Shirley 14, 11; lost to D. Welsman -19, -15.

D. Welsman lost to D. Welsman -16, -13; bt R. Mason 15, 13; bt P. Shirley 14, 11; lost to D. Welsman -19, -15.

D. Neale bt A. Metcalfe 16, 14; bt R. Mason 15, 13; bt P. Shirley 14, 11; lost to D. Welsman -19, -15.

Miss M. Ledi lost to Miss C. Knight -19, -17.

In the Yorkshire League, end of season blues beat Sheffield 1 in Division 1. At one stage challengers to new champions Huddersfield, the Sheffield team went down 4-6 at home to Bradford if and then could only draw at Halifax. The Bradford onslaught was led by Ian Gomersall and Mick Steepenson, who each defeated David Rayner and Brian Baxter, and it was left to David Stokes and Mike Hoy to salvage something from the wreckage for the home team.

Sheffield won both doubles, but for Sheffield’s fixture secretary, Les Jennings, it was “the worst performance from a Sheffield first team I have ever seen”.

It is with regret that I have to record the sudden death, in March, of a South Yorkshire table tennis stalwart, Joe Platts, who was secretary of the Rotherham League from its formation in 1950. The sympathy of the Yorkshire Association is extended to Joe’s family and friends.

Former Hull coaching secretary and interleague player, Pete Bowley, is now stationed for a while on an offshore oil terminal off the coast of Iraq. (I suppose a table could be set up on the helicopter landing pad). We await news from the area of interest.

Finally, I think the achievement of Yorkshire under-14 pair, Kevin Beadley and Joe Noser, in winning the under-17 boys’ doubles title at the West Midlands Junior Select Cup deserves the mention it didn’t receive in the “Open Tournament Survey” of the last issue.

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**STIGA GAMSFORD CUP**

Quarter-finals

Gainsford 6, Fellows Cranleigh 6

S. Sutton bt S. Felstead 15, 17; lost to G. Calver -18, -19.

D. Court lost to Liske -16, 18; bt Schofield 15, 11.

Semi-finals

Gatley Y.M.C.A. 5, Merton 1

Schofield bt J. New 16, 17; lost to J. Coop 18, 14.

Liske bt J. Reading 8, 11; bt J. New 18, 9.

Johnson bt J. Coop 17, 13; bt J. Reading 18, 14, 21.

Gainsford 6, Fellows Cranleigh 6

Hammersley bt Sutton 10, 9; bt Hallay 12, 13.

Huston bt Tarten 16, 19; bt Sutton 11, 10.

Final

Gainsford 5, Gatley Y.M.C.A. 1

Mathews bt Johnson 14, 14; bt Liske -18, 20, 8.

Hammersley bt Schofield 11, 12; bt Johnson 8, 8.

D. Court lost to Liske -16, 18; bt Schofield 15, 11.

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**YORKSHIRE NOTES by Tony Ross**

**REPRIVED**

Yorkshire’s first team, having been reprimed at the last possible moment from relegation by Nigel Eckersley’s win over Peter Taylor in the Bedfordshire-Cheshire match, can look forward to Premier Division table tennis again next season. But Tony Clerey will need more consistent support if the team’s situation is not to arise again. Yorkshire’s other teams all finished in positions much more respectable than some pundits predicted following the loss of Ormsbury players to Cleveland by Yorkshire.

However, there is no room for complacency, and the season ended in disaster for the junior first team, slammed 9-1 by Berks and Herts at Bracknell. It was very disappointing, coming after some good performances at home in mid-season.

In the Zone 2 final round of the Carter Cup, Leeds were 1-4 down at Hull before Steve Taylor, the West Riding team back into the match with a close win over a tiring Mike Harrison, who had been called upon to play in two other events earlier the same day. Leeds eventually won 5-4, and celebrated their near escape with an excellent 5-3 away win in the quarter-final against an Ormsbury lacking Robert Wiley. Details:

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The Finals of the 1974 “News of the World” National Coaching Scheme took place at Butlin’s Barry Camp over Easter, 1975, and proved to be the most closely-contested for several years, particularly so far as the boys’ award was concerned.

15-year-old Keith Richardson, from Soham, Cambridgeshire, was eventually adjudged “Boy of the Year” by a panel led by myself and comprising Jill Hammersley, Linda Howard, Susan Henderson, Alan Griffiths (Wales) and Richard Yule, the Scottish No. 1.

Keith Richardson, 5ft. 2in. and slim in build, showed exceptional flair in his counter-hitting and put his game together just a little better than his rivals—though they were of a very high standard.

Only two points separated the winner from 13-year-old Sam Harmer, from Leighton Buzzard, who gained his first “News of the World” weekly award at the age of 6, while John Hibbard (14), from Derby, was placed one point behind Harmer. 12-year-old Graham Sandley, from Potters Bar, was another player well in the running for the main award.

The judges are confident, however, that Keith Richardson can achieve his ambition of representing England in world competition if he retains his intelligent and dedicated approach. A good all-round sportsman and, incidentally, a pianist of some ability, Keith excels in mathematics and physics and aims to work in a laboratory.

The “Girl of the Year” is 15-year-old Beverley Green, from Birmingham, a bright personality who is one of very few of her age who favours the defensive style. However, she blends with her sound defensive technique a penetrating forehand hit.

Beverley, who aims to become a personal secretary, has been selected as a “Girl of the Week” on four occasions, and practices regularly on five evenings per week. She, too, should soon realise her ambition of representing England.

Runner-up to Beverley was 13-year-old Mandy Wallis, from Wellingborough, Northants, who comes from a family of keen table tennis players and has a very promising attacking style.

Mandy also represented Pebbley Camp, as partner to Gary Alden, in the final of the Pupil Partner Challenge Cup competition, but once again had to be content with a runners-up award.

The doubles event were Sam Harmer and Beverley Green, representing Butlin’s Minehead Camp.

An audience of some 2,000 spectators, including a number of table tennis celebrities, saw the presentation of the awards by H. Roy Evans, O.B.E., President of the International Table Tennis Federation, who a few weeks previously, had presented the World Championship trophies in India, Mrs. Nancy Roy Evans, Hon Secretary of the European Table Tennis Union, and Charles M. Wyles, Chairman of the English Table Tennis Association.

Also present were Ron Crayden (Chairman of England’s Selection Committee), Albert Skipsey (Admin. Secretary of the E.T.T.A.) and Mike Lawless (E.T.T.A. Development Officer). Various exhibition games were well received, particularly the doubles match in which the new “Boy” and “Girl of the Year” opposed Richard Yule and Jill Hammersley, and demonstrated their assurance in such distinguished company.

Adjudged the best of over 4,000 competitors in the 1974 “News of the World” Coaching Scheme at Butlin Holiday Camps, Keith Richardson and Beverley Green have every chance of earning fame equivalent to that of our most successful previous winners.

TREVOR GOES DUTCH

Trevor Taylor, England’s fourth-ranked player and three times winner of the Commonwealth men’s singles title, has signed a 2-year contract to play for Tempo in the Netherlands Club championship competition.
The reward of many months planning came to fruition at Sheffield University last week when the British Universities’ Table Tennis Championships proved to be a great success, excellently with each other and showing no competitive spirit and the will to win.

The strengths of the three continental countries were an unknown quantity. However, as was expected, the Germans were to be very strong, the Belgians quite good, whilst the Dutch were thought to be weaker. The British team selected was the strongest available, namely:

- Clement Lo (Bradford), John Fuller (Warwick), David Boulter (Hull) and Paul Bishop (Oxford).

The British team had three series of matches took place on the Sunday, morning, afternoon and early evening. The teams consisted of 3 players from the squad of 4 and British Captain, Peter Simpson, omitted Lo and Christine Lacopi for the first time as was expected, the Germans proved to be the strongest available, the British team selected was the strongest available, namely:

- Elaine Smith (Edinburgh), Pam Hamond (Kent), Val Duffin (Leeds) and Christine Lacopi (Nottinghamham).

In the team events, played on the Sunday, the British Women won the title and proved to be a very worthy champion.

The first matches saw Federal Germany Men beat Belgium by 3-0 and the Federal Germany Women also beat Belgium by 2-1. The three Great Britain Men were getting the better of the match as they were ahead 2-1 until坚实的 Belgium defeated the unofficial to drop a set.

During the afternoon Federal Germany continued to dominate, with the men and women playing as well as they had ever played, Whilst the Dutch would take the second game, but after leading 17-13, they were hit by a tremendous assault by the Germans, the final score being 18-21.

The British pair swept aside the opposition, Bishop playing as well as he had ever played, In the semi-finals they came up against a strong German pair, Pruss/Tetzlaff, who proved to be a very worthy opponent.

The final was an all-German affair and while the result never was in doubt, In the mixed, the British pairs, Lo/Jacopi, Boulter/Frank and Bishop/Hammond, all went out in the first round but Elaine Smith and Val Duffin won the semi-finals to the eventual champions, Waldvogel and G. Werner. The German pair proved to be a worthy opponent.

The Irish Table Tennis Association (Ulster Branch) invites applications for the post of Full-Time Coach/Development Officer for Northern Ireland.

Application form and further particulars re salary, etc., may be obtained from J. E. Ellis, 21 Roughall Park, Downpatrick, Co. Down.

**INDIVIDUALS**

The second day saw the commencement of the individual events. The men’s singles were not as close as the doubles but went out in the semi-final to the eventual winners. The highlight of the event was the emergence of the Dutch pair, Van Schue and K. Klessau.

The first matches were played as expected, the British Women continued to dominate, beating German opponents in both the quarters and semi-finals. In the final, they were opposed by yet another German pair, their No. 1, U. Waldvogel, however, she swept aside all opposition and proved to be a very worthy opponent.

Bishop and Boulter gained a first round victory over the British doubles but went out in the semi-final to the eventual winners. The highlight of this event was the emergence of the Dutch pair, Van Schue and K. Klessau. They reached the final by defeating Belgian and then German opponents but eventually lost to the eventual champions, Waldvogel and G. Werner.

In the mixed, the British pairs, Lo/Jacopi, Boulter/Frank and Bishop/Hammond, all went out in the first round but Elaine Smith and Val Duffin won the semi-finals to the eventual winners. The German pair proved to be a worthy opponent.

The British Women also won by the same score, Elaine Smith again proved her superiority by winning all but one set. Bishop and Elaine went by the way in the semis.

The British Women completed the British success and proved to be well-founded, the British team could be much stronger during the next three years and well able to cope with the present strength of the German squad.

**DOUBLES RESULTS**

- Men’s Doubles—Supplements
  - Bishop/Locher by Van Schie/Klaseen 13, 15.
- Men’s Doubles—Supplements
  - Bishop/Locher by_Blue/Boulter 12, 18.
- Men’s Doubles—Supplements
  - Bishop/Locher by_Boulter/Prince 12, 18.
- Men’s Doubles—Supplements
  - Bishop/Locher by Blue/Boulter 15, 12.

**DOUBLES RESULTS**

- Mixed Doubles—Final
- Mixed Doubles—Final
- Mixed Doubles—Final
- Mixed Doubles—Final
- Mixed Doubles—Final

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

The University of Sheffield Athletics Council and the British Universities’ Sports Federation wish to acknowledge the efforts of the many individuals and organisations who helped to organise and run the tournament:—The University of Sheffield, who provided the facilities by courtesy of the Vice-Chancellor, Professor G. D. Sims, the Registrar, Mr. A. M. Currie, and Mr. J. D. Robins, the Director of Physical Recreation; The University Surveyor’s Department and Staff, who supplied the special lighting required; the Cutting Staff of Tumbo Hall of Residence; the Manager and Staff of the Students’ Union, for supplying the meals at the sports centre; John Jacques and Son Limited, for the use of Tebbo, Nets and Surrounds; Anson Sports, for the supply of Balls; Beecham’s Limited, for the supply of “Dynamo” drinks for competitors.

**English Junior Open**

**TIDE OUT AT WORTHING**

As none of the twenty or so overseas nations asked to participate in the Worthing Junior International Championships were able to accept the invitation, the English Table Tennis Association feels that it is not in a position to fulfil its contractual obligations to the sponsor, and has decided, therefore, with the agreement of Worthing Borough Council, to cancel the event, which was due to take place on May 17-18.

The Championships were not included in the initial programme of approved Championship dates on which all national associations base their own schedules, and although they formed part of an addendum in June, 1974, most countries would be unable to take advantage of the free dates shown to make other arrangements.

**A.W.S.**

**FULL TIME COACH**

The Irish Table Tennis Association (Ulster Branch) invites applications for the post of Full-Time Coach/Development Officer for Northern Ireland.
The second team enabled the County to give ten-year much experience to players like Malvyn Walden, David Joiner, Robert Aldrich and Richard Philips, as well as Angela Mitchell and Sue Dove. The Junior teams were very successful, with the Premier side coming runner-up on average, due to our unfortunate breakdown on the way to York, which led to the forfeiture of two sets and the loss of a point. Our new Junior second team won all their matches and Louise Alexander finished the season unbeaten.

Much credit must go to George Tyler, who was the only coach. He had reached the Final by way of the Semi-finals and the Final, and his management of this division was indeed a triumph for the Women's Singles, with a little more comfort than the Men's Singles.

The first team was also the final one for Karenza, who has been a delight to her for her wonderful play and team spirit, and we are sure that the Middlesex are the only County to have always been in the Premier Division.

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Midfield Trophy
North Acton had to make a long journey to Gloucester but came away with a 7-2 win. No. 2 Allied, Grahame Hall, Phil Smith and Chris Rogers won two each. North Middlesex must surely be the favourites and Mark Mitchell, Colin Williams and Leon Datson must be feeling very confident after their 6-0 win at Wembley.

Bromfield Trophy
Northampton and Bedford have done well to reach this stage but Ormesby win too strong for the holders. Ontario, Paul Judd, Derek Munt and Mike Johns had other ideas and ran out 5-1 winners. Stephen Rowe won the singles and Jack Bender. An all-London clash resulted in a 2-1 win for the holders, Central London and Dagenham, still live to fight another day, but there are some tough matches ahead.

Wilmott Cup
Brigton: Walker, Nicky Jarvis and Denis Neale won two each against Manchester, only one needed from a third. The Pottery’s have had an outstanding season and must have thought they were in with a chance. W JM, however, Paul Judd, Derek Munt and Mike Johns had other ideas and ran out 5-1 winners. Stephen Rowe won the singles and Jack Bender. An all-London clash resulted in the holders, Central London and Dagenham, still live to fight another day, but there are some tough matches ahead.

Rose Bowl
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Carter Cup
Leeds deserve the headlines and now meet the holders of the Carter Cup, Ormesby. Brian and Andrew Metcalfe and Steve Haidwood played their hearts out and scored a deserved 5-1 win over which Alan Ransome had no complaints. Alan was most generous in his praise for the Leeds team and said they were far the fair the night. The other cupholders, Ormesby, Central London and Dagenham, still live to fight another day, but there are some tough matches ahead.

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A TRIBUTE TO KARENZA

by RON CRAYDEN

England captain, Ron Crayden, has a quiet word with Karenza (then Miss Smith) before her match against Eleonora Michulova, of Romania. Karenza went on to bring off one of the best wins of her career and it was a case of smiles before and after the match. Ron is now Chairman of the E.T.T.A.'s National Selection Committee.

Last month a star was lost to the table tennis firmament when, at the National Championships, Karenza Mathews (Miss Smith) announced her retirement from competitive play. For those who through the years have been captivated by the talent and charm of this slip of a girl, it was a sad occasion with a sudden impact. Physically, she was taken to a Butlin's Holiday Camp and fell in love with table tennis. Although only just able to see over the table top, she attracted the attention of the resident coach, who, as Miss K. Smith, hit the table tennis scene with a sudden impact. Physically, she was taken to a Butlin's Holiday Camp and fell in love with table tennis. Although only just able to see over the table top, she attracted the attention of the resident coach, who, as Miss K. Smith, hit the table tennis scene with a sudden impact.

In Karenza's case the beginning can be simply explained, for at the tender age of ten, when most young girls are still having a love affair with their dolls, she was taken to a Butlin's Holiday Camp and fell in love with table tennis. Although only just able to see over the table top, she attracted the attention of the resident coach, who, as Miss K. Smith, hit the table tennis scene with a sudden impact. Physically, she was taken to a Butlin's Holiday Camp and fell in love with table tennis. Although only just able to see over the table top, she attracted the attention of the resident coach, who, as Miss K. Smith, hit the table tennis scene with a sudden impact.

Karenza's progress can be attributed to skilful direction from the Carrington's, but I firmly believe it was her natural talent and total absorption in the game that took her to the top. A good coach can point the way, but even players with more than average talent must dedicate themselves and spend hours unceasing toil before any worthwhile results are obtained. Karenza did just this. At the age of fourteen, she made her first appearance for England and so began a Junior career of exceptional merit. In February, 1966, and still only fifteen, Karenza bridged the gap that so many find a yawning chasm between Junior and Senior play. Partnered by Mary Shainsky Wright, she won a National Doubles title. From there it was a short step to selection for the senior International match and tour. She had arrived.

We often hear of history repeating itself and it seems more than coincidence that Karenza hit the big-time by winning a National Doubles title and made her exit by taking the same title. What is more, her partner in the farewell performance (Carole Knight) is a younger in the same mould as was the young Miss Smith, determined and aggressive. Everything points to the fact that she will emulate Karenza's title-winning ways.

FURTHER DEVELOPMENT

In November, 1966, Karenza's world took on a new dimension, for she was chosen to tour in Austria and Yugoslavia and to play in a full-scale International. I was privileged to be her Captain for the trip and a happy and unanswerable one it turned out to be. At this stage in her development Karenza was the bundle of quicksilver and her speed of reflex made old and tired eyes, such as mine, smile in appreciation. Her major weakness was against a consistent backhand defence, as the old weed out experience nor the penetration of shot to deal with it. It must, therefore, have been soul-destroying for her to meet in quick succession, some of the best defensive players in Europe. Many of lesser stature would have gone out in pieces but not Karenza, she fought with the tenacity of a tigeress and in Yugoslavia won not only the hearts of the crowd, but the current World Singles Champion, Toshiko Kowada, of Japan. The match itself was not a preening of a statistician, but in my eyes a travesty of justice. She is not just a girl who has played table tennis, but one of the finest in the world. Karenza is one who epitomizes all that is good in the game—technical skill, fitness, fair-mindedness, loyalty and sportsmanship, all coupled with an intense determination to fight to the last drop. For good measure you could add her C's—Courage, Concentration and Conviction—Karenza had them all in abundance.

Harry Schmidt in appreciation. Remember, she was only sixteen at the time and yet in the team final, against the U.S.S.R., she felled the great Zoya Rudnova at 16 in the third. Like Mary Wright, her partner in the great Zoya Rudnova at 16 in the third. Like Mary Wright, her partner in the tour, Karenza was a bundle of nerves at the outset, but eventually (and after a couple of good matches) she was able to relax and take the game as it came.

Karenza is blessed with a wonderful temperament and in the best Kinling master, treats success with equanimity.

HER GREATEST YEAR

To measure Karenza's contribution to the game by cataloguing her results would perhaps satisfy a statistician, but in my eyes a travesty of justice. She is not just a girl who has played table tennis, but one of the finest in the world. Karenza is one who epitomizes all that is good in the game—technical skill, fitness, fair-mindedness, loyalty and sportsmanship, all coupled with an intense determination to fight to the last drop. For good measure you could add her C's—Courage, Concentration and Conviction—Karenza had them all in abundance.

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Since that wonderful season, Karenza has had many moments that in memory she will smile with pleasure, but of all her titles and successes, none compare with the titles and successes, none compare with the exotic places as Australia, China, India and Singapore. It is perhaps strange that she will no longer be gracing the tournament arenas with her presence. I consider myself privileged that I was around when she did.
English men's doubles champions, Paul Day (left) and Andrew Barden, who fell in straight games to Stipancic and Surbek at Leeds.

Photo by Tony Ross.

WARWICKSHIRE NOTES

by Ralph Gunnion

UP — BY A WHISPER

So our first team have done it, with Dee Douglas back in the side, and two successive 5-4 victories against Essex and Middlesex our Premier team maintained its status—but only just.

I'm glad the County Championships are coming under the auspices of the E.T.T.A. because in recent seasons they have become a joke, especially for ourselves, having Dee-mond Douglas out of the side and being unable to postpone matches due to international commitments. Looking back at the fixture calendar only Lancashire beat us with our full team against Stipancic/Surbek at Calcutta—well, maybe we could have been challenging for the title. Still, that's history now—I hope we're able to alleviate the problem next season.

I feel that I must mention our three other regular players, all having done a superb job. Judd has been an invaluable member of the team, giving everything and gaining very little, but his contribution to the well-being of the team has been tremendous. This has had to have been Derek Munt's best-ever season for us, as he became the first female player to win a singles title for the first time.

Other results included Richard Cottrell's performance in the county championships, where he defeated unseeded pair Walter Rossiter and Fred Short in the final. Additionally, Pat Small was the only player to win a mixed doubles title, coming through to organise the event.

Northumberland Notes

by Pauline Jackson

GRAND FINALE

The Northumberland County first team provided a grand finale to the season when they easily accounted for a very young Cheshire II team, which had already claimed the junior title at that afternoon in its entirety.

As Andrew Clark, Steve Robertson, and Pat Small were all unbeaten, while Ian Robertson and Alan Jones each lost a men's singles to give the visitors their two sets.

The recent good run of a junior team, however, came to an end when they surprisingly lost by the narrow margin of 3-2 to their opponents, with Andrew Clark being the only player to win a set.

The Northumberland Closed Championships were held in the canteen of the Dept. of Health and Social Security, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, on April 19, and attracted a reasonable entry, although well down on the previous season. Ian Robertson proved to be the most successful player, winning the men's singles, men's doubles with Dave Armstrong, and mixed with Pauline Jackson. Peter Hoyles, a former closed champion, was the beaten finalist, who had come through by defeating Malcolm McMaster, conqueror of Andrew Clark in the previous round. The shock of this event was the performance of No. 3 junior, Eddie Thomas, who had suffered early defeat in both the youth's and boys' singles events; he beat the holder, Alan Jones, in an earlier round.

The only other sets going to a deciding round were the boys' singles, which was won by Robertson and Pauline Jackson, who came through the hard way with victories over Jones and Pat Small (25-23 in the third), Hoyles and Daphne Russell, and finally Armstrong and Christine Jackson, who came through via McMaster and Elaine Harrison, having received a bye in the previous round.

Clark again proved himself invincible by taking both the youth's and boys' singles titles, while at the other end of the scale the evergreen Harry Dignan again disputed superiority in the veterans' singles. Anne Henderson narrowly beat Pauline Jackson, having received a bye in the previous round.

Results:

W.S.: Miss Paul Small bt Miss C. Knight 18–21, 21–10, 11–11.
W.D.: Not held—Jack of entries.
X.D.: Robertson/P. Jackson bt Armstrong/ Miss Joyce 18–21, 18–21.
W.H.: Miss Cheung (+4) bt Miss Jackson (scr) 10–14.
The Tournament, League and Cup Trophies will be presented at the Annual Northumberland County T.T.A. dinner-dance, which is once again to be held at the premises of J. T. Parrish Ltd., Shields Road, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, on Friday, May 16. Thanks are due to Bill and Lily McMaster for once again agreeing to organise the event.

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GLOUCESTERSHIRE NOTES by John Cooper

Glasgow City, Czechoslovakia (with 3) and due to the tremendous cost increases across the board, the national governing body of the new county area of Gloucestershire (Avon get the building permit for the south) is now believed to be the new county team to be withdrawn.

On a more cheerful note it is nice to see Boys (U-19): M. James, R. Hoare. There was plenty of light in the Stroud men’s tournament, putting out Dorset. 6 0 0 6 4 56 0 and space yet still the Derby, chaps were four 1st Div. players in the process!

Cheltenham, in the Country Junior League, got a 10-0 win with their boys over Bristol "B" but then they lost 5-6 to their "A" side, but boy, Stroud men’s entry is better. Their girls draw with Bristol "A" - Guy Greening won the Gloucestershire Mixed Boys’ club event and now goes on to the regional do. Boys (U-13): D. Vowles, W. Simmons. Girls (U-12): L. Callum took the U-18’s. 

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Lincolnshire 2, Cambridgeshire II

Only Suzanne Hunt between Cambs and a clean sheet.

Northamptonshire 5, Huntingdonshire 5

Gary Alden the only unbeaten player in this fluctuating chart, but the best set that between Bellinda Chamberlain and Mandy Wallis with Bellinda winning -12, 17, 19.

Suffolk 6, Bedfordshire 4

At last, Kevin Savage gave Suffolk the lead for the first time when he beat Alan Chandler 27-10, 17 in a "cracker." Suffolk never looked back.

JUNIOR WEST

Essex I 7, Kent 2

For the first time when he beat Alan Chandler back.

Hertfordshire 4, Huntingdonshire 5

Simon Claxton, won 18, 20 by Chris, who had needed a decider

Yorkshire 5, Middlesex 3

Richardson beat Trott 19, 17; beat Roberts 17, 14.

VETERAN SOUTH

Essex I 7, Kent 2


Derbyshire 2, Surrey 1

Jr. Walker lost to Jarvis -15, 13; lost to Strathearn 15, 13, 16.

Northants 2, Cambridge II

Jr. Walker bt Lynn/Weisman 17, -18, 13; Miss C. Knight bt Howard 14, -17. 13, -12.

From 2-1, Cleveland steadily pulled away in what was regarded as the battle of the two best teams. Dave Weisman and Lynn unlucky not to topple Nicky Jarvis and Jimmy Walker, but Carole Knight did bring off a good win v England No. 2, Linda Howard.

Derbyshire 2, Surrey

M. Billington bt Yule -13, 15, 17; bt Strathearn 17, 15.

Day bt Jarvis -10, -18; lost to Alderson 20, 19, 19.

Cleveland 7, Derbyshire 2

Jr. Walker bt Yule 9, 21; bt Strathearn 17, 12, 19.

Alderston bt Weisman 20, -19, 13; lost to Strathearn 15, 13, 16.

Day bt Jarvis -10, -18; lost to Alderson 20, 19, 19.

Richardson lost to Jarvis -13, -19; lost to Alderson 20, 19.

M. Billington/Foulds lost to Yule/Weisman -19, 14.

Jr. Walker bt Howard -16, 23.

Yallap/Mellor lost to Yule/Howard -11, 20.

M. Billington bt Yule 9, 21; lost to Jarvis 17, 15, 17.

Day bt Jarvis -10, -18; lost to Alderson 20, 19, 19.

Richardson lost to Jarvis -13, -19; lost to Alderson 20, 19.

M. Billington/Foulds lost to Yule/Weisman -19, 14.

Richardson bt Trott 19, 17; beat Roberts 17, 14.

Day bt Jarvis -10, -18; lost to Alderson 20, 19, 19.

Richardson lost to Jarvis -13, -19; lost to Alderson 20, 19.

M. Billington/Foulds lost to Yule/Weisman -19, 14.

Richardson lost to Jarvis -13, -19; lost to Alderson 20, 19.

M. Billington/Foulds lost to Yule/Weisman -19, 14.

SOUTH MIDLANDS CH I M A T ER

by Leslie Constable

What a season—the only boy ever to take 14/14 in the Junior Premier, unbeaten in 2nd East, and now unbeaten in the Challenge.

SOUTH EAST MIDLANDS CHATTER

by Leslie Constable

UNTUCHABLES

Ely have once again won the Men's Section of the S.E.M. League with thus far, an unblemished record. Such is their strength with that Paul Day, Keith Richardson, Brian Jones, Nicky Jarvis and Jim'my Walker to call on, where else could the title go?

Dunstable have had a good season and look almost certain to finish runners-up. Their women, too, have had more than a moderate season.

North Herts have the Junior Section championship well sewn up, with only Ely forcing a point out of them. This section has been very competitive and it will add interest to have Cambridge participating next season.

North Herts are almost certain to win the Women's Section although Cambridge and Dunstable have an outside chance. Bob Wishe and Ely have found the going hard and both are without success.

Northampton have won the Veteran Section by a slim margin over deposed champions Cambridge. One set was the advantage! Although Cambridge did not lose a match the points system prevented them from retaining the title. N. Herts won the Reserve Section after a great struggle with Northampton.

Junior positions:

Men

Ely............. 11 0 0 97

Bedford........... 14 8 3 84

Slechley........... 19 9 2 84

Dunstable........ 10 1 0 82

Wellingborough... 14 8 2 81

Junior's

Herts............ 11 10 0 93

Hunts Central....... 10 7 0 68

Wellingborough..... 10 1 0 64

Redford........... 10 1 0 59

Aylesbury........ 1 1 0 55

Women

Herts............. 8 7 1 65

Cambridge........ 5 4 0 38

Northampton....... 5 2 1 31

Dunstable........ 4 3 1 30

Wellingborough... 6 2 1 30

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